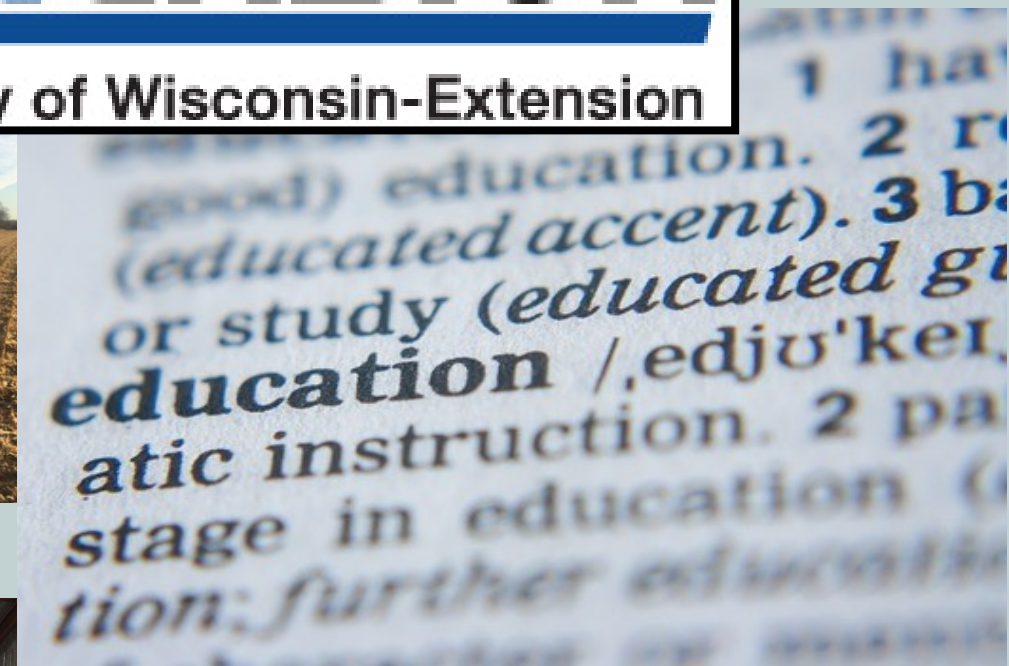


Signature UW Extension Educational Programming in 2016

UW-Extension conducted a **home water quality educational program** for 65 households from Leroy and Lomira Townships. Safe drinking water cannot be taken for granted. These households tested their private wells and learned what is needed to maintain quality drinking water. Another water testing program will be conducted for residents of the Towns of Chester, Trenton and Fox Lake in 2017. Individual residents also work with the Extension office to have their private well water tested on an as needed basis anytime during the year.

UW-Extension facilitated the **Healthy Soil- Healthy Water Workshop**. Over 250 producers from counties including Dodge, Fond du Lac, Washington, Racine, and Green Lake Counties, participated in the first event of the Healthy Soil- Healthy Water Workshop series. Producers learned why soil health and water quality are important for their farm's future and water quality within the Rock River watershed which includes most of Dodge County and portions of Fond du Lac, as well as counties leading into Illinois. Producers heard about cover crops, No-till/Strip Till, and nutrient and manure management principles & practices. Nine local producers shared their farm success stories, using these three conservation practices. The second event of the Healthy Soil-Healthy Water Workshop series, called Follow-Up at the Farm Shop allowed 64 producers to return for a second session of shop talk and hands-on questions and answers with the Key Note speakers and each other. After listening to the workshop presentations and farmer panels, 89% to 97% of survey participants had a better understanding of the concepts and principles of soil health including how using cover crops could reduce soil loss from their fields and their role in nutrient cycling; as well as how no-till may increase their soil's aggregate stability. In addition, 91% of the survey participants said they would consider incorporating cover crops into their farming practices, and discuss with other producers how the soil health practices talked about at this workshop could work on their farm.



2016

Dodge County Board of Supervisors

2016

To The Honorable Dodge County Board of Supervisors



Our Purpose to which we commit...

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

The Vision of what we want to become...

A thriving, well-known and sought-out educational resource that reflects the rich diversity of the state.

UW-Extension Education Committee

Allen Behl—District No. 19
Richard Bennett—District No. 7
Ed Nelson—District No. 4
Larry Bischoff—District No. 17
Annette Thompson—
Superintendent Dodge School

The Dodge County UW-Extension office is pleased to present our 2016 annual report. We are excited to provide a selection of signature educational programs from those offered by the staff of Dodge County UW-Extension. You will find our programming spans a wide spectrum of individual and community needs. We think you will find these educational programs illustrate the connectivity of our educational programs with the current and future prosperity of Dodge County.

UW-Extension Dodge County operates under the direction of the University of Wisconsin Extension Education Committee with authority under Chapter 59.87 of Wisconsin Statutes. Cooperative Extension's current county and locally-based Extension delivery system offers many advantages to families, youth, businesses and communities.

The office brings University of Wisconsin knowledge and resources directly to the people in Dodge County where they live and work. UW-Extension office staff are funded through a partnership between the University of Wisconsin and Dodge County.

If you would like more details about our programs and services, please stop by our office, call us, or contact one of your fellow Supervisors on the UW-Extension Education Committee.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hoffman and Marie Witzel

Co-Department Heads

Department Head

Signature UW Extension Educational Programming in 2016

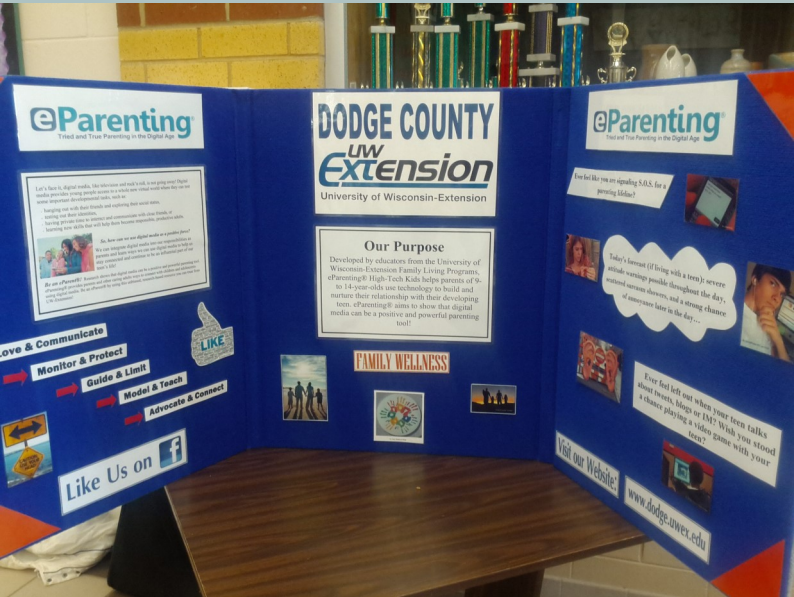
Poverty is a major stressor in families' lives. **Financial education** is a critical component in helping limited resource families not only survive, but also thrive. Extension Educators provide financial education for the residents of Dodge County.

In addition, with the leadership of UW-Extension, youth are taking more active teaching roles with camp, by increasing youth leader engagement. In 2016, the Extension educator with support of adult volunteers **trained counselors on youth development principles**, including ages and stages of youth, helping the youth building a camp environment, teaching counselors to teach campers and team building and campfire programs. There were 90 youth at base camp and 22 youth at outpost.



Signature UW Extension Educational Programming in 2016

Raising productive children, and strengthening the capacity of families is a priority for UW Extension and one way to accomplish this is through parenting education. Several examples of the Dodge County Extension educator’s parenting education in 2016 include Love and Logic, Raising a Thinking Child, Positive Parenting Solutions, Protective Factors and digital eParenting education.



UW-Extension worked with the 4-H executive board leadership to *understand youth development, special focus on youth/adult partnerships*. They were also trained to update their policies and bylaws to comply with State and National 4-H guidelines. This resulted in additional youth moving into leadership roles in the organization advancing the goal of a youth/adult partnership for the Leaders Association. Which means, for the first time in Dodge County, youth make up 50% of the executive board.



Office Staff

The office staff are crucial to the success of the UWEX Dodge County office. They manage incoming phone calls, emails, and walk-in customers seeking information and registering for educator programs. They maintain databases, send out press releases, print program documents, manage social media, and create and edit promotional items.

In 2016
our office staff:
Processed over 84
water test kits
Sold over 760
publications
Managed 8 meeting
rooms with over
17,225 users
Took over 1,465
registrations for 73
events
Sent over 67 press
releases

Name	Title
Jeff Hoffman	Community Development / Dept. Head
Marie Witzel.....	4H & Youth Development / Dept. Head
Bonnie Borden.....	Dairy & Livestock Youth Educator (70%)
Pattie Carroll.....	Family Living Educator
Amanda Young	Animal and Livestock Agent
Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing.....	Crops and Soils Agent
Dustin WinklemannDairy & Livestock Youth Summer Intern
Olivia Raasch	4-H Summer Intern
Ellen Bohn.....	4-H & Youth Program Assistant (45%)
Tracy Malterer	Administrative Secretary III
Laure Dei	Administrative Secretary III
Deb Weber.....	Administrative Secretary III

Dodge County
Junior Fair
Sent over 30
press releases
Managed 637
youth exhibitors
with 4,797 exhibit
registrations

Signature UW Extension Educational Programming in 2016

According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, the average age of the principal farm operator in Dodge County is 57.6 years old. With the aging population of farm owners, **farm succession education** is essential in a smooth transition. In the past year, 48 individuals attended a day long workshop, 15 individuals attended at least one of a six part farm succession webinar series, and UW-Extension educators worked one-on-one with 13 families in transition planning. More farm succession education and workshops are planned, and other educational materials are continuously being developed and released.



UW-Extension **Master Gardener program** volunteers (MGPV) provided 2,893 service hours in 2016. This included youth and adult education and support of activities such as the Administration Building Educational Garden, Horicon Pollinator Garden, Green Valley Enterprises Life Academy, MGPV Help Line, Beaver Dam Food Pantry Garden, and other educational events. These volunteer hours have an estimated value of \$65,046.



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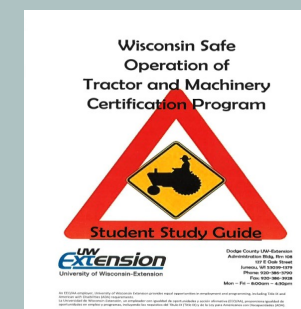
Connect with us on:



An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.

Signature UW Extension Educational Programming in 2016

In 2016, UW-Extension offered a certification program on Tractor and Machinery Safety. Thirty-seven youth from Dodge, Washington, Fond du Lac counties were taught the need for safety procedures on the farm and around machinery. Extension Educators developed a new student study guide, entitled "Wisconsin Safe Operation of Tractor and Machinery Certification Program Student Study Guide" which incorporated review quizzes on a site called "Kahoot" helping youth study and achieve success in achieving certification through passing a written and completing a driving test. The newly developed study guide is now a statewide resource, accessible on the Ag and Safety website, and used for Tractor & Machinery Safety Courses around the state, including Fox Valley Technical College.



Extension educators **provide Ag producers with current research-based recommendations** and solutions to production challenges helps grow stronger farm profit margins. UW-Extension partnered with UW-Madison Specialists, and other agencies and organizations (such as the Wisconsin Soybean Association; NRCS, and Land Conservation District) to provide producers and crop consultants in both Dodge, Fond du Lac and surrounding counties with current research-based information and continuing education units (CEU's) that are needed for maintaining their professional certification. Eight educational winter programs were conducted including the Pest Management Update (45 participants); Soil, Water, Nutrient Management Meetings (37 participants); 3 SnapPlus Nutrient Management training and plan writing workshops (66 participants); Nutrient Management Refresher Workshop (42) Agronomy Update (44 participants); Wisconsin Area Soybean Conferences (37 participants).

The extremely popular **sausage making workshop** was once again a huge success. UW-Meats Specialist Jeff Sindelar of the UW-Madison Meats Lab co-taught. The workshop has a waiting list for 2018!

