

# 2014 County Highlights



## FAYETTE County

### MIAMI VALLEY EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

1415 US Route 22 Southwest, Suite 100, Washington Court House, Ohio 43160-9557

Phone: (740) 335-1150      [fayette.osu.edu](http://fayette.osu.edu)



### STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Influencing over 451 adults, children and youth to eat healthier resulted in the following:
  - Eighty-nine percent of the 49 **Whole Grains for Health** participants indicated that they plan to eat more whole grain foods, and 99 percent learned new information.
  - Ninety-eight percent of the 180 Miami Trace fifth-grade students in **Choose It! Use It!** learned the importance of eating healthy foods. Eighty-eight percent indicated that they would eat more fruits and vegetables each day.
  - One hundred forty-eight people participated in three **Live Healthy, Live Well** email challenges. Thirty percent of the participants lost weight. Fifty-eight percent maintained their weight over the six-week period of the challenges. Eighty-one percent have adopted practices to reduce chronic diseases.
  - One hundred percent of the participants in **Million Hearts** heart disease prevention reported learning new knowledge and are using less salt. Ninety-five percent showed improvement in cholesterol levels and blood pressure.
  - In **parenting classes**, 47 parents wrote that they were using at least one of the discipline techniques learned with their children and are using encouragement more.
  - In **food safety classes**, 124 people improved their food safety knowledge from presurvey to postsurvey. In food preservation classes, 19 people learned correct procedures for canning and freezing food at home.

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)** in Fayette County has taught 183 people in over 14 programs in three months in the areas of MyPlate, vegetables and fruits, dairy, whole grains, food shopping, and food safety. This grant provides \$44,693 for salary and supplies.
- Fayette County Extension is using **Facebook groups** to educate people about timely topics, including Five County Solutions (money management); 4-H advisors; 4-H participants; Live Healthy, Live Well (nutrition and health); and OSU Extension information.

### PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Real Money, Real World** provided 340 seventh and eighth graders from local schools with hands-on experience in personal finance. Participants were assigned occupations and received a monthly "salary." During a simulation where community volunteers staffed booths representing real-life businesses, the students spent their "salaries" on items in a typical monthly budget. Whether they had adequate funds or ran out of money determined how successful they were at managing their money. Comments at the booths included, "I need to get good grades to get into college" and "Now I know what my parents go through."
- In Fayette County, 763 youth, ages 5–19, participated in **4-H Clubs**. Coordinating 4-H Club work and activities for youth were 160 4-H adult volunteers. Thirty-eight teens serving on Junior Fair Board were responsible for planning Junior Fair activities for over 1,200 Fayette County Junior Fair members representing youth organizations. Junior Fair Board



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Empowerment *Through* Education

[twitter.com/dirkeithsmith](https://twitter.com/dirkeithsmith)  
[u.osu.edu/cfaesimpact](http://u.osu.edu/cfaesimpact)  
[extension.osu.edu](http://extension.osu.edu)

- members learned life lessons such as leadership skills, team-building, program-planning, decision-making, conflict management, Junior Fair policies, money management, ethics, communication and workforce development skills.
- 144 Fayette County campers, third through twelfth grade, enjoyed a five-day overnight **4-H Camp** held at Camp Clifton, which was planned and conducted by 36 teens, ages 14–19, who served as camp counselors. A two-day Cloverbud Camp for youth ages 5–8 was conducted with the assistance of eight teens for 28 children. Camp counselors learned program-planning, conflict management, decision-making, communication skills, leadership skills, team-building and workforce development skills.
- Collaboration with the **P-16 Council Youth Leadership Training** for middle school students was started in two school districts. By creating awareness for school district officials and parents, students are gaining a capacity to manage prospective situations, be sensitive to the feelings and experiences of others, and develop supportive relationships with adults and teachers—viewing the adults as resources for helping to deal with social and emotional concerns.

## ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Producers viewed demonstration plots showing the effectiveness of cover crops and various foliar fertilizer applications that can be successfully implemented into current production practices at the annual **Field Day at the Fayette County Demonstration Farm**. Around 400 attendees represented Southwest Ohio and Indiana, including 24 Certified Crop Advisers. Topics included the new nutrient management law, drought-tolerant corn, common diseases of corn and soybeans, cover crop management, and a spotlight on upcoming technology, including unmanned aerial vehicle demonstrations and a solar power demonstration.
- The **Southwest Ohio Agronomy Day** was attended by 53 local producers and agribusiness professionals, including 14 Certified Crop Advisers. Speakers from The Ohio State University spoke on nematode sampling in corn and soybeans, marestail and herbicide site of action, nutrient management practices, and an update on Ohio corn production practices.
- Both Extension and Fayette County agriculture were promoted during talks with local groups and schools. Work with local clients also included farm visits for **field scouting and diagnostics**, along with the identification of client programming needs. Approximately 60 calls were answered on cash rents, custom rates, weed identification and control.
- Roughly 230 horticulture and turf questions (plant and weed identification, turf grass fertilization and weed control) were answered through **Horticulture Hotline calls** and **Extension office visits**.
- Fourteen Master Gardeners volunteered over 600 hours of community service, providing Fayette County with \$13,074 in volunteer work. If five people are assisted for every one hour of volunteer time, then 1,750 people were assisted by Fayette County **Master Gardener Volunteers**.
- Master Gardeners educate and beautify our community, which increases community pride and property values. Projects such as planting and maintaining the Washington Courthouse flowers, Fayette County Museum flowers, and **Sponsor a Flower Pot** help beautify our downtown area.

## ADVANCING EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

- Fifty-four people completed the **ServSafe Food Handler Program for Employees**. These individuals are now eligible to be managers-in-charge in the food service industry.
- Fayette County Extension secured up to **\$351,000 in loans from the Ohio Small Business Administration** office to assist in the startup of businesses in the county. This created 10 full-time jobs and seven part-time jobs. These loans increase financial security and promote higher living standards, resulting in increased spending and translating into higher sales and profits for businesses.
- Fayette County Extension partnered with the **OhioMeansJobs** local office to provide new website training to nine of the county's major employers. This website helps OhioMeansJobs attract, hire, retain and advance their workforce needs by expanding employers' knowledge and access to skilled labor.

**Fayette County receives \$44,693 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.**