



Regional Crops & Soils Educator

Jordyn Sattler

Regional Dairy Educator

Jackie McCarville

2025 Wisconsin Water and Soil Health (WWASH) Conference

Planning for a large conference for Wisconsin farmers, agronomists, and conservation agency support staff that are interested in enhancing water quality and soil health. The goal is to develop a conference that provides information related to management practices and their impact on nutrient and soil loss from a diverse group of presenters and panelists, so that attendees leave with a greater understanding of what they can do to enhance Wisconsin water quality and soil health. This program is the main conference for Wisconsin farmers, agronomists, and conservation agency support staff to learn about water quality and soil health. (Sattler)

HPAI Dairy Resources

An Extension-led online resource hub for Wisconsin dairy producers and agricultural professionals, where educators curated and centralized timely, science-based guidance, biosecurity tools, and official state and federal HPAI resources, to support informed decision-making, improve preparedness, and reduce the risk of highly pathogenic avian influenza impacting dairy herds and the broader agricultural community. (McCarville)

2026 Foundational Crop Scout Training Planning

Planning for a hybrid foundational crop scout training for entry level crop scouts. The goal is to provide updated, relevant resources and key skills to support crop scouts as they identify pests, nutrient deficiencies, perform basic sampling techniques and communicate their findings to managers and growers in real time. The impact is the ability to address important crop challenges in season and improve crop productivity and farm profitability. (Sattler)

Badger Dairy Insight

An Extension Badger Dairy Insight webinar on Right Way, Right Time: A Guide to Cull Dairy Cattle Management for dairy farmers, where participants learned how lifetime cow care, timely culling decisions, and proper fitness-for-transport practices affect animal welfare and carcass value, to improve market outcomes, reduce losses and risks, and reinforce responsible dairy stewardship across the industry. (McCarville)

Badger Crop Update Meeting

A series of 3 in person and 1 virtual Crops & Soils Program update meetings for crop and forage growers, consultants, agronomists, students and agency staff where participants learned about recent research results and crop management practices learned during the 2025 growing season. Extension specialists shared talks related to nutrient management, forage and grain production and pest management with the goal that attendees can make more informed crop management decisions to improve farm resilience and profitability. (Sattler)



Community Development Educator

Victoria Solomon

Green County Leaders: Leadership & Healthy Communities

The fifth session of Green County Leaders (GCL) was held virtually due to snow, ice, and challenging roads. The focus of the day was on Leadership and Healthy Communities. We kicked things off with a session on leveraging assets. From there, participants learned about community health in Green County, including top issues and opportunities. Participants also learned about SSM Health Monroe Clinic. After a session on Planning Ahead for Future Health Needs, participants had small group conversations with a wide variety of nonprofits serving Green County.



In responses to the question "What were the 2-3 most important lessons, ideas, or perspectives you will take away from this session" participants shared:

- "Get out and make a difference!"
- "Nonprofits work together and helping out in any capacity - whatever interests you! - does a lot for the community."
- "Even being young and healthy, it's still a good idea to have a health care power of attorney."
- "View your community through a lens of what it already has and how that can be expanded upon!"
- "I can make an impact starting today, and into tomorrow."

In response to the question "Is there anything you will do differently in your personal or professional life as a result of participating in this session?" participants shared:

- "Volunteer more!"
- "I will try to find ways to be a more active board member"
- "I need to do more in the community that I enjoy to live in and be a part of"
- "Really thought the idea to support businesses who give back to the community was a great way to help even if I don't have time to join organizations. Also I need to plan for my future health needs!"
- "I look forward to finding ways for not only myself, but also my kids and spouse. I considered my legacy a lot today and feel like family following my footsteps in some of these directions is part of my legacy (setting a good example)"



4-H Youth Development Educator

Ellen Andrews

4-H Volunteer Enrollment Growth

Volunteers play a critical role in the delivery of quality educational programs. All 4-H programs and activities must be supervised by staff members or approved 4-H volunteers, and at appropriate supervision ratios. Approved 4-H volunteers, who are acting within the scope of their volunteer position, are covered under the State's Self-funded Liability Program. To ensure volunteers are suitable and prepared to provide safe, high quality experiences for youth, Extension requires a bi-annual background check and annual training. Historically there has not been a Wisconsin or Green County 4-H Volunteer re-enrollment deadline or target date. This has led to volunteer re-enrollments trickling in over much of the year, which was extremely time consume for staff and could jeopardized the safety of youth and volunteers. New for the 2025-2026 4-H year, all re-enrolling volunteers were expected to re-enroll by November 1st and complete required trainings and background check by December 1st. Green County 4-H staff worked in partnership with Wisconsin 4-H staff to activity promote and educate volunteers about the new re-enrollment deadline. Regular email and newsletter communications stressed that compliance with the deadline was necessary to keep their leader status active, ensure they where covered by insurance and to allow them to work with youth through 4-H. The new deadline structure for volunteers has resulted a significantly higher rates of approved volunteers. As of December 15, 2025, Green County 4-H already has 136 approved 4-H volunteers, which is a 41% increase over 2024. This higher volunteer approval rate provide greater assurance that 4-H program are appropriately supported, and allows for 4-H staff to shift more time going forward to partnering with volunteers in developing youth program.





Human Development & Relationships Educator **Bob Wiegel**

Financial Coaching- Green County Jail

Extension's financial coaching program provides one-on-one support that helps residents create their own plans to manage expenses, pay off debts, and save money for emergencies and to reach their goals. Participants can meet with Extension educators trained to provide coaching using the A4 model--Alliance, Agenda, Awareness, Action. Participants can meet with their coach as many times as needed to develop and implement plans to resolve their financial challenges. The three main categories of outcomes anticipated through financial coaching are that participants will:

- Learn about local resources they didn't have in the past, e.g. how to apply for FoodShare benefits
- Learn about Extension resources they didn't know of in the past, e.g. spending plan worksheets
- Learn financial management steps (process to reach goals) that they didn't know before, e.g. steps to improve their credit.

In 2024, Wisconsin residents who received our financial coaching reported many positive changes. 94% identified specific and measurable financial goals and 81% feel empowered to tackle financial challenges independently, suggesting that these residents can now more successfully navigate banking and other financial services. Also, 80% say that they have increased hope, confidence, or motivation since participating in financial coaching. Clients report paying off \$43,560 in debt and saving \$35,850. These positive outcomes extend beyond the coaching clients themselves. Clients reported that a total of 449 family members benefited from the positive changes that came from financial coaching. After conducting initial interviews, six individuals expressed the desire to attend the program. It will be offered most Wednesdays starting 10/22/25 and will be ongoing.

Re-Entry Ready Green County

To help those impacted by the legal system to successfully reintegrate into Wisconsin communities and escape the cycle of recidivism, Extension created two related resources: the Reentry Ready: Focus on Finances curriculum and the Reentry Ready website. The curriculum features eight modules that cover these topics: choosing financial products and services, tracking income and benefits, paying bills, saving, budgeting and getting through the month, dealing with debt, understanding credit, protecting your money, insurance, and retirement. The website includes resources on how to find housing, get their drivers license renewed or acquire another form of ID, find work, file taxes, open a bank account, apply for public benefits, find free or affordable medical care, and many other topics. It also features 14 county-specific resource guides (with more being added once or twice a year). The site also includes a downloadable action tracker that allows participants to plan the steps they'll take to manage their finances. Anticipated outcomes of this program include participants being able to set and make a plan to achieve financial goals, create and follow a spending plan, access and understand their credit report, make a plan to pay off debts, open a bank/credit union account, and find stable housing. Among participants who completed evaluations in 2024, 87% said the course helped them learn a lot about how to track the money they have coming in and going out and 92% said they learned a lot about the first steps to take when dealing with debt. One example of something from the course that they will use: "I like the action plan for how to build credit and reach financial goals." After conducting initial interviews and explaining potential programming, six individuals expressed the desire to attend the program. It will begin 11/12/25.