

2014 County Highlights

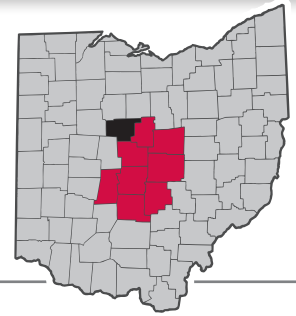


MARION County

HEART OF OHIO EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

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PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Young people know **4-H Camp** is fun. Youth development experts know 4-H Camp helps build critical life skills for both campers and youth counselors. 4-H Camp helps build teamwork, communication and leadership, cultivating the job readiness skills employers look for, all while giving campers a chance to connect to nature. One hundred twenty-nine youth, ages 9 to 13, participated in Marion County 4-H Camp. This four-night, five-day camp gave the youth an opportunity to learn valuable life skills. They also learned about and participated in educational sessions, recreation, team-building activities and other educational opportunities. Forty-four teen counselors and 19 adult staff were involved in the successful completion of this camp.
- Marion County supported 45 **4-H Clubs**. These clubs involved nearly 675 youth, ages 5 to 19, and 122 adult volunteers. Volunteers contributed over 3,000 hours of time to teach youth life skills such as leadership, decision-making and communication. Members completed educational projects, completed community service projects and practiced public speaking through demonstrations and presentations to their clubs.
- Nearly 850 youth participated in **project-related clinics, Skillathons and Quality Assurance Training**. These educational programs were offered for sheep, swine, rabbits, poultry, beef, dairy, horses and goats. The programs covered a variety of topics including showmanship, proper animal care, nutrition, equipment and grooming. Following the programs, many participants indicated they felt more prepared to care for and exhibit their animal project.

- Fifty-three teens participated in at least 16 hours of **leadership and event management training** taught by the Extension educator. Through their participation on the Marion County Junior Fair Board, the teens contributed an average of 20 hours of leadership service each.
- Forty-four teens completed approximately 30 hours of **4-H Camp Counselor Training**. They learned the responsibility of caring for children, as well as how to plan and coordinate camp activities and education sessions.
- Forty-two 5- to 8-year-olds were active participants in countywide **4-H Cloverbud meetings**, and 37 attended a two-day **Cloverbud Camp**. Participants indicated they made new friends, learned new skills and had fun.

Marion County receives \$51,667 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.



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