

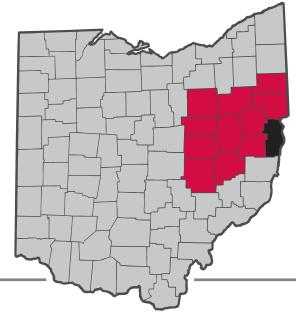


## JEFFERSON County

### CROSSROADS EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

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#### PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- The **4-H Youth Development** program reached more than 500 Jefferson County youth through 30 4-H Clubs in communities throughout the county. 4-H Clubs provide a learning environment that is safe and nurturing. The 130 adult volunteers provide members with a caring relationship that is a great predictor of success as they go through their difficult teen years. 4-H members learn leadership, decision making and problem solving skills. Members learn responsibility by completing their 4-H projects. All this is accomplished through hands-on learning that is both educational and fun.
- Over 600 Jefferson County fifth graders attended Fernwood Outdoor Days and participated in the **Rockets Away!** project. Students built rockets in their classrooms and brought them to Fernwood for launching. Students learned about Sir Isaac Newton's laws of motion and used mathematical formulas to determine the height and speed of their rockets.
- Over 100 high school students participated in **Real Money, Real World**, a hands-on experience that allows participants to make career choices, receive income information based on those choices and make lifestyle and spending decisions based on their income level. Evaluations showed that students were surprised by taxes and other deductions from their paychecks, the high cost of many of life's necessities and the high cost of raising children. Many students reported that they will go to college so they can make more money so they can afford to live the lifestyle they desire.
- Ninety 4-H members attended the **2013 Iron Chef Clinic** and made sandwiches as the required product. Judges

from local restaurants rated the sandwiches based on taste, appearance and creativity. While judging took place, members attended classes on nutrition and the importance of vegetables in the diet, and they taste-tested six types of bread. Student evaluations reported that they were more confident in the kitchen because of their participation.

- Because of a generous donation from Rosebud Mining, the 4-H Committee was able to reduce the price of **4-H Camp** by \$30. This resulted in the largest camp attendance in over 15 years, with 101 campers and 35 camp counselors. Members who were able to go to camp for the first time expressed that they could not have attended if not for the price cut. Campers made homemade thank you cards that were sent to Rosebud Mining. The 4-H Committee named Rosebud Mining a "Friend of 4-H" for 2013.
- One hundred ninety-four 4-H members attended **Quality Assurance Training** and learned about good animal care and selection. Two hundred sixty-eight members completed Skillathon for their animal projects, with 157 of them scoring 90 or above and being named "Most Outstanding Skillathon Youth."

#### STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- In 2013, the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) changed its name. The program is now called **SNAP-Ed**, and 381 SNAP-Ed-eligible adults participated in 61 programs this year. Of the programs, 92% were in a series of 2–4 lessons that focused on seven direct teaching methods: MyPlate, which had 57 participants in 10 programs; fruits and vegetables, which had 34 participants in 4 programs; dairy, which had

36 participants in 6 programs; whole grains, which had 62 participants in 10 programs; protein, which had 25 participants in 5 programs; food shopping, which had 81 participants in 15 programs; and food safety, which had 86 participants in 11 programs.

- In fiscal year 2013, Extension piloted a new youth program in Jefferson County. The program presented **nutrition programs** in elementary schools that had at least 50% of their students receiving free or reduced breakfasts and lunches. A total of 191 youth participated in this program in Buckeye Local-Adena Elementary and Indian Creek-Wintersville Elementary schools. Because of the success of the pilot programs, the program will be more active in the county's schools in 2014.

**Beef School.** A full 100% of participants reported they would improve their livestock operations as a result of what they learned. Participants learned about heifer replacement, alternative feed sources and spring pasture management.

- Nearly 90 elementary school students participated in **Farm To School**. Participants learned the basics of horticulture and how to produce spinach, lettuce and tomatoes. Freshly harvested lettuce and spinach was served for six school lunches.

**Jefferson County receives \$37,281 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.**

## ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Seventy-two private pesticide applicators became recertified to purchase and use restricted-use pesticides by participating in one of two different three-hour **Pesticide Applicator Recertification** workshops. Participants learned how to effectively identify and manage pests, how to protect the environment when using pesticides, and how to minimize pesticide use.
- Eighteen **Master Gardener volunteer interns** received 50 hours of horticulture training from OSU Extension. Over 900 volunteer hours have been given to the community by these volunteers and interns.
- Nearly 200 landowners learned about the benefits of purchasing local foods at a two-day **Wine and Local Foods Festival** co-sponsored by OSU Extension. Participants also learned how to grow berries, how to utilize locally produced foods in meal preparation, how to grow orchids and how to start a small vegetable garden.
- More than 400 county residents are increasing their knowledge about various **farm management topics** through a bi-monthly OSU Extension educational newsletter.
- Eighty-two county residents participated in an **oil and gas development presentation** sponsored by OSU Extension. Two Agriculture and Natural Resources educators discussed the pros and cons of oil and gas development, including water quality, water testing and leasing.
- Nearly 90 local food enthusiasts increased their gardening, food preservation and insect identification knowledge and skills at seven **local foods workshops** taught by OSU Extension staff and volunteers.
- Approximately 75 beef producers increased the profitability of their herds as a result of participating in a three-session