



Sheboygan County
Planning, Resources,
Agriculture &
Extension Committee

Fran Damp
Chairperson

Keith Abler
Vice-Chairperson

James Baumgart
Paul Gruber
Henry Nelson
Board Members

Stanley Lammers
Citizen Member



Use your phone, iPad
or tablet camera to
scan the code above
to find UWEX on the
web! (Barcode Reader
or Google Goggle
apps may be needed.)

Extension
Sheboygan County
5 University Drive
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-459-5900

University of Wisconsin,
United States Department
of Agriculture, and
Wisconsin Counties
cooperating.

An AA/EEO employer,
UW-Madison Division of
Extension provides equal
opportunities in employ-
ment and programming,
including Title VI, Title IX
and ADA requirements.

Extension Sheboygan County

Community Development Education

Kevin Struck, Community Development Educator

The [Town of Sheboygan Falls](#) has been working with Kevin for over a year to obtain state recertification of their [farmland preservation zoning](#). This process helps to 1) modernize community zoning ordinances, 2) promote soil and nutrient “best management” practices, 3) puts in place a framework and policies for preserving farmland, and 4) provides financial incentives to farmers who voluntarily participate in the program.



Although the Town borders the growing City of Sheboygan Falls, is home to the County airport, and is bisected by a 4-lane state highway, there are still many thousands of acres of farmland and natural resource areas, especially along the Sheboygan River, that merit preservation.

As part of the zoning ordinance/map update, Kevin composed and mailed over 160 letters to landowners of nonconforming parcels carefully explaining why their property was being rezoned. In most cases, their parcels were much too small to meet the 35-acre minimum lot size for the A-1 district. Thanks to this effort, these properties will now be zoned more appropriately.

Of the 160+ letter recipients, 13 phoned Kevin with questions and/or concerns. Kevin then worked with Town officials to help find mutually acceptable solutions, which typically involved assigning a different zoning district than first proposed.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

June
2019
IMPACT
REPORT

Extension Sheboygan County Staff

920.459.5900

Michael J. Ballweg
Agriculture Educator

Jane E. Jensen
Human Development &
Relationships Educator

Sarah J. Tarjeson
4-H Youth
Development Educator

Linda Robson
4-H
Program Coordinator

Kevin Struck
Community Development
Educator

Amanda Miller
FoodWise Coordinator
(shared with Fond du Lac)

Janeth Orozco
FoodWise Nutrition
Educator

Administrative Assistants

Ann Herzog
Tammy Zorn
Nancy Brown

Area Extension Director

Cindy Sarkady

4-H Youth Development

Sarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator Linda Robson, 4-H Program Coordinator

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development staff are partnering with schools and other community based organizations to improve the quality and quantity of Afterschool programs.

Expected Outcomes of the [4-H Afterschool Program](#) include:

- Staff and volunteers improve their ability to offer high quality care, education, and developmental experiences for youth.
- Teens, adult volunteers, and afterschool staff adapt 4-H curriculum and share 4-H project skills with youth.
- Youth improve their communications, decision-making, teamwork, and other life skills.
- Active and self-sustaining 4-H Afterschool Clubs improve the quality and community support for afterschool programs.



Sheboygan County 4-H Afterschool Programs at **Jefferson Elementary School** and **Seton Catholic School** take place weekly at each school. This program has encouraged youth participants to explore several project areas such as Photography, Animal Science, Robotics, Aerospace, and more. These programs reach approximately 60 youth in grades 3-5 each week. These schools were identified because they serve one of the most ethnically rich and diverse residential communities within the City of Sheboygan.

The partnership at Jefferson Elementary School has been in place for over a year and staff are negotiating the details to continue programming next year. Seton Catholic School administrator Dr. Stephanie Nardi approached Extension in 2018 seeking programming focusing on science and technology based skills. The Seton Pride 4-H Club was developed to respond to this need.



Extension Sheboygan County

Human Development and Relationships & FoodWise

Jane Jensen, Human Development and Relationships Educator

Using an Atmospheric Steam Canner

The University of Wisconsin-Madison conducted research, funded by the National Center for Home Food Preservation, showing that an Atmospheric Steam Canner may be used to safely can naturally acid foods such as peaches, pears, and apples, or acidified-foods such as salsa or pickles. The atmospheric steam canner uses only 2 quarts of water, so you heat less water and processing can start more quickly.

All the following criteria must be met:

1. Foods must be high in acid, with a pH of 4.6 or below.
2. A research tested recipe developed for a boiling water canner must be used with the steam canner. Approved recipes are available from the National Center for Home Food Processing & Preservation: nchfp.uga.edu or in Wisconsin: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/safepreserving/>
3. Follow a tested recipe using a steam canner at the processing step. The booklet accompanying the steam canner cannot be relied upon to be accurate. Standard canning jars with 2-piece metal lids must be used.
4. Jars must be processed in pure steam at 210-212 degrees F.
5. Jars must be heated prior to filling and filled with hot liquid.
6. Processing time must be modified for elevation.
7. Processing time must be limited to 45 minutes or less, including modification for elevation. The processing time is limited by the amount of water in the canner base. When processing food, the canner should not be opened to add water. Regulate heat so that the canner maintains a temperature of 210-212 degrees F.
8. Cool jars in still, ambient air.

Amanda Miller & Janeth Orozco, FoodWise

The FoodWise nutrition education program is, by federal guidance, an obesity prevention program. That means that the FoodWise program addresses obesity-related issues in Sheboygan County through a variety of ways. Having a multi-faceted approach means that obesity is addressed in a more complex and diverse way, rather than a single approach. FoodWise offers services with the following: 1) Janeth offers in-person nutrition education classes at local agency sites that serve low-income community members (Head Start, Senior Meal Sites, elementary schools, just to name a few); 2) nutrition education is provided to community members via newsletters, display boards, and other printed materials; and, 3) the FoodWise staff are involved in local health coalition efforts that address obesity.

As a part of the Healthy Sheboygan County 2020, SCAN (Sheboygan Coalition on Activity and Nutrition) is addressing obesity and health through a variety of interventions and approaches. Amanda is a member of the SCAN committee, as well as the following sub-committees: "Increase Fruit and Vegetable Intake for Low-Income Individuals", "Improve/Support Education Re: Healthy Eating", and "Increase Coordination and Collaboration Amongst Community Anti-Hunger Efforts." Janeth is a member of the "Improve/Support Education Re: Healthy Eating" sub-committee. Involvement in the group not only involves attending meetings, but coordinating services and offering evidence-based, quality programs that align with the overall health coalition goals for greater collective impact.

Extension Sheboygan County

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Mike Ballweg, Extension Agriculture Agent

2019 Planting Season Among the Coolest and Wettest in Recent Memory

The cool, wet spring of 2019 has challenged area farmers this planting season like none in recent memory. The delayed planting dates matter, because with each day after May 1st the yield potential is reduced. Much of the 2019 corn and soybean crop being planted the first two weeks of June means crop yields will be reduced by 40 - 50% for corn, and soybean yields will be reduced by 30 - 40%. Farmers that have purchased crop insurance have the right to exercise the "prevent plant" option and receive an indemnity for acres they were not able to plant by a designated time. A difficult planting season adds to what is already a struggling Ag economy.



Alfalfa Production and Utilization are Foundational for Dairy Herd Rations

Extension partnered with the Sheboygan County Forage Council, Adell Cooperative, and Country Visions Cooperative to conduct the 2019 Alfalfa Quality Monitoring Project. Yearly weather variations make twice-weekly monitoring important to ensure harvesting high quality forage. In addition to a postcard being mailed to area dairy producers, the results were emailed to the Tri-County Ag List, as well as posted to the Extension Sheboygan County Website. The email and postcards reach about 650 farmers and industry professionals. If half of Sheboygan County's 43,000 alfalfa acres were harvested one week earlier as a result of this Extension alfalfa quality educational program, an additional \$5 million in annual milk sales would be generated for Sheboygan County dairy farmers.

Above and Beyond Children's Museum Project

Sheboygan County Master Gardener Volunteers are gearing up for another season of "Eat, Play and Grow" at Sheboygan's Above and Beyond Children's Museum. The vegetable gardens are mostly empty now—but not for long, as the children will soon be planting the majority of the vegetables and fruits grown. Each Wednesday morning, beginning June 19th, families drop in between the hours of 10 a.m. to noon to get hands on experience with planting, maintaining, and harvesting the plants. Whatever is harvested is used to make the snack for the session.



Photo credit: Sheboygan's Above & Beyond Children's Museum website