

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

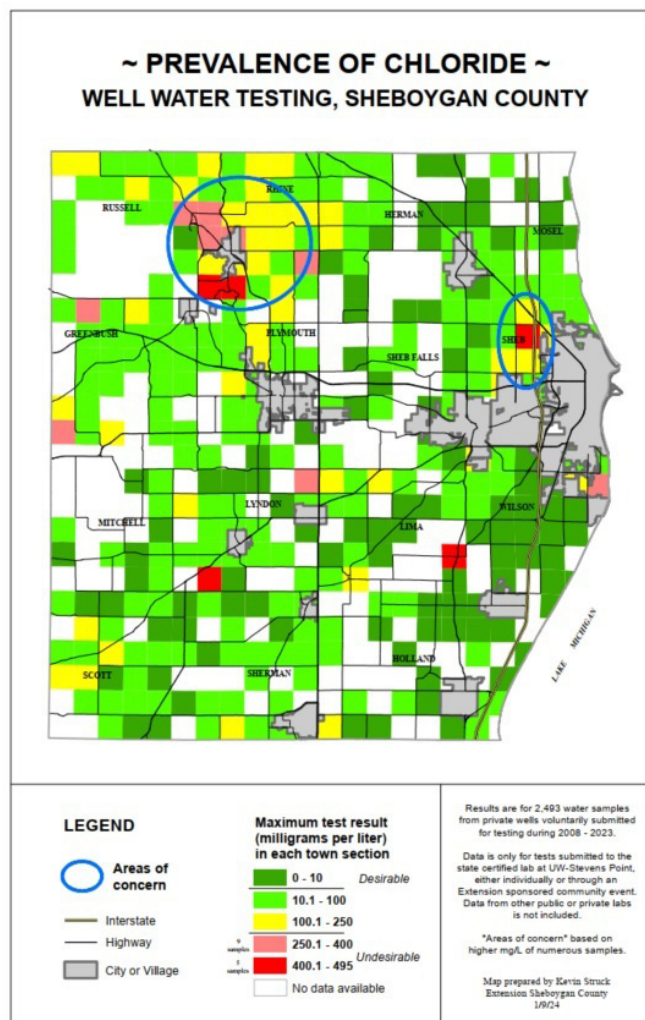


*Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their full potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. We educate in leadership development, organizational development, food systems, community economic development, local government education and much more. In short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.*

Kevin Struck, Community Development Educator

- Drawing on 15 years of voluntary residential well water testing data he had collected from throughout Sheboygan County, Kevin used GIS to map the results for nitrate, chloride, and arsenic. The maps may be helpful in determining whether there are any “hot spots” for these contaminants. Further, when other mapping layers are added, such as busy road intersections, it may be possible, for example, to identify a correlation between the presence of high chloride results with the heavy use of road salt.
- After recently receiving the message below, Kevin responded by sending the draft ordinance and application he had created for a project with a town in Sheboygan County.

“Just read your Accessory Dwelling Unit in Rural Areas presentation for Sheboygan County, and really enjoyed it. We are in the process of having a local Land Use Ordinance, Short-Term Rental Ordinance, and ADU Ordinance with reviewing our Comprehensive Plan. Do you know if any municipalities have adopted ADU ordinance that we can mark up?”  
– Supervisor on the Town of Draper Board in Sawyer County, Wisconsin



Map showing prevalence of chloride in private wells tested in Sheboygan County from 2008 through 2023. Highest concentrations are located near Elkhart Lake and near Interstate 43 corridor in Town of Sheboygan.



## AGRICULTURE



*If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species.*

### **Dairy**

*Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy Educator*

- A bi-weekly radio interview for farmers, agricultural industry persons, youth livestock, and youth dairy where they learned about extension agriculture related resources, information, and timely webinars to help them to be connected and supported, and make better informed decisions regarding their farm business operations or youth large animal project to improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety.
- An in-person quality assurance meeting for dairy exhibitors, where they learned the importance and components of a herd health plan; veterinarian-client-patient-relationship; preventing diseases; willful acts of abuse and animal welfare; unethical behavior to improve farm business viability, food safety, and animal welfare.

### **Crops**

*Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator*

- Planning for a Regional Ag Day program for farmers, agronomists, nutritionists and other agriculture professionals in collaboration with the Cedar Creek Farmers in Washington county. The goal is to provide timely livestock, dairy and crop production and marketing updates to producers so they can make informed animal and crop management decisions in 2024.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



*Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and after-school programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.*

### 4-H

Sarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator

- The 4-H Youth Development Program at CHANGE Academy within the Sheboygan Area School District provided hands-on opportunities for youth to create and practice following directions with LEGOs as well as create in the kitchen while constructing personalized Taco Dip.
- Sheboygan and Manitowoc 4-H Educators Collaborate monthly as we plan to lead and facilitate a 4-H Summer Camp Program with youth and staff from across both counties at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells this summer.
- The 4-H Horse and Pony Project launches its project for 2024 with support from the 4-H Educator as they navigate a new Board of Directors on their planning committee and host Orientations for over 100 members and parents in the project.
- 4-H American Spirit Experience utilizes the support of the Sheboygan County 4-H Educator to provide 132 youth across the state the opportunity to learn about this country's foundations and engage youth leaders in essential civic development.
- The 4-H Cloverbud Program, led by 4-H Educator and Professor Sarah Tarjeson, offers monthly opportunities for our youngest members (grades K-2) to learn about various project areas, try on new skills and interests, and begin to belong to the 4-H Program. Parents are offered the opportunity each month to discuss this stage of development for their child with our Human Development and Relationships Educator, Alicia Utke-Becher.



- The 4-H Leaders Association continues to support our membership through county-wide programs and scholarship opportunities. With the support of the 4-H Educator, they stay connected to significant policy and practice updates and are an essential part of our Sheboygan County 4-H Program.

## FOOD SECURITY, HEALTHY EATING, AND HEALTHY LIVING



*FoodWise advances healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for families with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels. FoodWise reaches individuals and families through local community partners by providing nutrition classes in-person and virtually, indirect education (newsletters, etc.), and social media/marketing. FoodWise is an obesity prevention program that addresses policy, system and environmental changes through local and state public health efforts.*

*FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).*

### *Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator*

- Supporting the Sheboygan County Anti-Hunger Coalition, in partnership with the Sheboygan County Food Bank. The purpose of these meetings is to bring community partners together to share updates, resources, and information on local poverty, food insecurity and hunger issues.
- Partnership with the Grant Elementary afterschool program to provide nutrition education classes to the Kindergarten through 2nd grade groups and the 3rd through 5th grade groups using the Read for Health curriculum. The goal of the classes is to introduce healthy foods and to encourage trying new foods through taste tests.
- Updating the Sheboygan County Food Drive 5 Toolkit, which is designed to provide a variety of resources and tools for local food pantries and potential food drive sponsoring organizations. The purpose is to encourage food drives that encourage food safety and nutritious foods.
- Providing technical support for the development of the current community health assessment report. The goal is to share this report widely with community members and partners to highlight the key health areas identified from the 2023 health assessment findings.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS



*The Extension Institute of Human Development & Relationships provides the tools Wisconsinites need to thrive as well-rounded, capable individuals and families. We support families in caring for each other in ways that promote growth and understanding. Our programs promote aging-friendly communities, coach effective parents and help families put technology, mindfulness and financial awareness to use.*

*Alicia Utke-Becher, Human Development & Relationship Educator*

- A program for older participants and their grandchildren (Mr. Rogers Monday), where participants view an educational program and then work together on open-ended art activity. The goals of this program are to increase positive interactions between the child and caregiver, and to increase social connectedness. 4 one-hour in-person sessions
- A collaboration meeting for community service agencies where they received Extension’s family wellbeing resources and upcoming educational events. The goal was to collaboratively plan opportunities for families and address gaps in services for underserved populations.
- A Money Smart Wisconsin meeting for financial institutions and community agencies convened to plan financial activities and events for the 2024 financial awareness campaign. The goal is to improve the financial capability of community members.
- A one-hour session for the Sheboygan County Cloverbud parents and guardians, where participants learned about how to be more present and resilient through practical meditation practices for caregivers. The goal of this program was to improve interpersonal relationship practices.
- A one-hour session for the Sheboygan County Cloverbud parents and guardians, where participants learned about traditions and rituals, and how to adapt traditions to reflect their family’s values. The goal of this program was to increase positive interactions between the child and parent/caregiver.

Sarah Tarjeson  
*4-H Youth Development Educator*

Liz Gartman  
*Regional Crops Educator*

Jayna Hintz  
*Area Extension Director*

Kevin Struck  
*Community Development Educator*

Amanda Miller  
*FoodWise Coordinator*

Tammy Zorn  
*Support Staff*

Alicia Utke-Becher  
*Human Development & Relationships Educator*

Janeth Orozco  
*FoodWise Educator*

Emily Jensen  
*Support Staff*

Cassi Worster  
*Area Marketing Specialist*