## CALENDAR OF EVENTS: January - March, 2015

### January

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8-11 AM</td>
<td>Green County Steer Weigh-in, Equity Livestock, Monroe</td>
<td>Equity Livestock, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Noon - 3 PM</td>
<td>UW-Extension Agronomy Update Meeting, Holiday Inn Express, Janesville</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Express, Janesville</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>11 AM - 3 PM</td>
<td>27th Annual Green County Dairy Management Seminar, Multipurpose (MP) Rooms, Green County Justice Center, 2841 6th St, Monroe</td>
<td>Multipurpose (MP) Rooms, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td></td>
<td>2015 Wisconsin Crop Management Conference, Alliant Center, Madison</td>
<td>Alliant Center, Madison</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1-3 PM</td>
<td>Evaluating Farm Bill Crop Program Options: ARC vs PLC, Justice Center, Monroe. Joint Farm Service Agency and UW-Extension Informational Meeting.</td>
<td>Justice Center, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
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<td>Grass Works Annual Grazing Conference, Chula Vista Resort, WI Dells</td>
<td>Chula Vista Resort, WI Dells</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Returning to the Farm Workshop, UW-Platteville (See details inside)</td>
<td>UW-Platteville</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-20</td>
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<td>Midwest Forage Association, WI Custom Operators &amp; Professional Nutrient Applicators Association Symposium, Chula Vista, WI Dells</td>
<td>Chula Vista, WI Dells</td>
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<tr>
<td>20&amp;27</td>
<td></td>
<td>Green County Nutrient Management Planning Meetings, Green County Justice Center, 2841 6th St, Monroe</td>
<td>Green County Justice Center, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-23</td>
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<td>Driftless Region Beef Conference, Grand River Convention Center, Dubuque</td>
<td>Grand River Convention Center, Dubuque</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Green County Beef Producers Annual Meeting, Lions Club, Albany</td>
<td>Lions Club, Albany</td>
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<td>29-30</td>
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<td>WI Corn/Soy Expo, Kalahari Resort, WI Dells</td>
<td>Kalahari Resort, WI Dells</td>
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### February

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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10 - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Private Pesticide Applicator Training, MP Rooms, Justice Center, Monroe</td>
<td>MP Rooms, Justice Center, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1 -3:30 PM</td>
<td>Informational Meeting on New Road Rules and Permits for Farm Equipment</td>
<td>Justice Center, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>UW-Extension Cattle Feeders Clinic, Jefferson County UW-Extension Office</td>
<td>Jefferson County UW-Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-14</td>
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<td>Returning to the Farm Workshop, UW Platteville</td>
<td>UW Platteville</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>10 AM-3:30PM</td>
<td>Private Pesticide Applicator Training, MP Rooms 2&amp;3, Justice Center, Monroe</td>
<td>MP Rooms 2&amp;3, Justice Center, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-25</td>
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<td>Midwest Manure Summit, Radisson Hotel &amp; Conference Center, Green Bay</td>
<td>Radisson Hotel &amp; Conference Center, Green Bay</td>
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### March

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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1-3 PM</td>
<td>Private Pesticide Applicator Test Only Session, Justice Center, Monroe</td>
<td>Justice Center, Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ag Women’s Summit, Marriott West, Madison, WI</td>
<td>Marriott West, Madison, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td>Due Date for Choosing Election of PLC or ARC Crop Programs with FSA</td>
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Century Farm Applications

Applications are now available to register for a 2015 Sesquicentennial or Century Farm. To qualify for the award, continuous family ownership of a property in the state of Wisconsin for the past 150 or 100 years must be proven.

Applications are available from the Green County UW-Extension office and are due by March 1, 2015. Honorees will receive complimentary State Fair tickets for a program to be held there next August, an awards breakfast, commemorative photo, certificate and outdoor display sign provided by Hillshire Farms.

Green County currently has 163 farms that have been designated as Century Farms and there are over 8,700 Century Farms in the state. The oldest documented Century Farm in Green County is the Hawthorne farmstead located in Clarno township that was settled in 1833. The Sesquicentennial Program originated in 1998 and there are currently 14 sesquicentennial farms in Green County.

Dairy Management Seminar

The Green County Milk Quality Council and the UW-Extension, will be sponsoring its 27th Annual Green County Dairy Management Seminar on Thursday January 8, 2015. The seminar will run from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and will be held in the Multi-purpose room of the Green County Justice Center, 2841 6th St, Monroe.

The featured speakers for this seminar will be Dr. David Kammel, University of Wisconsin Ag Engineer who will discuss the Design and Layout of Robotic (AMS) Milking systems. Larry Tranel, Dairy Specialist with Iowa State University will be on the program to discuss the Economics of Robotic Milking Systems. Dr. Randy Shaver and Dr. Heather White, from the U.W. Dairy Science Department, will also be on the program to discuss Feeding Transition Cows and Using Snaplage in Dairy Rations.

Due to sponsorships by many local businesses the advance registration fee is only $5 and includes lunch. Registrations are due to the Green County UW-Extension Office by January 5, 2015. An additional $3 late fee will be charged for registrations received after this date. Enrollment is limited to the first 65 participants who register.

Registration brochures are available at most Green County area dairy supply and service businesses, can be obtained via the internet at green.uwex.edu or by contacting Mark Mayer, UW-Extension Agriculture Agent for Green County @ 608-328-9440.

2014 UW Variety Test Results

The University of Wisconsin Extension variety test results for corn, wheat and soybeans are now available. The purpose of this program is to provide unbiased performance comparisons of hybrid seed. The corn trials evaluate hybrids for both grain and silage production performance. Organic corn varieties were also evaluated. To view the recently released 2014 crop yield data from the UW trials go to the UW-Extension Green County Agriculture website at: http://green.uwex.edu/agriculture/.
**Coverage Selection for New Farm Bill Crop Programs is Underway**

Farm owners and producers are reminded that the opportunity to choose between the new 2014 Farm Bill established programs, Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) continues through March 31, 2015. The new programs, designed to help producers better manage risk, usher in one of the most significant reforms to U.S. farm programs in decades.

USDA helped create online tools to assist in the decision process, allowing farm owners and producers to enter information about their operation and see projections that show what ARC and/or PLC will mean for them under possible future scenarios. Farm owners and producers can access the online resources, available at [www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc), from the convenience of their home computer or mobile device at any time.

Covered commodities include barley, corn, oats, soybeans, wheat and others.

Dates associated with ARC and PLC that farm owners and producers need to know:

- **Now through February 27, 2015**: Farm owners may visit their local Farm Service Agency office to update yield history and/or reallocate base acres.
- **Now through March 31, 2015**: Producers make a one-time election between ARC and PLC for the 2014 through 2018 crop years.
- **Mid-April 2015 through summer 2015**: Producers sign contracts for 2014 2015 and crop years.

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**Informational Meeting for Evaluating Crop Program Options**

Green County UW-Extension and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office is hosting an informational meeting on evaluating the program options included in the new Farm Bill Crop Programs. The meeting will be held on Thursday January 15, 2015, starting at 1:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Green County Justice Center, in the Multi-Purpose Rooms. Meeting attendees will learn about the 2014 Farm Bill Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs.

Nick Baker, Rock County UW-Extension Crops Agent, will be on hand to demonstrate decision tools that are available to farmers and their advisors in helping them to make informed decisions on which program is best for their farms. Baker will demonstrate projected payments for both ARC and PLS for corn, soybeans and small grains using Green County base yield data to help farmers determine which program might be right for their farm.

Teresa Zimmer, Green County FSA Director, will also be on the program to answer questions and provide details about each program. With the passage of the farm bill, landowners have been given the opportunity to reallocate base acres and update yields for the first time in many years. The reallocation of base acres and yield updates must be completed by February 27, 2015.

Learning more about ARC and PLC is extremely important for landowners and producers who will be making a one-time decision about base and yield updates as well as ARC or PLC election. Farmers are being given the responsibility of electing to enter either the ARC or PLC program options by March 31.

The decisions being made by farmers and landowners regarding this program will be irrevocable and in effect until at least 2018. Thus, it’s important that they take time to consider their options carefully to ensure they make the best informed decision possible.

This meeting is free and open to the public. No Preregistration is required to attend. For more information about the meeting please contact the Green County FSA Office at 325-4195 or Green County UW-Extension Office at 608-328-9440.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in the meetings should contact Teresa Zimmer, (608) 325-4195 extension 2, or Federal Relay Service. 1-877-387-2001 by at least three days prior to the public meeting.
**Returning to the Farm Workshop**

UW Center for Dairy Profitability and UW-Extension are offering a workshop to help farm families plan for a son, daughter or partner to return to the farm and eventually take over the farm business. The four-day workshop will be offered on the UW-Platteville campus. The dates are Jan. 16 and 17 and Feb. 13 and 14, 2015.

*Returning to the Farm* is open to all farm families who want to learn more about planning for farm succession. Families are expected to participate in both sessions. At the end of the February session, families will have action steps to move forward with a plan.

Through this program, farm businesses will get help in determining if an existing operation is large enough to support an additional partner; uncover alternatives for the transfer of farm assets; writing long- and short-term business and family goals; learn how to address issues in a multiple generation farm business; learn the tax implications of farm transfer and better understand the tools of estate planning and business succession planning.

The registration fee for this four-day program is $300 per farming unit (up to four people per farm). This includes materials, meeting room costs, refreshment breaks and lunches. The registration deadline is January 9, 2014. If more than four people attend from a farming unit, $75 will be charged for each participant over four.

For more information about the program or to register contact Joy Kirkpatrick, UW Center for Dairy Profitability Outreach Specialist at 608-263-3485 or by email

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**Area CAFO Meetings**

Two Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Annual Update Meetings are scheduled in the Green County area. These meetings are intended for Wisconsin permitted CAFO owners, managers, consultants and nutrient management plan writers.

Area Meeting dates and locations include:
- **Monday, Feb. 2:** at the Jefferson County UW-Extension office, 864 Collins Rd. Contact: LaVerne Georgson at 920-674-7294, and **Friday, Feb. 6:** at the Iowa County UW-Extension office, 303 Chapel St. Contact: Gene Schriefer at 608-930-9850.

The workshops will focus on nutrient management plan implementation, improving communication between plan writers and permit holders, Permit-required reporting including annual reports and Nutrient Management Planning updates; Update on new Implements of Husbandry regulations; Panel discussion of the challenges of weather-related delays in fall and spring applications; and Winter spreading stacking requirements.

All meetings will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Continuing Education Unit (CEUs) credits for CCAs will be applied for. Please register at least one week prior to the meeting you plan to attend to receive a discounted registration rate of $30. Registrations after that deadline increase to $45. Details and registration forms about each workshop can be found at [http://go.wisc.edu/e00x60](http://go.wisc.edu/e00x60)

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**Conservation Compliance Linked to Crop Insurance**

The 2014 Farm Bill relinked highly erodible land and wetland conservation compliance with eligibility for premium support payments paid under the federal crop insurance program. As in the past, the 2014 Farm Bill also continues conservation compliance for other USDA programs. As a part of the eligibility requirements for federal assistance with crop insurance premiums, participants must now follow an approved conservation plan that controls soil erosion to acceptable levels. Farmers that have been taking premium support for crop insurance without other USDA program benefits should begin working with the local USDA office to implement a conservation plan.
Ag Plastic Collection a Success

Green County farmers responded to an opportunity to dispose of low density polyethylene agriculture plastic from silo bags, wrapped bales, and bunker covers during a recent collection program this fall. Area farmers brought in over 61,000 pounds of agriculture plastic to the Green County Landfill over a three week period in November.

The goal was to collect 40,000 pounds to fill one truck to supply to our vendor who transported the plastic to their professing facility in Arkansas where it was cleaned and re-used to manufacture trash liners and agriculture irrigation tubing. Randy Thompson and his landfill colleagues did a great job in conducting this program. Without their cooperation and assistance the program would not have been possible.

Green County Landfill employees collected and baled the plastic into 4’x6’x’6’ wired tied bales weighing approximately 2,300 pounds each. Delta Plastics reimbursed the county for the cost of handling and baling the plastic. They also provided trucking of the plastic to their processing plant in Arkansas where they recycle over 2 million pounds of plastic annually.

Due to the success of the 2014 collection program plans are to move forward and offer collections for agriculture plastic at the Green County Landfill again next spring from April 6-17, 2015 and in November of 2015. Since the trial collection worked well with this vendor the county is also planning to open up the ag plastic recycling program to farmers from surrounding counties as well in 2015.

This program is a win–win for everyone. It provides a free service for farmers to dispose of their used plastic, saves landfill space and allows us to recycle a petroleum based product back into items used in agriculture. Many farmers have historically been burning their used plastic which is both illegal and detrimental to the environment. The plastic collected through this program saved over 60 cubic yards of landfill space.

We are pleased to be able to provide area farmers with a free and environmentally sound method of disposing of their used agriculture plastic and hope that the number of farmers bringing plastic will continue to increase in the future.

2014-15 Clean Sweep Programs

The permanent Clean Sweep Collection site that was established at the Green County Landfill Transfer station was a large success. Green County residents and farmers were able to dispose of over 8,000 pounds of hazardous materials through the 2014 program. The average participant brought in 62 pounds of material with a total of 130 farms and households participating in the 2014 collection. Green County UW-Extension secured grant funding from the WI DATCP to pay for the majority of the collection costs in 2014.

Due to the continuing success of this year’s program Green County is pleased to announce that we will again receive grant funding for another Clean Sweep Collection program in 2015. The collection site will again be at the Green County Landfill and will be open starting on May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015. For more information on the 2015 collection program contact UW-Extension at 608-328-9440.
Pesticide Applicator Certification

All farmers and their employees who load, mix, handle or apply "restricted-use" pesticides must complete a pesticide applicator training course and pass a written exam every five years. There is a $30 fee for materials and the license.

An exam must be taken after completing the classroom session or after a self-study course at home. Participants that take the class need to score 50% on the exam and those that take the independent study need to score 70%. Farmers with certifications that will expire before the 2015 cropping season should have received a letter in December.

UW-Extension in Green County is offering two full-day training sessions, and one test only session for Green County farmers in 2015. All of the sessions will be held in the Justice Center Multipurpose room, Monroe. The dates and times for 2015 are as follows:

One Day Training Sessions
Friday, February 6, 2015  10:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Thursday, February 19   10:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Test Only Session (Recommended for those getting recertified and Need to score 70% on Exam)
Thursday, March 5        1:00 - 3:30 PM

Pre-registration is required prior to the session to review the training materials. You may pre-register by paying the fees, and receiving your training materials at the Green County UW-Extension Office, located in the lower level of the Justice Center, 2841 6th St., Monroe.

Nutrient Management Saves Money

Tonya Gratz, Green County Land & Water Conservation Dept.

For some reason, nutrient management has gotten a "bad" reputation. Most of those that perpetuate that belief, do not understand nutrient management. It was fashioned for environmental protection and to improve crop yield by placing nutrients where needed, not to dictate to farmers how to run their land. Educating oneself is the only way to really understand nutrient management.

Green County Land and Water Conservation Department and UW Extension are teaching classes once again to interested individuals. Farmers that have attended previous classes have said they saved money on commercial fertilizer by reducing inputs while still maintaining their yield.

Green County Nutrient Management Farmer Education classes start on January 20th for producers to learn what it takes to complete a nutrient management plan. Farmers will learn how to credit on-farm nitrogen such as alfalfa, soybeans and manure. The following week, Jan. 27, 2015, attendees will learn how phosphorus, pH, and potassium are managed, receive maps for their farms and practice what they learned by going through a farmer’s scenario. The first two classes are from 1-3 at the Green County Justice Center.

The remaining classes are held at Blackhawk Technical College in Monroe. They are also from 1-3pm. They are scheduled for Fridays, Feb. 6, 13, 20, & 27. Farmers will be working on their farm information and be helped step by step through the process of writing a plan. Snap Plus is the free computer software that will be used to write the nutrient management plan.

If anyone would like more information about our nutrient management classes, please contact Tonya Gratz with the Green County Land and Water Conservation Department at 608-325-4195 ext. 121 or Tonya.Gratz@wi.nacdnet.net.
2015 Crop Budgets

The input costs for growing alfalfa, corn, soybeans, and wheat in Wisconsin are predicted to be mixed in 2015. Crop prices are forecasted to be lower. Fertilizer prices are mixed. Pesticide prices are expected to be slightly higher. Fuel prices should be lower and seed prices are expected to be stable.

When deciding how much of an input to apply, producers can maximize their investment in that input by considering its marginal rate of return. The 2015 Crop Budget Cost of Production Calculator for Wisconsin can help producers in making their cropping decisions in the upcoming year. It allows producers to construct enterprise budgets for corn after corn, corn after soybeans, corn silage after alfalfa, corn silage after corn, soybeans, winter wheat, seeding and established alfalfa for hay and haylage.

This Cost of Production Calculator can be downloaded from the UW-Extension Farm Team web site at http://www.uwex.edu/ces/farmteam/

Meeting on New IoH Regulations

Wisconsin Act 377 passed last year and scheduled to go into full effect in 2015 will impact all farmers who operate farm related equipment on state, county and township roads. This new law and the permitting process it has created is complicated and includes many new definitions and requirements for implements of husbandry (IoH) to operate on roads.

To help farmers and custom operators to navigate through all the new requirements UW-Extension is hosting an informational meeting to explain all the new weight, length and lighting regulations and how they will impact farmers. The meeting will be held on February 9, 2015 from 1-3:30 PM at the Green County Justice Center, 2841 6th St Monroe. Any farmer or custom operator who will be operating their equipment on any roadways in Green County in 2015 should plan to attend this meeting. There is no charge for the meeting, but we ask that participants pre-register by calling the Green County UW-Extension Office at 608-328-9440 by February 6th.

Trees Available for Spring

Green County Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) is offering 10 varieties of trees, and 2 varieties of shrubs, for landowners interested in planting trees next spring 2015. The tree varieties are: Bur Oak, Red Oak, White Oak, Tamarack, Sugar Maple, Sycamore, Butternut, Shagbark Hickory, White Pine, and Kentucky Coffee. Shrubs available are: Hazel Nut and Nannyberry. The trees and shrubs will be bare root, 1-2’ tall for Tamarack, Shagbark Hickory and Kentucky Coffee, 1.5-2’ tall for Butternut, 2-3’ tall for the Bur and White Oak, Sugar Maple, Sycamore, White Pine, Hazelnut, and Nannyberry, 3-4’tall Red Oak. The cost is only $2.00 a tree with a minimum order of 10 of one species and must be ordered in increments of 10/ species.

The trees and shrubs are all native to the area. The species offered cover a broad range of soil types and moistures levels. The featured species this year is the Tamarack. It is a deciduous conifer that turns a bright golden color before shedding it needles in the fall.

Trees can be ordered by contacting the LWCD or by ordering through the Green County website at www.co.green.wi.gov. If unsure about what trees will work in your soil, or how to order stop in or give the Green County LWCD a call at 325-4195. We will be taking orders until Friday February 13th. Trees will be delivered near the end of April.

Q & A on the New IoH Rules

The following three pages cover some of the common questions regarding the new rules along with new lighting requirements for farm equipment in 2015.

Implements of Husbandry (IoH) and Agricultural Commercial Motor Vehicles (Ag CMV) exceeding the new weight and length limits will be required to get permits from the State, County and Towns for the roads they will travel on. The permits must be obtained from the maintaining authority (municipality, town, county, state) of the roads to be operated upon. WisDOT has created the application which will be used by all maintaining road authorities that require a permit to operate over the new weight and length limits. The new no-fee permit is now available on the WisDOT website www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov
1. **What is an implement of husbandry (IoH)?**

Act 377 updated and consolidated the Wisconsin statutory definition of IoH into one (s.340.01 (24)(a)). All implements of husbandry continue to be exempt from registration under the new law. The new definition of IoH is:

A self-propelled or towed vehicle manufactured, designed, or reconstructed to be used and that is exclusively used in the conduct of agriculture. An implement of husbandry may also include any of the following:

- A farm tractor (referred to as Category A)
- A self-propelled combine; a self-propelled forage harvester; self-propelled fertilizer or pesticide application equipment but not including manure application equipment, towed tillage, planting, and cultivation equipment and its towing power unit; or another self-propelled vehicle that directly engages in harvesting farm products, directly applies fertilizer, spray, or seeds but not manure, or distributes feed to livestock (referred to as Category B)
- A farm wagon, farm trailer, manure trailer, or trailer adapted to be towed by or to tow or pull, another implement of husbandry (referred to as Category C)

2. **What is an Ag CMV?**

Act 377 created a new vehicle category called an Agricultural Commercial Motor Vehicle (Ag CMV) (340.01 (1o)) which also is exempt from registration. An Ag CMV is a commercial motor vehicle to which all of the following apply:

- Substantially designed or equipped, or materially altered from its original construction, for the purpose of Ag use
- Designed and manufactured primarily for highway use
- Manufactured to meet federal motor vehicle safety standard certification label requirements 49 CFR 567, after 1970
- Used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations
- Directly engaged in harvesting farm products, directly applies fertilizer (including manure), spray or seeds to a farm field, or distributes feed to livestock.

3. **What are the new weight requirements for IoH and Ag CMVs in Act 377?**

Act 377 increased the weight limit (effective 4-24-2014) for all IoH and Ag-CMVs 15% higher than the federal bridge formula. This equates to a maximum single axle weight of 23,000 pounds and maximum gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 92,000 pounds, dependent on axle number and spacing as presented in the new IoH/Ag CMV Maximum Weight Limits table (s. 348.15 3g).

4. **What are the new length limits for Ag CMV?**

Under Act 377 an Ag CMV needs a permit if it exceeds these limits:

- An Ag CMV (single vehicle) may not exceed 45 feet in length.
- Standard limits for an Ag CMV (two-vehicle combination) is 70 feet in length. There are some instances in which an Ag CMV combination vehicle may be 75 feet in length.
- An Ag CMV (three-vehicle combination or train or a truck-drawn agricultural train) driven at a speed of 25 miles or less may not exceed 100 feet in length. An Ag CMV three-vehicle train driven at a speed over 25 miles per hour, may not exceed 70 feet in length.

5. **How much will an IoH/Ag CMV permit cost?**

It is a no-fee permit. The bill specifically prohibits municipalities and counties from charging a fee for the IoH/Ag CMV permit. It also prohibits them from charging a fee for any study, investigation, or other review in connection with an application for the no-fee permit.

6. **When do the new no-fee permits go into effect?**

While the new no-fee IoH/Ag CMV permit is now available, applications are not required to be made on the universal no-fee permit application form until January 1, 2015. Operators who have an IoH or Ag-CMV which exceeds the new weight and length limits are encouraged to contact their local road authority to discuss operation. A permit is required to operate on state highways over the new length and axle and gross vehicle weight limits.

7. **What is the timeline for the permit process?**

After maintaining authority receives the permit application, they have three weeks to respond with approval or denial, or the application is presumed approved. If the maintaining authority has not responded within six weeks, the application is considered approved for that calendar year.

8. **How long is the permit good for?**

The no-fee permit is valid for at least one year, but can be renewed annually after the first year of submission for subsequent calendar years. Towns and Counties can choose to make the permit last for longer than a year. The permit issued by the State for operation on state roads automatically renews annually until DOT revokes the permit or the applicant amends it.
Lighting and Marking Requirements

Lighting and marking of implements of husbandry (IoH) are valuable safety features when operating on public roads. New regulations will take effect November 1, 2015 but may be followed at the present time. Many pieces of farm machinery have already been manufactured with the lighting and marking requirements that are now reflected in the law.

Definitions:

Wide implement of husbandry (wide IoH) is a new definition for IoH with a total width in excess of 15 feet or that partly extends, when operated primarily on the right half of the roadway, over the center of the roadway into any lane intended for travel in the opposite direction. Wide IoH regulations will take effect November 1, 2015 but may be followed at the present time.

Hours of Darkness is the period of time from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise and all other times when there is not sufficient natural light to render clearly visible to any person or vehicle upon a highway at a distance of 500 feet.

Current Marking Requirements

A slow-moving vehicle (SMV) emblem is a required marking on any type of IoH, including animal drawn, that usually travels at speeds less than 25 mph. It is to be displayed at all times on the most visible rear area of the vehicle or combination of vehicles. If a SMV emblem on a power unit is visible from rear and in compliance, then the towed units are not required to have an SMV emblem. It is allowable for two or three vehicle combinations to have more than one SMV emblem.

These emblems should be mounted pointing upward perpendicular to route of travel, with the lower edge 2 to 6 feet off the ground, and either centered or as near to the left of center of the equipment as practical. SMV emblems must be bright and clean, and should be replaced if faded.

Current Lighting Requirements

Lights or lamps in the table below must be activated when operating on the road or parked in the right-of-way during hours of darkness.

| Self-propelled IoH including tractors | • 2 white headlights | • At least 1 red tail lights If purchased with 2 red tail lights both must be working. Tail lights are to be mounted 20-72 inches off the ground. | • Work lights are prohibited for use on road or when parked in right-of-way. |
| Towed IoH | • 2 red tail lights or 2 red reflectors on the rear. (If manufactured before 1984, these IoHs are allowed to have only 1 lamp or 2 red reflectors on the rear.) | • Towed IoH that is more than 4 feet wide to the left side of the hitch must have an amber reflector at the widest point on the left side facing forward to warn on-coming traffic. |
| 3-vehicle trains | 1 red light or red or amber reflector must be located on each side of every vehicle in the train visible from a minimal distance of 500 feet. |
| Animal-drawn vehicle | • 1 white lamp visible from the front | • 2 red lamps or lanterns visible from the rear marking the width of the vehicle visible for 500 feet and mounted to indicate extreme width of the vehicle. |

Operators have the responsibility at all times to warn or signal motorists of their intent to turn. Turn signal lights are acceptable but not required. Hand signals are also acceptable.
New Wide IoH Lighting and Marking Requirements

In addition to the current requirements for lighting and marking, the following requirements apply based on the width of the IoH:

**Self-propelled IoH including farm tractors in excess of 12 feet:**

Must be equipped with a 360-degree yellow or amber rotating strobe or beacon light, mounted at the highest practicable point or 2 flashing amber lights visible to the front and rear and activated at any time when operated on the road or parked in the right-of-way.

**At all times when operating on highway wide IoH in excess of 15 feet or that extend over the center line**-must have:

- At least 2 amber flashing warning lamps, visible from both the front and rear. Must be mounted, as nearly as practicable, to indicate the extreme width but not more than 16 inches from the lateral extremities.
- Red retroreflective material, visible to the rear and mounted within 25 inches of the extreme left and extreme right of the IoH, spaced as evenly as practicable.
- At least 2 strips of yellow retroreflective material visible to the front. On left and right sides of IoH, the outer edge of this material shall be mounted within 16 inches of the extreme left and extreme right of the IoH.
- At least 2 red tail lamps mounted to the rear of the IoH, or as close to the rear as practicable. These lamps are not required to be wired to light when headlamps or other lamps are activated. This provides for the use of battery powered tail lamps.
- Slow-moving vehicle (SMV) emblem is required.

**In addition, IoH wider than 22 feet traveling greater than 1/2 mile, must have an escort vehicle with hazard lights activated, on a highway with:**

- one lane of travel in each direction, the escort vehicle shall operate ahead of the wide IoH
- more than one lane for travel in each direction or on a 3-lane highway, escort vehicle shall operate behind wide IoH

**At times other than hours of darkness** a wide IoH, may be operated on highway if all of the following apply:

- Is accompanied by an escort vehicle operating with hazard lights activated.
- 2 orange or red flags, not less than 12 inches square, are attached to the rear of the wide IoH, or as close to

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**Ag Train (3 vehicle combination)** operating during hours of darkness are now allowed to use amber lights or reflectors. Ag trains, effective November 1, 2015, will be required to have one of the following on each side of each vehicle in the train:

- One red or amber light
- One red or amber reflector
- One SMV emblem

The use of a red or orange flag has been rescinded.
Wisconsin Corn/Soy Expo

Wisconsin Corn/Soy Expo is set for February 6 & 7 at the Kalahari Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells. The Expo kicks off Thursday Feb. 6, with a session featuring DTN Senior Market Analyst—Darin Newsom.

A full slate of Thursday afternoon educational sessions includes: New Road Rules for Farm Machinery, Soil Health & Tillage, Improving Soybean Productivity, Herbicide Resistance, Nitrogen Management for Wisconsin Crops, Apps for Agriculture, Cover Cropping Techniques, Grain Storage Tips, and Farm Transitions & Exit Strategy.

Friday includes a long-range crop weather forecast from John Felt of Blue Water Outlook. Rancher Trent Loos is the featured speaker for Friday’s luncheon. The complete Corn/Soy Expo program and event registration is available online at the new www.CornSoyExpo.org web site. Registration material also can be requested by calling the Wisconsin Soybean Program office at 608-274-7522 or Wisconsin Corn Program office at 262-495-2232.

Conservation Stewardship Program

Green County farmers and forest landowners have successfully enrolled in the Conservation Stewardship Program for 2014. This is the fifth year that this program has been available throughout Wisconsin.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), was reauthorized in the 2014 Farm Bill, and is a voluntary program that offers payments to producers who exercise good land stewardship and agree to further improve their conservation performance. CSP is available to all producers regardless of operation type, crops produced, or location.

In 2014, 473 contracts were created with Wisconsin farmers and forestland owners, with an average annual payment of $6,900 per contract. Over $3.2 million in payments will be made to those farm families this year, and over $16 million over the course of their five-year contracts.

For many farmers, CSP offers reward and recognition for the conservation they are already doing, plus a little extra incentive to try a few more or new practices. The most common practices in Green County have been creating shallow water habitat for wildlife, adding cover crops to crop rotations, and creating wildlife openings in forests.

Farmers may apply now for contracts beginning in 2015. Applications will be accepted at the NRCS office in USDA Service Centers throughout Wisconsin.

For 2014, average payments in Wisconsin were $21 per acre for cropland, $14 per acre for pasture, and $4 per acre for woodland. Payments are made annually for each of the five years of the contract.

For more information, visit www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov, or contact Jason Thomas with the NRCS office at the Green County USDA Service Center.

Hay and Bedding Markets

If you want to check on current local hay and bedding prices they are available at the Green County UW-Extension Agriculture Web page. The auction price summaries from the weekly sales in Monticello are posted each week at: http://green.uwex.edu/agriculture/
Average County Rental Rates for Farmland 2011-2014

Non-Irrigated Farmland

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<td>$258</td>
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<td>14.7%</td>
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</table>

Source: USDA NASS 2011-2014

Average Per Acre Cash Rental Rates 2011-2014

Source: USDA NASS
Green County and USDA Agricultural Agencies’

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Policy

The Green County Agencies of UW-Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Land Conservation, and Farm Service Agency are committed to our obligation to provide equal opportunity and affirmative action in program participation, educational programs, and employment. Equal opportunity for minorities and women in all levels of program participation, is the cornerstone of this obligation. In addition, we are committed to developing positive action to insure program expansion to under-represented individuals in Green County.

We are committed to the full participation of members of protected groups, creating a diverse workforce representative of the labor markets. We will promote the full realization of equal opportunity for minorities, women, and persons with disabilities, through comprehensive affirmative action programs. No person will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination in any program or activity. We are committed to providing reasonable accommodations for disabled individuals to insure equal access for programs participation.

We hope this has been helpful to you in understanding our equal opportunity and affirmative action obligations. We look forward to continuing our partnership with all of you to bring the resources of our Agencies to the people of Green County.

Sincerely,

Mark Mayer
UW-Extension
Agriculture Agent

Jason Thomas
Natural Resources Conservation Service
District Conservationist

Teresa R. Zimmer
Farm Service Agency
County Executive Director
What's Inside:

- Green County Dairy Management Seminar
- Private Pesticide Applicator Certification Training Dates
- Returning to the Farm Workshop
- Rules and New Permitting Process for Implements of Husbandry (IoH)
- New Lighting Requirements for Farm Equipment on Roads
- Regional Informational Meeting on New IoH Rules
- Clean Sweep Collection Programs for 2014-15
- Agriculture Plastic Recycling Program
- Average County Farmland Rental Rates 2011-2014
- Nutrient Management Training
- Information Meeting on Evaluating the New Farm Bill Crop Programs

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service or activity.