



Unit 2 Boone, DeKalb, Ogle

## Extension Council Meeting

### Health & Local Foods Subcommittee

**Tuesday, November 25, 2025 6:00 pm**

Boone:  Mark Schuth  Stephanie Meyers

DeKalb:  Abigail Hesslau

Ogle:  Joyce Lewis  Melissa Rojas

Staff:  Bruce Black  Kara Schweitzer  
 Jan Saglier  Connie Handel

Public Comment:

Agenda

Meeting start time

#### **1. Welcome/Introductions**

Ice Breaker Question:

Fun plans for Thanksgiving or a favorite Thanksgiving food?

#### **2. Description & Vision of the Committee**

The Health and Local Foods Committee has been formed to address the issues in our communities with a more informed scope from our partner council members. Our partners will help in informing us of the current and future needs in our communities relating to health and local foods. This will allow us to provide program opportunities to address these needs as they arise.

#### **3. Minutes**

Link to minutes from May 27, 2025:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:US:7d4145ee-03cf-4db3-a1a5-e13ef3bb239f>

#### **4. Committee Update**

Judy Hodge left Extension in August

SNAP-Ed funding has been eliminated

- Vermicomposting program rescheduled for Wednesday, December 17.

- Master Gardeners have several programs coming up at Ida Public Library in Belvidere (house plants, winter sowing, native plants) and Ogle County (floral design and house plants).

## 5. Looking ahead to the new year

- Family Life Programming (Family Life name changing to Health and Family in 2026):
  - o Addressing Ageism- DeKalb Public Library, January 22 at 4pm
  - o Caregiver Self-Care- Rock River Center, January 28 at 10am.
- Annual Garden Day for Ogle, Carroll, Lee, and Whiteside Counties- Ready Set Grow: Saturday, March 28 at Sauk Valley Community College. Piloting programming for the whole family at Ready Set Grow this year: Adult track with concurrent session for youth to provide easier access to the event for parents and caregivers.

**Next Meeting:** Continue with the fourth Tuesday of the month from 6-7 pm for 2026?

Meeting dates for 2026:

- Tuesday, February 24
- Tuesday, May 26
- September Annual Full Council Meeting- date TBD
- Tuesday, December 4

**Focus for 2026: Any local needs or priorities to address in the upcoming year?**

- None were identified during the meeting
- If any are identified between now and our next meeting- feel free to contact our sub-committee to share

Meeting End Time

6:34pm

**Council Roles Summarized:**

- \* Linking University of Illinois Extension with local leadership, communities, agencies and organizations.
- \* Supporting and advocating for Extension programs. Identifying needs and potential resources (human, financial, physical).
- \* Advise the program planning and implementation processes.
- \* Assuring council membership represents all segments in counties served.
- \* Assuring program outreach meets equal opportunity and program access guidelines.