

# 2014 County Highlights

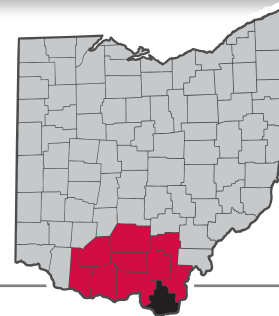


## LAWRENCE County

### OHIO VALLEY EXTENSION AND EDUCATION RESEARCH AREA

1 Veteran's Square, Ironton, Ohio 45638-1592

Phone: (740) 533-4322      [lawrence.osu.edu](http://lawrence.osu.edu)



#### STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- **The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)**, funded by the USDA-National Institute of Food and Agriculture, provides community nutrition education to low-income families with young children. EFNEP assists participants in acquiring the knowledge, skills, attitudes and changed behavior necessary to achieve nutritionally sound diets, contributes to the participant's personal development and improves the total family diet and nutritional well-being. In Lawrence County, 123 adults participated in EFNEP, and 100 graduated from the program. Thus, EFNEP impacted 500 people in participants' families. In all, 93 percent of participants improved in one or more food resource management practices (planning meals, comparing prices, using a grocery list); 97 percent improved in one or more nutrition practices (healthy food choices, reading labels, consuming more fruits and vegetables); 66 percent showed improvement in one or more food safety practices (thawing and storing foods properly); and 39 percent increased their physical activity.

#### PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- In 2014, Lawrence County reached nearly 550 individual youth through traditional **4-H Club** opportunities. A primary goal of 4-H is to help youth develop into caring, competent and contributing members of society by providing a safe, inclusive environment for youth to determine goals, make decisions and envision the future. These activities are primarily led by 114 screened, trained adult volunteers within 32 clubs. With each volunteer serving a minimum of

35 hours annually, the value of their service to Lawrence County youth exceeds \$85,386.

- Lawrence County 4-H offers teens a variety of opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and aspirations needed for adult success. In 2014, 28 Lawrence County teen leaders participated in the county **4-H CARTEENS** and/or **Junior Fair Board**. Lawrence County 4-H CARTEENS is a partnership of OSU Extension, the Lawrence County juvenile court system and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. One hundred fifty-three offenders completed the court-mandated traffic safety program led monthly by 4-H CARTEENS members. Every youth offender is given a five-question post-test at the end of each session, of which 94 percent passed. The CARTEENS members also help prepare and present yearly prom safety programs to all Lawrence County high schools. Members of the Junior Fair Board develop and practice their life and leadership skills by preparing, organizing and implementing activities and livestock shows and sales at the Lawrence County Fair. Members also learn citizenship skills and the importance of giving back to the community through 4-H service projects.
- **Canter's Cave 4-H Camp** provides a unique experience for Lawrence County 4-H members, as they learn new knowledge, practice leadership and gain life skills with other 4-H members from across the region. This year, Lawrence County camp participation increased over 300 percent as our attendance went from eight campers in 2013 to 25 campers in 2014. Campers participated in one of three overnight camping opportunities. Two were traditional 4-H Camps and the other was a STEM Camp, a hands-on exploration of science, technology, engineering and math.



**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)

## ADVANCING EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

- Through participation in 4-H, members select a project of interest to complete during the 4-H year. Through hands-on **4-H projects**, activities and Skillathons, youth improve their knowledge and then demonstrate how they have mastered their skills. During 2014, 450 4-H projects were completed, with topics including livestock, gardening, food science, clothing, shooting sports, photography, dog obedience and more. Exhibitors earned over \$3,500 in premiums and prizes from local community supporters.

## ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

- Through **Quality Assuring Training**, 327 Lawrence County 4-H youth learned to use best practices to ensure the following: quality products; responsible animal handling; and responsible care and welfare of all livestock, companion and performance animals. All exhibitors participate in Quality Assurance Training, promising their 4-H animals are well cared for and safe for consumers. As a result, 375 quality market projects were sold to community supporters at the 2014 Lawrence County Fair, for a sale total of \$256,768.
- Lawrence County 4-H youth development received a \$1,000 grant from OSU Extension to implement the CME Group and National 4-H Council's Commodity Carnival. The **Commodity Carnival** is a fun learning activity during which youth experience managing the business risks associated with producing livestock from farm to market. Approximately 250 youth participated in the experience at the 2014 Lawrence County Fair to build greater literacy in agricultural science and economics.

**Lawrence County receives \$33,500 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.**