



**Laura K. Paine**  
**Co-Founder**  
**Sustainable Land & Planning Consultant**

#### **Education**

Certified Educator in Holistic Management, 2005. Holistic Management International

Masters of Science in Horticulture, 1992  
University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW)

Bachelors of Arts in Botany, 1976. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

#### **Continuing Education**

Lean Business Planning, October-November, 2012. Small Business Development Center, U.W. Madison

Strategic Planning, November, 2011. UW Extension

Certified Professional Agronomist, 2000 to present. American Society of Agronomy

# SOLUTIONS IN THE LAND

#### **Experience**

##### **Grazing Educator/Grazing Broker**

*Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development Council*

Newly created position. Goals are to foster partnerships between non-farming landowners and pasture-based livestock producers to promote well-managed pastures that provide income and conservation benefits on southwest Wisconsin's highly erodible land. Project is focused on the 9 SW WI counties associated with Southwest Badger RC&D

##### **Grazing & Organic Agriculture Specialist/Economic Development Consultant**

*Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, & Consumer Protection*

Newly created position. Development of statewide programming in the areas of pasture-based livestock and dairy systems and organic agriculture in Wisconsin. Providing statewide education and technical assistance to farmers on managed grazing and organic farming. Providing statewide education for federal and state agency staff on managed grazing and organic farming

##### **Agriculture Agent & Associate Professor**

*University of Wisconsin Extension*

Tenure track position. Needs assessment and program development serving Columbia County, WI farmers and rural residents. Partnered with diverse groups at state and local levels, including statewide Extension Emerging Markets Team, corn growers association, grazing networks, non-farming rural landowners, master gardeners. Coordinated the Columbia-Dodge Grazing network. On-farm research on cool-season and native grass pastures. Rural landowner education program, including annual one-day workshops and development of a resource packet. Served as department head for a staff of eight, managed office budget, liaison to county board.

##### **Coordinator**

*Agricultural Ecosystems Research Project . University of Wisconsin Agronomy Department*

Newly created position. Established and coordinated the Agricultural Ecosystems Research Project, a partnership between the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, other state and federal agencies, non-profit conservation organizations, and farmers. Responsible for bringing partners together to plan and conduct research projects, grant writing and administration, coordinating field research, data analysis, preparation of peer reviewed papers and popular summaries, conducting field days and conferences.

##### **Professional Roles and Contributions**

President, Midwest Organic Services Association Board of Directors, 2013. Board member, 2009 to present. Member, North Central Regional SARE Farmer-Rancher Grant Program review team, 2012 to present. Member, UW Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems Citizens Advisory Council, 2010 to present. Member, Wisconsin Interagency Bioenergy Working Group, 2010-2012. Member, UW Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Agriculture Steering Committee, 2009-present. Board member, National Association of State Organic Programs, 2006-2012. Member, Wisconsin School for Beginning Dairy Farmers Advisory Council, 2006 to 2009. Advisor, Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Steering Committee, 2000 to present. Advisor, GrassWorks Board of Directors, 2000 to present. Member, WI Sustainable Agriculture Task Force, 2000 to present. Member, Soil & Water Conservation Society, 1993 to present. Served as Wisconsin Chapter President & Annual Meeting Program Chair in 2003.