Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

Extension Education Committee Agenda
Videoconference
OR
Jefferson County Extension Office
864 Collins Road, Jefferson, WI 53549

DATE: October 12, 2026

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Matt Foelker, Francine Gies, Elizabeth Hafften, John Kannard, Dwayne Morris

Virtual TEAMS Link
Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 286 622 399 600 090
Passcode: RJ9eb32B

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 August 10, 2026
7. Communications
8. Review of 2026 Departmental Budget
9. Division of Extension update – Chrissy Wen, Area Extension Director
10. Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports – Steve Chmielewski (Community Educator), Jerry Wilcenski and Cadance Hawk (4-H), Julie Hill (Horticulture Educator), Alison Pfau (Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator), 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:
    Nov 9 & Dec 14
13. Adjourn

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.” The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.







SEPTEMBER 2026

Program Highlights



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON
JEFFERSON COUNTY

COMMUNITY *development*



Steve Chmielewski
Community Development Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- Local Government Leadership series: Planning team includes department heads, county board supervisor and County Administrator. The purpose is to assist with the strategic priority of advancing a Transformative Government by bridging the gap between residents and county operations. Goals include demystifying local governance, building a sustainable pipeline for public service and strengthening inclusive civic engagement, empowering residents to become active, and developing opportunities for new county employees, committee members, elected board supervisors or community leaders. In the current stage of our program planning process, a resident survey will be launched the week of 10/12 to gather input on learning objectives, structure and logistics. This fall/winter results will be applied for program development, in January the program will be promoted/registration opened, with the series planned to start in March.

- Rural Entrepreneurial Venture (REV) supports the development of rural entrepreneurial ecosystems across Wisconsin with 2 efforts in Jefferson County
  - Palmyra REV Team: Sept. 9 presentation on RenewTowns program engaged 12 key community players in a discussion on a process to strengthen upcoming entrepreneurs and help fill commercial vacancies. The team will provide the community with more information as well as gather input from business operators. Next steps include developing timeline/promotional schedule, engage propoery owners and finalize fund development for the project budget.
  - Jefferson REV Team: Sept. 24 presentation on Renewtowns and discussion held with 20 key community players. The community demonstrated readiness to begin this community-led effort. Program leadership is provided in cooperation with the Main St Association, Jefferson Area Chamber, City officials and UW-Whitewater.
    - Daily Jefferson County Union 9/21/26 article: https://www.dailyunion.com/news/local/renewtowns-initiative-hopes-to-bring-new-downtown-business-in-jefferson-community-meeting-scheduled-for-thursday/article_c5536b7a-0af7-4373-9a6d-880e941dcbe2.html
    - Project sponsor has been secured for the process, waiting on official announcement; final budget pieces in the works
    - Discussions with REV teams also informed development of a resource page highlighting available business start up and foundational resources specific to four phases of a business hosted on Extension Jefferson County website:https://jefferson.extension.wisc.edu/starting-a-business-business-foundation-resources/

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COMMUNITY *development*



Steve Chmielewski
Community Development Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES CONT.

- Planning for Statewide Housing Webinar Series: In cooperation with our statewide Housing Team, we are developing a lunch and learn series to address statewide priority topics with local governments staff and elected officials. November kick off date to be announced soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct 12, 11am - 1pm Grant Writing 101
  - https://extension.wisc.edu/events/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D205603853
- Oct 13, 6pm - 8pm Grant Writing 101
  - https://extension.wisc.edu/events/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D205603855
- Oct 29, 12pm-1pm Cooperative Childcare Solutions Webinar - Wisconsin
  - https://extension.wisc.edu/events/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D207720158
- Nov 5, 9:30am - 3pm Renewable Energy Academy - Vaughn Library 502 Main St. W Ashland, WI 54806
  - https://extension.wisc.edu/events/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D204775245
- Nov 10 8:30am - 4:30pm Southwestern Wisconsin Housing Summit - Suthwest Technical College 1800 Bronson Blvd. Fennimore, WI
  - https://extension.wisc.edu/events/?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D209993019

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YOUTH 4-H



Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- Countywide Cloverbud Programing that highlights the various projects and activities 4-H has to offer.
  - Improved understanding of 4-H, excitement for Cloverbud projects, improved sense of belonging to 4-H

- Weekly in-school programing at the Palmyra Montessori school that provides and exploration of 4-H and its diverse project areas for new and primarily first generation 4-H youth.
  - Programming completed in: Legos, Food Science, Plants and Soil Sciences, Rabbits, Global Exploration, Archiving and Collections and Gems and Minerals.

- The Youth Livestock Producers is series of programs and a youth lead committee that aims to build future leaders in fields of genetics, animal science, meat science and veterinary science.
  - Aug 27th- New Youth Leader Orientation.- 23 youth participated in orientation for their roles, team building and beginning planning of the new educational year.
  - Sept 22th- Planning meeting. Youth reviewed last year's guide book and awards and worked on drafting a new guide book and program calendar. Youth species chairs take the lead on educational programing in their areas as well as holding regular meetings to help coach youth through the project cycle.

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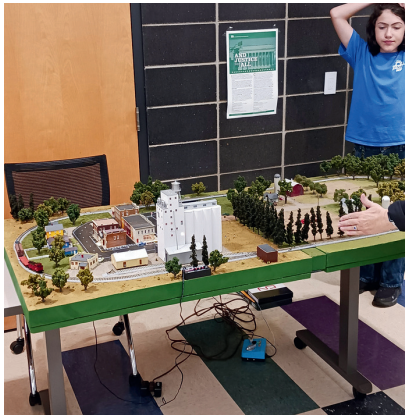
YOUTH 4-H



Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

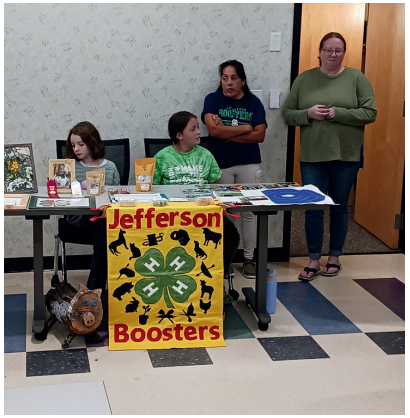
SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PHOTO GALLERY

















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YOUTH 4-H



Cadance Hawk
4-H Associate Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- Connected with Lake Mills and Johnson Creek schools to plan afterschool programs for middle school students. Lake Mills is set to start on November 12th for a 5-week fall program. This program will serve as a catalyst for a longer spring program at the middle school and has potential to serve as a catalyst for a program at the elementary school as well. Johnson Creek is still in the planning stages.

AUGUST PHOTO CONTEST

WINNER





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AGRICULTURE *Horticulture*



Julie Hill
Horticulture Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- An in-person presentation for the general public, in partnership with UW-Whitewater's Continuing Education Enrichment Classes, where participants learned research-based strategies to prepare for and respond to extreme weather impacts in their gardens and landscapes, to improve their ability to successfully garden in a changing environment.

- An in-person presentation for Jefferson County Retired Teachers group where participants learned about horticulture practices so that they can prevent pests, improve pollinator habitat, and reduce the use of horticulture chemicals in the landscape.

- A weekly social media outreach campaign for consumer gardeners utilizing Extension Jefferson County Facebook page to help promote local plant health diagnostic services and upcoming programs,and improve understanding of how sustainable horticultural practices positively impact landscapes and ecosystems.

- 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Understanding Your Garden Soil, October 5, 5:30 p.m., at Big Foot High School, in partnership with Big Foot Recreation District. For more information and to register, visit: **https://www.bigfootrecreation.org/**
- Informational booth at the Beloit Senior Fair, October 6, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Central Christian Church, Beloit
- Fall Gardening for a Winter Ready Landscape, October 12, 5:30 p.m., MATC Watertown Campus (Enrichment Classes). For more information and to register, visit: **https://ce.madisoncollege.edu/madisoncollege/course/course.aspx?C=361&pc=96&mc=100&sc=123**
- Gift Plants Unwrapped, November 10, 5:30 p.m., at UW-Whitewater campus, in partnership with UW-Whitewater Continuing Education. For more information and to register, visit: https://www.uww.edu/ce/gardenlandscape/giftplants

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AGRICULTURE *dairy*



Alison Pfau
Bilingual Dairy Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- A bilingual (English and Spanish) newsletter, Bovi-noticias, for dairy farm owners, managers, employees, and industry partners, where readers gain practical, research-based information that explains the reasons behind key farm management practices and supports everyday decision-making. Through this effort, dairy operations are better equipped to strengthen workforce engagement, improve communication and safety, enhance animal well-being, and support long-term farm sustainability and profitability.

- The El "Break" Info-Lechero 2026 Webinar

PHOTO GALLERY



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AGRICULTURE *Dairy*



Alison Pfau
Bilingual Dairy Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

DAIRY SPANISH WEBINAR DATES

- October 14th, 2026, 12:00 pm Manuel Peña, Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator – Dairy Cow Nutrition: Nutrients, Management, and Production. University of Wisconsin Madison, Division of Extension.
- October 21st, 2026, 12:00 pm Dr Paola Bacigalupo, Dairy Technical Services Veterinarian – Drying Off Dairy Cows: Preparing Them for a Healthy and Productive Next Lactation. Zoetis
- An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.
- La Universidad de Wisconsin-Extensión, un empleador con igualdad de oportunidades y acción affirmative (EEO/AA), proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en empleo y programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Titulo VI, Título IX, y de la Ley para Americanos con Discapacidades (ADA).
- October 28th, 2026, 12:00 pm Dr. Victor Cabrera, Professor & Extension Specialist Dairy Farm Management Extension; Ing. Pablo De Caso Udave, MS student at the Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences – Create Your Own AI Advisor: Converting Farm Data into Profitable Decisions. – University of Wisconsin Madison
- November 4th, 2026, 12:00 pm Katy Schultz - Schultz Dairy Farm; Rosario Ibarra - Grotegut Dairy Farm Inc; David Maldonado - Statz Bros., Inc. Dairy Producer Panel from Wisconsin

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AGRICULTURE
Crops & Soils



Josh Kamps
Crops & Soils Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES

- A study to better understand corn rootworm pressure within different corn management systems. Results from this study will help farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants with identifying effective control strategies that reduce the risk of resistance developing.
  - Farmers and agricultural professionals will have increased knowledge and confidence in selecting corn rootworm management strategies based on pest pressure and production system. Improved decision-making will support effective pest control, promote responsible use of management tools, and reduce the risk of resistance development.

- A study to better understand the prevalence of Johnsongrass, Sorghum halepense, populations and differentiate it from similar species across southern Wisconsin. Results from this study will help farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants in properly identifying this grass weed plant, choosing appropriate control measures, and reducing the risk of these populations from spreading.
  - Farmers and agricultural professionals will have increased confidence in identifying and managing Johnsongrass populations. Improved identification and timely management will support more effective control decisions and help reduce the risk of Johnsongrass spreading to additional cropland across southern Wisconsin.

- Planning for an on-farm educational event for state legislators to learn about farmer's decision-making process when balancing reduced nitrogen leaching with farm profitability. The goal is to highlight the work underway by Producer-led groups, County partners, and Extension to support farmers with navigating this balance so that legislators are more informed when making decisions to support future opportunities.
  - Legislators will gain a more informed understanding of the opportunities and challenges farmers face when working to reduce nitrogen losses while maintaining profitable farming operations. This increased understanding will help inform future policy, funding, and program decisions that support practical, farmer-led approaches to improving water quality and agricultural sustainability.

- An on-farm research study to better understand manure application, commercial nitrogen application rates, and nitrogen credits on corn yield and potential effect on ground water. Results from this study will help farmers, agriculture industry professionals, and agency professionals in adjusting manure and commercial nitrogen applications to optimize corn yield and protect groundwater resources.
  - Commercial nitrogen application can be a major expense in the production of corn grain and silage. Nitrogen also possesses risk to moving through the soil profile to groundwater and off-site to surface waters such as rivers and lakes.

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AGRICULTURE
Crops & Soils



Josh Kamps
Crops & Soils Educator

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM UPDATES CONT.

- Soil fertility consultations for farmers where soil test reports are analyzed, crop goals are identified, and options for meeting crop fertility requirements are discussed to aid farmers with limited acres and farmers that are new to nutrient management with making fertilizer decisions based on UW-Madison soil fertility recommendations that promote profitable crop production.
  - Farmers will increase their knowledge and confidence in making soil fertility and fertilizer decisions based on soil test results and crop needs. These consultations will support appropriate fertilizer use, efficient use of farm resources, and profitable crop production.

- Planning for an educational breakout session during the 2026 WWASH Conference which brings together farmers, crop consultants, agronomists, and conservationists. This breakout session will focus on the pest management risks and benefits within conservation cropping systems known to improve soil health, reduce nutrient losses, and increase farm resilience. The goal of the break out session is to improve confidence and expand adoption of these systems on cropping acres in Wisconsin.
  - Participants will gain a better understanding of the pest management risks and benefits associated with conservation cropping systems and increased confidence in implementing or recommending these practices. Ultimately, the effort aims to support greater adoption and successful management of conservation cropping systems across Wisconsin cropland.

- A workshop for farmer and agronomists, where attendees learned how to better manage herbicide resistance and use pesticide adjuvants. Through this workshop, farmers and agronomists will have gain knowledge to improve weed management efforts.
  - ·This workshop was aimed at helping Wisconsin farmers and agronomists with the adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and agroecological approaches to achieve long-term pest suppression by generating and sharing research-based knowledge through UW-led and on-farm research, and by translating findings into practical tools, Extension publications, and multimedia resources for farmers and agricultural professionals. We developed the Wisconsin Extension Weed Management workshop to help Wisconsin farmers and agronomists address critical weed management challenges. The agenda was drafted based on evaluation data from previous events and considering the plan of work strategies. Wisconsin farmers and agronomists gained valuable knowledge on identifying different cases of resistance, planning to prevent resistance, using new crop trait technology, and selecting proper spray adjuvants. Herbicide resistance is a very large challenge for farmers and this information should help slow the spread of herbicide resistance.

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FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 09

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
13301 UW Extension							
13301 411100 General Property Taxes	-319,030	0	-319,030	-239,272.29	.00	-79,757.40	75.0%
13301 451100 Misc. Billed	-1,500	0	-1,500	-545.00	.00	-955.00	36.3%
13301 457020 Publication Sales	-50	0	-50	-49.00	.00	-1.00	98.0%
13301 471130 State Billed-Other	-2,608	0	-2,608	.00	.00	-2,608.00	.0%
13301 511210 Wages-Regular	55,196	0	55,196	28,825.35	.00	26,370.73	52.2%
13301 512141 Social Security	3,091	0	3,091	2,197.67	.00	893.44	71.1%
13301 512142 Retirement (Employer)	3,974	0	3,974	1,854.64	.00	2,119.48	46.7%
13301 512144 Health Insurance	23,496	0	23,496	.00	.00	23,496.48	.0%
13301 512145 Life Insurance	7	0	7	5.74	.00	.86	87.0%
13301 512151 HSA Contribution	1,600	0	1,600	.00	.00	1,600.00	.0%
13301 512173 Dental Insurance	1,104	0	1,104	280.72	.00	823.28	25.4%
13301 521258 Computer Maintenance	0	0	0	500.00	.00	-500.00	.0%
13301 529299 Purchase Care & Services	180,071	0	180,071	79,004.00	.00	101,067.27	43.9%
13301 531298 United Parcel Service	50	0	50	.00	.00	50.00	.0%
13301 531311 Postage & Box Rent	2,608	0	2,608	.00	.00	2,608.00	.0%
13301 531312 Office Supplies	4,600	0	4,600	493.31	.00	4,106.69	10.7%
13301 531314 Small Items Of Equipment	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13301 531322 Subscriptions	150	0	150	.00	.00	150.00	.0%
13301 531324 Membership Dues	370	0	370	125.00	.00	245.00	33.8%
13301 531326 Advertising	0	0	0	97.70	.00	-97.70	.0%
13301 531348 Educational Supplies	2,000	0	2,000	1,243.43	.00	756.57	62.2%
13301 532325 Registration	1,200	0	1,200	1,244.00	.00	-44.00	103.7%
13301 532332 Mileage	3,500	0	3,500	2,995.44	.00	504.56	85.6%
13301 532334 Commercial Travel	700	0	700	.00	.00	700.00	.0%
13301 532335 Meals	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13301 532336 Lodging	1,000	0	1,000	734.76	.00	265.24	73.5%
13301 532339 Other Travel & Tolls	30	0	30	12.00	.00	18.00	40.0%
13301 533225 Telephone & Fax	315	0	315	199.95	.00	115.05	63.5%
13301 535242 Maintain Machinery & Equip	2,100	0	2,100	1,445.80	.00	654.20	68.8%
13301 571004 IP Telephony Allocation	1,650	0	1,650	978.03	.00	671.97	59.3%
13301 571005 Duplicating Allocation	65	0	65	48.78	.00	16.22	75.0%
13301 571009 MIS PC Group Allocation	30,244	0	30,244	22,659.03	.00	7,584.97	74.9%
13301 571010 MIS Systems Grp Alloc(ISIS)	2,063	0	2,063	1,547.28	.00	515.72	75.0%
13301 591519 Other Insurance	1,003	0	1,003	395.91	.00	607.12	39.5%
13301 594809 Capital Building	0	0	0	7,608.00	.00	-7,608.00	.0%
13301 594813 Capital Office Equip	0	8,000	8,000	.00	.00	8,000.00	.0%
13301 699999 Budgetary Fund Balance	0	-8,000	-8,000	.00	.00	-8,000.00	.0%
13302 UW 4-H Program							
13302 421001 State Aid	0	0	0	-350.00	.00	350.00	.0%

FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 09

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
13302 457032 Program Public Charges	-11,405	0	-11,405	-5,380.00	.00	-6,025.00	47.2%
13302 521258 Computer Maintenance	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13302 531326 Advertising	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13302 531348 Educational Supplies	4,175	0	4,175	3,298.07	.00	876.93	79.0%
13302 532335 Meals	500	0	500	350.00	.00	150.00	70.0%
13302 535242 Maintain Machinery & Equip	1,000	0	1,000	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
13302 536535 Activity Center Rental	4,000	0	4,000	.00	.00	4,000.00	.0%
13302 594950 Operating Reserve	483	-166	317	.00	.00	316.56	.0%
13302 699700 Resv Applied Operating	-483	166	-317	.00	.00	-316.56	.0%
33001 4-H							
13302 591519 33001 Other Insurance	730	0	730	706.00	.00	24.00	96.7%
13303 UW Ag Programming							
13303 457032 Program Public Charges	-1,000	0	-1,000	.00	.00	-1,000.00	.0%
13303 531348 Educational Supplies	700	0	700	.00	.00	700.00	.0%
13303 532335 Meals	300	0	300	.00	.00	300.00	.0%
13303 594950 Operating Reserve	3,710	266	3,976	.00	.00	3,976.05	.0%
13303 699700 Resv Applied Operating	-3,710	-266	-3,976	.00	.00	-3,976.05	.0%
13303781 UW Ag Pesticide							
13303781 594950 Operating Reserve	8,003	0	8,003	.00	.00	8,002.83	.0%
13303781 699700 Resv Applied Operating	-8,003	0	-8,003	.00	.00	-8,002.83	.0%
TOTAL General Fund	0	0	0	-86,745.68	.00	86,745.68	.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	-347,788	-8,100	-355,888	-245,596.29	.00	-110,291.84	
TOTAL EXPENSES	347,788	8,100	355,888	158,850.61	.00	197,037.52	

FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 09

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	-86,745.68	.00	86,745.68	.0%

REPORT OPTIONS

	Field #	Total	Page Break
Sequence 1	1	Y	Y
Sequence 2	9	N	N
Sequence 3	12	N	N
Sequence 4	0	N	N

Report title:

FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

Includes accounts exceeding 0% of budget.
Print Full or Short description: F
Print full GL account: N
Sort by full GL account: N
Print Revenues-Version headings: N
Print revenue as credit: Y
Print revenue budgets as zero: N

From Yr/Per: 2026/ 1
To Yr/Per: 2026/ 9
Budget Year: 2026
Print totals only: N
Format type: 1
Double space: N
Suppress zero bal accts: Y
Amounts/totals exceed 999 million dollars: N
Roll projects to object: N
Print journal detail: N
From Yr/Per: 2025/ 1
To Yr/Per: 2025/12
Include budget entries: Y
Incl encumb/liq entries: Y
Sort by JE # or PO #: J
Detail format option: 1
Multiyear view: D