

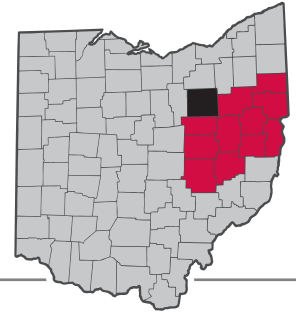


WAYNE County

CROSSROADS EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

428 West Liberty Street, Wooster, Ohio 44691-5092

Phone: (330) 264-8722 wayne.osu.edu/



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- **Steps to Homeownership** reached 55 people this year. Eight individuals have secured their homes, and the other 47 have attended the series of three classes and are in the process of looking for their home or getting their finances in order so that they may pursue a home purchase. One participant shared, “I am now setting goals and being prepared for emergencies,” and about half the class indicated that they are saving money and being more accountable to themselves.
- Ten new **Master Money Mentor** volunteers have completed a 7.5-hour training to join the existing six active volunteers. During its 20-year existence, this program has assisted more than 274 individuals in reaching their financial goals. A past participant attended the training to share that even now, two years later, she is able to survive job change and economic challenges because of the skills she learned from her mentor.
- **SNAP-Ed** added a youth nutrition education program during the school year. In the spring, Wayne County Extension piloted a youth program with fourth graders at Melrose Elementary School in Wooster. One of the children who attended the pilot was also part of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). When she came on the first day of summer camp, she excitedly explained that she had been washing her hands a lot more. She was able to correctly demonstrate and explain why the procedure was important as she talked with her friends at the SFSP, where over 1,600 youth were served this year. In addition to the youth program, Wayne County Extension reached more than 2,400 adults at 226

sessions this year. Of participants, 52% indicated they had learned a lot of new information, and 87% indicated they had made lifestyle changes because of SNAP-Ed programming.

PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Nearly 1200 first through fourth graders in eight different area elementary schools participated in a six-month **Character Counts program**. Of those elementary teachers involved, 97% said that their students increased their understanding of the six pillars of character, and 89% felt that the Character Counts program produced better student behavior in their classrooms.
- Twenty-eight Wayne County teens were involved in **4-H Awareness Team** training and leadership development. They gave presentations at 12 area schools, and 673 third grade students were informed about 4-H.
- **Real Money, Real World** youth financial literacy program was conducted for Norwayne Middle School, with approximately 120 students participating.
- Forty-one youth, ages 5–10, attended the **2013 Wayne County 4-H Farm Safety Day Camp**. Participants and their parents learned about rural and farm safety through interactive demonstrations and presentations. Ninety percent said they “learned a lot” from the camp.
- Seventy-one Cloverbuds, ages 5–8, along with 24 counselors spent three days learning science, technology, engineering and mathematics as they “Walked Among the Wild” at the jungle-themed **Cloverbud Day Camp**. The Cloverbuds roared through the fairgrounds learning about

recycling, animals, life cycles and rainforest preservation. A highlight of the camp was when COSI on Wheels came and presented their “Exploring Ecology” stations to the group.

- In June, 92 4-H members participated in the **Wayne County 4-H Camp**. On their evaluations, campers rated this year’s camp as excellent. 4-H members shared that camp helped them become more responsible, make new friends and improve their self-confidence. A team challenge participant commented, “If you communicate you can solve lots of problems!”
- More than 1,400 4-H and FFA members were trained in animal quality assurance through participation in three two-hour **Quality Assurance Training/Skillathon programs**. Youth learned the importance of tracking treated animals, establishing a heard health management plan and providing proper care for their animals through interactive training.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Attending **Pesticide Applicator Recertification** programs were 287 private pesticide applicators. As a result of attending these programs, 90% of the applicators indicated they had improved personal safety and pesticide handling practices; 91% indicated they had increased the efficiency of their applications; and 95% indicated they were better informed about compliance with pesticide and environmental laws/regulations.
- The **integrated pest management scouting program** provides weekly crop scouting along with timely recommendations to help growers manage disease, weed and insect problems. Late blight was detected on tomatoes in a grower field on July 17. Without intervention, late blight can destroy a crop in 7 to 10 days. The grower immediately began the prescribed spray program and continued with it. As a result, his tomatoes continued to bear into October, providing more than \$9,500 of income from that field.
- The integrated pest management program monitored for the spotted wing drosophila (SWD) in five locations throughout Wayne County. When SWD was confirmed in traps in late July, spray recommendations were provided to fruit growers. Growers who followed the spray program continued to be able to market their fruit. Two growers reported to integrated pest management scouts that they had delayed in following the spray advisory, which resulted in berry harvests that had SWD larva and unmarketable fruit. One of these growers reported a \$500 dollar loss and the other a \$750 loss. Both growers started a spray program and were able to resume marketing later berry harvests.

- As a result of attending a **Pasture for Profit grazing school**, 95% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that they would be able to increase the net profit of their livestock operation. When asked to quantify more specifically, 15% said they expected a \$10 per acre increase; 10% expected a \$25 per acre increase; 20% expected a \$50 per acre increase; and 25% expected greater than a \$50 per acre increase.
- Inaccurate feed mixing and feed mismanagement is responsible for reduced milk production and increased feed waste/shrinkage costs on dairy farms. A **feed mixing and management workshop** provided training for 25 dairy feed mixers to help increase feed use and efficiency on the farm.
- According to a pre- and a post-survey of participants at the **Agromony Update meeting**, 91% said they increased their knowledge of what is involved in a successful weed control program, and 68% increased their knowledge of how to apply the 4R nutrient management principles on their farm.
- As a result of attending the **Ag Outlook and Policy meeting**, 95% of the participants indicated they could use the knowledge gained from the meeting to make better planning and financial decisions.
- The barber pole worm, *Haemonchus contortus*, is a major obstacle to profitable production in pasture-based sheep and goat production. The Wayne County Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources educator provided a **small ruminant parasite control and management workshop** on June 1 at the OARDC sheep research unit. Participants learned the parasite biology and life cycle, mechanisms of chemical resistance and optional control strategies. All participants learned how to use the FAMACHA eyelid scoring system as a method to reduce overall chemical use and selectively target chemical dewormer application.

Wayne County receives \$40,916 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension’s local-state-federal partnership.