

# Extension Communicator



## January 2022

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

#### Special points of interest:

- Agriculture & Natural Resources
  - Water Quality
- 4-H Youth Development
- SnapEd

#### Ag Brunch

The Ag Brunch will bring in speakers from across Agriculture Management perspectives to the county to discuss with producers the current issues and trends in Agriculture. We will be meeting at RJ's Coffey Cup (901 Defiance St. Wapakoneta, OH 45895) at 11am on the third Tuesday of the month.

#### Western Ohio Dairy Luncheon

The Dairy Luncheon is held at the Speedway Lanes (455 N Herman St) in New Bremen. We gather at 11:30-12:00 for lunch and the presentations start at 12:00. We have a variety of speakers from across the Dairy network covering topics of management, manure, safety, and marketing.

#### Research Update

In 2022 we will begin new trials to look at cattle integration in the grain crop system. This research will run for 2 years. Research in the county is very important to keep Auglaize County on the cutting edge of agriculture.

#### Upcoming programs for 2022

There will be some additions to the roster of programming for 2022

I will be bringing equine programming with the equine forages outreach. There will be a series of webinars beginning in January and there will be pasture walks this coming summer.

I am also looking forward to bringing a dinner theatre program focused on mental health in agriculture to our community this summer. This will be a fun and entertaining evening and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

If you would like to suggest programming that is of interest to you, please reach out to me at [Hampton.297@osu.edu](mailto:Hampton.297@osu.edu) I enjoy hearing from you and your suggestions.

#### Auglaize County Office

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## Water Quality

### Water Quality Wednesdays

The Water Quality Team is once again hosting ,“Water Quality Wednesdays” this year:

12/08/2021	10-11:30 am	How can we manage Phosphorus to protect our water?
1/12/2022	10-11:30 am	Step into Town Hall, then Step into Your Field: From Watershed Planning to Field-Level Implementation
2/2/2022	10-11:30 am	Best Management Practice Deep Dive: Conservation Drainage
2/16/2022	10-11:30 am	Best Management Practice Deep Dive: Nitrogen Efficiency and Loss Prevention
3/23/2022	10-11:30 am	Emerging Technology in Water Quality

This webinar series is free, but registration is required. Register here: [www.go.osu.edu/WQW](http://www.go.osu.edu/WQW)

All previous Water Quality Wednesday webinars were recorded and are available through the OSU Agronomic Crops YouTube channel: [www.go.osu.edu/WQW2020](http://www.go.osu.edu/WQW2020)

### Research

I am currently involved with ~16 projects in the Western Lake Erie Basin, 6 of which are located in or partially in Auglaize County:

I sampled farms for the 2021 eFields Soil Health Survey, which aimed to better understand how soil health values are influenced by soil type, CEC (Cation Exchange Capacity), sampling depth, and past management properties such as no-till and cover cropping. Those results can be found in the 2021 eFields report and we will be recruiting different farms for a second year of sampling in 2022.

I also sampled cereal rye biomass on several farms for a study utilizing remote sensing technologies for monitoring cover crops and their impacts on ecosystem services. Those results will be published in the 2021 eFields report and we will be recruiting farms for the second year of the study in early 2022.

### Website

Our Water Quality Extension website is up and running. Keep an eye out for an update on our current research efforts and projects in the Western Lake Erie Basin: [www.waterqualityextension.osu.edu](http://www.waterqualityextension.osu.edu)

### Mailing List

Join our mailing list to get updates on research recruiting and outreach events: [www.go.osu.edu/WQWNewsletter](http://www.go.osu.edu/WQWNewsletter)

The goal of the Water Quality Extension team is to engage farmers and their trusted advisors in new production strategies, technologies, and best management practices to improve fertilizer use efficiency and farm profitability while promoting soil health and reducing nutrient and sediment losses within the Western Lake Erie Basin.

Please contact me if you are interested in improving water quality on your farm.

Brigitte MoneyMaker–Water Quality Extension Associate. 419-910-6057 [moneymaker.4@osu.edu](mailto:moneymaker.4@osu.edu)

## 4-H Youth Development

### 4-H Program Reaches Over 1,800 Youth

The Auglaize County 4-H program served over 1,800 youth during 2021. This number reflects participation in community clubs, CARTEENS, school enrichment, Cloverbud and special events. There were over 200 volunteers giving leadership to the program.

### Getting Back to 4-H Camp Successful

One hundred and twenty-eight campers went to 4-H Camp Palmer in June. The length of camp was shortened and some programming was modified, but campers still had a great time! Our theme was “Let’s get BACK to 4-H Camp Palmer”, a celebration of the return to in person camping and a retro theme also. Highlights included canoeing, high ropes, candlelighting, dances, campfires and activities such as the water carnival, field games and crafts. Campers shared their talents during the talent show. Thirty teen counselors gained leadership skills by conducting activities and supervising younger campers. These counselors attended a series of ten training sessions in the spring to learn counseling skills and plan the program. Counselors and counselors in training were selected through an application and interview process.

### Cloverbud Day Camp

Forty 4-H Cloverbuds attended day camp in June. Sponsored by the 4-H Advisory Committee, the day camp gave young 4-H members the opportunity to experience the 4-H camping program. Day campers enjoyed crafts, making nutritious snacks, story time and a carnival. Day campers learned to about tops and other things that spin. Our theme was “It’s A Topsy Turvy World”. Each day camper received a t-shirt and other 4-H items through a grant from the Bergman Endowment Fund. Teen and adult counselors taught traditional camp songs and games.

### Quality Assurance Programs

4-H members taking market animals or lactating animals to the fair are required to complete a quality assurance program. Fourteen in person and Zoom programs were conducted throughout the spring. Participants learned about the Ten Good Production Practices, developing an animal health plan, working with your veterinarian, biosecurity, how to handle animal health care products, needle sizes, and proper handling of feeds. Members learn about decision making regarding their project animals and completing a Drug Use Notification Form.

### Auglaize County Fair A Success

After many months of planning, the Auglaize County Junior Fair Board conducted the junior county fair. With over 1,700 youth participants, the Junior Fair continues to grow in size. The board of teen leaders conducted their judging events with the cooperation of adult advisors, including OSU Extension staff. Members of the Junior Fair Board were elected or appointed by their peers to serve. These board members dedicated many hours to insure that the fair will be a positive experience for all who are involved.

### 4-H in the Classroom

36 Classrooms around the county are filled with 4-H excitement! 4-H in the Classroom offers over twenty project kits about a variety of subjects. Projects about the life cycle are the most popular in the schools who are participating. Students are anxiously awaiting the arrival of butterflies in their classrooms this spring! In addition, other popular projects are learning about chick embryology, plants, electricity, and other STEM related projects.

### 4-H Committee Recognizes Outstanding Work

The 4-H Advisory Committee Ethan Aufderhaar as their Outstanding 4-H Youth. Ethan’s award was presented based on his 4-H career achievements. He received a plaque during the Auglaize Co. Fair.

### Schaub Scholarship Winners

2021 winners of the Niki Schaub 4-H Scholarships were: Hyatt Kaufman, John Kohler, Morgan Leffel, Brandon Paul, Ashlye Ruppert, Abigail Schwartz, Sydney Steinke, Kort Sutherland and Sam Wagner. This scholarship was first awarded in 1992, when one \$500 scholarship was awarded. Since that year, over \$100,000 has been awarded to Auglaize County 4-H youth.

## CARTEENS

The Auglaize Co. 4-H CARTEENS program helped teen drivers learn more about responsible driving and safety on the road. A program conducted in cooperation with the Juvenile Court, their goal is to increase the safety and improve the skills of teen drivers. Peer teen teachers and adult advisors conduct the monthly programs.

## SNAP-Ed

This past year has evolved from virtual programming into in-person programs with new partners. The year began with virtual class at ACE Academy and Mercer County Board of DD and evolved into in-person programs as COVID restrictions began to lift at several locations. Even throughout the pandemic I have had the opportunity to gain new partnerships in the community and I was pleased to welcome Coleman Professional Service in Wapakoneta to my list of partners as I began their first SNAP-Ed program this summer. They initially asked for a 3-part series but enjoyed it so much they asked to extend it to 6 weeks- allowing for an especially successful series. The summer was filled with series at Blume Alumni Apartments, Wapakoneta Village Apartments, and Mercer County Board of DD. SNAP-Ed returned to the Summer Food Service program at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Wapakoneta where I reach over 150 people weekly through indirect programming. I have also continued with indirect programming at Agape Food Pantry in St. Marys, C.A.L.L. Ministries Food Pantry in Celina, Auglaize County WIC, and St. Paul United Church of Christ food pantry in New Bremen until COVID restrictions allow for direct programs at these sites. I have returned to both Mercer County Head Start sites where I recently completed a 6-week series- teaching an average of 95 preschoolers each week. I am wrapping up 2021 with a series at Blume. I am looking forward to 2022 as I start series at both Auglaize County Head Start sites where I can implement the new Small Bites curriculum.

## OSU Extension Staff

<p><b>Elizabeth M. Miller</b> Extension Educator 4-H Youth Development</p>	<p><b>Jamie Hampton</b> Extension Educator Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources</p>
<p><b>Krista Winter</b> Extension Office Associate</p>	<p><b>Lori Now</b> Extension Program Assistant</p>
<p><b>Sarah Amelung</b> Extension Program Assistant, SNAP-Ed</p>	<p><b>Brigitte Moneymaker</b> Water Quality Extension Associate</p>



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