

2010 WACEC Conference – Concurrent Sessions

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

1:15 – 2:15 p.m.

- **Kenosha County Youth In Governance** - John de Montmollin, Tedi Winnett, Annie Jones, Kenosha County UW-Extension, and Kimberly Breunig, Kenosha County Board Supervisor - Learn how Kenosha County Board Members worked with Kenosha County UW-Extension staff to develop the largest Youth In Governance program in Wisconsin. Participants will get an insider's view of this program and learn how it can be replicated in their own counties. In this session participants will be provided the tools to replicate this program in their own communities. Although local government dynamics are unique, we can all find inspiration from the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt who said, "We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."
- **Strengthening Farmers Markets in Southeastern Wisconsin** - Kristin Krokowski, Waukesha County UW-Extension, and Rose Skora, Kenosha and Racine Counties, UW-Extension - The number of farmers' markets continues to grow and serve as an important asset to maintaining local agricultural production in Wisconsin. To improve and grow markets in Southeast Wisconsin, UW-Extension educators in Waukesha and Racine/Kenosha Counties undertook a two-year research project to assess farmers' markets from the perspective of market customers, vendors, and managers. Twenty-two markets were evaluated in this study and the results have led to a variety of successful grant applications and educational programs.
- **Social Networking and Media for Education, Outreach and Community Building** – Molly Immendorf and Greg Johll, Cooperative Extension Technology - Do you Facebook? What's a wiki? Twitter, tweets and tweeps? This in-depth session will describe social networking and how it can be used in education, outreach and community building. Information will be shared on social networking options as well as the pros and cons of using a number of these sites. To reach larger and new audiences, it is vital for all county educators to have unrestricted access to these social networking and social media websites for educational communication.
- **Addressing Groundwater Issues in Waukesha County** - Kenneth R. Bradbury, Hydrogeologist/Professor, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, UW-Extension - Did you know that the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS) is part of UW-Extension? The Survey tackles geologic and groundwater topics across Wisconsin, and in recent years has had a major role in addressing controversial water-supply issues in Waukesha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha Counties.

This workshop will focus on groundwater problems in Waukesha County, and how the geologic setting of the county contributes to a rich groundwater resource but also leads to land-use and water-supply controversy. Several years ago the Village of Eagle needed new water supply wells, but there was intense public concern that these wells might harm the nearby Mukwonago River, protected wetlands, and cherished springs. With the cooperation of the Village and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission the WGNHS conducted a groundwater study of the area and developed a computerized groundwater flow model of the new wells. The results showed that the wells will have little or no impact on the watershed. By providing science-based, unbiased information and analyses to this situation the Survey was able to assist local and county decision-makers and help educate the public about water-supply issues important to all.

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

- **Leverage Energy Use to Improve Profits, Employee Satisfaction, and the Planet** - Diana Hammer Tscheschlok, Fond du Lac County UW-Extension, and Jason Kauffeld, Green Lake County UW-Extension - Learn how two county-based UW-Extension educators used local energy tours to respond to requests by County Board supervisors, Economic Development Corporation members, and many others to provide real-life examples of how saving energy and protecting the land increases profits while also providing social and environmental benefits.
- **Using Technology to Reach Families with Age-paced Parenting Information** - Donna Doll-Yogerst, Oconto County UW-Extension, and Carol Ostergren, Specialist, UW-Madison/ UWExtension

Panel: Barbara Stoffel-Emde, Racine County UW-Extension; Kathy Eisenmann, Jefferson County UW-Extension; Nan Baumgartner, Fond du Lac County UW-Extension - UW-Extension's parenting newsletter project addresses governmental priorities for parent education, and now offers a new, cost effective electronic method of delivery. This program provides opportunities for local collaborations between Extension and governmental agencies to distribute the newsletters, and evaluate their effectiveness. Evaluations show that parents improve their parenting as a result of receiving the newsletters, and highly value this resource. Join us as panel members describe their local collaborative distribution efforts and evaluation of the newsletter series in their counties.
- **Groundwater Resources of Wisconsin: What Everyone Should Know** Kenneth R. Bradbury, Hydrogeologist/Professor, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, UW-Extension - Groundwater is perhaps the most important natural resource in Wisconsin, yet many people, from state legislators to common citizens, have little knowledge about where it comes from, how much we use, and how it should be managed. This workshop will present basic information about hydrogeology (the interaction of rocks and water) in Wisconsin. Groundwater is the source of drinking water for over three-fourths of Wisconsin's citizens, is critical to agriculture and industry, and sustains the state's important springs, lakes, wetlands, and trout streams. Although our groundwater resources are very large, they are not infinite, and groundwater requires management just like any other resource. Balancing the human and economic needs for water against conservation and environmental protection requires a basic understanding of groundwater flow and the varied geology of our state.
- **Community Change Circles: Transforming Meaningful Discussion into Action** – Cindy Muhar, Milwaukee County UW-Extension - Interested in a program that actively engages residents in open dialogue, action planning and action implementation? Join us to learn how Community Change Circles work. Communities can choose from a variety of relevant topic areas. Discover how this grass roots program, consisting of small groups of diverse stakeholders and trained facilitators, can contribute to positive changes in communities. Explore the challenges and strengths of the program and briefly engage in a Circle experience, and learn how Community Change Circles have made a difference in Milwaukee County and beyond.

4:00 -5:00 p.m.

- **Organizing Residents in Waukesha Neighborhoods: An Urban Approach** - Jerry Braatz, Juana Avila, Steve Chmielewski, Laura Dombrock, and Ann Wied, Waukesha County UW-Extension, and Randy Stoecker, Cooperative Extension specialist - Learn how UW-Extension organizes residents at the neighborhood level, identifies their needs, delivers educational programs and builds capacity. Learn about the steps that Waukesha County UW-Extension educators use when providing education to residents in urban neighborhoods.

Numerous techniques with examples provide a picture of how Extension educators develop relationships, build trust, reach diverse audiences, and establish credibility within an urban neighborhood. The knowledge shared has growing implications for UW-Extension as urban areas continue to grow throughout Wisconsin

- **Leveraging Leadership and Resources to Connect with the Hispanic Community** – Tracy Strother, Racine County UW-Extension, and Kristin Hildebrandt, Racine County youth – Growing Together/Creciendo Juntos is a five-year project focused on ways to better engage Hispanic youth and families in education and community leadership. By building bridges with community partners and listening to youth and families, a framework was developed to meet local needs. Amigos Leyendo/Reading Friends is an example of a volunteer driven project with community impact outside of the classroom.
- **What’s the Buzz in Apiculture: Beekeeping in Milwaukee County** – Dennis Lukaszewski, Milwaukee County UW-Extension - In 2008, using USDA funds, Milwaukee County UW-Extension launched the Urban Apiculture Institute, the first UW System apiary training in the state. Two levels of beekeeper certification include Worker Bee (educational coursework only) and Queen Level (hands-on beekeeping). Students of the Urban Apiculture Institute will discuss the challenges and rewards of beekeeping in an urban setting. See how a bee hive is constructed and find out how honey is made by the bees. Also, learn about changes in legislation which now allows beekeeping in municipalities.

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

- **Cooperative Extension: Offering Almost Two Decades Of Critical Local Government Education in Wisconsin** – Local Government Center Specialists -- As UW-Extension’s Local Government Center enters its 18th year of operation, this session provides an excellent opportunity to reflect on the breadth of Cooperative Extension’s work in local government education throughout the state. This session will examine the ways in which Extension reaches this critical audience from face-to-face workshops to distance education programs. Time will also be devoted to discussing some of the critical issues and challenges facing Wisconsin’s local government.
- **Creating Aging Friendly Communities in Wisconsin: How Prepared is Your County for the Coming “Age Wave”** – Clif Barber, UW-Extension Specialist, Jane Jensen, Sheboygan County UW-Extension, and Chris Kniep, Winnebago County UW-Extension -- Because people are living longer, populations worldwide are aging. This trend will accelerate during the next 20 years, particularly in developed countries like the United States. By the year 2030, for example, more than one in four people in many Wisconsin Counties will be age 65+; a higher proportion than is currently the case in Florida! How prepared is your county for this coming “age wave”? This session will address this question through the use of an “Aging Readiness Questionnaire.”
- **Juvenile Diversion in Waukesha County** Steve Bailey and Laurie Donnell, Waukesha County UW-Extension - Waukesha County UW Extension, in close partnership with the Office of the District Attorney, has piloted a unique, research based diversion program for first time young offenders. 180° Juvenile Diversion involves 12 weeks of formal class using an evidence based curriculum, the completion of at least 40 community service hours and six months of case management. The program not only helps turn lives around, but has vast potential to relieve the overburdened county justice system, allowing valuable taxpayer funded resources to be used elsewhere.