

Extension UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON OZAUKEE COUNTY

### September 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
  - The webinar, Badger Crop Connect, is meant for agriculture producers, consultants, and industry professionals where they can learn more about timely agriculture related topics form non-bias research-based sources. The goal is to provide seasonal updates on the latest research and recommendations related to current field conditions and crop stages. This activity is designed to provide tangible information that can make a positive impact in the short term which ultimately leads to long term environmental and financial sustainability on Wisconsin farms.
  - An Extension update at the Cedar Creek Farmers field day where I was able to introduce myself as the regional crops educator and provide some basic guidance on the direction of the drought, current crop conditions and management considerations and discussion of upcoming Extension activities that allows producers to be connected, informed and supported as they make fall crop management decisions.
- Dairy: Tina Kohlman, Dairy Educator
  - A live, on-line meeting series, for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research and applications regarding a blood panel developed to predict high liver triglyceride status in multiparous cows and early lactation milking frequency in an automated milking herd. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on impacts of fresh cow herd health and monitoring.
  - A fresh cow management and wellbeing factsheet for dairy owners/operators, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals where they learned what is ketosis and the risks, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and impact associated with the metabolic disorder to improve farm business viability and food safety through animal welfare and wellbeing.
  - A popular press article for dairy farmers, calf managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where individuals learned how to mitigate cold stress in pre-weaned calves through nutrition and environment to improve farm business viability and animal welfare and wellbeing.



### Extension

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## **Community Development**

Tania Spofford, Community Development Educator (outgoing)



**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 facilitated process for a nonprofit organization, where leaders are participating in an organizational assessment and strategic planning focused on increasing capacity to deliver programs and services that address substance use and recovery.
- 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.

# 4-H Youth Development

Tania Spofford, 4-H Positive Youth Development Educator



**Positive Youth Development** prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and after-school programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

### 4-H Program Highlights

• Project management of the development for the Grow Green training, to be implemented in September of 2023, that will support and provide resources for new 4-H volunteers enabling them to identify the mission and philosophies of 4-H and its ties to UW-Madison and understand and share common goals, connections, and language of 4-H youth development.

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## **Additional Impacts for County**

Statewide Programming Efforts

#### Human Development and Relationships Highlight

 An online self-study program, where participants learned about spending plans, credit, and paying bills on time. This effort is designed to improve the success of participants in maintaining timely payments so they have transportation to access employment and improve their credit score.

### Natural Resources Highlight

• A study to assess bluff erosion and nearshore sand in Lake Michigan. Research provides geologic data used to assess impacts of lake level on shoreline erosion.

## 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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