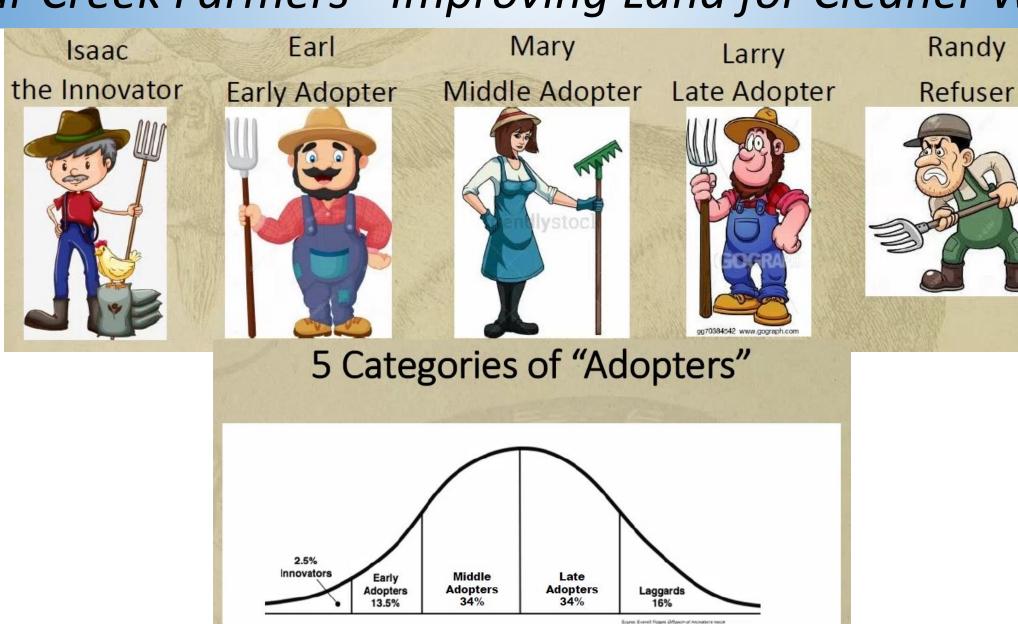


Ross & Stan – You Been No-Tilling Long?



Source: http://blog.leanmonitor.com/early-adopters-allies-launching-product/







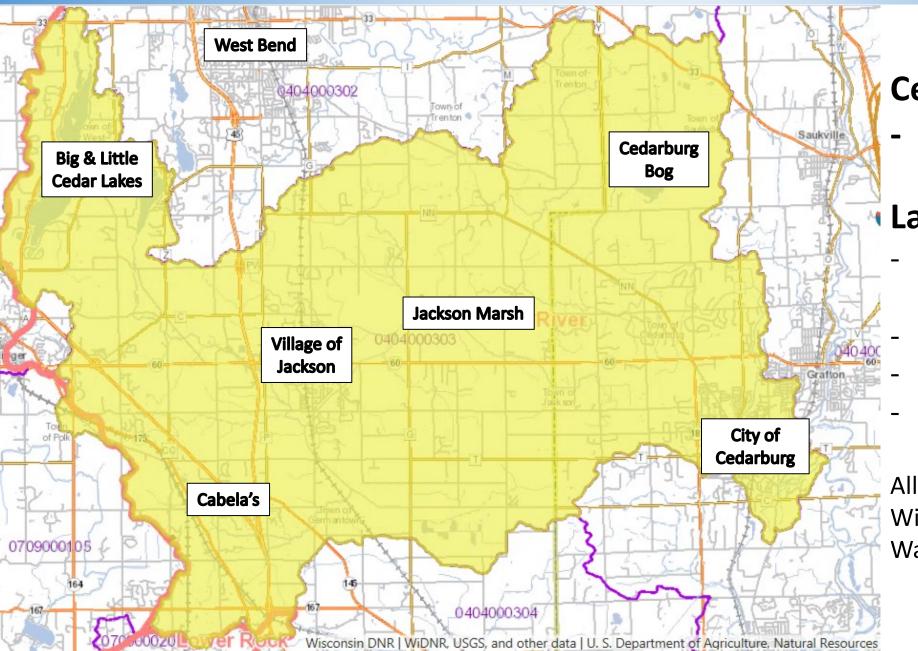












Cedar Creek Watershed

- 126 Square Miles

Land Uses:

- 55% Agriculture
 -170 farms/44,000+ Ac.
- 16% Urban
- 16% Wetlands/Water
- 13% Grassland/Forest

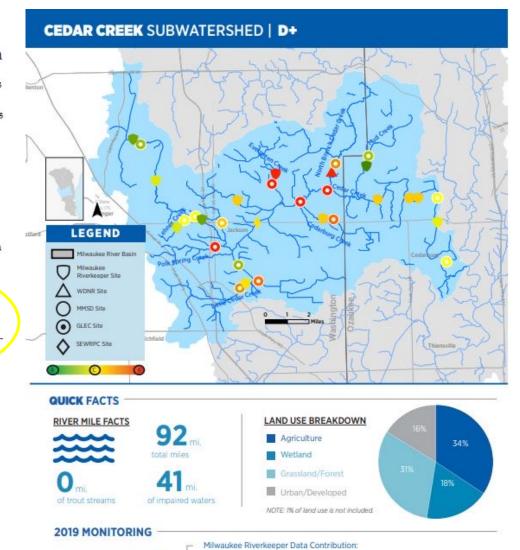
All 28 miles of Cedar Creek are on Wisconsin's 303(d) Impaired Waters List.

Surface Waters of the Milwaukee River Basin

Cedar Creek and its tributaries pass through the Village of Jackson in Washington County and the Villages of Cedarburg and Grafton in Ozaukee County, where it then flows into the Milwaukee River.

The Department of Natural Resources placed all 28 miles of Cedar Creek on Wisconsin's Impaired Waters List for total phosphorus, designating this stream as not meeting water quality standards. Downstream, the Milwaukee River is troubled with water quality degradation caused in part by elevated levels of phosphorous, bacteria and sediment-laden runoff.

So where do we go from here?



2019 DATA SUMMARY

The Cedar Creek Subwatershed received a D+ (69.52%) in 2019, a minimal improvement from 2010. Dissolved oxygen, pl I, chloride, and temperature all met water quality standards. While still not meeting phosphorus standards, the Subwatershed saw an improvement of 7% from its 2018 phosphorus grade. Similarly, the Cedar Creek Subwatershed saw a 6% improvement to its bacteria grade, but only met bacteria standards 54.55% of the time.

Habitat surrounding a waterway plays a critical role in protecting it from pollution. Oftentimes, farm fields extend nearly to the water's edge, with much of the natural vegetation cleared. Many parks and golf courses have turf grass lining streams that run through them offering little stream protection. A buffer of deep-rooted vegetation acts as a roadblock intercepting runoff from crop fields and livestock, as well as from urban areas, effectively slowing and filtering out excess nutrients, bacteria, and sediment, Limiting the amount of nutrients entering a waterway is important to maintain healthy levels of aquatic plants and phytoplankton growth. Impoundments in the Subwatershed, or areas where river water is held back by dams, often have issues with excessive algae and plant growth during summer months due to the excessive nutrients in the water.

In 2017, a much dryer year, the Cedar Creek Subwatershed received an A- (92.75%) for turbidity, a contrast to 2019's C+ (76.99%). During heavy rainfall events, water-clouding sediment and pollutants find their way into local waterways through streambank erosion, soil washing away from farm fields, and even dust and sediment from construction sites. State and federal law requires construction work to take preventative measures to ensure sediment-filled runoff does not go directly into local waterways. These measures include installation of sediment filter fencing, filter fabric in storm drains, and regular street sweeping.

Cover crop planting and conservation tillage (or "no till") are common practices to reduce disturbance of soil to limit surface erosion. Keeping soil in place is important to prevent pollution of local waterways, and is also beneficial to farmers who rely on healthy soil for their crops. Cedar Creek Farmers is an active group focusing on educating



DID YOU KNOW?

Increased implementation of initiatives like the Regional Conservation Partnership Program in the Milwaukee River Basin, a part of USDA's Farm Bill, helps to put practices on the ground to reduce agricultural runoff, and helps fund conservation easements on erodible farmland to improve water quality in this and other subwatersheds.

and incentivizing sustainable farming practices to improve water quality. Adjusting farming practices by minimizing chemical applications, improving manure storage, and establishing buffers in the Cedar Creek Subwatershed will help to improve the poor grades for bacteria, phosphorus, and sediment.

- > Dec 2016 "Planted" the seed...8 local farmers invited to lunch
- ➤ All 2017 Met 8 times: Group Structure, 2018 Goals, Conservation Practices & Payments, WI-DATCP Grant Application & Matching Funds
- > Nov 2017 Received our first WI-DATCP matching grant FY2018
- > Jan 2018 Officially the Cedar Creek Farmers Producer-Led Watershed Group



Farmers' Goals

- Provide education & outreach to area producers about the concepts of soil health, as well as soil and water quality improvement conservation practices.
- 2) Recruit producers to apply for and install low-cost best management practices to improve soil and water quality as part of the Cedar Creek Farmers incentive program.
- 3) Improve the image of agriculture by showcasing local outreach activities, displaying farm and field signs and by promoting and implementing sustainable farming practices.

DATCP Awards \$1 Million in Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants to 43 Groups

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 6, 2022

Contact: Morgan Cavitt, Public Information Officer, (608) 852-7438

morgan.cavitt@wisconsin.gov

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has awarded \$1 million in producer-led watershed protection grants (PLWPG) to 43 farmer-led groups for 2023. Grants support producer-led conservation solutions by encouraging innovation and farmer participation in on-the-ground efforts to improve Wisconsin's soil health and water quality.

"With 14.3 million acres dedicated to agriculture in Wisconsin, our farmers are some of the most ardent supporters of protecting our land and water because they know firsthand the value of clean water and fruitful land for the success of their businesses," said Gov. Evers. "These grants provide the support needed for farmers to stay innovative and lead the way on improving water quality across our state while protecting their bottom lines, helping us build a healthier, more sustainable Wisconsin for everyone."

"This grant program has provided an innovative and successful model to encourage conservation efforts in our state," said DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski. "With the additional funding provided by Gov. Evers and the state legislature for these grants, additional farmers are able to encourage their neighbors to engage in conservation efforts through educational activities, on-farm research and demonstration, and incentives that help minimize financial risk."

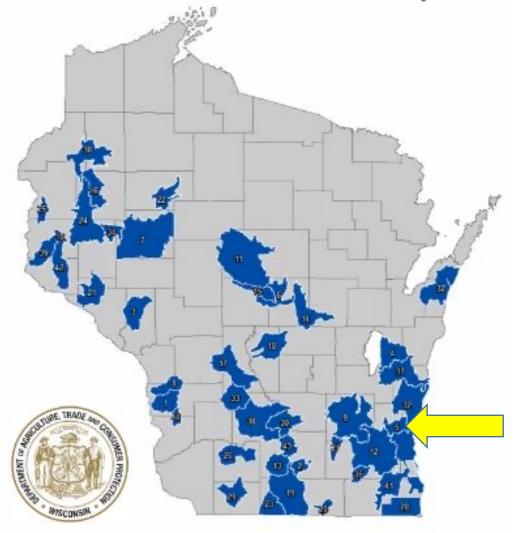
This is the eighth round of grant awards since funding was first made available in the 2015-17 state budget. Annual interest in DATCP's PLWPG program continues to exceed the program budget. This funding cycle received the highest amount of requests in the history of the program, with 45 applicants for a total funding request of over \$1.5 million.

"The producer-led watershed program has brought farmers together who are willing to learn and demonstrate that improving soil health leads to cleaner water and less inputs, which can lead to higher profits per acre," said Matt Winker, owner of Redline Dairy and member of Milwaukee River Watershed Clean Farm Families.

Producer-Led Grants Funding Summary 2016-2023

Fiscal Year	Total Requests	Total Awarded	Number of requests	Number of groups awarded
2016	\$262,550	\$242,550	15	14
2017	\$197,065	\$197,065	11	11
2018	\$619,721	\$558,246	21	17
2019	\$869,815	\$750,000	27	24
2020	\$1,051,871	\$750,000	27	24
2021	\$1,043,910	\$750,000	33	30
2022	\$1,194,543	\$1,000,000	36	36
2023	\$1,525,889	\$1,000,000	45	43

2023 Funded Producer-Led Watershed Protection Groups



Farmer to Farmer - October 2017 Cover Crops Event

Way Mix After Wheat



Our Tour Stop Showcased:

- Variety of Cover Crop Mixes 11 Plots
- Seed and Planting Costs
- Cover Crop Plant Identification
- Soil Pit to Examine Root Growth



Farmer to Farmer - October 2017 Cover Crops Event



> 70 Attendees



Farmer to Farmer - April 2018 Group's First Official Event



- > 55 Attendees
- Watershed Farmers Direct Invite
- Focus: Planting into Cover Crops,
- ➤ No-Till Equipment, Healthy Soils
- Kickoff for Funding Opportunities

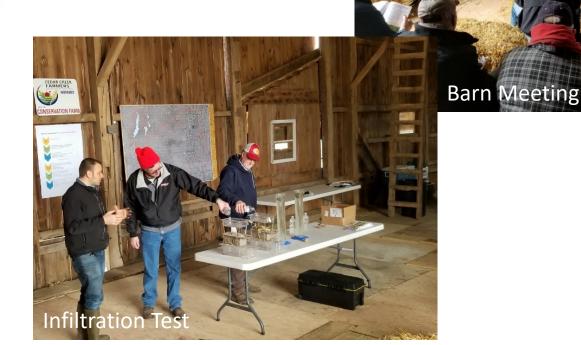
FARMER to FARMER "Lunch & Learn"

Thursday, April 12 10:00am – 2:00pm Bishop Satellite Farm – 2979 Maple Rd. Jackson

- What is the Cedar Creek Farmers Group?
- · Funding Opportunities for Healthy Soils/Conservation
- · Healthy Soils Demonstrations
- Agronomy & Cover Crops Discussion/Benefits
- Fall 2017 Cover Crops...See What They Look Like Today
- No-Till Drill & No-Till Planter Demonstrations

Lunch Provided by Cedar Creek Farmers
Let Us Fnow You're Attending! RSVD: cedarcreekfarmers@gmail.com by April 10

Cedar Creek Farmers: President Al Schmidt (262.483.0683), Ross Bishop (414.531.8531), Lee Kissinger (414.659.6284),
Producer Led Group Terry Kohl (262.305.1952), Stan Miller (262.305.5331), Brian Peters (262.305.8680)



Farmer to Farmer - April 2018 Group's First Official Event



2020 Conservation Funding for Farmers

Practice	Payment Rate	Maximum Amount	Guidelines	Projected Budget
No-Till & Residue Mgt.	\$12.50/Ac.	\$500 / farmer (40 Ac.)	For <u>previous CCF participants</u> on new no-tilled ground.	400 Ac. \$5,000
No-Till & Residue Mgt.	\$25.00/Ac.	\$1,000 / farmer (40 Ac.)	For beginner no-tillers; converting conventional ground to no-till.	200 Ac. \$5,000
No-Till & Residue Mgt.	\$50.00/Ac.	\$2,000 / farmer (40 Ac.)	Long term no-till same ground (3+ years no disturbance)	80 Ac. \$4,000
Fall Cover Crops Establishment	\$25.00/Ac.	\$1,000 / farmer (40 Ac.)	Fall cover crop left in place overwinter; soil should not be disturbed, if possible, in spring.	400 Ac. \$10,000
Fall Cover Crops Establishment & No-Till Drill	\$50.00/Ac.	\$2,000 / farmer (40 Ac.)	Fall cover crop left in place overwinter; soil should not be disturbed, if possible, in spring. No-till drill rental included in payment rate.	200 Ac. \$10,000
Conservation Farm Recognition	\$1.00/Ac.	\$500 / farmer (500 Ac.)	Cedar Creek Farmers Producer- Led Group and Conservation Staff certify that the operation fully incorporates all of the above practices and is generally considered a good local conservation farm.	\$500

Conservation practice budget based on awarded 2020 DATCP grant and Fund for Lake Michigan/MMSD dollars. (\$45,000)

Important Notes:

- The majority of the land enrolled for practice payment (>50%) must be located within the Cedar Creek Watershed.
- Practices and incentive payments other than those listed above may be considered and approved by the Cedar Creek Farmers provided the practice improves water quality and/or soil health and is within the ability of the Producer-Led Group program rules.
- Funding is contingent upon inspection by members of the Cedar Creek Farmers and County Land and Water Conservation staff. Our review is to ensure successful implementation of the practice and that the practice meets the goals of the project.
- Soil health and long term no-till are two major focus areas for this group.
- The Cedar Creek Farmers Producer-Led Watershed Group reserves the right to deny payment and participation into the program. Rev. (1/17/2020)

Producers will be selected on a first come, first served basis until the funding has been used up.

Applications not selected based on lack of funds will receive priority for future funding.

Cedar Creek Farmer Contacts: President Al Schmidt (262.483.0683), Ross Bishop (414.531.8531), Lee Kissinger (414.659.6284), Terry Kohl (262.305.1952), Ben Marks (262.353.6186), Stan Miller (262.305.5331), Brian Peters (262.305.8680)



NT into Rve



Farmer to Farmer - September 2018 Event



"Lunch & Learn" BUS TOUR

Wednesday, September 26, 2018 9:30am - 2:30pm Meet by Al Schmidt - 11930 Pleasant Valley Rd. WE (Oz County) Tour bus will leave farm by 16:36am

- Funding Opportunities: Cedar Creek Farmers
- Dig Deeper: The Power of Cover Crop Roots
- Cost Analysis: Conventional vs. No-Tilled Beans
- Economic Testimonials-Reducing Your Inputs
- No-Till Equipment, Beans into Cover Crops
- · Soil Health System: Long Term No-Till & Cover Crops
- · Farm Diversification: Rolled Rye/Fall Pumpkins
- Reduced Tillage/No-Till Transition Challenges with Manure

4 CEUs Approved

Catered lunch provided by Cedar Creek Farmers & Fund for Lake Michigan

ESVE by Sept 21: cedarcreekfarmers@gmail.com or Fay @ 262.335.4800

Cedar Creek Farmers: President Al Schmidt (262.483.0683), Ross Bishop (414.531.8531), Lee Kissinger (414.659.6284),
Producer-Led Group Terry Kohl (262.305.1952), Stan Miller (262.305.5331), Brian Peters (262.305.8680)



Rainfall Simulat

➤ 4 Stop Bus Tour

> 48 Attendees

➤ Focus: No-Till & Cover Crops

Farmer to Farmer - September 2018 Event











Farmer to Farmer - February 2020 Event



Wednesday, February 26 10:00am - 2:00pm Ross Bishop's Heated Shop - 1736 Mill Rd. Jackson

- No-Till Planters & No-Till Drill Setup (John Deere & Case IH)
- 2020 Funding Opportunities Improving Land for Cleaner Waters
- Simple Transition Steps to No-Till Farming
- Benefits of Prairie Strip Plantings
- Interseeding & Roller Crimping
- Economics of Cover Crops...My Long Term Payoffs
- Farmer Testimonials 2020 National No-Till Conference

THANK YOU Guest Speakers: Chuck Gruenberger-Riesterer & Schnell, Steve Gundrum-Farmers', Greg Olson-Sand County, Michelle Scarpace-UWEX & Andy Holschbach-MRW Clean Farm Families

Let Us Know You're Attending! RSVP Fay @ 262.335.4800 by Monday, Feb. 24







CCF Group Contacts: President Al Schmidt (262.483.0683), Ross Bishop (414.531.8531), Lee Kissinger (414.659.6284), Terry Kohl (262.305.1952), Ben Marks (262.353.6186), Stan Miller (262.305.5331), Brian Peters (262.305.8680)

- ➤ 1st Winter Workshop Planter Clinic
- ➤ 60 Attendees
- > Expanded Our Partnerships
- Shop Venue, Great Interaction
- > Equipment Discussions
- Shared Our Experiences



Farmer to Farmer - February 2020 Event

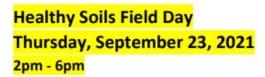








Farmer to Farmer - September 2021 Event



1:30pm - 2:00pm Registration

2:00pm Welcome, Introductions & Agenda

2:15pm Farmer Ryan Nell - Dodge County

Failure is a lesson learned. Success is a lesson applied.

3:00pm - 5:00pm

3 Station Rotation (30 min. each)

- (1) No-Till Cover Crop Plots, Manure (Byron Seeds)
- (2) Soil Pit, Healthy Soils, Rainfall Simulator (NRCS, UW)

CEDAR CREEK FARMERS

You're

Invited!

- (3) Modified Equipment No-Till (Farmers', Riesterer & Schnell)
 - Strip-Till (Environmental Tillage Systems)

5:15pm

Farmer to Farmer: 2021 No-Till/Cover Crop Challenges

Ross Bishop, Nathan Casper, Tom Ramthun, Rick Roden





RAMTHUN'S HICKORY VIEW FARM 7555 Forest View Rd, West Bend 53090

- > 1st Afternoon Early Evening Event
- Expanded Direct Invite to 3 Counties
- ➤ 130 Attendees
- Diversity of Cover Crops 7 Plots
- Dinner & Social



Farmer to Farmer - September 2021 Event









Farmer to Farmer - February 2022 Event



Farmer to Farmer "Lunch & Learn"

Wednesday, February 16 10:00am-2:30pm

Bishop Farm-Heated Shop - 1736 Mill Rd. Jackson



- No-Till Planter & Drill Walkover-C. Gruenberger (Riesterer & Schnell)
- Cedar Creek Farmers Tell Their Stories-Incorporating Small Grains (S. Miller), Planting Green (D. Polzin) Cover Crop Establishment (A. Dornacker, T. Kohl, R.Bishop)
- Cover Crops & Feed Value-A. Schellinger (Supreme Forage Plus) 2022 Chemical Availability, Importance of Sulfur, Fertilizer Salts & Their Effect on Soil Biology-M. Mulder (Adell Coop)
- Local Soil Health Study Results-J. Ziegler (NRCS)
- Compeer/Carbon by Indigo Collaboration-D. Brisky (Compeer)
- Planting Green: What Agronomists See Out There-N. Casper, S. Gruenberger (InDepth)
- City of Cedarburg/Cedar Creek Farmers Partnership J. Butt (Symbiont), D. Grulkowski (City of Cedarburg), A. Verzal (InDepth)

RSVP Fay @ 262.335.4800 by Monday, February 14

Board Contacts: Ross Bishop (414.531.8531), Lee Kissinger (414.659.6284), Terry Kohl (262.305.1952), Ben Marks (262.353.6186), Stan Miller (262.305.5331), Brian Peters (262.305.8680) Dave Polzin (262,623,0686), Paul Puestow (414,640,9879), Al Schmidt (262,483,0683)

- Over 110 in Attendance
- Many Topics/Speakers
- Farmers Encouraging Farmers
- **Great Farmer Turnout**
- Many Newcomers
- More Partnerships & Sponsors







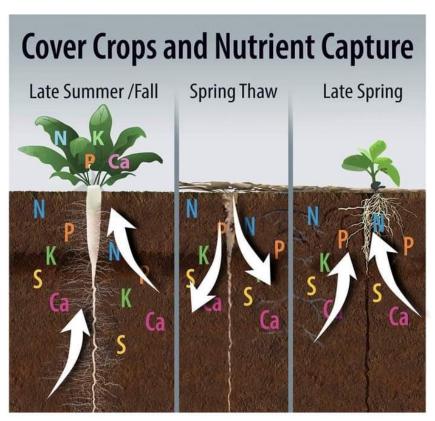


Farmer to Farmer - February 2022 Event





Farmer to Farmer - February 2022 Event



Cover crops can increase the amount of nutrients available for the next crop by taking up nutrients that remain in the soil and holding them in plant tissue until they are released the next spring, when they can be used by the following crops. *Courtesy: Cover Crop Solutions*





Farmer to Farmer - September 2022 Event

HEALTHY SOILS = PROFITABLE FARMING

Turn off the tractor & come learn from experienced Cedar Creek Farmers & Agronomists as they share their passion of no-till, cover crops, healthy soils & cleaner waters.

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Town of Jackson, Washington County

1:30pm Registration Opens

2:00pm Welcome & Introductions

Field Stations 1 & 2 (ocross road)

4th Year Prairie Pollinator Strip (Greg Olson-Sand County Foundation)

Corn Management Recommendations (Mike Mulder-Adell Coop)

Increase yields & infiltration by adding pollinators (& roots) to the field; reduces erosion. Hear about no-till corn after rye, planting green, soil fertility & fungicide application trial.

Field Stations 3 & 4 (home form)

9-Mixed Specie Cover Crop Plots (TJ Kartes-Saddle Buttle Ag, Brian Vorpagel-CV Coop)

Soybean Management Recommendations (Dean Ebert-Helena, Dan Smith-UW)

Walk among specie mixes, learn their root functions, infiltration & feed value. Corn residue management, controlling herbicide resistant weeds, VT & cover crop air seeding.

Concurrent Field Stations 5 & 6 (behind shop)

Combine Cleaning Demonstration (Dan Smith-UW)

Electrical Weed Zapper Demonstration (Mike Preder-Random Lake)

Learn where thousands of pesky weed seeds hide & how to prevent field to field movement. Used by this organic farmer, or an option for herbicide resistant escapes.

Bringing It All Together! (in shop)

Group round table discussion with the following partners:















3 CCA-CEUs Approved



Bonfire & Social to Follow

Host Farm-Bishop Enterprises 1736 Mill Rd. Jackson, WI 53037

RSVP by Monday, September 12 Call or Email Fay @ 262.335.4800 or fay.fitts@washcowisco.gov

1560JD-15' No-Till Drill, 1990JD-30' CCS No-Till Air Seeder, 2377 Case-IH Combine, The Weed Zapper-30' Electrical Bar, Valmar 60' Air Seeder

- Good Farmer Attendance
- 4 Station Movement
- Needed Downtime
- New Attendees
- "Something Different" Topics
- Many Partnerships & Sponsors





Farmer to Farmer - September 2022 Event



Farmer to Consumer - September 2019 Event



- Urban Partnership
- ➤ Held in the Village of Jackson
- > Hands On
- Soil Pit & Equipment On Site
- Group Unknown to Public
- ➤ Needed Better/More Publicity
- Over 250 in Attendance



Talk with the farmers of the Cedar Creek Watershed! Learn about their soil conservation efforts to improve water quality and help protect our surface and aroundwater resources. Conservation professionals and farmers will share their knowledge of healthy soils.

Soils, tractors, crops and equipment will be fun hands-on learning experiences!

Agricultural (Farm) Connection - Tent

- Soils of the Cedar Creek Watershed
- No-Till Farm Equipment & Tractors (back)
- · View What's Below Our Feet Soil Pit
- · Rainfall (Runoff) Simulator
- · Nutrients & Fertilizers What Crops Need Farmer Experiments - My Soil Is "Alive"!
- Water Infiltration & Land Use
- . Cover Crops & Healthy Soils (right & back)



In the field, hands-on educational activities for kids & adults!



The Village of Jackson, Riveredge Nature Center, Milwaukee Riverkeeper, Sweet Water, Lamm Gardens, along with many others, will share their knowledge of urban conservation practices.

Activities regarding watershed "runoff", stormdrains, leaf pollution, bugs in the stream, and how your flushed water is treated will open your eyes to every day

Urban Connection - Tent:

- Enviroscape (top)
- Backvard Conservation
- Respect Our Waters Campaign
- Village Leaf Collection & Composting (right)
- Street Sweeping Equipment
- Waste & Wastewater Treatment Processes
- · Stormwater...Where Does It Go? (left)

Community (Social) Connection - Tent 3





N168W19677 Main Street, Jackson

(Formerly known as the Reuben Schmahl Farm)



Ag Tent













Farmer to Consumer - September 2019 Event











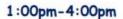
Farmer to Consumer - September 2020 Event



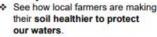


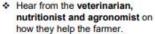


Maple Woods Dairy Farm 3121 Pleasant Valley Rd. West Bend









- Tour the dairy barn and consumer shed. See the many ways our crops are used.
- · Fun for the whole family
- · Visit the cows, chickens and pigs
- · Participate in the scavenger hunt





















- Soil Health/No-Till Focus Tent
- County Executive Healthy Soils Day
- Agricultural Careers
- **Barn Tours**
- Consumer Shed



















oil" Your Undies Experiment

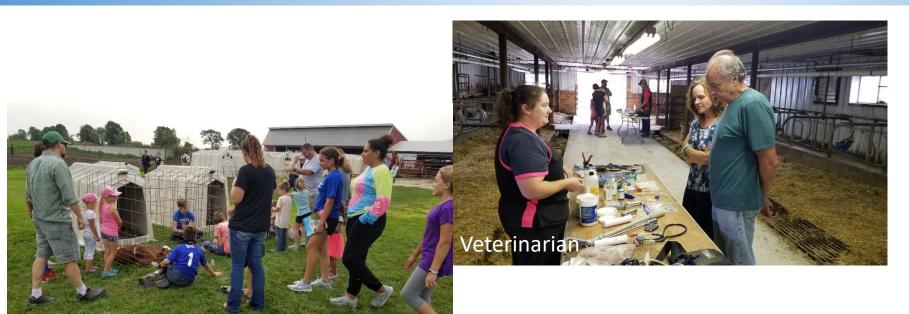








Farmer to Consumer - September 2020 Event







Name the Calf

Consumer Shed



Farmer to Consumer - June 2022 Breakfast

This year's 34th Annual **Breakfast on the Farm**

hosted by:

Dornacker Prairie Acres LLC 5055 Cedarview Dr., West Bend, WI



Saturday, June 11, 2022 from 7:00AM - 11:00AM

Tickets at the door - \$10.00 • Advance Tickets - \$8.00 (No Refunds) Children 3 and under FREE

Food

- Pancakes

Plus a serving of:

- Scrambled Eggs

- Cheese - Sausage

- Yogurt

Activities

- Barn Tours - Petting Zoo

- Live Music

- Roden Barnyard Adventures

- Antique Tractors

** Ice Cream Sundaes (Chocolate or Strawberry) available for \$1.00 **

Breakfast will be served Rain or Shine!

To Volunteer, go to: www.signupgenius.com/go/4090/F45ACAD28A64-2022

Tickets available after May 1st at the following locations:

Allenton Romie's Service, Inc. Kewaskum

Kewaskum Frozen Foods

Washington County Fair Park

Hartford WTKM Radio

Newburg State Bank

Germantown First Bank Financial Centre

or visit our website: www.washingtoncountydairy.com

Call Jane Falk (262)483-5514 or Bernie Wolf (262)689-8553 if you have any questions



- Most recent educational event.
- Over 4,000 in attendance
- Great outreach to both consumers and farmers









For more information, visit...

Cedar Creek Farmers Page



or

www.cedarcreekfarmers.com

Cedar Creek Board: President Stan Miller (262.305.5331), Ross Bishop (414.531.8531), Al Dornacker (262.689.7283), Lee Kissinger (414.659.6284), Terry Kohl (262.305.1952), Ben Marks (262.353.6186), Brian Peters (262.305.8680), Paul Puestow (414.640.9879), Dave Polzin (262.623.0686), Tim Ramthun (262.305.0496), Al Schmidt (262.483.0683)

