

Ties to the Land

Newsletter

October—December 2016

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

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Cooperative Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension
Kenosha & Racine Counties

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

Racine County
209 N Main St.
Burlington, WI 53105
262-767-2929

WEBINAR SERIES ON AG LEASING, ESTATE PLANNING & FARM SUCCESSION

A webinar to discuss the first steps of farm succession planning will be held Thursday, Oct. 27, 2016 at the Walworth County UW-Extension office in Elkhorn. This webinar is for both the owner and successor generations to learn how to begin the succession planning process, which starts with three questions: Where is the farm now? Where do you want it to be? How do you get there? Specific topics discussed will include an overview of farm succession planning and important components, a three step process to help businesses organize their ideas and issues around succession, exercises and worksheets to help farm partners talk about their goals, and resources available to assist farm businesses through the planning process. If you are interested in attending this webinar, please contact Leigh Presley, UW-Extension Agriculture Educator in Racine and Kenosha Counties at 262-857-1948 or 262-767-2905. Check out the schedule of future farm succession webinars:

- **Nov. 17, 2016** - How Big is Your House? - How Big Does It Need To Be? Financial analysis for succession planning – Kevin Bernhardt, UW-Extension farm management specialist (1-3 p.m.)
- **Jan. 26, 2017** - Estate planning – Bridget Finke, Attorney, Valley Crossing Law (1-3 p.m.)
- **Feb. 23, 2017** – Long Term Care: Planning for My Future Needs – Steve Shapiro, Medigap Insurance Specialist, State of Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care and the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (1-3 p.m.)
- **March 23, 2017** – Medicaid Eligibility and Recovery – Anthony Schmoldt, Attorney, Schmoldt Law Office (1-3 p.m.)

PEST MANAGEMENT UPDATE MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER

Mark your calendars for the upcoming University of Wisconsin-Extension Pest Management Update meetings scheduled Nov. 7 -11 at various locations around the state. The meetings will address pest management highlights from the 2016 field season, research updates, and an interactive diagnostic troubleshooting exercise based on local issues observed in 2016. Participants will receive a copy of the 2017 *Pest Management in Wisconsin Field Crops* guide, a “Farmer’s Guide to Soybean Diseases” and “A Farmers Guide to Corn Diseases.” See ipcm.wisc.edu/blog/2016/09/2016-uw-extension-pest-management-update-meeting-series/ for more information. Date, meeting location, and registration contact information for the closest session is:

- **Wednesday, Nov. 9, 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

UW-EXTENSION COVER CROPS RESOURCES

Curious about cover crops or looking for the most recent WI-specific recommendations for your farm? Visit www.fyi.uwex.edu/covercrop—a reference for farmers and landowners with up to date information gathered from Wisconsin farmers, cover crop seed companies, cover crop research projects, and NRCS. The page also provides information about cover crop events like field days and workshops. Check back frequently to see what is going on in Wisconsin with cover crops!

LAND RENTAL RATE RESOURCES

New county cash rent estimates have been released by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service September issue of the *Wisconsin Farm Reporter*. These numbers provide a general idea of what others are paying/charging, but there are many more factors to consider when establishing a rental rate, such as the lessee’s costs of production and landowner cost of ownership and desired return on equity. Features of the land to be rented, such as soil quality, productivity, field location and accessibility, and field size are other factors to consider when determining a fair rate. If you have questions on establishing a fair rental rate or developing a lease agreement, contact Leigh Presley, UW-Extension Agriculture Educator for Racine and Kenosha Counties at 262-767-2905 or 262-857-1948.

Cash Rent: Value, by Counties, Wisconsin 2014 & 2016

County	Non-Irrigated Cropland		Pasture	
	2014	2016	2014	2016
Dollars per acre				
Kenosha	138.00	152.00	-	-
Ozaukee	-	-	-	49.00
Racine	122.00	133.00	-	-
Walworth	192.00	190.00	-	-
Washington	101.00	120.00	-	-
Waukesha	108.00	114.00	35.00	41.00
Combined counties ¹	97.00	103.00	58.00	35.00
Southeast	134.00	144.00	54.50	40.00
Wisconsin	130.00	131.00	34.00	35.00

- County estimate is unpublished to avoid disclosure of individual operations or represents zero. Unpublished counties are grouped to a combined counties total. 1. Includes counties not published individually.



Kenosha Land & Water Conservation
Dan Treloar - County Conservationist
19600 - 75th St., Suite 185-3, Bristol, WI 53104
(262) 857-1900 FAX (262) 857-1920
Website: <http://www.kenoshacounty.org/index.aspx?nid=676>

LAKE AND STREAM CLASSIFICATION PLAN NEARS COMPLETION

Kenosha County has undertaken a lake and stream classification study in partnership with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to identify the existing quality and the relative sensitivity to existing and future land use. Water bodies were classified into groups based on the degree of protection and need for restoration. The scoring process groups all lakes and streams into three management classes. Class I waters contain the least impacted/most pristine waterbodies and Class III were the most modified/disturbed, whereas Class II waterbodies fell between these two extremes. Preliminary results show that of the 17 lakes found in unincorporated portions of the County, five fall into Class I, four fall into Class II, and the remaining eight are Class III. Streams found in unincorporated areas fall into eleven watersheds. Numerous streams were classified with the majority (35) being preliminarily classified into Class II. Eighteen streams were classified as Class III water bodies while only five were classified as Class I.

Lake and stream management recommendations include buffers and environmental corridors, groundwater recharge, surface hydrology, water quality, wildlife and fisheries, education, and monitoring. Class I could be threatened by changing land use and protection of existing conditions is key. Protection measures include urban and agricultural runoff management, developing and enhancing buffers, and minimizing new impervious surface. Class II waters can be improved by restoring some of the water body's latent value and function. Protection and restoration measures include water quality improvement, flood attenuation, and/or wildlife habitat expansion. Management strategies may include returning functionality to ecological systems by restoring natural vegetation, groundwater recharge and water quality in future and existing development. Class III waters benefit from active restoration work and need more intensive mitigation, due to their greater impairment. Restoration and enhancement actions include shoreline vegetation and habitat restoration, restoring the connectivity and function of natural areas, implementation of pollution reduction measures, and rehabilitation of ditched and otherwise modified stream reaches.



Racine Kenosha Milwaukee FSA Office
1012 Vine St.
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262-878-3353
www.fsa.usda.gov

2017 ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE IS FAST APPROACHING

In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements and be eligible for payments, all producers are encouraged to visit the RKM or Walworth FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the applicable deadline for the 2017 Crop Year:

November 15, 2016: Perennial Forage, Fall Mint, Fall-seeded small grains, pasture, rangeland, and forage

January 15, 2017: Apples, Caneberries, Cherries, Cranberries, Currants, Hops, Huckleberries, Pears, Strawberries

Late filed crop reports are \$46 per farm! Postcards are being mailed out to producers that have reported hay in the past and for those that have traditionally planted winter wheat. If you do not receive a postcard by 11/1/2016, CALL THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY! (262) 878-3353 in Union Grove, (262) 723-3216 in Elkhorn.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS (MALs) ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2016 CROPS

Nine month loans 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 tend to be lowest. Loan rates vary slightly county by county, so please contact the FSA office for your county rates and if you need additional information.

FSAfarm+, FSA's CUSTOMER SELF-SERVICE PORTAL

A new program, known as FSAfarm+, provides you with secure access to view your personal FSA data, such as base and yields, HEL and wetland status information, field boundaries and farm imagery. Farm operators and owners first will need "Level 2 eAuthentication" to access the portal—go to www.eauth.usda.gov, complete the required information and then visit your local FSA office to finalize access. See you soon!

Racine County Land Conservation



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

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

Land Conservation Division Staff:

Chad Sampson, County Conservationist
Jonathan Grove, Conservation Specialist
Max Perrault, Conservation Planner

2016 RACINE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION TREE AND SHRUB PROGRAM

Please find the enclosed 2017 Tree Order form for Racine County. The ordering deadline is February 24, 2017. Tree pick is mid-April at the Racine County Fairgrounds in Union Grove. Feel free to call 262-886-8440 with any questions regarding the program.



\$28 PER ACRE FOR DEVELOPING A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Nutrient management is a way for Wisconsin farmers to ensure that their crops receive the proper nutrients at the appropriate rate, time and place to match crop needs and minimize nutrient losses from fields. Nutrient management planning is one of the best practices farmers can use to reduce excess nutrient applications to their cropland and the water quality problems that result from nutrient runoff to lakes, streams and groundwater. If you are interested in receiving \$28 per acre for nutrient management, please call our office at 262-886-8440 #3.



Racine Kenosha Milwaukee County NRCS Office

1012 Vine St., Union Grove, WI 53182
262-878-1243 x3

Website: www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov

CONSERVATION CLIENT GATEWAY

Conservation Client Gateway (CCG) is an NRCS website that provides secure access to conservation plans and program contract documents.

With Conservation Client Gateway you can:

- Request technical assistance
- Apply for financial assistance through the Farm Bill's conservation programs
- Review and sign conservation plans
- Document completed practices and request practice certification
- Request and track payments
- Store and retrieve conservation documents and pictures

Individuals can begin using CCG right away and entities will be able to access CCG in the near future. Get started now and save yourself some trips to the office! www.nrcs.usda.gov/clientgateway

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) has become the nation's biggest conservation program and will undergo big changes for 2017. Most notably, CSP will provide more opportunities for conservation—more enhancements and almost double the conservation practices will be offered. The changes will also provide better reporting tools to tell producers the results of their conservation efforts on their land. To find out more information go to www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

It's never too late to sign up for conservation practices to address resource concerns on your operation. NRCS accepts applications for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program on a continuous basis. Contact us now to schedule a fall site visit: Union Grove: (262)878-1243 x3; Elkhorn: (262)723-3216 x3.