



## Central Wisconsin Natural Resources Educator

I'm very excited to announce that we have a new Central WI Natural Resources Educator based in Wisconsin Rapids. We welcomed Anna James in late October. She will be working with various group to address nonpoint source water quality issues. This will include working with EPPIC, Common Ground, Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Conference, and the Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative.

Anna began her natural resources career in 2020, as Water Resource Specialist for Adams County Land & Water Conservation. During her time as Water Resource Specialist, Anna developed and supported citizen science groups, watershed restoration projects, producer-led watershed initiatives, and water quality monitoring efforts. Anna holds a Bachelor of Science degree in conservation management from Upper Iowa University. In her off time, Anna enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, and many other outdoor activities, but you can find her at her happiest when she is watching the sunrise from a duck blind!

Please feel free to reach out to Anna and welcome her at [anna.m.james@wisc.edu](mailto:anna.m.james@wisc.edu)

Kris Tiles - NRI Education Program Manager

## Artificial Insemination is on the MOOOOVE Again



Heather Schlessler, UW Marathon County Extension's Dairy Educator, is heading to Madison. The artificial insemination program based in Marathon County was chosen as a presenter at the All Colleague Conference in December. Heather and her colleague, Sandy Stutgen, Agriculture Educator in Taylor County, have work tirelessly to help dairy and beef farmers throughout the midwest improve their herds population. Congrats Heather!

## Caring for December Gift Plants

Learn how to keep a poinsettia, Christmas cactus, Norfolk Island Pine, and other favorite gift plants thriving. We'll cover requirements including light, watering, fertilizer, and humidity.

December 8th, 6pm - Mosinee Community Education

December 14th, 1pm - The Landing at Woodson YMCA

Contact [Janell Wehr](mailto:Janell.Wehr), horticulture educator, with questions.

December 8 Registration

December 14 Registration



## Marathon County 4-H News

We have been on the go! Check out these recent 4-H activities!

Want to participate in upcoming 4-H programs like the 4-H Foodie Pop Ups, camps, travel experiences, projects, and more? Stay tuned to our [Facebook page](#), [bi-weekly newsletters](#), and the [Marathon County 4-H website](#) for more information. Or, contact our office at 715-261-1230.

## Day of the Dead Program

A multi-organizational partnership was created between Hawthorn Hills Elementary School, Hmong Hispanic Communication Network, and Extension Marathon County to celebrate the holiday Day of the Dead during the school's monthly family night. Extension played a critical role not only with the promotional booth they set up, but also by contributing to the educational sessions. Marathon County 4-H contributed three interactive and fun stations to the event: a presentation that focused on the history of Day of the Dead and key components of the holiday, hands-on sugar skull painting, and the making of marigold flowers with tissue paper and pipe cleaners. The Extension booth had an interactive wheel where participants won a prize and learned about the various programs in Extension. The event was able to help with exposure of our services, and also recruit future 4-H families in Marathon county. A total of 140 marathon county families attended and participated in the event.



## Tamales and Tips

4-H Fall Forum is an opportunity for 4-H youth and adult leaders to connect, celebrate, and learn a wide range of skills by attending interactive sessions. One of the sessions offered this year was "Tamales & Tips for working with Latinx Audiences". In partnership with the Hmong Hispanic Communication Network (H2N), 4-H associate educator, Jasmine Carbajal, taught students the process of making tamales and participants also got to try them. H2N member, Catalina Cabello, presented on what works in their organization to reach underrepresented audiences. Some of those tips include: having staff that looks like the audience they are trying to reach, having interpreters/bilingual staff available, providing a meal and/or snacks at events, and having printed materials in Spanish. All participants found the information useful. Some of the feedback included: "I loved that it was fun, but also informative. A great way to learn about different experiences and cultures", one of the participants said their favorite part was "learning to make tamales and how to bring it back to my county", another stated "learning about new ways to extend our resources to Latinx communities".



### DID YOU KNOW?

Extension-Marathon County colleagues submit a monthly report to the Extension, Education and Economic Development Committee regarding their efforts? You can access those reports via the [committee meeting archives](#).

## Upcoming Extension Programs

Below are some upcoming programs that Extension-Marathon County colleagues are helping to lead. Feel free to join the conversations or send to others that may be interested.

- **FoodWise Healthy Eating Series** - This is a monthly lesson in nutrition with a short food demonstration. Income limits apply and registration is required. Please email [Gaonou Thao](mailto:Gaonou.Thao) for more information.
- 4-H Programming - [Ornament Painting](#), [Tamales & Pinatas](#), [Take and Learn Kit](#), and [Flake Out](#)

<https://marathon.extension.wisc.edu/>

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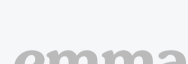
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