



## Agriculture

Planning for a Dairy Forage Day program in collaboration with the Fond du Lac County Forage Council for dairy producers, forage growers, nutritionists and ag professionals. The goal is to provide guidance when feeding high oleic soybeans, better manage cropping practices to limit feed hygiene and mycotoxin challenges and understand the 2025 landscape regarding grain pricing and marketing to help producers make more informed decisions that improve the profitability of their farm.

A Soil Health Field Day for farmers and agronomists in and around the Fisher Creek Watershed to better understand the steps to take to improve soil health on land they own or manage.



Planning a session at the Wisconsin Water and Soil Health (WWASH) conference in collaboration with other Extension educators. The goal of the session is to provide insight into opportunities to include diverse cover crop species into dairy forage programs with the end result being additional cover crop acres incorporated into livestock production systems, resulting in improved soil health.

The WWASH Conference focuses on sharing on-farm research to support the use of diverse soil health practices on Wisconsin farms. A challenge in dairy systems is the need for high quality forages that support milk production, and the perception that common cover crops cannot provide that high quality forage. As a response to that need, conference organizers reach out to me to plan a session that can alleviate some of these producer concerns.

## Positive Youth Development

*Youth Officer Training* is offered to any 4-H member (grades 4-12) as the newly elected to an officer position. Training introduces new officers to parliamentary procedures and Officer role description to prepare them for their upcoming year as a club officer. The training event is a two-hour event with break-out sessions to review Role Descriptions (using WI 4-H officer materials) as well as hear testimony from youth formerly in that specific position. (Ron Jakubisin)



*'So You Want To Be An Overnight Camp Counselor'* workshop for high school-aged 4-H members interested in participating in the annual June Wash. Co. Upham Woods overnight camp as 'teen staff'. This workshop is an introduction for those youth that want to learn more about overnight camp and will cover the general schedule and outcomes of overnight camp as well as the role of a high school-aged leader at camp. The 4-H THRIVE MODEL, safety & supervision, ages & stages and definitions of facilitation will be covered. (Ron Jakubisin)

*Cloverline: A monthly 4-H newsletter* for all Wash Co 4-H families where information about all club activities, countywide projects, resources and announcements are contributed by and distributed to 4-H families that offer opportunities to increase skills and engage in 4-H activities. With 16 Clubs and 20 Countywide projects the monthly Cloverline Newsletter brings together the most current 4-H resources. Clubs are encouraged to submit an article featuring their past month's successes, outstanding leaders and their club events. (Ron Jakubisin)

*Weekly 4-H Club Leader Update email blast.* Features 3 (new) priorities, announcements, and/or resources for 4-H volunteers serving as Club and Project Leaders to increase the capacity of volunteers to deliver 4-H club and project activities. (Ron Jakubisin)

- The need for this effort was prompted by continual requests for information and resources by the Washington County 4-H Club Leaders, Project leaders, and parents. Additionally, events both local and statewide are shared on a web-based calendar.

Washington County identified a need to enhance 4-H to address a need for STEM programming related to post-secondary pathways in the Washington County workforce. Development of a list of adult and youth stakeholders that should be contacted and the development of questions to understand where the need is greatest to focus programming. A clear target audience and identified partnerships to foster youth engagement in 4-H Post-Secondary Pathways programming.

Developing a needs assessment where a collection of data from one on one meetings with local youth-serving organizations, businesses, and youth focus groups will be conducted, data organized, and analyzed. This effort is designed as the foundation of the programming needs of the communities. (Kelly Dione)