



## **Land Use Team**

### **Livestock Facilities Siting Law**

As Wisconsin's population grows, suburbs and rural subdivisions are being developed in what had been an exclusively agricultural environment. At the same time, some livestock producers are considering expanding their operations. In an effort to head off conflicts, the Wisconsin legislature passed the Livestock Facility Siting Law.

#### **Response**

University of Wisconsin-Extension specialists and agents offered a series of six workshops in March and April 2005 to help county and municipal officials understand the new law and bring local policy into compliance with it.

#### **Outcomes**

More than 500 elected and appointed officials from 47 counties, including town and county supervisors, zoning administrators, planning commissioners, assessors, conservationists and others -- learned about the state's new livestock siting law.

80% of 306 participants who responded to a survey said the workshop would help them make better decisions when weighing the interests of farmers with those of their non-farm neighbors.

71% said they gained understanding of the relationships between local and state government in dealing with siting issues.

69% agreed that they learned to identify resources for managing conflicts about land use and agricultural issues.

68% said they would take local action concerning the adoption of the livestock facility siting law.

**Contact:** Tom Cadwallader, 715-536-0304, [thomas.cadwallader@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:thomas.cadwallader@ces.uwex.edu)

February 2006+