



NEWS FROM EXTENSION

UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION WINNEBAGO COUNTY



Wisconsin Idea Week 2026
Winnebago County

April 6 - 10, 2026
A Constellation of Community

- ★ A showcase of Extension Programming
- ★ Open to everyone in the community
- ★ Program & Partner Fair to engage with others
- ★ Featuring **BADGER TALKS**
- ★ Coincides with National Public Health Week
- ★ Schedule will be announced in January

Logos for Winnebago County and Public Health are also present.

Save the date!

Mark your calendars for Wisconsin Idea Week 2026 - Winnebago County! April 6-10, 2026 will be filled with Extension programming and outreach to showcase the amazing services we provide for the community. And this year, we're partnering with Winnebago County and Public Health to celebrate a "Constellation of Community," bringing all the great things Winnebago County has to offer to light. Stay tuned for more information - the full schedule of events will be announced in January!

920-232-1970

625 E. County Road Y #600 | Oshkosh

Health & Well-Being

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



We COPE

1:30-2:30pm

Omro Community Center

No registration is needed for in-person sessions.

Virtual: Tuesdays, Oct 14 - Nov 18 | 9:00-10:00am via Zoom.

Registration is required. Virtual sessions will meet via Zoom once a week for one hour. Once you have registered, we will send you a Zoom link with additional details.

There is no cost to attend this class.

Questions? Contact Katie!

Katherine (Katie) Jaegly

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WeCOPE Returns! Managing life's

challenges in healthy ways allows us to take better care of ourselves and others.

Join us for WeCOPE, a FREE, evidence-based program that helps adults cope with daily stress.

We have two upcoming WeCOPE series:

IN-PERSON: Fridays, Oct 17 - Nov 21 |

4-H News

The most important part of 4-H is YOUth - your voice, your ideas, and your future - and **4-H Enrollment for 2025-26 is NOW OPEN!**

Be part of something amazing in Winnebago County! With **16 community clubs**, 5 project clubs, and over 570 youth members, 4-H is where learning meets fun. From hands-on projects to camps, travel, and leadership opportunities - there's something for everyone.

What are the 4 H's? They are your Head, your Heart, your Hands, and your Health. Explore your passions, build life skills, and make lifelong friends. Whether in schools, after-school programs, or community clubs, 4-H meets youth where they are.

Check out the brand new [WI 4-H Project Guide](#), and enroll today to spark your journey!

Dana Berger

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920-420-0481 or 920-232-1974

[Learn the 4-H Pledge.](#)



[Find a 4-H Club.](#)

[Download the WI 4-H Project Guide.](#)



Community Development

There's still time to register for [Introduction to Plain Language!](#)

Join this FREE virtual workshop to learn strategies for word choice, font selection, grammar use, user testing, and more that help us communicate quickly and effectively with both native and nonnative English speakers.

Registration is open for:

- Wednesday, September 17th | 10:00am - 12:00pm
- Tuesday, October 28th | 1:00pm - 3:00pm

More information at: <http://go.wisc.edu/plain>

Presented in partnership between UW-Madison's Cultural Linguistic Services and UW-Madison Division of Extension.



Fast Pitch Business Competition is back!

Got a bold business idea or venture ready for its next leap? Step into the spotlight at the annual [Fast Pitch](#), part of the [New North Pitch Series](#)!

Applications are open October 1-31.

Event details:

November 11, 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Bordini Center at Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton



Cash Prizes!

Partners: UW-Oshkosh SBDC, Fox Cities Chamber, UW-Madison Extension, Oshkosh Chamber, Venture Center at FVTC

Sponsors: New North, NEW Launch Alliance, WBD

Questions? Contact Mia Ljung at mia.ljung@wisc.edu or call 920-470-4645

Mia Ljung

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Horticulture

Foxtails and Pets: Hidden Dangers in the Garden

While lilies and other plants are known to be toxic to pets, [Foxtails](#) - a grassy weed with fuzzy seed heads - pose a different kind of risk. These seeds, which appear from spring through fall, have tiny barbs that cling to fur and skin. Once attached, they can burrow into paws, ears, eyes, or under the skin, potentially causing painful infections.

Foxtails are often mistaken for harmless grasses like Timothy grass, bottle brush grass, or ornamental fountain grasses. The key difference? **Foxtail seeds shed easily and feel sharp**, whereas lookalikes stay attached and are safe to touch.

Pet Safety Tips:

- **Learn to identify foxtails** and remove them before they go to seed.
- **Avoid overgrown areas** where they thrive.
- **Check your pet's coat, paws, and ears** after outdoor play.

A little awareness goes a long way in keeping your furry friends safe and healthy!

Happy Gardening!

Jacob Kluza

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Figure 1 The seed heads of giant (top), green (lower left), and yellow (lower right) foxtails. The giant foxtail seed head drops while the seed heads of the green and yellow.



Figure 2 Left image: Timothy seed head. Photo: Ohio State University. Right image: Green foxtail seed head. Photo: North Carolina State University.

Crops & Soil

2025 Corn Moisture Conversion Chart Now Available!

Wisconsin farmers harvest nearly 3 million acres of corn grain every year. Whether you're drying to 15% for storage, or using high-moisture shell corn for feed, accurate moisture conversion is key to fair pricing.

Extension has released its updated [2025 Corn Grain Moisture Conversion Chart](#), available in Excel and PDF formats.

Download it now - make smart decisions this harvest season!

Kevin Jarek

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Corn Silage Drydown Results Published

Click here for more information



Human Development & Relationships

Rent Smart
Free, Virtual Tenant Education

[Rent Smart](#) is a FREE, virtual education series designed to help renters build strong relationships with landlords, and to understand their rights and responsibilities.

Whether you are new to renting or have faced challenges securing housing, Rent Smart provides essential skills for a successful renting experience.

Participants will learn to:

- Build positive relationships with landlords and neighbors
- Navigate the rental application and screening process
- Understand tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities

Join us and become a smart, informed renter!

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

- November 2025: 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 | Monday/Wednesday 7:00pm - 8:00pm
- December 2025: 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18 | Monday/Thursday 1:00pm - 2:00pm

See the full schedule and register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/Rentsmartregister>

Todd Wenzel

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Feedback, questions or accessibility issues: info@extension.wisc.edu | © 2023 The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System

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