

Monday Break-out Sessions

Discovery Farm Concept-Director Dennis Frame

The goals of the UW-Discovery Farms Program is to determine the impact of production agriculture on the environment, while learning the economic and environmental ramifications of adopting Best Management Practices on a diverse group of Wisconsin farms. This evaluation is done through the installation of an intensive water monitoring program along with an exhaustive evaluation of the farming system. Through these studies, we will provide information and improve communications on environmental and economic issues between producers, consumers, the research community, policy makers, and agency personnel.

Grazing Dairy Success with Environmental Benefit-UW Ag Agent Laura Paine

Laura Paine will relate successful grazing techniques of dairy and livestock producers as well as the environmental benefits that result from Managed Intensive Grazing. Laura has had a good deal of experience in grazing circles. She has written numerous articles in the popular press (*Agri-View*, *Country Today*, *Graze*, etc.) as well as UWEX bulletins and research work. In addition, she coordinates the South Central Graziers Network Newsletter and the Columbia County Grazer's Network. She has also presented numerous class, workshop and Wisconsin Grazing Conference programs.

Farming and Conservation Together-FACT staff

FACT (Farming and Conservation Together) is a private organization located in south central Wisconsin which works with farmers to improve wildlife habitat and control erosion. Current projects will be described. Some project examples are clearing brushy areas so waterfowl and birds have improved nesting areas, working with area farmers on a nutrient management plan, helping a farmer prepare and seed down land too hilly for row crop cultivation, and temporarily flooding a harvested field in the fall to provide habitat for migrating waterfowl.

Preserving Pure Groundwater-Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center staff

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has a Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center to research ways to keep our groundwater pure. The director of the center will share research and methods to protect our groundwater.

Phosphorus Indexing, Wisconsin Plan & How to Teach Farmers

Laura Ward Good is a post-doctoral research associate working with UW Soil Scientist Larry Bunde on the phosphorus index. She will explain the history of Wisconsin's phosphorus management, explain the Phosphorus(P)-index and how it works with nutrient management, and discuss issues involved with teaching the P-index to farmers.

Ag Safety & Health Current Issues, Controversies & Research

Dr. Mark Purschwitz of the National Farm Medicine Center will share current and controversial safety and health research. He will discuss ways the research can be implemented to prevent accidents and improve safety and health on and around the farm.

Nutrient Management in Wisconsin-UW Discovery Farms Director Dennis Frame

Nutrient management planning is one of the key requirements expected of all Wisconsin farmers within the next four years. Wisconsin has developed an innovative nutrient management education and implementation program designed to work with producers on the implementation of their plans. This program is designed to provide a review of the new nutrient management writing software (phosphorus index, RUSLE 2 and NMP), the rules and the educational methods to achieve the state's goals.