

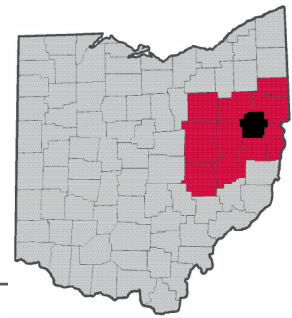
2015 County Highlights

Carroll County

Crossroads Extension Education and Research Area

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PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- Over 400 youth are currently participating in 20 traditional 4-H Clubs in Carroll County. This year, our youth tackled projects including natural resources, shooting sports, animal sciences, expressive arts, photography and woodworking. Many of our 4-H members attended the Carroll County Fair and a number of them qualified for the Ohio State Fair.
- In June 2015, 4-H Camp Piedmont offered new experiences to 86 campers through class offerings of kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, fishing, shooting sports, arts and crafts, swimming, and sports. Nineteen counselors and five adult volunteers helped 4-H members become immersed in camp life, making new friends and new memories.
- Carroll County Extension's 4-H educator partnered with Carrollton schools this spring and last fall for school enrichment with two of Augusta's classrooms. They went through the ChickQuest program, teaching about the journey from egg to chick. They also learned all about force, Newton's Laws and energy in Rockets Away! This program culminates in an exciting rocket launch day where students design and engineer their own rockets. The 4-H educator worked with second graders at Dellroy Elementary through the STEM enrichment program, teaching students all about the amazing world of engineering and group challenges. During Developmental Disability Awareness month, 75 Carroll Hills School students ranging from preschool, elementary and high school classes conquered STEM challenges and had a blast doing it.
- Teens from all over Carroll County have been invited to join the 4-H Teen Leaders program. The group has been doing community service projects, planning community events and helping with 4-H events throughout the year. Their leadership skills will help them become involved citizens and will help them become a positive influence on their peers.
- The 4-H educator provided over 260 4-H and FFA members with the training needed to raise a safe and wholesome food product for consumers. Livestock Quality Assurance

completion is required for Junior Fair participation at the Carroll County Fair. Topics addressed in each session included instruction on administration and storage of medications, with an emphasis on biosecurity measures on the farm.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Weed control for corn and soybeans, and fertilizer certification were the main topics for the day at the Tri-County Agronomy Day yearly event that is held by the Carroll, Harrison and Jefferson counties Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) educators. Extension specialists from the state, as well as SWCD and NRCS, participated in providing education to the producers in the area. The 61 participants were also offered Pesticide Applicator Recertification credits for attending the event.
- During the three-hour Pesticide Applicator Recertification, participants learned how to protect the environment when using pesticides and how to properly treat livestock to provide protection from pests. Nineteen private applicators were provided with recertification and continuing education credits by our Extension educators.
- As a result of the agriculture nutrient management legislation, producers will have to obtain a fertilizer application certification by 2017. Carroll County offered this certification to producers who wished to implement the criteria listed in the legislation now. Thirty-four participants attended this class that covered topics such as best management practices for nitrogen and water quality.
- Women and young women who are interested, involved or want to become involved in food, agriculture, natural resources or small business were invited to attend the East Ohio Women in Agriculture Conference. This annual event had 137 women in attendance from across the state with Carroll County being well represented. Participants were able to choose from sessions covering focus areas



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- such as business and finance, family and community, and entrepreneurial production.
- Backyard Food Production is a collaborative program with the Carroll and Harrison SWCD and NRCS, along with Harrison County Extension. It is a monthly program offered March through September. This program encourages the utilization of your backyard or unused green space for food production while creating wildlife habitat. A wide range of topics were covered including garden types and layouts, seed selection, building rain barrels and low tunnels, backyard poultry, and preserving your harvest.
 - The ANR educator offered a several-month-long series of educational programs that addressed a need in the youth for selection and management of market animal projects. The programs included swine, dairy beef feeders, market goats and lambs, and poultry. Topics in each session included industry history, species terminology, structural correctness, muscling and finish, housing and space, feed and nutrition, and overall basic health. Over 120 youth and adults participated in the programs.
 - Aimed at educating beef producers and increasing profits, the Extension Beef Team and the Extension educator hosted the Ohio Beef Cattle School webinar series for producers and those interested in beef production. A sampling of the topics covered over the series included sustainable beef production, capitalizing on the historic beef economy and the future of antibiotic use in beef cattle.
 - Educational events and activities developed or presented by the educator include classes in safe food handling, safe food storage, and the nutritional value of garden produce, which includes canning and freezing methods and an interactive educational activity titled “Wheel of Fitness” relative to finance, nutrition, wellness, and relationships. The educator has developed new health, fitness and wellness programs that will be offered next quarter. The educator also established a Facebook presence, where regular posts offer educational and informational subject matter to a growing audience. A proposal has been developed and funding has been applied for to establish a Bridges Out of Poverty initiative in Carroll County to bring community leaders, employers, organizations and people living in poverty together to help solve complex poverty issues.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- The new Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) educator was introduced in July and has spent time getting to know Carroll County infrastructure as well as attending various meetings and events. These events and meetings include an introduction to the Carroll County commissioners, participation in and contribution to the Carroll County Fair, participation in Backyard Food Production Program events, and attendance at a Carroll County Fair Board meeting and a Carroll County 4-H Still Project Committee Meeting. The educator is taking part in Carroll County’s Family and Children First Council (FCFC), Carroll County’s FCFC Housing Subcommittee, and the Carrollton High School Family and Consumer Sciences Advisory Committee.
- The FCS educator participated in OSU Extension’s Live Healthy Live Well signature program and is developing a plan to introduce the program to the county. The educator has joined the planning team for the East Ohio Women in Agriculture Conference and has participated in the evaluation of the statewide FCS Master Volunteer training pilot program.