



LUCAS County

MAUMEE VALLEY EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

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STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- **Sun Safety**—Extension partnered with worksite wellness teams to provide information on healthy skin and sun safety to over 465 individuals. The DermaScan is an educational tool used for people to look at their own skin to compare sun damaged areas with areas that have been protected.
- **Home Food Preservation**—In addition to displays at two community events, over 100 people took classes on home food preservation. Classes were offered to Master Gardener Volunteers, community vegetable gardeners and area residents at five different Toledo Lucas County Public Library locations. Over 30% of the surveys reflected that participants plan to make changes in procedures with their home food preservation to meet current food safety recommendations.
- **Community Nutrition**—Both Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) are offered in Lucas County through funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
 - SNAP-Ed reached 1,774 adults with direct programs in 2013. Participants reported positive health changes in areas such as using food labels, including physical activity, increasing eating fruits and vegetables, increasing calcium in the diet, increasing whole grains, consuming low-fat protein, meal planning and food safety.
 - EFNEP offers adult community nutrition education to families with limited resources and children in the home. Programming is designed to empower families to adopt nutritionally sound lifestyle habits while gaining the

knowledge and confidence to make healthy food choices, improve food safety practices, manage food dollars and become more physically active. EFNEP graduated 127 adults with an overall impact on 1,280 people in program families. Of participants, 91% showed improvement in one or more nutrition practices, and 86% showed improvement in one or more food resource management practice.

PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- **4-H Clubs**—4-H Clubs were led by 76 advisors/activity leaders. Approximately 325 youth were enrolled in our 4-H Clubs, and 288 youth participated in our Mini-Garden program. Nineteen youth were eligible to showcase their 4-H projects at the 2013 Ohio State Fair.
- **4-H CARTEENS**—Three hundred seventy-seven teenagers participated in 4-H CARTEENS. A partnership with Lucas County Juvenile Court and Ohio State Highway Patrol, CARTEENS is a traffic safety education program for first-time juvenile traffic offenders. Teens serve as the program planners and facilitators. They learn leadership skills ranging from public speaking, researching for educational resources and developing educational lessons.
- **Partnerships in STEM**—OSU Extension continued a partnership with The Ohio State University Office of Diversity and Inclusion's Young Scholars Program in Toledo and Toledo Public School's Toledo Technology Academy to promote STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs. Forty-two youth participated in our FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League robotics after school program. The program



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increases science and math skills and prepares youth for the new Ohio Department of Education Common Core English Language Arts Standards.

- **Lucas County Shooting Sports**—Extension has two shooting sports programs: The Broncos On-Target archery team and the Lucas County Sharpshooters gun safety team. In archery, youth enjoyed clinics and workshops that included hands-on instruction and activities such as eye dominance, performing proper equipment safety check, proper handling of a bow and arrow, whistle commands, proper shooting techniques and actual target shooting. We have five certified instructors, one program coordinator and a partnership with Mudjaw Bowmen Archery Club. Our gun safety program continues to grow and has formed a partnership with Progressive Fishing Association, holding meetings at their indoor range. The team also participated in community service activities with the Friends of NRA (National Rifle Association), which helps gun safety programs raise funds to support their team. Approximately 29 youth participated in our shooting sports program.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Master Gardener Volunteers**—Twenty-eight Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) were trained this year, bringing the total count to 285. The volunteers contributed over 9,000 hours, which represents a value of over \$199,260. MGVs participated in such programs as Toledo Botanical Garden, Toledo Area Metroparks, Toledo Zoo, Toledo GROWs Community Gardens and various other entities within the county. MGVs and staff were responsible for answering over 2,750 horticulture calls, both through our hotline and while attending various public events.
- **Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists (OCVNs)**—There are 66 active volunteers who accumulated 4,804 hours of volunteer and advanced training hours. The monetary value of the volunteer hours is over \$106,360. Our OCVNs have volunteered at Toledo Area Metroparks, Wolf Creek YMCA, Black Swamp Conservancy, Magee Marsh, Kitty Todd Nature Preserve, Toledo Zoo, The Olander Park System, Toledo Museum of Art, Nature's Nursery, Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Irwin Prairie, Toledo Public Schools and The Rain Garden Initiative.

ADVANCING EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

- **Local Foods**—OSU Extension's Local Food team bridges programming from agriculture and natural resources and family and consumer sciences. In 2013, local food work

included the poster "Who's at the Table for Local Foods Decisions?" at the Tri-State Diversity Conference; an Innovative 2013 grant, "County Extension's Involvement With Local Food Councils;" and on-going work with Northwest Ohio Local Food Council. OSU Extension was instrumental in helping organize the local "Food in the 419" week, August 8–18, 2013.

- **Business Retention and Expansion**—The Point Place Business Association partnered with OSU Extension Community Development and Ohio Sea Grant to conduct a business retention and expansion program to gain a better understanding of the local economy and examine the needs of its existing business base. As a result of the program, 41 businesses plan to retain 240.5 jobs and create an estimated 35–44 new jobs.
- **Lake Erie Shoreline Recreational Fishing**—Lake Erie shoreline anglers—those who fish from shore locations like docks and jetties instead of boats—value their fishing at an annual average of \$13.5 million, a study from OSU Extension, Ohio Sea Grant and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife has found. Shoreline anglers also spend an additional \$1.1 million in communities near their fishing destinations on things like food, gas and last-minute supplies.

Lucas County receives \$320,426 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.