

### Extension Education Committee Agenda Videoconference (See link at bottom of agenda) OR Jefferson County Extension Office

864 Collins Road, Jefferson, WI 53549

DATE: Monday, April 14, 2025

**TIME:** 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Matt Foelker, Elizabeth Hafften, Dan Herbst, John Kannard, Dwayne Morris

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call (to establish a quorum)
- 3. Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law
- 4. Approval of Agenda (for possible rearrangement)
- 5. Public Comment (Members of the Public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time.)
- 6. Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from March 10, 2025
- 7. Communications
- 8. Review of 2025 Departmental Budget
- 9. Discussion regarding continuing .2FTE Horticulture Educator in 2026
- Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports Steve Chmielewski (Community Educator), Alison Pfau (Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator), Jerry Wilcenski (4-H), Julie Hill (Horticulture Educator), Lisa Krolow (Bilingual FoodWIse Coordinator), Josh Kamps (Regional Crop Educator)
- 11. Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings
- 12. Discussion and Possible Decision on Dates/Times of Extension Education Committee meetings: May 12, June 9, July 14
- 13. Adjourn

Virtual TEAMS Link	
Join the meeting now	
Meeting ID: 213 923 296 146	
Passcode: w6g63Ue9	

A quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting. Individuals requiring special accommodation for attendance at the meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at 920-674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made. "Enriching people with knowledge, perspective, skills, and aspirations. "University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture & Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX & ADA.

### **Extension Education Committee Minutes**

Date of Meeting: March 10, 2025

Call to Order: John Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:32am.

**Roll Call:** Committee members present in person: John Kannard and Matt Foelker.

Chrissy Wen, Julie Hill, Lisa Krolow, Meghan Splinter and Katelyn Broedlow were present in-person.

Dan Herbst, Elizabeth Hafften, and Michael Luckey were present via zoom.

### Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law: In compliance.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Foelker, seconded by Kannard, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion passed.

Public Comment: None.

**Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from February 10, 2025:** Motion by Foelker, seconded by Kannard, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

### Communications: None.

**Review of 2025 Departmental Budget:** Wen stated there are no surprises and that the largest component of the budget is the educator contracts.

Steve Chmielewski and Dwayne Morris joined meeting at 8:34am

### **Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:**

Steve Chmielewski, Community Development Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Continues to work with the City of Jefferson Rural on Extension's program Rural Entrepreneurial Venture. Recently, conducted a stakeholder analysis, constructed the core team and has started the needs assessment process.
- Began working on the needs assessment for the office which will tie into the marketing plan. A meeting was held with the Watertown School District and next they will meet with the Whitewater School District.
- Discussion was had.

Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H educator, was unable to attend the meeting.

Julie Hill, Horticulture Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Highlighted the upcoming programs found in the handout.
- Continues to work with Steve Chmielewski on the office needs assessment.

#### Alison Pfau joined meeting at 8:43am.

Lisa Krolow, FoodWIse Coordinator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Programming with Head Start has started in 3 classrooms.
- Looking at doing a cooking program with families at a housing site in Fort Atkinson.
- A food safety class has been scheduled with Head Start parents.
- Will be participating in a WIC event in May. Plan to do a coming demonstration which will include taste testing.

- Coordinating a gleaning program at the Watertown Riverside Market on Thursdays. FoodWIse will work with the vendors to pick up produce that would not last until the market the following week and that may get thrown away. They will then help get it into the hands of people who could use it.
- Discussion was had.

Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- The Forage Meeting held in Whitewater went very well.
- The Dairy Feeding School is the next program being hosted in the region.
- Attending the Ag Institute Conference later this week.
- Presenting at the Calving Management Practice and Neonate Care in Dairy Cattle program in Fond du Lac later this week.
- Hosting a program with Dr. Temple Grandin in Madison on animal welfare in dairy cattle.
- Attended the Watertown Agribusiness meeting to help make connections.
- The first Spanish newsletter will be sent out next month.
- Discussion was had.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, was unable to attend the meeting.

### Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings: None.

Next Scheduled Meetings: April 14, May 12, June 9

Adjourn – Motion by Foelker, seconded by Morris, to adjourn at 9:02am.

Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist

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Steve Chmielewski Community Development Educator

# Community Development

- A team development workshop (Real Colors) for organizations where participants increased their ability to recognize their strengths and the strengths of others, build rapport quickly with others, understand how others process information, and modify their communication to connect with others. The workshop is intended to help teams work together more effectively.
- A community-led process where local leadership team discovers gaps and support needed to then strengthen their entrepreneur ecosystem.
- Planning for community needs assessment in collaboration with community leaders, businesses and organizations in Jefferson County. The goal is to engage new participation to learn about trends, challenges and goals to develop new programming, raise awareness of local and statewide resources, and increase relational capital.
- A one-day workshop for community broadband leaders, economic development organizations, public and private permitting agencies, and internet service providers, where participants learned about broadband permitting requirements, engagement and endorsement of Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) projects, and engaged in peer learning through case studies so they can build effective public-private partnerships that meet their community's broadband needs, increasing economic opportunity and quality of life for all community members.







Alison Pfau Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator

### **March Program Highlights**





- An article for Dairy farm owners and employees where they can find basic information about Dry matter and techniques to measure it in their operations to help them understand the importance of knowing this characteristic that allows for accurate comparison and formulation of diets.
- A workshop "Calving Management and Neonate Care in Dairy Cattle" for all the individuals that are involved in parturition, and calving management in dairy farms. We created an in person and bilingual event where participants learned and reinforce their knowledge about obstetrics, care and support in the calving pen, neonate care and colostrum management, and how to maintain the success in the maternity areas. Through this effort pretended to increase the knowledge and good practices related to the earliest stage of life in dairy cattle, which should represent an increase in herd health, work safety and farm profitability.
- A workshop "Dairy Feeder School" for all the individuals with a link with the formulation, mixing, and/or delivering of feedstuff for dairy cattle. We are creating an in-person and bilingual event where participants will learn and reinforce their knowledge about feed safety, feed management, transition cow health, and the economics of feeding. Through this effort we will impact animal health and milk production efficiency, by improving the use of resources such as, feed ingredients, time and labor leading to an increased farm profitability and waste reduction.
- Planning for an update to Topic Hub article heat abatement resources in dairy cattle, as well as creating new informative videos to showcase dairy farmer success stories about heat abatement strategies on-farm. The goal is to increase awareness and highlight successful implementation of heat abatement strategies for dairy cattle. These resources will address a critical topic related to climate change and

sustainability, as well as methods to ensure high quality animal care and economic viability for the dairy industry.



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Jerry Wilcenski 4-H Program Educator





- Youth will learn about safe food handling, common pathogens, and proper internal temperatures of meat products. Participants in each session will learn about the nutritional components of meat products, the cost of production and innovative production methods focused on climate and sustainability. Youth will also learn about animal welfare and how it effects consumer demands and product quality.
- A series of events that break down into four main categories: Youth care of animals, Meat Science and Carcass Quality, Genetics Marketing and Public Speaking.
- Bake-Off is a series of challenges that allow youth to expand baking skills and master a wide range of baked goods. Each month focuses on technical, creative, and group challenge for: cakes, breads, pastries, cookies.
- Countywide Cloverbud Programing that highlights the various projects and activities 4-H has to offer.
- Cook-Off is a series of challenges that allow youth to expand cooking skills and master a wide range dishes. Each month focusses on technical, creative and group challenge for a wide range of foods.
- Youth will learn about all aspects of draft horse management and care, from reproduction to nutritional needs to safe handling. Programming involves hands on lessons throughout the year.







# Agriculture Horticulture

Julie Hill Horticulture Educator

- An in-person program in collaboration with UW-Whitewater where participants learned about the fundamentals of pruning woody shrubs and trees. The goal of this effort is to increase knowledge, confidence and build skills to successfully maintain woody plants in the home landscape.
- An in-person program for seniors in collaboration with Seniors in the Park Whitewater Growers Club. The goal was to learn about soil tests, results interpretation, and fertilizer applications to improve/manage healthy soil ecosystems for the benefit of improved carbon storage, plant productivity, and reduced environmental contamination.
- A yearlong activity/service for residents of Jefferson County to provide research based answers to their horticulture questions. The goal of this effort is to educate individuals of Jefferson County so they can implement best practices in their landscapes that will positively affect the environment and their communities.
- An in-person program in collaboration with Madison College (Watertown Campus) where participants learned about growing vegetables in containers. The goal of this effort is to increase knowledge, confidence and build skills in gardening for improved yields and reduce the harmful effects of pesticides.
- An in-person program in collaboration with Johnson Creek Public Library where participants learned about home composting. The goal of this effort is to increase knowledge, confidence and build skills in composting to help mitigate the causes of climate change and to improve the soil health of yards and gardens.





# **Upcoming April and May Events**



## Gardening for Hummingbirds - *multiple locations*

**April 10, 5:30 p.m.** East Troy Parks and Recreation 2015 Energy Drive, East Troy Pre-register at: *easttroywi.gov/programs*  **April 22, 6:00 p.m.** Hedberg Public Library 316 S. Main Street, Janesville





### From Scraps to Soil: Composting Basics

**April 28, 5:30 p.m.** Big Foot Recreation District 401 Devils Lane, Walworth Pre-register at: *bigfootrecreation.org* 





### Tree Troubles: Factors of Decline and Spongy Moth Management

**May 7, 6:00 p.m.** L.D. Fargo Public Library 120 E. Madison Street, Lake Mills





### Planting for a Buzz: A Guide to Pollinator Friendly Gardening

**May 12, 6:00 p.m.** Mukwonago Community Library 511 Division St., Mukwonago

> Event Calendar extension.wisc.edu/ events





Julie Hill Horticulture Educator

Walworth, Rock and

Jefferson Counties

Office: 262-741-4958 Cell/Text: 262-374-4191

Email: julie.hill@wisc.edu



hort.extension.wisc.edu

Ask Your Gardening Question Online go.wisc.edu/PlantQ

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> Event Calendar extension.wisc.edu/ events





Julie Hill Horticulture Educator

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Email: julie.hill@wisc.edu



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**Lisa Krolow** Bilingual FoodWIse Nutrition Coordinator



**Priscilla Gonzalez** Bilingual FoodWIse Nutrition Educator



- Priscilla completed a 4 week series in 3 Head Start Classrooms, working with 4 year-olds. Sites included Purdy Elementary School in Fort Atkinson and The Collective in Watertown.
- Lisa and Priscilla are collaborating with the Jefferson County Head Start program to provide parents with information on Food Safety and budgeting for healthy eating. Virtual lessons will be offered in both Spanish and English on April 23rd and April 30th. To maximize accessibility, each lesson will be presented at 10 am and once at 6 pm. Participants will receive a refrigerator thermometer and a meat thermometer, enabling them to implement food safety practices at home and develop skills for healthier food management.
- FoodWIse will participate in the Watertown Schools Family Night at the Watertown Public Library.
- In partnership with the ADRC, FoodWIse developed a survey to collect data on participants' interests. The information gathered will be used to plan programming that is relevant and engaging for this audience.







**Josh Kamps** Regional Crops & Soils Educator

# Agriculture Crops & Soils

- A series of four Focus on Forage webinars for forage growers, livestock producers, agency staff and agricultural consultants where research-based forage management solutions are shared to optimize forage yield and quality to improve overall farm profitability.
- Planning for a four session Focus on Forage webinar series for forage growers and agriculture consultants in collaboration with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the US Dairy Forage Research Center. The goal is to provide research-based forage management solutions to improve forage quality and meet producer goals.
- An on-farm research project to determine the performance of five winter barley varieties at different planting dates, where performance is determined by winter survival, yield as well as malt, forage, and feed analysis. Results from this study will help determine if/how winter barley can be integrated into Wisconsin cropping systems and if it can serve as an overwintering cover crop that can potentially garner higher prices and yield than winter wheat for farmers in the state.
- A risk, crop insurance and grain marketing hybrid course, where material was adapted into a
  more relevant format for use in-person, webinars and an on-line course. The Farm Pulse Crop Insurance and Grain Marketing has assisted farmers and agricultural professionals in
  identifying strengths and weaknesses of their crop business to assist them in making
  decisions that will improve their farm profitability.



