

Cooperative Extension

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July 2009 Activities

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Neighborhood & Family Sustainability

It is not just municipalities and corporations that can act sustainably. Organizational units as small as neighborhoods and families can also use sustainable guidelines to make decisions. The Sustainable Columbus Neighborhood Project is a joint effort of Sustainable Fox Valley Initiative, the Appleton Neighborhood Revitalization Program, and the Community Gardens Partnership. It has received a grant from Community Foundation of the Fox Cities to conduct urban neighborhood revitalization within the framework of sustainability. UW-Extension has agreed to provide a supportive educational role to the project. Residents, property owners, and businesses will be asked about challenges in the Columbus School neighborhood and how those may be turned into a shared vision for improving quality of life, economic opportunity, and civic engagement. In turn, families will be invited to participate in the ongoing sustainable development process beginning with actions they can take at home.

FAMILY LIVING

Children Caught in the Middle

Every month, families going through the family mediation process are required to attend a parenting class called "Children Caught in the Middle." The parents may be going through a divorce, revisiting a parenting plan from a previous divorce, or may never have been married. The class is co-taught by a Family Court Mediator and the Family Living Educator. We talk about stress and children and how to deal with difficult situations. Parents are encouraged to keep children out of the middle of decisions and critical conversations that are taking place.

Needs versus Wants

Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program educators will be working with participants at food pantries, Salvation Army, WIC sites, and others in the month of July to identify needs versus wants related to spending priorities. A "need" helps us survive and would include basic and essential items such as food, clothing, electricity, and shelter. A "want" makes life more comfortable and enjoyable and may include soda instead of water, expensive clothing, or cable TV. In challenging economic times, it is more important than ever to assist low income families and individuals with budgeting so they have enough money for food.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4-H at the Outagamie County Fair, July 21-26

The fair may seem to be an event that is just a time for fun and games that 4-H families have enjoyed for years. Although the fun and games are important, the heart of the fair is the educational aspect for all involved. Judging gives an adult the permission to evaluate the work of a youth in a positive, critical manner that will help the exhibitor to grow and learn. Judges learn from youth new, innovative ways of completing a task. Youth are also able to critically examine their work on their fair entry and learn to improve the skills they already have. Youth also have the opportunity to compare their entry to entries of other youth. Parents have the opportunity to watch their son or daughter learn, grow and allow their children to complete their entry the way they wish. 4-H leaders and parents can help youth realize that completing the project is the most important achievement; winning is not the only goal. The neat part of this process -- the education -- is happening naturally just with the nature of the fair!

AGRICULTURE

Alfalfa Forage

"To Condition or Not to Condition Alfalfa Forage," that is the question that the Outagamie County Forage Council will answer on Wednesday, July 1 at the Annual Summer Forage Field Day. The event will begin at 12:30 p.m., and our hosts will be Jens Dairy, located at N4243 Center Valley Road (12 miles north of Appleton). Kevin Shinnars, UW-Madison Agricultural Engineer, will discuss the results of his research examining whether producers should or should not be using a conditioning unit when cutting alfalfa to harvest the highest quality hay possible. Farmers have been exposed to conflicting information about whether or not they should be conditioning their hay when they cut it. We will let Dr. Shinnars explain what producers need to consider when making this decision. Also with very low milk prices, it is imperative to put up high quality forage. One of the ways we can accomplish this is with the use of inoculants. Brian Holmes, UWEX Biological Systems Engineer, will discuss what to look for in a good inoculant and under what conditions producers would expect the greatest return from these products. The event is open to the public and the Outagamie County Forage Council will provide lunch for all in attendance. We hope to see you on Wednesday, July 1.

MONTHLY SCHEDULE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

July 2009

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE	AGENTS
07/01/09	9:30 a.m.	Youth Garden	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Dusek
07/01/09	10:00 a.m.	Youth Garden--Fruit and Vegetable	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Thao-Vang
07/01/09	11:30 a.m.	Citizens Review Panel	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dickrell
07/01/09	12:30 p.m.	Forage Council Summer Field Day	Jens Dairy	Jarek, Miller
07/01/09	1:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	Boys and Girls Club	Schroth
07/01/09	3:00 p.m.	Money Smart Meeting	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dusek
07/01/09	6:00 p.m.	Greenville Sustainability Workgroup	Greenville Town Hall	Resick
07/02/09	8:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	Appleton WIC	Thao-Vang
07/02/09	6:00 p.m.	Master Gardener Executive Board	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Jarek
07/03/09	10:00 a.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth
07/06/09	8:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting and State Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	All Staff
07/06/09	3:30 p.m.	VRC	Volunteer Center	Dickrell
07/07/09	7:30 a.m.	4-H Camp Tour	Upham Woods	Dusek
07/07/09	8:00 a.m.	Explore Wisconsin	Milwaukee	Schroth
07/07/09	2:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth
07/08/09	8:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	Appleton WIC	Thao-Vang
07/08/09	9:30 a.m.	Youth Garden	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Dusek
07/08/09	1:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	Boys and Girls Club	Schroth
07/08/09	4:00 p.m.	Basic Needs Committee	United Way Fox Cities	Dickrell
07/09/09	8:00 a.m.	At-Risk Youth Agency Focus Group	United Way Fox Cities	Dusek
07/09/09	9:00 a.m.	Hmong Planning Group Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Thao-Vang
07/09/09	10:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	Appleton Salvation Army	Thao-Vang
07/09/09	1:00 p.m.	Children Caught in the Middle	County Admin Building	Dickrell
07/10/09	9:00 a.m.	Manage Your Money	County Board Room	Dickrell
07/10/09	10:00 a.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth
07/13/09	9:00 a.m.	WNEP Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dickrell, Kramer
07/13/09	7:00 p.m.	Town of Kaukauna Board Meeting	Kaukauna Town Hall	Resick
07/14/09	9:00 a.m.	Extension Education Committee	Highway Department	Dickrell, Dusek, Shroth
07/14/09	10:00 a.m.	Creating a Co-Parenting Plan Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dickrell
07/14/09	1:00 p.m.	Hmong Elders Nutrition and Cooking Club	Thompson Community Center	Thao-Vang
07/14/09	2:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth
07/15/09	9:00 a.m.	WNEP Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dickrell
07/15/09	9:30 a.m.	Youth Garden	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Dusek
07/15/09	10:00 a.m.	Youth Garden -- Fruit and Vegetable	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Thao-Vang
07/15/09	1:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	Boys and Girls Club	Schroth
07/15/09	3:00 p.m.	Money Smart Meeting	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dusek
07/16/09	9:00 a.m.	Hmong Interagency Meeting	Hmong American Partnership	Dickrell, Kramer Thao-Vang

07/16/09	10:00 a.m.	Washington Square Partnership	Menn Law Building	Richardson
07/16/09	12:30 p.m.	ACRE Meeting	Fox Valley Tech College	Jarek
07/16/09	6:00 p.m.	Master Gardener General Meeting	Oberstadts Nursery	Jarek
07/17/09	9:00 a.m.	Manage Your Money	County Board Room	Dickrell
07/17/09	10:00 a.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth
07/18/09	9:00 a.m.	NRP Neighborhood Kick Off	Columbus Elementary	Richardson
07/19/09	9:00 a.m.	Outagamie County Dog Show	Clever K-9's	Schroth
07/20/09	8:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting and State Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	All Staff
07/20/09	12:00 p.m.	Food Preservation -- Canning Vegetables	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dickrell
07/20/09	1:00 p.m.	Needs versus Wants	Appleton WIC	Shoemaker
07/20/09	1:00 p.m.	Greater Outagamie Economic Development Corp.	TBA	Resick
07/21-26	8:00 a.m.	Outagamie County Fair	Seymour Fairgrounds	Various Agents
07/21/09	9:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	St. Joseph's Food Pantry	Thao-Vang
07/21/09	9:45 a.m.	County Sustainable Task Force	Solid Waste Department	Resick
07/21/09	1:00 p.m.	Needs versus Wants	Appleton WIC	Thao-Vang
07/22/09	9:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	St. Joseph's Food Pantry	Shoemaker
07/22/09	9:30 a.m.	Youth Garden	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Dusek
07/22/09	1:00 p.m.	Youth Hay Quality Contest	Seymour Fairgrounds	Jarek
07/23/09	8:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	Appleton Salvation Army	Thao-Vang
07/23/09	9:00 a.m.	Celebrate Families	Seymour Fairgrounds	Dusek
07/27/09	1:00 p.m.	Department of Family Development Teleconference	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dickrell
07/27/09	7:00 p.m.	State 4-H Horse Expo Meeting	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Schroth
07/28/09	7:00 a.m.	Swine Carcass Contest	Maplewood, Brown County	Miller
07/28/09	8:30 a.m.	WNEP Staff Meeting	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Kramer, Thao-Vang, Shoemaker, Soper,Bongert
07/28/09	1:00 p.m.	Hmong Elders Nutrition and Cooking Club	Thompson Community Center	Thao-Vang
07/28/09	2:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth
07/29/09	7:00 a.m.	Lamb and Beef Carcass Contest	Maplewood, Brown County	Miller
07/29/09	9:30 a.m.	Youth Garden	Gardens of the Fox Cities	Dusek
07/29/09	9:30 a.m.	WIC Way Training	Appleton WIC	Kramer,Soper Thao-Vang
07/29/09	1:00 p.m.	4-H Explore Science	Boys and Girls Club	Schroth
07/29/09	3:00 p.m.	Money Smart	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Dusek
07/29/09	5:00 p.m.	Bridging Hmong American Cable Show	Time Warner Cable	Thao-Vang
07/30/09	9:00 a.m.	Needs versus Wants	St Joseph's Food Pantry	Shoemaker
07/30/09	11:00 a.m.	GEMS	UW-Fox Valley	Dusek
07/30/09	12:00 p.m.	Fox Cities Economic Development Partnership	Little Chute Village Hall	Resick
07/30/09	8:00 p.m.	Forage Council Executive Board	UW-Extension, Brewster St.	Jarek
07/31/09	10:00 a.m.	4-H Explore Science	YMCA	Schroth