

2016 JCEP WI Conference
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Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells



Poster Descriptions

Well Water User Attitudes & Behavior Survey Results

Diana Hammer Tscheschlok, Jim Janke, Kevin Masarik

Three groups of well water users in Fond du Lac County were surveyed regarding their knowledge and attitudes about their drinking well water. Of 2308 surveys mailed, 931 (40%) were returned after the first mailing from all three sample groups. Results indicate that township-wide sampling is effective at prompting testing and informing residents about the safety of their well water. Women and younger residents report needing more information about well safety. This study meets JCEP goals through its collaborative development, geographic relevance, and timeliness. The project was funded by the WI Environmental Education Board, implemented by the UW-River Falls Survey Research Center, and advised by specialists at the Center for Watershed Science and Education. It evaluates a program used by UW-Extension Educators in all areas of the state. It gives insights into how rural residents are perceiving their drinking water safety and their responsibility for maintaining it. This study was designed with the intention of replicating it in another county where fewer UW-Extension programs have taken place. JCEP is the perfect venue for engaging colleagues in a discussion of what was learned and what further research is warranted.

Integrating Volunteer Water Monitoring with Extension Outreach Programs

Peggy Compton

Volunteer water monitoring educates and engages citizens about natural resources in local communities. Data collected through these citizen science programs allows for quantification and assessment of nutrients and their impacts to water that result from land use and development practices. However, there is often a disconnect between these monitoring programs and Extension educators working in communities. Thus, these results are often underutilized. Seed funding from the North Central Region Water Network (NCRWN) enabled a group of 13 individuals from five states to come together to address the need for a strengthened relationship between volunteer water monitoring data and Extension outreach education as it pertains to nutrients and water quality. This group of professionals convened to network and create a community among state Extension staff and those water monitoring programs in each of the five states. They determined there was need to inventory the outreach materials and programs currently in use by Extension and partner organizations related to nutrients and water quality. To meet this need, the team developed an extensive online survey that was administered to 539 natural resource professionals. The most pertinent finds of the survey are presented in this poster.

Helping Local Government Plan and Host Community Conversations About Issues that Matter

Mindy Habecker, Sharon Lezberg

Many local officials want to learn more about what issues their local citizens or community leaders are concerned about and get input from them on local policy matters. But how do they hear from a diverse cross section? How do people want to provide their insights to local governments? And how can local governments host effective public outreach events with effective two-way communication?

In Dane County, Wisconsin, a pilot project was designed with the help of both University of Wisconsin Community Development educators and county staff, and carried out to answer those questions. The projects goals were to:

- Identify successful public participation strategies
- Develop capacity of local officials to continue to use this process model
- Build on current engagement efforts
- Use a technique called “appreciative inquiry” to strengthen the overall consistency and effectiveness of the public engagement

This project was evaluated and led to the development of a *How to Guidance Manual for Hosting Local Community Conversations* for local government officials. The project process has been subsequently used hosting regional transportation conversation sessions and providing input on restructuring the county’s criminal justice system. The process has helped to build local government’s capacity to obtain input from more diverse groups.

Community Site Design + Imageability Mapping

Todd Johnson

The tri-fold display illustrates the purpose and methods of Community Site Design and Imageability Mapping. Examples include community wide scale, downtown scale, and an individual development site. If space allows, there are supplemental videos of three-dimensional computer modeling.

Working with organizations across the world

Ariga Grigoryan

As a Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development Educator in Sawyer County I was able to do international work through UW-Extension in rural Uganda and Dominican Republic. These partnerships gave me an opportunity to not only learn from other communities and cultures, but also utilize the knowledge and skills in my local communities.

Youth Engagement and Awareness in Natural Resource Careers Using Digital Mobile Tools

Justin Hougham, Andrea Braatz, Kayla Obserstadt, Anna DeMers, Lori Berget

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development offers educators, youth, and volunteers an open enrollment program that emphasizes scientific problem solving in environmental education, the Digital Observation Technology Skills (DOTS) program. The DOTS program can be utilized by a half day or a full day experience by any group, or can be implemented across many group meetings or classes. The DOTS program is an outdoor Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) lesson that uses modern mobile technology tools to connect today's students to the outdoors in new and innovative ways. This inquiry-based program navigates the basics of the scientific method and focuses on the importance of good scientific communication and sharing discoveries with others. Participants use the technology tools found in the DOTS kits to make observations, take measurements, explore the micro and macro details of their environment, and learn how to embrace their inner scientists. They collect digital artifacts to test their hypotheses including both quantitative and qualitative data. Topics enhanced through this method included food and agricultural systems, climate science, natural resources, and riparian ecology. The DOTS project has been implemented in 2015 by county based educators, STEM focused camps, Operation Military Kids, and in schools to serve 1900 youth and adults.

Connect to Health Coverage: Engage in Health Care

Jeni Appleby, Stephanie Severs

Questions about health care? We can help. Health insurance is complex language and plan descriptions are difficult for people to understand. Covering Wisconsin works in partnership with UW-Extension educators on 1) Health insurance enrollment: Committed to reducing the uninsured rate in Wisconsin and 2) Health insurance literacy: Educating consumers on effective selection and use of health insurance to improve health and well-being. Our aim is to improve consumer understanding of how to effectively and appropriately use health insurance and health care to attain good health. This is achieved by making sure Wisconsinites know about their health insurance options and increasing awareness of resources, improving the ability to understand healthcare quality and costs, learning how to select a health insurance plan, choosing a primary care provider, and utilizing health coverage. We are engaging consumers in discussion on health coverage options, are finding teachable moments to explain how health insurance works, and are providing materials in plain language, with representative images, and step-by-step instructions to pick the right plan and get the most appropriate care. For examples of materials, see Covering Wisconsin's consumer fact sheets: <http://coveringwi.org/resources-and-links/materials>

Expanding Access in 4-H – SPIN Club Model

Cindy Sarkady

Looking at alternative or enhanced delivery methods of 4-H Youth Development through episodic/high impact project focused experiences. A 4-H SPIN Club is a special interest club where five or more young people learn about a topic of interest. Topics vary and include interests such as nature, heritage arts, science, photography, gardening, shooting sports, and more. SPIN clubs are led by volunteers who have a passion and want to share their knowledge with young people. Volunteers are recruited by stressing the positive impact they will have on the next generation of young people in their community by sharing their experience and knowledge in a subject area that volunteers are passionate about. This new delivery method helps with target marketing of volunteers new to 4-H and youth who are extremely busy and want to be involved in short-term project-focused experiences.

The Youth Development Organization Needs of Students in Choluteca, Honduras

Kayla Oberstadt

In accordance with completing a Master's Degree in Agricultural and Extension Education at the Ohio State University, a research study of youth development trends was developed to identify the needs of students, ages 12-17. This study and the process of developing a needs assessment is relatable to Extension professionals who seek methods of evaluating community youth needs. With an interest in youth development organizations and international programming at the time of the study, the researcher designed a needs assessment to gather data and it was translated into Spanish. Data was collected from students enrolled in a vocational school and a traditional school in Choluteca, Honduras. Selected results are displayed in The Youth Development Organization Needs of Students in Choluteca, Honduras research poster. A sample of the youth development organization needs assessment will accompany the poster for colleagues to learn about the process of data collection for this study of youth development needs, which can be replicated locally.

Epsilon Sigma Phi

Dan Marzu and Peggy Compton

Epsilon Sigma Phi is the Extension Professionals Organization for ALL of us – including county and state faculty and staff and Extension administrators, across all program areas. ESP offers great opportunities for networking, professional development, scholarships and grants, and service in Wisconsin and Nationally.

The purpose of this poster is to explain ESP to colleagues attending JCEP. We may also show colleagues the new online membership system for those that have not used it this year.

Rural Connected Aging Communities

UW-Extension Broadband and E-Commerce Education Center

With the evolution of broadband and the changing landscape of technology and online applications, many opportunities exist for people to use these enhancements, enabling them to live at home longer and remain engaged and active citizens within their local communities. However, people need to understand and embrace these technologies in order for them to be useful.

The goal of the Rural Connected Aging Communities project (which is being conducted with the Broadband and E-Commerce Education Center and funded by the Bader Foundation) is to develop a strategic plan of action for the creation of two rural “connected aging communities” pilots.

Project Objectives include:

- Perform extensive research on best practices of engaging, educating, and increasing understanding and use of technology for the health and well-being of aging populations and what community support systems may be required to ensure independent living.
- Identify anchor institutions and businesses (healthcare, banks, county agencies, etc.) that rely on technological advancements to reach and meet the needs of their constituents.
- Understand the roadblocks or issues that exist for adopting and using applications that enable people to live at home longer.

Addressing Rural Cancer Health Disparities Together

Mary Ann Schilling

The UW Carbone Cancer Center and UW-Extension are working together with partners at the state and county levels to address cancer health disparities and improve health in a coordinated system-wide approach. A new project that began in September 2015 is taking to a statewide scale an established rural cancer education program, *Cancer Clear and Simple (CC&S)*, to 33 rural counties with high cancer incidence and/or morbidity. The original curriculum is being enhanced through the addition of new delivery models and the development of flexible training methods to reach volunteer trainers. Trained leaders will teach individuals directly and work with local conditions to increase knowledge and access to service, capturing both short- and long-term health behavior outcomes. Beginning in summer 2016, four to six county health-focused coalitions with *CC&S* trainers will receive technical assistance by a Community Coach to strengthen their capacity to address health disparities for rural populations on multiple fronts in addition to cancer education.

In this poster session participants will learn about the *CC&S* curriculum, the training model, the UW Carbone Cancer Center and UW-Extension partnership, and initial steps being used to develop support for community coalitions working to address cancer health disparities, and evaluation methods being employed.

AgrAbility of Wisconsin

Brian Luck

AgrAbility of Wisconsin is celebrating 25 years of helping farmers with injuries and disabilities. The AgrAbility poster will showcase the services we provide, which include opportunities for networking and support, an on-farm assessment by a rural rehabilitation specialist, development of plans for accommodation, identification of suitable assistive technology, gathering multiple cost estimates for equipment, and case management to assure that the plan is successfully implemented.

AgrAbility has thrived on its relationships with Extension and referrals from agents. Hard-copy resources will be provided so that Extension agents can take information home and share it with their local farmers who may need assistance.

Check your Free Credit Report

Sarah Siegel

Credit is increasingly important for many areas of your life: your ability to get a loan, how much you pay for credit and insurance, securing a job, renting a house or apartment, and preventing identity theft. It is up to individuals to make sure information in their credit reports is accurate and up-to-date, yet only 1-in-3 Wisconsin adults obtain a copy of their credit report each year. This poster session will showcase how Wood County Family Living is using the UW-Extension Check your Free Credit Report Reminder Campaign to encourage individuals to check their free credit reports three times a year on 2/2, 6/6, and 10/10. The poster will highlight what education opportunities are available to community members regarding how to access their credit report along with educational resources to use after their report has been pulled and emphasizes the importance of having this critical information. Social media approaches that have taken place in Wood County to help community members become aware of the campaign and importance of credit reports will be highlighted. Approaches include social media releases, media releases, educational materials at local libraries, Campaign Financial Lunch & Learns and Financial Capability Series programs such as Financial Capability Basics. Check your Free Credit Report campaign is one example of a program Wood County Family Living is using to address the need for financial education in the county.

Cross Programming with a Farm Succession Workshop

Melissa Kono, Richard Halipka, Nancy Vance

Cross programming within county offices of Extension Educators has been encouraged and even promoted as the new model for Extension. Clark County educators were successful at this new model as they worked together to offer an educational program for community members interested in becoming farmers or retiring from farming.

Clark County's collaborative effort is one that can be used with many relevant topics throughout the state as UW-Extension's new model is further developed and sharing of resources continues to be emphasized throughout the multi-county model. The poster will outline the featured topics and educators will share tools and materials that made collaboration a success.

Data Presentation

Bev Doll, Deb Ivey, Amy Mitchell, Ruth Schriefer

What do you do with results from a Youth Risk Behavior Survey completed by 5,309 middle school/high school students from 25 schools districts in 5 southwest Wisconsin Counties? Share it, of course! Using and sharing the results of evaluations is a critical component of the work Extension educators do. How we share and report that information is important so that stakeholders can understand and benefit from the results. Educators will share tools that they have developed to disseminate Youth Risk Behavior Survey results to school staff, parent groups, students and community groups.

New UW-Extension “Volunteers in Preparation (VIP)” Training

Kandi O’Neil, Melinda Pollen, Colleen Pulvermacher, Dawn VandeVoort

Volunteers are the heart of UW-Extension, often utilized to implement local and statewide programming. As success and impact relies on volunteers working as an extension of staff, it is essential we provide volunteers (Master Gardener, 4-H Youth Development or many others) initial and comprehensive training and support to be effective in their role(s). A cross-programmatic team of colleagues has been working to create a new, practical and relevant volunteer orientation for UW-Extension volunteers. The new UW-Extension Volunteers in Preparation (VIP) training is ready to roll out! This new training includes content about UW-Extension, risk management, best practices and other basics that all UW-Extension volunteers need to be successful. The training package will be complete with PowerPoint, handouts and presenter script. Stop by our poster session to get a sneak peek and learn more about the roll out!

4-H Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Resources for Educators

Joanna M. Skluzacek, Monica Lobenstein, Andrea Braatz

In a recent survey, 80 percent of county-based 4-H Youth Development Educators indicated they will include Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) youth education in their plan of work. Additionally, colleagues stated they understood the value of STEM learning objectives within the context of 4-H Youth Development Principles. The statewide STEM Team works to support UW-Extension colleagues in providing STEM educational opportunities and resource materials to youth and adults. In late 2014 and throughout 2015, the team participated in several planning sessions to identify their key priorities to support new and on-going STEM programming throughout the state. The Team’s focus for 2015 was to develop newsletter-ready information about the University of Wisconsin-Extension 4-H STEM programs, increase our marketing presence with brochures, produce visual aids to be used at events, and create STEM activity kits for educators to use to engage youth and adults. This poster will outline the STEM Team efforts to support UW-Extension colleagues in STEM and resources will be provided for distribution.

Using Google Hangouts for Programs

Patrick Nehring

Both internally and outside of UW-Extension, there has been a lot of talk about doing more with less by using technology and expanding audience reach using technology. UW-Extension Waushara County has been using the currently free service of Google Hangout On Air to expand the audience for educational programs about lakes in the county. In the process, a lot has been learned about what works, the pitfalls, the limitations, and the quality that can be obtained with the use of this technology. It is not as accessible as one would hope and there are quality issues because the distribution of resources and knowledge is not universal. There is a learning curve for operators and the audience. Not every way of facilitating an educational program will work using internet broadcast technology. However, UW-Extension Waushara County has had some success using Google Hangout On Air to make local educational programs about lake management planning available to Waushara County riparian vacation-home property owners who are scattered across North America. What works and what doesn't will be presented. Learn how to use Google Hangout On Air to expand your program audience.

Survey Research Center – A Resource for Extension Professionals

James Janke

This exhibit will show how the Survey Research Center (SRC) at UW-River Falls can benefit Extension faculty and staff with their program development, implementation and evaluation through surveys of the public, specific groups, clientele, and programming partners. SRC staff will be available to discuss needs and answer questions. Sample reports from previous SRC projects involving Extension professionals and others will be available for review.

Gaining and Retaining Young People Research Project

Matt Calvert & UW-Madison Research Team led by Randy Stoecker

We have identified over 100 Wisconsin communities that stand out in census data for have high and growing young adult populations. We're asking where the young adults are in Wisconsin, how they got there, and why they stayed. Stop by and help us identify communities for case studies.