

AGENDA
Agriculture & Extension Education Committee Meeting
County Board Room
810 Lincoln Street, Kewaunee, WI
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
8:30 AM

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Review/Approval of Minutes of the September 1, 2021 meeting minutes
5. Public Input
6. Educators Reports – Written/Narrative/Q/A
7. Department Head/Area Director Report – Judy Knudsen
 - a. Extension Updates
8. Review and Set Future Committee Meeting Dates.
9. Adjourn

The Committee welcomes all visitors to listen and observe, but only Committee members and those invited to speak will be permitted to do so. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to attend or participate should contact the County Administrator's Office at (920) 388-7164 prior to the meeting so that accommodations may be arranged.

A majority of the members of the County Board of Supervisors or any of its committees including: Finance & Public Property, Personnel, Advisory & Legislative, Health, Child Support, & Veterans Service, Human Services, Aging Services Unit Advisory, Extension Education, County Farm, & Zoning, Law Enforcement & Emergency Management, Land & Water Conservation, Highway & Solid Waste, Promotion & Recreation, and others may be present at this meeting to listen, observe, and participate. If a majority of any such committee is present, their presence constitutes a "meeting" under the Open Meeting Law as interpreted in State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Board, 173 Wis. 2d 553 (1993), even though the visiting body will take no action at this meeting.



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
KEWAUNEE COUNTY

Renee Koenig, MS
Associate Professor, Human Development & Relationships Educator
Report for October 2021

Research and Interventions to Reduce Ageism –

Ageism is defined as the stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination against people on the basis of their age. Research has shown that ageism has a negative impact on the health and well-being of older adults. The issue of ageism is predicted to magnify as the population of older adults grows. About a quarter of the population is 60 or older and it is forecasted to be as high as 50% in some rural counties by the year 2040. The significance of ageism and an aging population is concerning because older adults experience higher rates of preventable disease such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity, depression, social isolation and loneliness. Older individuals, particularly from rural communities, often face health disparities because of the prevalence of these illnesses among their age group. Ageism is sort of a self-fulfilling prophesy, when we view aging negatively, and we believe that health problems are inevitable as we age, the result is poorer health behaviors. We are less likely to engage in preventable behaviors like exercise and wellness checkups if we have a negative view of what getting older looks like. So, what can we do to alleviate ageism? One promising educational intervention is the Aging Mastery Program or AMP. I have been partnering with local organizations to offer the 10-session AMP classes. Participants in the AMP program have reported increases in their quality of life and satisfaction. In November, I will be presenting at a national conference on the benefits of the AMP program to reduce ageism.



Parent Connect Workshops –

I am collaborating with my colleagues in other counties such as Winnebago, Grant, Crawford, Washington and Dodge in order to offer a six-week series for parents of children in pre-K through elementary school. The Parent Connect workshops are a weekly opportunity for parents and caregivers to discuss ways to support their children. The lessons center on how to build skills in our children to be caring, respectful, kind, and confident problem-solvers. These skills help children to positively participate in their family and community, help ensure school success, and help them develop a more positive self-concept.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training Results –

Half of all mental health conditions start by age fourteen. Almost 40% of high school students indicate high levels of anxiety and 16% have considered suicide. Extension Educators across Wisconsin offer mental health first aid training to parents, school staff, faith leaders, human services agencies, and community members. Results from surveys given to participants at the completion of each training show 89% are more able to recognize the signs of a mental health crisis, 96% more confident that they can assist a young person to seek a professional for a mental health problem. In addition, we followed up with participants 6 months after the training and 52% of survey respondents said that they have used their mental health first aid training to help a youth.

Family Financial Education after Divorce or Family Transitions –

I am planning a new financial education program using our Money Matters curriculum with families who are going through a transition such as divorce or other family changes. I am partnering with a researcher at UW-Madison to measure the impact of the learning.



Extension

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Aerica Bjurstrom

Agriculture Agent

Prepared for October 6, 2021

Corn Dry Down – The 2021 growing season was ideal with plenty of heat to advance the crops along to harvest. Spring and early June was very dry, but overall August rains caught the crop up and provided excellent pollination. Farmers have one change to bring in a timely corn silage crop, so the corn silage dry down events are held approximately 45 days after corn starts to tassel in July and early August. I held two dry down events, the first on September 1 in Door County and the second on September 7 in Luxemburg. At the Door County event, we chopped whole plant samples (plant and cob) submitted by farmers and deliver the samples to Dairyland Laboratories in De Pere. The lab returned sample results back to our office the next day and results were sent to farmers. Samples were chopped and tested on site at the September 7 event. The lab tests for moisture content in the samples and the goal moisture is 65%. Farmers can expect about 1% moisture loss per day. The events were made available to farmers in Kewaunee, Door, and Brown Counties, and farmers from all three counties submitted samples. At the Door County event, 18% of the samples were from Kewaunee County and 82% from Door County. At the Luxemburg event, 16% were from Door County, 6% from Brown County, and 78% from Kewaunee County. A total of 88 samples were submitted. The event is made possible through generous donations from local sponsors. In addition, the Door County 4-H educator, Dawn Vande Voort helped at the Door County event since the agriculture position is vacant. Dawn is the only educator at the Door County office, so her help was greatly appreciated.

Nuclear Exercise – I participated in the Point Beach nuclear exercise in September. I am the agriculture representative. Agriculture activities in a nuclear exercise deal with procedures to shelter livestock, emergency worker access, and addressing what to do with other food products if an event happens at the nuclear power plant.

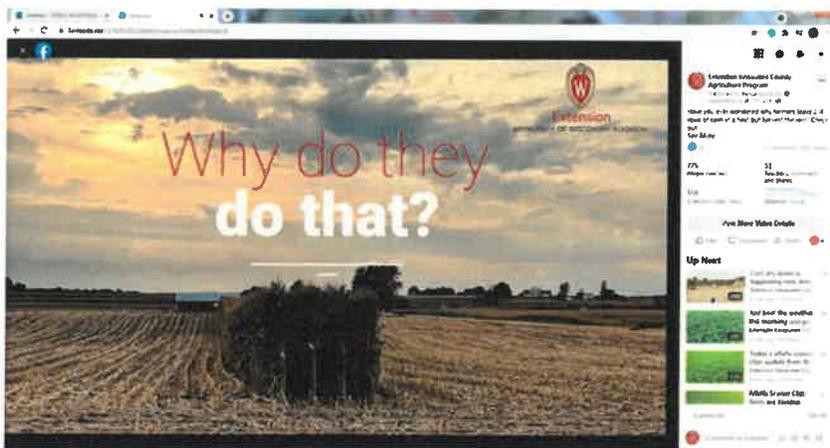
Professional Development Field Day at Peninsular Ag Research Station (PARS) – The Eastern Wisconsin agriculture educators met at the Peninsular Agriculture Research Station in September and planned programming and toured research plots. PARS now has capabilities/equipment to host forage and cover crop plots, so moving forward, I may have the opportunity to partner with Jamie Patton from Nutrient and Pest Management to work on dairy forage plots.

Media – I’m continuing work on Five Minute Farm Focus videos. While I was at a farm recording video for a Five Minute Farm Focus video, I recorded video on composting at the farm. The video was put on our YouTube page and in about two weeks, the video has had approximately 120 views. I will release one video in October, and will begin filming a video for November and will prepare for a video in December.

The compost video can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lc9Jn1SUGZs>

The Five Minute Farm Focus videos have had nearly 2,300 views since I started releasing them in April. My goal is to create a new video once a month. I will be changing up the look of the videos starting with the one I will release in October.

I also made an educational video called “Why do they do that?” which is focused on common practices farmers do on their farms, but the general public may not know why. The first video is on why farmers leave rows of corn standing in a field. The video reached 775 people and was shared multiple times on social media. The video can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=353060956568470>



Other media contacts I had in September were on radio, TV, and in Hoard’s Dairyman.

