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| barn**Free Resources Available to Assist Farmers through Wisconsin Farm Center**Good morning, land stewards.We have recently heard from farmers who have had to make some very difficult and stressful farming decisions. The Wisconsin Farm Center, housed at the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, offers free services to farm families in need of advice about farm finances, farm succession planning, farm business entry or exit strategies, and other critical issues.Since you all work very closely with farmers and the farm community, and often hear from them when they are in need of help, I wanted to share the following information and ask that you pass it along.All farmers are eligible to contact Farm Center staff consultants through the **Farm Center Helpline at 1-800-942-2474**. All of the Farm Center’s services are free and confidential.The **Wisconsin Farm Center** works with farmers one-on-one to provide **free and confidential** services, including:* farm financial consulting
* farm succession planning
* farm business entry or exit strategies
* mediation and arbitration
* critical economic and business management issues
* other issues (herd health, specialty crop questions)

As the downturn in the agricultural sector lengthens, the Farm Center has seen an increase in stress levels among farmers. Dairy currently tops the type of farm calling the Farm Center Helpline, with a majority of callers concerned about finances. Stress is a major underlying factor, and Farm Center staff regularly gauge a caller’s need for counseling vouchers, which are provided at no cost.* Farm Center Helpline: 1-800-942-2474
* Farm Center website: [FarmCenter.wi.gov](http://links.govdelivery.com:80/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbXNpZD0mYXVpZD0mbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTkwOTE2LjEwMjMxODMxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE5MDkxNi4xMDIzMTgzMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE2NzgyNTU3JmVtYWlsaWQ9dG93bm9mb25laWRhQG5ld2JjLnJyLmNvbSZ1c2VyaWQ9dG93bm9mb25laWRhQG5ld2JjLnJyLmNvbSZ0YXJnZXRpZD0mZmw9Jm12aWQ9JmV4dHJhPSYmJg==&&&100&&&https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/FarmCenterOverview.aspx)

Please share information about the Wisconsin Farm Center with farmers who can benefit. **9/16/19** |

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