



UW-Extension works with residents, businesses, local government and community-based organizations in Waukesha County and beyond to identify and address immediate and long-term educational needs.

UW-Extension Connections

Waukesha County UW-Extension Newsletter

January 2018

Highlight: Community Development

UW-Extension Community Development Educators collaborate with communities, non-profit organizations and residents to address local issues. Educators combine skills and expertise with local knowledge and university research to strengthen communities through educational programs and services addressing leadership development, community and economic development, and organizational development.

Strategic planning is an area where educators offer workshops and direct assistance to communities and organizations. This process is “a disciplined effort to produce fundamental decisions and actions that shape and guide what an organization is, what it does, and why it does it,” as defined by John Bryson, professor of planning and public affairs at the University of Minnesota.



The UW-Extension led neighborhood community garden provides opportunities for residents to meet and work together to address neighborhood concerns.

In 2017, Waukesha County UW-Extension provided a strategic planning overview workshop for non-profit organizations, which helped participants determine if their organization was ready for strategic planning, understand different methods for gathering data, identify strategic issues and organize for successful implementation. Educators also assisted the New Berlin Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Mukwonago, and the City of West Allis work through their strategic planning process to develop a multi-year plan.



Participants gain knowledge and understanding of Tax Incremented Financing Districts at a recent plan commission workshop.

For more information on Waukesha County UW-Extension Community Development programs, visit our website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/UWEX/CRD.

Connections Newsletter Published in January, May, and September

The Connections Newsletter is published three times a year. If you want to read a Newsletter you missed, visit our website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/UWEX/AboutUs.

Parents Practice Skills During Grocery Store Tour

For the first time, FoodWise Nutrition Educators will take participants into the grocery store on a tour. The goal of this trip will be to provide hands-on practical application of the concepts they have taught Head Start parents during their Cooking Matters class.

During the tour, parents will practice skills like buying fruits and vegetables on a budget, comparing unit prices, reading food labels, identifying whole grains, and sticking to a budget.

For more information, contact our Nutrition Education Coordinator at 262-548-7877 or iherz@waukeshacounty.gov.



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Caring Connections Workshop

Waukesha County UW-Extension will pilot a Caring Connections workshop at two skilled nursing facilities in New Berlin and Waukesha this February and March. Caring Connections is a two-hour workshop for individuals who visit loved ones in assisted living, nursing homes, and other skilled nursing facilities. The goal of the workshop is to support the visitors in having better, more meaningful visits with loved ones.

For more information, contact our Health & Wellbeing Educator at ijwhitty@waukeshacounty.gov.



UW-Extension Educator to Present at Realtors Home & Garden Show

Ann Wied, Waukesha County UW-Extension Horticulture Educator, will present "Trouble-Free Tomatoes" at the 2018 Realtors Home & Garden Show at the Wisconsin State Fair Park on Friday, March 30th at 2 pm and Saturday, March 31st at 6 pm. Attendees will learn how to prevent problems through proper selection, planting and care.



During the entire Realtors Home & Garden Show, which runs March 23-25 and 28-31, the UW-Extension trained Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions at their educational booth. Visit www.mkehgs.com for show information.

Food Safety Modernization Act Training Offered for Agricultural Producers

Waukesha County Commercial Horticulture Educator, Kristin Krokowski, will work with other agencies to hold Produce Safety Alliance trainings to educate produce farmers on how to comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), the most sweeping reform of our food safety laws in 70 years. By completing the training, produce farmers will receive a federally recognized certification for their farm, which is a requirement for all growers who fall under the FSMA rule.



Trainings will be held January 21st as part of the 2018 Wisconsin Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference in Wisconsin Dells, February 26th hosted by Fond du Lac County UW-Extension, and March 2nd for Organic Valley growers in Cashton. An additional class, focusing on improving food safety at farmers' markets, will be held on March 16th in Black River Falls.

For more information about the Food Safety Modernization Act and who falls under the FSMA rule, contact Kristin by email at kristin.krokowski@ces.uwex.edu or call 262-548-7775.

USDA Rural Development Grant Supports Small Businesses

Waukesha County UW-Extension is providing educational outreach to the Village of Palmyra to address critical issues and technical needs of small businesses. This business enterprise project works directly with business and Village leaders to identify small business needs and develop educational workshops that address these needs. In addition, UW-Extension will connect these small businesses with technical resources in the area.

This project is funded by a USDA Rural Development Grant which is being offered simultaneously with the Village of Eagle River and the Town of Phelps, in cooperation with UW-Extension educators in Vilas County. Throughout the process, these three communities will learn from one another utilizing distance learning technologies.

4-H Photography Meetings Begin January 24

Volunteer led monthly 4-H photography project meetings will begin on January 24th, where youth will learn and improve photography skills. Meetings will include learning camera settings, different lighting and background effects, and photo cropping.

4-H enrollment is required to participate in the 4-H Photography project, Waukesha County's largest 4-H interest area for more than 10 years.

Discover more about 4-H online at www.waukeshacounty.gov/UWEX/4H/.



515 W Moreland Boulevard, AC G22 ♦ Waukesha, WI 53188 ♦ 262-548-7770

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