

Sauk County, Wisconsin  
**UW Extension Annual Report  
For 2012**

**2012 Mission:** The Sauk County UW Extension Office provides citizens with the knowledge, resources and skills they need to make positive, self-directed changes in their families, businesses and communities through the most current approaches to educational programming.

**Departmental Program Summary:**

**1. Agriculture and Natural Resources**

UW-Extension programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources help farmers compete in an increasingly challenging, volatile marketplace. Backed by University research, agriculture and natural resources educators balance farm profitability and production of high quality food with a continuing concern for the environment. Extension educators work with individual farmer and farmer networks, home and community gardeners, commercial horticulture and nursery businesses, and consumers of agricultural products in urban as well as rural areas.

**2. Family Living Education**

UW-Extension programs in Family Living help families thrive in a rapidly changing world. Backed by University research, Family Living Educators work with families to help them solve problems and improve their quality of life. This education meets family needs throughout the life span -- from improving prenatal nutrition and parenting skills to Powerful Tools for Caregivers. Programs target the unique needs of Sauk County partnering with community organizations and agencies to build strong families. The Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program (WNEP) provides education to food stamp eligible families and individuals.

**3. 4-H & Youth Development Education**

UW-Extension programs in 4-H and Youth Development give young people opportunities to learn new skills, gain self-confidence, and contribute to their communities. Backed by the knowledge and research of the University, 4-H and Youth Development educators design educational, leadership, and citizenship experiences for youth. These programs are delivered directly through local adult volunteers in urban and rural 4-H clubs and by collaborating with other local organizations.

**4. Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development (CNRED)**

Extension's Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development programs help Wisconsin communities deal with challenges including resource constraints, small business development, downtown revitalization, community growth and planning issues, environmental protection, and quality of life issues. CNRED educators also provide strategic planning, community leadership and nonprofit development programs. The Sauk County community development priorities include:

- Economic development including downtown revitalization
- Natural resources education including rural drinking water programs
- Build community leaders through the Sauk County Institute of Leadership (SCIL)
- Help local governments meet the changing needs of their constituents
- Organizational development including strategic planning

- Collaborate department-wide and through our UW Extension, Arts & Culture Committee to strengthen the offerings and economic impact of arts and culture in Sauk County.

## 5. Tourism and Promotions

The tourism and promotions program is responsible for the regular update, printing and distribution of the county's promotional map.

## 6. Home and Garden Services

Home and garden services are those consumer oriented services that are logically connected to the core mission of Extension education in the four key program areas. Examples of this work include: dispensing of water bottles for private well testing; soil samples for lawns and gardens; consultation on home, lawn and garden pests; food and nutrition and other family life needs; resource management concerns and more. Much time is spent identifying needs and problem solving with the general public. Specialists are frequently consulted to address citizen concerns.

## 2012 Goals Review

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2012
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
At least 100 farmers will be visited on-farm by UW-Extension agricultural engineers, receive technical assistance with construction projects, and/or attend a dairy facilities tour featuring low-cost, innovative housing and milking structures.	No - Agriculture Agent position open from 08/01/2011 to 07/02/2012; programming put on hold
At least 100 farmers and agribusiness professionals will attend pasture walks, artificial insemination training, on-farm meetings discussing herd health topics, and other educational programs offered by the Sauk County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent as well as utilize information from the UW-Extension Sauk Ag Updates Newsletter.	No - Agriculture Agent position open from 08/01/2011 to 07/02/2012; programming put on hold
At least ten (10) farm families will receive assistance from the Sauk County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent and specialists in completing financial statements for their farm.	No - Agriculture Agent position open from 08/01/2011 to 07/02/2012; programming put on hold
At least 50 farmers will attend programs such as Heart of the Farm (directed at farm women), participate in the Sauk County Marketing Club, and utilize information from the UW-Extension Sauk Ag Updates Newsletter.	No - Agriculture Agent position open from 08/01/2011 to 07/02/2012; programming put on hold
At least 50 farmers will attend a Pesticide Applicator Training session and will successfully complete a written exam on what they learned.	Yes
Sauk County UW Extension will train 20 Master Gardeners who will give over 900 hours of community service to Sauk County.	Only nine people took the Master Gardener Training in 2012, but hours of community service exceeded 900.
100 Sauk County residents will benefit from articles, booklets, an informational table at the Baraboo Farmers' market and calls or visits to the Sauk County UW Extension office regarding horticultural issues.	Yes

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2012
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
150 Sauk County residents will increase their horticultural knowledge through the annual Garden Seminar, monthly educational programs and weekly press releases.	Yes
At least fifteen (15) emerging county leaders will attend nine (9), day long educational sessions designed to enhance their leadership abilities. Each session will feature Sauk County leaders and will focus on local issues. The CNRED Agent will continue to work with the SCIL Board of Directors to improve programming and program development. Nearly all SCIL alumni will take on new leadership roles in Sauk County communities, local governments and/or places of employment.	Yes, a new leadership skills component has been added to each session.
Partner with the Wormfarm Institute to organize, coordinate and facilitate the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant funded Fermentation Fest and Farm Art Dtour. The goal of the program is to build awareness and appreciation for agriculture and build in the economic base of the local economy.	Yes, an estimated 8000 people attended Fermentation Fest in 2012
The CNRED Agent will partner with the Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department and UWEX specialists to develop a drinking water program. Participants will test their drinking water and attend an educational program on interpreting the results.	Yes, 135 households participated in LaValle and Woodland
The CNRED Agent will coordinate and facilitate organizational development processes (i.e. Strategic planning) or organizations and local units of government as necessary.	Yes, Erickson facilitated a planning process for the Circus Historical Society and the Lake Redstone Protection District
Partner with Conservation, Planning and Zoning to conduct public participation and outreach as part of the revised farmland preservation program'	No, the process has been delayed until 2013
Distribute 10,000 Sauk County maps featuring natural and heritage tourism resources and 200 Baraboo River recreational water trail maps.	Yes
Assist as need with trail development process between Spring Green and Devils Lake State Park	No, the process is on hold until the Merrimac to Reedsburg rail line has been purchased by the State.
Examples of programming areas include drinking water testing and education, storm water management, private forest management, invasive species control and agricultural runoff control.	Yes
At least 300 senior citizens will receive \$25 worth of vouchers redeemable for produce from county farmers and at least five additional farmers will be trained and certified to accept the vouchers.	Over 300 vouchers were distributed, but only 2 farmers requested training.
At least 450 youth (k-12 and 1st year out of high school) will participate in 4-H clubs and associated activities throughout Sauk County. Activities will be lead by at least	Yes

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2012
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
130 certified 4-H volunteer leader, and Sauk County UWEX staff members.	
Sauk County UWEX will advise the Sauk County 4-H Sr. Leader Association eleven (11) times during the year, advise the Livestock and Market Animal Committees, conduct new volunteer training and certification trainings at least four (4) times per year, conduct 4-H club leadership team trainings at least four (4) times per year, and provide ongoing support, guidance, and management as needed for all 4-H volunteer leaders.	Yes
Programs for 4-H and non 4-H older youth (7 - 12 grades) will be organized and facilitated by Sauk County UWEX. At least 50 older youth will participate in a variety of programs including, but not limited to, Jr. Leader Council, camp counselor training, club officer training, committee work, and community wide youth leadership conferences.	Yes
Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County (YEPS) will engage at least 200 youth and adults in environmental stewardship service-learning activities through community and school projects. Sauk County UWEX staff will serve as the chair of the YEPS board of directors.	Yes
Sauk County UWEX staff will provide presentations and/or displays at the Earth Day Celebration, Baraboo Youth Opportunities Day, Youth Conservation Days, Rural Safety Days, and the Sauk Prairie Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs program to encourage cooperation within the Sauk County government departments, community programs, school districts, and various coalitions.	Yes
Sauk County Family Living and Community Resource Development will sponsor seminars to inform county decision-makers on the most relevant research and innovations regarding Sauk County Comprehensive Plan topics. The third Family Impact Seminar will refocus on a healthier Sauk County.	The Sauk County Health & Wellness Collaboration was formed to provide education and inspire action on health issues meant to improve the health of Sauk County citizens in response the third Comprehensive Plan topic.
Assess how supportive the centers are of families using the family impact analysis to identify ways to build even stronger partnerships with families.	No; no graduate assistant
Classes will be held in response to the need for Continuing Education for child care providers to keep their state license, options for court-ordered parenting classes, and education to help those struggling with their finances.	Yes
Better understand and offer recommendations for child-friendly jail visits and to better understand the impact of parental incarceration on young children. A Research Specialist for Sauk County was hired in April 2012.	Yes

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2012
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
UW Cooperative Extension partners with the Dells Area Alliance for Young Children (DAAYC), Central Wisconsin Community Action and the Adams School District to provide this. Summer Interns hired in April 2012.	Yes

**Changes / Accomplishments:**

Additional accomplishments for the various program areas are included in each program area's statistical summary listed below.

**Statistical Summary: Agriculture:** Katie Pfeiffer, the Sauk County Agriculture Agent, started in this position on July 2nd, 2012. In 2012, Pfeiffer completed an agricultural survey of the producers and agricultural professionals in Sauk County. Pfeiffer initially attended various trainings in the areas of grant writing, website management, livestock welfare evaluation, calf management and grazing. In addition, Pfeiffer meet with many groups involved in agriculture within Sauk County including the Dairy Promoters, Livestock Committee, Sauk Prairie Veterinary Clinic, Agri-King, United Cooperative and the Pork Producers. The drought was the predominant agriculture issue in 2012. Pfeiffer presented information on the drought at various meetings and also provided information to producers on an individual basis. Pfeiffer also collaborated on programming with UW-Extension colleagues in Sauk County, conducting retirement training for producers with the Family Living Agent, Sue Nagelkerk. Additionally, Pfeiffer worked with the 4H Agent, Christian Malsatzki, at Conservation Field Days for youth in Sauk County. Pfeiffer attended meetings in Spring Green with Jenny Erickson, Community Resource Development Agent and John Exo, Natural Resources Educator, to address issues with Nitrates in the drinking water.

***Community, Natural Resources, Economic Development:***

Jenny Erickson, the Sauk County UWEX Community Resource Development Agent, focused on economic and organizational development in 2012. Erickson developed, coordinated, and/or taught educational programs designed to strengthen communities. The following are a few examples of these programs and the number of teaching contacts if applicable: Fermentation Fest DTour (8000); Intercounty Coordinating Committee (60); rural drinking water program (135); and the Sauk County Towns Association presentation (40).

Erickson also developed, coordinated and/or taught educational programs designed to build the capacity of local organizations and communities. Erickson continued to serve as the coordinator/advisor for the Sauk County Institute of Leadership (SCIL). She also facilitated strategic planning processes for the Circus Historical Society and the Lake Redstone Protection District.

***4-H & Youth Development:***

**Sauk County 4-H Program**

Agent, Program and Program Advisor continued their work in 2011 with the community club 4-H program in Sauk County. In 2012, 15 community clubs involved 475 youth in grades 5K - 13 as members of the 4-H program and 142 adults as project, club and county 4-H certified volunteers. Each volunteer averages 7.9 hours of volunteer time per month. At a rate of \$20.25 per hour, Sauk County 4-H adult volunteer leaders have contributed \$272,640.00 worth of services to the youth of Sauk County in 2012. Youth developed important leadership and life

skills through a variety of programs including the Sauk County 4-H Jr. Leader Council, Master Jr. Leader Certification program.

### **Community Education Programs**

In addition to the traditional 4-H program, the 4-H Youth Development Agent and Program Advisor also worked with 800 third grade students in conjunction with the Sauk County Rural Safety Days, four (4) youth conservation days in conjunction with local school districts, gateway summer academy at River Valley.

### **Youth Education**

In addition to County only youth development, the 4-H Youth Development Agent and County Youth worked and attended the 4-H & Youth Conference in Madison and the Wisconsin Youth Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells.

### **Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County**

As part of Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County (YEPS), 342 youth (5 - 17 years old) and 100 adults participated in 14 environmental stewardship community and school-based projects throughout Sauk County. This participation resulted in a total of 789 hours spent in environmental stewardship service-learning projects throughout Sauk County, a contribution of \$15,977.25 worth of services to Sauk County natural resources.

### ***Family Living:***

#### **Parenting**

Susan Nagelkerk, Family Living Educator, taught:

- Parenting classes for court-ordered parenting education
- One-on-one parenting

#### **Child Care Provider Trainings**

The classes provide required continuing education hours for their state license. Sauk County has a high percentage of both parents with children in the workforce, which emphasizes the critical need for high quality child care options. Nagelkerk also serves on the Reedsburg MATC Child Care Advisory Board.

#### **Trainings for Children**

- Rural Safety Days
- Cowonomics in Baraboo - 15 hours of teaching
- Daycare Day at the Fair

#### **Jail Study Grant**

- Meetings with Jeff Tobin; visit to Sauk County Jail with Mary & Julie
- Meeting with Sheriff Richard Meister
- Presentation at Criminal Justice Committee
- Presentation at Sauk County Towns Association

#### **Programs Coordinated**

- Lunch n Learn on heroin
- Amish School (22 students)
- Summer Lunch Bunch (1,600 meals served)
- Art in the Park
- Creation of a collaboration with area hospitals and Sauk County Public Health

#### **HCE**

- HCE Executive Board Advisor
- Get Ready...Get Set...Garden!
- HCE Spring Recognition
- HCE Fall Fling
- D.L. Gasser/Lynn's Legacy Collaboration

#### **Events**

- Yearlong exhibit for UW Extension Centennial Celebration entitled *Dressed for Success*

## **Financial**

- One-on-one financial counseling

## **DAAYC (Dells Area Alliance for Young Children)**

Susan Nagelkerk, Family Living Educator, is the facilitator for the Dells Area Alliance for Young Children (DAAYC). DAAYC is a community building organization for young children and their families in the Wisconsin Dells School District. In 2012, Nagelkerk facilitated 10 DAAYC meetings. DAAYC was also a co-sponsor of the summer lunch program in the Dells.

## **Summer Lunch Bunch**

There were 1,185 contacts with students through the Summer Lunch Bunch program providing lunches, nutrition education and activities about balancing food with physical activity. An intern from Sauk County UW Extension also provided weekly activities for children. Over the past four years, this program has served an average of 1200 lunches per summer to children who are eligible for free or reduced lunches in Wisconsin Dells School District as a way to counter the high percentage rate of food insecurity found initially in Wisconsin Dells School District survey in 2005 (Rate = 42%) and which has increased by evidence of increased free and reduced lunch rates (Fall 2010 = 54%).

## **Art in the Park**

This was the first year for Art in the Park in Wisconsin Dells. With backing and funding from the Wisconsin Dells Art Association, a local retired art teacher did art projects over the course of two weeks at three different locations with children who attended Summer Lunch Bunch. In 2013, this program will be expanded to three weeks to give each site a full week of art projects.

## ***Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program (WNEP):***

The goal of WNEP is to provide educational programs to increase the likelihood that food stamp participants and applicants will make healthy food choices within a limited budget and choose active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The WNEP Coordinator and Educator made 2,960 direct educational contacts with 1,727 learners in Sauk County during 2012. The number of learners reached increased 16% from 2011.

Youth, ages 4-11, made up the majority of learners (60%). Events for this age group were held at Al Behrman Elementary in Baraboo, Black Hawk Elementary, Lake Delton Elementary, Weston Elementary, Westside Elementary in Reedsburg and Head Start classrooms in Sauk Prairie and Baraboo. Families with children made up 21% of learners, while 19% were older adults who received education during Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program check distribution. The multi-county Food Sense newsletter reached 300 Sauk County residents during 2012. Newsletter topics included choosing healthy foods, portion awareness, choosing beverages and being physically active.

Most educational contacts (77%) were provided to groups through a short series (2-4 lessons). Twenty-two percent of Sauk County learners participated in learn-while-you-wait displays, while 1% received a single lesson. Nutrition/diet quality was the most common educational topic provided, followed by food resource management and food security.

***Horticulture:*** Nine volunteers participated in the Master Gardener Training program; SCMGA members volunteered 360 hours in youth education, 907 hours in community education, 2,161 hours in support services and 970 hours of continuing education. The Sauk County Master Gardeners Association provided horticulture education to area residents through a variety of activities and the Horticulture Educator submitted 52 gardening columns related to the time of the year to all Sauk County newspapers and other media outlets. SCMGA also helped coordinate a joint project with Sauk County HCE for a day-long gardening conference in March entitled, "Get Ready...Get Set...Garden!" This conference, open to the public, had twelve sessions with

each speaker covering a different area of gardening. We were also active at area events such as assisting with judging at the Sauk County Fair and a display table at the Sauk County Dairy Breakfast to promote the Master Gardeners program in the county.

Sauk County Master Gardener volunteers thought something should be done to restore a priceless piece of history near Reedsburg; the area with log cabins, a church, school and museum owned by the Reedsburg Area Historical Society. The area was badly neglected and no one seemed to care, therefore, the SCMGA, after long negotiations, decided to brighten up the cabins with plantings from turn-of-the-century. Since our work on the gardens started, members of the Reedsburg Historical Society have started to take more interest in the project and are now restoring and repairing the buildings.

Master Gardeners continued the community garden in the Sauk-Prairie area with all available plots being cultivated. We continued working with the children from the Boys & Girls Club of Baraboo/Sauk County in their Community Garden. The Master Gardeners also worked with the Renewal Unlimited Garden teaching youth entrepreneurship by growing their own vegetables and selling at the Farmers' Markets. The Master Gardener plots in the Baraboo Community Garden provided fresh produce for the Baraboo Food Pantry for the entire summer growing season.

Master Gardeners also provided education and information to the general public by having informational booths in the Farmers' Market during Faire on the Square and at the Community Garden.

**Sauk County UW Extension Office:** Handled more than 24,985 telephone calls and approximately 2,670 walk-in requests for assistance. The Sauk County UW-Extension web site attracted more than 21,428 visits in 2012.

<b>OUTPUT MEASURES</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2010 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2011 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2012 ACTUAL</b>
Number of phone calls handled by Sauk County UW Extension	24,076	24,208	24,985
Number of counter visitors served by Sauk County UW Extension staff (estimated) (Includes program clientele, lawn and garden questions, water and soil sampling services, etc.)	2,600	2,650	2,670
Number of visitor "sessions" on the Sauk County UW Extension website (a session is a series of hits to the website over a specific period of time by one visitor.)	No records available due to change in website software	11,670	21,428
Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UWEX Ag/Natural Resources Program (best estimate)	3,700	3,500	2,000
Number of Sauk County farm families who received financial	12	6	2



**OUTPUT MEASURES**

analysis and planning services from Sauk County UW Extension			
Number of farmers who attended a dairy facilities tour featuring low-cost, innovative housing and milking structures.	115	NA	85
Number of farmers who received advice and technical assistance with construction projects from UW Extension agricultural engineers	13	5	4
Number of people who attended pasture walks coordinated by Sauk County UW Extension and MATC - Reedsburg	104	45	110
Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UW Extension Horticulture Program (best estimate)	900	1,100	1,200
Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UWEX Family Living Program (best estimate)	3,500	3,500	3,500
Number of direct client contacts made by the Sauk County WNEP ProgramG	2,436	2,906	2,960
Number of indirect client contacts made by the Sauk County WNEP Program (reached indirectly via newsletter)	250	250	300
Number of Head Start children who benefited from early literacy education through the Wisconsin Bookworms™ program (200 maximum enrollment in Sauk County Head Start)	200	200	200
Number of children affected by child care programming developed by the Sauk County UW Extension Family Living Educator	900	1,200	1,200
Number of children affected by the Summer Lunch Bunch (Dells Area Alliance for Young Children)		1,200	1,200
Number client contacts made by the Sauk County UW Extension Community, Natural Resources, and Economic Development Program (best estimate)	3,200	2,200	3,200
Number of local stakeholders that actively participate in the Sauk County Institute of Leadership each	150	150	155

**OUTPUT MEASURES**

year.			
Number of nonprofit and local government participants involved in planning programs with the CNRED Agent.	100	150	175
Number of Intercounty Coordinating Committee (ICC) members that participate in the Sauk County sessions	60	60	60
Number of households that participate in the Sauk County Drinking Water program	80	67	135
Number of community gardeners at the Prairie du Sac Community GardenF	30	30	30
Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UW Extension 4-H Youth Development Program (best estimate)	4,000	4,200	4,200
Number of adults and youth that participated in the Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County (YEPS)	400	400	400
Number of adults who served as certified Sauk County 4-H volunteers	136	142	175
Number of youth enrolled as members of Sauk County 4-H clubs	447	475	500

**OUTCOME AND EFFICIENCY MEASURES**

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2010 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2011 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2012 ACTUAL</b>
Estimated dollar value of the farm financial management/planning services provided to Sauk County farmers by the Sauk County Agricultural Agent	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$15,000
Approximate dollar value of new construction completed by farmers assisted with their financial plans by Sauk Co. UW-Extension	\$30,000	\$30,000	NA
Total dollar value of the construction projects that participants in the annual dairy facilities tour said on a written survey that they intended to build	\$0.5 million	\$0.89 million	NA
Dollar value of construction projects that resulted from visits by UW-Extension agricultural engineers	\$550,000	NA	NA
Dollars brought to Sauk County through	\$8,125		\$8,125

**OUTCOME AND EFFICIENCY MEASURES**

UW-Extension/Commission on Aging collaboration on WIC/Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, a program benefiting farmers and senior citizens		\$8,125	
Number of pounds of food donated to the Sauk Prairie food pantry that was produced in the Prairie du Sac Community Garden.	700	700	600
Total dollar value of money saved in future costs as a result of early literacy education through the Wisconsin Bookworms™ program (“Every dollar spent on high-quality education and child-care programs saves \$17 in future costs for intervention - about \$10 more than previously thought.” ~ Elizabeth Burmaster, Wisconsin State School Superintendent, December 4, 2004)	\$88,400	\$88,400	\$88,400
Total dollar value of the strategic planning services provided through CNRED (Estimate based on cost of a planning consultant.)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Percent of Sauk County Institute of Leadership graduates that will take on substantial new leadership roles in their communities or places of work. (This is an estimate based on conversations; in 2009 the impact of the SCIL program will be measured.)	96%	96%	96%
Percent of nonprofit organizations and local government entities that claim to make more informed decisions based on UW-Extension educational programming. Based on annual evaluations)	85%	96%	90%
Percent Sauk County drinking water program participants that are making more informed decisions and taking action where appropriate to improve their drinking water as a result of UW-Extension educational programming.	96%	95%	92%
Total dollar value of environmental stewardship service-learning projects completed through the YEPS program (\$20.25 per hour)	\$6,905	\$15,977	\$15,978
Total dollar value of adult 4-H volunteers (based on 7.9 hours per month at a rate of \$20.25 per hour)	\$159,975	\$272,000	\$272,640