

About Milwaukee County UW-Cooperative Extension



The Milwaukee County Cooperative Extension office connects people to university knowledge. County residents receive up-to-date, objective, practical, research-based knowledge to help them grow, change and prosper. They become more self-sufficient, lead healthier and safer lives, form strong and nurturing families, and thrive economically.

Our primary clients live and work in Milwaukee County, and include youth and adults of all ages. We make a special effort to reach people living in central city neighborhoods, people of color, low-income families and people with disabilities.

The following represents a sampling of the 20 different programs offered by the Milwaukee County Cooperative Extension office.



- **Foreclosure Prevention**

Many homeowners in Milwaukee and across the state are losing their homes largely because they cannot make the escalating payments on adjustable rate mortgages. The Foreclosure Prevention Education Program raises community awareness of predatory lending by working with professional and consumer groups to provide consumers with resources to prevent foreclosures and make informed lending choices.



- **Professional Training for Home Visitors**

Home Visitation programs promote parent and child interaction, healthy child development and positive parenting skills. They decrease child abuse and neglect among low income families. Cooperative Extension trains professionals who visit families in their homes during pregnancy, at birth and through the first year or more of the child's life.



- **Nutrition Education**

The Nutrition Education Program helps low income families and individuals choose healthful diets, purchase and prepare healthful food and handle it safely, and become more food secure by spending their food dollars wisely. The program reaches children in more than 50 schools and afterschool programs, seniors at meal sites, low-income families in their homes, and adults with disabilities at residential facilities.

- **Poverty Awareness for Community Engagement (PACE)**

Milwaukee County Cooperative Extension offers custom-designed training for professionals who work with low-income people. This training provides key lessons for understanding the complex issues of poverty, diversity and social class. Customized workshops for paraprofessionals, professionals, faith-based organizations and community residents are available.

UW
Extension
Milwaukee County

932 South 60th Street
West Allis, WI 53214
414-290-2400



● 4-H Community Clubs & Youth Development

4-H provides real-life experiences for youth through practical learn-by-doing educational programs for all youth in grades K-13 (one year out of high school). Wherever youth live, suburb or city, 4-H has something to offer. 4-H activities help youth develop self-esteem, become responsible young adults, gain a sense of belonging, and improve decision-making, communication and leadership skills.



● Master Gardener Trainings & Community Projects

Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by Cooperative Extension specialists and agents in many aspects of horticulture. In return for their training, Master Gardeners volunteer to help with educational programs in horticulture and a wide variety of community service projects. For more information about the Southeast Wisconsin Master Gardeners, call the Volunteer Coordinator at (414) 290-2416.



● Urban Agriculture & Rent a Garden

2007 is the 35th year that Cooperative Extension has rented gardens to about 400 families in Milwaukee County. For urban residents who do not have a place to garden, the garden plot rental program provides an opportunity to grow nutritious food, save grocery money, exercise and share family traditions. To learn more about renting a garden, visit the Garden Rental web site at <http://milwaukee.uwex.edu/hort/urbanag> or call the Garden Rental line, (414) 290-2405.



● Storm Water Education/Rain Gardens

A rain garden is a specially designed place in your lawn that allows water to collect and slowly seep into the ground. The plants in a rain garden impede storm water runoff and absorb or trap pollutants. Extension programs help homeowners learn the value of rain gardens, how to design and fit rain gardens into their property, and ways to successfully install and maintain them.

● Nature in the Parks/Environmental Science Education

Nature in the Parks is a collaborative effort of Cooperative Extension, the Wehr Nature Center and the Milwaukee County Park System, that provides environmental education programming throughout the Milwaukee County Park System and at school sites. Programs offered include school field trips, youth programming and summer day camps. Please visit the Nature in the Parks website at <http://milwaukee.uwex.edu/natresnip> or call (414) 425-8550.

● Leadership Development

The Community Resource Development program has partnered with MICAH (Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope) to provide leadership and organizational development for inner city congregational leaders and churches to build stronger organizations to serve low-income families. Courses provided include needs assessment, group facilitation, conflict management, fundraising and grant writing.



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To learn more about Milwaukee County Cooperative Extension services and educational programs, visit our website at <http://milwaukee.uwex.edu>