

The Extension Connection

Highlights from OSU Extension in Fairfield County

July, 2019

2019 Master Gardener Volunteer Training



The OSU Extension Master Gardener Program is a premier statewide network of volunteer education and leadership development; as well as a consumer horticulture education delivery system that maximizes human, material, and natural resources, and values teamwork and excellence in educational programming. There are many exciting opportunities for continuing education and camaraderie and this has helped OSU Extension to develop a corps of dedicated



volunteers. Volunteers are an important component of the OSU Extension system. The Master Gardeners' knowledge, experience and enthusiasm have become essential to Extension education of consumer horticulture in the state of Ohio.

On March 21, 2019, twenty-three interns began their journey to becoming an official Master Gardener Volunteer. Each intern attended class once per week for eight weeks to learn the core topics necessary to become a Master Gardener. These sessions included teachings about Invasive Plants, Soils, Botany, Lawn Care, Houseplants, Pesticides, Plant Pathology, Weed Control, Pollinators, Entomology, Pest Management, Wildlife Control, Tree Identification, Vegetables and Fruits. The classes were taught by OSU Extension Educators as well as guest instructors. To finish the training program, each intern completed a presentation to the group that shared their knowledge about a specific plant or gardening technique. The interns are now working on completing the required 50 hours of volunteer "give back" to become certified Master Gardener Volunteers in Fairfield County.



Hydrangea School

On Wednesday, June 5, 2019, forty-seven guests attended Hydrangea School, taught by Eric Barrett, OSU Extension Educator. In this class, participants learned all about the world of Hydrangeas from which varieties will work best in your garden and landscape to how to properly care for and maintain a successful plant. In addition to educational materials, each person also received a hydrangea plant to take home.



Master Gardeners at work...



As the weather warms, the Master Gardener volunteers are out working on their many projects within the county. Drive by the Fairfield County Agricultural Center or Fairgrounds or Wagnall's to see their work. You can also see their raised gardens at AHA! Children's Museum.

Local Foods Farm Tour Series 2019



On Tuesday, June 11, 2019, sixty-one guests were able to tour Bluegreen

Gardens. This local boutique flower farm and floral design studio is operated by Mike Zawislak and Elizabeth Fox Zawislak, who shared their knowledge and love of flowers.



The second stop on 2019 Tour was at Harrison Farms on July 16, 2019. Twenty-six adult



guests toured the farm learning about the farm to table process. For the little ones in the group, there were also many animals to meet, including goats, rabbits, chickens, sheep and alpacas.



The final stop will be on August 27, 2019 at Paige's Produce in Amanda.

For more information regarding this tour please visit our website, fairfield.osu.edu.

Pesticide and Fertilizer recertification training classes were held on January 17 and February 5. Participants were able to complete the requirements to then renew their license with the Ohio Department of Agriculture. One hundred twenty-six participants were able to renew their fertilizer license and eighty-six renewed their pesticide license.



Grill Smart

Hands-on learning the science of great grilling

serving a perfectly grilled masterpiece. This program was adapted by Garth Ruff, Henry County OSU Extension Educator, from the Barbecue Science class that is taught annually on campus at The Ohio State University.

A second round of **Grill Smart: Hands-on Learning of the Science of Great Grilling** was held on May 31st, where 30 people learned the art of fine grilling, from making the right meat selection to properly



OSU Roads Scholars Tour

The OSU Roads Scholars Tour visited the Brandt Farm in Fairfield County to learn about cover crops, soil health and water quality research. The tour brought OSU staff, faculty, researchers, Provost Bruce McPheron and President Michael Drake to many sites around Ohio to view firsthand the impacts of OSU's partnerships throughout the state.

OSU Extension Educator, Jerry Iles speaks to tour participants as part of the Ohio State 2019 Roads Scholars Tour



Live Simply, Live Well:
Refresh Your Wellness
This Spring

Live Healthy Live Well

In April, the Live Simply, Live Well Spring Challenge was

launched to help participants "Refresh Your Wellness This Spring". Eighty-four participants engaged in this seven week challenge that provided direction and encouragement to help declutter and improve their wellness.

SNAP-Ed



Fairfield County Extension SNAP-Ed programming presented over 250 classes in the Fairfield County schools this spring. Students were able to learn about MyPlate, healthy food and physical activity.

With the beginning of summer, the programming transitioned to more

summer themed events. Diane Sommers and Kacie Funk, SNAP-Ed Program Assistants, have taught about healthy eating and staying active at the Summer Food Distribution sites in Lancaster and Pickerington.

For the second year, Fairfield County Extension SNAP-Ed has partnered with Fairfield County Hunger Alliance, the Fairfield County District Library, Fairfield Department of Health, Ohio WIC and the Society of St. Vincent DePaul to create the Food Fun for Families program. The first event was July 11 and events will continue through August. It presents taste-testing opportunities to promote fruit and vegetable consumption and special activities for children under 5 and will offer samples of fresh produce for them to take home at some locations.



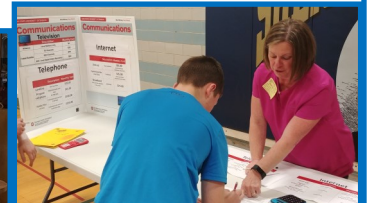
With the help of many community volunteers, Shannon Carter, Extension Educator-Family and Consumer

Real Money. Real World.

Financial Literacy For Youth



Sciences, presented the *Real Money Real World* simulation in six schools this year. This simulation allows students to gain financial literacy that they will use in the future.





4-H Highlights



ChickQUEST

The ChickQuest program was presented around the county to 500 non-traditional 4-H youth, with this being the first time many had been introduced to the 4-H program. The students were able to watch and learn the evolution of egg to chick through this hands-on program.



The Fairfield County Fashion Nutrition Board presented a Sewing and Cooking Clinic on Saturday, April, 13. This was an opportunity for beginning members to learn more about their projects and how to get started. Stations were manned by board members to assist 4-Hers with their projects.



4-H Day

On Saturday, March 2, the annual 4-H Day was held in the AAA Building at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. This day is an opportunity for new or potential members to learn more about 4-H or for veteran 4-H members to develop new interests. Displays from every type of



project can be found, from sewing to cooking to live animals and everything in between. Over 250 visitors attended this event, with 200 new members placed in 4-H Clubs throughout the county.



The Annual 4-H Achievement Banquet was held on April 9, to recognize Fairfield County 4-H members. One hundred twenty-seven youth were recognized for their outstanding project work. Fifty-two members were chosen to attend various state and national trips. These trips included the Citizen Washington Focus trip to Washington, D.C., Leadership Camp, Senior Shooting Sports Camp, Camp Canopy, Carving New Ideas and Teen Conference. Hayley Richardson was selected to attend the National Photography Summit. Five local 4-H members were recognized as 4-H Health Heroes after completing an application process and attending training. Gabriella Gugliemotto and Caroline Mason were also selected as State Achievement Award Winners in Horses and Companion Animals, respectively. To be considered for recognition, members must complete a Junior Achievement form (ages 8 -13) or an Ohio 4-H Achievement form (ages 14 -19) which reflects their achievements in a specific project area. Congratulations to all of our 4-H members for their achievements.





May 1st brought the official beginning of the new 4-H year with the end of the enrollment period. This year the 4-H program has 1,307 youth and 212 volunteer advisors, including 28 new advisors. Throughout the county there are 52 traditional and specialty clubs (youth age 8 and in 3rd grade through age 19) and 22 Cloverbud groups (ages 5-8 and in Kindergarten through 2nd grade). The youth are completing a variety of projects from sewing to cooking to science to livestock.

Intermediate and Junior Camp



Two hundred forty-five 4-H members were able to enjoy canoeing, kayaking, swimming, fishing, nature hikes, line dancing, campfire traditions, crafts and more during a week of game shows at 4-H Camp this year. New this year, each camper had the opportunity to try archery thanks to the Fairfield County Shooting Sports Club. Our Junior campers were able to participate in the Drone Challenge and learned how to fly a drone and some of functional uses for drones in the agricultural industry.



During the week of July 8th, Summer Judging was completed at the Fairfield County Agricultural Center. Projects judged included Food & Nutrition, Communications & Creative Arts, 4-H Engineering & Environmental Sciences, and all Clothing projects. Four hundred sixty-nine projects were judged during this four day time frame with 135 projects, presented by 100 youth, selected to represent Fairfield County at the Ohio State Fair. In addition, 15 Fairfield County Shooting Sports Club members went above and beyond completion of their projects to compete for 6 of the 135 State Fair spots. On Thursday, in addition to an interview, clothing project participants displayed their final projects in a Style Revue held at Liberty Union High School. Late judging took place on Tuesday, July 23rd to wrap up summer judging. Congratulations to all of our members for their successes and good luck to those attending the Ohio State Fair.

A big THANK YOU to all of our volunteers and judges as well, without your help our program could not be successful.



Cloverbud Camp, June 15, 2019

Cloverbud Camp was held at Alley Park again this year. This camp is for members that are ages 5-8. Sixty participants were able to go on a safari, learn about what really



is in a lake and make tie-dyed t-shirts in addition to many other fun activities. Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator, explored what safari animals might eat and each child made a seed necklace to take home with them.





Fairfield County Extension Staff

Extension: We are here for YOU!

OSU Extension engages people to strengthen their lives and communities through research-based educational programming....

4-H Youth Development is a non-formal educational, youth development program offered to individuals age 5 and in kindergarten to age 19. It is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills as they work in partnership with caring adult volunteers to empower them to reach their full potential.

OSU Extension Community Development professionals work with communities and neighborhoods to educate and engage by applying cutting-edge, science-based knowledge and innovations to improve and enhance local businesses and communities.

Family and Consumer Sciences educators strive to create Better Lives, Stronger Communities by improving nutrition and food safety, enhancing health and wellness and managing family budgets and financial resources.

SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Education Program) is a free nutrition education and obesity prevention program serving low-income adults and youth. It is funded by the Food Nutrition Service branch of the USDA. The focus audience is individuals and families eligible for SNAP.

Agriculture and Natural Resources programs provide Ohioans with resources and educational programs that focus on profitable and sustainable agriculture, a clean environment and proper stewardship of Ohio's natural resources.

Master Gardener Volunteer Program provides intensive training in horticulture to interested Ohio residents, who then volunteer their time assisting with educational programs and activities.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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