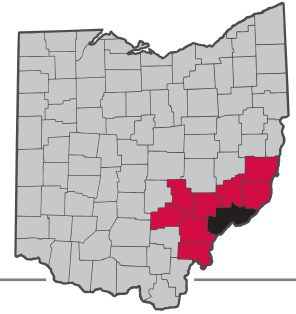




WASHINGTON County

BUCKEYE HILLS EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

202 Davis Avenue, Marietta, Ohio 45750-7431
 Phone: (740) 376-7431 washington.osu.edu/



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- **Successful Co-Parenting** taught nearly 205 parents post-divorce parenting skills and ways to help children adjust to changes. As a result, judges report significant declines in family abuse cases being reported and significantly fewer cases returning to renegotiate custody. One judge states, "This class saves thousands from the county budget."
- Following a careful meal plan is the first step in controlling blood sugar for people with diabetes. This is also the hardest step. **Dining with Diabetes** helps by teaching people with diabetes to monitor carbohydrates and to reduce sugar, salt and fat in foods without giving up good taste. Sixty-two people attended our classes in 2013.
- The grant-funded **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)** continues to have a positive impact on the county's low-income families with children. In 2013, a total of 42 adults participated in the program, which in turn, directly affected 191 family members of those participants. Graduates of the program have shown 88% improvement in nutrition practices, 81% in improvement in food resource management and 25% improvement in food safety practices.
- Serving as a host site for **Save the Dream Ohio**, the Washington County Extension office provided \$350,104 in educational support to the residents of Southeast Ohio. Outreach activities assisted homeowners facing foreclosure. These foreclosures threatened family well-being and community economic stability.
- In 2013, 369 unduplicated residents participated directly in one of 240 U.S. Department of Agriculture SNAP-Ed

classes. Indirectly, 4,503 people benefited from newsletters, displays and educational packets. One food pantry director collaborated to turn an indirect display into a monthly direct series by providing space and supplies for recipes for participants above their regular food pantry foods. Evaluations showed 98% of yearly SNAP-Ed participants learned new information, with 93% planning to use that information to guide their food shopping, food preparation and food storage so as to avoid food insecurity. **Washington County Extension SNAP-Ed** is funded by a grant for over \$60,000 for the 2013 federal year.

PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Twelve to fifteen **4-H CARTEENS** volunteers meet with advisors once a month for two hours. During this time they have a formal 4-H meeting where they discuss, plan and practice lessons they will present to teens who are ordered by the Washington County Juvenile Court to attend the program with their parents. The volunteers meet another evening for four hours to present their program. Each month in 2013 in 4-H CARTEENS, 16–20 teen offenders and their parents learned traffic safety while learning to understand the challenges of being a safe driver. Our teen volunteers, in turn, increased their skills in public speaking, organizing, teaching and working together.
- From 4-H Camp to schools to clubs and beyond, 1,952 school-aged youth gained a variety of new skills. **Washington County 4-H** had 790 members in 35 community clubs led by 210 certified adults and 52 teen volunteers. Specifically, youth were enrolled in 2,476 different curricula.

They gained knowledge and experiences in the following areas:

- Communications and Expressive Arts—52
- Consumer and Family Sciences—385
- Environmental Education and Earth Sciences—319
- Healthy Lifestyle Education—62
- Personal Development and Leadership—501
- Plants and Animals—1,103
- Science and Technology—54
- Self-discipline, decision-making, concentration and responsibility are the focus of **Shooting Sports**, Washington County Extension's second highest project area in 4-H. In Shooting Sports, 604 youth learn safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment from 15 adult and 3 teen certified volunteers.
- The SNAP-Ed **Summer Food Service Program** conducted programs with 12 sites. One hundred ninety-four youth participated in 62 programs held at schools, parks and churches. Programs focused on encouraging youth to exercise; use MyPlate to increase their intake of dairy, vegetables, fruits and whole grains; and eat breakfast daily.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- The Washington County Extension office was instrumental in procuring an **Ohio Emergency Management Agency matching grant of \$237,500** to complete a permanent Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Washington County. EOCs provide for multi-agency coordination, communications and resource allocation in response to emergencies and natural disasters.
- **Quality Assurance Training** was provided for 690 youth and adults who raise livestock for the food chain. Skills gained include maintaining medication and treatment records, educating family members on proper administration techniques and following appropriate feed processor procedures and feed tag recommendations.
- Washington County Extension's **Garden Party and Gardening Road Show Events** helped 229 people with learning new gardening practices and increasing their gardening skills, which is helping to improve their health and the value of their property as well as our community.
- Seventy-one farm businesses who attended **Pesticide Applicator Recertification** were recertified for their Ohio Department of Agriculture pesticide licenses. They stated that they are more aware of best-use practices on the farm in relation to the safety of them and their staff/families.

ADVANCING EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

- Shale development is expected to have a great economic impact on our local landowners, businesses and community. More than 300 clientele attended educational programs focusing on leasing, pipelines, tax and wealth. Evaluations returned post-program indicated 100% of attendees thought the programs provided valuable information that they would recommend to others. Additionally, Washington County Extension serves as a conduit for **shale education and information** flow to and from OSU Extension research and education.

Washington County receives \$43,425 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.