



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
OZAUKEE COUNTY



Monthly Report April 2020

AGRICULTURE

Stephanie Plaster

Over the last month, the dairy industry has experienced increased turmoil. Milk is being dumped, grocery stores are limiting milk purchases, dairy markets have been sliding, and processors are asking farms for reduced milk production. To address this situation, Stephanie co-lead a group of Agriculture Educators from across Eastern WI to develop and offer "Dairy Policy & Supply Chain Disruptions" webinar, the first webinar in the "Farm Management Through a Crisis: Part of the Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times Series". Three hundred and forty-two people viewed the webinar. This meeting was transitioned from an in-person seminar to a webinar due to the COVID-19 situation.

As a result of attending this meeting, participants (n=31) indicated a +1.0 pt increase in knowledge on the impact of COVID-19 on national dairy policy (based on a 5 pt Likert scale), a +0.6 pt increase on resources and tools for managing stress, and a +1.3 pt increase on COVID-19's impact on dairy supply chain disruptions. Participants also agreed they felt more confident in their abilities to support farmers during challenging times after attending (4.2/5).

When asked what did you learn or plan to share as a result of this webinar, participants indicated: effects of stress and tools to manage it (5), effects of bottlenecks in the supply chain and its effects (9), and the challenges associated with the redistribution of products from restaurants to grocery stores (4). Participants commented "Excellent webinar with great and timely material that I will use with farmers, consultants, and service providers".



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Jayna Hintz

Physical distancing continues to prevent the spread of COVID-19, requiring the Ozaukee County 4-H program to cancel or postpone all in-person programs through the end of May, and overnight or residential programs through June, and all programming with more than 50 people through June.

Extension Ozaukee County 4-H Program Educator, volunteers and youth have been working to stay connected and continue experiential learning activities and community service opportunities staying active in the 4-H program. Jayna successfully moved meetings and trainings online and worked to communicate through email and social media learning and community outreach opportunities. Checking in with leaders and members to find frustration as they weed through emails coming from many sources as their daily lives change.

To address the needs of the 4-H community, Jayna developed a webpage through the Extension Ozaukee County website, called the "4-H Innovation Zone" as a resource hub that 4-H members can access and locate community service and outreach opportunities, video meeting options, hands-on activities, and online learning resources. Jayna updates the page on a regular basis and receives feedback and resources from leaders and members to share on the page.



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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Karina Ward

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues and our communities follow the Safer at Home order and practice physical distancing, non-profit organizations and the local tourism industry face unique challenges. Karina regularly meets with non-profit and tourism leaders to discuss challenges, share ideas, and talk about funding opportunities. Based on these conversations, Karina has identified a need for information sharing and has responded in the following ways.

To address the need for an information hub, Karina developed a "[COVID-19 Resources](#)" web page. What started as a list of resources for non-profit organizations has since expanded to include links to resources from Extension's Center for Community and Economic Development, the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center, Extension's Local Government Center, USDA, and the Wisconsin Department of Tourism.

Another need is for COVID-19 specific workshops and training. Karina has identified a variety of opportunities that are specific to tourism, including a weekly series offered by Michigan State University Extension, that several local leaders are attending. She has also shared several opportunities for non-profit leaders to gather virtually and learn from peers across the state.

Extension's Community Vitality and Placemaking team is seeking innovative ways that businesses and communities are adapting and thriving during this time. One example is the to-go pottery sets from Glaze Pottery in Thiensville. Please send examples to Karina at karina.ward@wisconsin.edu.



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1, 2020

- [4-H Harbinger Newsletter Published](#)

May 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2020

- Master Gardener Level I Training, Online, 6 pm.

May 7, 2020

- [Farm Management Through a Crisis](#) Webinar, 1 pm.

May 8, 2020

- [Heart of the Farm-Women in Ag Coffee Chat](#) Webinar Kick-off, 1 pm.

May 12, 2020

- [Virtual 4-H VIP Training](#), 6 pm.

May 12, 14, 19, 21, 26 & 28, 2020

- Tractor Safety & Machinery Certification Course, Zoom Classroom, 7pm

May 14, 2020

- [Farm Management Through a Crisis](#) Webinar, 1 pm
- [Heart of the Farm Online Coffee Chat: Exploring Perspectives](#), 1:30pm

May 20, 2020

- [Virtual 4-H VIP Training](#), 11:30 am.

May 21, 2020

- [Heart of the Farm Online Coffee Chat: Relationships](#), 1:30pm
- 4-H Leaders Association Board Meeting, Online, 6 pm.
- 4-H Leaders Association Meeting, Online, 7:30 pm.

May 29, 2020

- [Heart of the Farm Online Coffee Chat: Family Finances](#), 1:30pm

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