

**AGENDA**  
**CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, July 2, 2025  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Courthouse – Room 302

1. Call meeting to order
2. Declaration of Quorum
3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
4. Review Correspondence.
5. Approve minutes of previous meetings
6. Approve vouchers, staff reports, & committee reports
7. Risk and Injury Report
8. Extension
  - a. Jen McNelly Presentation
9. Land & Water Conservation Department
  - a. Wake boat discussion (Eric Hummel, Nepco Lake District Chairman)
  - b. Upcoming event flyers (informational – Snapshot Day, Keuffer Field Day, Albert Field Day)
  - c. Update and potential discussion regarding nitrate well testing project.
  - d. Discussion and action regarding Golden Sands RC&D 2026 membership dues of \$1,900.00
  - e. Update on Mill Creek Watershed
  - f. Update on ongoing violations
10. Private Sewage
11. Land Records
12. County Surveyor
  - a. Consider RFPs for County Highway F Transportation Project Plat, Project 1 and Project 2.
13. Planning & Zoning
14. Economic Development
  - a. Update from Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce and consider release of Economic Development grant funds of \$25,000.
  - b. Update from Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry and consider release of Economic Development grant funds of \$25,000.
  - c. Update from City of Pittsville and consider release of Economic Development grant funds of \$50,000 for property purchase and housing incentive project.
15. Committee requests for per diem for meeting attendance
16. Schedule next regular committee meeting
17. Agenda items for next meeting
18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
19. Adjourn

***Join by phone***

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Meeting number (access code): 2489 071 0213

***Join by WebEx App or Web***

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m6055638cc60a0d17d72aac99ebbbfeaf>

Meeting number (access code): 2489 071 0213

Meeting password: 070225

# MINUTES

## CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025  
**TIME:** 9:00 AM  
**PLACE:** Courthouse – Conference Rm #302

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Tim Hovendick, Wayne Schulz, Russ Perlock, George Gilbertson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting was presented. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Jeff Gaier from the Marshfield Airport provided his yearly report to the committee as well as possible future plans. He is requesting the economic development grant funding be released. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the release of \$15,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to the Marshfield Airport. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Dale Christensen from the Central Wisconsin State Fair provided a report and highlighted the activities going on at the fair as well as future needs. He is requesting the release of economic development grant funding for the Junior Fair. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve the release of \$38,000 of budgeted economic development grant funding to the Junior Fair. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Three Extension employees presented on the FoodWise program, the various entities, schools, and partnerships that work with the program, as well as the funding mechanism. This program is funded through the SNAP Program at the federal level, which is currently not going to be funded in the new federal budget that is now being looked at by Congress. If the current proposal passes, the funding will sunset by September 30, 2025.
7. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
8. County Conservationist Wucherpfennig presented a resolution amending the 2025 Land & Water Conservation Dept. budget for additional funding received and disbursed from the Surface Water Grant. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Wucherpfennig introduced the new summer intern, Nicolas Fuentes Branas to the committee.
10. Wucherpfennig received two bids for the Duckett waste storage facility closure, which were as follows:

- a. Kolo Trucking - \$12,760.
- b. Adrian Devoran - \$24,800.

Motion by Hovendick/Schulz to approve the low bid of \$12,760 as the basis for cost share dollars.  
Motion carried unanimously.

11. Wucherpennig updated the committee on the status of the nitrate testing project and the next steps involved with the disbursement of ARPA funding.
12. Wucherpennig reviewed the status of the two violations. Both have successfully been closed and are compliant at this time.
13. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg presented a resolution amending the Town of Auburndale zoning ordinance. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Grueneberg presented a resolution to close out the county CDBG Housing Grant Program and noted there will, however, be opportunities for this type of funding for residents through the state. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward it onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Leichtnam attended the Wood County Unit of the Wisconsin Towns Association meeting to highlight and promote the nitrate testing being done by the Land & Water Conservation Dept. and requested per diem for attendance. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the per diem request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
16. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:00 AM.
17. Chairman Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

June 4, 2025

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill O'Leary	WCB #15
Jason Greenberg	P+Z
Russ Perlock	WCB #4
Jeffrey Galer	Marshfield Airport
Patrick Catterman	UWEX
Wayne Schulz	WCB #J
Gregg Dilbertson	
Dennis Poulas	WCB-14
Nicolas Fuentes	LWCD
Shane Wecherfening	LWCD
Hannah Wendel Scott	Extension
Michelle Van Krey	Extension
Tammy Harding	Pittsville Community Library
Mallory McGivern	Extension
Dale Christian	CWSE
Lance Plim (Web Ex)	CB Chair
Victoria Wilson (Web Ex)	P-3
Barb Peeters (Web Ex)	LWCD
Julie Marel (Web Ex)	P-3

# Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Extension

For the period of: June

For the range of vouchers: 30250063 - 30250085

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30250063	SCOTT HANNAH		06/04/2025	\$36.43	P
30250064	LEU-TIMMERMANN BOBBETTE		06/04/2025	\$20.86	P
30250065	SCHLICE ANN		06/04/2025	\$15.48	P
30250066	UW MADISON EXTENSION	STRONG BODIES TRAINING FEE	06/04/2025	\$100.00	P
30250067	UW MADISON EXTENSION	CWF FEE - BUDTKE	06/04/2025	\$2,000.00	P
30250068	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	06/04/2025	\$58.76	P
30250069	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	4-H CAMP SUPPLIES	06/18/2025	\$103.22	P
30250070	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	4-H CAMP SUPPLIES	05/29/2025	\$10.89	P
30250071	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	4-H CAMP SUPPLIES	05/29/2025	\$20.99	P
30250072	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES		05/19/2025	\$76.44	P
30250073	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	4-H CAMP & OFFICE SUPPLIES	05/20/2025	\$166.14	P
30250074	US BANK	JUNE STATEMENT	06/17/2025	\$342.82	
30250075	EBERLEIN BENJAMIN	JUNE EXPENSES	06/25/2025	\$120.68	
30250076	HUBER LAURA	JUNE EXPENSES	06/25/2025	\$476.25	
30250077	MEZA OLGA	JUNE EXPENSES	06/25/2025	\$335.30	
30250078	MITCHELL ANNA M	JUNE EXPENSES	06/25/2025	\$202.12	
30250079	ROMBALSKI KAYLA-ROSE	JUNE EXPENSES	06/25/2025	\$302.33	
30250080	MITCHELL ANNA M	APRIL/MAY MILEAGE CORRECTION	06/25/2025	\$50.76	
30250081	BERG LISA	PROJECT DISCOVERY DAY SUPPLIES	06/25/2025	\$48.24	
30250082	GATOR GARB PROMOTIONS INC	4-H CAMP T-SHIRTS	06/25/2025	\$920.68	
30250083	NATIONAL RAILROAD MUSEUM INC	DISCOVER WI TOUR	06/25/2025	\$412.00	
30250084	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	4-H SUPPLIES - CAMP & TLK	06/25/2025	\$80.46	
30250085	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	STRONG BODIES YOGA MATS	06/25/2025	\$59.95	
<b>Grand Total:</b>				<b>\$5,960.80</b>	

Signatures

Committee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Member: \_\_\_\_\_

# Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Land & Water Conservation

For the period of: June 2025

For the range of vouchers: 18250087 - 18250092

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18250087	HENRICKSEN AND COMPANY INC	Part for sit/stand desk	05/28/2025	\$235.72	P
18250088	PARKER MCCRORY MFG CO	6V gel battery/energ (Hauke)	05/28/2025	\$421.83	P
18250089	PHEASANTS FOREVER	Customer seed order	04/29/2025	\$76.50	P
18250090	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	LMPN Office Supplies	06/09/2025	\$7.99	P
18250091	US BANK	Field day/testing/tree deposit	06/17/2025	\$1,745.03	
18250092	WEILER ALAN K	Cost share residue management	06/18/2025	\$2,688.05	
<b>Grand Total:</b>				<b>\$5,175.12</b>	

## Signatures

Committee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Member: \_\_\_\_\_

# Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: June

For the range of vouchers: 22250037 - 22250040 38250008 - 38250009

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22250037	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Prof Serv Other	06/01/2025	\$1,126.67	P
22250038	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Suuplies	06/18/2025	\$38.27	P
22250039	US BANK	LR-Credit Card Charges	06/17/2025	\$6.29	
22250040	ESRI INC	LR-Other Subs, Pubs & Dues	06/25/2025	\$17,705.00	
38250008	CENTRAL WI STATE FAIR ASSOC	ED-Grant Funds	06/04/2025	\$38,000.00	P
38250009	MARSHFIELD AIRPORT	ED-Grant Funds	06/18/2025	\$15,000.00	P
<b>Grand Total:</b>				<b>\$71,876.23</b>	

## Signatures

Committee Chair:

\_\_\_\_\_

Committee Member:

\_\_\_\_\_



Extension Wood County staff led, delivered, planned or collaborated on all of the following activities:

## 4-H POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

*Laura Huber, 4-H Program Educator*

*Olga Meza, Bilingual 4-H Associate Educator*

*Trina Bores, 4-H AmeriCorps member*

- A residential summer camp program for youth in grades 3-7 where youth spent 3 days and 2 nights immersed in summer camp activities. Through summer camp, youth develop independence, strengthen interpersonal skills, and explore potential areas of interest like leadership, arts & crafts, outdoor education, and more.
  - **Total Reach:** 70 youth campers, 23 youth counselors, 5 adult volunteers
- An in-person orientation for youth travelers and their families where we reviewed the upcoming Discover Wisconsin experience. Youth learned about our schedule, behavior expectations, what's needed, and more. As a result, youth and families will be more prepared to successfully engage in this 3-day, 2-night trip.
  - **Total Reach:** 34 youth travelers 30 parents

## AGRICULTURE

*Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator*

- Planning for a spreadsheet tool for dairy producers and consultants. The goal is to help producers understand the value of managing inventory and to be able to use the spreadsheet to account for loss and varying qualities of feed, and storage methods so that they can better plan and manage feed inventories. Feed is the largest expense on a dairy farm, accounting for about half of all input costs.
- An article in print and on the internet for a general farm audience, which highlighted the many advances in grazing systems that have made it more productive and worth the consideration of producers as a sound economical way to manage livestock production systems. Total Reach: The Wisconsin Agriculturist has a circulation of 22,000 with multiple members per household in the distribution. The web version is available to a wider audience over an extended period of time and is still having new views after the print publication.
- Planning a hybrid workshop series for dairy and beef producers, and dairy workers (in Spanish) in September 2025. The goal is to provide information and techniques to boost cattle caretakers' confidence in preparing the cow for calving, obstetric techniques, and newborn calf care so that their health and reproductive programs maintain their farm's economic viability.



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

*Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator*

- Partnering on a Wisconsin Partnership Program - Community Impact Grant with CAP Services, Inc. and the UW Center for Community and Non-Profit Studies to grow and improve CAP Services' housing repairs programming. A goal of this project is to improve the accessibility and timeliness of their services in order to improve housing conditions for low to moderate income individuals and improve health equity in housing.
- A series of meetings with a local steering committee to plan for the 2025 Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference, which will be held June 16-18 in Wisconsin Rapids. The purpose of this conference is to showcase the scope and impact of entrepreneurial programs across the state, supporting a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem for all rural Wisconsin communities.

## CRANBERRIES

*Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist*

- Allison is currently on maternity leave and will return at the end of June.

## FOODWISE

*Hannah Wendels, FoodWise Nutrition Educator*

*Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator*

*Michelle Van Krey, Healthy Communities Coordinator*

- An introductory series of StrongBodies and Tai Chi for adults who are incarcerated, where during Tai Chi they learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. During StrongBodies they engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness. Through both of these activities, the program helps reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
- A series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health & nutrition education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness.
  - **Total Reach: 20 registered adults/older adults**
- A partnership with United Way/Hunger Coalition, FOCUS Food Pantry, and the Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids that provides "Stockboxes for Seniors", a monthly food box service where low-income seniors can receive around 25-30 pounds of nutritious foods to stock their pantry with. The goal of this partnership is to promote the boxes with community partners with the overall goal to improve food security,



## HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

*Ka Zoua Thao, Bilingual (Hmong) Community Health Worker*

- Bi-weekly summer meetings for Hmong youth, attending Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School and Lincoln High School, where participants engage in healthy eating, active living, and behavioral health topics affecting their communities. This effort is designed to build a better understanding of these topics and promote advocacy for change in the Hmong community.
  - **Total Reach:** 15 youth registered
- An introductory series of StrongBodies and Tai Chi for adults who are incarcerated, where during Tai Chi they learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. During StrongBodies they engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health, and enhance social connectedness. Through both of these activities, the program helps reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
- Building relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the Hmong community within Wood County.
- Ongoing one-on-one meetings with Hmong clients, where resources and referrals are made. Through these efforts, individual clients are able to receive support navigating through the healthcare and legal systems, and get connected with community resources.
  - **Total Reach:** 8 one-on-one clients
- The Hmong Women's Social Space serves as a monthly gathering for Hmong women to engage in discussions about often overlooked topics within their community. This initiative aims to foster relationships among participants and empower them to advocate for the recognition of their voices.
  - **Total Reach:** 5 participants

## HORTICULTURE

*Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator*

- A program where participants learned the fundamentals of applying IPM-based strategies to residential wildlife damage management. The goal of this effort was to reduce impacts of pesticide misuse.
- A workshop on wildlife management in residential landscapes was conducted with the following objectives: (1) to identify examples of randomness and diversity in wildlife management; (2) to recognize the legal protections afforded to wildlife and the necessity of compliance; and (3) to apply integrated pest management (IPM) principles to wildlife control techniques, including exclusion, removal, repellents, scare tactics, habitat modification, and cultural practices. The session emphasized the cost-effectiveness of prevention over reactive measures and introduced the IPM framework for diagnosing and addressing wildlife damage. Participants were guided through a structured decision-making process—problem identification, strategy development within legal and ethical boundaries, and technique selection. Concepts of randomness and diversity were contextualized within wildlife behavior and management strategies. The workshop concluded with an applied exercise using a chipmunk fact sheet. Post-program evaluations indicated strong learning outcomes across all objectives. All participants reported high confidence (ratings of 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale) in identifying examples of wildlife management concepts such as randomness and diversity. Similarly, all respondents affirmed understanding that wildlife laws protect various species and must be adhered to, either as a result of the program or through prior knowledge. Participants also demonstrated high confidence (ratings of 4 or 5) in identifying wildlife management techniques within an IPM framework, including exclusion, removal, repellents, scare tactics, habitat modification, and cultural changes.
  - **Total Reach: 23**
- A workshop for a parenting support group, where participants applied container gardening techniques to successfully grow dwarf cherry tomatoes. This effort was designed to result in a sense of accomplishment, positive socialization, and reduced sense of isolation in new parents.
- Non-clinical garden-based interventions have demonstrated efficacy in enhancing both mental and physical health across diverse populations with social and health-related needs (Howarth et al., 2020). In Wood County, where access to mental health resources can be limited, therapeutic horticulture offers a low-barrier, community-based approach to support well-being. Aging populations, individuals experiencing grief, and those with social isolation may particularly benefit from structured garden-based programs. Integrating these interventions into local outreach efforts aligns with broader public health goals and community wellness initiatives.



- In collaboration with the Wood County Health Department, a workshop was held in which three Spanish-speaking mothers and seven children participated in potting dwarf cherry tomatoes. The session introduced essential container gardening practices, including selection of appropriate potting media, container size, tomato cultivars, fertilization methods, and irrigation techniques.
  - **Total Reach:** 3 adults and 7 youth
- A diagnostic service for the general public, where Marathon and Wood County residents' horticultural inquiries are answered through evidence-based resources. This effort is designed to reduce pollution through horticultural product (pesticides and fertilizers) misuse.
- A newspaper article for residents of the Pittsville area, where readers learned how to protect their landscapes from deer and rabbits. The goal of this effort was to increase awareness and knowledge about UW-Madison resources.
- An interview for the WFHR listening audience, where listeners learned how to improve their soil health through composting. The goal of this effort was to increase awareness and knowledge about UW-Madison resources.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & RELATIONSHIPS

*Ben Eberlein, Human Development & Relationships Educator*

- A 6-session course for renters, held in Marshfield, where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.
  - **Total Reach:** 2
- A 6-session course for participants from the Wood County Jail, where they learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.
  - **Total Reach:** 2
- A series of book reading guides for children and their parents, where participants learn basic money concepts including goal setting, prioritizing needs and wants, solving problems, making decisions, and self-control. Through this, they lay a foundation for financial security and contribute to positive financial management in later life.
  - **Total Reach:** 80 children

## NATURAL RESOURCES

*Jen McNelly, Natural Resources Educator*

*Anna Mitchell, Natural Resources Educator*

- A compilation of water quality and private well data and information for private wells exceeding the nitrate-nitrogen drinking water standard in Wood County. This information will help the Wood County Land and Water Conservation Department prioritize ARPA funding for well treatment systems and areas where additional efforts could be taken.
  - **Total Reach:** 20 private well owners
- A meeting for conservation and water professionals from six counties in the Wisconsin central sands to learn about the groundwater nitrate flow model created by the Wisconsin Geologic and Natural History Survey and to provide feedback on the models applications and potential improvements.
  - **Total Reach:** 10 meeting attendees
- A meeting with stakeholders to develop a monitoring plan for the Nepco Lake watershed, that will outlines plans for gathering data that can be used to help inform management decisions in the watershed and activities of the Nepco Lake District in the future.
  - **Total Reach:** 10 Stakeholders from the Nepco Lake Watershed
- A series of four summer school lessons on natural resources for outdoor adventure summer school participants in 3rd and 4th grade, where they learned about a variety of natural resources topics so that they can better understand and appreciate the outdoor world.
  - **Total Reach:** 20 students and 4 teachers
- A 6-session natural resources program at AgriVenture Farm Camp for youth in grades 3-6, where they learned to identify trees, examine tree anatomy, and use hands-on tools to determine tree age. Through this program youth were empowered to engage in place-based learning experiences, fostering a deeper connection with their local forest ecosystems. It also inspired a sense of stewardship, encouraging youth to care for and protect their natural environments.
  - **Total Reach:** 35 youth in grades 3-6
- Facilitation of monthly meetings of the Wood County Citizen Water Groups, where stakeholders meet to discuss ways to implement their annual action plan, learn about water related issues in Wood County, plan events and activities, update each other on work being done in Wood County, and identify new collaborations for future work/projects.
  - **Total Reach:** 15 citizen members of the Wood County Citizen Water Group



## Wood County, Wisconsin LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

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### Activities Report for Barb Peeters - June 2025

- Compiled final participation for the nitrate testing of private wells for the first round of testing (March 15 to May 29, 2025) utilizing ARPA funds. Total number of test kits picked up (193) and test kits returned (164). Going forward, the plan is for the County Conservationist to contact landowners with nitrates testing over 20ppm to determine interest in installation of a reverse osmosis (RO) system and begin the application process for cost-sharing.
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator by updating the Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Permit Application Form and updating the form on LWCD website.
- Updated nitrate water test collection instruction sheet and incorporated feedback from LWCD staff on revised form.
- Scheduled, created agendas, attended and took minutes at June 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup>, and June 25<sup>th</sup> staff meetings.
- Worked with sales rep for commercial bareroot fruit trees to determine feasibility of offering fruit trees in our annual tree/shrub sale due to repeated customer requests. Sent email poll to over 780 tree sale customers to gauge interest in fruit trees and received an overwhelmingly positive response. After calculating the estimated costs, the decision was made to move ahead with offering fruit trees in the 2026 tree/shrub sale. Submitted a somewhat conservative order for fruit trees for the spring 2026 sale (which includes apple trees: Honey Crisp, Empire & Wolf River; pear trees: Flemish Beauty & Wisconsin (Jung) Hardy; peach trees: Reliance & PF24C-Cold Hardy). There are a few logistics to work out yet but I'm excited to help bring fruit trees to our annual tree sale!
- Verified success of garlic mustard pull done in May 2024 in Biron with visit to site (it was very successful!).
- Worked with Rod Mayer to determine potential tour stop at Hauke Honey in Marshfield for CEED tour in September (our department works with Hauke Honey through the Wildlife Abatement and Claims program with equipment for damage prevention of bears getting at their bee hives).
- Compiled list of 2026 tree/shrub species to offer in 2026 sale. Estimated prices and reviewed with Conservation Program Coordinator. Submitted reserve tree order to nursery for 2026 tree/shrub sale.
- Compiled list of wildflower/seeds to include in 2026 tree/shrub sale. Reviewed with Conservation Program Coordinator and updated descriptions/pricing.
- Generated bid summary for waste storage facility closure (Duckett).
- Attended June 4<sup>th</sup> CEED committee meeting virtually.
- Revised no-till drill and roller crimper operating agreements with verbiage supplied by Corporate Counsel. Discussed logistics of obtaining landowner signature on agreement *prior* to equipment being used/transported by landowner due to liability issues.
- Assisted Nepco Lake District member with Clean Water/Clean Boats program forms.
- Generated cost share contract for residue management (A. Weiler)
- Downloaded the DATCP monthly report for June and shared with LWCD staff.
- Verified with County Conservationist that the 2025 SWRM Master contract for Wood County was signed and emailed to DATCP (DATCP will not process reimbursement payments unless the master contract is fully executed).
- Attended Wellness Committee meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> and shared information with LWCD staff & Parks-Forestry staff.
- Attended EPPIC farm tour at Red Door Family Farms on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Very informative event. They've converted 60% of their farm to perennial cover, restored native prairie in highly erodible areas with extensive use of cover crops to build soil health and organic matter, minimize erosion and retain nutrients. (Owner was a speaker at the CWFP Expo in April.)
- Ordered department supplies and processed invoices/payments.
- Vacation days June 5<sup>th</sup> and June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Processed payments for rental of no-till drill as received.
- Assisted with nonmetallic mining paperwork/documentation while Conservation Program Coordinator was out ill.

Report continued on next page.....

- Posted Snapshot Day information and flyer on LWCD website (event scheduled for August 9, 2025 at Wazeecha)
- Assisted County Conservationist with personnel issue.
- Generated TRM grant cost-share contract for rip-rap project/shoreline and streambank protection (K. Lewis).
- Created spreadsheet to track summer intern hours to assure dept. stays within budgeted hours.
- Researched whether TRM grant can be used to cover recording fees (it was determined recording fees are only reimbursable if part of a land acquisition).
- Updated Wellness bulletin board with third quarter information provided by Wellness Coordinator.
- Worked with Henricksen sales rep & customer service to address ongoing issues with sit-stand desk. After 3 months of communications and ordering/installing a new control box, the issue has been resolved.
- Assisted Conservation Specialist with review of draft documents for invasive species.
- Completed annual Wood County Security Training/Security Awareness.
- Generated SWRM cost-share contract for streambank & shoreline protection (K. Lewis)
- Began planning Keuffer Grazing Tour event (contacted caterer to arrange details for provided lunch and assisted with creation of flyer)
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the June 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> payrolls.
- Reviewed payroll reports and verified distribution by accounts/departments.
- Processed department invoices/vouchers and deposits weekly for submission to the Treasurer/Finance.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the July 2<sup>nd</sup> CEED meeting packet.
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator with the publication of a Class I Public Notice for Mathy Construction Company's application for a NR 135 Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Permit.
- Served as point of contact for LWCD staff while the County Conservationist was off and/or out of the office (June 4, 9, 17, 18, 24).

## Activities Report for Emily Salvinski

*-June 2025-*

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- **Tuesday, June 3.** Attended training on version 3 of snapplus in Stevens Point.
- **Wednesday, June 4.** Started mapping nitrate results from the Health Department to 5/29.
- **Thursday, June 5.** Attended nitrate data display discussion. Finished mapping data. Updated “percent over 10 ppm by area” map.
- **Tuesday, June 10.** Attended staff meeting. Updated nitrate “testing by township map”. Looked up lab numbers from sample results so the health lab could get me phone numbers.
- **Wednesday, June 11.** Sent out emails to get more NMPs turned in. Attended Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation tour stop at Red Door Family Farms.
- **Thursday, June 12.** Attended meeting to discuss future of nitrate mapping. Attended online badger crop connect.
- **Wednesday, June 18.** Took streamflow measurements from 5 locations in southeast Wood Co. Organized data in the office into charts/tables.
- **Thursday, June 19.** Entered data into SWIMS. Took samples from 4 locations within the Mill Creek watershed to be tested for total phosphorus and total suspended solids.
- **Monday, June 23.** Worked on/resolved snapplus issue. Added NMP updates to gis.
- **Tuesday, June 24.** Went over well testing gis workflow with Paul Bernard. Experimented with arcgis pro. Completed IT training.

## Activities Report for Kyle Andreae – June, 2025

- June 2 – Sick
- June 3 – Bockman CREP, Krohn CREP application process, Lippert site visit
- June 4 – Lewis documentation,
- June 5 – Krohn site visit, Lewis site visit
- June 6 – Ehlers site visit, Krohn CREP correspondence
- June 9 – Lippert design, Cohort meeting
- June 10 – Staff meeting, Lewis correspondence, Cohort meeting
- June 11 – Lewis site visit
- June 12 – Lewis correspondence,
- June 13 – Lewis design documentation and site visit
- June 16 – Lewis site visit, Lippert design
- June 17 – Lewis construction inspections
- June 18 – Lewis construction inspections
- June 19 – Lewis construction inspections
- June 20 – Lewis construction inspections
- June 23 – Lewis construction inspections
- June 24 – Lewis construction inspections
- June 25 – Staff meeting, Lewis construction inspections
- June 26 – State Technical Committee meeting, Lewis construction inspections
- June 27 – Drone training, Lewis as-built
- June 30 – Transect survey



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### Activities Report for Kendra Wilhelm – June 2025

- Coordinated the use and transport of the no-till drill for 4 operators.
  - This consists of answering questions via phone, managing the schedule of the no-till drill, and transporting the no-till drill to renters.
- Participated in a staff meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the final decision on having a fruit tree sale.
- Wrote and sent out a press release promoting Snapshot Day.
  - Snapshot Day is a one-day statewide aquatic invasive species (AIS) monitoring event where volunteers are trained to identify and monitor for AIS at pre-selected sites.
  - Snapshot Day will be held on August 9<sup>th</sup> at Lake Wazeecha.
- Discussed the combined no-till drill and roller crimper operating agreement with Barb and Shane.
- Site visit at last year's invasive garlic mustard hand-pull location in Biron to note progress.
- Discussed tree order form with Barb along with picking potential tree/shrub species and seed mixes for next year's annual sale.
- Sent email reminders and calendar invites to the summer intern regarding two statewide Clean Boats Clean Waters watercraft inspection programs. Nico will cover both Dexter and Wazeecha boat landings on various days throughout the summer.
- Picked up rusty crayfish from the Pittsville High School biology teacher.
- Attended the June Lakes & Rivers Partnership meeting. The focus was on DNR aquatic plant management updates, aquatic invasive species monitoring reminders for the field season, and a SWIMS login update.
- Created and finalized my aquatic invasive species presentation for the Nepco Lake District.
- Communicated with and coordinated the pick-up of the rusty crayfish from the Pittsville High School Rusty Crayfish Trapping Project to the owner of Fierce Hearts Wildlife Rehabilitation. The rusty crayfish will be used as food for recovering animals.
- Watched the recording of the May Lakes & Rivers Partnership meeting regarding lake districts, farmer groups, and watershed management.
- Read "The Field Note" summer issue from WI Land + Water.
- Provided information to Jen McNelly regarding monitoring/testing efforts that the Land & Water Conservation Department has conducted within the Fourmile Creek Watershed.
- Created multiple aquatic invasive species educational materials to be used at events that are part of meeting the grant deliverables for the Lake Monitoring & Protection Network project.
- Watched a series of videos regarding considerations when choosing multi-species cover crops.
- Watched the 5-part series of new nutrient management trainings designed for nutrient management planners created by DATCP.
- Entered Clean Boats Clean Waters data into the SWIMS database on June 9<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup>, and June 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Participated in the June 10<sup>th</sup> staff meeting.
- Talked with a landowner regarding residue management cost-sharing as they no-tilled their corn and soybeans into a standing cover crop.
  - Created a document with parcel numbers for all fields and sent to Barb for completion of the cost-share contract.
  - Cost-share contract has been signed and fields have been verified.
- Attended an EPPIC hosted field day at Red Door Family Farm.
- Brainstormed an efficient way to provide outreach and education to farm operators about our nutrient management cost-share and farmer education program.
- Attended a webinar on pest management, diversified cropping systems, and soil organic carbon.

- Participated in the Boater Behavior Study Orientation.
  - This is a Clean Boats Clean Waters annual study where boat landings are picked at random within a region for the study to be conducted at. This year Lake Wazeecha was chosen as one of the five sites within the Central Region.
  - Participated in the Boater Behavior study at Lake Wazeecha as requested by UW-Extension Lakes.
- Transported the no-till drill back to the forestry shed for storage.
- Attended a webinar on strategic tillage in long-term no-till systems.
- Transported the no-till drill to an operator in Junction City and assisted with calibration of the drill.
- Mailed a letter to a landowner with multiple acres of invasive purple loosestrife. The letter was inquiring about releasing *Galerucella* beetles on their property as a biocontrol project.
- Collected invasive species and native look-a-likes for an educational session for the Nepco Lake District.
  - Taught Nico (summer intern) invasive and native plant identification while collecting species.
- Assisted a farmer with troubleshooting the new Snap Plus Version 3 program and how to access his farm. Also discussed a potential grassed waterway project within a field with the farmer and Kyle.
- Communicated with DNR staff to schedule an Organisms in Trade Pet Shop Training for aquatic invasive species work. The training was completed on Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. This project is part of the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network grant program.
- Attended a webinar on manure processing for discharge water quality. The focus was the use of two different digester systems in Dane County.
- Presented on aquatic invasive species for the Nepco Lake District.
- Completed Wood County Security Training for the Summer of 2025.
- Communicated with DNR regarding a potential invasive grass – a landowner had sent photos and description via email.
- Released purple loosestrife beetles that were raised for the purple loosestrife biocontrol project.

## ***Activities Report for Rod Mayer – June 2025***

- Prepared/mailed word document for Vision review info to Brehm. Documented sit down meeting details.
- Apiary assistance for Hauke Honey. Researched process, contact made, updated on increased bear hits in Wood Co., updates to all Hauke Wood County 40 hive locations in DNR database, Enrollment paperwork prepared, contact to Parmak for order of replacement batteries, equip. engraved, delivered and obtained enrollment signatures, updated DNR database and file.
- Sent site exemption and wetland process recommendations to Esser for pond build.
- Met with Town of Sigel supervisor and clerk – discussed info on Brehm Vision site. Informed not permitted with Wood County at this point and site shut down (Township was told all good with permits by Brehm). Brehm told County was good with township – town informed was not. Informed Brehm had met with Town and the untrue remarks of permitted with County and approved with town.
- Review Mid-WI mine site DNR email for wetland restoration area – printed and updated file.
- Prust Apiary assistance. Contact made, Update on continual bear hit on a location, updates to Prust Wood County 7 hive locations in DNR database, enrollment paperwork prepared, contact to Parmak for larger replacement energizer for problem bear – fence tape – and replacement batteries, engraved, delivered and obtained signatures, updates to DNR database and file, contact for energizer issues – received replacement from Parmak and delivered.
- Contact to two crop owner (Grimm & Newby) – info sent for new enrollment for wildlife damage and abatement program for upcoming crop year.
- 3 staff meetings (5/29/25, 6/2/25, 6/10/25)
- Completed DRAFT 2 review of Mathy-Marshfield mine site (133 pages) (joint CH30 jurisdiction with NR135 covering upland areas). Correspondence sent to DNR stormwater for issues, reviewed thoughts with Shane, Typed up review comments (5 pages), sent to Mathy.
- Phone meeting with DNR to discuss Mathy/Marshfield site. (wetland and runoff)
- Researched Earth 186 site – response to email. Earth proposed an expansion – I discovered the expansion already occurred – putting the site out of permit areas and out of compliance. Informed Earth and DNR. Ordered for new plan ASAP.
- Reviewed DRAFT 3 Mathy/Marshfield joint jurisdiction plan. Sent DNR info. Completed review document for needed info still missing – sent to Mathy.
- DNR correspondence in regards to year round deer donation per processor request.
- DNR TEAMS meeting – discussed: Mathy/Marshfield, Earth 186, Earth Biron, Ron Bohn/Kolo sites.
- Reviewed stipulation draft from attorney Stichert for Earth MR2 settlement. Drafted notes for major issues found. Met with Corporation Counsel to address issues – and have corrected draft prepared to send.
- Review Knott site exemption for pond. Issued approval letter, updated file and spreadsheet.
- Reviewed DRAFT 3 of Earth Biron/Bridgewater plan (156 pages). Completed review comments for corrections and missing info – sent to Earth. Addressed permit acres issue as well.
- Created new GIS site map for Biron/Bridgewater in prep for field visit.
- Reviewed DRAFT 4 Mathy/Marshfield. Contacted Mathy per phone – discussed only remaining is we are not getting the info needed for NR135.07 Surface and wetland protection BMPs shown on plan. County will wait to get info from DNR stormwater to review.
- Completed timeline summary document for Earth 186 site.
- Correspondence with Corp. Counsel in regards to public notice on mine sites with joint jurisdiction.
- Reported 5 bear hits to DNR on Hauke Honey locations.
- DNR Weichelt site wetland concerns review – updated file.
- Earth 186 mine site group visit and site walk through. Present included: Rod Mayer, Shane Wucherpfennig, Amanda Harvey (WIDNR), Brad Johnson (WIDNR), Skyler Deboer (Earth), and Dan Depoer (Earth). Completed summary of visit and uploaded/attached site pics to summary.



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION  
DEPARTMENT

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*Activities Report for Shane Wucherpennig – June 2025*

- Attended CWWP meeting Virtually hosted at the Hancock Ag. Research Station.
- Held staff meeting on June 2nd to discuss the final decision on having a fruit tree sale.
- Discussed the combined no-till drill and roller crimper operating agreement with LWCD Staff.
- Discussed Earth Inc. settlement with Nick Flannagan and the stipulation document for hearing.
- Opened Bids for Mike Duckett WSF closure project.
- Attended Ceed Meeting.
- Participated in a County Mtg with WGNHS to discuss Nitrate/Groundwater Flow Model
- Hosted a Meeting with land records, UWSP Groundwater Center, Jen MCNELLY, & Emily to setup a Web base data display discussion for Nitrates and Possible other contaminants.
- Attended an EPPIC Farm Tour - Red Door Family Farms in Athens.
- Reviewed new contracts and processes/tracking with staff for new program funds.
- Attended an NRCS statewide workgroup meeting.
- Met with several landowners to interview and use the “High Nitrate Questionnaire” as part of the pre-application to determine eligibility for treatment systems using ARPA Funds.
- Attended Wood Co Citizens Groundwater Group Meeting.
- Had follow up discussions with Nick Flannagan on the Earth, Inc. stipulation documents.
- Sat down with Rod Meyer multiple times over the month with Plan reviews for Milestone, Bridgestone - Earth Inc. Brehm-Vision Cranberry, Hwy 186 – Earth Inc., Etc.
- Met with Tracy Arnold – Portage County & Jen McNelly about the Mill Creek Watershed.
- Met on site at the HWY 186 – Earth Inc. site for a site inspection. Attendees where Brad Johnson & Amanda Harvey (DNR), Shane and Rod (LWCD), Dan & Skyler (Earth Inc.)
- Met with Summer Intern to discuss progress and performance and Internship expectations.
- Held Staff meeting for scheduling updates, upcoming transect survey and Intern projects.
- Attended PACRS Meeting on Monroe.
- Picked up Department Drone and received initial training.
- CSGCC Meeting in Hancock.
- Visited Roger Lewis streambank restoration project on the Wisconsin River South of Nekoosa for project wrap up.

## June Staff Report- Nicolas Fuentes (Summer Intern)

- Culver manure stack survey
- Fruit tree sale meeting
- Rip Rap Survey
- CBCW drain campaign
- CRP Grass waterways inspection
- Discuss plans for well water sampling mapping
- Citizens water group
- Rip Rap construction oversight
- Mill creek water sampling
- Nepco Lake invasive collection for education
- Internship project planning (Ground water sampling trends)
- Pet store invasives training



# Wood County WISCONSIN

## OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director  
Emily Arndt, County Planner  
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator  
Brad Cook, Code Administrator  
Kayla Rautio, Code Technician  
Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant  
Julie Mancl, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for July 2, 2025

### 1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)

**Thrive Rural Pittsville** – On May 30<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, Missy Hughes visited the City of Pittsville to talk with local officials as well as County staff (Kayla Rombalski and Jason Grueneberg), to learn more about the Thrive Rural Pittsville project. The project includes creating a non-profit organization called Cran City, to develop a community building with a few residential units, and retail and community spaces.

**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)** – On June 5<sup>th</sup>, I met with Melinda Osterberg, Regional Economic Director for the WEDC. At the meeting economic development opportunities were shared, as well as project updates of ongoing projects.

**Vesper Elementary School Housing Project** – The audit that was a requirement of the \$200,000 Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation grant for the Vesper Housing Development Project has been completed. The audit confirmed that Wood County administered the grant funds properly, and as a result the project has been officially closed out.

**Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities (CEC) Conference** – The CEC Conference was hosted by Wisconsin Rapids and Wood County from June 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. The conference was a huge success with over 200 attendees representing 48 of 72 counties. A big thank you to everyone that was involved with the planning and all of the presenters that talked about resources available for supporting entrepreneurship. The evaluations from the conference are a testament to the overall success of the conference and also included many positive comments regarding the City of Wisconsin Rapids, Wood County, and the friendly and welcoming residents.

### 2. Planning & Zoning (Emily Arndt)

a. On Maternity Leave

### 3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

a. Parcel Mapping  
b. Address Mapping

- c. Working with Conservation and UW Extension on a new Nitrate Web Application
- d. Working on new Land Records Viewer

#### 4. **Code Administrator (Brad Cook)**

6-2-2025- - (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT, mound TN: 06, 21, (1) privy permit reviewed and issued TN: 16, (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-3-2025- (1) replacement conv inspection TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-4-2025- (3) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new & rep mound TN: 04, 11, 22, (1) new mound, plow,abs cells, tanks insp TN:18, (1) SL onsite inspection TN: 22, (1) new conv insp TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

6-5-2025- Well Delegation Meeting, (1) new conv insp TN: 18, (1) new HT insp TN: 03, (1) new mound,plow,abs cells, tanks insp TN: 21, (1) new mound,plow, tanks insp TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

6-6-2025- (1) new mound abs cells, tanks insp TN:07, (1) rep HT insp TN: 21, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

6-9-2025-(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN:07, (3) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-10-2025- (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 13, (1) new conv insp TN: 13, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-11-2025- Review ordinances, collect paper data for DSPS, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-12-2025- (1) SF permit reviewed and issued TN: 18, -(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT, (1) new conv insp TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-13-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT TN: 07, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 17, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-16-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv. TN: 07, (1) SL permit reviewed and issued TN: 17, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-17-2025-(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep mound TN: 15, (1) reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 18, (1) soils onsite insp TN: 07, (1) mound plow insp TN: 02, (1) privy onsite insp TN: 16, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-18-2025- (1) mound abs cell insp TN: 02, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS,

SL, FL.

6-19-2025- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN: 18,) (1) reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 11, (1) new conv insp TN: 07, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-20-2025- (1) FL onsite insp TN: 17, Staff training meeting, (1) new HT insp TN: 15, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

6-23-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN: 18, (1) mound abs cell insp TN: 02 , answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

6-24-2025- (2) replacement conv insp TN: 07, 18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

## **5. Code Technician (Kayla Rautio)**

- A.** Continued soils floodplain education
- B.** Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications
- C.** Reviewed soil evaluations
- D.** Wrote up well inspections letter and sent out
- E.** Created well inspection information cards
- F.** Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions
- G.** Inspections/Investigations:
  - 5-29-25: Privy pre-inspection TN:16
  - 5-30-25: Mound reinspection TN:19
  - 6-4-25: Mound core inspection TN:18; Mound final inspection TN:18; Conventional drainfield inspection TN:18; Shoreland inspection TN:22
  - 6-5-25: Conventional inspection TN:18; Holding Tank inspection TN:03; Mound core inspection TN:21; Mound plow and tanks inspection TN:07
  - 6-6-25: Mound final inspection TN:07; Holding tank inspection TN:21
  - 6-10-25: Conventional inspection TN:13
  - 6-12-25: Conventional inspection TN:13; Well inspection TN:13
  - 6-17-25: Soils on-site inspection TN:07; Mound plow inspection TN:02; Privy inspection TN:16
  - 6-18-25: Mound reinspection TN:02
  - 6-19-25: Conventional inspection TN:07
  - 6-23-25: Mound plow inspection TN:02
  - 6-24-25: Mound reinspection TN:02; Conventional drainfield inspection TN:07
  - 6-25-25: Conventional inspection TN:18
- H.** Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.
  - 6-5-25: Well delegation follow-up meeting

- 6-20-25: Staff meeting- intro to new land records programs

**6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie Mancl)**

- a. Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity – There were 25 sanitary permits, 3 shoreland permits, 12 well permits issued in June and. 5 CSMs were processed and 1 recorded.
- b. ArcGIS Pro Software Projects – Julie continues to assist Paul with GIS mapping projects.
- c. Economic Development Grants – The deadline for this year’s economic development grants is July 11<sup>th</sup>. Victoria is receiving a slow trickle of grants with eight applications received so far.
- d. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
  - i. June 4<sup>th</sup> CEED meeting (VW & JM)
  - ii. June 5<sup>th</sup> Well Delegation Meeting (VW & JM)
  - iii. June 20<sup>th</sup> Staff Meeting/Lunch (VW & JM)

# Investing in Clean Water, Strong Communities, and a Thriving Agricultural Economy

## The Impact of UW–Madison Extension through Non-point Contracts

Wisconsin's economy, environment, and public health depend on clean, accessible water. Nearly 95 percent of Wisconsin residents rely on groundwater, and our outdoor recreation economy depends on clean rivers, lakes, and streams. UW–Madison Extension plays a vital, on-the-ground role in protecting water quality by reducing nonpoint source pollution through science-based outreach and education.

Wisconsin DNR's nonpoint source contracts play an important role in funding UW–Madison Extension Water Natural Resource Educators. **These educators serve every corner of the state—helping farmers adopt conservation practices, supporting county water management planning, and bringing the latest research into real-world application.**

Nonpoint source contracts also support water quality research and monitoring at the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS), housed at UW–Madison Extension. Groundwater monitoring data collected through the Survey is used to evaluate well-water quality, with the goal of reducing the transport of pathogens such as E. coli and Salmonella.

### WHAT WE DO

#### SUPPORT LOCAL DECISION-MAKING:

We reduce barriers, provide flexibility, and support local partners in advancing the adoption of conservation practices and making groundwater management decisions.

#### CONNECT STAKEHOLDERS:

We act as a bridge between farmers, local and county level organizations, and state partners to reduce duplication of services, build trust, and ensure that everyone is working toward common water quality outcomes.

#### GROUNDWATER MONITORING:

We provide water quality monitoring to better understand the health of our groundwater and enable local and state decision-makers to make informed management decisions.

#### AMPLIFY IMPACT:

We broaden the reach and impact of critical programs, such as the Producer-Led Watershed Groups to ensure the positive impact of these programs are felt in every corner of the state.

#### ELEVATE LOCAL INPUT:

We provide technical assistance to communities in developing watershed management plans and Total Maximum Daily Load plans and ensure local voices are heard when the Wisconsin DNR is fulfilling its obligations in the Nonpoint Source Program Management Plan. We ensure communities have collective ownership in watershed management and planning.

## WHO WE SERVE

### FARMERS AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS:

We provide access to tools, research, and peer networks that help farmers adopt conservation practices that not only protect water quality but also improve their bottom line.

### PRODUCER-LED WATERSHED GROUPS (PLWG):

We provide strategic planning, evaluation, and leadership development support for PLWGs. Without this support, many producer-led groups would struggle to organize, sustain momentum, collaborate with each other, or access the technical and strategic help they need.

### WISCONSIN DNR:

We partner with the DNR to fill critical gaps in non-point source planning and implementation.

### COUNTY, TRIBAL AND LOCAL LEADERSHIP:

We provide water quality monitoring and technical assistance on groundwater and drinking water issues and concerns. We ensure water quality data collected by the WGNHS, Wisconsin DNR, and other sources are useful and usable.

### WISCONSIN COMMUNITIES:

We provide hands-on learning for youth and adult community members to learn about water cycles, ecosystems, nonpoint source pollution, and conservation. These community and youth education events build public understanding of agriculture's role in protecting our water.

## OUR WORK

### in Adams, Juneau, Waushara, Marquette, Portage and Wood Counties

#### GATHERING DATA

Extension educators worked with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey to design and install a series of monitoring wells on a new solar farm development in Portage County. Data from the monitoring wells will be used to help understand the fate of nitrate contamination in groundwater supplies when a major land use change occurs.

#### SUPPORTING LOCAL DECISION-MAKING:

We collaborated to create Nitrate Risk Maps and other decision support tools for counties in Wisconsin Central Sands to communicate risk and inform well siting decisions at the private and county level.

#### PROVIDING OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

- ▶ Host the annual "Science by the River" event for Central Wisconsin residents to participate in a variety of free hands-on STEM based learning activities led by local community organizations.
- ▶ Teach youth lessons on water resources through the Stevens Point Summer School, Waushara County Conservation Days, Lincoln High School, 4-H, and Scouts.
- ▶ Offered workshops for local decision makers and government officials on Planning and Zoning as a tool to protect groundwater



**August 9, 2025**

**SNAPSHOT DAY**



**A STATEWIDE SEARCH FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES**

Join over 200 volunteers across Wisconsin who are helping protect a river or lake near you!



**Join Wood County Land & Water Conservation at:**

**East Wazeecha Picnic Area  
7910 North Park Rd  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494  
8:30am-12:30pm\*  
Times may vary by location.**

**Ages 8+ welcome - no prior experience required.**



*For more info & to register visit:  
<https://go.wisc.edu/15k8ii>*

Hosted in partnership by:



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON





# ALBERT ACRES'

## Demo Trials Field Day

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM  
2934 Circle Road, Junction City, WI 54443

In collaboration with Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department and EPPIC, this field day is located in the Little Eau Pleine Watershed in Junction City. Dustin Albert will be trying skip-row plantings in corn grain with an interseeded cover crop in the rows. This practice aims to increase cover crop biomass in his corn grain. Dustin will also be showcasing winter camelina (new type of cover crop to our area) in a soybean rotation. As part of this demo, we will be discussing soil health and better soil health practices. Wood County Land & Water Conservation will provide a free lunch for the event thanks to County ARPA grant funds. **More information to come.**

SAVE THE DATE

# GRAZING TOUR

LUKE KEUFFER'S FARM

AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

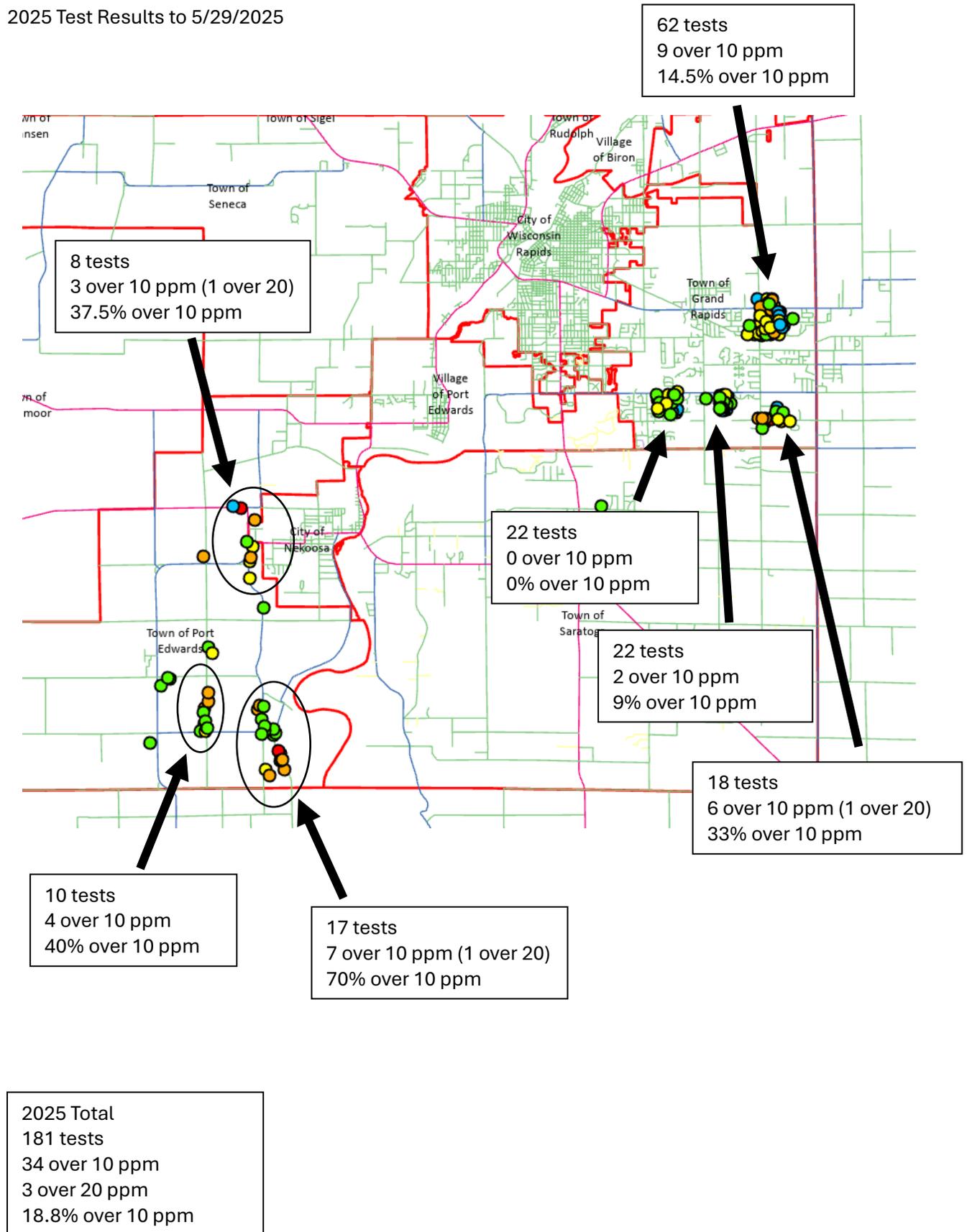
Join Wood County Land & Water Conservation staff on a unique grazing tour that will showcase Luke Keuffer's managed rotational grazing system, a solar watering system, and stream crossing. The event is free to attend and lunch will be included. **RSVP is required. Watch our website for more details.**

Managed Grazing  
System

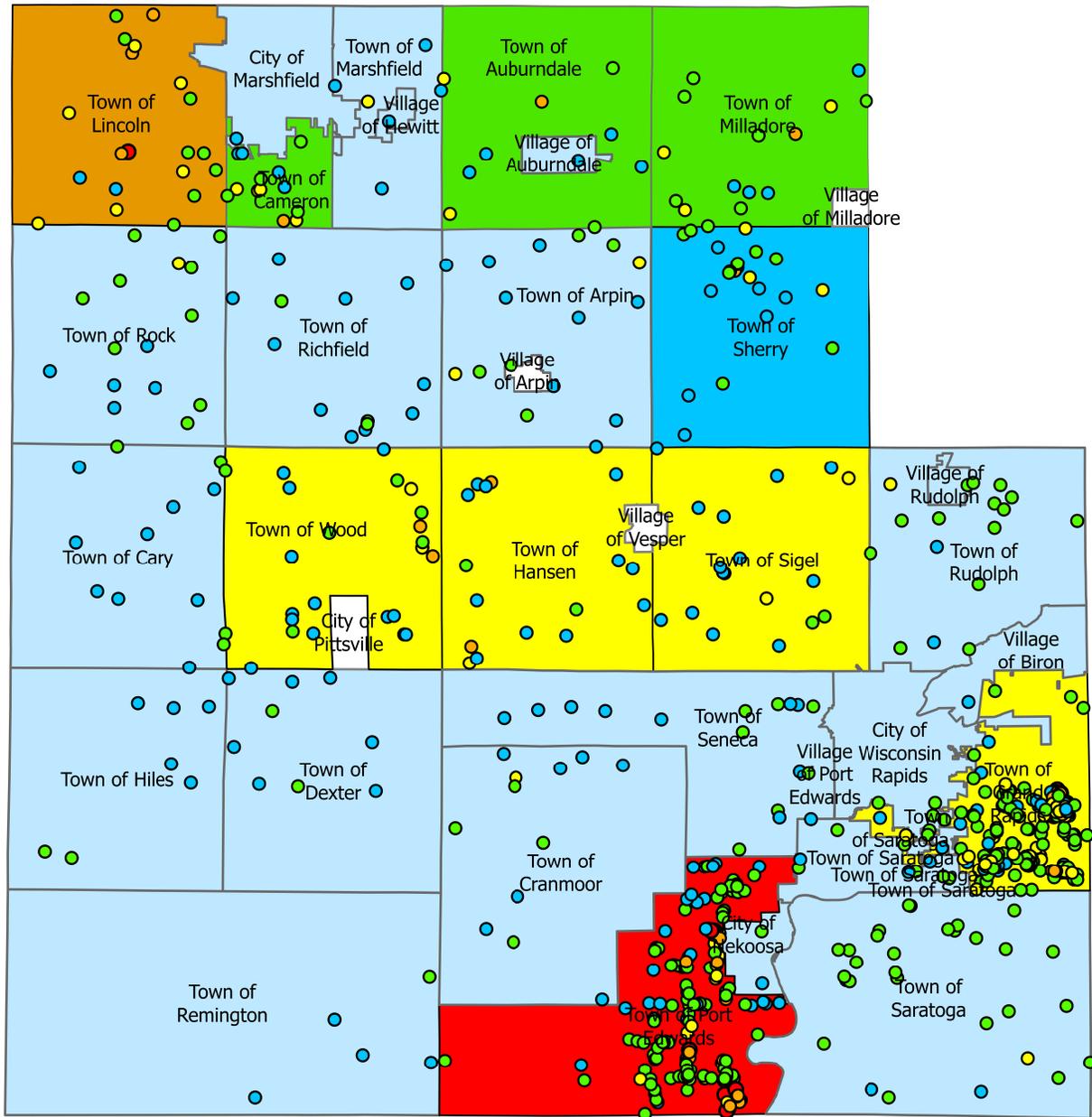
Solar Watering  
System

Stream Crossing

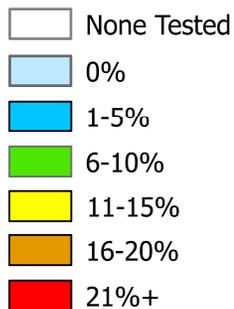
2025 Test Results to 5/29/2025



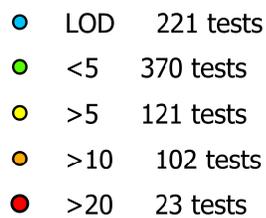
# Nitrate Testing 2019-2025 Wood County



Percent of tests over 10 ppm, by municipality



Nitrate Results



\*14.9% of results were over 10 ppm (125/834) some people tested multiple times

*This report is for the Wood County CEED committee for the economic development update. These key updates are from the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce (Chamber).*

## **Business & Entrepreneurial Support**

### Key Metrics for 2025

*Assist 20 entrepreneurs resulting in new business start-ups or grow current business.*



- Chamber President has currently consulted with **6 entrepreneurs**.
- Additionally, as funding becomes available from the Federal and State agencies, the Chamber continues to support promotions and assistance for these funding opportunities. This ranges from support letters on proof of business and application training, to full meetings on available resources.
- The Board of Directors have decided to disband the revolving loan funds with the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. In place of this, the Chamber will be offering an Entrepreneurial Training Program in partnership with the SBDC. This will be offered twice per year. It is a 9-week program that will set up entrepreneurs for success in running a business.
- Upon completion of the Entrepreneurial Training Program, graduates will be offered the opportunity to present their business plan to a committee for a small grant; funded through the Heart of Wisconsin Community Incubator.

*Visit 75 local businesses to better understand key issues driving business decisions and provide them with resources for growth.*

- The Chamber staff has communicated with over **26 businesses** on issues impacting operations. This includes a comprehensive meeting to learn about each business, any concerns, and how we can better support them.
- We are currently utilizing EDC Forge software program to capture this information. Examples of some of the information collected is below:

### **Top Challenges Facing Businesses**

26 responses as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

35% - staffing

23% - marketing/competition

12% - cost increases

12% - affordable housing

## Concerns with doing business in South Wood County

13 responses as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

33% - being open to change (community needs to have a positive commentary)

8% - competition of same industry

8% - 8<sup>th</sup> Street is a concern - roads

## What businesses would like to see for community growth

19 responses as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

32% - business development

26% - development of downtown

16% - more retail/restaurant options

11% - more recreational opportunities

*Provide 12 training events resulting in 100 Wood County residents reporting increased knowledge on training topics.*

- There were **7 training sessions** hosted virtually and in person with over **100 people in attendance**. These sessions are also available as a recording online for additional resources to the community. There will be a total of 16 sessions throughout the course of the year.

### *Sample Sessions*

- Marketing Made Simple: Essential Tips & Strategies for Success
- Safety, HR, and Women Professionals Network Exchanges
- Wood County Economic Development Update

## Workforce Development

### Key Metrics for 2025

*Bring awareness to 400 area students of careers available in the region and community.*

- The Chamber has had many meetings with area school districts and school partners. We are continuing to assess the needs of the area youth. In April of 2025, the Chamber collaborated with Lincoln High School to offer a Job Fair to the students, along with the general community. It was a big success.
- The Heart of WI Chamber hosts and facilitates a Teen Leadership Program with 5 area school districts (Lincoln HS, Port Edwards HS, Nekoosa HS, Assumption HS, and Pittsville HS). This allows students to experience different careers firsthand by touring the businesses, along with leadership development specifically focused on the soft skills.

### *Other Workforce Items*

- We reintroduced the Business Expo in October of 2024. This is a great opportunity for local business to showcase what they do and also network with other businesses in the area.
- The Heart of Wisconsin continues to facilitate a Human Resources Roundtable and a Safety Roundtable to address issues in local businesses. We created a new Women Professionals Roundtable.

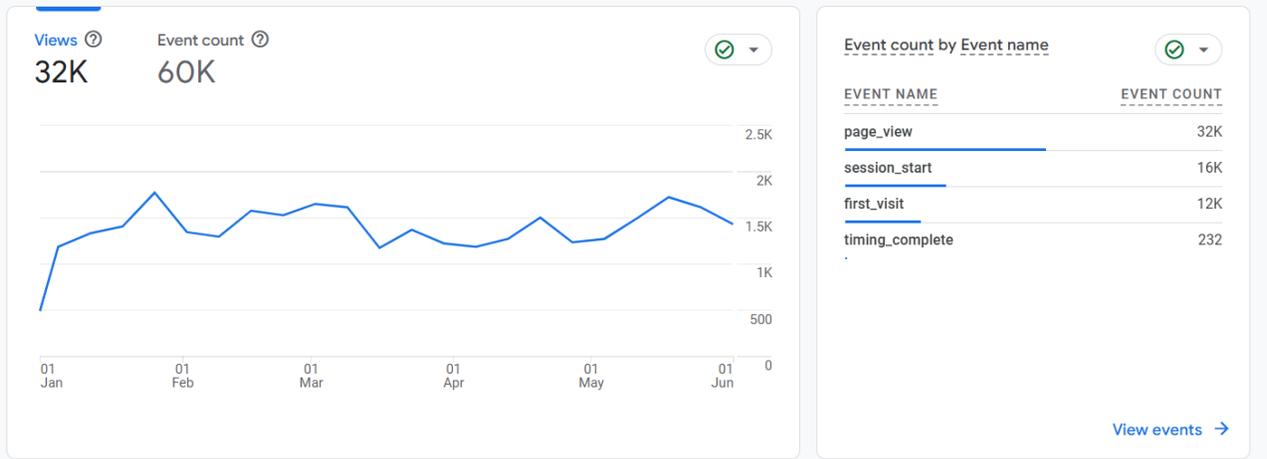
## Marketing/Promotion/Advertising

### Key Goals for 2025

**Increase visits to digital platforms representing Wood County by 15%, attracting 35 qualified workers to Wood County employers.**

- The Heart of Wisconsin has been partnering with many organizations in continued promotions of Wood County. Just a few of these items are listed below.
  - **Community Guide** and Area Maps This guide is for promoting local businesses and communities. <http://novoprint.com/heartofwiezbook.html>
  - Will be hosting the **2025 American Express Shop Local Campaign**.
  - Re-designed relocation packets to include necessary community information for new community members. We have been handing these out to hotels, realtors, and banks to pass out to new residents.
  - Ads and articles for the workforce and economic development include The Business News, Wisconsin Rapids City Times, Daily Tribune, Channel 7, and others.
  - Attend state conferences as a vendor to **grow awareness of Central Wisconsin**. Conferences include WMC Business World, and WEDC Economic Development Conference (Sept).
  - The Heart of Wisconsin Chamber redesigned its website, with the launch date of April 2024. The website is much easier to navigate and has an economic development section which includes business resources. <https://www.wisconsinrapidschamber.com/>
  - The Heart of Wisconsin Chamber has increased its digital footprint to include Instagram.
  - Launched a Business Spotlight Series in partnership with WRCM to highlight local businesses on a visual platform in the form of a video interview.

**The information listed is regarding wisconsinrapidschamber.com  
This site links to County, Centergy, and other partners.  
Top pages visited – Landing Page, Events Calendar, and  
Member Directory.**



Views by Page title and screen class ✔ ▾

PAGE TITLE AND SCREEN CLASS	VIEWS
Home - Heart of Wisconsin Chambe...	4.6K
Event Calendar   Heart of Wisconsin ...	3K
Business Directory Search	1.3K
Event List   Heart of Wisconsin Cha...	848
Community Events - Heart of Wisco...	710
Chamber Team - Heart of Wisconsin...	485
Careers Unlimited Job Fair - Apr 2, 2...	479

[View pages and screens →](#)

## Regional & County Development

### Key Metrics for 2025

*Have 80 residents, businesses, and municipal representatives from Wood County take part in Central Wisconsin Days and Legislative breakfast that discuss pro-Wood County issues.*

- Spring Legislative Breakfast – **57 attendees** with three candidates speaking.
- The next Legislative Breakfast **will be hosted in October.**
- Central Wisconsin Days **was held with over 100 people in attendance.**

Thank you for taking the time to review the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce update. We hope that this information shows the economic development services that we help provide and the continued engagement we deliver to the communities within Wood County.



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

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## **Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Application Instructions**

**About:** The Wood County CEED (Conservation, Education, and Economic Development) Committee and the Board of Supervisors have made available a limited amount of economic development funds to be awarded each year to projects or proposals that seek to enhance the economic vitality of Wood County.

**Ongoing Funding:** The CEED Committee recognizes that the County's airports, chambers of commerce, and other entities provide a direct and ongoing contribution to economic development in Wood County. As such, these entities receive year after year ongoing funding for economic development.

This application is for those entities. Organizations with more limited program/project requests should submit an *annual* Economic Development Funding application.

**Process:** All applications are due by 4:30pm on Friday, July 5, 2024. Applications are reviewed in August, approved by the County Board in November and grantees will be notified following approval of the County budget. Note that funds will not be released until a project results report is presented to the CEED Committee.

**Questions/More Information:** Contact Jason or Victoria in Wood County Planning & Zoning with questions. 715-421-8446, [jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov](mailto:jason.grueneberg@woodcountywi.gov), [victoria.wilson@woodcountywi.gov](mailto:victoria.wilson@woodcountywi.gov).

## **2025 Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Request**

### **Contact Information**

**Organization:**

**Website:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Street Address:** (if different)

**Contact Name & Title:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

---

## **Proposal Narrative**

**1. Please provide a summary of your organization's actions related to economic development in Wood County.** Explain how these actions support the REDI plan.

Please see attachment #2

**2. Explain how your organization provides a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.** Please be as specific as possible. E.g. County funding will allow us to conduct 25 business prospects leading to the establishment of 2 new local businesses creating 10 full time jobs; County funding contributed to funding an entrepreneurial boot camp that led to the development of 12 business plans and the creation of 2 businesses employing 6 people

Please see attachment #3

**3. Please describe any new programming you are planning for in 2025 related to economic development that you have not previously reported on.**

Please see attachment #4



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

## Budget / Requested Funds

Please attach an organizational budget.

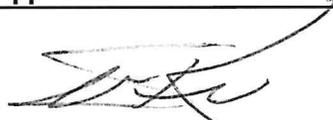
## Project Reporting Requirement

As a reporting requirement of receiving economic development funding from Wood County, a summary report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

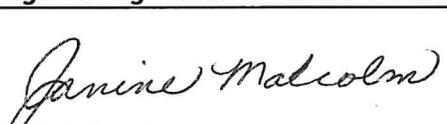
## Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

### Applicant

	Staci Kivi	6/19/2024
<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Date</i>

### Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

	Janine Malcolm	6/19/24
<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Date</i>

**Attachment #1 – Budget/Requested Funds**

**Organizational Budget – Program/Project**

	<b>Requested Funding</b>	<b>Total Organization Budget</b>	<b>Other Funding – e.g. grants, volunteers, donations</b>
<b>Wages &amp; Benefits</b>	\$0.00	\$100,000.00*	\$100,000.00*
<b>Office Supplies &amp;</b>	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
<b>Professional Services</b>	\$10,500.00	\$20,000.00	\$12,000.00
<b>Conferences &amp; Dues</b>	\$2,500.00	\$17,600.00	\$15,100.00
<b>Marketing</b>	\$10,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$13,000.00
<b>Misc. or Other</b>	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$170,600.00</b>	<b>\$151,600.00</b>

**Attachment #2 – Request Overview**

Through partnerships and coordinated efforts, the Heart of Wisconsin Incubator (Foundation) and the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce respectfully request \$25,000.00 to continue to enhance the economic development mission for Wood County. The goal of a developed, diverse, and sustainable economy in Wood County aligns with the mission of the Heart of Wisconsin.

Our mission at the Heart of Wisconsin is to foster economic growth, empower local businesses, and enhance community prosperity through the cultivation of impactful opportunities. We promote and encourage growth in the southeast area, which includes many communities such as Nekoosa, Grand Rapids, Biron, Saratoga, Port Edwards, Wisconsin Rapids, Pittsville, and others totaling ten municipalities. The efforts of the Heart of Wisconsin continue to grow to address the needs of the County, education, businesses, and the communities to retain and attract skilled talent to the County.

Additionally, these efforts are propelled by marketing, promotions, and advertisements for tourism. The additional collaborative efforts, with the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Visit Marshfield, and the Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, work on maximizing the benefits to all of Wood County. This year with the guidance of the REDI Grant we are focusing on entrepreneurial ecosystems, talent attraction, business resources, promotion for county-wide

assets and educating our youth and new community leaders on community opportunities and resources.

### **Attachment #3 – Return on Investment**

#### **Business & Entrepreneurial Support**

In partnership with the Marshfield Chamber, the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber will continue previous efforts and focus on goals that directly relate to the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem. Additionally, these organizations offer support to all businesses in the Wood County area.

#### ***Establish an Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Wood County through support, communication, and collaboration.***

- Facilitate, promote, and develop growth in businesses through access to Revolving Loan Funds for local entrepreneurs.
- Continue to facilitate information for ALL businesses in the area.
- Provide counseling, training, forums, and programs to entrepreneurs to assist with business formation and growth within the county.
  - Specific sessions on business issues such as Human Resources, Safety, Elections, and Housing with local and state elected officials.
  - Host and facilitate Human Resources Roundtable, Safety Roundtable, and just launched a Women Professionals Roundtable.

#### ***Additional Business Support Activities***

- Investigate the opportunity to form a roundtable for municipalities to aid in additional collaborative efforts in the Wood County area.
- Continue to lead and facilitate Business Retention & Expansion Visits with new software. These visits include learning and assessing business needs and growth within Wood County.
  - Implemented a business visit plan for 2024 and will continue to meet with a minimum of 50-100 businesses throughout 2025.
- Host local Leads Group. The Leads Group consists of local businesses that shared leads with other members and expose information on their businesses. There are currently 25 members.
- Continue to host network development events to continue the promotion and growth of local businesses.

#### **Key Metrics for 2025**

Assist 20 entrepreneurs resulting in new business start-ups.

**ROI – New businesses increase the tax base and retain quality business professionals in the area.**

Visit 100 local businesses to better understand key issues driving business decisions and provide them with resources for growth.

**ROI – Businesses stay in Wood County and continue to do business.**

Provide 12 training events resulting in 100 Wood County residents reporting increased knowledge on training topics.

**ROI – Wood County residents increase knowledge to produce a higher quality workforce to support the growing industries.**

Set up municipality meetings to engage with all municipalities in our region to update on economic activities and work on setting up a county wide municipality leader meeting.

**ROI – Growth of economic activities as a collaborative group for Wood County.**

### **Workforce Development**

It is essential to have a stable workforce active in Wood County. Providing collaborative programs to the youth, entry-level, and senior workforce is crucial to engaging in Wood County. Many of these efforts align with the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem as well.

#### ***Development of Workforce in Wood County.***

- Continue the growth with K-12 educators and influencers to develop career opportunities to encourage businesses to engage with post-secondary education.
- Coordinate career awareness programs through the local area schools with local businesses in attendance.
  - Promotion of apprenticeships with local high schools and Mid-State Technical College. Students receive opportunities to view the community and make decisions that allow them to gain the skills necessary to contribute to our local economy in the future.
  - Continue revisions of our Teen Leadership Program in partnership with Mid-State Technical College. The program will also include a focus on job career clusters for each of the sessions with tours of businesses that pertain to that session's careers. This will show the youth in our community the career opportunities that lie within Wood County. Revisions for 2024/2025 include collaborating with local leaders to focus on leadership development.
  - Working with the local high school to collaborate with their Teen Job Fair.
- Continue to partner with post-secondary educators to address issues within the area regarding workforce needs.
  - Promote Mid-State Technical College programs that feature local manufacturers and local industry needs in the business community including Culinary, Manufacturing, Nursing and Agriculture.
  - Promote Certificate programs with Mid-State Technical College.

- Collaborate with Workforce Development, Higher Education & Business Leaders in the area to promote new career opportunities and learning as needed in the area businesses from Business Retention and Expansion visits.
  - Evaluate current workforce initiatives. Current initiatives include the development of childcare access, human resource development, and regional marketing.
  - Contribute/host job fairs and information sessions that attract and retain quality workers.
- Promote and participate in the Regional Central to Success initiative. The premise of Central to Success is to coalesce fragmented talent attraction efforts throughout the region and state to address the deep shortage of a skilled workforce by identifying candidates from outside Wisconsin to fill open positions here and to retain skilled workers in our region.

#### Key Metrics for 2025

Bring awareness to area students and 100 teachers of careers available in the region and community.

**ROI – These programs promote the local business community to students and the opportunity for work and a place to make their home.**

#### **Marketing/Promotion/Advertising**

Implement strategic economic development marketing and supporting branding efforts within the service area by leveraging existing local, regional, and state marketing assets and developing new initiatives.

- Marketing activities include collaboration with regional and state entities such as Centergy, Wisconsin Economic Development Association, Wisconsin Paper Council, and Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). With these collaborative partners, we are assisting with the development of marketing brand with Central to Success. The goal is to promote the region, attract businesses, retain, and develop talent.
- Continue partnership with Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry and other organizations to arrange for the exposure of Wood County properties to national retailers with Locate In Wisconsin and local real estate agents.
- Promote and produce area quality of life events and materials that give exposure not only to the businesses but attract potential new residents, all of which help continue growth in the county through the creation of our new website that was launched in April of 2024.
- Attend and represent the County with conferences such as Entrepreneur event and Legislative Days, and Centergy regional events such as Central Wisconsin Days.
- Continue to develop targeted campaigns including ads and flyers, website enhancements, and social media to attract new or relocating businesses, as well as promote activities happening in the Wood County area.

- Host community tours for the potential workforce to relocate to Wood County. We are currently re-developing the program to include additional benefits for this program.
- Promote and produce local quality of life events that give exposure not only to the businesses but the continued growth in the community.
- Respond and connect site selectors, local businesses, and RFI requests.
- Provide in-office hours for community members to acquire maps, snowmobile maps, information on trails, chamber gift certificates, and much more.
- Promote shopping local through different programs throughout the year.
- Participate with local media sources and outlets to develop material that promotes South Wood County which includes personal invitations from the organizations to the County for participation with local media such as interviews on the local news station, invitations to exclusive information releases, ribbon cuttings, and more.
- Ads and featured articles in publications such as the Business news and others.
- Work with Wisconsin Rapids Community Media to develop a Business Spotlight series to include highlighting local businesses and community events/programs.
- Speak on economic development with groups such as Teen Leadership, Community Leadership, etc.

#### **Attachment #4 – 2025 Economic Development Goals**

##### Key Goals for 2025

Increase visits to digital platforms representing Wood County by 15%, attracting 35 qualified workers to Wood County employers.

**ROI – The tax base is increased by the population growth with increased spending from visitors.**

Provide support for the marketing toolkit in a collaborative effort with Central to Success.

**ROI – Visitors and Residents will spend dollars locally.**

#### **Regional & County Development**

- Continue collaborative work with the local, county, and regional stakeholders to align and coordinate economic development strategies. This includes the utilization of TIF/TID, Housing Incentives, and state grant programs.
- Help facilitate and attend, in conjunction with Centergy, MACCI, WEDA, and local businesses with pro-Wood County issues that are discussed with local, state, and federal

representatives and agencies. Specific events include Central Wisconsin Days and Legislative Day.

- Key topic issues are tax initiatives, childcare, and housing.
- Support additional funding at the state levels for educational systems.
- Host Legislative Breakfast to facilitate communication between elected officials and citizens.
- Continue partnerships with WEDC on marketing and growing local businesses and promote the county within the supply chain program.
- Continue supporting local Wood County businesses by addressing any concerns or issues that may hinder their operations in the county.
- Partner with local organizations to promote entrepreneurial activities in Wood County and explore innovative strategies to establish it as an entrepreneurial hub.

#### Key Metrics for 2025

Have 80 residents, businesses, and municipal representatives from Wood County participate in Central Wisconsin Days and Legislative Breakfast to discuss pro-Wood County issues.

**ROI – Wood County is promoted as a business-friendly community that is actively supporting business and community needs.**

This summary highlights just some of the many efforts that the organization is involved in. We would appreciate the continued support for economic development in the Southeast portion of Wood County as we provide economic development services to this area. We have also been involved with the REDI Grant Process to align our initiatives with the County's direction.



**Wood County CEED Committee Report  
Marshfield Area Chamber Foundation – Annual Economic Development Update**

The following report outlines key economic development activities and impacts from the Marshfield Area Chamber Foundation, supporting growth and prosperity across Northwestern Wood County.

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**Talent & Workforce Development – 2025 Key Metrics**

**Goal:** Bring awareness to 600 area students of career opportunities in the region.

- More than **555 students** (freshman through senior) from eight area schools connected with **60+ businesses and organizations** during the **Power of Ag Tour** and **Marshfield Area Career Expo**. The Expo, hosted at UWSP and Mid-State Technical College, highlighted 20 unique career paths in agriculture and regional industries.
- **Construction Career Day**, hosted in partnership with **Staab Construction**, introduced students to hands-on opportunities in the construction industry.
- **597 eighth-grade students** from ten area schools participated in **The Reality Store**, a life-skills simulation designed to educate students on real-life financial and career decisions.

**Goal:** Engage 50 employers in vocational program participation.

- The **DWD Youth Apprenticeship program** placed **73 students** with regional employers for hands-on vocational experiences.
  - **Health Career Connections** gave **15 students** direct exposure to healthcare careers through partnerships with **12 local healthcare providers**.
- 

**Marketing, Promotion & Advertising – 2025 Key Metrics**

**Goal:** Increase visits to digital platforms by 10% to support talent attraction and business visibility.

- Partnered with **Visit Marshfield** to boost regional visibility. In 2024, the website saw **24,037 users**, up significantly from **20,008 users** last year.
- Active involvement continues with the **Wood County Broadband Taskforce**, focused on expanding internet access across underserved areas.
- Collaborating with the **Wood County Childcare Task Force** to improve childcare access and affordability, both critical to workforce participation.
- Engaged with housing committees across the region to tackle the ongoing housing shortage.

- Regular updates made to the **Locate In Wisconsin** site to promote available commercial and industrial properties.

**Goal:** Provide support for at least one recreational marketing effort.

- Collaborated with city and county partners to produce and promote a **marketing video for the 123-Acre Certified Site**, highlighting new development potential.

### **Business & Entrepreneurial Support – 2025 Key Metrics**

**Goal:** Assist 50 entrepreneurs in business start-up or expansion in the Central Wisconsin SCORE district.

- **10 businesses** have received direct support through **MACCI and SCORE**, including business planning, startup guidance, and access to grant opportunities.
- Ongoing collaboration with **SCORE** and **SBDC** provides mentoring and training opportunities for new and existing business owners.
- Worked with the **REDI** group to host a Connecting Entrepreneurs Conference in Wisconsin Rapids. Over 200 people attended.

**Goal:** Conduct at least 20 business visits to identify needs and offer growth resources.

- To date, **178 business visits** have been conducted. These visits help us stay connected to local needs and provide tailored support.
- Facilitated the **Farmer's Market** as it was on the verge of discontinuation. Working with a group to transition for next year.

**Goal:** Host a minimum of 4 training sessions with 100+ participants reporting improved knowledge.

- Partnered with community organizations to present **Coffee & Connections**, covering topics such as:
  - Grant Writing
  - Entrepreneurship & Small Business
  - Customer Service & Retention
  - Generational Gaps
  - Cybersecurity
- The **Marshfield Area Human Resources Association (MAHRA)** also hosted targeted trainings on:
  - Artificial Intelligence in HR
    - Safety
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Mental Health
  - Creative Benefits

- Succession Planning
  - HR Round Tables
- 

### **Regional & County Development – 2025 Key Metrics**

**Goal:** Engage 20+ Wood County residents, businesses, and officials in advocacy efforts.

- In collaboration with **Centergy**, over **65 representatives** from Wood County participated in **Central Wisconsin Days** at the Capitol. Advocacy topics included TIF reform, housing, workforce, and quality of life.
  - Hosted a **Spring Legislative Breakfast** with over **50 attendees**; a **Fall breakfast** is planned.
  - Conduct **monthly meetings** with businesses and elected officials to discuss public policy, economic development tools, and challenges impacting the local business climate.
  - **Lt. Governor, Governor and US Senator** met with local business leaders for open discussions.
  - Convened **regional chamber meetings** to align efforts and share best practices across our communities.
- 

### **Closing Summary**

This report highlights just a portion of the programs and partnerships led or supported by the Marshfield Area Chamber Foundation to strengthen the economy of Northwestern Wood County. We are committed to cultivating a vibrant, skilled workforce, supporting business growth, and enhancing regional quality of life.

**Thank you** for your ongoing support. We look forward to continuing our shared work to build a stronger Wood County.



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

---

## Proposal Narrative

**1. Please provide a summary of your organization's actions related to economic development in Wood County.** Explain how these actions support the REDI plan.

Attachment 1

**2. Explain how your organization provides a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.** Please be as specific as possible. E.g. County funding will allow us to conduct 25 business prospects leading to the establishment of 2 new local businesses creating 10 full time jobs; County funding contributed to funding an entrepreneurial boot camp that led to the development of 12 business plans and the creation of 2 businesses employing 6 people

Attachment 2

**3. Please describe any new programming you are planning for in 2025 related to economic development that you have not previously reported on.**

Attachment 3



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

## **Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Application Instructions**

**About:** The Wood County CEED (Conservation, Education, and Economic Development) Committee and the Board of Supervisors have made available a limited amount of economic development funds to be awarded each year to projects or proposals that seek to enhance the economic vitality of Wood County.

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**Process:** All applications are due by 4:30pm on Friday, July 5, 2024. Applications are reviewed in August, approved by the County Board in November and grantees will be notified following approval of the County budget. Note that funds will not be released until a project results report is presented to the CEED Committee.

**Questions/More Information:** Contact Jason or Victoria in Wood County Planning & Zoning with questions. 715-421-8446, jason.grueneberg@woodcountyywi.gov, victoria.wilson@woodcountyywi.gov.

### **2025 Wood County (WI) ONGOING Economic Development Funding Request**

#### **Contact Information**

**Organization:**

**Website:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Street Address:** (if different)

**Contact Name & Title:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

## Budget / Requested Funds

Please attach an organizational budget. Attachment 4

## Project Reporting Requirement

As a reporting requirement of receiving economic development funding from Wood County, a summary report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

## Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

### Applicant

	Denise Sonnemann	06/24/2024
<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Date</i>

### Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

	Mark Vieth	06/24/2024
<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Date</i>

## **Attachment #1 - Request Overview**

Through coordinating efforts with northern and western Wood County Economic Development partners, Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MACCI) respectfully request \$25,000.00 to continue to enhance the economic development mission for Wood County. The goal of a developed, diverse, and sustainable economy in Wood County aligns with the mission of MACCI.

Our mission at MACCI is to provide leadership and support for the economic advancement of our community. We promote and encourage growth in the northern and western Wood County areas, such as Marshfield, Auburndale, Hewitt, Milladore, Pittsville to name a few. These initiatives foster the mission through the organization working with local, regional and state programs that engage in education and business, and to retain and attract skilled talent to the community.

Additionally, collaborative efforts with the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce and Visit Marshfield, we are supporting our efforts to benefit all of Wood County. This year with the guidance of the REDI Grant, we are focusing on entrepreneurial ecosystems, talent attraction, business resources, promotion for county-wide.

## **Attachment #2 – Return on Investment**

### **Business & Entrepreneurial Support**

In partnership with Heart of Wisconsin Chamber, the Marshfield Chamber Foundation will continue previous efforts and focus on goals that directly relate to the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem. Additionally, these organizations offer support to all businesses in the Wood County Area.

### ***Establish an Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Wood County through support, communication, and collaboration.***

- Facilitate, promote, and develop growth in businesses through access to Revolving Loan Funds for local entrepreneurs.
- Continue to facilitate young entrepreneurs with programs and funding opportunities.
- Provide counseling, training, forums, and programs to entrepreneurs to assist with business formation and growth within the county.
  - Specific sessions on business issues such as Human Resources, Grant Writing, Customer Service and Insurance.
  - Continue to meet with elected officials, both local and state, on topics such as broadband, human resources and healthcare.

### ***Additional Business Support Activities***

- Investigate the opportunity to form a roundtable for municipalities to aid in additional collaborative efforts in the Wood County area.

- Continue to lead and facilitate Business Retention & Expansion Visits. These visits include learning and assessing business needs and growth within Wood County.
- Host new group, Emerging Leaders, to help young entrepreneurs collaborate and share ideas and challenges.
- Host a CEO Network, connecting top leaders in the area to collaborate on issues facing local businesses.
- Continue to host network development events to continue the promotion and growth of local businesses.

#### Key Metrics for 2025

Assist 25 entrepreneurs/new businesses with start up information, business plans, grant and loan opportunities.

**ROI – New businesses increase the tax base and retain quality business professionals in the area.**

Visit 50 local businesses to better understand key issues driving business decisions and provide them with resources for growth.

**ROI – Businesses stay in Wood County and continue to do business.**

Provide 12 training events resulting in 100 Wood County residents reporting increased knowledge on training topics.

**ROI – Wood County residents increase knowledge to produce a higher quality workforce to support the growing industries.**

#### **Workforce Development**

Workforce and talent attraction efforts are important to the County’s economic well-being. Providing collaborative programs and learning opportunities to the youth, entry-level, and senior workforce is crucial to engaging in Wood County. Many of these efforts align with the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem as well.

#### ***Development of Workforce in Wood County.***

- Continue the growth with K-12 educators and influencers to develop career opportunities to encourage businesses to engage with post-secondary education.
- Promotion of job shadowing and apprenticeships with local high schools and Mid-State Technical College.
  - o Department of Workforce Development Youth Apprenticeship - available to high school junior and seniors.
  - o Health Career Connections - available to high school junior and seniors
  - o Reality Store - program exposes 8th graders to real-life work scenarios and the expenses that go along with.

- Construction Day Tour- available to high school student's 9th - 12th grade.
- Career Expo - exposes high school sophomores to explore various career clusters through hands on activities
- Power of Ag Tour- exposes high school sophomores to gain agricultural career experiences. This is coordinated with Career Expo.
- Continue to partner with Central Wisconsin Manufacturers Alliance (CWIMA) with the Heavy Metal Tour.
- Promotion of job shadowing and apprenticeships with local high schools and Mid-State Technical College and businesses
- Support the partnership with the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, MSTC and local industry to grow and promote C2 Makerspace and STEM.
- Promote the job board, connecting applicants to potential employment opportunities.
- Continue to collaborate with Marshfield Area Human Resources Association (MAHRA) connecting HR professionals.
- Promote and participate in the Regional Central to Success initiative. The premise of Central to Success is to coalesce fragmented talent attraction efforts throughout the region and state to address the deep shortage of a skilled workforce by identifying candidates from outside Wisconsin to fill open positions here and to retain skilled workers in our region.

#### Key Metrics for 2025

Continue to grow our Youth Apprenticeship program to 70 students with local businesses.

Expand our Health Career Connections to offer job shadowing to more businesses.

**ROI – These programs promote the local business community to students and the opportunity for work and a place to make their home.**

#### **Marketing/Promotion/Advertising**

Implement strategic economic development marketing and supporting branding efforts within the service area by leveraging existing local, regional, and state marketing assets and developing new initiatives.

- Marketing activities include collaboration with regional and state entities such as Centergy, Wisconsin Economic Development Association, Wisconsin Paper Council, and Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). With these collaborative partners, we are assisting with the development of marketing brand with Central to Success. The goal is to promote the region, attract businesses, retain, and develop talent.
- Continue partnership with Heart of Wisconsin Chamber and other organizations to arrange for the exposure of Wood County properties to national retailers with Locate in Wisconsin and local real estate agents.

- Promote and produce area quality of life events and materials that give exposure not only to the businesses but attract potential new residents, such as Marshfield in Motion.
- Attend and represent the County with conferences such as Entrepreneur event and Legislative Days, and Centergy regional events such as Central Wisconsin Days.
- Continue to develop targeted campaigns including ads and flyers, website enhancements, and social media to attract new or relocating businesses, as well as promote activities happening in the Wood County area.
  - Host community tours for the potential workforce to relocate to Wood County. We are currently re-developing the program to include additional benefits for this program.
  - Promote and produce local quality of life events that give exposure not only to the businesses but the continued growth in the community.
  - Respond and connect site selectors, local businesses, and RFI requests.
  - Act as a Community Ambassador for WEDC, responding to requests from individuals looking to relocate in our area.
  - Provide in-office hours for community members to acquire maps, UTV maps, information on trails, chamber gift certificates, and much more.
  - Promote shopping local through different programs throughout the year.
  - Participate with local media sources and outlets to develop material that promotes Wood County which includes personal invitations from the organizations to the County for participation with local media such as interviews on the local news station, invitations to exclusive information releases, ribbon cuttings, and more.
  - Ads and featured articles in publications such as the Business news and others.
- Work with Marshfield Communications to develop Walk Thru Wednesday to include highlighting local businesses.
- Speak on economic development with groups such as Leadership Marshfield and Rotary.

### **Attachment #3 – 2025 Economic Development Goals**

#### Key Goals for 2025

Increase visits to digital platforms representing Wood County by 15%, attracting 35 qualified workers to Wood County employers.

**ROI – The tax base is increased by the population growth with increased spending from visitors.**

Provide support for the marketing toolkit in a collaborative effort with Central to Success.

**ROI – Visitors and Residents will spend dollars locally.**

### **Regional & County Development**

- Continue collaborative work with the local, county, and regional stakeholders to align and coordinate economic development strategies. This includes the utilization of TIF/TID, Housing Incentives, and state grant programs.
- Help facilitate and attend, in conjunction with Centergy, MACCI, WEDA, and local businesses with pro-Wood County issues that are discussed with local, state, and federal representatives and agencies. Specific events include Central Wisconsin Days and Legislative Day.
  - Key topic issues are tax initiatives, childcare, and housing.
- Support additional funding at the state levels for educational systems.
- Work with Heart of Wisconsin to co-host Legislative Breakfast to facilitate communication between elected officials and citizens.
- Continue partnerships with WEDC on marketing and growing local businesses and promote the county within the supply chain program.
- Continue supporting local Wood County businesses by addressing any concerns or issues that may hinder their operations in the county.
- Partner with local organizations to promote entrepreneurial activities in Wood County and explore innovative strategies to establish it as an entrepreneurial hub.

Key Metrics for 2025

Have 80 residents, businesses, and municipal representatives from Wood County participate in Central Wisconsin Days and Legislative Breakfast to discuss pro-Wood County issues.

**ROI – Wood County is promoted as a business-friendly community that is actively supporting business and community needs.**

Complete a strategic plan for 2025.

**ROI – Stakeholders will have a clear understanding of our goals and strategies.**

This summary highlights just some of the many efforts that the organization is involved in. We would appreciate the continued support for economic development in the Northwestern portion of Wood County as we provide economic development services to this area. We have also been involved with the REDI Grant Process to align our initiatives with the County’s direction.

**Attachment #4 – Budget/Requested Funds**

**Organizational Budget – Program/Project**

	<b>Requested Funding</b>	<b>Total Organization Budget</b>	<b>Other Funding – e.g. grants, volunteers, donations</b>
<b>Wages &amp; Benefits</b>	\$0.00	\$110,000	\$110,000
<b>Office Supplies &amp;</b>	\$0.00	\$12,000	\$12,000
<b>Professional Services</b>	\$10,500	\$20,000	\$9,500
<b>Conferences &amp; Dues</b>	\$2500	\$18,000	\$15,500
<b>Marketing</b>	\$10,000	\$21,000	\$11,000
<b>Misc. or Other</b>	\$2000	\$3,000	\$1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$183,000</b>	<b>\$158,000.00</b>

*City of*

**Pittsville**

• GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER OF THE STATE •

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Property and Housing Incentive  
Project 2025

CEED Grant Update

City of Pittsville has multiple building incentives. Two of the most popular are our new home building incentive and our spec home building incentive.

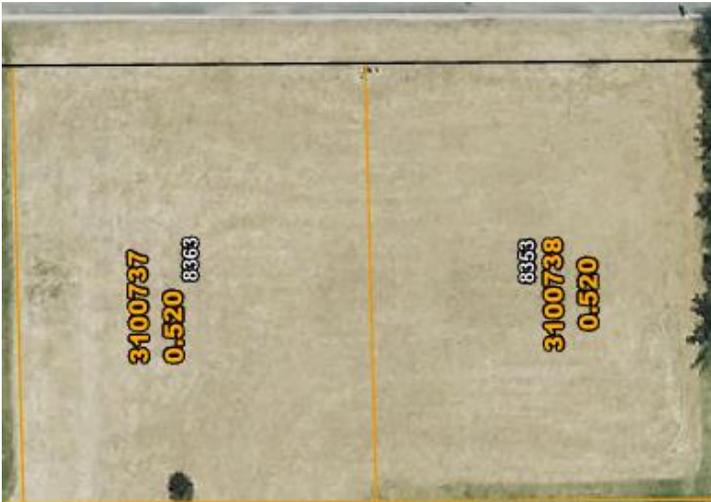
The properties in the fall of 2024:

Lot 31& 30:

Lot 30:



Lot 36 & 37:



09.26.2024

City of Pittsville entered into a Development Agreement with Denyon Homes. Denyon Homes purchased 9 lots and over the course of 5 years will be building homes on them.

Parcel # 31.00732, Lot 31 ~ Located at 8384 5<sup>th</sup> St,  
Listed on Realtor.com for \$299,900 ~ Pecan D1 Floorplan



02.23.2025



06.05.2025



04.09.2025 Accepted offer ~ Closed 05.22.2025!

PO Box 100 • 5318 1<sup>st</sup> Ave • Pittsville WI 54466 • 715-884-2422 • [cofpitts@pittsvillewi.gov](mailto:cofpitts@pittsvillewi.gov)

Parcel # 31.00731, Lot 30 ~ Located at 8374 5<sup>th</sup> St  
Listed on Realtor.com for \$316,900 ~ Cappuccino Floorplan



02.23.2025



06.05.2025



05.09.2025 Accepted Offer ~ Closed 06.13.2025!

PO Box 100 • 5318 1<sup>st</sup> Ave • Pittsville WI 54466 • 715-884-2422 • cofpitts@pittsvillewi.gov

Parcel #31.00737, Lot 36 ~ Located at 8363 Jonathan St  
Listed on realtor.com for \$456,667 ~ Orchid G1 Floorplan

Offer given & accepted, before construction started



Parcel # 31.00738, Lot 37 ~ Located at 8353 Jonathan St  
~ Will be, Pecan D1 Model A Floorplan



06.05.2025



# Blight Elimination ~ As of 01.01.2025



06.12.2025



## Developing Property:

Will be starting out with the outdoor space and continue to develop the area with the potential of \$1.2 million in development. The non-profit entity will be a real-estate tax paying entity.



PO Box 100 • 5318 1<sup>st</sup> Ave • Pittsville WI 54466 • 715-884-2422 • [cofpitts@pittsvillewi.gov](mailto:cofpitts@pittsvillewi.gov)

Parcel #31.00724 & 31.00725 ~ Located at 5592 Scott Ave

\*New Home Building Incentive (Jodi Wilke)

January 2024



Home is Occupied – Inside is finished – Waiting on Siding



04.15.2025

City of Pittsville entered into a Development Agreement with RC Small Town. RC Small Town purchased 3 lots and plans to build 3 duplexes within 1 year. Upon completion they will receive an incentive of \$15,000 for each duplex.



06.05.2025



**Expended loan funds for housing:**

01-13-2025	Lot#30	Denyon Homes	\$ 75,000.00
		• Spec Home Development Agreement	
01-13-2025	Lot#31	Denyon Homes	\$ 75,000.00
		• Spec Home Development Agreement	
05-23-2025	Lot#31	Denyon Homes	\$-75,000.00
		• Returned loan funds after sale	
06-18-2025	Lot#30	Denyon Homes	\$-75,000.00
		• Returned loan funds after sale	

**Expended Incentive funds for housing:**

01-08-2025		Jodi Wilke	\$ 15,000.00
		• New Home Building Incentive	

**Expended Incentive funds for Spec Home Development:**

06-18-2025	Lot#30	Denyon Homes	\$ 15,000.00
		• New Spec Home Incentive	
05-20-2025	Lot#31	Denyon Homes	\$ 15,000.00
		• New Spec Home Incentive	

**Expended funds for Blight:**

03.31.2025	Gowey Abstract & Title FBO CranCity Corner		\$ 37,954.77
		• Blight Elimination of Parcel 31.00346	
03.31.2025	Marshfield Area Community Foundation FBO CranCity Corner		\$12,045.23
		• Blight Elimination of Parcel 31.00346	



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

## 2025 Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Request

**Proposal Title:**

**Applicant Organization:**

**Website:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Street Address:** (if different)

**Contact Name & Title:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

### Proposal Narrative

**1. REDI Alignment** (select one)

If selected other, please describe:

**2. Please provide a summary of your proposal.** Explain how it is consistent with and supports the Wood County REDI (Rural Economic Development Initiative) Plan.

Our proposal is to purchase property in our downtown to eliminate blight and collaborate with a non profit group to develop commercial and residential units. It would also increase our building incentive funds to complete a development agreement with a contractor to build 10 homes in our subdivision.

Our proposal aligns not only with one of the REDI Plan goals, but with two of them. It offers collaborative economic development networking and it addresses the housing needs. Please see the attached narrative and handouts to fully explain our proposal.

We are asking for \$100,000 as our 2025 Wood County Development Funding Request.

**3. Have you received funds through this grant in the past?** (if yes, check box)

**Have you applied in the past?** (if yes, check box)

If yes, in which years did you receive funds and in which years did you apply?

Applied in '20,'21,'22,'23,'24. Received, at least partial funds, in '20,'21,'22,'23



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

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- 4. Describe the timeline for this proposal.** Note this grant requires the funding recipient to complete work on the proposal/project within one calendar year (2025).

Our proposal is for 2025

- 5. Explain how this proposal will provide a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.** Please be as specific as possible. E.g. The housing incentive we offered with County Economic Development funds will lead to an annual tax levy increase of \$X.

Our housing incentive program is estimated to provide Wood County a 52% rate of return through the year 2026. The annual tax increase is shown on the attached sheets. Please refer to the attachments for a full explanation.

- 6. Describe the match for this proposal.** Note that a 1:1 match is preferred. E.g. For a \$5,000 grant award, the grantee must provide \$5,000 of in-kind or financial match. The match must occur within the calendar year (2025) the funds are awarded for.

Our match would be 1:1.  
We plan on budgeting for \$100,000 in our 2025 budget.



**Wood County Economic Development  
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**  
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
Phone: 715-421-8466

**Funding Considerations/Request Summary**  
(provide separate spreadsheet/budget if needed)

Budget Summary		Budget Detail	
Total Organization Budget	\$ 1,268,914	Revenue/Income	
Total Proposal Cost	\$ 200,000	Revenues	\$ 776,311
Total Amount Requested	\$ 100,000	Tax Levy	\$ 492,603
Total Match *	\$ 100,000	Total Revenue/Income	\$ 1,268,914
* Please provide a match explanation in question 6.		Expenses	
		Expenses	\$ 1,032,693
		Capital Projects	\$ 236,221
			\$
		Total Expense	\$ 1,268,914

**Project Reporting Requirement**

As a reporting requirement of receiving an Economic Development Grant, a one-page summary project report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. **This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2025.** Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

**Signatures**

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

**Applicant**

	Tami Hahn, Clerk/Treasurer	6/28/24
Signature	Printed Name	Date

**Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair**

	Dale Nichols, Mayor	6/28/24
Signature	Printed Name	Date

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING  
FOR THE CITY OF PITTSVILLE**

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 5:00pm, at the Pittsville Community Hall, 5291 Third Avenue, a PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED BUDGET of the City of Pittsville will be held. The proposed budget, in detail, is available for inspection at the City Clerk/Treasurer's office. Following is a summary of the proposed 2024 budget in comparison to the previous two years.

**GENERAL FUND**

	<b>2022 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes (other than property)	\$ 2,720	\$ 2,720	\$ 2,730	
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 473,110	\$ 495,188	\$ 641,486	
Licenses & Permits	\$ 5,790	\$ 5,900	\$ 6,175	
Fines, Forfeits & Penalties	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 5,650	
Public Charges for Services	\$ 9,920	\$ 10,370	\$ 12,270	
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,000	\$ 7,425	\$ 31,000	
Other Financing Uses	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	
	\$ 504,040	\$ 530,103	\$ 701,311	32.29712%
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
General Government	\$ 341,110	\$ 389,770	\$ 393,865	
Public Safety	\$ 215,095	\$ 238,806	\$ 297,400	
Public Works	\$ 248,140	\$ 256,700	\$ 276,410	
Health & Health Services	\$ 6,375	\$ 7,400	\$ 7,700	
Culture, Rec & Education	\$ 17,875	\$ 39,282	\$ 57,318	
Other Financing Uses	\$ 25,487		\$ -	
	\$ 854,082	\$ 931,958	\$ 1,032,693	10.80896%
(Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ (350,042)	\$ (401,855)	\$ (331,382)	
Net (Decrease) in fund balance	\$ (115,183)	\$ (154,459)	\$ (75,000)	
<b>Summary of Property Taxes:</b>				
General Fund	\$ 234,859	\$ 247,397	\$ 256,382	
Debt Service				
Capital Projects	\$ 83,819	\$ 84,539	\$ 236,221	
Local Levy	\$ 318,678	\$ 331,936	\$ 492,603	

Further notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Pittsville, Wood County, will hold a Special Council Meeting to be held at the Community Hall immediately following the Public Hearing to adopt the 2023 Tax Levy to be paid in 2024.

Dated this 16th day of November, 2023.

Tami Hahn, City Clerk/Treasurer

With this grant request, the City of Pittsville will eliminate blight, create commercial space and residential housing and modernize our downtown. Our project is consistent with your REDI plan by enhancing the vitality of our Wood County Community. It focuses on initiatives for bettering the quality of life and economic development by addressing the housing needs and transforming the economic development network into a collaboration.

Part of our request is for purchasing a parcel in our downtown. We would then demo the existing deteriorated building and pave it for parking. This incentive is to collaborate with a local non-profit group to build commercial units and residential living spaces.

The developer is proposing to build an estimated \$1.2 million development next to the parcel the city is proposing to purchase, demo and pave. Their development is proposing to have commercial spaces on the ground floor and medium range apartments on the second. This project addresses our housing needs and creates economic development, both identified and consistent with your REDI plan.

To respond to the local housing shortage, we are asking for funds to increase our Building Incentive Account. There is a home contractor very interested in purchasing the 10 remaining lots in our Spring Creek Subdivision. The city is currently working with this contractor on a development agreement. They are looking to build two to three new homes a year. We need additional funds for our building incentive account to provide our building incentives currently in place. For "spec" homes, such as this, we are willing to pay the contractor up to \$15,000 for the purchase of a lot and \$75,000 as seed money to build a new home. The \$75,000 is payable back to the city 18 months after the release of the funds. The seed money reimbursement is deposited back into the building incentive account, but there will be periods of overlapping when one is paid out, not payable back yet and another one needs to be paid.

We have made great strides in our housing market. From the inception in January of 2019 through current, we have paid out \$255,900 in building incentives. We have gained \$2,556,300 in assessed value from the additional 10 homes, soon to be 12, that have already taken advantage of our incentives. In August, 2023, the council approved to double the incentive funds available for building a new home, spec home or duplex in the city limits. Because of the increased incentives, we have a spec home builder currently building a house, a soon to be new resident building a home and a very interested building contractor looking to buy the remaining vacant 10 lots in the Spring Creek Subdivision. From incentives granted, we have depleted our building incentive account down to \$41,935.

The City of Pittsville's 2025 Economic Development Grant request is for \$100,000. We would use \$50,000 to provide incentive to purchase the blighted property for commercial and residential development and \$50,000 to incentivize residential housing.

Thank you for your time reviewing and consideration of our 2025 grant request.

**Estimated Projections for City of Pittsville's Building Incentive Grant**  
**Assessed Values on lots Given Building Incentives**

<b>Parcel #</b>		<b>2020 Assessed Values</b>
1st Spec Home 31-00742	Rayburn	\$216,900.00
31-00011B	Denniston	\$297,300.00
31-00723	Schiller	\$109,600.00
31-00747	Hahn	\$15,700.00
31-00746	Abel	\$15,700.00
31-00666 (Duplex)	Ruesch	\$2,400.00
31-00665 (Duplex)	Ruesch	\$10,000.00
Rademan 2nd Spec 31-00730	Downs	\$14,900.00
31-00672 (Duplex)	Darr	\$9,200.00
		<b>\$691,700.00</b>
<b>Parcel #</b>		<b>2021 Assessed Values</b>
31-00742		\$220,700.00
31-00011B		\$297,300.00
31-00723		\$227,700.00
31-00747		\$250,200.00
31-00746		\$303,500.00
31-00666		\$82,000.00
31-00665		\$10,000.00
31-00730		\$194,600.00
31-00672		\$9,200.00
		<b>\$1,595,200.00</b>
<b>Parcel #</b>		<b>2022 Assessed Values</b>
31-00742		\$220,700.00
31-00011B		\$297,300.00
31-00723		\$229,700.00
31-00747		\$250,200.00
31-00746		\$303,500.00
31-00666		\$230,000.00
31-00665		\$230,400.00
31-00730		\$194,600.00
31-00672		\$9,200.00
31-00106C	Peters	\$243,800.00
31-00635	McDaniel	\$175,900.00
		<b>\$2,385,300.00</b>





