

How to Contact Us

Oconto County UW-Extension

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<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/oconto>



25

Things Extension Can Do For You!

Oconto County UW-Extension...

We bring
University of Wisconsin
knowledge and
resources to you
where you need
them most—
where you live and work.

UW
Extension
Cooperative Extension

What is UW-Extension?

You'll find Oconto County Extension Educators out in the **community**, holding seminars on land use, teaching families about healthy eating and conducting parenting programs. To find out how Cooperative Extension serves your community, take an inside look at our programs.

Extending "The Wisconsin Idea"

For decades, Cooperative Extension has had a trusted and valued presence in Oconto County. Our staff carry forward *The Wisconsin Idea*, a century-old notion suggesting that the knowledge and resources of the University should be used to address the needs, problems, and aspirations of all citizens of the state, not only those on campuses.



UW-Extension uses education to help people understand and solve problems. In their work, the UW-Extension agents and staff in Oconto County continue the tradition of improving our economy, strengthening families, and building healthy communities by applying University knowledge to local needs and interests. Inside are some examples.

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX requirement. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible (10 days is reasonable) preceding the scheduled program, service or activity. Call (920) 834-6845 to request an accommodation.

25 Things Extension Can Do For You!

1. Have a question about food preservation, pest management, which shrubs grow best in our climate, or how to stretch your food dollar? Your UW-Extension office has *publications* available on these and many other topics.
2. Our *website* at www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/oconto is full of up to the minute and seasonal information on everything from animal ID and parenting resources, to enrolling youth in 4-H, preserving garden vegetables, starting a business in Oconto County, and so much more!
3. UW-Extension staff helped establish the *Oconto Community Garden*, a project which aids children in learning about gardening and provides access to healthy food for area residents in need.
4. The 4-H Youth Development Program established *Teen Court* in Oconto County as an alternative to municipal court. Teens who have committed misdemeanor crimes have their cases reviewed by a panel of trained teen volunteers. Sanctions may include community service, counseling, and letters of apology.
5. *Participation in 4-H* has helped Oconto County youth learn important life skills and taught them how to contribute to their communities.
6. UW-Extension is known as “the educational arm of government”, but *UW-Extension Educators* don’t lecture or give grades in a typical classroom. Instead, we deliver education where people live and work—on the farm, in schools and community centers.
7. In addition, *University Specialists* on campuses of the University of Wisconsin System serve as resources for county based UW-Extension educators. These state specialists complete the Extension network by helping us apply useful and practical information to address local needs.
8. For a small fee, your UW-Extension office will provide you with information and kits for *testing your well water*.
9. The 4-H Youth Development Program has expanded its outreach efforts. One highly successful example is *Creative Connections*, an after-school program in the Oconto Schools.
10. Extension helps conduct *local research and surveys* which teach us more about ourselves, our values, and our concerns. Examples include the School-Aged Child Care Survey, SEARCH, Oconto County Quality of Life Survey, and Family-Community-School Partnership data.
11. Our Community Resource Development Agent works with Lakes Associations, helping to connect them to resources to *protect the quality of our beautiful lakes*.
12. *The Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program* (WNEP) serves low-income citizens in Oconto County at no cost to county government. Prevention-based initiatives like WNEP, *Healthy Babies*, and *Parenting Resource Centers* are long-term investments that make Oconto County healthier, and ultimately saves tax dollars.
13. We listen to your concerns! Extension conducts a *program planning* process to learn about the educational needs and concerns of county residents. Once identified, these issues guide our work and make us more locally responsive.
14. The Agriculture Agent offers educational opportunities for both adults and youth. Topics for these programs include milk quality, calf care, pesticide applicator training, manure management, livestock, horticulture, meat quality assurance, and so on. These programs offer timely, research based information that help strengthen our farms.
15. Your Family Living Program distributes relevant, timely information to Oconto County Parents. One example is the free age-paced and research-based *Parenting the First, Second, Third Year, and Parenting the Pre-Schooler newsletters*.
16. Your UW-Extension office can provide you with *locally tailored statistics and census data* to help your business idea, grant application, or policy decisions.
17. Oconto County Family Living Educators help children, parents and individuals make healthy choices about *diet and exercise*. We also teach residents how to *manage money* and other resources.
18. Are you a part of an organization or would like to establish one? Our Community Development Agent assists existing organizations in capacity building through strategic planning and strategy development. In addition, the agent works with newly formed organizations in organizational development. Only through the organization’s ability to stay relevant will they be able to respond to growing concerns within the community.
19. 4-H community clubs offer youth the opportunity to learn and practice leadership skills right here in our community. Join a 4-H club and see what 4-H has to offer YOU.
20. For more than 60 years, the Oconto County UW-Extension Agricultural Program has helped *strengthen agriculture’s contribution to economic development*. One way this has been done is by helping farmers with financial analysis that allow them to grow, diversify and expand at proper levels.
21. The *Home Visitation Program* is a collaborative effort between UW-Extension and Human Services that has made efficient use of both the human and financial resources in Oconto County. The Program targets high risk county families on parenting, nutrition, budgeting, and other issues.
22. The Oconto County Agricultural Agent *helps farmers keep pace* with rapid changes in production technology for both crops and livestock. Staying current on new advances is critical, both to farmers’ profitability and to the county’s economy.
23. UW-Extension is concerned with *protecting our natural resources*. While striving to maximize production of high quality food and crops, Oconto County Agriculture and Natural Resources Agents also work locally to balance farm profitability and protect our natural environment.
24. The 4-H Youth Development Agent *trains and supports volunteer adult leaders* to develop and carry out hands-on youth projects and activities geared to teaching valuable life skills.
25. Need *horticulture advice*, such as how to care for shrubs, trees, control apple maggots, or grow grass in the shade? Do you need a *soil testing kit*? Your Extension Office puts knowledge to work by answering your questions about garden and lawn care.