



EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MARATHON COUNTY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, December 1, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location: **Courthouse Assembly Room, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Committee Members: Rick Seefeldt, Chair; Becky Buch, Vice-Chair; David Baker; Bobby Niemeyer; Tom Rosenberg; Kim Ungerer; Yee Leng Xiong

Marathon County Mission Statement: *Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)*

Committee Mission Statement: *Provide the leadership for implementation of the Strategic Plan, monitoring outcomes, reviewing, and recommending to the County Board all policies related to educational and economic development initiatives of Marathon County.*

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number:

Phone #: 1-408-418-9388

Access Code: 146 235 4571

When you enter the telephone conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!**

The meeting will also be broadcast on Public Access or at <https://tinyurl.com/MarathonCountyBoard>

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment** *(Any person who wishes to address the committee during the "Public Comment" portion of meetings, must provide his or her name, address, and the topic he or she wishes to present to the Marathon County Clerk, or chair of the committee, no later than five minutes before the start of the meeting. All comments must be germane to the jurisdiction of the committee)*
- 4. Approval of the Minutes of the October 6, 2022, Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee Meeting.**
- 5. Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination:**
 - A. Continued discussion of recommendations to Executive Committee for updates to the strategies, objectives, and expected outcomes found in the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan.
 1. Potential New Strategies and Outcome Measures for Objective 10.6.
- 6. Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, Resolution or Policy: None**
- 7. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion**
 - A. MCDEVCO's Monthly Report
 - B. Library Monthly Report
 - C. UW-Extension Monthly Report
 - D. UWSP-Extension Report
- 8. Announcements:**
 - A. Future meetings and agenda items: Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 5, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

**Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk's Office at 261-1500 or e-mail countyclerk@co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting*

SIGNED /s/ Rick Seefeldt
Presiding Officer or Designee

EMAILED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and other Media Groups

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE _____

EMAILED BY: _____

BY: _____

DATE & TIME: _____

DATE & TIME: _____



MARATHON COUNTY EXTENSION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, October 6, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location: **Courthouse Assembly Room, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

Committee Members:

Rick Seefeldt	Present
Becky Buch	Present
David Baker	Present
Bobby Niemeyer	Present
Tom Rosenberg	Present (3:45)
Kim Ungerer	Present
Crystal Bushman	WebEx

Staff Present – Kim Trueblood, Dave Mack, Dejan Adzic, Jason Hausler, Leah Giordano

Others Present – Kimm Weber, Supervisor Lemmer

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment - None**
- 4. Approval of the Minutes of the September 1, 2022 Extension, Education & Economic Development Committee Meeting** – Motion by Buch, Second by Niemeyer to approve the minutes. Motion carried on a voice vote unanimously.
- 5. Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination:**
 - Continued Discussion of Recommendations to Executive Committee for updates to the Strategies, Objectives, and Expected Outcomes Found in the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan
 - Educational Presentation on Proposed Kowalski Rd / I-39 Interchange – CPZ Planning Manager Dave Mack gave a Power Point regarding the interchange concept that has been going on for many years. Power Point will be added to the meeting packet. Discussion was had and questions were asked and answered. Supervisor Baker stated why he feels this is necessary from an economic development standpoint for the Village of Kronenwetter. Additional questions were asked and answered.
 - Updates to Objective 10.6 and 10.8 – Supervisor Baker went over his proposed changes and updates to both objectives. Details are in the packet.

Outcome Measure 10.8 - Discussion was had and questions were asked and answered. Suggestion was made to change “private full-time” to “private sector full-time” in Proposed Outcome Measure 3. Motion by Baker, Second by Niemeyer to forward Objective 10.8 as amended to the Executive Committee. Motion carried on a voice vote, unanimously.

Outcome Measure 10.6 – Discussion was had and questions were asked and answered. Proposed Alternate Outcome Measure 2 was withdrawn due to lack of communication with NTC. The Simple Update is what is being considered to forward to the Executive Committee. Motion by Baker, Second by Buch to forward the proposed updates to the Executive Committee, leaving Strategy A & B as is. Change to Alternate Outcome Measure 1 and Simple Update for Outcome Measure 2. Motion carried on a roll call vote, unanimously.
- 6. Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, Resolution or Policy: None**

7. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

- A. Discussion of Wisconsin Counties' Association conference presentation on Housing & Homelessness – Chair Seefeldt and Supervisor Lemmer summarized the workshop presented at the Wisconsin Counties Association conference in September. Deputy Corp Counsel Dejan Adzic also spoke about some of the barriers for affordable housing. Discussion was had and questions were asked and answered. Link to the slide presentation given at the conference was emailed to the committee members.
- B. MCDEVCO's Monthly Report – Kimm Weber gave a summary of the McDevco report as provided in the packet. Occupancy at the business incubator is steadily increasing.
- C. UW-Extension Monthly Report – Jason Hausler gave a summary of the UW-Extension report as provided in the packet. October is National 4-H week.
- D. Library Monthly Report – Leah Giordano gave a summary of the Library report as provided in the packet.

8. Next Meeting Time, Location, Announcements and Agenda Items:

- A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting Thursday, November 3, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. Chair Seefeldt stated that he may not be available for the November meeting dependent on the weather. Supervisor Buch will be unavailable, so stay tuned for details on that meeting.

9. Adjournment – Motion by Rosenberg, Second by Buch to adjourn. Motion carried on a voice vote unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Kim Trueblood, Marathon County Clerk

MCDEVCO, Inc. – November 2022 Report

GAP FINANCING

MCDEVCO continues to work with businesses throughout Marathon County to provide *GAP* financing.

MCDEVCO Economic Development Updates:

- Marketing Workshop Attendees: 12
- Successful Selling Attendees: 10
- Women's Read Attendees: 4
- UW Law Business Law Basics Attendees: 15
- 16 Week *GEARS* Certificate of Excellence Attendees: 17
- Women's Leadership Program Attendees: 11
- POWTS Update
- *GAP* Loan Program Update

COVID-19 GRANTS

MCDEVCO continues to administrate the Marathon County Microbusiness Grant.

- Total Grantees Awarded: 36
- Total Amount Disbursed to Marathon County Businesses: \$180,000.00
- MCDEVCO is still marketing, receiving and processing these applications.



**Marathon County
Microbusiness**

Grant is designated for microbusinesses with five or less employees that were affected by COVID-19.

GRANT
CLICK Here for more information or to apply.

Business must be located in Marathon County, WI - outside of the City of Wausau to apply.

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT

2022 Educational Programming

MCDEVCO has had great success with its 2022 Programming Calendar.

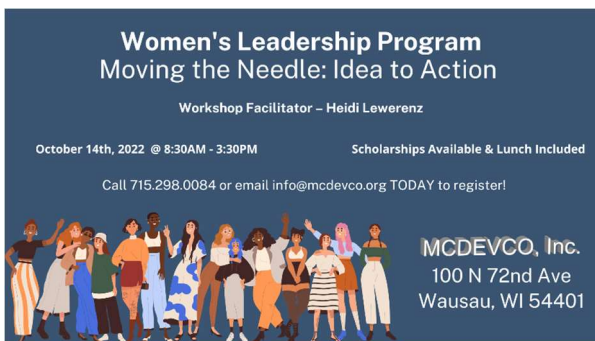
PAST EVENTS:

- **March 5, 2022:** HWCC Networking Event and Tour of EEC.
- **March 29, 2022:** DC Everest Youth Entrepreneur Field Trip of EEC and MCDEVCO.
- **May 12th and May 19th:** Marketing Workshop led by Elina VanNatta of 712 Creative.
- **June 1st and June 8, 2022:** Successful Selling in 2022 with Tim McKeough of Q Up Success.
- **June 28th:** MCDEVCO spoke with a group of upcoming graduates at the Wisconsin School of Cosmetology about starting businesses.
- **August 10th:** UW Madison Law, in partnership with MCDEVCO, presented a Business Law Basics Event which consisted of a Q and A session as well as one on one mentoring sessions with Supervising Attorney Jeffrey Glazer and two UW Madison Law Students.

- **August 23, 2022:** Mosinee Chamber of Commerce in partnership with MCDEVCO hosted an Information Session to highlight economic development resources available to businesses through MCDEVCO as well as at the Entrepreneurial & Education Center.
- **September 24, 2022:** MCDEVCO attended a resource session presented by the Hmong American Center, educating local business owners about the grants and loans available to them through MCDEVCO.
- **October 14, 2022:** *Moving the Needle: Idea to Action.* MCDEVCO hosted a workshop for women entrepreneurs to celebrate Women's Small Business Month in partnership with Heidi Lewerenz of HL Strategies.

UPCOMING & CURRENT EVENTS:

- **Monthly:** MCDEVCO will be partnering with the DC Everest Junior High School Youth Entrepreneur Program on a monthly basis to enhance the curriculum as it relates to business start-up and expansion for youth entrepreneurs.
- **September 13th through December 19, 2022:** 16 Week *GEARS* Certificate of Entrepreneurial Excellence Program.
- **November 2nd & December 7, 2022:** MCDEVCO is hosting follow up sessions in response to the Women's Leadership Program held on October 14, 2022 to further discuss how attendees are moving the needle, turning ideas into action.
- **December 13, 2022:** Quarterly Information Session for New Business Owners



Municipalities

MCDEVCO hosted a Municipality Meeting on October 19, 2022 and continues to host them quarterly.

EEC Management

Occupancy Update:

- January 2021 Occupancy: 61%
- December 2021 Occupancy: 74%
- September 2022 Occupancy: 84%
- October 2022 Occupancy: 84%

Kim Weber, Executive Director - MCDEVCO



Monthly Summary of the Marathon County Public Library for the Marathon County Extension, Education, and Economic Development Committee

December 2022

Wausau Police Community Outreach Specialist Collaboration

Starting November 7th, the Marathon County Public Library will begin a weekly partnership with Tracy Rieger, the Community Outreach Specialist from the Wausau Police Department. This collaboration began because of MCPL's own dedication to community involvement and outreach.

Taylor, Children's Librarian, was introduced to Tracy at an event for the Boys and Girls Club in late August. Taylor demonstrated exactly why our staff attend outreach events; outreach provides an opportunity for us to connect with resources that can transform lives, and Tracy provides just that kind of service to Marathon County.

Tracy began her position at the Wausau PD in September, and Katelyn, Library Services Manager, reached out to her in early October. After a brief in-person meeting at the library, Tracy and Katelyn formed a plan to support Marathon County Public Library patrons experiencing homelessness. Because Tracy's focus is providing resources for the unhoused community, she must constantly be out in the community serving the public. Beginning November 7th, Tracy will hold office hours at the library every Monday and Thursday. She will meet regularly with our patrons experiencing homelessness to connect them with a growing network of support available for them in Marathon County.

This partnership is a huge asset to the Marathon County Public Library and the Wausau community. According to the 2019-2021 LIFE Report, 3,069 families and 2,217 children are living in poverty in Marathon Countyⁱ. In 2021 alone, 850 individuals sought emergency shelter, Ben Lee of United Way of Marathon County reported in February of this yearⁱⁱ. Our collaboration with Tracy will bring much-needed support directly to unhoused individuals who utilize the public library.

MCPL Notary Services

There are some questions that you just seem to get over and over again when working the public desk. At the Marathon County Public Library, one of those questions is, "Is there a notary here?"

The answer to that question used to be “no,” but since September 2021, MCPL has offered notary services at its Wausau Headquarters and it’s a resource that has been incredibly popular.

After years of patron inquiries and requests, Adult Services Librarian Julie Kinney took the steps needed to become a certified Wisconsin Notary Public. Notary services are offered on a walk-in basis, in coordination with Kinney’s work schedule. The service is offered to the public for free, whereas many banks and other institutions with a notary charge a fee or require you to be a member.

In a given month, MCPL sees an average of 15-20 patrons seeking a notary. That number has continued to increase in recent months, with more than 20 patrons seeking a notary in August and September. Common items that need notarizing include immigration papers, auto titling forms, property and real estate documents, wills and end-of-life directives.

To learn more about MCPL’s notary services, call 715-261-7230. To find a notary in your area, visit www.wdfi.org/apps/NotarySearch.



Library Services

Outreach was a big focus for the library this month. Our Youth Services team partnered with the Wausau School District Gifted and Talented Leadership program to give students a tour of headquarters on October 18. The fifth-grade students who toured the library and met with staff expressed their gratitude in several handmade thank-you cards. Other outreach highlights include the following: Taylor, Children’s Librarian, attended the Head Start Resource Fair on October 20 to provide parents and families with information about the library. Elizabeth, Library Specialist, was invited by Trinity Lutheran School to speak to a kindergarten class as part of a series on community helpers. Chad, Library Specialist, was asked to speak about the library to local AARP Chapter 272; Chad presented on library programs, services, and more on October 17. Nikki, Athens Branch Coordinator, reached out to a local assisted living center to offer library services to residents. All of our outreach activities this month supported our goal of enriching lives by promoting lifelong learning and actively providing the community with access to ideas, information, and opportunities to connect.

MCPL offered several popular programs this month. We welcomed the Wausau Fire Department to the library during story time; firefighters explained fire safety, gave families a firetruck tour, answered questions, and showed off their gear to the delight of kids and parents alike. Pokémon Club met a second time with a strong group of very excited families. During the two days of no classes in October,

school-aged kids enjoyed a scavenger hunt and other activities celebrating the popular Dog Man book series. Two beginning computer classes were offered at headquarters to adult learners new to technology; the classes were well-attended and the series will continue, and potentially be offered at other branches, in 2023.

Branches

Grab and Go craft kits continue to be popular at all locations. Last month, we handed out numerous geometric sculpture craft kits for kids and soap in a sweater craft kits for adults. Creative book displays were featured at all locations including ones like “Reading Makes You Sharp,” “Once Upon a Crime,” “Spook-tober,” “Football Fans”, and “Pet Adoption Month.”

In Athens, 5 different school groups are visiting the library for checkouts, book talks, and crafts either every week or every other week on recurring days and times. In Stratford, Pre-K – 8th graders from a local private school are also visiting the library a few times a month. We are very happy to welcome back local school groups at all locations.

The Mosinee branch started hosting artwork from the Mosinee School District again and currently have a display of artwork from 3rd grade, all artwork centered around the artist Piet Mondrian, which features primary colors, bold black lines, and shapes. We love how the artwork brightens our children’s area in the library, and how families come and stop by to see their child’s work featured! The Rothschild Branch is hoping to start a similar partnership soon.

In Stratford, children and adults enjoyed our Frankenslime Family Fun Night on Oct. 18. Participants could design their own container and create their own spooky slime concoction while enjoying some fun spooky music and socializing. Thirty-seven children, six young adults and 18 adults attended this event.

Spencer has had their first teen sign up for MCPL’s “100 Books Before Graduation” program. She has hit her first goal of 20 books and received a teen backpack. “Cribbage at the Library” has also returned to Spencer! Seven adults came to have a fun filled time taking turns playing two handed and three handed cribbage.

Many MCPL staff members have filled in and covered shifts in a variety of locations this month. We greatly appreciate all of the help and teamwork! In other staffing news, Laura attended interviews for the open 30 hour branch assistant position in Rothschild on 10/7. Ersa, the Rothschild 20 hour assistant, has been promoted to the 30 hour position. Congratulations

Ersa! Wanda W. was hired as our new 20 hour assistant in Rothschild and started MCPL orientation on 10/31. We are excited to welcome Wanda to our team!

**Thank you to Katelyn, WVLS, and Laura for your updates and contributions.*

ⁱ https://www.marathoncountypulse.org/content/sites/marathon/2019-2021_Marathon_County_LIFE_Report_2019-01-06.pdf

ⁱⁱ <https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2022/02/23/build-more-affordable-housing-units-suggest-wausau-task-force-members/>



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

November 2022 Report

*We teach, learn, lead, and serve,
connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with
them in transforming lives and communities.*

4-H – Positive Youth Development

Holly Luerksen, 4-H Program Educator

Jasmine Carbajal, 4-H Associate Educator

- An educational session where youth 3rd grade and up learned about the importance of calcium in our diets, dairy foods, basic food safety skills in a kitchen, and cooked tostadas and a healthier version of fried ice cream. The goal of this effort is for youth to build confidence when cooking in the kitchen and to try new foods.
- An interactive educational session in partnership with H2N (Hmong Hispanic Communication Network) for 4-H youth in 7th grade and older, 4-H educators, and 4-H volunteers at 4-H Fall Forum 2022 that taught them how to make tamales and learned tips about working with Latinx communities. One of the goals of 4-H Fall Forum is to promote strategies for youth and adults to reach underserved and underrepresented groups.
- An educational session on Day of the Dead for youth in kindergarten and older at a local Wausau elementary school to expose members to the history of day of the dead, key components to the Mexican holiday, painted sugar skulls, and made marigold flowers. The goal of this effort was to engage youth in fun educational content about other cultures while sharing information about Extension programming in their communities.
- An educational session on Day of the Dead was presented to youth in kindergarten and older at the local Marathon City restaurant to expose members to the history of day of the dead, key components to the Mexican holiday, and painted sugar skulls.
- An educational session on Day of the Dead for adolescent youth at the local Boys and Girls club to expose members to the history of day of the dead, key components to the Mexican holiday, and painted sugar skulls.
- An educational session on Day of the Dead was presented to 4-H youth at the Marathon County Badger 4-H club to expose members to the history of day of the dead, key components to the Mexican holiday, and painted sugar skulls.
- A 4-H Leaders Federation development training for 4-H volunteers and youth to create plans to improve club engagement through connections and a properly planned meeting with business, education, and recreation in order to build a sense of purpose, engagement, and welcoming in their clubs and groups.
- A multi-county digital scavenger hunt (the 2022 National 4-H Goosechase) for 4-H members, families, volunteers, and leaders where participants worked as a team to complete missions related to 4-H. The goal was to engage Marathon and Wood Counties participants in fun, educational, and technology-based 4-H programming.
- A 4-H Teen Bowling party to engage youth in Marathon County that are in 7th grade or older. The goal of the event was for participants to work as a team, recruit new 4-H members, and offer a new type of 4-H event while partnering with a local business.
- An educational session where youth 3rd grade and up learned about the importance of reading a recipe, basic knife skills when cutting vegetables, and using naan bread to make a chicken flatbread. The goal of this effort is for youth to build confidence when cooking in the kitchen and to try new foods.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

November 2022 Report

Agriculture

Heather Schlessner, Dairy Agent

- Planning farmer biosecurity preparedness with Wisconsin Department of Ag Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) emergency services and animal health officials to improve economic sustainability for dairy and livestock producers following a foreign animal disease event.
- Planning for a dairy/ livestock production meeting for women farmers. The goal of this effort is to educate women farmers on various production methods, so that they can keep their farms profitable or implement new enterprises to keep their farm profitable.
- Planning for a regional summit for agricultural professionals, health care workers, and mental health care workers in collaboration with various community partners depending on the region of the state. The goal of this effort is to bring health care workers, mental health care workers, and agricultural professionals together to discuss resources and potential gaps in providing care to farmers relating to farm stress so that we can identify what gaps exist and how to fill these gaps with resources from across the state.
- A training for emergency response personnel in the Planning for Emergency Livestock Transportation Response (PELTR) course where they learned how to respond to incidents involving livestock trailers. The purpose of this program is to increase the effectiveness of emergency planning and the preparedness of local emergency response agencies.
- A statewide webinar series (Badger Dairy Insight) for dairy farmers, employees, industry representatives promoting the latest research based information.
- Planning for the bi-annual 2023 Midwest Manure Summit conference for farmers, consultants, engineers, and other agribusiness industry professionals. The goal of this effort is to show innovation, research, and solutions in handling dairy manure in an environmentally and financially sustainable manner so that farmers can protect the environment and community.
- Planning for a survey of QuickBooks users in collaboration with other educators that are part of the North Central Extension Risk Management Education grant. The goal of this effort is to identify what areas of training are needed in QuickBooks, so those producers can have a better financial understanding of their farming operations.
- Planning for bi-annual Midwest Manure Summit for farmers, managers, agronomists, engineers, nutrient management consultants, manure haulers, consultants, and other agri-business professionals. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals the latest, unbiased, university-based research on manure handling technologies, so that they can improve environmental sustainability and increase farm business viability.

FoodWise

Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator

Gaonou Thao, FoodWise Educator

- A monthly nutrition/food demo series for Hmong elders participating in the Hmong American Center in Marathon and Portage County, where participants taste new foods and learn healthy ways to prepare them. The purpose of this program is to improve the quality of their families' diet and increase their ability to manage their food resources.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

November 2022 Report

- A monthly nutrition/food demo series for Hmong women participating in a domestic abuse support group through The Women's Community where participants taste new foods and learn healthy ways to prepare them. The purpose of this program is to improve the quality of their families' diet and increase their ability to manage their food resources. Participants learn how to incorporate cultural foodways with healthier choices, like replacing white rice with a healthier whole grain in traditional recipes.
- FoodWise team members from Marathon, Clark, Portage and Wood Counties joined a carrot harvest hosted by the United Way's Marathon County Hunger Coalition. Over 1,000 lbs of carrots were donated by Red Door Family Farm in Athens, and volunteers harvested, washed, and packed carrots that will be donated to local food pantries.
- A monthly Healthy Eating class for adults with limited incomes where participants learn to improve the quality of their families' diet and increase their ability to manage their food resources. The goal of the lessons is for participants to increase their intake of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains and increase their willingness to try or prepare new foods.
- FoodWise team supported local Boys and Girls Club Trunk or Treat event by handing out clementines, children's books and flyers for upcoming events.



Horticulture

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- A class for participants aged 55+, where participants learned the basics of landscape design principles. The goal of this effort was to increase participants' well-being through successful gardening.
- A presentation for the general public where participants learned best practices in planning sensory gardens for specific audiences, including an emphasis on co creation and universal design. The goal of this effort was to empower individuals with resources and best practices in garden outreach.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARATHON COUNTY

November 2022 Report

- A presentation for Dodge County Master Gardeners, where participants learned the importance of genetic diversity, the definitions of the terms heirloom, open pollinated, hybrid and GMO through the seed stories of these crops. This effort is designed to increase awareness and knowledge of resources to address environmental contamination and pollution.
- A class for members of the Mosinee community, where participants learned the requirements when planting bulbs for forcing, including the chilling process. The goal of this effort was to increase participants' well-being through successful gardening.
- A class for participants aged 55+, where participants learned the requirements when planting bulbs for forcing, including the chilling process. The goal of this effort was to increase participants' well-being through successful gardening.
- An online webinar for consumer horticulture audiences across the state where participants learned about growing requirements for common gift plants, including how water and humidity can impact plant health.
- An educational session on Day of the Dead for youth in kindergarten and older at a local Wausau elementary school to expose members to the history of day of the dead, key components to the Mexican holiday, painted sugar skulls, and made marigold flowers. The goal of this effort was to engage youth in fun educational content about other cultures while sharing information about Extension programming in their communities.
- An in person horticulture course where Marathon County Master Gardener Volunteer Trainees learn the fundamental principles of integrated pest management based gardening. The goal of this course is to increase awareness and knowledge of resources to address environmental contamination and pollution due to overuse of horticulture chemicals in urban and suburban environments.
- An online course for consumer audiences (home gardeners) where participants learned fundamental knowledge of Wisconsin horticulture with an emphasis in Integrated Pest Management. The goal is to increase decision-making and problem-solving skills, improve the productivity / health of gardens and landscapes, and to implement gardening practices that have a positive impact on the environment.
- A therapeutic horticulture program (Gaining Ground Garden) for Marathon County residents with court mandated community service hours, where participants learned gardening skills to increase the use of positive self-management practices (self-care and wellbeing activities).
- A social media outreach campaign for consumer gardeners in Wisconsin, where Facebook and Instagram users engaged with Extension resources, including the UW-Madison Extension Horticulture Topic Hub publications and YouTube videos. This effort is designed to increase awareness and knowledge of resources to address environmental contamination and pollution (due to overuse of horticulture chemicals in urban and suburban environments).
- Planning for a multi county educational program series for community gardeners. The goal of this effort is to increase gardeners' knowledge, promote best gardening practices and provide university based resources to community gardeners, which improves the health and productivity of their garden plots.



Natural Resources

Kris Tiles, NRI Program Manager

I'm very excited to announce that we have a new Central WI Natural Resources Educator based in Wisconsin Rapids. We welcomed Anna James in late October. She will be working with various groups to address nonpoint source water quality issues. This will include working with EPPIC, Common Ground, Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Conference, and the Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative.



Anna began her natural resources career in 2020, as Water Resource Specialist for Adams County Land & Water Conservation. During her time as Water Resource Specialist, Anna developed and supported citizen science groups, watershed restoration projects, producer-led watershed initiatives, and water quality monitoring efforts. Anna holds a Bachelor of Science degree in conservation management from Upper Iowa University. In her off time, Anna enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, and many other outdoor activities, but you can find her at her happiest when she is watching the sunrise from a duck blind!

Please feel free to reach out to Anna and welcome her at anna.m.james@wisc.edu

Upcoming Programs

- 4-H December Programming – [Information at marathon.extension.wisc.edu/projects/programs/](http://marathon.extension.wisc.edu/projects/programs/)
- FoodWise Healthy Eating Series – Contact Gaonou Thao at gaonou.thao@wisc.edu
- Caring for December Plants – December 8, 6pm at the Mosinee Community Education Center or December 14, 1pm at The Landing at Woodson YMCA.

Jason Hausler <i>Area Extension Director</i>	Janell Wehr <i>Horticulture Educator</i>	Kathy Johnson <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Heather Schlessner <i>Dairy Agent</i>	Mallory McGivern <i>FoodWise Administrator</i>	
Holly Luerssen <i>4-H Program Educator</i>	Gaonou Thao <i>FoodWise Educator</i>	
Jasmine Carbajal <i>4-H Associate Educator</i>	Kris Tiles <i>NRI Program Manager</i>	



Wausau UW-Stevens Point

Report to the Extension, Education, and Economic Development Committee

December 2022

1. **Taste of Jamaica-** Taste of Jamaica is open Monday-Thursday (11am-2pm) and Friday (11am-7pm)
2. **Fall 2023 Enrollment** -Our fall 2023 applications and admits are up from this time last year. We are working to provide more concurrent high school courses spring 2023 and fall 2023. We are also working on a “finish up” campaign. This campaign targets students who have stopped out but are close to finishing their bachelors or associates degree.
3. **The Community’s Campus-** we want to be a resource to the community. Because of this, we have hosted several events recently that were opened to the public. These events included: The Candidate Forum, Dr. Jessica B. Harris presentation, Conversation on Childcare, Hank Talks, Women Trailblazers and Entrepreneurs Conference, etc. Please let us know how we can be a resource for you!
4. **Upcoming Events**
Thursday, December 1st at 7pm: Winter Choral Concert
Sunday, December 11th at 7pm: Winter Band Concert
5. **Degree Programs Offered** – Below is a list of the degree programs we offer on the Wausau campus.
 - a. Associate Degrees
Associate of Arts and Sciences Degree
Human Services
Leadership and Project Mgt
Pre-Engineering
 - b. Bachelors programs
Business Administration
Nursing
Social Work
Sociology
Engineering (UW-Platteville Partnership)
 - c. Master’s Degrees
Business Administration (Main Campus)

Physician Assistant Program (UW-Madison Partnership)
Social Work (UW-Green Bay Partnership)

Submitted by Ozalle Toms, Campus Executive