

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONNECTION

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Crawford County UW Extension Program in Community & Economic Development
225 N. Beaumont St. Prairie du Chien, WI 53821. 608-326-0224. laura.brown@ces.uwex.edu

*Events & Issues in Economic Development, Local Government,
Community & Comprehensive Planning*



Community & Comprehensive Planning

Upcoming Building Communities Wislives - Discovering Community Strengths & Weaknesses, Understanding Community Demographics

Friday November 9, 2007 - learn about tools available to identify and build on your community's assets.

Friday Dec 14, 2007 Learn how to collect and interpret demographic data and what it means for your community.

Both presentations meet from 10-11 am at the Crawford County Administration Building 225 N Beaumont Street Prairie du Chien. FREE- Register by calling 608-326-0224.

Innovative Outreach Efforts Increase Community Participation

A recent study conducted at UW Oshkosh of comprehensive Planning efforts in Wisconsin found that innovative outreach efforts increased the effectiveness of community input in the comprehensive planning process. Crawford County's municipalities have used surveys, newsletters, and community meetings to gain citizen input. Land use tracker community participation article - Center for Land Use Education, Fall 2007 Land Use Tracker newsletter

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/newsletterstracker.html>

Comprehensive Planning Implementation Toolkit Available

If your community has considered getting started on a comprehensive plan the Department of Administration has now made available guides for each planning element from Housing to Land Use, including information on how to involve the public in the process. You'll find it online at

<ftp://ftp.wi.gov/DOA/public/comprehensiveplans/ImplementationToolkit/Toolkit.pdf>

Northern Land Use & County Soil & Water Committees

Learn about timely land use issues and find out what's happening in other communities across the county at these monthly meetings. The Northern Land Use Committee meets on the last Tuesday of each month from 7:30-9 pm at the Gays Mills Community Building. The County Soil & Water (Land Conservation) committee meets the first Friday (Nov 2) at 9:00 am at the County Administration Bldg in Prairie du Chien. Call the land Conservation Department to confirm meeting times, 608-326-0270.

Economic Development

Local Inventors & Entrepreneurs Club Meetings November 13, December 11

The Crawford/Vernon County regional Inventors and Entrepreneurs Club meets every second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Gays Mills Community Building in Gays Mills, WI. On Tuesday November 13 Terry Whipple, facilitator of the Juneau County Club will speak about Creating a Culture of Innovation and Networking. On Tuesday December 11 John Zehrer will tell the story of growing *Star Valley Flowers*, a successful wholesale flower business located in Soldiers Grove. Contact Laura at 326-0224 for info.

Receive this newsletter by email! Contact Kathy at Crawford County UW Extension to update your email address or receive paper copies of the resources above 608-326-0224 Please submit local Community Development events, successes, news items to Laura Brown laura.brown@ces.uwex.edu

Farmers, Artisan Foods Producers, & Residents Invited to Discuss Local Foods

Local Fare is a new initiative that will work to expand the visibility, availability, value, and sales of delicious, healthy, locally produced foods in Southwest Wisconsin. Ultimately, putting more dollars into the pockets of our producers and our local economy. Join this discussion about improving local access to and marketing of locally grown foods in Southwest Wisconsin Thursday, Oct. 25, 7- 8:30 pm Crawford County Highway Department 21515 State Highway 27 - Seneca Call 608.342.1314 or 888.281.9472, or e-mail Rink DaVee, Local Fare coordinator, at localfare@uwplatt.edu for info.

How To's for Small Business Success Workshops

Re-energize, Re-strategize, and Rethink for Retail Marketing & Sales. October 23, 2007 8:30-4:30 Prairie du Chien City Hall Community Room, 207 West Blackhawk Ave. Upcoming workshops include Business Planning & Accounting Visual Merchandising & Signage, Customer Service. All will be offered in Prairie du Chien, Viroqua, and Platteville. Contact Prairie du Chien Downtown Revitalization 608-326-7374 for more info.

Downtown Economics e-Newsletter Provides Business Ideas & Trends

Interested in revitalizing your community's downtown? This newsletter provides ideas and useful updates. Check out the recent issues of *Downtown Economics* with ideas for increasing downtown economic activity. Recent topics include: *Rural Downtown Development: Guiding Principles for Small Cities*, *The local costs and benefits of Walmart*, & *Starting a Cultural Heritage Tourism Program*. Available on-line at: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cced/publicat/letstalk.html>

Local Government

Getting Candidates on the Spring Ballot November 6, 2007 Program #1760-2 - Cooperative Extension's Local Government Center, Conducting Local Elections WisLine series. Covers procedures for getting local candidates on the ballot when nomination papers are used, as well as filing deadlines. Presented at County Bldg in Prairie du Chien. 10:30-11:50 a.m. Fee: \$20 per session. Contact WisLine Registrations (608) 262-0810. The registration brochure is online at www.uwex.edu/lgc.

Caucus Procedures for Towns and Villages November 27, 2007 - Program #1760-3 -Cooperative Extension's Local Government Center, Conducting Local Elections WisLine series. Covers correct and effective ways to conduct a caucus. Presented at County Bldg in Prairie du Chien. 10:30-11:50 a.m. Fee: \$20 per session. Contact WisLine Registrations (608) 262-0810. The registration brochure is online at www.uwex.edu/lgc.

Laura Brown
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