



UW-Extension Sheboygan County

Community Growth Management Education

Sheboygan County
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Kevin Struck, Growth Management Educator

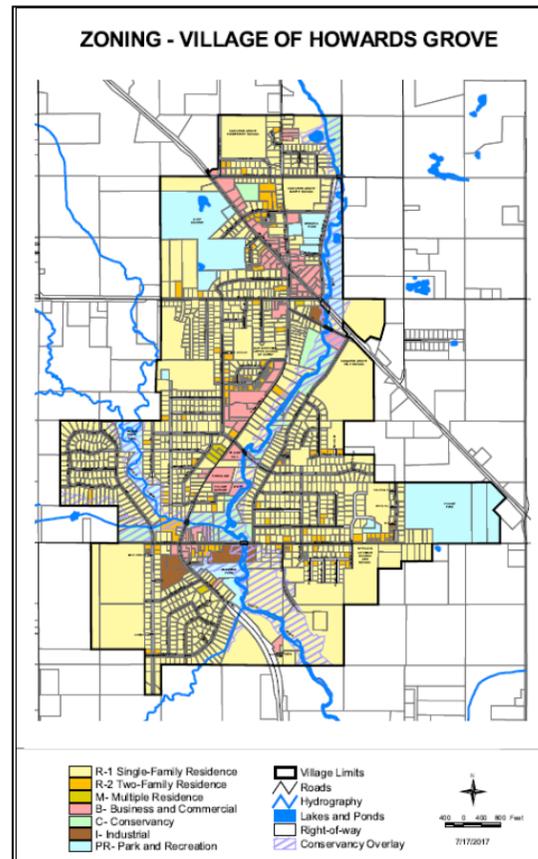
The Village of Howards Grove (pop. 3,221) is a “bedroom community” with a small-town atmosphere but just a few miles away from a metro area. Intersected by State Highways 32 and 42, and bisected by the Pigeon River flowing north to south through the Village, Howards Grove has grown faster than any other village in Sheboygan County since its relatively recent incorporation in 1967. Like other villages in the County, Howards Grove has a zoning ordinance and a comprehensive plan (adopted on July 17, 2007) to help manage growth.

Wisconsin requires that comprehensive plans be updated at least once every 10 years. While Kevin was working with the adjacent Town of Herman to update its plan he noticed the deadline for Howards Grove was fast approaching. He alerted the Village, which was unaware it was only weeks away from losing its authority to rezone property within the Village limits. At the urgent request of the Village, Kevin rearranged his schedule and quickly met with the Village Plan Commission in June and July to create a Plan Addendum/Update with new Census data and revisions for items that were new or had changed since the 2007 Plan, such as:

- ◆ Well water testing program results
- ◆ Emerald Ash Borer
- ◆ Non-motorized transportation projects in Howards Grove
- ◆ County Economic Development Corporation resources for local communities
- ◆ County sales tax and street maintenance funding
- ◆ Land use changes
- ◆ Extraterritorial platting jurisdiction

A public hearing was held on September 12 and no comments were received in opposition to the draft plan update. The Village Plan Commission then unanimously recommended approval of the update, which the Village Board did that same evening, restoring its rezoning authority.

“Thank you for helping us with this,” the Village President told Kevin.



Kevin worked with the Village Clerk to update the Village's 3-year-old zoning map.



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UW-Extension Sheboygan County September 2017 - IMPACT REPORT

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Mike Ballweg, Agriculture Agent

It seems that the frequency of wet springs with excessive rain events in May and June is requiring farmers to rethink nitrogen (N) applications to corn crops. This is particularly true on fine textured heavy soils that are abundant in Eastern Wisconsin. Highly saturated soils can lead to N loss due to a process called denitrification, where N is lost back to the atmosphere.



Josh Kroeplien, in the distance looking forward, explains to fellow farmers how they have been experimenting with N applications to determine best management practices.

As a result corn growers are considering the use of split N applications in an effort to reduce the risk of losing N and the cost of otherwise lost N. This practice will increase the efficiency rate of N used by the crop, resulting in less N being lost to ground water and back to the atmosphere.

About 50 area farmers and Ag professionals attended the Agronomy Field Day, Managing Nitrogen for Maximum Returns, on August 16, 2017 at Fly-By Acres – The Kroepliens, Sheboygan Falls.

Those attending learned about University of Wisconsin research at Marshfield that shows the benefits of splitting N applications as opposed to applying the entire N at planting time. Saturated soil conditions at Marshfield are similar to what we often see here in Eastern Wisconsin.

Program agenda included the following :

• Key Ways to Control Nutrient and Soil Loss from Your Farm

Amber Radatz, UW-Discovery Farms

- Reducing the risk of N losses by splitting N applications in corn
- What stages of corn plant growth use the most N?
- How late can we apply N and still get an economic return?

Mike Ballweg
Agricultural Agent - Crops & Soils
UW-Extension - Sheboygan County

• Plot Walks

- All N broadcast in spring
- Colter N application
- Y Drop 2 applications (early and late season)
- Y Drop 1 application



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Family Living & Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program (WNEP)

Jane Jensen, Family Living Educator

The **Farmer's Market Customer Survey** is currently being conducted at the Sheboygan Farmer's market. The intent of the research is to determine the effects of the Double Your Bucks program relative to FoodShare eligible families using their electronic benefits cards (EBT) at the Farmer's Market. The survey was developed by UW-Extension Family Living Programs and is being administered locally by UW-Extension Sheboygan County in partnership with the Sheboygan County Activity and Nutrition Coalition (SCAN).

Jane revised the survey to fit our local market and completed the Human Subjects Protection process through the university. She conducted a brief protocol training for the Farmer's Market manager and interns who will be administering the survey. The research will inform planning to increase the participation of FoodShare families in local farmer's markets, since evidence suggests that farmer's markets increase access to healthy foods, especially fruits and vegetables.

Research conducted by UW-Extension specialists found that access to healthier foods, including farmer's markets, offset some of the negative impacts on health attributed to poverty in rural counties. The research will also inform the funder (St. Nicholas Hospital) of the results of the program.

Laura Apfelbeck & Janeth Orozco, Nutrition Education Program / FoodWise

More than 40% of children under age 2 eat too many sweets, salty food, and fat (Feeding Infants and Toddlers Study, 2008). Children filling up on sweets eat fewer fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. By age 2 the child's diet mirrors the parent's diet. To change our staggering obesity, heart disease, and diabetes rates, we need to teach young parents to make healthy choices.

Busy new parents need clear nutrition information presented in a supportive environment and in their preferred language. WIC staff and FoodWise nutrition educators began with this shared premise.

WIC serves low income women from pregnancy through the child's 5th year. FoodWise employs evidence-based educational strategies and environmental supports to facilitate voluntary adoption of healthy food choices and active lifestyles among low income audiences. So the two programs align well.

This year, Janeth met monthly with WIC clients to teach nutrition lessons about choosing healthful food and shopping on a budget. Janeth offered face-to-face lessons in English and Spanish, created displays promoting the summer farmers market, and shared printed materials. Approximately 68 clients participated. After a lesson about whole grains, one participant said she appreciated the information because choosing whole grain foods was challenging since she did not fully understand the difference between refined and whole grains. Spanish-speaking clients received the information in their own language this year and starting in October, lessons will also be available in Hmong.



Janeth Orozco & Mariana Avendano discuss whole grains at the Sheboygan WIC office.

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4-H Youth Development

Sarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator and Linda Robson, 4-H Youth Development Program Coordinator

Kimberly Mueller was our 2017 4-H Summer Intern. We ask each intern to write a summary of what they gained out of the internship. Here's what Kimberly had to say:

"This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to be the 4-H Youth Development Summer Intern in Sheboygan County. I was very excited to apply and interview for this position because of my love for 4-H and education in general. When I accepted the position I knew it would be a challenging experience but a great step toward my future career goals: high school teacher and high school principal. This intern position would give me insight into both the education and administrative parts of 4-H that a typical 4-Her might never see. Originally I am from Ozaukee County 4-H and was also very excited to see how a different county 4-H operated.

"Being a part of this process and working with new people in Sheboygan County was a very fun and memorable experience for me. I even worked with Sarah a little bit doing some lesson planning for a camp meeting. I am very grateful for this opportunity to work with the youth staff and demonstrate my leadership abilities.

"The largest program I planned this summer was Cloverbud Day Camp. This is something the 4-H intern has been programming for many summers. I began to recruit counselors and resource counselors in early June and planned a first camp meeting. There was a tremendous amount of help from all the staff that was involved, as well as their parents. The biggest thing I learned from this event was to delegate, delegate, and delegate. Cloverbud Day Camp came only about a week after 4-H Camp, and I felt myself rushing a bit to get some last-minute things done. It is important to trust the individuals you are working with and let them gather supplies, put together the activity, and support them if they feel stuck. Each staff member worked great with the Cloverbuds, and despite the weather and a few schedule changes, the day was a success.

"Through all of these programs (Celebrity Server, Farmer's Market, Free Fishing Day, 4-H Summer Camp, Cloverbud Day Camp, and Sheboygan County Fair preparation), I strengthened my communication skills and overall independence to plan and implement an event. Although my schedule was a bit hectic at the end with staying until the Fair while also getting ready to return to school, I do not regret any second I spent at the internship. I have a new appreciation for 4-H Educators and all the hard work they put in throughout the year. It's not just a nine-to-five job but includes days in the office, nights around the county, and weekends around the state. I'm not sure if I'll ever find myself applying for the position of a 4-H Educator, but I can promise that I will continue to be involved in 4-H no matter where I may end up."

Kimberly

