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Extension Sheboygan County

Community Development Education

Kevin Struck, Community Development Educator

The [City of Sheboygan Falls](#) asked Kevin to help them with their statutorily required 10-year [update to their Comprehensive Plan](#), which was adopted in 2009. After compiling numerous tables of U.S. Census and other data, Kevin presented the information at a meeting in April, along with his analysis and comparisons to similar cities in Wisconsin. The Common Council was especially interested in the data related to changing demographics and housing needs.

For example, although the average household size in Sheboygan Falls was 2.2 persons in 2010 (U.S. Census), the projected household size for growth during the 2020-2040 period is only 1.6 (Wisconsin Department of Administration). This is consistent with a recent General Social Survey that found the amount of Americans aged 18-34 who are single—now 51 percent—is the highest it has been since at least the 1980s, and has increased 18 percent in just the past 15 years.

Among the same age group, **28%** of respondents said they were married, down from **48% in 1986**. The data was compiled by researchers at the University of Chicago who conducted in-person interviews with a random sample of more than 2,000 adults.



This change is already having an impact on the types of housing people are looking for. While *single-family housing units* (often owner occupied by families with children) outnumbered *multi-family units* (typically rental housing) by 6 to 1 in Sheboygan Falls in 2000, it had dropped to about 4.5 to 1 in 2018.

At least one national expert believes 75% of new housing in the U.S. between now and 2030 needs to be rental housing. One of the reasons is the decline of families. **Today, approximately two-thirds of American households do not have children. In 2030, this percentage is projected to rise even higher, to about three-quarters of all households.** Mostly this is due to the Baby Boomers having already raised their children and the Millennials typically not having children.

Some of the nationwide demand for rental housing is being addressed by conversions of existing detached single-family housing. But even with conversions, the demand for rental is still not being met.

Sources: Reshaping Metropolitan America by Arthur C. Nelson, Professor of Urban Planning and Real Estate Development, University of Arizona; and U.S. Census Bureau.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

May
2019
IMPACT
REPORT

4-H Youth Development

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The [Youth Government Day](#) program is a partnership between UW-Madison Extension, the American Legion, and Sheboygan County Department Heads. Eighty-one students from Sheboygan North, Sheboygan Christian, Cedar Grove - Belgium, and Plymouth High Schools participated in the day-long program. The students toured various county departments and participated in experiential learning to increase their understanding of the services provided at the county level of government.

Participants visited with the District Attorney, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, and representatives from the Sheriff's Department, Veteran's Services, and the Planning & Conservation Department, in addition to participating in a mock trial with the Sheboygan County Judges. 93% (n = 80) of participants indicated that as a result of the Youth Government Day Program they have a greater understanding of county government. 83% of participants indicated the program will improve their ability to identify employment opportunities within Sheboygan County. 84% of participants indicated they now have a better understanding of the investment that taxpayers make in our County Government.



In addition, 21 of the 78 comments about the most impressive thing learned during the program included comments about the Sheriff's Department and the enforcement vehicles. Four comments indicated that learning about the breadth and interconnectedness among governing departments was the most impressive.

Other comments included:

- ◆ "The most impressive thing I learned was how extensive our county's role is in government."
- ◆ "How many people there are that invest their lives into making our county safe and prosperous."
- ◆ "We have 800 people working for Sheboygan County."
- ◆ "I learned about the [Register of] Deeds office job."

Extension Sheboygan County

Family Living and FoodWise

Jane Jensen, Human Development & Relationship Educator

Along with Sheboygan County Public Health, HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital, and the Sheboygan County Food Bank, Jane co-leads the planning for the “[Promote Adequate, Appropriate, Safe Food and Nutrition](#)” action team as part of the three-year Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) process. This plan builds upon successful partnerships focused on improving the health of our community and engaging residents in adopting a healthier lifestyle.

The draft action plan focuses on five main initiative areas:

- 1) Develop an anti-hunger coalition
- 2) Increase fruit and vegetable intake for low-income individuals
- 3) Explore the Rx for fruit/vegetable program, with possible pilot at Lakeshore Community Health Care Center
- 4) Improve/support education relative to healthy eating
- 5) Coffective Breastfeeding group via the Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)

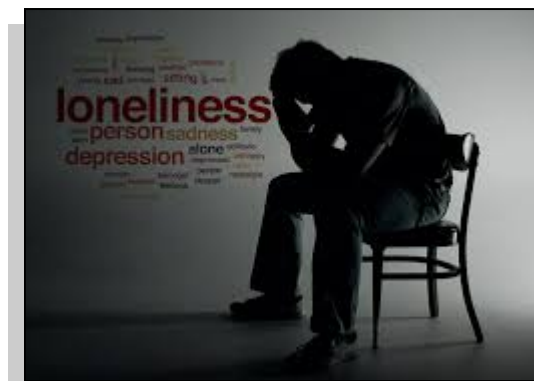


A May 21st planning session will include other community partners in developing plans for action teams to focus on areas two through four for the 2019-2020 implementation years.

Amanda Miller & Janeth Orozco, FoodWise

According to Mental Health of America, 64% of youth with major depression do not receive any mental health treatment. When working or interacting with youth it is important for educators to be able to identify signs of distress and provide initial support to someone living with a mental health or substance use problem.

On May 10th, Janeth attended the [Youth Mental Health First Aid training](#). Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders. This 8-hour training gives adults who work with youth the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to adolescents who may be developing a mental health or substance abuse problem and help connect them to the appropriate care.



During this training Janeth learned how to apply the “ALGEE” action plan:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen nonjudgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies

Extension Sheboygan County

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Mike Ballweg, Extension Agriculture Agent

Less tillage and cover crops for soil health and improved water quality

Extension develops educational programs that help farmers transition to cropping systems that utilize more no-till and cover crop practices with the goal of improving soil health and water quality. Extension, in cooperation with area farmer-led groups, NRCS, and County Land and Water Departments, held a **No-Till Planter Clinic** near Port Washington on April 3, 2019. Over 85 growers and partners from Sheboygan, Ozaukee, and Washington counties participated in the clinic.

Brian Luck, UW-Madison Extension Machinery Specialist, discussed planter adjustments to ensure good seed soil placement. He also shared safety tips when working on farm equipment of all types. The clinic was very well received and tentative plans are being made at the request of participating farms to hold another clinic in 2020.



Brian Luck, UW-Madison Extension Machinery Specialist

Finding solutions to alfalfa production issues in Wisconsin



Situation: Alfalfa root diseases are a common concern for dairy producers who rely on alfalfa for their dairy herds. In recent years it has been observed that genetic resistance bred into many of our current alfalfa varieties is no longer protecting plants from new races of *Aphanomyces euteiches*. *A. euteiches* is a soilborne oomycete that causes *Aphanomyces* root rot of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*). *A. euteiches* can infect a variety of field crops worldwide, but in Wisconsin and the upper Midwest the most important commodity is alfalfa. *Aphanomyces euteiches* is most threatening in poorly drained soil conditions of Eastern Wisconsin.

Objective: This study was conducted with Damon Smith, UW-Madison Extension Plant Pathologist, with the objective of collecting soil samples from alfalfa fields in Sheboygan County, from across Wisconsin, and from other Midwest locations, and to conduct a race bio-assay to understand the race structure of *Aphanomyces euteiches*.

Outcome: Currently, there are two accepted races of *A. euteiches* that cause root rot of alfalfa in Wisconsin and the Midwest. These two races have typically been managed using resistant cultivars. However, recent observations in Sheboygan and other Midwestern locations indicate that cultivars considered resistant to both races 1 and 2 are not as effective as they once were. This soil survey project establishes what appears to be new races of *A. euteiches* and provides evidence for alfalfa plant breeders to select for new alfalfa varieties with resistance to new races of *A. euteiches*.