



# ***GREEN LAKE COUNTY***

*571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI 54941*

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**\*Amended July 11, 2016**

**The following documents are included in the packet for the  
Ag/Extension Education & Fair Committee Meeting on  
Tuesday, June 12, 2016:**

- 1) Cover Sheet
- 2) \*Amended Agenda
- 3) Draft minutes from the June 14, 2016 meeting
- 4) County Library Reports
- 5) Educator Reports for: Jay Dampier (Community Resource & Economic Development), John de Montmollin (4-H Youth Development), Katie Gellings (Family Living), and Nav Ghimire (Ag Agent).

**AGRICULTURE, EXTENSION EDUCATION & FAIR  
MEETING NOTICE**

*Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.*  
**Green Lake County Government Center, Training Room**  
**571 County Road A, Green Lake, Wisconsin**

**\*AMENDED AGENDA**

**Committee Members:**

Joanne Guden,  
Chairperson  
Bob Schweder, Vice-  
Chairperson  
Patti Garro  
Katie Mehn  
David Richter

*Mailing Address:*  
**Green Lake County  
UW-Extension  
PO Box 3188  
Green Lake WI 54941-  
3188  
920-294-4032  
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1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Certification of Open Meeting Notice
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of the June 14, 2016 Minutes
5. Public Comments – 3 Minute Limit
6. Public Appearances
7. County Library Services Report – Linda DeNell, Caestecker Public Library, Green Lake
  - a. Submitted Monthly Report
  - b. Library Funding and Agreement
8. Correspondence
9. **FAIR – 2016**
  - a. Truck/Tractor Pull Update – Discussion/Approval
  - b. Entertainment Contracts – Discussion/Approval
  - c. Fair Updates
  - d. \*2017 Budget – Discussion/Approval
10. **UW-EXTENSION**
  - a. Educator Report – Katie Gellings, Family Living Educator
  - b. Educators' Summary of Monthly Reports & Relevant Trainings, Meetings & Programs
  - c. nEXT Generation of UW-Extension – Committee Discussion
  - d. nEXT Generation County Dialogue, Dodge County – July 27
  - e. nEXT Generation Resolutions – Discussion/Approval
  - f. Tri-County Auction House Visit – August 3 – Discussion
  - g. \*2017 UW-Extension Budget – Discussion/Approval
  - h. Approval of Educator Out of County Days – Discussion/Approval
  - i. Committee Discussion
  - j. Vouchers: Agriculture, Extension Education & Fair – Discussion/Approval
11. Future Agenda Items
12. Next Regular Meeting Date – Tuesday, August 9, 2016
13. Adjournment

Kindly arrange to be present; if unable to attend, please notify our office.

Sincerely,



Jay Dampier  
Green Lake County UW-Extension  
Community Resource & Economic Development Educator/Department Head

*An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities  
in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.*

*Please note: Meeting area is accessible to the physically disabled. Anyone planning to attend who needs visual or audio assistance should contact the UW-Extension Office at 294-4032 no later than Noon on the day preceding the meeting.*



The meeting of the Green Lake County Agriculture, Extension Education and Fair Committee was called to order by Chairman, Joanne Guden, at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 in the Training Room of the Green Lake County Government Center in Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Joanne Guden, Chairman  
Patti Garro  
Katie Mehn  
David Richter  
Bob Schweder

Staff Present: Jay Dampier  
Nav Ghimire  
John de Montmollin  
Katie Gellings  
Kathy Ninneman  
Ali McNamara Oetzman  
Kim Zills

Absent: Amanda Miller

Others Present: Harley Reabe, County Board Chairman; Mark Arend, Assistant Director of the Winnefox Library System; Clairellyn Sommersmith, Princeton Library; Cindy Wallace, Winnefox Cooperative Technical Services; Lucy Hazelwood, Markesan Library; Sara Wilson, Kingston Library; Karla Smith, Winnefox; Anni Parsons, Berlin Library; and Tony Daley, Berlin Journal newspapers.

#### **AMENDED AGENDA**

***Motion/second (Richter/Garro)*** to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

#### **MINUTES**

***Motion/second (Richter/Schweder)*** to approve the May 10, 2016 and June 1, 2016 meeting minutes as presented with exception of removing the "amended" portion in the June 1, 2016 minutes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES** – None.

#### **COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT – LUCY HAZELWOOD**

Submitted monthly reports on file. Hazelwood gave a short report of what she is doing at the Markesan Library.

#### **COUNTY LIBRARY PLAN OF SERVICE AND FUNDING AGREEMENT**

Mark Arend, assistant director of the Winnefox Library System, presented the Agreement for Green Lake County Libraries through 2016 and the Library Funding for 2017 - \$280,950.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing.

#### **TRUCK/TRACTOR PULL UPDATE**

Swanke has been in contact with Zills. She is just waiting for the alcohol contract, deadline is the July meeting. There is a recommendation for signage because of the rained out event last year. A sign that reads "no refunds after event has started" will be posted at the track events.

### **ENTERTAINMENT CONTRACTS**

No contracts.

### **PEN FEE FOR EXHIBITORS**

Zills presented the Committee with a handout and explained the need for a pen fee to offset cost of building maintenance etc. on the fairgrounds. This will be revisited at the October meeting and Zills will have collected more information from other counties in the state regarding their pen/exhibitor fees.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICITY MATERIALS**

Zills has given the Committee their Green Lake County Fair publicity material packets at a previous meeting to distribute to county businesses.

### **FAIR UPDATES**

Nothing more, everything is running smoothly.

### **WELCOME UW-EX INTERN, ALI MCNAMARA OETZMAN**

Summer Intern, Ali McNamara Oetzman, was welcomed and gave a brief introduction.

### **EDUCATOR REPORT**

Ghimire, Ag Agent, presented to the Committee, "Agency-Farmer Interface Coalition - Reasons for Approaching Soil and Water Conservation through AFIC."

### **LAWN CARE & WATER QUALITY PROGRAM**

Dampier, received a grant for "Reducing non-point source pollution one lawn at a time: An education outreach pilot program in a Wisconsin impaired waterway." He will be working to

### **MOTION TO DISMISS GARRO AT 11:11 A.M.**

*Motion/second (Schweder/Richter)* to dismiss Garro.

### **EDUCATORS' SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REPORTS & RELEVANT TRAININGS, MEETINGS & PROGRAMS**

Written monthly reports on file for Dampier, de Montmollin, Gellings, Ghimire and Miller were reviewed. Dampier, de Montmollin and Gellings gave brief verbal reports of their present programming.

### **nEXT GENERATION OF UW-EXTENSION**

The Committee is to keep this topic on the agenda every month. de Montmollin is co-chair of the 4-H Programming Team and gave a brief report about their current assessment and gap analysis over the next 2.5 months and then proceed to the next steering and executive committees to come up with the final decision.

Dampier also reported that the next ICC meeting will be all about the nEXT Generation of UW-Extension.

### **APPROVAL OF EDUCATOR OUT OF COUNTY DAYS**

*Motion/second (Richter/Schweder)*. Approved.

### **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Guden will be out of town from June 30-July 12. Schweder is the contact.

### **VOUCHERS**

*Motion/second (Richter/Schweder)* to approve the vouchers for Ag/Extension Education and Fair as presented totaling \$153,425.49. Motion carried.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Library Funding & Agreement
- Water Testing Program
- nEXT Generation Resolutions
- If anyone has an agenda item, please contact Dampier.
- Next regular meeting date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 in the Training Room at 10:00 a.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion/second (Richter/Schweder)*** to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. Motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Ninneman, Program Specialist*

DRAFT

## Green Lake County Libraries Activity Report for July 2016

**Berlin** - Summer Library Club ends July 15 for the community of Berlin, so we have a few more weeks of programs before we finish long standing projects and prepare for the fall season.

Early literacy efforts continue with one more session of Pajama Storytime on Monday nights for one to five years olds with their caregiver. Two more Thursdays of movies will hopefully give us a good crowd of kids, tweens, and teens for the showing of Air Bud and Karate Kid on July 7 and Cloud 9 and Star Wars: A New Hope on July 14. Teens will experience another craft class in July 12 and Teen Book Club on July 8.

Adult programming will continue with two adult book clubs, Monday, July 18, and Tuesday, July 26. Coloring Club will meet on July 11 and 25. The second installation in a three part series will be presented by Katie Gellings titled, "How to Make Fruit Jams" on Thursday, July 7, 6pm.

We always encourage you to check out our newsletter available on our website at [www.berlinlibrary.org](http://www.berlinlibrary.org), or call us at 920-361-5420 to find out more details about library events!

**Green Lake** – Our summer reading program continues through Saturday, July 16. Children have until then to read and earn baseball tickets and ice cream coupons and Oshkosh Public Museum passes and more. Even after the 16<sup>th</sup> kids will still have the opportunity to read with Tia (our reading therapy dog) on Tuesday mornings and to build with LEGO Club on Thursdays until mid-August.

We have three(!) exhibits at the library this month. Tom Eddy is installing *Natural Capital*, a photographic display, on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> and that evening will talk about this work. The *Wisconsin Waters* traveling photo exhibit from UW-Madison's Sea Grant is due to arrive any day. Moira Harrington is presenting "Eat Wisconsin Fish!" on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with *Wisconsin Waters*. And for the first two weeks of the month we will also host a display on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty, courtesy of the Wisconsin DNR. You've likely guessed the pattern – yes, we will be welcoming Aldo Leopold Foundation Fellow Stanley Temple to the library on Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> for an evening program celebrating the treaty centennial.

Later in July we will have an all-ages program on honey bees, including an observation hive (Wednesday, July 20, at 10:00 a.m.). Historian Judy Cook presents *Civil War Hijinks*, a program of songs and stories based on the letters her great great grandparents wrote each other from the front and the farm, on Sunday afternoon, July 24. And DNR Wildlife Educator Liz Herzmann comes to the library on Tuesday July 26<sup>th</sup> to talk about *Native Plants and Birds*. Details on all these events and more can be found on the library website – [www.greenlakelibrary.org](http://www.greenlakelibrary.org)

**Kingston** – Our Summer Reading Program started on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> and will run thru the month of July. The theme we are using this year is "Exercise Your Mind....Read". On July 7 and July 14<sup>th</sup> we have 2 guest speakers who will come in and read to the children and then talk about how exercise and reading fit into their professions. For those who do their reading each day (20 minutes a day) we will have a pool party at the Berlin Aquatic Center and that is sponsored by National Exchange Bank of Kingston and The Edna Pugh Trust Fund. The Markesan School District has several teams each year that compete in Battle of the Books. We have a set of the books out and available for readers who want to get a head start on the list over the summer. We have a new display in our case, a collection of Laura Ingalls Wilder memorabilia from Erin Witthun. The collection will be on display thru July. We've also just set a date of August 20<sup>th</sup> for our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Antique Car Show. Watch for more details as the event gets closer.

**Markesan** – Markesan Public Library continues with the summer library program. As I type this, we are having a matinee movie. We had so many children show up that we ran out of popcorn! Luckily there was someone available to run to the store to get more. I don't pretend to know the family situations of the children who are here to watch the movie, but I suspect that our movie matinee with popcorn and juice pouch is the closest some children can get to experience a "movie theatre."

We continue to have a lot of new registration cards filled out. Since it would be bad news to run out of cards, I am currently ordering more. A little Markesan Library trivia... we have gone through about 900 cards in about 3 years, or about one card per each day we are open. Everybody gets a card, but if they lose the card, they have to pay for a replacement card.

If you get this in time, you should come to the Markesan Farmers' Market on July 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. The Kiwanis will have their annual pea and bean sale. The vegetables are cleaned, cut, washed and ready to process. Also at the Farmers Market will be the regular vendors, and for this Saturday's market only, the Library will have a booth. We will have our corn hole toss bags which are regulation size and weight, double stitched, heavy canvas and very well made. We will have one corn hole toss board available for you so you can try out the bags. Also we will have garden note cards, baby blankets, and cookies.

The Library book discussions have been covering a wide range of topics. Last month we read a non-fiction book called *The Girls of Atomic City* which was about the building of the atomic bomb. For July we are reading "Burial Rites" by Hannah Kent. It is a fictional account of Agnes Magnúsdóttir who was sentenced to be executed in Iceland in 1830. The reviews are excellent.

**Princeton** - The Princeton Library is about halfway done with its Summer Reading Program. Thus far we have had 10 library events, from magicians, to animals, to jumping rope, to movie showings, with an average of 40 kids at each program. In addition to increasing our programs for children significantly in the summer, we also have the prize giving arm of the Summer Reading Program. This involves having kids sign-up and each week that they complete a bingo sheet full of reading, learning, and exploring activities, they get a prize and help get the library closer to having a pizza party. Three weeks in we have had 68 children sign up, with over 60% of kids having turned at least one bingo sheet. They have already earned enough for a pizza party and so we are now collecting bingo sheets for an ice cream party to go along with our pizza. Additionally, in an effort to keep kids learning and thinking, the prizes this year are "make and take crafts". They have made Father's Day Cards, Patriotic Pudding Pops, and Kool-Aid Playdough thus far.

For fundraising efforts, we have almost sold all of our tickets for our Pig Roast and Raffle on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Once all the tickets have been sold, the library has a guarantee \$10,000 to be added to their expansion fund. We will also be hosting a 50/50 during the event, which should raise additional funds. We also have a Golf Outing coming up on August 8<sup>th</sup>. With silver and gold sponsors, along with 4 people teams, participants will be earning multiple prizes, while the library will also be looking to a significant financial increase in their fund. At our Meat Raffle last month we raised over \$550.

Finally, the excitement and busy-ness at the Princeton Library will most likely die down some in the coming months. I will be taking a three month maternity leave at the start of August (most likely). The library however, will still be providing its services and materials through the fall because of the excellent work of the staff.

This report briefly describes work completed during June 2016 within the Community Natural Resources and Economic Development (CNRED) Program. During the reporting period, I made 39 direct educational / professional contacts.

## **Organizational Development and Capacity Building**

**Strategic Plan: Green Lake County Health Department** I am nearing completion of my facilitation role with the Green Lake County Health Department Plan. A draft of the plan is currently being reviewed and edited by the project's lead team.

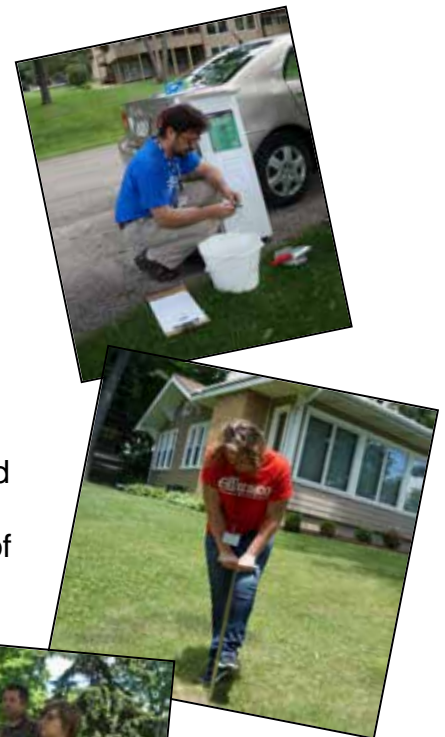
**Strategic Plan: Chamber of Commerce** I am currently facilitating another strategic planning process with a local chamber of commerce. I met with the group once during the planning period, with future meetings planned. The final plan is anticipated to be complete this fall.

**County Administrator Process Facilitation** I continue to provide research and process facilitation support to the newly appointed Green Lake County Ad Hoc County Administrator Committee. During the reporting period I facilitated the development of a first draft of the position description of the proposed new position.

**Customer Service training** I delivered a customer service training to a group from UMOS. A big part of UMOS mission is to reach underserved populations. In supporting office-wide efforts to ensure we meet civil rights requirements, I've been working to develop a positive relationship with this organization, by provided customer service training. Some workshop participants, serve low-income and minority populations in Green Lake County.

## **Natural Resource Stewardship**

**Lawn Care / Water Quality** I have started work on the grant deliverables. During the reporting period, Doug Soldat, a UW-Madison turfgrass state specialist came to Green Lake County and provided technical training to the team in Green Lake County. Our local team consists of people from UW-Extension (Ali, our summer Intern and myself) and Green Lake Association. I attended the Green Lake Association AGM during the reporting period to help promote the program. Other partners include Green Lake County Land Conservation and a Master Gardener. This pilot project will provide an individualized one-on-one educational experience to stakeholders living within close proximity to Big Green Lake. These stakeholder participants will be offered a free lawn site assessment and lawn soil test. The evaluation will also provide participants with tips they can easily use to reduce the likelihood of polluting Big Green Lake. The photos to the right are from the training session.





## **Educational Programming, Outreach and Promotion**

**Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committees (WACEC) Conference I**, along with the Committee Chair participated in this year's WACEC conference. I attended workshops on well water user study and, State mandated programming for families facing divorce. The Committee Chair was also in attendance and participated in the youth and families tour.

## **Professional development**

**Advance Leadership Program** I was invited by my CRD Colleague in Juneau County to attend the County's Advance Leadership Program graduation. I had the opportunity to interview a number of graduates of the program, as well as other stakeholders. In addition to learning about the program's history, I learned about program participants' motivation for joining this 8-month professional development program. As we transition to the multi-county area, collaborative programming in leadership may become an important emphasis, and I used this opportunity to gain better understanding of a successful program in our proposed area.

## **Out of County Days**

- 0.5 UMOS Training, Oshkosh
- 0.25 Advanced Leadership Program, Juneau Co.
- 1.0 WACEC, Wausau
- 0.75 Tenure Advisory Group Meeting, Stevens Point

### **Planned out-of-county days for next month.**

- 0.5 Intercounty Coordinating Committee Meeting, Dodge County



**Contacts**

Phone	E-mail	Face to Face
26	63	211

**Program Highlights**

**Green Lake County 4-H Leaders' Association**

Organized at the county level, the 4-H Leaders' Association works closely with the 4-H Youth Development Educator. The organization brings together volunteers and serves as a venue for volunteer leader training and an organizing mechanism in providing volunteer and financial support for educational opportunities for 4-H members and 4-H volunteers. I attended the Green Lake County 4-H Leaders' Association on Thursday, June 2, 2016 where we discussed updating the "Green Lake County 4-H Welcomes You!" signs and devised a plan for implementation. Promoting 4-H and engaging new families is critical for long-term sustainability and program impact.



**Four County 4-H Camp**

Working closely with UW-Extension staff from Adams, Marquette and Waushara counties, and took the lead in the coordination of Four County 4-H Base Camp. Activities included arts and crafts, nature hikes, archery, recreation, canoeing, swimming and camp fires. 4-H Camp offers several different experiences based on grade level. Here is the breakdown:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth participate in Base Camp (cabin camping)
- 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth participate in Outpost Camp (tent camping)
- 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> grade youth participate as counselors for Base Camp

Over 50 Green Lake County youth (including seven counselors) traveled to Upham Woods in the Wisconsin Dells and participated in camp this year.



**Base Camp**



**Outpost Camp**

### Wisconsin 4-H and Youth Conference

The Wisconsin 4-H and Youth Conference is an annual four-day conference that gives youth a chance to experience hands-on learning in a university campus atmosphere, strengthen life skills such as communication and leadership, gain knowledge to share back home, and exchange ideas and form friendships with youth from around the state. Over 500 youth and volunteers attend this annual event. At this year's conference, I co-



facilitated "It is Rocket Science" which was a hands-on workshop where youth participants learned how to safely build and launch a model rocket. In addition to this the hands-on experience, youth were also introduced to some of the basic science and engineering concepts that make rocket flight possible. 18 youth participated in the session.

### LEGO LAB at the Boys and Girls Club

I taught two sessions of the LEGO Lab at the Tri-County Boys and Girls Club in Berlin. The LEGO Lab is a hands-on program where youth participants are given a challenge and asked to build their own original creation in order to meet the challenge. In LEGO lab:

- problem solving and critical thinking skills are developed
- creativity and self-confidence are fostered
- architecture and engineering concepts are explored



24 Youth participated in the first two sessions.

### Did you know... 4-H Club/Group Excess Funds

For the purposes of this policy, "excess 4-H funds" are assets in excess of a chartered 4-H Club/Unit/Group's projected expenditures for one year, or \$1,000, whichever is greater. Chartered 4-H Clubs/Units/Groups shall hold no excess 4-H funds, unless that money is being saved for a specific programmatic objective that must be accomplished within 5 years and has been approved by the 4-H Youth Development Educator.

### Days Outside Green Lake County

July 7, 2016	UMOS Meeting	Oshkosh
July 27, 2016	ICC Meeting	Dodge County

This report briefly describes the work that was completed within the Family Living Program in June of 2016. During the reporting period, the educator made 268 direct educational and professional contacts.

### **Educational Programming, Networking and Outreach in the Local Community**

#### *Intro to Canning Basics – Berlin Public Library*

On June 2, I taught a canning class at the Berlin Public Library for 13 individuals. I presented on the basics of both boiling water bath canning and pressure canning. This class was part one of a three part series. The other two classes will be held in July and in August, and will cover canning jams and canning salsas. These classes will be more of a hands-on demonstration than an educational presentation. I am looking forward to my continued partnership with the Berlin Public Library.

#### *Girl Club – Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area*



In mid-June, I began teaching a program at the Boys & Girls Club in Berlin, to 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls, called Girl Club. Girl Club is a self-esteem program which follows a curriculum from San Diego called Girls Only. It is a prevention education toolkit designed to promote self-esteem, develop life skills, and inspire positive motivation in young girls. During my first session, I had 20 participants. I will meet with the group of young girls seven times this summer. Our lessons will cover bullying, self-image, elements of a healthy body, making good choices, safe practices, healthy feelings and relationships.

#### *Home Food Preservation Demonstrations (Canning and Freezing) – Green Lake Farmers Market, Berlin Farmers and Artists Market*

This month I began my monthly food preservation series at both the Green Lake Farmers Market and the Berlin Farmers and Artists Market. I demonstrated how to preserve berries in the form of jam. Participants learned about food preservation through canning and freezing. I had 9 individuals participate in Green Lake on June 17, and 17 individuals participate in Berlin on June 28. I will continue to be at each farmers market once per month, demonstrating how to preserve different types of fruits and vegetables.



#### *Green Lake County Employee Wellness Fair – Department of Health, Nurses' Screening Room*

At the end of June, I participated in the Green Lake County employee wellness fair which was put on by the public health team. I created a display board with educational information on checking your credit report.



Several people commented on the evaluations that they had learned something from my table or from talking with me at the wellness fair. There were a record number of 86 attendees at this year's western themed event.



## **Networking within UW Extension and Professional Development Opportunities**

I made 78 contacts within the UW Extension system during the month of June. I continue to have a number of professional meetings scheduled with colleagues and mentors to continue to network and learn from my fellow Extension educators. I expect these meetings to continue to assist in my growth within my role in Green Lake County.

### *Active Community Workshop – Holiday Inn, Stevens Point*

I attended the Active Communities Workshop in Stevens Point that was organized by Department of Health Services. It was a one-day workshop that included sessions on bike-friendly and walk-friendly communities, and walk audits. I learned a lot about partnering with local agencies to create active communities within a county.

**Replacing short car trips, less than 5 miles, with biking in the Upper Midwest will save \$8.7 million annually through improved air quality and increased physical activity.**

### *Active Communities Workgroup Meeting – Pyle Center, Madison*

I currently co-chair the Active Communities Workgroup which falls under the Healthy Living State Team for Extension. We held our second face-to-face meeting in Madison at the end of June. We were able to discuss programming efforts and professional development opportunities, as well as, work on the workgroup's projects. A new physical activity program called Stronger Together was introduced to our group. I may pilot the program in Green Lake County this fall.

## **Newspaper Articles**

“Making Sense of Food Product Dates.” Berlin Journal Newspapers. June 27, 2016. By Katie Gellings, Family Living Educator

## **Out of County Days**

- 1 Out of county days for this month (Active Communities Workshop in Stevens Point – 1; Active Communities Workgroup Meeting in Madison – 1)
- 1½ Out of county days scheduled for July (Presentation at UMOS Staff Training in Oshkosh – ½; Dollars During Development Workgroup Meeting in Oshkosh – 1)

Nav Ghimire, Green Lake County, Agriculture Agent, June 2016.

### Educational Contacts

In the month of May, a total of 53 educational contacts were made with extension clients. Of the total contacts, face to face contacts were 46 (meetings, walk-in, farm visits). Remaining contacts were phone calls, emails, and mailings. Of the total contacts, females were 18. The main areas of concern during that period were winter squash handling, vegetable disease and insects, home horticulture, and disposal of agriculture plastics from dairy and livestock farms.

### FREE, On-Farm Ag and Silage Plastic Recycling Program

Finding opportunities to provide verities of services to tax payers in the county is an important task of an agriculture agent. A Tennessee based Revolutionary Plastic company has agreed to provide free ag plastic collection, disposal, and recycling services to dairy and livestock farmers in Green Lake County, after I conferred with the company representative on third week of June.

Depending on our location and plastic use, Revolution Plastics will spot and empty a dumpster on a farm or dairy at no cost to the farmers. The program is limited to the collection of the following approved plastics: silage plastics (used bale wrap, ag/ grain bags, most bunker covers and oxygen barrier film); ag plastics, used irrigation tape and tubing, greenhouse, hoop house, fumigation and other cover films. The plan is to pick up the used plastic every four to six weeks. In some cases farmers may need to work together to fill a dumpster in this time frame. The collected plastics are recycled in Green County, WI land-fill. The round bales of recycled plastics are then transported to Tennessee to produce garbage bags. To learn details and to sign-up for the program, farmers need to go to the following website [www.RevolutionPlastics.com](http://www.RevolutionPlastics.com)



Fig 1: Revolutionary Plastic Dumpster Placed on a Farm and Collected Ag Plastics

## Tri-County Produce Auction:

**Growers Meeting on Winter Squash:** The growers meeting on Winter Squash was conducted in Tri-County Produce Auction barn located at County Rd H, Dalton. The UW-Plant Pathology Department horticulture expert Dr. Erin Silva presented the methods of harvesting, handling, and storing winter squash. There were more than 40 farmers and their spouses participating in the workshop. The presentation was done without projector and screen to pay the respect to Amish culture. Participants received printed handouts of the presentation.



Fig 1: Growers Meeting on Harvesting and Handling Winter Squash

**Ag Extension Committee Visit to Tri-County Produce Auction:** The Tri-County Produce Auction Board has agreed to welcome the Green Lake County Board Chair and Ag Extension Committee members to produce auction on **August 3 at 10am**. The Auction Board will provide a tour of the auction barn to visitors and will present how this produce action is serving the regional community food system in the area. The visit will be about 2 hour long.

**Produce Sold in the Auction:** As the growing season is maturing, flower sale is substituted by the produce like zucchini, potato, and beans. The fruits like raspberry are appealing the small buyers who buy for family consumption.



## Out of County Days

July 7 – State Level Program Evaluation Meeting, Wausau

July 13 - CWAS Meeting, Stevens Point

Planned Out of County Days = 2