



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Extension Education Committee Agenda Videoconference

OR

Jefferson County Extension Office
864 Collins Road, Jefferson, WI 53549

DATE: May 11, 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. Election of Officers – Chair and Vice Chair
6. Public Comment (Members of the Public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)
7. Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from April 13, 2026
8. Communications
9. Review of 2026 Departmental Budget
10. Division of Extension update – Chrissy Wen, Area Extension Director
11. 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)
12. Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings
13. Discussion and Possible Decision on Dates/Times of Extension Education Committee meetings: June 8, July 18
14. 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.



Steve Chmielewski
Community Development
Educator

Community Development

April Program Highlights

- Planning with the City of Lake Mills to facilitate Real Colors, a team development workshop for organizations. Real Colors workshop helps participants to increase their ability to recognize their strengths. 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.
 - As a result of participating in the Real Colors workshop, team members gained a deeper understanding of human behavior, built trust, improved communication, and learned how to work together more effectively. When the team puts what they learned into practice it can improve their ability to contribute to achieving the organization's goals and mission.
- Facilitated the final session of the Jefferson Area Food Pantry (JAFF) strategic planning process where we analyzed and discussed community partner input. This initiative engaged the Pantry's Board, key stakeholders, and community partners to assess current operations, identify strengths and gaps, and clarify priorities for the future.
 - With the planning phase now complete, Extension is working with JAFF to draft a formal Strategic Plan and accompanying report. The plan will translate community and stakeholder input into clear goals, strategies, and implementation actions to strengthen food access, support organizational sustainability, and enhance the Pantry's long-term impact in the Jefferson area.



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Steve Chmielewski
Community Development
Educator

Community Development

April Program Highlights

- Continued working with the Palmyra REV team to support local revitalization and community development efforts. Extension provided facilitation and technical assistance to help the team clarify priorities, strengthen collaboration, and advance implementation of locally identified revitalization strategies.
 - This work focused on supporting the REV team's capacity to move from planning to action by aligning goals, identifying next steps, and reinforcing partnerships among community leaders and stakeholders. Extension's ongoing engagement helps the Palmyra REV team maintain momentum and position the community for sustained progress.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 7th, Southeastern Wisconsin Housing Summit
 - Zoofari Conference Center, Milwaukee County Zoo





Alison Pfau
Bilingual Regional
Dairy Educator

Agriculture Dairy

April Program Highlights

- A statewide program promoting humane dairy cow-handling practices for dairy cow handlers where the participants will learn to be aware of their own beliefs about working with cows, which affect how they interact with them. They will also learn how to form or maintain good habits, which will make the cows easier to handle and their job smoother.
- A statewide survey for dairy producers, where participants shared detailed records on inputs, management practices, and expenses associated with raising replacement heifers to generate updated benchmarks and highlight cost-saving opportunities, to support more informed decision-making and improve the economic sustainability of dairy operations.
- Developing the Bilingual Forward Farm Safety Toolbox. This hands-on resource is designed to support practical, effective safety training on dairy farms. This pilot event will be on April 14th and 15th at the Research Station in Arlington WI.
- Planning and development a calving management and neonate care workshop program in collaboration with the dairy team in Sheboygan county on May 28 and 29th.
- Presenting at the Dairy Cattle Welfare Council Symposium on May 20 to My 22nd in Minneapolis, MN. I will be talking about the different educational tools to handle dairy animals in a smart way to keep safe animal and humans.



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Jerry Wilcenski
4-H Program Educator

Jefferson County 4-H

April Program Highlights

- Weekly in-school programming 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.**
- Countywide Cloverbud Programming that highlights the various projects and activities 4-H has to offer
 - **"The Countywide Cloverbud activities are something my child looks forward to each month. I love the take home bags and the wide range of projects covered."**
- Increased awareness of food systems and processes. Food4ward Chocolate teaches youth about the chocolate making process from bean to final product. Youth are able to learn more of the science behind tempering chocolate and how crystal formation play a roll in making products that are shelf stable and high quality.
 - **Increased awareness of food systems, food science, and the chocolate making processes.**
- 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.
 - **Ongoing**





Julie Hill
Horticulture Educator

Agriculture Horticulture

April Program Highlights

- An in-person presentation, hosted by Big Foot Recreation District, for the general public where participants learned about integrated pest management to reduce wildlife conflict in a way that supports both garden and ecological balance.
 - **Programming that occurred/is occurring**
- An in-person presentation, hosted by East Troy Parks and Recreation, for the general public where participants learned about integrated pest management to reduce wildlife conflict in a way that supports both garden and ecological balance.
 - **Programming that occurred/is occurring**
- 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.
 - **Programming that occurred/is occurring**
- An in-person program for consumer horticulture audiences at Lake Mills Club 55, where participants learned about proper horticulture practices to provide food resources and decrease/eliminate pesticide use to improve habitat availability for avian fauna, especially in a changing climate.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 4th, Gardening Small
 - Big Foot HS, Walworth, WI (6:00pm)
- May 18th, Gardening for Hummingbirds
 - Milton Public Library, Milton, WI (6:00pm)
- June 1st, Growing Vegetables in Containers
 - Lake Mills Club 55 Meeting, Lake Mills, WI (10:00am)
- June 3rd, Planting for a Buzz
 - Barrett Memorial Library, Williams Bay, WI (1:00pm)
- June 10th, From Scrapes to Soil: Composting Basics
 - Lake Geneva Public Library, Lake Geneva, WI (2:00pm)
- June 11th, Gardening with Nosey Neighbors (The Furry and Antlered Kind)
 - Janesville Senior Center, Janesville, WI (1:00pm)



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Josh Kamps
Regional Crops & Soils
Educator

Agriculture Crops & Soils

April Program Highlights

- An interview on the "Ag Matters" radio show for Southern Wisconsin listeners highlighting on-farm research of cover cropping and nitrogen management within grain production systems to reduce nitrate leaching to groundwater and phosphorus runoff to lakes, rivers, and streams while maintaining profitable crop production.
 - The radio interview expanded awareness of effective conservation practices among Southern Wisconsin farmers and advisors. By translating research results into practical recommendations, the effort helped listeners better understand how to reduce nutrient losses to groundwater and surface waters while sustaining profitable grain production.
- Planning for the 2026 Badger Crop Connect season for a statewide virtual audience of farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants. The goal is to provide timely updates throughout the growing season to assist with management decisions of Wisconsin corn, soybean, small grain, and forage crop production.
 - The planning process produced a well-organized framework for the 2026 Badger Crop Connect series, ensuring that timely, accessible, and relevant information will reach a statewide audience. This coordinated approach supports more informed decision-making, improves crop management efficacy, and strengthens the ability of Wisconsin growers and agronomists to respond to in-season challenges.
- An educational field day for farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants where we discussed beneficial insect management and spring cover crop management. Through this effort attendees are better equipped to make crop production decisions in conservation cropping systems.
 - Participants left the field day with improved knowledge and practical tools for managing beneficial insects and spring cover crops. This increased confidence and understanding helps attendees make more informed crop production decisions, ultimately strengthening the effectiveness and sustainability of conservation-based cropping systems across Wisconsin.
- A planning discussion highlighting the research and outreach efforts of the WiscWeeds Team for the 2026 field season. The goal is to coordinate efforts for collecting trial data, organizing educational events, and preparing information to ultimately assist growers and agronomists with weed management decision making to increase weed control efficacy and lower the development of resistance.
 - The planning effort resulted in a coordinated framework for 2026 research and outreach activities. By aligning data collection, educational programming, and communication strategies, the WiscWeeds Team is positioned to deliver timely, research-based resources that help growers and agronomists improve weed management efficacy and reduce resistance risks across Wisconsin cropping systems.



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Josh Kamps
Regional Crops & Soils
Educator

Agriculture Crops & Soils

April Program Highlights cont.

- An educational article for the Field Fodder section of the Wisconsin Agriculturalist magazine for farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants outlining the importance of measuring corn rootworm populations. The goal is to assist farmers with the selection of corn rootworm control practices which improve efficacy and reduce resistance.
 - The article equips farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants with practical, research-based guidance for monitoring rootworm pressure and interpreting results. By promoting data-driven decision-making, the project supports more effective control strategies, reduces unnecessary inputs, and contributes to long-term resistance management across Wisconsin corn systems.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 19th, Foundational Crop Scout Training
 - Janesville, WI (10:00am - 2:30pm)



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Jefferson County
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

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FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 04

ACCOUNTS FOR:
100 General Fund

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
13301 UW Extension							
13301 511210 Wages-Regular	55,196	0	55,196	7,473.34	.00	47,722.74	13.5%
13301 512141 Social Security	3,091	0	3,091	564.25	.00	2,526.86	18.3%
13301 512142 Retirement (Employer)	3,974	0	3,974	317.28	.00	3,656.84	8.0%
13301 512144 Health Insurance	23,496	0	23,496	.00	.00	23,496.48	.0%
13301 512145 Life Insurance	7	0	7	.00	.00	6.60	.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	65.72	.00	1,038.28	6.0%
13301 521258 Computer Maintenance	0	0	0	500.00	.00	-500.00	.0%
13301 529299 Purchase Care & Services	180,071	0	180,071	.00	.00	180,071.27	.0%
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	48.54	.00	4,551.46	1.1%
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 531348 Educational Supplies	2,000	0	2,000	125.69	.00	1,874.31	6.3%
13301 532325 Registration	1,200	0	1,200	.00	.00	1,200.00	.0%
13301 532332 Mileage	3,500	0	3,500	.00	.00	3,500.00	.0%
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	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
13301 532339 Other Travel & Tolls	30	0	30	.00	.00	30.00	.0%
13301 533225 Telephone & Fax	315	0	315	78.60	.00	236.40	25.0%
13301 535242 Maintain Machinery & Equip	2,100	0	2,100	493.26	.00	1,606.74	23.5%
13301 571004 IP Telephony Allocation	1,650	0	1,650	434.68	.00	1,215.32	26.3%
13301 571005 Duplicating Allocation	65	0	65	21.68	.00	43.32	33.4%
13301 571009 MIS PC Group Allocation	30,244	0	30,244	10,070.68	.00	20,173.32	33.3%
13301 571010 MIS Systems Grp Alloc(ISIS)	2,063	0	2,063	687.68	.00	1,375.32	33.3%
13301 591519 Other Insurance	1,003	0	1,003	175.96	.00	827.07	17.5%
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%
13302 UW 4-H Program							
13302 521258 Computer Maintenance	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
13302 531326 Advertising	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%

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FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 04

ACCOUNTS FOR: 100 General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
13302 531348 Educational Supplies	4,175	0	4,175	3,298.07	.00	876.93	79.0%
13302 532335 Meals	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.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%
33001 4-H							
13302 591519 33001 Other Insurance	730	0	730	.00	.00	730.00	.0%
13303 UW Ag Programming							
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%
13303781 UW Ag Pesticide							
13303781 594950 Operating Reserve	8,003	0	8,003	.00	.00	8,002.83	.0%
TOTAL General Fund	347,788	8,100	355,888	32,088.43	.00	323,799.70	9.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	347,788	8,100	355,888	32,088.43	.00	323,799.70	

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Jefferson County
FLEXIBLE PERIOD REPORT

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FROM 2026 01 TO 2026 04

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
GRAND TOTAL	347,788	8,100	355,888	32,088.43	.00	323,799.70	9.0%

REPORT OPTIONS

Sequence 1	Field #	Total	Page Break	From Yr/Per: 2026/ 1
Sequence 2	1	Y	Y	To Yr/Per: 2026/ 4
Sequence 3	9	N	N	Budget Year: 2026
Sequence 4	12	N	N	Print totals only: N
	0	N	N	Format type: 1

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

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