

Center for Land Use Education

A focal point for land use planning and management education

Annual Highlights • 2022-2023



Land use is impacted by a complex and changing set of issues. The Center for Land Use Education (CLUE) specialists engage in teaching, training, and research to help future planners, individuals, and communities identify these issues, make well-informed land use decisions, and work towards sustainable outcomes.

Quick Facts

19

CLUE webinars/workshops

61

counties

127

municipalities

1490+

local government officials,
staff, and community members

\$124,000

in grants

5 peer-reviewed publications

20 scholarly presentations

5,200+

plan commission, zoning board, and
shoreland zoning training video views

34

active partnerships with federal,
state and local governments,
non-profits, and research institutions

127

Land Use Training website users

1,130+

subscribers reached through
Facebook & Linked In

Utility-Scale Solar Site Suitability

Modeling the ability of Wisconsin's landscape to support continued land conversion for use in utility-scale solar facilities

Center for Land Use Education at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

August 21, 2022

New Wisconsin Land Use Minitrends Series

CLUE introduced the Wisconsin Land Use Minitrend Series in The Minitrends Series focuses on a specific land use topic using ARCGIS StoryMaps fall of 2022. The Minitrends Series focuses on a specific land use topic using ARCGIS StoryMaps.

Austin Holland created two StoryMaps with support from planning students. The USDA's Conservation Reserve Program covers brief history and impact of the United States' largest private land conservation program in Wisconsin. The Utility-Scale Solar Site Suitability StoryMap models the ability of Wisconsin's landscape to support continued land conversion for use in utility-scale solar facilities. (https://bit.ly/Mintrends_Megatrends)



Zone! The Land Use Game Goes Online



Over the past year, Anna Haines, Suhyoon Bae, and Karen Blaha transformed Zone! The Land Use board game into a single player digital version. Individuals can build a community with Zoning in mind. Game pieces are color coded according to zoning types. This game can also be used to explore community and economic development, provision of services such as transportation, aging communities, wealth and poverty, etc.

Play the game: <https://uwspclue.itch.io/zone-the-land-use-game>



Statewide Floodplain Management Education

Becky Roberts partnered with the Wisconsin DNR to provide a three-part webinar series and resources related to floodplain management and the adoption and administration of floodplain zoning ordinances. The goal was to improve participants knowledge of floodplain zoning and increase their administrative effectiveness in their communities.

Workshop evaluations were positive and demonstrated knowledge and intent to update local ordinances, develop permitting checklists and forms, work more closely with DNR water management engineers, and seek additional training. Updated ordinances are essential for continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Professional development credits were provided for planners, engineers, and floodplain managers. Developed a list of individuals interested in attending advanced training through FEMA.

95
participants

24
county governments

29
municipal governments

12
state, regional, or
consulting agencies

Climate Migration Realtor Study

Anna Haines, in partnership with Ashland County Extension, conducted a realtor study from January to June 2023 covering four Wisconsin northern counties, Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Iron. The focus of the study was to better understand the surge of home and land sales in the area since 2020. The uncertainty of why new landowners chose northern tier counties leaves communities uninformed about new landowners' needs for amenities, services such as medical and schools, and future needs if this is indeed a migration trend that may affect many of our small and vulnerable rural communities.

The study sought to understand where people are coming from, who they are, why they are moving and buying property in northern Wisconsin. This will help local governments, businesses, and non-profits to proactively prepare for new residents and their needs. It will also act as a pilot before determining if a regional or state-wide study would be useful. The results will be distributed in a report to county board members and others.

Value of Shoreland Zoning Video



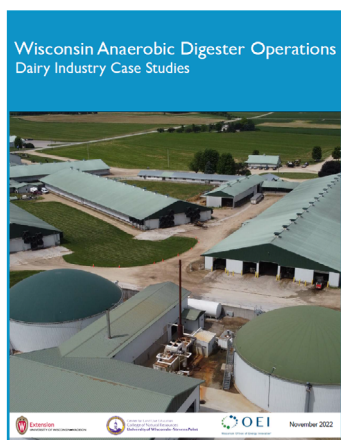
Lynn Markham and Karen Blaha in collaboration with Casey Neiman and Jill Zimmerman, graphic designers, turned the Value of Shoreland Zoning graphic into a fun and informative video. This video animation shows how shoreland zoning practices promote cleaner water, good fishing, and less algae. It also describes how some shoreland activities reduce the health of lakes and streams. Over 550 people at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention viewed the video and it has received 847 YouTube views. Watch the [Value of Shoreland Zoning Video](#).

Statewide Collaborative Land Use Planning

Becky Roberts organized a statewide collaborative meeting to identify and prioritize issues of statewide land use concern among major planning and zoning organizations, local government associations, and university partners. The group identified four major focus areas and identified issues, actions steps, and recommendations related to housing, water, climate change, and fiscal impacts of land use decisions.

Over 20 individuals representing 14 statewide organizations participated to produce a report, recommendations, and key takeaways.

Wisconsin Biodigester Case Studies



Lynn Markam and Karen Blaha published the Wisconsin Anaerobic Digester Operations: Dairy Industry Case Studies. The report is a follow up to the 2021 Wisconsin Biogas and Feedstock Survey.

The report explores three anaerobic digesters and how they are being used in Wisconsin's agricultural sector today, including their advantages and disadvantages. We conducted on-site visits and interviews at two Wisconsin dairy farms with digesters and one multi-farm digester facility examining what factors made them successful, and future potential opportunities, and possible roadblocks. A series of maps looks at the locations of



Wisconsin dairy farms, natural gas pipelines, digesters, and the potential for renewable natural gas (RNG) production from Wisconsin dairy digesters. [View the case study report](#).

Learn more about our outreach, research and teaching: <https://bit.ly/CLUE-Website>

The Center for Land Use Education is a joint venture of the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension in collaboration with University of Wisconsin (UW) System institutions.

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