



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
OZAUKEE COUNTY

Agriculture

Stephanie Plaster

Cattle Feeders Workshop

The annual Cattle Feeders Clinic workshop was offered at eight locations across Wisconsin. Twenty-one participants representing over 2,000 head of cattle were in attendance at the Tri-County location (Ozaukee, Washington and Sheboygan Counties).

Based on a 5-point Likert scale, participants (n=13) rated their knowledge before and after each session. Participants indicated a 1.3 point increase in knowledge after the "Building Failures from Snowloads: Structure Safety" session, a 1.4 point increase in knowledge after the "Are Your Cattle What Your Buyer are Looking For?" session, and a 1.3 point increase in knowledge after the "Livestock Market Outlook" session. One hundred percent of participants indicated they planned to make a management change as a result of the material presented. Participants indicated they intended to make these changes as a result of attending the program: talk to insurance company about snow load

coverage (5), put an emphasis on marbling, breed for what the market is looking for, improve the feeding program and calculate feed efficiency, and look for better animals with better genetics for more profitability.

Participants also had the opportunity to indicate how the Cattle Feeder Workshops from previous years had impacted their operations. Participants indicated the following changes as a result of attending past workshops: health management (6), rations and housing (5), use of implants (4), cattle housing and facilities (5), market timing/condition of cattle (4), risk management (1), and calculating production costs (3). They also indicated changes increased revenue by an average of \$5 to \$10.



4-H Youth Development

Jayna Hintz

Jayna held the 2020 4-H Summer Camp Staff interviews on February 11 at the Port Washington Administrative Center. When developing the interview process, she focused on career development or "warm-ups" for youth. Youth were asked to answer and submit three essay questions, complete an application, participate in face-to-face interviews, and give a presentation on a camping skill, game, craft, or knowledge about nature that was age appropriate for someone in grades 3-6. A team of adults and older youth interviewed the applicants and used a rubric to measure interviewee's responses and presentations skills.

It is increasingly common to be asked to give a presentation as part of an interview process and public speaking skills are ranked as number one among the desired skill sets of professionals. We worked to create a safe supported environment for the youth to develop, refine, practice and reinforce soft skills. Developing a core set of soft skills holds promise as an effective strategy to promote positive outcomes for youth, including workforce success.



18 USC 707

Monthly Report February 2020





We Teach, Learn, Lead And Serve, Connecting People With The University of Wisconsin, And Engaging With Them In Transforming Lives And Communities.



Community Development

Karina Ward

Karina was contacted by the Family Enrichment Center (FEC) to attend the organization’s quarterly potluck and lead a team-building activity. The FEC houses 10 non-profit agencies that help build strong families and improve the quality of life throughout Ozaukee County. The quarterly potlucks serve as a time for staff from different agencies to socialize. With staff spread throughout the building in different agencies and with limited daily interaction, building-wide events provide a key opportunity for team-building.

20 employees participated in the team-building activities. Participants crafted questions to ask each other, turned the questions into paper airplanes, and after a few minutes of fun, found a conversation partner based on the paper airplane that landed closest to them. Conversation extended well beyond the original partners as questions sparked larger discussions among groups.

At the end of the event, participants shared some of the interesting things that had learned about each other. Carissa Barnes, executive director of the FEC, shared after the event that she “really

appreciated the help and [was] beyond happy with the outcomes.”

Effective team-building leads to more engaged employees, which is good for company culture as well as productivity and the bottom line. Team-building builds trust, encourages collaboration, and increases communication. It also mitigates conflict as employees get to know each other outside their work duties. As non-profit agencies are increasingly asked to do more with less, it is especially important to take time to focus on office culture and employee engagement.

Karina led a similar session at the FEC in March 2019. Employees at the FEC still talk about the commonalities they discovered through that activity. For more information about how team-building would benefit your office or team, contact Karina at karina.ward@wisc.edu or 262-284-8289.



Upcoming Events

March 2, 2020

- 4-H Harbinger newsletter published

March 7, 2020

- 4-H Variety Show Auditions, Northern Ozaukee School, 9 am.

March 12, 26 & April 9, 16, 2020

- [Unexpected Tomorrows](#), various locations, 8 am.

March 13-15, 2020

- [4-H Art Beat!](#), Camp Upham Woods

March 14, 21, 28 & April 4, 2020

- [Youth Tractor & Machinery Safety Class](#), various locations, 9 am.

March 15, 2020

- [4-H Variety Show](#), Northern Ozaukee School, Assembly Hall, 2:30 pm.

March 19, 2020

- 4-H Leaders Association Board Meeting, Ozaukee County Admin Building, Rm 118, 6pm.
- 4-H Leaders Association Meeting, Ozaukee County Admin Building, Auditorium

March 25, 2020

- [Dairy Reproduction Seminar](#), Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center, Manitowoc, 11:30 am.

March 26, 2020

- 4-H Annual Leaders Training, Ozaukee County Admin Building, Auditorium, 6 pm.

March 28, 2020

- [4-H Bunny Breakfast](#), Circle B Recreation, 8 am.



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