

# 2005 Annual Report



**Extending the resources and  
knowledge of the University  
of Wisconsin to the people  
of Green County**



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Green County Extension Office

May 1, 2006

Dear Green County Board of Supervisors:

Attached is the 2005 Annual Report for the University of Wisconsin Extension Office. Green County UW-Extension Agents are jointly employed by UW-Extension and Green County. This joint employment assures responsiveness to local needs, reduces costs, and provides an important link to University of Wisconsin resources. UW-Extension faculty serve under the supervision of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee.

Cooperative Extension in Green County brings University of Wisconsin knowledge and resources directly to Green County residents. Our office is one of 72 county offices statewide. Staffed by UW faculty, we offer Green County residents research-based education designed to meet local needs in the areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Living, 4-H/Youth Development and Community Resource and Economic Development.

This annual report highlights several of the major educational programs that were conducted by our University of Wisconsin-Extension faculty in 2005. We hope this report provides you with a better understanding of UW-Extension programs being conducted in Green County. If you have any questions about this report or our mission, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Mayer, Department Head  
 Agriculture Agent

Sarah Burgert  
 Community Resource  
 Development Agent

Alissa Grenawalt  
 4-H & Youth Development Agent

Barbara Duerst  
 Family Living Agent

# Meet the Green County UW-Extension Staff

Green County UW-Extension staff are faculty members of the University of Wisconsin, employed by a cooperative arrangement between the University and the county. County faculty are responsible for conducting applied research and delivering researched based information to county residents.



**Mark Mayer** – Associate Professor – Department of Agriculture & Agri-Business, Agricultural Agent and Department Head

**Major responsibilities:** Develop and teach programs to strengthen the profitability and productivity of Green County farms and agri-business.



**Sarah Burgert** – Assistant Professor - Department of Community Resource Development, Community Resource Development Agent

**Major responsibilities:** Develop and teach programs that build decision-making and leadership capacity in the areas of land use, local government operations, and economic development.



**Alissa Grenawalt** – Assistant Professor - Department of Youth Development, 4-H and Youth Agent

**Major responsibilities:** Develop and coordinate county 4-H and Youth Development programs.



**Barbara Duerst** – Assistant Professor – Department of Family Development, Family Living Agent

**Major responsibilities:** Develop and teach programs which build parent support and community partnerships for families.

**Kristi Leonard and Jayne Butts** – Extension Activity Assistants

Major responsibilities: Assist in the promotion and coordination of UW-Extension programs.

**Courtney Barnes** - Student Assistant

Major responsibilities: Assist with clerical functions of office.

The staff serves under the supervision of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee. Those members are:

**Tom Daly, Chair**  
**Oscar Olson, Vice-Chair**  
**Cathy Cryor-Burgweger, Secretary**  
**Robert Hoesly**  
**Ron Wolter**

# 2005 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Mark W. Mayer

UW-Extension Agriculture Agent



## **Agriculture Educational Programs:** *(Number of Participants in Parenthesis)*

- Dairy Summit, UW-Platteville (81)
- Green County Dairy Management Update Seminar (52)
- Low Cost Parlor Displays at Expo and Farm Technology Days
- Dairy Replacement Management Tour (37)
- Livestock Siting Workshop for elected Officials (53)
- Three Presentations on Agricultural Trends in Green County and Wisconsin (49)
- Individual Estate Planning & Farm Transfer Consultations (8)
- Dairy Modernization Consultations in Green, Richland, Iowa, & Grant Counties (21)
- Brush Management Field Day (41)
- Milk Money Programs (2 farms)
- Green County Forage Seminar (27)
- Southern Wisconsin Dairy Modernization Farm Tours (112)
- Conducted Three Pesticide Applicator Training Sessions (39 certified)
- 36 Hour Master Gardener Course (15 Certified)
- Three Agriculture Literacy Presentations to Leadership and Civic Groups (96)

## **Farm Technology Days:**

- Developed \$921,300 Budget and Policies for the 2007 Show
- Organized fund raising efforts to support the monetary requirements of hosting the show
- Recruited and provided training for FTD leadership team (Executive Committee & Co-Chairs)
- Established 21 Work Committees and assisted in activating 13 of those in 2005
- Developed a Web Site for 2007 Farm Technology Days

## **Youth Programs:**

- Assistant Superintendent for World Dairy Expo Dairy Cattle Show
- Advisor for Dairy Youth Recognition Auction at Green County Fair
- Conducted Steer, Lamb and Swine Weigh-ins for Livestock Youth Projects (227)
- Coordinated County Fair Livestock Auction and Orientation Meeting (231)
- Advisor for County Fair Meat Animal Auction Committee
- Assisted in Teaching Green County Tractor Safety Certification (38)
- Instructor for University of Wisconsin Short Course Farm Building Class (22)
- Served as a Judge for Three District and Sectional FFA Speaking Contests
- Gave three presentations to High School youth on Agriculture Careers (67)

## **County/State Administration:**

- UW-Extension Department of Ag/Ag-Business Standards Rank & Promotion Committee
- Member of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dairy Modernization Team
- Mentor Team Member for Dane County Crops and Soils Agent
- Preparation & Oversight of UW-Extension Green County Budget & Daily Office Operations
- County Department Head Representative on Green County Committee of Committees
- Hiring and Evaluation of County Faculty and Support Staff
- Green County USDA Agriculture Committee
- Blackhawk Technical College Agriculture Advisory Committee

## Use of Media for Educational Outreach

- 52 weekly radio programs and 12 live news spots
- Bi-monthly DHI Newsletter distributed to 231 clients
- Quarterly Agri-News Newsletter distributed to 795 clients
- 24 Educational Articles for Local and State Newspapers

	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Group</u>
<b>2005 Direct Teaching Hours:</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>251</b>
<b>Phone Consultations:</b>	<b>1,498</b>	
<b>Office Consultations:</b>	<b>160</b>	
<b>Farm/Home Visits:</b>	<b>33</b>	

**Total 2005 Direct Client Contacts: 4,020**

## Program Impacts/Results:

- 169 dairy producers explored dairy modernization options and labor saving practices through participating in modernization tours, and/or personal consultations by this agent on low cost dairy modernization. 17 of these dairy producers made a decision to modernize their dairy facility based on information provided by UW-Extension. One example of the impact of modernization was a Green County herd that added 40 cows through a modernization project that resulted in their somatic cell count dropping by 100,000 and a milk production increase of 2,400 pounds per cow that resulted in a \$39,000 increase in their gross income. This herd also saw their veterinarian bills and labor actually decrease despite adding the 40 cows.
- 15 Green County residents became certified as UW-Extension Master Gardeners through a 36 hour course taught by this agent. This brings the number of Certified Master Gardeners in Green County to 28 with an additional 15 Intern Master Gardeners who are working toward their certification. These Master Gardeners are now assisting in horticulture programming in Green County and in the past year they volunteered 16 hours for Youth Education, 233 hours in Community Education and 1005 hours of Community Support Services. These services include a weekly Garden Gab section in the paper, answering horticulture questions to the public, community plantings at the Pleasant View Nursing Home, area churches, and the Green County Welcome Center.
- More than \$135,000 in cash and \$60,000 of in-kind donations was raised for the Farm Technology Days show in 2007. A leadership team consisting of an Executive Committee and over 35 Co-Chairs was put in place and show policies were established through my work as the Executive Secretary of the show.
- This agent serves as the advisor for the Dairy Youth Recognition Auction and the Meat Animal Sale. \$5,850 was collected through the dairy auction with 50% being paid directly to the youth in the form of savings bonds and the other half going to a scholarship fund. An additional \$1750 in scholarships was paid out in 2005 as a result of this fund. Over \$208,000 was paid out to more than 152 Green County Youth through the County Fair Meat Animal Auctions.
- Several Green County dairy producers increased their net profits by an average of over \$2,600 through higher quality premiums and increased milk production by participating in the UW-Extension Milk Money program
- This agent assisted Green County producers in securing a premise ID for their farms as a result of a new law that took effect in 2005. Over 960 Green County farmers received a state ID in 2005.

# 2005 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Sarah J.S. Burgert

UW-Extension Community Resource  
Development Agent



The Community Resource Development (CRD) Educator works to assist Green County communities in dealing with unique challenges through educational programs and applied research. The CRD Educator works with residents, government officials, businesses and professionals in the areas of community leadership development, community and economic development, land use, local government education, and non-profit organizational development. Select *highlights* of the CRD Educator's work in 2005 follow:

## **Community Leadership Development**

Served as **curriculum coordinator, co-program leader, community project advisor, and skill instructor** for the *Green County Leaders* nine-month community leadership program.

- 16 adults from across the county and representing 11 public and private organizations participated in the 2004-2005 program
- 34 different organizations and local governments provided speakers/presenters for the 2004-2005 program
- 10 organizational and governmental partners had representatives who assisted with planning and running the 2004-2005 program
- 3 community projects were developed by 2004-2005 participants: (i) investigating the issue of brain drain in the county and strategizing how to organize in response to this issue, (ii) evaluating the *Green County Leaders* program and suggesting improvements, and (iii) developing a challenge letter that successfully recruited volunteers for the home meal delivery needs of the Green County Nutrition Program
- *Green County Leaders* evaluations demonstrate that participants have increased awareness and knowledge of community issues, increased leadership skills, and increased knowledge of local resources as a result of the program.
- *Green County Leaders* alumni are serving on boards of the Monroe Main Street, Green County United Way and Habitat for Humanity. Alumni have also served on the Brodhead Sidewalk Committee and the Monroe Ad Hoc Large Scale Retail Study Committee.
- 22 participants from 15 different organizations are participating in the 2005-2006 program

## **Community Development Processes**

Provided **facilitative assistance** to two committees formed to examine controversial community issues.

- Worked with the City of Monroe Ad Hoc Large Scale Retail Study Committee to design and conduct an open and public process for researching and getting feedback on the issue of large scale retail development. In early 2006, the committee adopted its final recommendations for rules that would govern future large scale retail businesses and developments in the City. Those recommendations were forwarded to the City for further action.
- Assisted in organizing the City of Brodhead Sidewalk Committee. Attended the first two committee meetings, facilitating a discussion identifying the committee's purpose/charge, the history/evolution of existing sidewalk policies and the community's involvement in developing them, and the interests and values of parties who have a stake in the issue. Reviewed with the committee the open meetings laws that applied to them as a appointed body of the City. And, helped to develop a process for the committee to use in studying the issue and involving the public.

## **Drinking Water Quality Program**

**Coordinated**, in collaboration with the UW-Extension Grant/Sugar/Pecatonica Basin Educator and the UW-Extension Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center, two drinking water quality and education programs.

- Spring 2005-Northern Green County Towns, Fall 2005-Southern Green County Towns
- 76 private wells tested (21 had not been tested for five years, 4 had never been tested, and 40 were unknown as to the last time they were tested)
- 20 wells positive for coliform bacteria
- 17 wells had nitrate-nitrogen levels above the state/federal maximum allowable for public drinking water
- 81 individuals attended three educational sessions
- 18 Spring program participants completed an evaluation, reporting the following actions taken: 4 retested, 2 informed neighbor, 2 sought advice from professionals, 3 repaired or modified well, 1 changed well location, 1 sealed abandoned well with bentonite

## **Latino Needs**

**Collaborated** with Family Living Educator to form a committee to work on issues related to Green County's growing Latino population. The committee formed consists of representatives from the Monroe Campus of Blackhawk Technical College, the Parish Nurse Program, and the Literacy Council.

- In July of 2005 the committee queried service and program providers to find out if their services targeted Latinos, whether they had seen an increase in the use of these services, and whether or not they are interested in having their organization listed in a directory for the Latino population. Fifty-eight (58) service and program providers responded to the survey.
- Also in July, the committee surveyed employers in the county to find out if they currently employ Latinos, what part of their workforce is Latino, the English fluency of any Latino employees, and barriers to employing Latinos. Twelve employers (out of 44 surveyed) responded.
- In the Fall of 2005 the committee recruited a representative from the Latino community, and with his feedback, began work on the development of a educational and informational newsletter targeted at the Latino community, and planned to be distributed in early 2006.

## **Organizational Development**

Served in a **facilitative, collaborative and educational role** for a number of organizational strategic planning sessions/processes. Strategic planning helps organizations to clarify their mission and involve stakeholders in identifying key issues that will affect the organization and its products and services. Work with the following entities on strategic planning began in 2005 and will be concluded in 2006.

- Green County Development Corporation
- Green County Tourism
- Monroe Public Library
- Green County Housing Partnership

## **Notable 2005 Service, Recognition and State Presentations**

- **Conference Planning Chair**, 2005 Southwestern Wisconsin Annual Regional Economic Development Conference held in Monroe, WI
- **Green County Advisory Committee**, Blackhawk Technical College
- **President's Award**, Monroe Chamber of Commerce and Industry (January 2005)
- **Quality of Teaching Award**, Wisconsin Extension Environmental and Community Development Association (March 2005)
- **Strategies for Successful Participant Recruitment**, presented at the Wisconsin Leadership Coordinator's Conference (October 2005)
- **The Youth Leadership Curriculum: A New Tool for Communities, Organizations, Programs and Schools Educating Youth on Leadership Topics**, co-presented with 4-H Youth Development Agent and others at 3rd Annual Wisconsin Community Leadership Summit (April 2005)

# 2005 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Alissa L. Grenawalt

UW-Extension 4-H & Youth Development Agent



In 2005, the Green County 4-H program continued to provide youth and adult volunteers in Green County life skill building and educational programming opportunities that teach youth about leadership development, personal growth and the overall value of service in the community. *“Learning by Doing”* is the 4-H slogan. This currently involves approximately 632 youth in Green County.

## Green County 4-H Community Club Program Activities

(Based on quarterly activities)

### January-March

- Planning and preparation for Green County Junior Fair. Recruited 55 superintendents, made 45 contacts to fill 30 fair judge positions, reviewed fair book for changes, met with Green County Fair Board, and recruited trophy donors.
- Met with the Green County 4-H Executive Board and Adult Leader’s Inc. three times to provide educational programming for leadership and advise 4-H business that affected the program.
- Interviewed and hired one individual for the summer youth agent position.
- Met with 12 4-H county project committees totaling 30 adults and 10 youth to teach program planning, implementation and program evaluation skills.
- Served on the Green County United Prevention Professionals for Youth (G.U.P.P.Y) Coalition. Serve on the Monroe Area Safe Kids/Safe Communities coalition group. Assist in helping organization meet their educational and community wide planning goals. (Yearly)
- Conducted weekly radio programs, and submitted various news releases highlighting 4-H program activities.
- Began organizing and making contacts for the 2005 Tractor Safety Course.

### April-June

- Met with Green County 4-H Executive Board and Adult Leader’s Inc., 3 times to provide educational programs for leadership and advise 4-H business that affected the program.
- Helped 15 county volunteer 4-H committees implement 12 countywide educational programs and events with over 200 youth and adults involved. Activities included: style, cake and foods review, 12 dairy judging practices, Livestock and Meats Judging, 12 dog and 3 horse project trainings, Communication Arts and Performing Arts program and 4-H camp.
- Collaborated with area organizations and businesses to implement the Green County Tractor Safety and Machinery Certification program. 32 youth were certified in 2005. Handled all organizational aspects of the program as well as taught portions of the classes.
- Conducted weekly radio programs, and submitted various news releases highlighting 4-H program activities.

## July-September

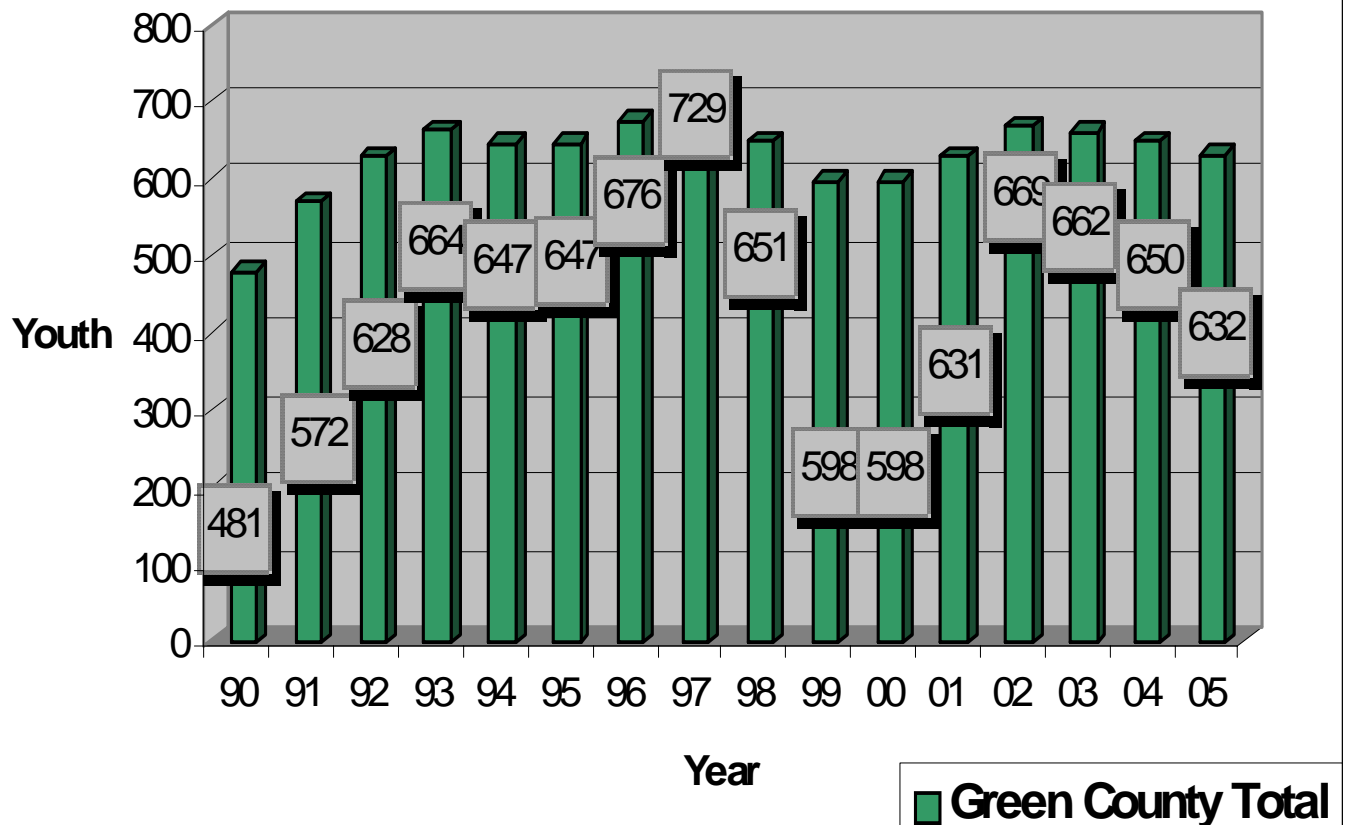
- Green County 4-H volunteer leaders met with Green County 4-H Executive Board and Adult Leader's Inc., 2 times to provide assistance for leadership and advise for 4-H business that affected the program.
- Helped implement the junior portion of the Green County Fair for approximately 550 youth exhibitors.
- Helped implement positive experiences for the 110 Green County youth who participated at the WI State Fair.
- Collaborated with 4-H youth and adults in planning for National 4-H week promotion.
- Conducted weekly radio programs, and submitted news releases highlighting 4-H program activities.
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## October-December

- Green County 4-H volunteer leaders met with Green County 4-H Executive Board and Adult Leader's Inc., 3 times to provide assistance for leadership and advise for 4-H business that affected the program.
- Held 1 New Volunteer Orientation session that certified 16 new leaders to the program.
- UW-Extension staff orchestrated the 4-H re-enrollment process.
- Held club officer and general leader trainings to help assist general leaders and officers in their leadership positions.
- 4-H leader volunteers orchestrated the National 4-H week promotional activities.
- Conducted weekly radio programs, and submitted news releases highlighting 4-H program activities

2005 Phone Contacts: 953  
2005 E-Mail Contacts: 232  
Total Teaching hours: 425  
2005 Club Visits: 17 out of 20 clubs

## Green County 4-H Community Clubs



# 2005 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Barbara L. Duerst

UW-Extension Family Living Agent



The Green County UW-Extension Family Living Program serves as a link to University resources for local clientele in such areas as food safety, food preservation, housing education, public policy education and child and family development. The Family Living Educator responds to community needs with research based education and partnerships that support communities and families. Family Living educators focus their programming in three major areas:

- 1) Families and Communities
- 2) Food and Nutrition
- 3) Family Economics

When local organizations, agencies, and groups work collaboratively to coordinate services and programs, share resources and expertise, they are not only more cost efficient, but also more effective. Green County's Family Living Program leads initiatives important to local communities that can best be served by research-driven, community-based education. Some examples of community coalitions led or facilitated by the Family Living Educator are the Green County Housing Partnership, Green County Healthy Communities Coalition, and the Green County Latino Needs Advisory Committee. Following are some of Family Living's program highlights for 2005:

## **Nutrition:**

- Provided information about the 2005 Dietary Guidelines to 350 individuals, families, community groups, HCE groups, civic organizations, and the broader community through presentations, displays, newspaper articles, and 4-H mailings.
- Presented a program for 21 Green County HCE members on increasing fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Piloted "Raising a Healthy Eater," a nine week class for parents of 2-5 year olds at Green County Head Start. Twelve families participated in sections of the class.

## **Green County Healthy Communities Coalition:**

- Provided a leadership role in developing and implementing a comprehensive community needs assessment project. Partners are Green County Health Department, the Monroe Clinic, and UW-Extension.
- Conducted, co-facilitated, and analyzed the data from focus groups representing 10 stakeholder groups and over 85 individuals.
- Co-authored a 70 page compilation of the results of the assessment process which was distributed to over 100 community leaders and officials.
- Led stakeholders in a prioritization process which identified Family Lifestyle Management (including sedentary lifestyle, overscheduled families, poor eating habits, etc.) as one of the three major concerns or issues for Green County families. In 2006, will co-facilitate the development of a plan to address these issues in the county's school districts and work environments.

### **Life after Incarceration:**

This is an evidence based class designed to reduce recidivism for Huber Inmates. A series of six classes focuses on life skills such as handling stress, decision-making, education, employment, and re-joining friends and family after incarceration.

- Piloted program for four Huber inmates incarcerated in the Green County Jail in August/September 2005.
  - \* Participants felt that they gained information that will help them to make positive changes in their behavior.
  - \* Pre-post test results showed an increase in knowledge in decision-making skills and handling stress.
  - \* Feedback from Green County Jail personnel was positive.
- Planning continues with the Green County Jail staff to offer the program again in 2006, with minor changes to the curriculum.

### **Co-parenting During and After Divorce:**

In Green County, all divorcing parents of children under the age of 18 years are court ordered to attend a four hour parenting class. The intended outcomes of the class are to keep children out of the middle of the divorce conflict, teach parents about the importance of communication, and avoid future court debate/litigation. This is a collaborative effort between UW-Extension, Family Living and the Green County Family Court Commissioner. During the final quarter of 2005, 50 individuals participated in the classes.

### **Programs for Green County Child Care Providers:**

- Provided five sessions of “Better Kid Care Program” to 48 county day care and child care providers. This is a satellite program developed by Penn State University.
- Taught two educational sessions at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Green County Early Childhood Conference, Dealing with the Spirited Child (31), and Handling Stress (10).
- Provided a training session to 19 members of the Green County Child Care Network on Quality Care for Quality Kids, the proposed rating system for day cares.
- Serve as one of the two Green County representatives on the Board of Directors of the South Central Child Care Referral and Resource Center.

### **Family Impact Seminar:**

This semi-annual program for policy makers was held on Thursday, October 27, 2005 and focused on generational poverty. Sixty community leaders attended. A follow-up course through UW-Platteville was offered for local educators to assist them in meeting their continuing education requirements. Four local teachers completed the course for one credit.

### **HCE and 4-H:**

The Family Living Educator is the educational advisor for the Green County Association for Home and Community Education, (HCE) – a local nonprofit organization with over 100 members. She also serves as advisor Green County 4-H for food safety, food science, clothing and textiles.

# Agencies & Groups the Green County UW-Extension Office Worked With in 2005

The Green County UW-Extension Office reaches a wide variety of groups and organizations through educational programming and collaborations. Many of these groups are listed below.

- Area Financial Institutions
- Area School Districts & FFA Chapters
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Green County
- Blackhawk Technical College
- Business Improvement District Boards
- Chambers of Commerce
- Cheese Days, Inc.
- Childcare Providers
- Child Care Resource & Referral of South Central WI., Inc.
- County School Administrators
- Dairy Herd Improvement Association
- Department of Natural Resources, State & Local
- Farm Services Agency
- Green County 4-H Adult Leaders Inc.
- Green County Ag Chest
- Green County Beef Producers
- Green County Board of Supervisors
- Green County Cheese Days
- Green County Dairy Youth Recognition Auction
- Green County Development Corporation
- Green County Emergency Management
- Green County Fair
- Green County Farm Bureau
- Green County Forage Council
- Green County Garden Clubs
- Green County Health Department
- Green County Holstein Breeders & Junior Holstein Breeders
- Green County Housing Partnership
- Green County Human Services Department
- Green County Job Centers
- Green County Junior Leaders
- Green County Meat Animal Sale Auction
- Green County Milk Quality Council
- Green County Pork Producers
- Green County Sheep Producers
- Green County Tourism
- Green County Zoning Department
- Green Haven
- GUPPY, Inc.
- Head Start
- Land Conservation Office
- Law Enforcement
- Local Media (Newspapers, Radio and Internet)
- Monroe Area Safe Kids/Safe Communities
- Monroe Country Club
- Monroe Large Scale Adhoc Retail Study Committee
- Monroe Main Street Initiative
- Monroe Public Library
- National Farmers Organization
- Parks & Recreation Departments
- Professional Dairy Producers of WI
- Property Owner's Associations
- Rock County Job Center
- South Central WI Master Gardener Association
- Southern WI Dairy Modernization Task Force
- Southwest WI Small Business Development Center
- Southwest WI Community Action Program
- Southwest WI Technical College
- Southwestern WI Regional Planning Commission
- State Legislators
- The Monroe Clinic
- Town, Village and City Elected Officials
- Town, Village and City Plan Commissions
- Town, Village and City Public Works
- United Way of Green County
- UW-Madison Short Course
- UW-Platteville Continuing Education
- Vo-Ag Instructors at Area Schools
- WI Association of County Extension Committees, Inc.
- WI Center for Agriculture Safety and Health
- WI Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection
- WI Farm Technology Days, Inc.
- WI Towns Association
- World Dairy Expo
- Youth and Adult 4-H Volunteers and Members