



SOIL HEALTH EXPO



Date: February 4th, 2026

**Location: Juneau Community Center
500 Lincoln Dr., Juneau, WI. 53039**

Register by Scanning the QR Code, online:
dodgecountymembers.com, or call 920-386-3660



Registration is \$50 Per Person; covers event, meal & 2026 membership.

Agenda:

- 8:30 - 10 Registration**
Coffee sponsored by Higher Grounds
Breakfast Items sponsored by Chef Chanse
- 9 - 10 Annual Business Meeting**
- 10 - 10:10 *Welcome***
Tony Peirick, DCF HSHW President
- 10:10 - 12 My Journey to Soil Health**
Tom Cotter, Cotter Farm
- 12 - 1 Lunch**
Chef Chanse
- 1-1:45 Soybeans - What's New**
Shawn Conley
- 1:45 - 2 Break**
- 2 - 3 Young Farmer Panel**
"Soil Health Journeys"
- 3-3:30 Closing Comments**
- 3:30 Social Event Start**
Pizza and Refreshments
sponsored by Lienke Seeds

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Tom Cotter
MN Soil Health Coalition



Shawn Conley
UW Madison State Soybeans Specialist

PARTNERS:

- Dodge County Farmers - Healthy Soil, Healthy Water
Dodge County, Wisconsin
- Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association
- Fox Lake Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation
District
- Fox Lake Preservation Organization, Inc.
- Lake Sinissippi Association
- Lake Sinissippi Improvement District
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- UW - Madison Division of Extension
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



BIO'S

Tom Cotter runs a diversified cash crop and cattle operation in Southern Minnesota. He will be speaking to the Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil and Healthy Water group on February 4 in Juneau. The meeting is open to the public.

Back in 1998 Tom and his father were adding tile drainage to a Southern Minnesota farm field. He knew he had a water infiltration problem and tile was only part of the solution. He started growing cover crops.

Cover cropping added diversity to his cropping operation and provided opportunities for improving his cattle business. By adding cattle and covers, his soil health exploded. The improved biodiversity improved his farm finances, improved water quality and increased carbon in his soils. Today Tom advocates for building community using conservation and soil health practices as a focus. Tom has conventional and organic acres, tilled and no-till fields. He will describe his common sense approach to making decisions and how he adapts to weather. He will share his ideas on how to transition acres to a soil health system.

Tom was recognized for his accomplishments as the 2025 Sand County Foundation Leopold award winner. Tom is sharing his knowledge as part of the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition.

Call (920) 386-3660 for more information.

Dr. Shawn P. Conley is a Professor and the State Soybean and Small Grain Specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In my role, I lead the UW Soybean Research Program (a.k.a. The UW BeanTeam) and actively collaborate across all disciplines to generate science-based solutions to address real world problems in soybean and small grain production systems. This knowledge is then integrated and delivered through my Extension program. During my academic career, I have authored or co-authored 151 refereed journal articles, generated over \$8.0M in extramural funding and have spoken at >830 events and to nearly 70,000 clients. What drives not only me, but the staff and graduate students in my program, is our commitment to delivering our research finding back to our clients in a palatable fashion. As such, many of our research papers are also developed into Extension publications.

Furthermore, everything our program develops is delivered through our webpage www.coolbean.info and pushed to clients through my list-serve and Twitter handle [@badgerbean](https://twitter.com/badgerbean). My commitment to agriculture and the Wisconsin Idea have also led me to coauthor a children's book entitled "Coolbean the Soybean".