



Annual Report
of the
Trempealeau County UW-Extension Office
January 1, 2008—December 31, 2008

UW-Extension: Your Local Connection to the Resources of the University of Wisconsin System

UW –Extension has played a role in educating the residents of Trempealeau County for about 75 years. We connect our citizens with the education, assistance, and research they need to make their lives, businesses, farms, and communities better. The five educators in our office target different audiences and content.

Family Living Education.

- Reaches low-income audiences at schools, WIC, senior housing sites and food pantries with low cost nutrition and food preparation ideas.
- Works with individuals and agencies to provide financial and parenting skills.

Agriculture and Natural Resource Education.

- Reaches farmers and agriculture-related businesses.
- Provides education on livestock housing, milking facilities, agronomy, farm budgets, and nutrient management to farmers, agricultural businesses, and local agencies.

4-H/Youth Development Education.

- Works with youth and adults involved in positive youth activities like 4-H to provide education and skills in leadership and volunteerism.

Community Development Education.

- Reaches local officials, community leaders, and organizations with education and facilitation on community issues. The goal is to build great communities to live in and work in.

2008 Department Activities

Our educators reach the public through one-on-one consultations, e-mails, phone calls, home/farm/business visits, educational workshops, volunteers, and community organizations. Here is a brief summary of some of our 2008 statistics.

- Over 2300 phone calls, e-mails, or walk-in clients. Requests for information ranged from how to manage swarming bees to energy alternatives to 4-H projects to financial coaching to starting a business.
- Over 2200 people participated in educational programs taught by our county educators. Among the topics covered were pesticide applicator training, citizen input in comprehensive planning, parliamentary procedure, Environmental Field Days, and herd health.
- Our educators worked with 350 4-H volunteers to help deliver educational programs or to improve organizations.
- Our educators worked with local governments, schools, community organizations, and county departments. We facilitated meetings and provided education on a variety of topics.
- Over 1000 people participated in nutrition education programs.
- Your county extension educators conduct local applied research. Projects this year included corn fungicides, soybean plots for a biodiesel project, the economic impact of Wisconsin's emerging grape and wine sector, and citizen surveys on comprehensive planning.
- Your county extension educators were able to leverage over \$220,000 in non-county funds to support UW-Extension educational efforts in our county.



4-H youth involved in a youth leadership program. In this photo they are learning about how personality differences can strengthen a team.



Youth participants are learning team building skills. Here they are working together to build the tallest, sturdiest tower using boxes and masking tape.



The sign marking the research test plot for soybeans in biodiesel production.



A photo from a farm visit where the educator was asked to identify what was killing the homeowner's trees.*

UW-Extension Trempealeau County Staff: Jon Zander, Agriculture Agent; Pat Malone, Community Development Educator; Cyndy Jacoby, Family Living Agent; Megan Stuessel, 4-H/Youth Development Agent; Lorna Anderson, WNEP Nutrition Educator; Tracy Halama and Donna Kloss, Support Staff.

Extension Education & Communication Committee: Don Kloss, Chair; Richard Kiekhofer, Vice Chair; Deloras Vind, Secretary; Michelle Haines; and Ernest Vold.

*(Yellow-bellied sapsucker)