

2014 County Highlights



AUGLAIZE County

TOP OF OHIO EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

208 South Blackhoof Street, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895-1902

Phone: (419) 738-2219 auglaize.osu.edu



PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- **4-H Impact:** Auglaize County 4-H served over 2,200 youth during 2014. This number reflects participation in community clubs, school enrichment, the Cloverbud program and special events. There were over 250 volunteers involved in the program. Chick Embryology and the Life Cycle of a Butterfly continue to be the most popular classroom projects. Market hogs and scrapbooking projects were among the more popular through community clubs.
- **4-H in the Classroom:** Approximately 900 students in 41 classrooms are learning the "4-H way," with hands on experiences. The program offers a variety of topics including chick embryology, weather, nutrition education and tobacco risk awareness. The Cloverbud program is also conducted in kindergarten through second grade classrooms.
- **You Can Choose:** Students learned about making good choices through a 4-H in the Classroom program. You Can Choose focuses on friendship skills and conflict resolution. The 4-H educator and program assistant visited nine classrooms twice to present the curriculum. Teacher evaluations rate the program highly and indicate that they continue to reinforce the concepts in their classrooms.
- **4-H Camp:** One hundred twenty campers went to 4-H Camp Palmer for the five-day residential camp program. Highlights included canoeing, high ropes, dances, campfires and a trip to Harrison Lake. Teen counselors gained leadership skills by conducting activities and supervising campers. Counselors attended training sessions to learn counseling skills and program-planning. Counselors and counselors-in-training were selected through an application/interview process.

- **Cloverbud Day Camp:** Thirty-five 4-H Cloverbuds attended the 4-H Cloverbud Day Camp. Day Camp gives young 4-H members the opportunity to experience 4-H camping. Day campers enjoyed crafts, making nutritious snacks, storytime and a nature hike. Plants were the theme for the day. Teen and adult counselors also taught traditional camp songs. A presentation was given on deadly look-alikes.
- **4-H CARTEENS:** CARTEENS reached 115 teen drivers through October 2014. The program is taught by teens. Guest speakers include individuals who have been touched by traffic fatalities and troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Wapakoneta Post. The program is a cooperative effort between Auglaize County 4-H and the juvenile court.
- **Real Money, Real World:** Five hundred sixty youth from five area high schools and middle schools increased their knowledge of how occupation affects income, how to use a checking account, and making real money, real world choices. Volunteer community partners assisted with the programs.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- **Dining with Diabetes:** The incidence of diabetes has continued to increase in Auglaize County. To address this issue, OSU Extension collaborated with the local hospital to present the Dining with Diabetes signature program to 19 adults. The participants reported making positive changes to manage their diabetes.
- **Choose It! Use It!:** One hundred thirty-six fourth graders learned the importance of making healthy food choices, choosing correct portion sizes and participating in physical



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activity through a nutrition education classroom program. Students reported increased awareness of portion sizes, tried new foods and increased their physical activity.

- **Family Engagement:** A series of programs was provided for Auglaize County parents and their preschool children. Parents learned about nutrition, early childhood development and positive family interaction while their preschoolers participated in educational activities.
- **ServSafe Food Safety:** There is an increased concern about the safety of our food supply. ServSafe instruction was completed by 72 food service managers, supervisors and staff who represent food service establishments. Participants reported increased knowledge in handling food to prevent foodborne illnesses. County sanitarians reported improvements in the safe handling of food in local establishments. Numerous consumer questions regarding food safety and home food preservation were answered by the Family and Consumer Sciences Extension educator.
- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed):** Fifty-five Auglaize County residents participated in one of nine classes taught by Extension's SNAP-Ed program. Classes were taught for partner agencies including Blume Alumni Apartments, Auglaize County Department of Job and Family Services and the Summer Food Service Program.

- **4-H Sea Camp:** The 2014 Sea Camp was held in July. The 51 youth attending 4-H Sea Camp increased their knowledge of Lake Erie boating, sailing, fishing, water ecology and history. Sea Camp provides youth with experiences in decision-making, getting along with others and many other challenges that will better prepare them for future life.
- **Cover Crops:** OSU Extension in Auglaize, Mercer and Shelby counties held a Cover Crop Field Day on September 25. Ten different cover crop forage combinations were planted into wheat field stubble.
- **New Farm Bill:** On September 3, OSU Extension in Auglaize, Mercer, Darke and Shelby counties held a meeting to explain to dairy farmers the Dairy Margin Protection portion of the new Farm Bill.

Auglaize County receives \$32,267 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Conservation Tillage and Technology Conference:** The 23rd Annual CTC was held at Ohio Northern University on March 5 and 6, 2014. As in the 2013 program, we had a special program for crop consultants and precision agriculture. A total of 890 people attended the two-day program.
- **Manure Science Review (MSR):** The 16th Annual MSR was held in August 2014. There were 160 participants in the program. Showcased this year were a liquid manure injected between corn rows and cover crops, and a soil-injectable machine for dry poultry manure.
- **Monitoring for Western Bean Cutworm:** Again this year we monitored for western bean cutworm. Many adults were found in the state. Currently in the Auglaize traps, we see a decrease in adult numbers, and we have yet to see any economic damage.
- **Dairy Series:** The noon dairy series (one day each month) from November through March is covering many topics of interest to dairy farmers. This has been a very popular program that brings new information to dairy farmers.