

UW - Madison Extension Bayfield County Highlights 2022 Annual Report



“Bringing the resources of the University of Wisconsin-Madison to Bayfield County.”

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Welcome!

January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

Dear Partners and Friends:

In this 2022 annual report, you'll find that at the UW-Madison Division of Extension Bayfield County, our resourceful and resilient educators and staff are focused on helping the community members of Bayfield County to meet community challenges, protect natural resources, strengthen families and support young people. Despite challenges, we had another year of great Extension programming in Bayfield County and all of Wisconsin! We worked to continue connecting local people with the knowledge and research of the University of Wisconsin. We utilized our local, regional and statewide networks to support communities in responding to emerging issues and we brought new ideas and great resources to Bayfield County.

We developed this report with data and stories from 2022. We highlight positive outcomes from all of our major educational programs covering community and economic development, 4-H and youth, nutrition, agriculture, horticulture, and individual and family well-being. Our staff works to address high priority local needs through our educational programming and our collaborations with community groups, volunteers and program partners. We could not be effective in our work without the valuable contributions of our various partners. Strong partnerships are at the heart of our programs-- we can achieve more together!

THANK YOU to the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator and the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee for the continued support of UW-Madison Extension programming in Bayfield County during 2022. We appreciate the opportunity to serve Bayfield County residents and local efforts to strengthen our people, our communities and our economy.

On behalf of the Extension Bayfield County staff,

Mary Pardee
Area Extension Director

PURPOSE to which we commit...
WE TEACH, LEARN, LEAD AND SERVE, CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON, AND ENGAGING WITH THEM IN TRANSFORMING LIVES AND COMMUNITIES.

VISION of what we want to become...
A THRIVING, WELL-KNOWN AND RESPECTED EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE THAT REFLECTS THE RICH DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

VALUES we strive to live by...

COMMUNITY We empower others and ourselves by listening to, learning from, and respecting local knowledge. We value our partnerships and believe community voices are critical to success. We work in community with one another to build a culture of...	DISCOVERY We promote lifelong learning, unbiased informational education and excellence through our scholarly work. We integrate University research with community-based knowledge to explore new solutions and their practical applications. We encourage innovation, teaching, research and outreach to serve the public good.	INCLUSIVENESS We recognize, appreciate and honor the differences, similarities and contributions of all people and communities. We are intentional in our efforts to ensure equity, justice and fairness. We embrace new ideas and approaches in our work.	RELATIONSHIPS We foster positive relationships through honesty, open communication and accountability. We meet educational needs by creating linkages among cultural, economic and environmental contexts. We recognize and trust the essential and interconnected nature of all roles within Extension.	RESPECT We appreciate and serve as stewards of our state resources. We honor and value each other's time and talents. We seek to maintain a balance between life and work priorities.
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Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Investing in Extension

In 2022, the work of the Bayfield County Extension office was completed by 8 educators (some shared with adjacent counties), 2 support staff, and 2 research/program assistants. Not all those folks were on staff at once—needs change with the time of year, funding availability, and special opportunities. Over the course of a year, Extension touches a lot of community needs!

The success of Bayfield County Extension programming relies on 4 aspects:

- County funding
- State funding
- Donations, Grants & Fees
- Volunteers

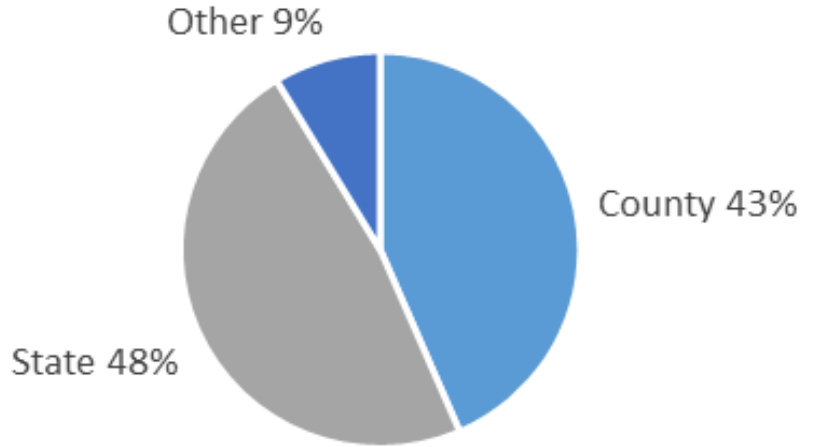
In Extension, educators are co-funded by the county and state. Bayfield County also supplies funding for a Youth Program summer assistant and a 4-H Operations & Communications Associate. In addition, county funds help to outfit Extension with office supplies, technology, program and travel costs, as well as excellent office staff to support the programs.

FoodWise, our nutrition education program, is paid for by federal SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education) funds that come through UW-Madison Division of Extension. Bayfield County FoodWise is part of a three-county project which also includes Ashland and Iron Counties. County funds are not involved in the salaries of the FoodWise Coordinator, FoodWise Educator, or Area Extension Director. Additional grant funds are a source for agriculture research assistants.

The charts show the basics of where our funding comes from.

Local educators are part of a statewide network that supplies programming support, topic expertise, professional development, and funding. Bayfield County also benefits from the expertise of statewide Extension specialists on topics such as economic development and climate change.

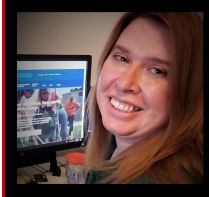
Extension Funding 2022



Extension Funding in 2022		
County	UW-Madison Staff Fees	\$ 172,164
	Support Staff	\$ 75,444
	County Educational Staff	\$ 6,941
	Office & Technology	\$ 7,371
	Educational Program Support	\$ 11,663
	Committee Expense	\$ 2,223
	TOTAL	\$ 275,897
State	Staff Salary/Fringe	\$ 214,262
	FoodWise Staff & Program Support	\$ 50,485
	Program Support	\$ 3,660
	Office & Technology	\$ 2,400
	Professional Development	\$ 1,885
	Director Salary/Fringe	\$ 30,678
TOTAL	\$ 303,370	
Other	Donations, Grants, Fees	\$ 55,113
	TOTAL	\$ 55,113
TOTAL EXTENSION FUNDING		\$ 634,289



Staff Members



Mary Pardee

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Educators



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Tracy Henegar

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Liz Lexau (Retired)

Human Develop. & Relationships
Interim Justice Involved Families Specialist



Kaylie Lukas

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Mary Johnson

Interim Financial Security
Educator
(January 2022-October 2022)

Support Staff



Theresa LaChappelle

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Becca Tuinei-Williams—Family Relationships Intern
Ryan “Spunki” Jansen—Ag Research Assistant
Cole Schinstock—Superior Adventures Coordinator

Bringing the resources of the University of Wisconsin-Madison to Bayfield County.



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BAYFIELD COUNTY



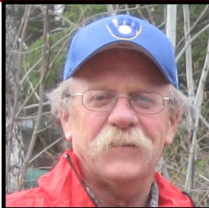
Committee Members

**Jeff Silbert**

Chair
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District #6 - City of Washburn,
Wards 1 & 2

**Fred Strand**

Vice-Chair
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District # 9—Town of Iron River



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BAYFIELD COUNTY



Office Manager—Theresa LaChappelle

Office Operations

Theresa LaChappelle continued in her role as Office Manager and served as the first point of contact with the public. She continued to meet the challenges of this role, as she answered and directed phone calls, greeted visitors, provided information and resources, sent off soil, forage & insect samples, and interacted with other Extension Staff, other County employees and residents of the area on a daily basis.

LaChappelle also assisted with the coordination of the bi-monthly Extension Committee meetings. This included assisting with the preparation of the materials for the meetings, sending out meeting notices, and the setting up of and hosting the virtual meetings on MS Teams. She also attended, participated in, and recorded the minutes of the meetings.

Financial Operations

The Office Manager maintained the office accounting. Record keeping was kept for grants, special projects and workshops. These records included spreadsheets, vouchers, and invoices. LaChappelle also maintained all receipt collections, deposits, invoices and bill paying. LaChappelle served as a liaison to the Bayfield County Clerk’s Office and the County Auditors, and also created financial reports for the Bayfield County Extension Committee.

Online registrations with credit card payments were again being offered to our citizens, some of these transactions included registration and payments for 4-H CANSKI, 4-H Summer Camp and Co-Parenting classes.



Healthy Choices, **Healthy Lives**

FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). We advance healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for Wisconsin residents with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels.

The **Landscape**

24%

of population lives in census tracts that are low income & have low access to healthy foods



38%

of adults have obesity



11%

of individuals are food insecure



12%

of households receive SNAP benefits



Achieving More **Together**



UW-Madison Division of Extension works alongside the people of Wisconsin to deliver practical educational programs where people live and work – on the farm, in schools and throughout urban and rural communities. In Bayfield County, FoodWise partners with schools, after-school programs, Head Start programs, senior meal programs, and food pantries to help make the healthy choice the easy choice in our communities.

Community Impacts **In 2022**



Collaborated with two other FoodWise teams to provide four virtual StrongBodies strength training series over Zoom.

Implemented the Harvest of the Month campaign in different settings, with messages to promote eating Wisconsin-grown fruits & vegetables. We included this information in our monthly newsletter to partners as well.

Our team attended the Native Nutrition Conference. This conference included sessions on healing from trauma, practical knowledge to return to traditional diets, and Indigenizing nutrition and food policy.

Harvest of the Month Northern Wisconsin Style!

It started as an 'ask' from a partner: was our team doing anything with the Extension Harvest of the Month (HOM) campaign? We decided to start small and include it in our newsletter. Now we have implemented the HOM campaign in many different ways, with many different partners, across our three counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Iron.

Wisconsin HOM is a statewide campaign that encourages kids and families to eat more fruits and vegetables. Each month schools showcase one seasonal, Wisconsin-grown fruit or vegetable. Students taste, explore, and learn about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables.

Our team has shared information from the HOM campaign

- in our monthly newsletters.
- with posters in schools and postcards sent home to families.
- within our educational programming.
- by incorporating local produce into the school meal programs.
- by including HOM items into school garden plans and programming.
- through the creation of a local HOM partners group.
- by posting information on our different social media platforms.



To learn more about Harvest of the Month, visit <https://healthyliving.extension.wisc.edu/programs/harvest-of-the-month/> or <https://www.facebook.com/FoodWiseUWEX.North>

Bayfield School Programming & Gitigaan (Garden) Work!

We had a great year with all types of programming with Bayfield School. Some examples of programming efforts include educational events in collaboration with the garden staff, a Share Table pilot program with food service staff/garden staff, Harvest of the Month campaign programming, Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch event, five food group pizza day, School Lunch Hero Day, purchasing grape plants for the garden, bringing the Spudmobile to the school, attending Winter Camp, and providing some help with 80 Trays Around the World.

FoodWise education is funded by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program – EFNEP. An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Connect With Us

Bayfield.Extension.wisc.edu



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Human Development & Relationships— Tracy Henegar & Heidi Ungrodt

2022 was a year of resilience, as we learned to live with COVID-19 as a part of “normal” life. The stresses and strains brought about from the pandemic have not abated, yet still, families are pressing forward, coping with the challenges and learning how to adapt. This was the driver for our 2022 family programming, which focused on supporting not only our children’s mental health and well-being, but also our own mental wellness across the lifespan, as well as providing parent education designed to strengthen family relationships, support positive parenting strategies, and reduce family stress.

Family Engagement & Relationships



® **Triple P** is an effective evidence-based parenting program backed by more than 35 years of ongoing research. Triple P gives parents simple and practical strategies to help build healthy relationships, confidently manage children’s behavior and prevent problems from developing.

In 2022, statewide collaboration expanded local access to over 50 sessions of Triple P, reaching 142 different participants. Bayfield County residents attended a combined total of 28 sessions.

“Today’s group was exactly what I need to work on with my stepsons. So, thank you for all the info. I will use it.” —Triple P Parent

Strengthening Families & Systems continues to be a highly sought-after workshop focused on building positive relationships with children who have experienced trauma. This 8-session workshop was offered in Summer 2022 and reached 24 parents, foster parents, caregivers, and youth serving professionals.



Parents Forever is an evidence-based program for co-parents to learn skills to improve communication and problem-solving, support children emotionally and keep kids out of the middle of conflict. In 2022, this class was offered 8 times and reached 70 parents. As a result of the class, participants report more confidence in their ability to communicate with the other parent.

This year, we also piloted **Triple P Family Transitions** for parents needing extra support to adjust and manage separation and divorce. We will expand offerings of this 5-session program in 2023.

Coffee Talks offer monthly skills-based education and support for parents of children enrolled in Head Start in an effort to strengthen family relationships and reduce family stress. In 2022, we developed and offered sessions on a monthly basis including topics on Happy Goodbyes, Loving Learning, Household Stress & Holiday Spending.



The Literacy Link works with local partners to foster positive, literacy focused interactions between children and their justice-involved parent. Bayfield County programs include:

- ◆ **Read & Connect**—a workshop on the importance of reading aloud to children and ways to engage children through books.
- ◆ **Making Reading Memories**—parents in jail are recorded reading storybooks, which are then shared with their children at home.
- ◆ **Family Literacy Kits**—parents in jail select books and write letters for their children. Kits are mailed to the family, which include the books and letters, along with information for the caregivers at home.



Health & Wellbeing

Mental health and wellbeing continue to be a high priority for the Bayfield County community. Programs to support positive coping skills and help participants recognize and respond to mental health challenges were offered regularly, both virtually and in person.

Our core program is **Mental Health First Aid**, an evidence-based course that teaches adult participants about mental health and substance-use issues. In 2022, Henegar co-facilitated:

10 **Mental Health First Aid** workshops - certified 155 new adult Mental Health First Aiders

10 **Youth Mental Health First Aid** workshops - certified 175 new Youth Mental Health First Aiders



Additionally, Henegar was trained in **teen Mental Health First Aid** and will collaborate with area schools to launch this program in 2023.

Other 2022 programming to support positive mental health and wellbeing included:

- ◆ May Mental Health Awareness Month workshops on **Make It Ok** and **Children’s Mental Health & Wellbeing**—4 workshops reaching 18 participants
- ◆ **Nurturing the Northland Trauma Conference**—72 participants
- ◆ **WeCOPE** (Connecting with Our Positive Emotions) is an 6 session evidence-based program that helps adults to cope with stress—32 virtual participants statewide.
- ◆ **QPR Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention** is an evidence-based workshop focused on three simple steps to save a life from suicide—Question, Persuade, and Refer. Data from the first two virtual session show significant improvement in all 13 measures of knowledge and confidence to respond to support an individual experiencing a suicidal crisis.

Tracy Henegar at the National MHFA Summit accepting the 2022 **Community Impact Award** on behalf of the Extension MHFA statewide team in recognition of extensive outreach across WI over the last two years.

Financial Capability



Encouraging Financial Conversations was implemented by Mary Johnson for helping professionals in the region. This curriculum features modules on how to have financial conversations, goal setting,

spending, saving, borrowing, and maximizing income. Educators use the curriculum to equip case workers in their communities with skills to help their clients manage their money.



With Mary Johnson leaving the Extension team in the Fall of 2022, Ungrodt and Henegar will continue financial education efforts in Bayfield County. In October, we shared financial resources with over 100 attendees at the **Red Cliff Annual Home Fair**.

planning **AHEAD** PROGRAM TOPICS:

 Handling Financial Changes	 Advance Medical and Legal Directives	 Estate Planning
 Choices in End-of-Life Care	 Final Wishes	 Understanding Grief



Youth Development and 4-H— Ian Meeker & Kaylie Lukas

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

Superior Adventures Teaches Life Skills Through Wilderness Experience

Superior Adventures provides outdoor adventure trips for local youth to explore wilderness locations in our region. Research confirms that exposure to natural environments can be cognitively restorative, increase self-confidence and promote a sense of place.

In 2022, the Superior Adventures program provided 20 separate programs (each program lasts between 4-8 hours) and served over 85 youth. To reach even more youth, Superior Adventures collaborated with the Washburn, Bayfield and South Shore School Districts to provide place-based educational programming during the school year and summer school. For example, a 2022 program co-designed with a South Shore teacher utilized tandem sea kayaks to explore an estuary near the school. While paddling, students recorded sightings and observations of Red Winged Blackbirds. Through this experience, 24 students observed Red Winged Blackbird habitat, nesting habits and courtship rituals. A student commented while paddling, “I never knew this was such a cool place to explore.”



Whether kayaking on Lake Superior, biking single track or navigating a canoe through rapids, Superior Adventures provides opportunities for youth to actively explore remote wilderness areas near where they live. After learning basic stroke techniques, youth improve their paddling skills and develop the skill necessary to work together and control their canoe. During these experiences, adult leaders are able to teach the observational skills to successfully navigate potential hazards like rapids, wind, weather and terrain which develops judgement related to safe risk taking.



These adventures heighten participants’ sense of place and increase their appreciation for where they live. These experiences also develop key attributes of the 4-H Thriving Model such as Belonging, Positive Relationships with a Caring Adult, Engagement in Learning, Growth Mindset and an Openness to Challenge and Discovery. Superior Adventures is a working checklist for each one of these positive experiences.

“When I asked my son how his canoeing day on the river was, Instead of just saying fine, it was refreshing to hear a story including details about the adventure and the fun day he had.”

- Superior Adventures parent



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4-H Camp Counselors Build Leadership Skills, Help Kids Celebrate Summer and Have Fun.

Seventeen local high school counselors participated in training to incorporate a positive group dynamic, communicate expectations and to develop the Essential Elements of Positive Youth Development in activities of **Belonging, Independence Mastery, and Generosity** they designed for their campers.

The 4-H Camp Counselor experience continues to be a premier leadership experience that demonstrates how effective training prepares counselors to assume responsibility and to create a caring and supportive environment. This year, the counselors were trained to recognize the importance of clear communication, formulating a plan, observing the needs of others and practicing the values of the ARCH: **Accountability, Respect, Compassion and Honesty**. The 3-day and 2-night 4-H Summer Camp was attended by 51 campers in grades 3-8.



In 2022, 14 of the 16 4-H camp counselors were 4-H campers. This continuity is a testament to the unique and successful adult youth partnership 4-H Camp provides. Being a 4-H Camp counselor is one of many dynamic service learning experiences that Bayfield County 4-H provides.

Wild Ricing Collaborative with Bayfield High School

For the second year in a row, Ian Meeker collaborated with staff from Bayfield High School to teach students and staff the traditional skill of harvesting Manoomin (Wild Rice).

This year, the harvest took place on three separate days and included hands on instruction from tribal elders of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Through this experience, students learned the significance to the Ojibway culture of giving thanks for the opportunity to harvest the Manoomin, the food that grows on the water. The harvest was processed and gifted to tribal elders, cooked for a school feast, and used to reseed a dedicated area on the Red Cliff Reservation.



4-H Chequamegon Area Nordic Ski Club



For 18 years, 4-H CANSKI has provided youth access to the lifelong sport of cross-country skiing. 4-H CANSKI provides ongoing instruction, social skiing opportunities and community and leadership development for skiers of all levels.

Through grants, donations and reinvesting club rental fees, 4-H CANSKI is able to affordably provide over 130 youth (K-12) and parents with boots, poles and skis. Access to the former VFW building in Washburn plays a key role in storing and distributing the equipment.

In 2022, the 4-H CANSKI club had 120 Elementary and Middle School skiers and 16 active adult 4-H coaches that held weekly practices during the season at the MMC trail in Ashland and the Mt. Ashwabay trail. This club is a long standing, effective collaboration between the Bayfield and Ashland UW -Madison Extension programs.



Community Development—Kellie Pederson

The Community Development Program provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations to realize their fullest potential and build the vitality that enhances quality of life for residents. We educate in organizational development, leadership development, food systems, community economic development, and local government process. In short, the Community Development Program plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.

Increasing the Availability of Attainable Housing

Chequamegon Bay Regional Housing Coalition



Since 2019, Extension has acted as the primary convener for the Chequamegon Bay Regional Housing Coalition. This group of municipal, tribal, county, and agency representatives, has been working diligently to research and develop a coordinated response to address the regional housing crisis.

In 2022, the group’s primary focus was to work closely with the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Administration (WHEDA) as a Pilot Community in the Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Initiative. During a nine month period, with the support of WHEDA, the group hosted community listening sessions, identified new workforce housing solutions, and garnered public feedback to further refine these strategies. At the close of 2022, the Housing Coalition had narrowed their focus to three solutions:

- Implementing Housing Friendly Zoning
- Building a Housing Community Land Trust to support affordable home ownership
- Developing new funding opportunities for small-scale developers working with local communities

Implementation of these solutions is anticipated to begin in summer of 2023 with matching financial support from WHEDA.

New Housing Outreach Specialist Position



In 2022, as a result of a unique partnership between Extension and Bayfield County, a new position was created. The Housing Outreach Specialist will be piloted in Bayfield County in 2023 and 2024. This position will significantly increase capacity to build a more effective response to the regional housing crisis.

The focus of this position will be the implementation of the housing programs and collaborations that have been developed in the past years.

*Kelly Westlund was hired February of 2023 as the Housing Outreach Specialist

Data-Driven Presentations on Local Housing Needs



In 2022, Extension worked to share relevant local housing data and facilitate meaningful discussion on the topic of housing across the region. Presentations and discussions were shared with the following groups:

- City of Washburn Common Council
- Town of Bayfield Economic Development Committee
- Town of Bell Planning Commission
- Community of Cable public meeting
- Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation
- Iron River Economic Development Committee
- Town of LaPointe Housing Subcommittee
- City of Bayfield Common Council
- Bayfield County Housing Authority Board
- Bayfield County Board of Supervisors
- League of Women Voters Housing Subgroup
- Village of Mason Board

County-Led Housing Development in Washburn



In 2022, Extension worked in partnership with the Bayfield County Administration Office to develop a pathway for a housing development on County owned property, in order to increase housing opportunities for seniors and low and median income residents. This effort included:

- Identifying suitable land for development and aligning potential development with the County’s goals
- Issuing an RFP seeking developer engagement
- Implementing a transparent process to review the proposals and select a developer
- Working with the developer to create preliminary site design in accordance with County goals
- Submitting an application for tax-credit funding

This effort is ongoing. The next significant milestone will be the determination of funding in late Spring of 2023.



2021 Highlights of Direct Service to Non-Profit and Public Organizations

Bayfield County EMS Committee



In order to address challenges faced by EMS services across the region, a Committee of the County Board was tasked with making recommendations to support local EMS providers and better serve regional residents. In cooperation with the County's Emergency Management Coordinator, Extension was able to support this important work by:

- Providing guidance on process and facilitation
- Preparing supporting materials and research
- Preparing the Committee's final report

Over the seven-month process, stakeholders engaged in listening sessions, dialogue, and research. As a result, more trust and understanding was built between stakeholder groups. The final report outlined new opportunities for collaboration, a shared legislative agenda, and identified new actions to alleviate some of the most pressing issues.

Red Cliff Business Development Corporation



- Provided direct service to the organization as a member of the Board of Directors
- Provided support to maintain organizational consistency through staff and Board transitions
- Provided support to professionalize operations through the initiation of routine financial audits and the development of new policies and procedures

The StageNorth Groundlings



- Completed term as President of the Board
- Facilitated strategic planning process with Board of Directors and key stakeholders
- Identified pathway to rebuild organization after 2 years of suspended operations due to COVID-19 pandemic



Woods Hall

- Facilitated 2-day strategic planning retreat for Woods Hall, a community arts space on Madeline Island
- This retreat supported the group in realigning their efforts to better support the artistic community.

Long Range Planning Committee



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
WASHBURN

- Provided direct service to the district as a member of the Long Range Planning Committee
- Provided input to District leadership as the school navigated the challenges of resuming routine operations in the post-pandemic era.
- This work will carry on in 2023 as the District refocuses on long-range planning, facilities review and of school improvements strategies

Ashwabay Alliance



- Provided support to complete a merger between the Ashwabay Outdoor Educational Foundation and the Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua
- Provided direct service to the newly merged organization as a Secretary of the Board
- Built organizational capacity needed to better serve the region as a recreational hub for locals and tourists
- This work is ongoing and will carry on through 2023

Washburn on Wheels



- Provided backbone support and facilitation to organize an ad hoc community group interested in proposing a Bike Park in the City of Washburn.
- Built organizational capacity in order to support a more effective partnership with the City
- Wrote a \$10,000 planning grant to offset the cost of professional consultation for park design.
- This work is ongoing. Planning to begin in the summer 2023.

Bayfield County Senior Care Cooperative



- Partnered with CORE Community Resources to support to an emerging coalition focused on building a Senior Care Cooperative that will increase well-being for community elders in need of personal care and other in-home services
- In 2022 ,the group received a \$16,000 grant from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to cover the cost of a market study.
- The study will be complete in 2023.



Agriculture—Emerging Crops—Jason Fischbach

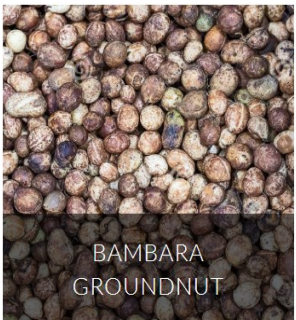
In 2021, UW-Madison Division of Extension’s Agriculture Institute began shifting from a county-based staffing model to a regional and statewide model that would allow Agriculture Educators and staff to become more specialized to better serve the rapidly changing agricultural community. Longtime programs, such as Master Gardeners and farm/garden helplines would also become more statewide, taking advantage of readily accessible online and distance ed resources.

Here in Bayfield County, Jason Fischbach’s position changed from the two-county Agriculture Educator (Ashland/Bayfield) to the statewide Emerging Crops Outreach Specialist. Jason is still housed in Washburn and is focused on developing new cropping options for farmers in the region (and statewide) including hazelnuts, table grapes, currants, kernza, and winter oilseed crops. Given the potential of hazelnuts, that work continues to be his focus.



WI Emerging Crops Accelerator— A New Resource for Wisconsin

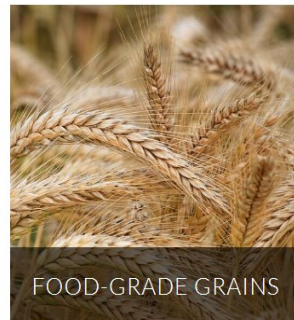
There is great potential in new crops, especially for early-adopter growers that are first to market. But, there is also considerable risk in growing new crops. Fischbach launched the WI Emerging Crops Accelerator in 2022 to help growers learn about new crops and gain the information and knowledge they need to make good decisions. Check it out at <https://www.emergingcropswi.org>.



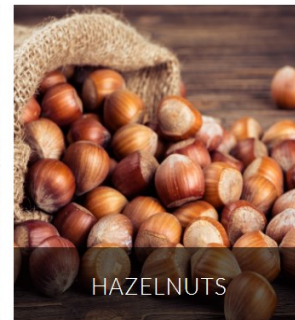
BAMBARA
GROUNDNUT



CIDER APPLES



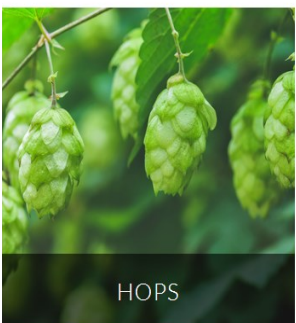
FOOD-GRADE GRAINS



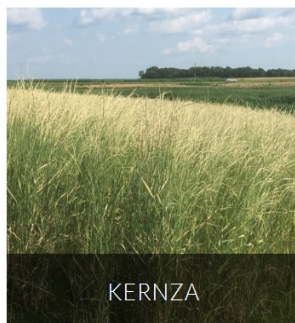
HAZELNUTS



HEMP



HOPS



KERNZA



MALTING BARLEY



NEW BERRY CROPS

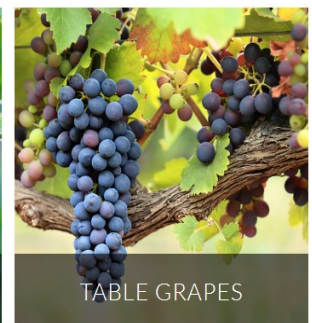


TABLE GRAPES

The Emerging Crops Accelerator aims to strengthen the vitality and resilience of Wisconsin agriculture through the development of new crops, new products, and new markets.

www.emergingcropswi.org



Bayfield County is Helping Bring the Nut Economy to Wisconsin

\$90,000. That's it. That was the farm gate sale of tree nuts grown in Wisconsin in 2021. That's a tiny 0.0001% of the total farm gate value of US producers in 2021. Our work with hazelnuts is intended first and foremost to allow our farmers (and value-added processors) to participate in the lucrative tree nut economy. Bayfield County is helping lead the way first with its support of the Bayfield Germplasm Performance Trial where we evaluated and identified top genetics, now with the Bayfield Go-First Farm that is an at-scale pilot planting to show growers how to grow this new crop.

Almonds	\$ 5,619,930,000
Pistachios	\$ 2,873,750,000
Walnuts	\$ 957,700,000
Pecans	\$ 435,279,000
Hazelnuts	\$ 132,300,000
Macadamias	\$ 48,980,000
Total	\$ 10,067,939,000

Left U.S. tree nut farm gate sales in 2021.

Right The five-acre Bayfield Go-First Farm has been established at the Bayfield Business Park and now we wait for them to start producing nuts.



20,000 Acres by 2030 Requires Lots of Plants

The Hazelnuts 2030 Initiative has set the goal of establishing 20,000 acres of hazelnuts in Wisconsin by 2030. That will require roughly 9.6 million plants. UW-Madison Division of Extension is working with Hauser's Superior View Farm in Bayfield and other nurseries to develop low-cost propagation techniques to build the plant supply chain.

The photo at right shows a softwood stem cutting that we've tricked into producing roots. Helping local nurseries take advantage of new economic opportunities is one example of the benefits of Bayfield County hosting a statewide UW-Madison Division of Extension position. Learn more about our ongoing hazelnut project at: www.midwesthazelnuts.org.



New Table Grape Varieties for WI Growers

Let's face it, the usual green and red table grapes available at the grocery store don't really taste all that good. It's a shame, really, as there is an incredible diversity in grape flavors and quality and consumers don't get to enjoy it. But, we're hoping to change that.

In partnership with the University of Minnesota, we are trialing five new seedless grape cultivars bred specifically for the Upper Midwest. The climate of Bayfield County is conducive to grape production so we're working to make sure Bayfield County growers are leading the way.

In 2022, we established replicated evaluation trials at Blue Ox cidery in Bayfield and Great Oak Farm near Mason. We hope to have the first crop to share with taste testers in 2024. Stay tuned about this exciting new project.





Office Manager-continued

Educational Outreach, Office Operations & Technology

As the office website and social media coordinator, LaChappelle created content, posted and updated the sites with timely materials and new educational offerings. These sites included the UW-Madison Extension Bayfield County website, the Extension Bayfield County social media accounts Twitter (140 followers) and Instagram (264 followers), as well as the four Bayfield County Extension Facebook pages; General Office (819 followers), Master Gardeners Association (114 followers), Superior Adventures (36 followers) and 4-H (128 followers), and also added items onto the Bayfield County website calendar.



Lukas took charge of the 4-H pages on the UW-Madison Division of Extension Bayfield County website. She created content, and laid out the pages with relevant information, and posted items to the 4-H Facebook page.



LaChappelle handled the preparation and sending out of the monthly "Just In Time" (JIT) Parenting Newsletter to the Bayfield County parents of children ages newborn to one-year-old. On average this included 66 families receiving newsletters each month in 2022. The "JIT" bi-monthly newsletters for two to three-year olds was received by up to 11 Bayfield County parents, while the "JIT" newsletter for four to five-year old children was received by up to 18 Bayfield County parents on a bi-monthly basis.

Parenting the Preschooler



LaChappelle also ensured that the Washburn Early

Childhood Center, Bayfield Head Start and the Red Cliff Early Childhood Center received editions of two different newsletters specifically created by UW-Madison Division of Extension for parents of preschool age children, "Parenting the Preschooler" and "Money Smart for Head Start". These newsletters were sent to contacts at each of the organizations on a monthly basis while their classrooms were in session.



Caregiver and Family News: [Living Well in our Best Years](#)

LaChappelle created the layout for the collaborative newsletters between the UW-Madison Division of Extension Bayfield County Office and the Bayfield County Human Services Aging and Disability Resource Office. The newsletters entitled, "Caregiver and Family News: Living Well in Our Best Years", had three issues that went out in 2022. These newsletters reach out to local seniors, caregivers, and their families with pertinent information regarding many facets of their lives. Through a Human Services grant, the newsletter was sent to every household in Bayfield County twice in 2022. Past issues of the "Living Well in Our Best Years" newsletter are available on the UW-Madison Division of Extension Bayfield County website: <https://bayfield.extension.wisc.edu/family-living/aging-and-caregiving/>

"Bringing the resources of the University of Wisconsin to Bayfield County."

