



KEWAUNEE COUNTY EXTENSION CONNECTION

Connecting people with the University of Wisconsin

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NONPROFIT NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

EXCHANGING IDEAS

Nonprofit Leader Conversations Begin September 14
UW-Madison Extension and UW-Green Bay will be providing the opportunity for nonprofit leaders to discuss different topics facing nonprofit organizations in Northeast Wisconsin. These Nonprofit Leader Conversations will be held via Zoom on the second and fourth Thursday of the month from 9:00-10:00. The first topics and registration at available below and at <https://www.uwgb.edu/nonprofit-network/networking-opportunities/>

Communication Strategies

September 14, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Zoom
Your board is asking for it, but how do you know the right combination of efforts to build awareness and create results? Join Bridget Krage O'Connor, president/owner of O'Connor Connective to learn ways you can look at the strategy behind your communication efforts – and still stay sane!

Register: https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcocu2oqzwpH9dbwf6RpYBmBx_a1G8iaDJK

Donor Prospect & Wealth Screening

September 28, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Zoom
How do you determine the potential giving capacity of donors? Watch a demo of one wealth screening tool and learn how your nonprofit might benefit from the rich data it provides. Consultant Tonya Dederling, Principal, Vigeo Non-profit Advising & Coaching will provide examples of how nonprofits can use the data to be the most effective fundraisers.

Register: <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcocOyqzMrG9Fbpg8QFtxNdUkr9P6DOTIP>

Grant Writing Basics Virtual Workshop

UW-Madison Extension is offering a Grant Writing Basics Virtual Workshop in Spanish, Hmong/Hmoob, and English. The workshop is being offered the morning of Thursday, September 14, from 10:00 am - noon and repeated on the evening of Monday, September 19, from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Key takeaways include: The outline of a common grant proposal, where to look for funding for your organization, and the most common grant writing mistakes. To find out more and register visit: <https://www.browncountywi.gov/departments/extension-brown-county/general-information/nonprofit-resources/>

Receive an Excellence in Nonprofit Leadership Certificate

Registration is open for the Excellence in Nonprofit Leadership Certificate. The first class, Building a Strong Fund Development Program, will be held on the morning of Friday, September 22. UW-Madison Extension will be teaching the Developing Active Board of Directors class on October 13. The other classes are Foundations of Financial Management, Human Resource Management, and Marketing & Communication Strategy. Upon completing the classes and a capstone project, you can receive a digital badge from UW-Green Bay. For more information visit: <https://www.uwgb.edu/certificate-programs/nonprofit-leadership/>

Business Pitch Contest

Do you have a business idea? UW-Madison Extension, Kewaunee County Economic Development Corporation (KCEDC) and Door County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) will be holding a local business pitch contest on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:00. There will be a training on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 on how to develop your pitch. Similar to the television show "Shark Tank," you are invited to provide a four-minute pitch for your business with two minutes of questions and answers with the local contest judges. First prize will be \$1,000 and the second-place winner will receive \$500. In addition, the winners will advance to the NEW North Regional Pitch Contest on Thursday, November 30 from 5:00-7:00 at Titledown Tech in Green Bay, <https://www.thenewnorth.com/local-and-regional-pitch-competition/>. Watch from more information from Extension, KCEDC, DCEDC, and NEW North. For more information contact Patrick Nehring at (920) 391-4616 or patrick.nehring@wisc.edu.

Entrepreneurs of Color Spotlight

The EoC Spotlight empowers entrepreneurs of color in NE Wisconsin, highlights their business journey and strategies, and invites viewers to interact and learn.

Join Us!
ON THE FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
EoCSpotlight@gmail.com

EOC SPOTLIGHT PARTNERS:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EoCSpotlight](https://www.facebook.com/EoCSpotlight)
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@EOCSpotlight](https://www.youtube.com/@EOCSpotlight)

FEED SUMMIT

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN - NOVEMBER 13-14, 2023

Find more information on the FEED Summit homepage: <https://go.wisc.edu/j40254>.

Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/7116b8>.

Receive the Extension Connection in your inbox!

Want to have the Extension Connection at your fingertips? Sign up today to receive the Extension Connection directly to your inbox! Be the first to know all the exciting events and opportunities available. Visit <https://kewaunee.extension.wisc.edu/extensionconnection/> to sign up today!



EXTENSION CONNECTION ADDRESS CHANGES
Please let us know if your mailing address changes. Since the Extension Connection is mailed 3rd class, it is not forwarded, and UW-Extension must pay for incorrect addresses. Call 388-7141 for address changes or you will be removed from the list.

The Extension Connection
University of Wisconsin-Extension
A monthly publication for Kewaunee County residents. These programs are supported by your tax dollars. We look forward to receiving your comments. Please call us at the phone numbers provided in the individual headers.

UW-Madison Division of Extension * Laura Apfelbeck, FoodWise Coordinator
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parent tips



Get Active

Kicking off the school year can be a busy time, leaving little room for physical activity. These three steps can help you find time to be active as a family.

- 1. Keep track** of how your family spends time for one week.
- 2. Start small.** Find two 30-minute time slots when your family can be active together after school or on the weekends.
- 3. Get going.** Try these great tips:
 - Walk your kids to school
 - Ride bikes after dinner
 - Play baseball
 - Jump rope
 - Shoot baskets
 - Dance
 - Walk the dog
 - Play tag
 - Rake leaves

To keep your family active this school year, visit the **We Can!** Get Active webpage at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/get-active/index.htm>.



Reduce Screen Time

Kids spend a big part of their day sitting in the classroom, so you can help your children spend less time in front of the TV, computer, and video games—and more time having fun as a family—with these tips

Turn off the TV during mealtime and talk with your children about what they learned in school that day. Families who eat together tend to eat healthier.

Limit screen time to two hours each day for children 2 or older.

Suggest playing outside after school and join in the fun.

Turn on some music and have a family dance party.

Be a good role model. If you reduce your screen time and move more, your kids will too!

Find more tips on how you can reduce your family's screen time, visit the **We Can!** Reduce Screen Time webpage at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/reduce-screen-time/index.htm>.

We Can! is a program from the National Institutes of Health that offers resources for parents, caregivers and communities to help children 8-13 years old stay at a healthy weight through eating right, increasing physical activity, and reducing screen time.

To learn more, go to <http://wecan.nhlbi.nih.gov> or call 1-866-35-WE CAN.

We Can! Ways to Enhance Children's Activity & Nutrition, **We Can!**, and the **We Can!** logos are registered trademarks of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS).



Healthy Snacks—100 Calories or Less

Snacking is good when you feel hungry between meals. Choosing **healthy** snacks will help you and your family stay at a healthy weight.



Here are some healthy snacks—all 100 calories or less.

Fruits

- 1 small banana
- 1 medium apple
- ¼ cup raisins
- 1 cup whole strawberries
- ½ cup canned fruit cocktail in juice (not syrup)
- ½ cup orange juice

Vegetables

- 1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes
- 2 cups raw mixed veggies with 2 tablespoons fat-free dressing
- 12 baby carrots
- 18 small celery sticks
- 1 cup raw cauliflower
- 1 cup low-sodium vegetable juice



Breads, Cereals, Rice, and Pasta

- ½ cup oat circles cereal
- 2 graham cracker squares
- 3 cups air-popped popcorn
- ½ whole-wheat English muffin with jelly
- 4 whole-wheat crackers, unsalted
- 2 brown rice and multigrain rice cakes

Fat-free or Low-fat Milk, Cheese, and Yogurt

- 6 ounces cup fat-free plain yogurt
- ½ cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 1 cup fat-free milk
- ½ cup fat-free pudding
- ½ cup fat-free frozen yogurt
- 1 ounce low-fat cheddar cheese

Other Snacks

- 1 large hardboiled egg
- 8 baked tortilla chips with salsa
- 10 almonds

Source: USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference, Release 19

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parent tips





Compare and Save: Eat Healthy, Spend Less

You and your family *can* eat healthy and spend less. Here are some examples of how healthy meals and snacks can save you calories and money.





Snack

A typical snack *might* look like this:

Food Item	Cost	Number of Calories
 Snack-size bag of chips (3 ounces)	\$0.99	465 calories
 Regular soda (20 ounces)	\$1.25	250 calories
Total cost = \$2.24		Total calories = 715

A healthy snack *might* look like this:





Food Item	Cost	Number of Calories
 1 low-fat yogurt (6 ounces)	\$0.50	140 calories
 Glass of water	free	0 calories
Total cost = \$0.50		Total calories = 140

(Note: Costs where you live might be slightly more or less than these examples.)





Eating a healthy snack just once a week could save you more than \$90 and almost 30,000 calories in a year.

Lunch

A fast food lunch *might* look like this:

Food Item	Cost	Number of Calories
 Combo meal with: Quarter pound cheeseburger	\$5.59	510 calories
 Large fries	Extra charge \$0.70	380 calories
 Medium soda (32 ounces)	Included in combo price	210 calories
 1 chocolate chip cookie	\$1.00	160 calories
Total cost = \$7.29		Total calories = 1,260

A lunch from home *might* look like this:

Food Item	Cost	Number of Calories
 Turkey sandwich on whole-wheat bread with mustard, lettuce, and tomato	\$1.09	200 calories
 Water	free	0 calories
 Medium apple	\$0.65	70 calories
 1 large graham cracker square	\$0.28	59 calories
Total cost = \$2.02		Total calories = 329

production note: second side

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Ways to Enhance Children's Activity & Nutrition

Love this? Find more about eating healthy, maintaining healthy weight and reducing screen time here

<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/wecan/>



Sugerencias Para Mejorar la Actividad y Nutrición de los Niños



UW-Madison Division of Extension * Renee Koenig, Human Development and Relationships Educator
 920-388-7137 * renee.koenig@wisc.edu

Join us and begin planning **AHEAD** for the end of this life

What is Planning AHEAD?

Planning AHEAD is a 7-session course (one hour each) that guides participants through the topics listed on the right.

This course features a free workbook to help people with the tasks and decisions associated with end-of-life planning.

Who is the program for?

This program is for people who:

- Want to create end-of-life plans to make things easier for family members and to ensure their wishes are honored
- Have lost a loved one
- Are in the process of losing a loved one and are dealing with the transition

When is the program?

Tuesdays, September 19th - November 7th, 2023, virtually via Zoom from 11am to noon.

****September 19th is a required tech check****

Please register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/i0h3f7> by Monday, September 11th. Connection information will be sent to registered participants. Space is limited.

Contact us for more information

For more information, contact Life Span Program Manager, Sara Richie by email at sara.richie@wisc.edu.

planning **AHEAD** PROGRAM TOPICS



Getting Started



Handling Financial Changes



Advance Medical and Legal Directives



Estate Planning



Choices in End-of-Life Care



Final Wishes



Understanding Grief



Extension
 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

We are offering a statewide virtual Planning AHEAD series starting on September 19th. This virtual series will be held via zoom Tuesdays from 11am - noon, September 19th through November 7th.

Visit <https://aging.extension.wisc.edu/> for more information on Life Span programming in Wisconsin.

Resilient Co-Parenting classes



About the Classes

The Resilient Co-Parenting classes are for parents or caregivers who are raising their children together while living apart. These classes are a source of ongoing support for co-parents as they continue their journey. Anyone can join!

Class topics include:

- Having difficult conversations
- Helping children with strong emotions
- Coping with stress during big changes

How Do I Join a Class?

All class are free. Join us the first Thursday of each month at 7 PM. Classes are virtual on Zoom. **Register here:** <https://parenting.extension.wisc.edu/co-parenting/>

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Mental Health First Aid is a program that teaches participants how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The program gives participants the skills and confidence to provide initial support to those who are experiencing a crisis in their community.

You can register by visiting the link below.

We invite you to contact us at YouthHealth@extension.wisc.edu if you'd like to request a training for you and your community.

Youth Mental Health First Aid -
 September 22nd, 2023 - 9:00am - 3:00pm Virtual

<https://t.e2ma.net/click/q6vnvi/ykgne6l/a29uh8>

Strong Feelings

Strong Feelings is a 6-part series designed to help adults understand and respond to children's strong feelings using emotion coaching. Supporting children's emotions helps them feel better, manage their behavior, and feel closer to caring adults. Each video reviews a different aspect of emotion coaching. We've also provided additional resources to learn more about children's strong feelings and to talk about emotions with children.

Want to share the *Strong Feelings* emotion coaching resources? Visit <https://parenting.extension.wisc.edu/strong-feelings/> for resources to help.

The Strong Couples Program

Having a strong relationship with your romantic partner can be hard. And when you need help, finding trustworthy support can be difficult. The Strong Couples Program can help.

The Strong Couples Program is:

- Six self-paced online modules. Topics include communication, commitment, problem-solving, and fun and friendship.
- Five brief video calls with a trained coach.

The Strong Couples Program is free! You can start any time.



This program is for couples together six months or longer in all life stages. This educational program is NOT counseling. The program teaches couples to use tools that improve their relationship.

Register: <https://parenting.extension.wisc.edu/strong-couples/>



Aging-Friendly Kewaunee County

We want to hear from you!

Please join us and help make Kewaunee County an Aging-Friendly place to live. Our group meets monthly. We discuss ideas and plan strategies to help our neighbors stay healthy and active in our county.

Contact Renee Koenig at 920-388-7137 or renee.koenig@wisc.edu for details.





UW-Madison Division of Extension * Vacant
(920) 388-7141 for 4H Information

Get Ready to Re-Enroll!



**RE-ENROLLMENT FOR 2024
BEGINS SEPTEMBER 1!**

[HTTPS://WI.4HONLINE.COM/#/USER/SIGN-IN](https://wi.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in)

**Questions? Contact the Kewaunee County
4-H office at (920) 388-7141.**

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WILDLIFE DAY



PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Spots Limited! First Come, First Serve
Saturday, October 14th, 2023
8:30am-2:00pm
Black Ash Gun Club

Open to Kewaunee County 4-H members grade 6-13	Cost is \$10, includes four sessions and lunch
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Sessions include: kayaking, leather craft, archery, air rifle, fishing, wood burning, animal tracking, woodworking with bird feeders and more!

Register by September 29th, 2023!




Sponsored by Kewaunee County 4-H and Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H



How to Register for Wildlife Day

Registration: Fill out and return a paper copy registration form, \$10 non refundable check, and health form to:

Kayla Bosman
 N5885 Walhain Rd
 Luxemburg, WI 54217

You will receive an email confirmation once registration is received and confirmed.

Payment: Cash or check accepted. Please make checks payable to Kewaunee County 4-H Leaders Association. Registration will be complete once payment is received.

THANK YOU!

Black Ash Gun Club for the use of the facility and support from members
 Wildlife WHEP WI 4-H - especially Norb and Barb Yogerst
 Kewaunee County 4-H Leaders Association
 All the adult and youth volunteers that make this day possible

In the operation of the Wildlife Day program, discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, creed or religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, pregnancy, veterans' status, arrest or non-job or program related conviction record or qualified disability is prohibited.



September 2023

UW-Madison Division of Extension * Vacant
(920) 388-7141 for 4H Information

Kewaunee County 4-H BARN DANCE

Many thanks to all the 4-Hers, friends, and family that attended the Barn Dance in August. Lots of fun was had by all. Thanks to Jenny Salentine and Millaine Stodola for the photographs.



4-H VOLUNTEER VIP TRAINING

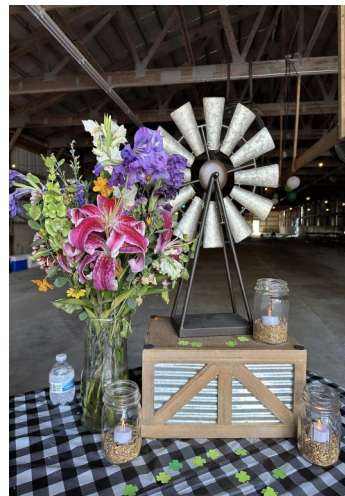
Are you re-enrolling as a volunteer or plan to be a new volunteer this year? Sign up today for VIP training!

Trainings start in September and new dates will be added as facilitators are confirmed.

Visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/4-h-foundations/volunteers-in-preparation/> for a current list of dates available.



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 La Universidad de Wisconsin-Madison Division de Extensión, un empleador con igualdad de oportunidades y acción afirmativa (EEO/AA), proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en empleo y programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Título VI, Título IX, y de la Ley para Americanos con Discapacidades (ADA).





September 2023

UW-Madison Division of Extension * Aerica Bjurstrom, Regional Dairy Educator
920-388-7138 * aerica.bjurstrom@wisc.edu



EL "BREAK" INFO-LECHERO

Spanish Webinar celebrating the National Hispanic Heritage Month



Carolina Pinzón MS.
Dairy Outreach
Specialist
UW-Madison Extension

Sept 20: Key factors in milk quality improvement programs



Juan M. Piñero, DVM, MS, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor and
Extension Dairy
Specialist - Texas A&M
Agrilife Extension

Sept 27: The importance of colostrum management



Gustavo Schuenemann DVM, MS, Ph.D.
Professor Dairy Cattle
Health and Management,
Veterinary Extension
Specialist - Ohio State
University Extension

Oct 4: Hydration and pain control in fresh cows and pre-weaning calves



Adrián Barragán DVM, MS, Ph.D.
Associate Research
Professor
Extension Veterinarian
PennState University
Extension

Oct 11: Reproductive management in dairy cows: Synchronization protocols are not everything



Time: 12pm
CST

Register now

For more information please contact
Alison Pfau - Regional Dairy Educator
alison.pfau@wisc.edu
Teléfono: 608-220-4779
Se habla español



Dairy Spanish Webinar El "Break" Info-Lecher

To help Wisconsin Spanish dairy workers and the Spanish dairy industry to get the most current and update research information, UW-Extension has developed the Dairy Spanish Webinar El "Break" Info-Lechero. This Webinar is an update on different dairy topics covering reproduction, colostrum management, Fresh cows' management, and milk quality and more. Join this event in 4 different sessions and take the opportunity to learn from and discuss with experts on the dates below:

September 20th, 2023, 12:00 pm - Key factors in milk quality improvement programs (Carolina Pinzón - UW- Madison Extension)

September 27th, 2023, 12:00 pm - The importance of colostrum management (Dr. Juan Pineiro - Texas A&M Extension)

October 4th, 2023, 12:00 pm - Hydration and pain control in fresh cows & pre-weaning calves (Dr. Gustavo Schuenemann - Ohio State University Extension)

October 11th, 2023, 12:00 pm - Reproductive management in dairy cows: synchronization protocols are not everything (Dr. Adrián Barragán - Penn State University Extension)

For more information and to register:
<https://forms.gle/7HjDbzTMTzVFwZyp6>

For more information please contact:

- Alison Pfau alison.pfau@wisc.edu
- Tina Kohlman tina.kohlman@wisc.edu

Kewaunee County Public Health Department

On-Farm Vaccination Clinics

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department is offering FREE vaccinations to farm employees this summer and fall. We understand that it is difficult to get away during the summer and fall, so we will come to you!

Vaccines available include:

- Tetanus
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis A
- Influenza (Flu shot) - available in Fall



If you're interested in having us stop out, call us at (920) 388-7175. We would be happy to schedule a time to come to your farm!

Kewaunee, Door & Brown Counties Corn Silage Whole-Plant Moisture Testing

The Kewaunee, Door & Brown County UW-Madison Extension Offices are offering an opportunity to have standing corn intended for corn silage tested for moisture



Wednesday, September 6

Door County Co-Op
7460 State Hwy 42/57
9:00AM - 12:00 PM

**Drop-off only. Samples will be sent to the lab that afternoon.*

Wednesday, September 13

Rio Creek Feed Mill
715 Frontier Road
* LUXEMBURG SITE *
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
**On-site testing*

- Limit of 2 samples per farm, free of charge. Additional samples will be charged \$15 per sample.
- 4-5 stalks, cut at normal chopping height, should be gathered, bundled and tagged with farm name, address, and phone number.
- Planting date, relative maturity, and hybrid must be included for each sample.
- Samples delivered the day before will not be tested.
- Nitrate testing is available for an additional \$11 per sample.



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This educational effort is sponsored by
University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension
Kewaunee, Door, and Brown Counties and:

Rio Creek Feed Mill
Door County Cooperative
DEKALB/Clark Riemer Seed

UW-Extension programs are open to all persons without regard to race, color, ethnic background or economic circumstances. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the event. Requests will be kept confidential.

Use footbaths in an automated milking system to lower fetchings

While all the data points of information at our fingertips to monitor is a positive, there are still areas to improve when it comes to animal health and Automated Milking Systems (AMS), particularly for hoof health.

Including a properly managed footbath can improve lame cow numbers

A recent study called attention to the frequency of lameness in automated milking systems - an average of 25%. Lame cows have fewer visits to the robot, have reduced milk yields, and are at a 2x higher risk of being on the fetch list. Furthermore, only 70% of AMS herds offer access to a footbath and only 25% of the herds run the cows at the recommended frequency of four times per week. In addition, poorly managed footbaths may also increase foot health problems and the incidence of infectious claw lesions. Common reasons for footbath failure include poor design, weak chemical solutions, and inconsistent use.

The goal for AMS herds is to keep footbath use as a priority for animal health. When designing a new facility consider cows to be selected to pass through the footbath as they exit the robots, using a sorting gate that routes them to an alternative lane used only for those cows that need to be treated, while allowing the rest of the herd to exit through the main lane and return to the pen they came from. This layout is called the tollbooth design. Cows are directed down a rear exit lane, 41 inches wide, after milking, and from that lane, a two-way gate can sort them back to the pen or direct them through the footbath. With this layout, a single footbath can serve multiple robots. In a retrofit design, perhaps having the footbath at the end of the pen, where cows need to pass to get back to the resting area. Try to avoid putting footbaths on the cross-over alleys, as most cows will avoid it all together.

Considerations to properly manage a footbath in an Automated Milking Systems

Wherever the footbath is located, it is essential that there is a gate that can divert cows into or around the footbath, rather than walk cows through a bath of manure each day if it is not being filled. In addition, take into consideration cold climates and design the footbath with floor heating pipes so the area doesn't freeze. Many AMS dairies are now installing automated footbaths that clean and refill once the designated number of cow passes is achieved. This is especially favorable to remove human error and time to perform this task.

According to the Dairyland Initiative, footbaths should be level, 10 feet in length, and 20 to 24 inches wide at the base so that the rear feet receive at least two immersions while walking through the bath. Additionally, the solution concentration should remain at its recommended percentage according to the product label and be maintained at the depth of four inches, so the dewclaws are submerged. No matter what chemical is used, it is important that the chemical transfer to the feet. Visit the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine's Dairyland Initiative website to find the Footbath Dose Calculator at <https://bit.ly/3fpURiV>.

We are facing times with thin margins and lameness is a costly disease that can be reduced by running well-maintained footbaths. Footbath passes can be accomplished without sacrificing cow flow by using the technology and gates to your benefit. Make footbath layout and location a priority when designing your facility. Simply run footbaths more to fetch cows less.

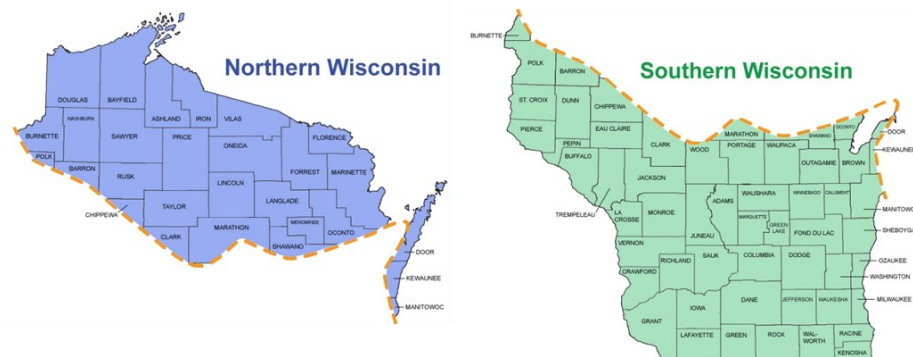
Written by Angie J Ulness, Agriculture Educator, Extension Manitowoc County



UW-Madison Division of Extension * Aerica Bjurstrom, Regional Dairy Educator
920-388-7138 * aerica.bjurstrom@wisc.edu

Cover Crop Options After Corn Silage in Wisconsin

One of the most important times to use cover crops is after corn harvested as silage leaving very little residue and the soil vulnerable to erosion in the winter and subsequent spring. Cover crop species recommendations change depending on where you are. The map below is divided between Northern and Southern Wisconsin – North and South is how cover crop choices are explained in the contents of this article.



Northern Wisconsin Cover Crop Options

Small grains / grasses

Cereal rye (also referred to as winter rye) is the most reliable cover crop for late fall seeding. Cereal rye is extremely winter hardy and can be planted very late and still survive the winter. Cereal rye will either need to be terminated in the spring prior to cash crop planting or it can be harvested for forage.

Triticale is another cover crop option if the goal is to use the cover crop for a forage. Triticale tends to have a higher forage value, but the optimal harvest is 10-14 days later than cereal rye, pushing back the planting of the next crop

*If harvesting the cover crop as a forage, please review **restrictions of herbicides** used during the previous two growing seasons with your consultant team. A really good resource can be found at https://ipcm.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/54/2022/11/2019_RotationalRestrictions_final.pdf*

Other grasses, such as annual ryegrass, oats, barley are generally not recommended for planting after silage in northern WI because they will winterkill and do not grow enough in the fall to produce enough residue to protect the soil in the spring.

Brassicac

Due to limited time for establishment and growth, it is not recommended to plant any of the brassicas after corn silage. There are not enough growing degree days left in the

season to provide any cover crop benefits.

Legumes

Due to limited time for establishment and growth, it is not recommended to plant any of the legumes after corn silage. There is not enough growing season for them to develop nodules and fix nitrogen.



Southern Wisconsin Cover Crop Options

Small grains / grasses

Spring barley, oats can be great cover crops for after corn silage in Southern WI if they can be planted by September 15th-20th. Spring barley and oats will winter-kill in Wisconsin, so they need to be planted early enough to put on sufficient fall growth to provide residue to reduce winter and spring erosion. Barley and oats can also be planted/overseeded into standing corn silage.

Annual ryegrass has been successfully planted into corn(interseed) around the V5 growth stage.

Cereal rye (also referred to as winter rye) is the most reliable cover crop for late fall seeding. Cereal rye is extremely winter hardy and can be planted very late and still survive the winter. Cereal rye will either need to be terminated in the spring prior to cash crop planting or it can be harvested for forage.

Triticale is another cover crop option if the goal is to use the cover crop for a forage. Triticale tends to have a higher forage value but the optimal harvest is 10-14 days later than cereal rye, pushing back the planting of the next crop

*If harvesting the cover crop as a forage, please review **restrictions of herbicides** used during the previous two growing seasons.*

Brassicac

It is not recommended to plant any of the brassicas after corn silage. There is not enough growing degree days left in the season to provide enough growth to gain any cover crop benefits.

Legumes

It is not recommended to plant legumes after corn silage. There is not enough growing season left for legumes to develop nodules and fix nitrogen.

The Forgotten Role of Soil Texture on Water

It is not nitrogen, but water, that is the most limiting factor in crop production. Soil texture, structure, percent organic matter (OM) and management practices also influence the amount water and nutrients a soil can retain for crop use. You can better understand your farmland's strengths and weaknesses by digging deeper into the physical characteristics of your soil and where different soil types are located on your farm.

Soil Texture

Soil texture refers to the feel of soil. Soils are made up of different amounts of sand, silt, and clay. There are 12 soil textural classes according to the USDA classification system. Each soil texture has varying responses to water, affecting major crops like corn, soybeans, wheat, and alfalfa differently. Here's a general overview:

1. **Sand:** Sandy soils have the largest particle size, which allows water to drain quickly.

As a result, sandy soils tend to dry out faster. Sandy soils have low water and nutrient-holding capacity and struggle to retain enough for crops. Shallow-rooted crops are more susceptible to drought stress in sandy soils, as they may experience water deficits that hinder their growth and yield.

2. **Silt:** Silty soils have medium-sized particles, providing better water retention than sandy soils. They have moderate water-holding capacity and drainage characteristics. During drought, silty soils can retain moisture for longer periods compared to sandy soils. Silty soils have more plant-available water capacity than clayey soils.

3. **Clay:** Clay soils have lots of small fine particles with many inner layers creating lots of surface areas that hold water and nutrients tightly. They have higher water and nutrient holding capacity but lower drainage, resulting in slower water movement and potential waterlogging. Also, they have lower plant available water capacity than silty soils because clays hold water tightly as they dry. During drought, clay soils can retain moisture relatively well, which benefits crops like corn, soybeans, and wheat. However, excessive water retention in clay soils can also lead to root oxygen deprivation and negatively impact crop growth in wet years. Any crop with a deeper root system may perform better in clay soils during drought as it can access the stored water.

How to quickly estimate your soil texture

There are several ways to determine the texture of the soil. Quick methods that can be used include: the jar method, or hand texturing ([A 3588 Table 2.2](#)) But you may already have some clues on the farm:

SnapPlus nutrient management software provides each field's dominant soil type. The soil names themselves can give you clues, for example, Wisconsin's State Soil- Antigo Silt Loam. Just like a food product ingredient list, they are listed in order of quantity. Antigo Silt loam is mainly silty, followed by loamy. Loam is an even mixture of sand, silt, and clay.

Soil texture's influence on water

Water infiltration speed and plant water availability are dependent on soil tex-

ture. In coarse sandy soils the bigger pore spaces increase the rate of water movement and have higher infiltration rates than fine textured soils. Coarse soils can "soak" up a drenching rain or recharge quickly but is unable to hold as much water as finer textured soils. **A coarse sand infiltrates very fast, up to 10 inches per hour, while a clay is the slowest can be less than 0.05 inches per hour.** However, sandy soils have a low water holding capacity compared to loamy or clayey soils. On the opposite end, soils with very high clay contents hold water tightly and provide less water storage for plants than loamy soils. The table below illustrates the water that can be absorbed by soil that is available to plants, which varies with soil texture.

Organic matter increases water retention

Typical Wisconsin soils have 1.5- 4% organic matter, peat or muck soils can be over 20%. The organic portion of soil is important, it improves soil properties that help plants grow by promoting structure, pore space, and a home and source of food for soil life. Yet anytime you till and mix oxygen into the soil, organic matter is lost. Increasing soil organic matter can take 5 to 8 years depending on soil type, climate, and management.

Organic matter has a natural attraction to water. Organic matter acts as a sponge in the soil, capable of holding and storing water. It has a high water-holding capacity due to its porous structure and ability to absorb and retain moisture, plus it helps aggregation and pore space where water can be stored. Here are some general examples of the impact of organic matter on soil water:

- **For each 1 % increase in soil organic matter helps soil hold 20,000 gallons more water per acre.**
- **An ideal soil with 4-5% organic matter can soak up a 4-6" rain event.**
- **A 1994 study by Hudson showed that a silt loam soil with 4% organic matter holds more than twice the water of a silt loam with 1% organic matter.**

Understanding the role of soil texture in water-holding capacity, and that organic matter significantly improves water-holding capacity can help us understand the strengths and weaknesses of a field during rainfall, irrigation, and during flood or drought conditions. Wisconsin has a wide range of soil textures. The challenge in managing sandy soils is to improve water retention or water holding capacity. In fine texture soils, however, the challenge can be to remove excess water depending on drainage conditions. Both goals can mean increased profit. Farmers cannot change the soil texture that mother nature has provided them. Although increasing organic matter content takes time, practices such as adding compost or manure, using cover crops, and practicing reduced tillage methods can enhance the soil's ability to retain water and support healthy soil and healthy plant growth.

Written by Chris Clark, Crops & Soils NPM Outreach Specialist

Table source: Resource: https://cropwatch.unl.edu/documents/USDA_NRCS_infiltration_guide6-4-14.pdf

Soil Texture	Plant Available Water (Inches of water per foot of soil depth)
Coarse Sand	0.25-0.75"
Fine Sand	0.75-1.0"
Loamy Sand	1.1"
Sandy Loam	1.2-1.4"
Loam	1.95"
Fine Sandy Loam	1.40-2.00"
Silt Loam	2.00-2.50"
Silty Clay Loam	1.8-2.0"
Silty Clay	1.5-1.7"
Clay	1.2-1.5"



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NEW FACEBOOK GROUP FOR HMONG/HMOOB FARMERS

The UW-Madison Division of Extension is launching a social media platform for Wisconsin Hmong Farmers/Growers.

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For more information scan QR code or search Wisconsin Hmong Farmers/Growers



Photo taken in Waesau by G.T.

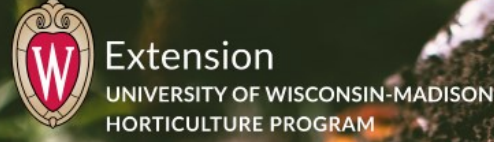
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