

BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

STAKEHOLDER REPORT 2022

2022 IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach provides research-based education and engages Iowans in solving today's problems and preparing for a thriving future. We listen, learn, and work with the people of Winnebago County for a #STRONGIOWA.



The Winnebago County Extension Council has been elected by the people of the county to guide local educational programming by partnering with extension staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents you and your issues. We are always serving Iowans and we are here for you. Now. Always.

Thank you for your support.

Kathy Barkema
Council Member

Andrew Fedders
Council Member

Nate Forsberg
Council Member

Julie Hagenson
Council Member

HP Koberger
Council Member

Adam Lackore
Council Member

Brittany Nyhus
Council Member

Renee Sorenson
Council Member

Cassie Willmert
Council Member

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

In 2022, ISU Extension and Outreach Winnebago County continued to expand educational opportunities for youth with programs that sparked youth interest, supported academics, and promoted youth resiliency.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY FAIR

July was a busy month for ISU Extension and Outreach Winnebago County. The Winnebago County Fair was held July 14-17 at the fairgrounds in Thompson. Youth filled the 4-H building with a total of 109 static entries. The livestock barns were filled with 84 livestock entries. The fair is a great opportunity for 4-H'ers in Winnebago County to share what they have done throughout the year.



Family Fall Festival

One of our largest events every year is the Family Fall Festival, which takes place in October. We receive generous donations from local businesses and community members to ensure that this event is free to all who attend. Families enjoy an afternoon filled with fun and can make crafts, play games, enjoy a petting zoo, take a horse and buggy ride, and, new this year, watch a magic show. Also new this year was a StoryWalk, designed and implemented by a Literacy Committee composed of 4-H'ers. This program was funded by a generous grant from Amy Powell, extension animal science program specialist. The goal is to make reading fun and interactive for young children.

THE LEGO MOVIE

Youth from across Winnebago County created movie magic at the Boman Fine Arts Center in Forest City. About 20 students in grades 3–8 learned about the trendy movie genre of Lego animated movies, known as brick films. The youth participated in teams of builders, animators, and editors. Council member Nate Forsberg led the project, along with help from fellow council member HP Kobriger. The extension office provided the necessary equipment, Legos, lighting, cameras, and other supplies. ISU Extension and Outreach sees great value in investing in the lives and education of the communities they serve. It provided the opportunity for kids to use creative, STEM, and team-building skills. The finished movie was titled “Monkey Mania!” and premiered in March.



Summer Day Camps

Summer 2022 was full of summer day camps for youth in Winnebago County. Youth had a “sun-sational” time with fun outdoor activities and heart-healthy snacks. They also learned about the engineering process and how to apply it to inventions.

Sewing Project Group

The Sewing Project Group met over several sessions to produce pajama pants. Ten youth learned how to cut out a pattern and sew seams, pockets, and hems. They brainstormed projects for this winter and we are planning to make a functional wallet and a quilt square gnome, among other fun projects.

EXTENSION STAFF

Sara Hunter

Regional Director

Lori Nelson

Program Coordinator

Cassie Armstrong

Youth Director

PESTICIDE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

ISU Extension and Outreach and the Pesticide Safety Education Program, in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, provide continuing instruction courses for commercial and private pesticide applicators in Iowa. Approximately 50 commercial applicators attended trainings in the office early in the year with fall trainings scheduled. The private pesticide trainings were held in various locations in the county, with approximately 120 applicators in attendance.

EMERALD ASH BORER MEETING

A public meeting for homeowners and other concerned citizens addressed Emerald Ash Borer, a small beetle that kills all species of ash trees. The meeting was presented by Donald Lewis, professor and extension entomologist; Greg Heidebrink, DNR district forester; and Mike Kintner, Emerald Ash Borer coordinator with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Approximately 20 people attended. Topics included EAB identification, signs of infestation, and treatment and replacement options.

WALK WITH EASE

Walk with Ease is an evidence-based program designed to help older adults establish healthy patterns of physical activity. The Physical Activity and Health Promotion Lab at Iowa State, the Forest City YMCA, and the county extension office partnered to provide a research evaluation of the self-directed program. Approximately 12 adults participated over the six-week program.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION AND OUTREACH WINNEBAGO COUNTY

183 1st Ave., P.O. Box 47

Thompson, IA 50478

641-584-2261

www.extension.iastate.edu/winnebago