



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
OZAUKEE COUNTY

June 2023 Report

Agriculture

Regional Agriculture Educators



If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species

Agriculture Highlights

- **Crops:** Liz Gartman, Crops Educator
 - A series of in person and virtual meetings with UW Madison - Extension colleagues, producer led conservation groups, USDA and Farm Service Agency partners, agriculture industry contacts and crop producers where we discussed opportunities for partnerships, ag community needs and programming gaps. The goal of this activity is to generate an informal needs assessment of the regional ag community in order to plan programming that will provide support to the community.
 - As a new Regional Crops Educator in Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Washington, and Fond du Lac counties, it is necessary to determine the needs of the agricultural community related to crops programming. To best understand the needs of the growers, community groups and agribusiness professionals in the region, the crops educator will meet with these potential partners to determine gaps in programming and specific educational strategies necessary to properly serve the region. As of June 20, 2023, the educator has met with the director of the Clean Farm Families watershed group, Sheboygan River Progressive Farmers board members, financial officers from Compeer Financial and an editor for Hay and Forage magazine, while also making connections with other UW Madison-Extension educators and support personnel. The educator is asking questions and recording the responses to generate a needs assessment which will provide guidance into programming plans. Further, the educator has provided support to local growers as needed by leveraging UW- Madison Extension professionals. This outreach will continue over the next 6 months to develop relationships with potential partners to establish an Extension presence in the crops programming area in this region.
- **Dairy:** Tina Kohlman, Dairy Educator
 - Planning and development of a carbon conference for dairy owners and managers, consultants, engineers, and agribusiness professionals in collaboration with Iowa State University Extension, University of Minnesota Extension, and University of Illinois Extension. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals best management practices to reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and how to enter, navigate, and discuss carbon markets to address dairy production management, thus improving farm business management viability and environmental sustainability.
 - An alfalfa quality project for dairy farmers, crop managers, nutritionists, agronomists, and other agribusiness professionals. This effort is designed to teach individuals how to determine the optimal time to harvest first-crop alfalfa haylage based on quality criteria (Relative Feed Value), and not date, to improve farm business vitality and environmental sustainability.



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Community Development

Tania Spofford, Community Development Educator



Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their fullest potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. IN short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.

Community Development Highlights

- A survey of community park visitors to gain insights into park usage patterns and gather feedback on desired improvements. The results of this study will directly inform the Ozaukee Planning and Parks Department in updating the County Park and Open Space Plan, aiming to enhance recreational experiences for residents and visitors alike.
- Facilitated a process for nonprofit leaders to engage in dialogue and begin collaborative action planning. Leaders prioritized the common obstacles they will address that are preventing them from doing their best work. By creating collaborative solutions, nonprofit organizations will reduce competition for limited resources while improving their capacity to address community needs.

We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.

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