

2014 County Highlights



PREBLE County

MIAMI VALLEY EXTENSION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

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PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Four hundred forty youth taking market livestock projects participated in **Quality Assurance Training**. Youth watched videos made by local volunteers and participated in activities related to the three good production practices focused on in 2014.
- Six Preble County youth volunteers with the assistance of four adult volunteers committed to planning and conducting a traffic safety program. Goals of the **4-H CARTEENS** program include reducing the number of repeat juvenile traffic offenders, decreasing the number of teen traffic offenders and increasing teen awareness of traffic/vehicular safety. Seventy court-ordered youth attended one of six classes. Community partners included law enforcement officers from the Eaton Police Division, Preble County Sheriff's Department and the Dayton Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.
- Thirty-five young adults were trained to be **4-H Junior Camp Counselors**. Training included characteristics of campers, risk management, professionalism, roles of a camp counselor and other life skills. Youth counselors gained experience in organizing and conducting a large activity. They also learned about working together as part of a staff to make sure a job gets done.
- 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, communications and leadership, cultivating job readiness skills while connecting campers with nature. In Preble County, 107 campers participated in this experience.
- Seven hundred sixty-five 4-H members in Preble County gained valuable life skills through completing **4-H projects** in many different interest areas. Goal-setting, skill-building, community service and leadership are all part of the project experience. Members apply their knowledge by participating in judging events and other evaluation activities.
- Building a relationship with a caring adult is one measure of the effectiveness of a youth development program. In Preble County, 150 **adult volunteers** taught, mentored, cared for and led 4-H members in club and project work. These adults provided organizational support for 4-H Clubs throughout the county.
- Twenty-eight teen members of the Preble County **Junior Fair Board** learned and practiced leadership, program-planning and evaluation skills. These teens conducted livestock shows and special events, working behind the scenes for over 800 youth exhibitors at the Preble County Fair.
- Ten youth in kindergarten through second grade participated in a **4-H Day Camp** planned and conducted by an older 4-H member as part of a 4-H project. Two other older youth served as volunteer counselors. Activities included a nature hike, a block-building contest, STEM activities and crafts.
- Five Preble County youth participated in out-of-county opportunities. Two attended Citizenship Washington Focus; two attended State 4-H Leadership Camp; and one attended Shooting Sports Camp. All the youth reported on their experiences with a speech at the annual Preble County **4-H Banquet**. The youth all reported that these opportunities increased their confidence and leadership skills.



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