

Ties to the Land Newsletter



October—December 2018

DIRECTORY OF AGENCIES

Racine Kenosha Milwaukee Farm Service Agency (FSA)
1012 Vine St., Union Grove, WI 53182 (262) 878-3353 x 2

Racine Kenosha Milwaukee Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
1012 Vine St., Union Grove, WI 53182 (262) 878-1243 x 3

Kenosha County UW-Extension
19600 75th St., Suite 2, Bristol, WI 53104 (262) 857-1945

Racine County UW-Extension
209 N. Main St., Burlington, WI 53105 (262) 767-2929

Racine County Land Conservation Division
14200 Washington Ave. Sturtevant, WI 53177 (262) 886-8440

Kenosha County Land and Water Conservation
19600 75th St., Suite 185-3, Bristol, WI 53104 (262) 857-1900

These agencies are EEO/AA employers, providing equal opportunity in employment and programming.

TIES TO THE LAND NEWSLETTER
RACINE KENOSHA MILWAUKEE FARM SERVICE
AGENCY
1012 VINE ST.
UNION GROVE, WI 53182

**UW
Extension**

University of Wisconsin-Extension

Kenosha County UW-Extension

19600 75th Street, Suite 2

Bristol, WI 53104

262-857-1945

www.kenosha.uwex.edu

Racine County UW-Extension

209 North Main Street

Burlington, WI 53105

262-767-2929

www.racine.uwex.edu

LIST YOUR LOCAL FARM OR FARM RELATED BUSINESS IN THE 2019 FARM FRESH ATLAS OF SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

The Farm Fresh Atlas of Southeastern Wisconsin is a regional guide to local food, farms, and farmers markets. Over 30,000 copies of the Atlas are distributed annually throughout the area - even more consumers are reached through a statewide website, www.farmfreshatlas.org. The Atlas is now accepting applications for the 2019 issue. Visit <https://farmfreshatlas.org/sign-up> or email farmfreshsewi@gmail.com for more information.

WISCONSIN FARM ACCOUNT AND RECORD BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR 2019

Hard copy farm record books will be available at the Racine and Kenosha County UW-Extension offices for 2019. If you would like to reserve a copy, please contact Leigh Presley, Kenosha/Racine County UW-Extension Agriculture Educator at 262-857-1948 or 262-767-2905 by October 27, 2018. Price will be less than \$10.00/book.

2019 WISCONSIN COVER CROP CONFERENCE SAVE THE DATE

The Wisconsin Cover Crop Conference is a statewide event for farmers to hear from cover crop experts and experienced farmers about how to successfully integrate cover crops into Wisconsin's unique cropping rotations and climate. The 2019 conference will be held on February 20, 2019 at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. Visit www.fyi.uwex.edu/covercrop for more information about the conference and to find cover crop recommendations and resources specific to Wisconsin and your farming goals.

PEST MANAGEMENT UPDATE MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER

Mark your calendars for the upcoming University of Wisconsin-Extension Pest Management Update meetings happening at various locations around the state. Presentation topics at these meetings will include agronomic pest management information for Wisconsin field and forage crops. Speakers include Mark Renz and Rodrigo Werle, UW-Extension weed scientists at UW-Madison, Damon Smith, UW-Extension plant pathologist at UW-Madison, and Bryan Jensen, integrated pest management coordinator at UW-Madison/Extension. These meetings will provide research updates and important highlights from the 2018 field season as well as interactive diagnostic troubleshooting exercises based on current issues.

Dates, meeting locations, and registration contact information are:

- Monday, Nov. 12, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.: Marshfield, Marshfield Agricultural Research Station, 2611 Yellowstone Drive. Contact: Richard Halopka, UW-Extension Clark County, Courthouse Rm. 104, 517 Court Street, Neillsville, WI 54456; (715) 743-5121.
- Tuesday, Nov. 13, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: Chippewa Falls, Lake Hallie Eagles Club, 2588 Hallie Road. Contact: Jerry Clark, UW-Extension Chippewa County, 711 N. Bridge Street Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; (715) 726-7950.
- Wednesday, Nov. 14, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: Platteville, UW-Platteville Student Center – University Rooms, 1 University Plaza. Contact: Amanda Cauffman, UW-Extension Grant County, 916 E. Elm Street, Lancaster, WI 53813; (608) 723-2125.
- Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.: Janesville, Holiday Inn Express Janesville, 3100 Wellington Place (I-90 and US Highway 14, West on 14). Contact: Nick Baker, UW-Extension Rock County, 51 S. Main Street, Janesville, WI 53545; (608) 757-5698.
- Thursday, Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: Fond du Lac, UW-Fond du Lac, Rm 113 University Center, 400 University Drive. Contact: Tina Engelhardt, UW-Extension Fond du Lac County, 227 Admin/Extension Bldg. 400 University Dr., Fond du Lac, WI 54935; (920) 929-3171.
- Thursday, Nov. 15, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.: Kimberly, Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower Drive. Contact: Kevin Jarek, UW-Extension Outagamie County, 3365 W. Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54914; (920) 832-5128.
- Friday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: Bangor, Log Cabin, Jones Road. Contact: Kaitlyn Lance, UW-Extension La Crosse County, 212 6th Street North, La Crosse, WI 54601; (608) 785-9593.

Three hours of CCA CEU pest management credits are requested and available at each location.

4-H ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN

4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization. Youth in 4-H participate in hands-on projects such as citizenship, communication, health, science, and agriculture. Youth 5K through one year past high school graduation can join 4-H. Contact Racine County UW-Extension (262-767-2929) or Kenosha County UW-Extension (262-857-1945) for more info.



Kenosha County Land and Water Conservation

Dan Treloar - County Conservationist
19600 75th Street, Suite 185-3, Bristol, WI 53104
262-857-1900

www.kenoshacounty.org/676/Land-Water-Conservation

FARM THE BEST - BUFFER THE REST

Riparian buffers are zones adjacent to waterbodies such as lakes, rivers, and wetlands that protect both water quality and wildlife habitat. These buffer zones help to filter nutrients, slow soil loss and stabilize the bank. Key considerations for buffers/corridors include:

- Wider buffers are better than narrow buffers for water quality and wildlife functions.
- Continuous buffers are better than fragmented corridors for wildlife. Quality wildlife habitat should be provided in a buffer whenever possible.
- Buffers should be located and expanded around rare, threatened, or endangered species. Native species diversity should be promoted through plantings and active management.
- Fragmentation of buffers should be reduced by limiting the number of crossings of a creek or river where appropriate.
- Restoration or rehabilitation of hydrological function, streambank stability, instream habitat, and/or floodplain connectivity should be considered within corridors.



Among the many tools available to farmers to reduce pollutant runoff from agricultural lands, riparian buffers are one of the most simple and cost-effective tools to provide multiple environmental benefits. Contact the Kenosha County Land & Water Conservation at 262-857-1900 or the USDA-NRCS at 262-878-1243 for help designing and implementing your buffer.



Racine Kenosha Milwaukee NRCS Office

1012 Vine Street, Union Grove, WI 53182
262-878-1243 x 3
www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov

FY2019 EQIP SIGNUP

EQIP is the primary program available to farmers for farm and woodland conservation work, offering payments for over 110 basic conservation practices. Last year, Wisconsin received about \$35 million in funds for EQIP practices. By getting applications in early, we have time to visit individual farms to help plan all practices needed and offer advice. All eligible applications received by November 16, 2018, will be evaluated, prioritized and ranked for funding in 2019. Farmers and landowners may contact NRCS at 262-878-1243 x 3 to get started on producer eligibility and planning. If you are interested in practices that may require permits, such as manure storage or streambank restoration, begin planning and seeking permits as soon as possible. Applicants with shovel-ready projects (designs completed and permit applications submitted) will receive higher priority.

CONSERVATION CLIENT GATEWAY

Farmers and private landowners can now do business with NRCS through an easily accessible online portal. The Conservation Client Gateway gives producers and entities the ability to work with conservation planners online to access Farm Bill programs, request assistance, and track payments for their conservation activities. Log in to see maps of your farm, complete applications, file signatures online and more. Visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/clientgateway

The portal enables farmers and private landowners to securely:

- Request NRCS technical and financial assistance.
- Review and sign conservation plans and practice schedules.
- Complete and sign an application for a conservation program.
- Review, sign and submit conservation program contract documents.
- Document completed practices and request certification of completed practices.
- Request and track program payments.



14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, WI 53177
262-886-8440

www.racinecounty.com/government/public-works-and-development-services/land-conservation

Racine County Land Conservation

Chad Sampson, County Conservationist
Jonathan Grove, Conservation Specialist
Mitchell Buhler, Conservation Planner

WATERSHED PROTECTION COMMITTEE OF RACINE COUNTY (WPCR): LEADING EFFORTS IN EROSION CONTROL AND WATER QUALITY

The Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County (WPCR) is a team of local farmers leading efforts in erosion control, water quality improvement, and providing information to farmers and rural landowners regarding the use of conservation practices. The group hosts educational workshops and field days and promotes the implementation of conservation practices including cover crops, no-till, and riparian buffers. The committee currently aims its conservation efforts at three watersheds in the county but intends to add more in the near future. These currently are the Eagle Creek, Hoosier Creek, and Goose Lake Branch Watersheds. Farmers within these watersheds are eligible to receive incentive funding from the WPCR for utilizing cover crops and buffers. With a mission to “establish growing conservation knowledge to improve land and water quality” the WPCR hopes to improve conservation in Racine County.



WPCR Hosts Cover Crop Field Day at Tom Greil's Farm on September 6th, 2018.



WPCR Members:

Tom Greil - Chairman
Brian Gunderson - Vice Chairman
Russell Weis-Secretary/Treasurer

John Vyvyan
Alvin Wilks
Randy Newholm



Racine Kenosha Milwaukee FSA Office

1012 Vine Street, Union Grove, WI 53182
262-878-3353
www.fsa.usda.gov

2019 ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE IS FAST APPROACHING

In order to comply with FSA program requirements and be eligible for payments, all producers are encouraged to visit your local FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline for the 2019 Crop Year:

November 15, 2018: Perennial Forage, Fall Mint, Fall-seeded small grains, pasture, rangeland, and forage

November 20, 2018: Honey Bee Colonies and Maple Sap

January 15, 2019: Apples, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Currants, Hops, Huckleberries, Pears, Strawberries

Late filed crop reports are \$46 per farm! Postcards are being mailed out to those who have fall reported in the past. If you do not receive a postcard by 11/1/2018, CALL US IMMEDIATELY (262) 878-3353 in Union Grove, (262) 723-3216 in Elkhorn.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS (MALs) ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2018 CROPS

9 month commodity loans (MALs) provide low cost financing and marketing assistance for commodities such as feed grains, soybeans, wheat, wool and honey, just to name a few. MALs provide producers interim financing after harvest to help them meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are low.

MARKET FACILITATION PROGRAM

The sign-up period for MFP is now open and runs through Jan. 15, 2019, with information and instructions provided at www.farmers.gov/mfp. MFP provides payments to cotton, corn, dairy, hog, sorghum, soybean, and wheat producers who have been significantly impacted by actions of foreign governments resulting in the loss of traditional exports. Eligible producers should apply after harvest is complete, as payments will only be issued once production is reported. Contact us in the FSA Office in Union Grove at 262-878-3353 or the FSA Office in Elkhorn at 262-723-3216 for more information.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY INFORMATION VIA TEXT

Receive text message alerts from FSA while on the go. Signup to receive informational texts on your phone. Join by simply texting WIRacine to [372669](tel:372669) and/or WIWalworth to [372669](tel:372669). No more than 2 texts will be sent per month.