

Sauk County, Wisconsin
**UW Extension Annual Report
for 2014**

2014 Mission: We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting the people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging them in transforming lives and communities.

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 farmers 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, volunteers and youth design hands-on, research based educational experiences for youth and adults. Many of these programs involve youth-adult partnerships, where youth and adults work together in program development and facilitation. These programs are delivered directly through local adult volunteers in 4-H community 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, 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/branding
- Natural resources education including rural drinking water programs
- Build community leaders through the Sauk County Institute of Leadership (SCIL)
- 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.

2014 Goals Review

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2014
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
Farmers (>75) will receive information in the format of meetings and one-on-one consultations on various financial topics related to profitability.	Yes
Collaborative creation of a pasture network will provide information to grazers (>25) in Sauk and surrounding counties.	Yes
Farmers (>15) in the Spring Green area will receive specific nutrient management information directly relevant to their operation through the establishment of field research in that area.	Yes
The agricultural plastic recycling program will serve and provide information to farmers (>100) gained through novel research on the topic.	Yes
At least 50 farmers will attend a Pesticide Applicator Training session and will successfully complete a written exam on what they learned.	Yes
Youth (>100) in Sauk County will gain knowledge through presentations on agricultural production topics including reproduction, nutrition, genetics and quality assurance.	Yes

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2014
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
Sauk County UW Extension will train 20 Master Gardeners who will give over 900 hours of community service to Sauk County.	Yes
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
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.	Yes, UWEX continues to build and develop the leadership skills component of each SCIL 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.	To some extent, but after three years of support from UWEX the Wormfarm Institute has developed the internal capacity necessary to achieve their goals.
Facilitate a branding campaign with the City of Reedsburg and Chamber of Commerce.	Yes, Erickson completed this project and the marketing campaign was implemented by the City.
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, 105 households participated in the towns of Prairie du Sac, Honey Creek, Bear Creek and Troy.
Partner with Parks and Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department to conduct public participation and outreach as part of the update SCORP.	Yes, the plan was completed and approved.
The CNRED Agent will develop and coordinate programs designed to help local chambers of commerce and economic development corporation's partner to address regional needs. The CNRED Agent will work with local chambers and businesses to develop and implement regional marketing tools for Sauk and Columbia County.	Yes, a website was developed.

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2014
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
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 Sauk Prairie Hospital Foundation and the Baraboo Economic Development Commission
Assist as needed with trail development process.	I partnered with CPZ to develop the plan of work for the trail and I played a lead role in public participation efforts.
Distribute 10,000 Sauk County maps featuring natural and heritage tourism resources and 200 Baraboo River recreational water trail maps.	Yes
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 130 certified 4-H volunteer leaders, and Sauk County UWEX staff members.	Yes/No 484 youth members (achieved) 110 certified 4-H volunteers (objective not reached)
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 adult volunteer training and certification trainings at least four (4) times per year, conduct 4-H club leadership team trainings at least three (3) times per year,, host 4-H Club leader meetings at least two (2) times per year, conduct project leader and after school training at least four (4) time 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,	Yes

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2014
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
camp counselor training, club officer training, committee work, and community wide youth leadership conferences.	
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.	No. The Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County (YEPS) is going through a transition. So only 125 youth and adults were engaged.
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 - The 4-H Agent participated and presented at Youth Conservation Days-reaching 400 youth, Rural Safety Days-reaching 800 youth, as well as summer 4-H staff working with the Boys and Girls Club.
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.	Yes, with a different focus. A Healthier Sauk County will be focused in 2015..
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 to assist with the leadership in Madison
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 The research is complete.
UW Cooperative Extension Family Living partners with the Dells Area Alliance for Young Children (DAAYC), Central Wisconsin Community Action and the Adams School District to provide Summer Lunch Bunch, Nature Day, and Art in the Park.	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, programmed in three major areas this year. The first was financial and crop management. In this area, Pfeiffer worked with individual farms, including the largest farm in the county, to provide financial assessment. In addition, Pfeiffer developed a farm financial workshop and collaborated with a local business to address many issues facing farm families. Pfeiffer implemented survey work in the Spring Green area to assess nitrogen management. This included working directly with farmers to provide education on soil health and manure management in addition to the management of nitrogen. Pfeiffer also conducted research on this topic which led to the publication of a novel paper on nitrogen management in sandy soil. Pfeiffer developed a presentation and conducted a meeting collaborating with university specialists to address issues of nitrogen management. The second major area Pfeiffer programmed in was dairy/livestock management. This included a variety of programs such as reproductive workshops, animal well-being workshops and nutritional workshops. Pfeiffer produced resources to help farmers in these areas including presentations and fact sheets. The third area Pfeiffer programmed in was agricultural advocacy and education. This area includes alternative agricultural topics such as CSA's and providing education to the non-farm community of youth and adults. It also includes the agricultural plastics recycling program. This highly visible and successful program is considered a pilot in this area. Because of this Pfeiffer has been contacted by people across and out of state. Pfeiffer is considered a valuable resource providing information on this topic. Pfeiffer continued to collaborate with the local agribusiness's along with county partners such as land conservation, NRCS and FSA. Pfeiffer is active in the agricultural organizations in Sauk County including: the Dairy Promoters, Livestock Committee and is a member of the young farmers and agriculturists selection committee.

Community, Natural Resources, Economic Development:

Jenny Erickson, the Sauk County UWEX Community Resource Development Agent, focused on economic and organizational development in 2013. Erickson developed, coordinated, and/or taught educational programs designed to strengthen communities.

Erickson also developed, coordinated and/or taught educational programs designed to build the capacity of local organizations and communities. Erickson and Wenzel continued to serve as the coordinator/advisor for the Sauk County Institute of Leadership (SCIL). She also facilitated strategic planning processes for the Baraboo Economic Development Commission and the Sauk Prairie Healthcare Foundation.

4-H & Youth Development:

Sauk County 4-H Community Club Program

The 4-H Agent, Meg Sage and Program Advisor, Judy Gurgel, worked hard in 2014 with rebuilding the foundation of the Community Club 4-H program in Sauk County. The Community 4-H Clubs offer long-term educational experiences in which 4-H members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking, leadership and working with others. 4-H members learn by doing with the guidance of older youth and adult volunteers, who teach projects ranging from aerospace and arts to veterinary science and computers. 4-H Community

Clubs involve youth and adults in community service, camping and educational trips. In 2014, Meg and Judy worked to enhance communication with all in the 4-H program. The Clover Comments, 4-H newsletter, was changed from an every other month publication to a monthly communication, which now provides much more timely information, as well as the opportunity for members and leaders to see information at least twice prior to an event. Monthly emails are sent to club leaders with updates and reminders. Meg and Judy also updated and addressed items (registration forms, program promotional materials, enrollment materials, and much more) that had not been revised or updated for many years. Meg did some targeted recruiting and orientation which increased the number of volunteers by 25% from the previous year. 4-H Leaders had the opportunity to participate in over 15 orientation, project leaders trainings, and club leadership meetings offered throughout the year. The 4-H program now has a much stronger foundation and will be able build move forward focusing on the big picture of youth development. In 2014, 14 Community Clubs involved 484 youth in grades 5K - 13 as members of the 4-H program and 110 adults as certified 4-H Project and 4-H Club volunteers. Each volunteer averages 100 hours per year. At a rate of \$20.25 per hour, Sauk County 4-H adult volunteer leaders have contributed \$222,750.00 worth of services to Sauk County in 2014.

Community Youth Development Programs

In addition to the Community Club 4-H program, the 4-H Youth Development Agent also taught 800 third grade students in conjunction with the Sauk County Rural Safety Days, and 400 sixth and seventh graders at two (3) youth conservation days in conjunction with local school districts.

Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County

As part of Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County (YEPS), 100 youth (5 - 17 years old) and 25 adults participated in 10 environmental stewardship community and school-based projects throughout Sauk County. This participation resulted in a total of 517 hours spent in environmental stewardship community service projects throughout Sauk County, a contribution of \$10,469.25 worth of services dedicated to preserving Sauk County's natural resources. The YEPS program is going through a transition period and will be focusing on

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. The Civility Code was taught three times in Sauk County, benefiting approximately 390 Sauk County children.

Trainings for Children

- Cowonomics in Baraboo - 15 hours of teaching

Jail Study Grant

- Lunch -n- Learn with Dr. Julie Poehlmann-Tynan presenting

Programs Coordinated

- Summer Lunch Bunch (1,600 meals served)
- Art in the Park (Nagelkerk writes the grant from the Wisconsin Dells Art Association)

- Creation of a collaboration with area hospitals and Sauk County Public Health-Sauk County Health and Wellness Collaboration. The group was formed to provide education and inspire action on health issues meant to improve the health of Sauk County citizens. The topic of concern was that Sauk had been deemed a “ Health Professional Deficient” county. Now it looks promising to get a resident in 2016 or 2017, a 3rd or 4th year student for 9 months and we will have a psychiatrist for oversight.

HCE

- HCE Executive Board Advisor
- Get Ready...Get Set...Garden!
- HCE Spring Recognition
- HCE Fall Fling
- Lynn’ Legacy
- Wisconsin Bookworms (every child in Head Start in Sauk County (200) receive 8 brand new books to start their own personal library.

Financial

- One-on-one financial counseling
- Financial Team presentation at the Midwest Forage Symposium

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 third 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 three weeks at three different locations with children who attended Summer Lunch Bunch.

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. WNEP positions were vacant last year, resulting in the absence of nutrition educational programming. Danielle Sander, former WNEP Coordinator, returned to Sauk County on October 1. She spent the remainder of 2014 rebuilding community partnerships, developing a FY15 plan, and hiring a nutrition educator.

Horticulture: The Sauk County Master Gardeners Association provided horticulture education to area residents through a variety of activities and the Horticulture Educator submitted 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 and Reedsburg area with 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 Gardener plots in the Baraboo Community Garden provided fresh produce for the Baraboo Food Pantry for the entire summer growing season.

Master Gardeners and the Baraboo Public Library have started a seed savers library. This will work the same as borrowing a book. People can come in for free seeds and replace them after harvest. Six seminars on how to save seeds are now being held at the library.

Sauk County UW Extension Office: Handled 14,603 telephone calls and approximately 2,700 walk-in requests for assistance. The Sauk County UW-Extension web site attracted approximately 224 visits per week in 2014.

OUTPUT MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL
Number of phone calls handled by Sauk County UW Extension	24,985	15,465	14,603
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.)	2,670	2,725	2,700
Number of website visits per week			224

OUTPUT MEASURES

Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UWEX Ag/Natural Resources Program (best estimate)	2,000	3,900	4,000
Number of Sauk County farm families who received financial analysis and planning services from Sauk County UW Extension	2	30	30
Number of farmers who received advice and technical assistance with construction projects from UW Extension agricultural engineers	4	8	10
Number of people who attended pasture walks coordinated by Sauk County UW Extension and MATC - Reedsburg	110	NA	25
Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UW Extension Horticulture Program (best estimate)	1,200	1,300	1,400
Number of client contacts made by the Sauk County UWEX Family Living Program (best estimate)	3,500	3,500	3,500
Number of individuals taught by a Family Living Team of Nagelkerk, Metzenbauer and Schilling at the Midwest Forage Symposium	45	103	107
Lunch n Learns on pertinent topics	Heroin		90 (Oct 28) Young Children of Jailed Parents
Classes for child care providers to keep their state license			The Civility Code (taught 3 times in Sauk County) Affecting 390 children
Number of direct client contacts	2,960	3,291	0