

Community Development and Natural Resources Programming



Bee Watch Workshop

Mindy Habecker

Programming Focus Areas

❖ Resilient and Productive Environments

❖ Thriving Organizations and Communities

- ❖ Organizational Development
- ❖ Sustainable Historic Building Reuse- Stoughton
- ❖ Housing for Adult Children with Developmental Disabilities
- ❖ International Community Development in Ghana
- ❖ Community Forums



Master Composters

Resilient and Productive Environments

Primary Programs

- ❖ Winter Maintenance Management for Dane County Salt Reduction
- ❖ Woodland Owners Conference
- ❖ Natural Resource Education Center
- ❖ Healthy Farms Healthy Lakes
- ❖ Master Composter
- ❖ Pollinator Protection
- ❖ Environmental Council



Meeting with Friends of Anderson Park

Resilient and Productive Environments

Winter Maintenance Management for Dane County Parking Lots, Sidewalks and Trails

- ❖ Partnered with Lakes and Watershed Commission and National Consultant
- ❖ Goal: Salt and other winter maintenance product rates and guidance
- ❖ Held a series of Technical Advisors meetings to develop
- ❖ Focused on deicing, anti-icing and direct liquid application for winter storm events
- ❖ Designed, facilitated and reviewed
- ❖ Worked with City of Madison on certification process



Resilient and Productive Environments- Natural Resource Education Center

- ❖ Expanded resources
- ❖ Provide individual consultation/coaching to users
- ❖ Served 32 different community groups and 3246 volunteers
- ❖ Focuses on experiential and hands-on learning
- ❖ Outreach to Federally Protected groups



❖ Resilient and Productive Environments : Woodland Owners' Conference



Resilient and Productive Environments

Healthy Farms Healthy Lakes

- ❖ Task Force formed by the County Board to address phosphorus in the Yahara Watershed
- ❖ Goal: Develop recommendations
- ❖ Timeline 2017-18
- ❖ Nine month educational program
- ❖ Modified Consensus decision-making



Healthy Farms Healthy Lakes Task Force

Healthy Farms Healthy Lakes...

My Role

- ❖ Design a process for and coordinate the project
- ❖ Develop the 9 month educational program
- ❖ Lead communication with presenters, staff, and Task Force Leadership
- ❖ Facilitate meetings as needed
- ❖ Develop materials and agendas



Mindy in office, behind the scene work

Resilient and Productive Environments

Master Composter Program

- ❖ Collaborated with Joe Muellenberg and City of Madison Recycling Dir.
- ❖ Thirty-four participants developed the skills to be Master Composters
- ❖ Designed new educational materials and interactive instructional activities
- ❖ Coordinate outreach in the community



Master Composter:

Developing New Educational Materials



Home Composting Display that can be borrowed

Master Composter:

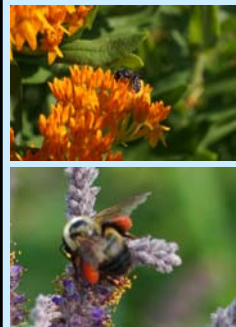
Developing New Educational Materials



Making and Teaching about Compost Tea

Resilient and Productive Environments

Pollinator Protection



- ❖ Developed (designed, wrote and produced) numerous educational pieces and activities
- ❖ Worked with Environmental Council PP work group and technical advisors
- ❖ Provided education and outreach to partners in Dane county

**Pollinator Protection:
Installing 5 Public Educational Gardens**




Pollinator Protection: Inclusion and Diversity


A decorative graphic on the right side of the slide, featuring stylized white waves on a blue background, with a yellow and white wave pattern above it.Two photographs showing groups of people, including children and adults, engaged in planting activities in a garden. The left photo shows several people crouching and planting small seedlings in a raised garden bed. The right photo shows a group of people, including children, working together to plant in a garden bed, with one person standing and holding a plant. Both photos show a fenced-in garden area with trees and a building in the background.

Protecting our Dane County Pollinators


Cómo proteger nuestros polinizadores en el condado de Dane




Monarch Butterfly
The monarch butterfly is one of the most common and beloved pollinators in Dane County. It is a member of the Pieridae family and is known for its distinctive orange and black wings. Monarchs are important pollinators of many native plants, including milkweed, which is their primary food source as larvae.



Why Protect Our Pollinators?
Pollinators are essential for the health of our ecosystems and the production of many of the foods we eat. They play a crucial role in the reproduction of many plants, including crops and wildflowers. Protecting pollinators is important for maintaining biodiversity and ensuring the sustainability of our food systems.



How to Protect Pollinators
There are several ways to protect pollinators in your yard or garden. Planting native plants, avoiding pesticides, and providing nesting sites are all effective strategies. Creating a pollinator-friendly garden can help support local pollinator populations and contribute to the overall health of the ecosystem.



Other Pollinators
In addition to monarch butterflies and bees, there are many other pollinators in Dane County, including bumblebees, honeybees, and various species of birds. Each species has its own unique role in the ecosystem and requires specific protection and support.



Pollinator Protection:

Providing Workshops/ Presentations







Resilient and Productive Environments Environmental Council

- ❖ 20 % of my work time
- ❖ Staff the Council
- ❖ Administer two county grant programs
- ❖ Help implement the County Pollinator Protection Plan
 - ❖ Develop a yearly work plan and progress report
 - ❖ Lead educational and outreach efforts
 - ❖ Emphasis on inclusion



Environmental Council releasing homing Pigeons, an educational outreach project Funded for Madison Children's Museum.





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Goal: Resilient and Productive Environments

- Working in partnership on key county natural resource issues
- Building local knowledge, informed decision making & capacity
- Engaging in sound processes
- Strengthening local leadership
- Encouraging local communities of learning
- Promoting equity
- Working on the Department's Sustainability Plan



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❖ Dane County UW-Extension



Mindy at Chancellor's Award Ceremony



Mindy working in Ada, Ghana with 65 farmers

❖ **Mindy Habecker, Natural
Resource/Community Development Educator**

Questions and Your Ideas?



- ❖ What do you perceive as needs or opportunities in the areas of natural resource education in Dane County?
- ❖ How can I best incorporate equity into these programs?