

# Grassroots

## District 9 News

### Local Elections Matter



**Peter Kimball**

WFBF District 9 Director

In recent years this has become even more evident as we have seen activists take control of local units of government and pass local laws that are designed to make it impossible for us as farmers to operate within their jurisdiction.

A good example of this is in our own backyard. Recently, in Burnett County, the Town of Trade Lake passed a CAFO operational ordinance that reduced the size of a CAFO from the state's definition of 1,000 animal units to 500 animal units for the town.

This would make a 300-cow dairy with young stock on site a CAFO and subject to its permitting application. Another example from the Trade Lake CAFO Operational ordinance states:

*"Due to the recreational nature of the Trade Lake area, and the large number of people that use our roads to walk, bike, ride ATVs and ride snowmobiles, all trucking and moving of materials in and out of the CAFO facility will be done during standard business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. This includes the use of farm tractors and any other such vehicles. Exceptions for trucks or other agricultural vehicles entering or leaving the CAFO facility before or after the standard business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., where the trucks or other agricultural vehicles are involved*

*in typical non-animal related agriculture farming activities including planting, harvesting and haying, may be approved as part of the applicant's transportation plan."*

I use this as an example of what can happen when we as farmers and supporters of agriculture don't step up and get involved in local politics. During the last few years we have seen issues like this pop up throughout the state.

The best way to solve anti-agriculture laws such as the one in Trade Lake is to make sure our town and county boards across the state have board members who understand and value production agriculture.

With this in mind, I am excited to announce a new opportunity Wisconsin Farm Bureau is launching in October 2023.

WFBF will be hosting a campaign school for any members who have interest in running for public office at any level from town board to running for state offices.

This candidate school will be open potential candidates, his or her spouse and campaign manager. It will cover topics from how to file to get on the ballot to campaign donations and much more. There will be more information coming soon.

I believe this training will be very valuable in training future political leaders across the state who will work with us as farmers to make sure we have a political and regulatory environment that will allow us as farmers to do what we do best — produce wholesome food in an environmentally friendly way.

### District 9 Membership Year End Wrap-Up



Membership is what drives Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau is primarily financed by annual membership dues.

As of Farm Bureau's membership year end, Sept. 30, 2022, there are 47,331 member families who belong to Wisconsin Farm Bureau, 22,664 of those are voting members.

Voting members are those actively engaged in agriculture, owners of farmland or providing services related to agriculture.

Associate members join to support agriculture and to use the member benefits offered by Farm Bureau.

By being a Wisconsin Farm Bureau member, you qualify for benefits and services that provide a range of options that respond to the needs of farmers, families and businesses in Wisconsin.

For more information about member benefits, visit [wfbf.com/membership/member-benefits](http://wfbf.com/membership/member-benefits).

Congratulations to members in District 9. The state as well as District 9 had a voting AND total membership gain.

Congratulations to the following counties for also hitting county membership goals:

- **Barron:** Total membership gain
- **Chippewa:** Voting AND total membership gain
- **Dunn:** Voting AND total membership gain
- **Pierce:** Voting AND total membership gain
- **Polk Burnett:** Voting AND total membership gain
- **Sawyer:** Voting AND total membership gain
- **St. Croix:** Voting AND total membership gain
- **Superior Shores:** Voting AND total membership gain

Thank you for being a member of your county Farm Bureau.

If you have questions about your membership dues, how to read your billing statement or if you know someone who wants to join Farm Bureau, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at [kmattison@wfbf.com](mailto:kmattison@wfbf.com).

## The Only Thing Tougher Than The Farm, Is The Farmer

Katie Mattison

WFBF District 9 Coordinator

I spend a lot of time driving and I pass the time listening to and learning from podcasts and audiobooks, and discovering new music.

Sometimes I find something that just hits differently. On four plus hour drives in my vehicle on my way to and from meetings, there is plenty of time to dissect the meaning of a podcast or really listen to the lyrics of a song.

I am not typically an emotional person, but I find myself getting a little choked up sometimes when a podcast hits that perfect topic or when song lyrics hit just right.

Recently, a friend shared a song with me that really hit the nail on the head:

*"It's giving all you've got to give, then going ten steps farther  
It's a dusty cap and coveralls that you put on like armor  
The days are long, the work is hard  
But your calloused hands are harder  
The only thing tougher than the farm, is the farmer" ~ Lee Brice "Farmer."*

Farmers work until the job is done, sometime from sunup to sundown without even stopping to eat. Farmers are problem solvers, fixers, do-ers. Words that come to mind when I think about you, our farmer

members: grit, determination, perseverance, hard working.

Farm Bureau was started more than 100 years ago out of the necessity of farmers to come together and make a difference on issues that were important to them.

You are the reason that Farm Bureau began, and you are the reason that Farm Bureau is still strong.

As a member of the state's largest and most influential farm organization, you are empowered through your membership to be influential and to be heard in local, state and national matters.

It is Farm Bureau's policy development process that empowers our members into positive action and how you can begin to make a difference.

As you go about your day on your farm remember what Lee Brice said, *"The only thing tougher than the farm, is the farmer."* And when a group of farmers come together in an organization like Farm Bureau, there is no stopping you.



## Ag in the Classroom Announces New Logo

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Program recently announced that it is launching a new logo. The new logo was selected to better align the program with National Agriculture in the Classroom.

The new logo kicks off a rebranding process that will include an e-newsletter and a refresh to the program's website.

"Education is the center of Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom," said Ag in the Classroom Coordinator Beth Schaefer. "This new logo better connects our program with National Agriculture in the Classroom while also reflecting our core focus: education."

Visit [wisagclassroom.org](http://wisagclassroom.org) to explore the program's new brand.

The Ag in the Classroom program is designed to help K-12 students understand the importance of agriculture. The program is coordinated by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, with funding from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, other agricultural groups and a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

For more information, visit [wisagclassroom.org](http://wisagclassroom.org).



## iFarm. iVote

The mission of the iFarm. iVote. campaign is to engage farmers and rural citizens in becoming informed voters.

The voices of Wisconsin's rural communities and farmers need to be heard. The way to do that is to get out and VOTE.

To register to vote, find your elected officials, find your candidates and to see who Volunteers for Agriculture®, WFBF's political action arm, has endorsed, visit [wfbf.com/policy/policy-ifarmivote](http://wfbf.com/policy/policy-ifarmivote).



## LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE... MEMBERSHIP EDITION

### IT TAKES A TEAM!

"It Takes a Team" is the theme for the 2023 membership year. This year's membership campaign is pitting districts against each other head-to-head to see who can hit their membership goals.

Introducing the District 9  
membership mascot:





## District Young Farmer and Agriculturist Happenings



### Haily and Benjamin Sand

District 9 YFA Co-Chairs

This past year, we were challenged by the state YFA Committee.

The first challenge entailed hosting an activity in each of the counties in our district. We started out with Porch Pots (Dunn), YFA Conference, where we got a lot of ideas on activities, Terry Clark concert (Barron), Sledding (Dunn),

Bowling (Collegiate, Pierce and St. Croix), Flower Farm Tour (St. Croix), Leinies and Norther WI State Fair concert (Chippewa) and the Farmer Series Meetings (Dunn).

Moving forward, we are looking to host a holiday meeting at The Farm Table (Polk) and Milk and Cookies with Santa at the Owen's Farm (Polk).

A challenge that we had for ourselves was to attend every virtual YF&R Monthly meetings. Here we have a chance to talk about the happenings in our areas along with our successes and not-so-successful areas of our local Farm Bureaus. It's a great way to connect with other young professionals in the Farm Bureau family!

Another YFA Committee challenge was to attend all our in-person meetings, which we have done a really good job of this year! We kicked it off with a very motivational January meeting. This year was the first year we were able to attend conferences, so we had the opportunity to go to Steven's Point for the IGNITE Conference and the YF&R Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, which was an awesome experience where we got to make new connections and share ideas and fundraisers. We took the time between our in-person meetings to get our subcommittee duties set for the annual meeting, making our July state committee meeting that much smoother.

Our YFA Chair, Bob Nash and his mom hosted us all at her lake cabin where we had a chance to really connect, especially being under one roof!

Right after our state committee meeting, we hosted a successful Discussion Meet, held at the Rolling Oaks Supper Club in Barron. Our Discussion Meet contestants included: Kirsten Konder, Lexi DuSell, Tiffany Schaffner, Isaac Christianson and Nate Kringle.

Moving onto state YFA Convention are Nate, Isaac and Lexi! We also

want to thank Julie Wadzinski, Brittany Olson and Leslie Svacina for judging a great competition and offer your expertise to hopefully send District 9 into the Top 4 at state again this year! Good luck, contestants!

Along with Discussion Meet competitions are the state contests:

- **Outstanding Ag Professional.** We had 11 applications submitted. For District 9, we have Mark & Tiffany Schafner (Dunn) and Julie Wadzinski (Barron) competing. If you see them, please wish them luck!
- **Farming for the Future.** We had nine applications submitted.
- **35 Under 35 Program.** New program this year offering recognition to YFA members excelling in several areas of sustainability including sustainable: future, environment, storytelling, service and self. We had 116 applications submitted, which were judged and one top finalist in each category will be selected to be recognized during the WFBF Annual Meeting.

These competitions and winner announcements will be during the YFA Conference in December.

Other items we are looking forward to at the YFA Conference is Friday Night Social is Dueling Pianos with a theme of Thrift Night, please bring your best Thrift Shoppe outfits.

Outfit competition divisions include:

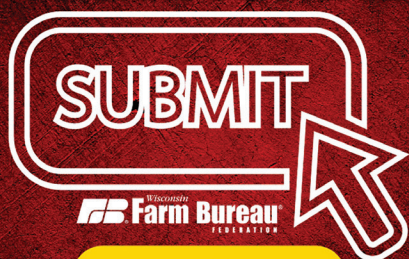
- **Crowd Favorite:** Judged on the loudest crowd applause.
- **Best Retro:** Judged on the best interpretation of retro clothes typically found at a thrift store.
- **Best Accessories:** Coolest accessories to help make his or her ensemble "poppin'."
- **Best Group:** Best group of two or more people to be dressed as a thrift shop outfit theme and make it bangin'.

We are also super excited to be bringing in motivational speaker Braxton Neilson. We saw him at the YF&R Conference, and he left us speechless.

And workshops, even though they will be laid out a bit differently than in years before, we are most looking forward to the Farm Zumba and Discovering Diversity of Wisconsin Ag breakouts.

Finally, this is our last year as District 9 YFA representatives and we would like to welcome our new District 9 YFA Committee member, Lexi DuSell.

### SHARE A MEMBER BENEFIT TESTIMONIAL



<https://bit.ly/WFBFtestimonial>

Recently used a member benefit? Tell us about it! Testimonials selected for WFBF's Rural Route Magazine or other WFBF publications will receive a \$20 gift card!

WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION'S

### GIVING DAY

WAS HELD ON

Wednesday, August 17

**WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT YOUR  
GENEROSITY COLLECTIVELY RAISED OVER \$21,000  
FOR THE WISCONSIN FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION!!!**

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROGRAMS THAT  
GROW LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE!**

IT STARTS  
WITH US





## Good Luck to the District 9 YFA Discussion Meet Contestants

District 9 kicked off the Discussion Meet season on July 10 with six contestants who did a fantastic job discussing, *"Due to current economic demands, many farmers and ranchers spend a lot of time outside the 'fence rows' on off-farm jobs. How can Farm Bureau become more accessible and welcoming to members who are working in related fields and juggling responsibilities on and off the farm?"*

Kudos to the YFA members who participated and congratulations to Nathan Kringle, Barron County; Isaac Christenson, Polk Burnett; and Lexi DuSell, St. Croix County, who will be moving on to the state contest Good luck in December.



## Fall Grazing Conference To Be Held

The Northwest Wisconsin Graziers Network, UW-River Falls Forage Project and UW-Madison Extension want to invite you to attend the Fall Grazing Conference in Shell Lake from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5.

The conference will be held at the Shell Lake Community Center, 200 West Lake Drive next to U.S. Highway 63 in Washburn County. The Community Center is a block east of Highway 63 in center of town.

Registration and the trade show will start at 8:30 a.m. The meal will be catered by Judies Country Caterer, a local rural business.

This conference will continue our strong tradition of an informative and friendly networking environment to learn about grazing, cattle stockmanship, wildlife ecology and future grazing programs.

Conference should be of interest to new farmers, part-time or full-time operators, low-income startups, graziers or non-graziers. Several agency and commercial exhibitors will be available to network with throughout the day. The specific topics will include:

- Basic Grazing Principles and Systems
- Stockmanship and Cattle Handling Concepts
- Wildlife Ecology and Grazing Compatibility
- Grazing Network Updates: Panel discussion by collaborating agencies and network
- Grassland 2.0, Grazing Lands Initiative Funding, St. Croix Valley Food Alliance, other government agencies programs

Advance registration for the conference is due by **Tuesday, Nov. 1**, cost is only \$20 and includes lunch, refreshments and materials. Late registration is \$30.

For more information, please contact UW-Madison Extension Regional Crops Educator, Michael Geissinger at 651.302.6620; Kevin Schoessow, Spooner at 715.635.3506; or Northwest Wisconsin Graziers Network, Lynn Johnson 715.225.9882.

*Sign up!*

**AG NEWSWIRE  
AND  
POLICY PULSE**

- ✓ Political updates
- ✓ Farm Bureau news
- ✓ Ag events
- ✓ Weekly updates

**Ag Newswire**  
Sign up to receive a weekly update with the latest Farm Bureau, political and agriculture news directly in your inbox every Friday.  
[wfbf.com/communication/ag-newswire](http://wfbf.com/communication/ag-newswire)

**Policy Pulse**  
Stay up to date on the latest legislative news affecting you.  
<http://bit.ly/PolicyPulseSignUp>



## PLANNING FOR EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK TRAILER RESPONSE (PELTR)



### Who should take this course?

This training is intended for first responders, including:

- Fire
- Law Enforcement
- EMS
- County Emergency Management
- Public Health and Safety Communicators
- Governmental Administrators
- Veterinarians
- Those experienced in handling cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and horses who may provide support, assistance, or aid in responding to roadway incidents involving livestock.

### Course Goals

The primary focus of the course is to develop / expand your response toolbox. You will also:

- Learn to recognize livestock behavior in times of stress
- Learn principles of animal handling & movement
- Understand livestock biosecurity issues
- Understand euthanasia decision-making process
- Proper handling of scene mortalities

**Cost: \$50**

### Time/ Location:

Self-paced virtual (UW-Madison Canvas) course with one half-day in-person session, Nov 4th from 1—4 pm @ 300 Oak Rdg Pkwy, Baldwin, WI (St. Croix County Highway facility)

Registered participants will have access to the online materials and will be mailed a hard copy manual.

### Educational Credits

Emergency response personnel will be awarded eight (8) hours educational credit for participation in this program.

**To register & pay, visit:**  
[https://go.wisc.edu/peltr\\_stcroix](https://go.wisc.edu/peltr_stcroix)

### For more information:

Ryan Sterry  
Regional Dairy Educator  
[ryan.sterry@wisc.edu](mailto:ryan.sterry@wisc.edu)  
715-531-1950  
715-928-9075



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

## Ag in the Classroom Volunteer Training & Promotion and Education Leadership Boot Camp

November 11 and 12  
Three Bears Resort | 701 Yogi Circle, Warrens

### Ag in the Classroom Volunteer Training

Friday, November 11

- 11:30 a.m.** – **Boxed Lunch** (provided)  
Grab a quick lunch and share out-of-the box ideas!
- 12:00 p.m.** – **Welcome**
- 12:15 p.m.** – **Opening Session**  
Ag in the Classroom County Coordinator 101
- 1:15 p.m.** – **Snacking Around Wisconsin Lesson**  
Taylor Schaefer, 75<sup>th</sup> Alice in Dairyland
- 2:00 p.m.** – **Break**
- 2:15 p.m.** – **All Hands-on Activities on Deck!**  
Books, Essays, Activities, Grants and More!
- 4:00 p.m.** – **Adjourn**



Wisconsin  
Agriculture in the Classroom



Leadership



Training Series

Brought to you by the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee

Saturday, November 12

- 9:00 a.m.** – **Welcome**
- 9:15 a.m.** – **Advocating for Agriculture 101**  
Presenter: Derek Orth
- 10:15 a.m.** – **Direct Marketing Panel**  
Panelists: Leslie Svacina, Becky Hurley and Becca Hilby
- 11:30 a.m.** – **Lunch** (provided)
- 12:15 p.m.** – **Promotion and Education Committee Activity**
- 1:15 p.m.** – **Wisconsin Cranberry Discovery Center Tour and Wine Tasting**
- 2:00 p.m.** – **Adjourn**



ATTEND ONE OR BOTH TRAININGS!

Ag in the Classroom Volunteer Training Only - \$20 • Promotion and Education Leadership Boot Camp Only - \$20

**Register for Both - \$30**

Register by **November 1** online at [bit.ly/NovemberWorkshops](http://bit.ly/NovemberWorkshops)

**Book a Hotel Room**

A block of rooms has been set aside at Three Bears Resort for Friday, November 11, and Saturday, November 12, at a rate of \$89 + tax. To make a reservation, call the hotel directly at 608.378.2500 and ask for the 'WFBF' room rate. Rooms must be reserved by **October 11** to receive the discounted rate.

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## Barron County



[wfbf.com/about/counties/barron](http://wfbf.com/about/counties/barron)



BarronCountyFarmBureau

### Our 'VOICE' Needs to Speak Up



**Karyn Schauf**

Barron County Farm Bureau President

Greetings! In preparing resolutions for our annual meeting, I spent quite a bit of time reviewing our current AFBF Policy - in particular that regarding land and energy, two irreplaceable requirements for production agriculture. All of a sudden a realization hit me!

The entity many of these policies sought to restrict, control and 'protect' against was our own federal government! How times have changed as today headlines warn of the increase of foreign ownership of U.S. ag processing facilities and agricultural land, particularly near U.S. military bases. In addition, budgeting and prepaying for next year's inputs of fuel and fertilizer is more a crap shoot than the wisdom of past experience. Closing the tap to the rich flow of natural energy sources God blessed this country with and depleting the reserves we had so wisely kept in place has seriously reduced our nation's ability to feed or protect ourselves.

The scales have been so ridiculously tipped in the favor of anything

green whether by regulation, price or subsidy the average American family struggles to adjust.

One look, however, at AFBF energy policies finds #1 and #2 already speak to this perfectly: "The U.S. should be focused on energy independence." and "We support the development and implementation of a comprehensive energy policy, which includes the ... production of traditional and renewable energy sources." In addition, today's generation has tasted the fear of food insecurity. More eyes have been opened to the realization that the production of food IS a national security issue and needs to be treated as such.

What can we do? We need to use our voice! AFBF should be pounding the drum incessantly on these points to our legislators no matter which side of the aisle they are on! Our WFBF Board of Directors needs to be urging, demanding AFBF to speak loudly on an energy policy already in place! And we as members must use our voice to refocus (AFBF Land policy #1: "... we are troubled that over one-third of the land in this nation is owned by the federal government.") on the real issue at hand, protecting our land and food production from foreign entities and recognizing it for what it is - truly an issue that affects the future of our nation! I hope to hear your voice at convention!



## Members of the Farmers of Barron County Watersheds Increase Adoption of Cover Crops

The demonstration efforts of the Farmers of Barron County Watersheds has had a significant impact on the acreage of cover crops throughout Barron County.

As the group has been leading the way, others have noticed and are following the practice also realizing that the benefits are noticeable and significant.

The kinds of cover crops include: cereal rye, winter wheat, oats, vetch, clover, daikon radish, turnips, buckwheat and a plethora of other relatively minor species that can be used if they are available.

The easiest way to put these crops to use is following harvest of small grains, sweet corn, snap beans, kidney beans, corn silage and even soybeans.

The best choices for the later harvested crops are rye or wheat but in the earlier harvested crop we have plenty of time to seed legumes to fix nitrogen for the next year crop.

Some farmers have harvested forage or pastured the cover crops for additional forage in spring or late fall.

Barron County has some cost share funds for first time users of cover crops. One notable benefit has been the reduction in weeds where covers are established. The Farmers of Barron County Watersheds is a group of farmers who promote the conservation efforts and participate in the Wisconsin Farmer-Led Watershed effort sponsored in part by grants from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

If you have an interest in learning more about the group or to be involved, please contact Logan Dwyer at 715.651.9803 or Craig Hamernik at 715.418.0053.



Andy Bensend harvested corn silage following red clover/radish/turnip cover crop on Sept. 28. He said this about the crop, "The red clover gave us a nice crop of forage on June 1 and we planted corn immediately after. I couldn't be more pleased with the outcome. We calculated the clover gave us 65 lbs. of nitrogen and about a ton of high-quality dry matter forage."

## Wadzinski, Finalist For Outstanding Agriculture Professional Award



Julie Wadzinski of Barron County is one of four individuals who have been selected as Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Outstanding Agriculture Professional Award finalists and will compete in December

for the top honor. Julie is a farm operations instructor at Northwoods Technical College.

The Outstanding Ag Professional Award recognizes members of Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program who excel in their leadership abilities and involvement in agriculture, Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations.

"We have four outstanding agricultural advocates in this year's state competition," said Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Kevin Krentz. "This contest highlights how these individuals have positively impacted Wisconsin agriculture and Farm Bureau while inspiring others to do the same."

The other three finalists are:

- Christa Hoffman of Shawano County. Christa is the business development administrator at URUS.
- Amy Silver of Green County. Amy is an agricultural and business lender at State Bank of Cross Plains.
- Julie Sweeney of Dodge County. Julie is the director of communications and marketing at FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative.

Outstanding Agriculture Professional Award applicants are agriculturists who have not derived a majority of their income from a farm (that they own) for the past three years. Examples of occupations of ideal applicants include agricultural education instructor, fertilizer salesperson, veterinarian, farm employee, journalist or marketer.

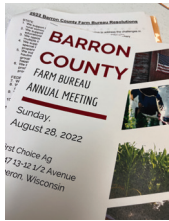
Each finalist must make a presentation and answer questions in front of a three-judge panel during WFBF's Annual Meeting and YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Wisconsin Dells, Dec. 2-4. The winner of the Outstanding Agriculture Professional Award will receive \$1,500 courtesy of GROWMARK, Inc., the opportunity to attend the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federation FUSION Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, will be eligible to participate in the 2023 YFA Washington, D.C., Fly-In and be a guest of WFBF at the 2023 YFA Conference. The total value of the prize package is valued at more than \$5,000.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation co-sponsors this contest with GROWMARK, Inc., and Rural Mutual Insurance Company. For Information about YFA contests can be found on wfbf.com.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is the state's largest general farm organization, representing farms of every size, commodity and management style. WFBF's YFA program is open to Farm Bureau members ages 18 to 35.

This is a new Farm Bureau award replacing the Excellence in Ag competition. Last year's Excellence in Ag award recipient was Kellie Zahn from Shawano County.

## 2022 Barron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Highlights



Barron County Farm Bureau hosted its county annual meeting on Aug. 28 at First Choice Ag in Cameron.

Members enjoyed a tour of First Choice Ag given by owner George Busse followed by a potluck lunch. Following lunch, the business meeting was held where members voted on resolutions, board of directors and delegates to the 2022 WFBF Annual Meeting.

Andy Bensend of Dallas replaced David Sollman on the board of directors. Thank you to David for his service and expertise on the board.

As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members at the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization. During the meeting, members discussed a wide range of issues.

Barron County Farm Bureau will be forwarding the following resolutions, passed during this meeting, on to the Policy Development committee for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

### State

1. We support the efforts of the WI Towns Association to address the challenges in rural communities providing EMS and fire services.
2. We support the formation of a task force to evaluate the post-secondary educational pathways to best supplement production agriculture.
3. We oppose the current University of Wisconsin Extension Structure combining multiple counties under the service of one specialist.
4. We support feed, livestock, milk, and farm supply/input haulers having the same special and spring weight exemption as transporters of septic, public utility, and propane.
5. We support amending Statute 349.16 to read "shall exempt milk and feed hauling" on spring road restrictions and work with all interested ag association groups, feed delivery companies and milk procurement facilities to make this happen.
6. We support a mandatory, national growth management plan that coordinates milk production growth with demand to improve and stabilize prices for all dairy producers.
7. We support holding the Wisconsin Elections Commission accountable to the state law and failure to uphold it shall result in the defunding of the commission.

### Federal

8. We support a mandatory, national growth management plan that coordinates milk production growth with demand to improve and stabilize prices for all dairy producers.
9. We oppose any changes to the current atrazine registration.
10. We support EPA basing their decisions on sound science in the re-registration of crop protection products rather than public sentiment.

11. We support renewable electrical energy production only when it is in balance with base load production to meet the demand.
12. AMEND P.149 10.1.2 to "We oppose any incentives for renewable energy production on productive farmland."
13. We oppose the loss of any productive farmland for the production of renewable energy.
14. We support point of use production of wind or solar energy.
15. We support a pro-reliability and comprehensive (i.e., coal, nuclear, fossil fuels) approach to the generation and distribution of electricity in the United States which guarantees base load generation is more than sufficient to meet peak load demand while integrating renewable energy onto the electric grid without disruption to the end user of electricity.
16. We support and urge election fraud to be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
17. We support a moratorium on any foreign investment or purchase of United States of America land or agricultural production and/or processing facilities of agricultural goods until such time a Comprehensive National Security Assessment can be completed to determine the impact of foreign investment on U.S. food supply and national security.
18. We support requiring solar and wind farms to have an approved disposal plan for spent panels prior to construction.
19. We oppose foreign ownership of any property within 100 miles of a US Military base.
20. We support the return to and prioritization of a policy of US energy independence.
21. We support the review of the Farmland Preservation program to make it more effective.
22. We support a national energy policy balanced between traditional, nuclear and renewable energy sources as applied to research, production and usage.
23. We urge legislation that would promote truth in class action lawsuit ads by requiring info regarding estimated aggregate income to law firm and realistic award per client be disclosed.

Delegates that will be representing Barron County Farm Bureau members at the WFBF Annual Meeting are: Karyn Schauf, Sam Olson, and Craig Hamernik.



# Chippewa County

## County Annual Meeting Held

Members and guests attended the Chippewa County Farm Bureau annual meeting at the Fill Inn Station in Chippewa Falls on Sept. 20. Members elected the directors and officers, along with the delegate to the WFBF Annual Meeting. Lori Gardow

will serve as Chippewa County Farm Bureau's delegate at the WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells, Dec. 3-5.

We hope that more of you will join the annual meeting next September.





## President's Message



**Kevin Gilbertson**  
Dunn County Farm Bureau  
President

2022 has been a very active year for Dunn County Farm Bureau.

Our board, elected to be more visible to

both our members and the public promoting both Farm Bureau and the importance of agriculture to Dunn County.

To accomplish this goal, a group of members handed out chocolate milk and string cheese along the parade route of the Menomonie Christmas parade. Our group was very welcomed by parade goers. The parade walkers had a fun time spreading Christmas cheer while handing out the dairy treats.

As spring approached, we worked with Dunn County Dairy Promotion to sponsor a night at the Red Cedar Raceway in June. Board member, Ben Sand worked with fellow Farm Bureau member Tara Prochnow from the racetrack to set up the Curd 25. Promotional messages for both Farm Bureau and Dunn County Dairy Promotion were read by the racetrack announcer throughout the night informing the public about highlights of each organization. Members of these organizations were on hand to give away cheese sticks, pudding, coloring sheets, information in addition to awarding overflowing cheese baskets through random raffle draws. An extra highlight of the night was capturing photo opportunities of milk donations to the winners of each race. A fun night was had by all.

July brought about the county fair and the excitement of the fair food stand. I want to thank Haily Sand and Kay Gilbertson for taking on the role of co-chairperson responsibility. Also, thank you to Dale and Cindy Quilling for their continued help with the stand with scheduling as well as organizing the set up and take down of the stand. Thank you to those of you who volunteered to work in the stand, we cannot do it without you.

Finally, in August, it was our year to host a tri-county picnic with Pierce and St. Croix counties. A tour of Chippewa Valley Bean was coordinated followed by a potluck picnic at Grandpa Lloyd's horse barn. We had a great turnout of more than 60 people. I want to thank Bob Wachsmuth of Chippewa Valley Bean for taking the time to welcome and educate us on a unique business located in our county.

With harvest in full swing, I encourage you all to be safe as you continue to reap the benefits of months of hard work.

## County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Members of the Dunn County Farm Bureau came together for their annual meeting on Sept. 27 at Dean & Sue's in Menomonie.

Katie Wantoch was presented with the Dunn County Farm Bureau Service to Agriculture Award in honor of the work that she does for agriculture in Dunn County. Katie has served as the agriculture agent in the county for many years and has done a great job promoting agriculture in the county and beyond.

Justin Jensen of Menomonie was elected to the Dunn County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for a three-year term and Kristyn Jensen was elected to serve a one-year term as the Promotion and Education Chair on the Dunn County Farm Bureau Board.

Delegates elected to represent Dunn County at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federations Annual Meeting in December are: Kevin Gilbertson, Tony Christophers, Ben Sand and Justin Jensen.

Members voted on resolutions at the meeting and will be forwarding the following on to the Policy Development Committee for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

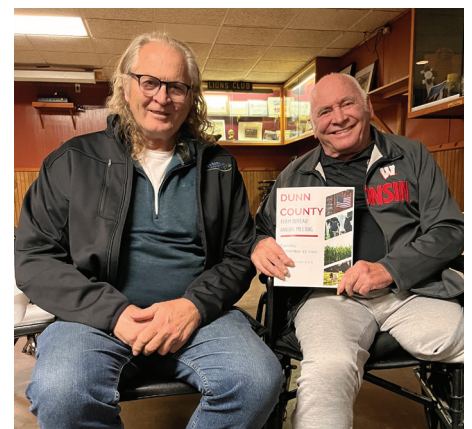
### State

1. We support the efforts of the WI Towns Association to address the challenges in rural communities providing EMS and fire services.
2. We support the formation of a task force to evaluate the post-secondary educational pathways to best supplement production agriculture.
3. We support aboveground farm fuel storage tanks being regulated by DATCP. All aboveground farm fuel storage tanks less than 5,000 gallons shall be exempt from regulation, including inspection, plan review and professional installation requirements.
4. We support feed hauling, livestock, milk haulers, farm supply, and sap hauling having the same special and spring weight exemption as transporters of septic, public utility, and propane.
5. We support amending Statute 349.16 to read "shall exempt milk and feed hauling" on spring road restrictions from "may exempt", we also agree to work with all interested ag association groups as well as feed delivery companies and milk procurement facilities to make this happen.
6. We support the right of each farm commodity group to self-regulate their supply with their demand. Wisconsin Farm Bureau is a general farm organization representing all commodities, size and style of farming. With that, Farm Bureau shall not design, promote, or support legislation that directly effects the pricing, size, management style, or production method of any commodity. Wisconsin Farm Bureau will support policy and legislation efforts brought forth to us by the majority interest of individual commodity groups that may affect the pricing, size, management style or production method of individual commodities if they are designed to be beneficial from the majority of producers of said commodity.

We had a great county annual meeting and are looking forward to the year ahead.



**Kevin Gilbertson, Dunn County Farm Bureau Board President, presented Katie Wantoch with the Dunn County Farm Bureau Service to Agriculture Award for all that she has done for agriculture and Dunn County Farm Bureau over the years.**



**No Dunn County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting would be complete without Carl Casper and Marv Prestrud.**



## Kidney Bean Harvest 2022



The beginning of October marked the end of the dark red kidney bean harvest in Dunn County on the Quilling Farm.

## Appreciation Tour and Picnic, A Success

Members of Dunn County, Pierce County and St. Croix County Farm Bureaus had the opportunity to tour Chippewa Valley Bean Co., Inc., followed by networking and delicious food at a potluck picnic at Grandpa Lloyd's Horse Barn.

Thank you to Bob and Joe of Chippewa Valley Bean for being fantastic tour guides.

And thank you to those who came out for the event.



# Pierce County

## County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Held at El Paso Bar & Grill

Members of the Pierce County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on Sept. 22 at the El Paso Bar & Grill. Mel Pittman was presented with the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award.

As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members on the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization. The following resolutions were discussed and passed during this meeting and will be forwarded on for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

### State

1. We support the efforts of the WI Towns Association to address the challenges in rural communities providing EMS and fire services.
2. We support the formation of a task force to evaluate the post-secondary educational pathways to best supplement production agriculture.
3. We support aboveground farm fuel storage tanks being regulated by DATCP. All aboveground farm fuel storage tanks less than 5,000 gallons shall be exempt from regulation, including inspection, plan review and professional installation requirements.
4. We support feed, livestock and milk haulers having the same special and spring weight exemption as transporters of septic, public utility and propane.



The 2022 Pierce County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting had a great crowd.

5. We support a mandatory, national growth management plan that coordinates milk production growth with demand to improve and stabilize prices for all dairy producers.

### Federal

6. We oppose any changes to the current atrazine registration.
7. We support a mandatory, national growth management plan that coordinates milk production growth with demand to improve and stabilize prices for all dairy producers.
8. We support congress authorizing an audit of foreign ownership of United States land.

In addition to the regular business at the Pierce County Farm Bureau annual meeting there were several speakers including: Michael Geissinger, regional crops Extension educator, who spoke on soybean gall midge; Kolby Grint, northwest Wisconsin regional outreach specialist with UW-Madison Nutrient and Pest Management Program, who spoke on tar spot; and Connor Ballman who spoke on his recent trip to Washington Leadership Conference with FFA.



Peter Kimball was honored to present the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award to Mel Pittman. Mel served as Pierce County Farm Bureau president, has served on many committees throughout the county and serves on the Pierce County Board of Supervisors.



## Glenna Presents During County Annual Meeting



**Executive Vice President and CEO of Rural Mutual Insurance Company, Dan Merk, gave a report on behalf of Rural Mutual.**

The Polk Burnett Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held on Sept. 29 at BrowTime in Amery. There were more than 40 attendees who enjoyed hearing from Sheriff David Beth and other reports. Members voted on resolutions and the following resolutions will be forwarded on to the state for consideration at the WFBF Annual Meeting:

1. We support the exemption of navigable water ways to be less than 5 acres for land use permit.
2. We support better education of law enforcement departments for the protection of agriculture equipment and the public on roadways.
3. We support reinforcing agriculture equipment safety and regulations on roadways in driver's education.
4. We support Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation establishing a process for how they support County Farm Bureaus at the local level as local issues are becoming increasingly complex.

Members also voted on the board of directors and delegates for the WFBF Annual Meeting. Travis Senn and Josh Roos were elected to two-year terms on the board of directors. Maria Owens was elected to a one-year term as Promotion and Education chair and Mykayla Dado was elected to a one-year term as YFA chair.

Those elected to be delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting included Sara Byl, Rebekah Gustafson and Brad Olson.

Guest speaker, Courtney Glenna, shared a presentation about her trip to Scotland, Ireland and London as part of the Dairy Judging Team.

Overall, it was a great annual meeting.



**Members enjoyed hearing about Courtney Glenna's trip to Scotland, Ireland and London as a member of the dairy judging team.**

## Isaac Christenson Selected for WFBF Leadership Institute



Fifteen agricultural leaders have been selected to participate in the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Leadership Institute. This year-long leadership training program's mission is to develop strong and effective agricultural leaders.

"Today's farmers and agriculturists

must take the lead to be advocates for their farms and agribusinesses," said WFBF Senior Director of Member Relations Wendy Kannel. "The Institute gives participants the skills and confidence necessary to lead the future of farming and agriculture in their county Farm Bureau, local community and beyond."

Members of the 2023 WFBF Leadership Institute class are: Christina Benson, Darlington; Allison Bragger, Independence; Isaac Christenson, Amery; Jay Moore, Waukesha; Lindsay Fowler, Malone; Stephanie Hoff, Madison; Roseanna Hoffman, Antigo; Mikayla Kuehl, Kewaunee; David Mickelson, DeForest; Linda Mullins, Oshkosh; Kaitlyn Riley, Gays Mills; Ed Rippley, Cochrane; Brooke Trustem, Evansville; Amanda Williams, Shawano; and Eric Wuthrich, New Glarus.

The WFBF Leadership Institute consists of five, multi-day sessions that provide hands-on learning on agricultural issues, leadership development and speaking skills, interaction with Farm Bureau staff and government leaders at the state and national levels and networking with other participants. The class capstone event will be a trip, with the WFBF Board of Directors, to Washington, D.C., in June 2024.

Farm Bureau members interested in applying for the 2025 class can contact Wendy Kannel at 608.828.5719.

## Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

By Brad Olson, Polk Burnett Farm Bureau Member

*"Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done."* - Charles Osgood - Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

Charles' words have never been truer as we look at what is happening on our local boards. We have all been guilty of saying, "We don't have time for that." and "Somebody else will fill those spots." Heck, I've been guilty of it, too.

The problem is with who those somebodies are. Are they someone who has the same morals, values, passion for the land, animals and community like you? Are they someone who understands how hard you work to ensure you are providing the highest quality and safest food in the world not just for your family but for the world? Are they someone who is going to stand up and fight for your right to farm, advocate for your industry, challenge others to see the struggles you are already facing and how stricter restrictions are only going to make that job harder?

If you answered no to any of these questions, then I want to encourage you to become engaged. We can no longer sit by and wait for someone else to step up and fill those rolls. As the saying goes, "Be the change we want to see in the world." We know that those who are anti-agriculture are already doing that. They are pushing their own agendas, no matter what the implications on the local level.

We know that if we don't stand up and speak out, we will continue to fade into the background. We will continue to have to make concessions on things we don't want to. We need people like you and me working together to share the truth about agriculture. To band together and advocate for policy that will continue to allow us to be prosperous.

I have heard firsthand farmers saying, "If things don't change how can I, with clear conscience, pass this farm on to my kids." I have advocated for farmers rights on town and county boards for more than 15 years and will continue to until I can't anymore. I have one simple question, will you join us? Join us in advocating for the industry, livelihood and people who we love. Will you stand up and speak out with us to ensure that the next generation has a chance to farm?

If so, please reach out to your local county Farm Bureau and we can work together to make a difference on the local level.



## County Annual Meeting Held at Heart of the North Brewing Co.

Members of the Rusk County Farm Bureau held their county annual meeting on Sept. 1 at the Heart of the North Brewery Co. in Ladysmith.

A highlight of the meeting was the candidate forum that was held preceding the meeting. Cory Tomczyk and Bob Look, candidates for the 29th Senate District, and James Edming and Elizabeth Riley, candidates for the 87th Assembly District, participated in a candidate forum.

Serenity Hetke of Ladysmith joined the Rusk County Farm Bureau board of directors as the new Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair for a one-year term and John Weinert moved from YFA chair to a three-year term on the board.

Delegates elected to represent Rusk County during the WFBF Annual Meeting in December are: Terry DuSell and Dan Weiss.



A candidate forum was held prior to the Rusk County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

Rusk County Farm Bureau members approved following resolutions during this meeting and will forwarded on for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

1. We support requiring dairy inspectors to give notice to farm owner or manager before inspection.
2. Reaffirm: We support the research and development of a dairy growth management and other systems that provide increased dairy-industry stability and producer profitability.
3. We support streamlining the regulation process to encourage new meat processing facilities.

Thank you to the members who attended this year's annual meeting.



# St. Croix County

## County Annual Meeting Held at Cady Acres

The St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held Sept. 11 at Cady Acres in Wilson.

Members enjoyed a meal catered by Peg's Pleasant View and then voted on policy, board of directors and delegates to the 2022 WFBF Annual Meeting.

St. Croix County will be presenting the following resolutions for consideration at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

### State

1. We support the formation of a task force to evaluate post-secondary educational pathways to best supplement production agriculture.
2. We support UW-Madison Division of Extension maintaining state specialists to support all facets of agriculture in Wisconsin.
3. We support haulers of perishable ag products having the same special and spring weight exemptions as transporters of septic, public utility, and propane.
4. We support the DNR setting the prescribed burn dates based on regional nesting patterns as determined by a state wildlife specialist.

### Federal

5. We oppose the recent Biden Harris Student Debt Relief Plan for the forgiveness of the debt on student loans.



Cady Acres, a beautiful event barn, was this year's St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting location.



## I See London, I See France. Farmers Buried Underpants

By Tara Daun, Farmer-Led Watershed Coordinator for the Hay River, Horse Creek, Dry Run and South Kinnickinnic Watersheds

Across northwest Wisconsin, farmers in four local watershed councils volunteered to participate in a light-hearted competition aimed to turn some heads and crudely measure soil biological activity.

The Soil Your Undies challenge is pretty simple: Bury a pair of underwear in the spring out in the field then let the soil microbes work on them for 50 to 60 days. The cotton in the underwear, being a natural fiber, is capable of quick decomposition in that time, but they need plenty of microbial activity to get broken down. Luckily, we've had a bountiful harvest of some super soiled Hanes.

Between May 25 and June 17, 30 pairs of underwear were planted across four counties. Those pairs were dug up between July 22 and Aug. 3. Field cropping history and tillage were all noted at time of planting. Unfortunately, a couple were lost; fields look awfully different after 60 growing days, and our markers were pretty difficult to find in 8' corn.

Picture me crawling between corn rows on hands and knees looking for small pink flags and futilely checking out 'before' pictures of the field to try and triangulate location. To my credit, and moreso the farmers', we found almost all of them.

More than one farmer called halfway through the challenge to say, "We haven't gotten any rain, that underwear is going to be as fresh as it was when we buried it." Those farmers were surprised at what their soil did even during a dry season. Moisture did matter a lot though. Dry fields without living roots in the ground decomposed less cotton as shown by the test plots at Mann Valley and Horse Creek. Whereas fields under irrigation, even with some tillage had shredded the whitey tighties.

Each pair of briefs we dug up has told a really interesting story. In general, the fields that had a longer history of no-till and reduced tillage had better breakdown than those with more cultivation. For example, the River Falls FFA test plot has been no-tilled for two years whereas Tim Jennings' field, less than a mile away

has been no-tilled for eight years. There was certainly a lot less of the underwear left in the eight-year field.

Mike Wold in Dunn County has been mostly no-tilling on his fields for 20 years, and his pairs were some of the most degraded. A pair in Pierce County took the cake though. They were buried on a field that has been in CRP for most of the last 40 years.

Another lesson: poop breaks down underwear faster. Sigh. The jokes just keep coming. But truly even with more tillage and less variety of crops in the rotation, farms with cow manure incorporation had a lot more breakdown. This wasn't as true for incorporated turkey litter or even hog manure. A great comparison occurred at the Cormican farm in Glenwood City.

Andy and Don planted underwear in two fields very close to each other. Both were no tilled and had cover crops last year, but in one field, the cattle had grazed off the covers and in the other, the covers were terminated chemically in the spring at two feet tall. The undies in the grazed field were a lot more deteriorated than in the field without livestock access.

So, some underwear broke down more, why does that matter? In short, healthy soil is more resilient to weather and can hold more nutrients than inert soil. How does that work? Mostly soil structure and water absorption. Organic matter, like roots and microbial colonies, create structure by literally gripping soil and absorbing water instead of allowing it to run over the surface. That makes healthy soil far less likely to erode during rains or blow away with the wind. Of course, holding onto that moisture is also gives crops a bigger moisture bank to draw from during drought. Healthy soil microbes also unlock nutrients while breaking down organic matter, providing more fertility to crops.

Is it as simple as it sounds? Of course not. Soil scientists note that biological breakdown can be slower in some very health soils because of a higher fungal activity. Soil fungus is great for soil structure and nutrient availability to plants, but it is a slow decomposer and takes more time than soil bacteria to break down material.

Fortunately, more scientific measurements can provide a ratio of fungal vs. biological activity in



**Dan Sitz of South Kinnickinnic Farmer-Led Council planted a pair in a CRP field.**

the soil to folks who really want to get a better peak under their dirt. For the rest of us, we can use Hanes to get a general idea of how our soil is doing. One farmer who applied fungicide had a LOT of breakdown, and perhaps killing the fungus made more room for the bacterial colonies. Another who has been using lots of biologicals and had fantastic looking crops and extremely high biological measurements through testing had very little breakdown of the underwear. In short, burying underwear isn't a perfect test of soil health. And this isn't an exact science, but in general, it has shown general trends that more soil health practices are associated with more decomposition.

Does more underwear breakdown translate to better crop yield? We don't know yet. We'll try to do some rough tracking at harvest time. But of course, yield is dependent on hundreds of different factors, especially rainfall. Does more corn mean less underwear? Like many of the underwear pulled up, the well of jokes on this subject is bottomless.

Tara Daun is the watershed coordinator for four Farmer-Led Watershed Councils in northwestern Wisconsin. For information, visit [farmerledwatershed.org](http://farmerledwatershed.org) or by following @farmerledwatershed on Facebook. [tadaun@wisconsinfarmersunion.com](mailto:tadaun@wisconsinfarmersunion.com).

## Flower Farm Tour

What a fun evening with District 9 friends.

Young Farmers gathered at Basket of Flowers flower farm in Woodville to learn a bit about flower farming and attendees were even able to create their own U-Pick bouquets.

Thank you to those who attended and for Baskets of Flowers for hosting.





## Members Gather at County Annual Meeting

Sawyer County Farm Bureau members and guests gathered at the Sawyer County Farm Bureau annual meeting on Sept. 8 at The Columbian.

Members voted on resolutions, along with the board of directors and delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Members voted to forward the following resolutions on to the Policy Development committee for consideration at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

1. We support the research and development of a dairy growth management and other systems that provide increased dairy-industry stability and producer profitability.
2. We support streamlining the regulation process to encourage new meat processing facilities.

Delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting include Mike Robers and Andrew Winiarczyk.



## Wildlife Damage Legislative Field Day

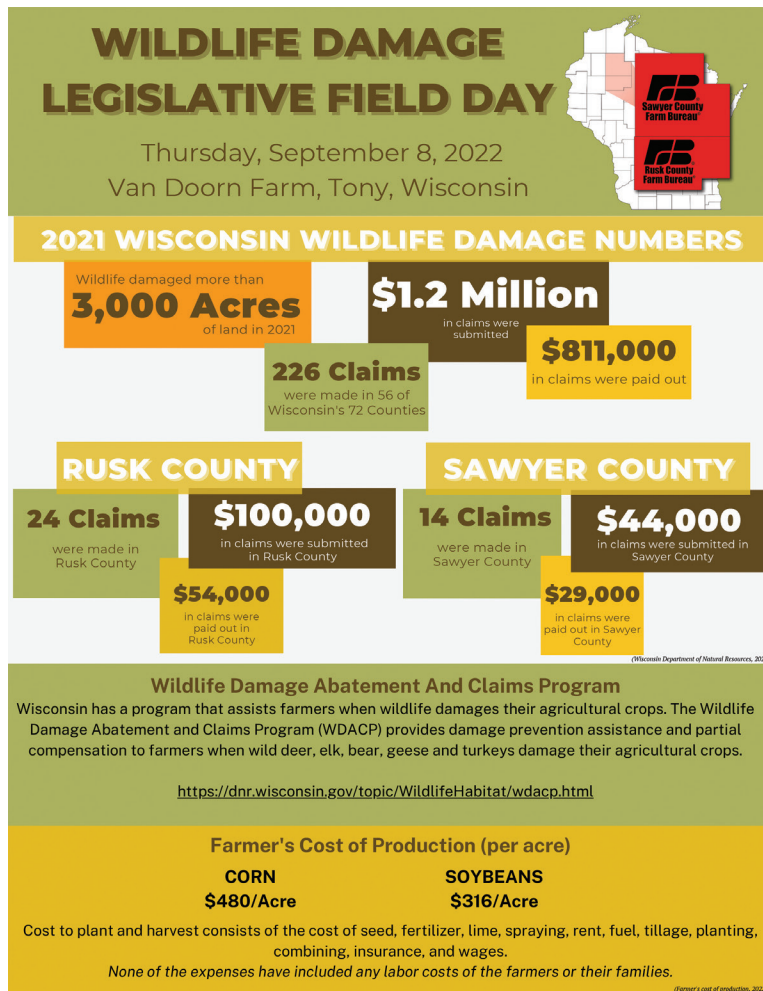
Farmers in northern Wisconsin have been struggling with damage to their crops from wildlife for more than 20 years.

Wisconsin has a program that assists farmers when wildlife damages their agricultural crops. The Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) provides damage prevention assistance and partial compensation to farmers when wild deer, elk, bear, geese and turkeys damage agricultural crops.

Currently, farmers are reimbursed a maximum of \$10,000 (minus a \$500 deductible) through the WDACP. Some farmers have damage from wildlife each year that far exceeds the cap of \$10,000 and they are forced to take a loss on that year after year.

For the past three plus years, farmers in Rusk and Sawyer counties have been working hard to get legislation passed in Wisconsin that would change the way that farmers are paid out for wildlife damage through the WDACP. Each year the legislation has come close to passing, only to fall short.

Members of Sawyer County Farm Bureau hosted a Wildlife Damage Legislative Field Day on Sept. 8 at Van Doorn Farm near Tony to help bring light to the struggles that farmers face in northern Wisconsin. The purpose of this event was to bring senate and assembly members to a farm and see firsthand the damage wildlife cause to crops and fields in hopes that legislation will get passed in the next session that will help with the problem.





## County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Highlights

The Superior Shores Farm Bureau annual meeting was held on Sept. 23 at Hugo's Pizza in Ashland.

Members enjoyed a pizza buffet lunch.

Following lunch, the business meeting was held where members voted on resolutions, board of directors and delegates to the 2022 WFBF Annual Meeting.

Alan Schiefelbein of Brule joined the Superior Shores Farm Bureau board for a three-year term.

Members of Superior Shores Farm Bureau approved the following resolutions:

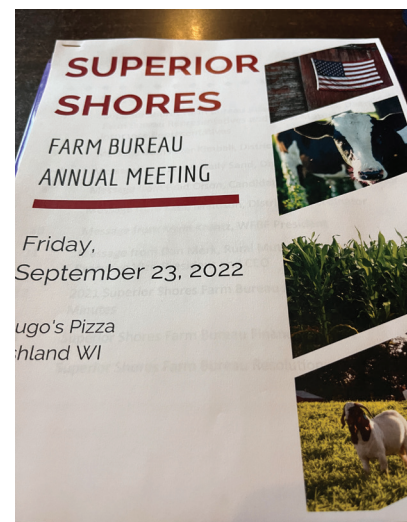
### State

1. We support the efforts of the WI Towns Association to address the challenges in rural communities providing EMS and fire services.

2. We support feed, livestock, milk and farm supply haulers having the same special and spring weight exemption as transporters of septic, public utility and propane.

Thank you to those members who took the time to join us for the 2022 annual meeting.

Members look forward to doing great things in the upcoming year.



## Concert in the Corn Hosted in Mason

2022 marked the second annual Concert in the Corn hosted at White River Ag in Mason.

On Sept. 23, after members met for lunch at the Superior Shores Farm

Bureau annual meeting, they attended the concert that featured Chris Kroeze on the main stage.



## Ag Technician Update

Ashland County was able to hire an Agricultural Technician through a National Association of Conservation Districts grants. Matt Bolen, the Ag Technician has been working with farmers in Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties on nutrient management plans, and he has worked on 10 NMP's throughout this region. This is a new position for the county as of January 2022 and is making some great accomplishments in working with farmers on nutrient management plans.

Ashland County also owns a Traux II no-till drill planter that it rents to farmers in northern Wisconsin. During the 2022 season, 11 farmers rented the machine to plant 130.4 acres, mostly clover and rye.

Please contact Bolen at matt.bolen@co.ashland.wi.us.







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St. Croix County  
Sawyer County  
Superior Shores

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