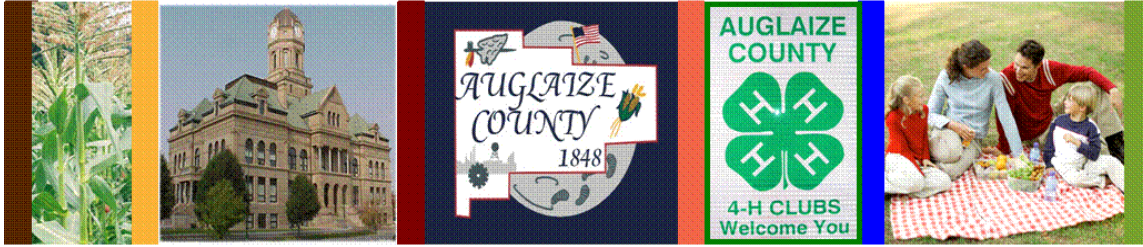


Extension Communicator



May 2022

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Special points of interest:

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

Auglaize County Office

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Ag Brunch

The Ag Brunch is growing and becoming a favorite of the community. We have had a few speakers this year and we were able to take a tour of Brookside Laboratories in New Bremen. We will continue meeting at RJ's Coffey Cup (901 Defiance St. Wapakoneta, OH 45895) at 11am on the third Tuesday of the month.

Cover Crop Roundtable

The Cover Crop Round Table meets monthly on the 2nd Friday of the month at 8:30 am at varying locations around the county. We have a short educational presentation and then a discussion to follow. This is open to the public.

Western Ohio Ag Update on WCSM

Auglaize County now gives the western Ohio Ag update for WCSM radio out of Celina. Tune in on Friday mornings at 8:30 am for the latest Ag News.

Auglaize County ANR newsletter

Should you miss our radio updates there is a weekly ANR newsletter that is sent out via email, uploaded to our website and social media to discuss the weekly concerns and considerations of the community as it relates to Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Forages for Horses:

This is a webinar series on forage and pasture management for horses, it is available for purchase at <https://forages.osu.edu/events/forages-horses-webinar-series>

Upcoming programs for 2022

There will be a couple of new programs for you to enjoy this summer.

I will be adding a nature walk program that will highlight the trail system we have in Auglaize county. This program will include presentations on industrial Agricultural history, tree identification, and wetland projects.

We will be including a Young Farmers Management series this summer that is titled "Touring Auglaize" this program will have stops at several different locations in the county and will cover topics such as succession planning, Ag liability, Ag finance, and Niche Markets.

Continue to watch in the Fall for a few more programs to better serve the county!

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

Water Quality

Water Quality Wednesdays

The Water Quality Team hosted, "Water Quality Wednesdays" this year:

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

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

Mailing List

Join our mailing list to get updates on research recruiting and outreach events: 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

4-H Youth Development

4-H Committee Recognizes Outstanding Work

The 4-H Advisory Committee honored award winners at their annual leadership banquet held in March. The Outstanding 4-H Advisor was awarded to Deb Boyer, advisor with the Fryburg Happy Farmers 4-H club. The Outstanding 4-H youth were Connor Brown, Natalie Imwalle, Mackenzie Ott, Emma Pax. Our Friend of 4-H was Bill Lehmkuhl, Precision Agri Services, Inc.

Camp Counselors Selected

Thirty-five teens have been selected to serve as counselors for 4-H camp. The teens are required to complete an application and interview process. After selection, they attend a series of ten training and program planning sessions. Their theme for this year's camp will be "75 Years of not being "BOARD" at 4-H Camp Palmer". 2022 is the 75th anniversary of 4-H Camp Palmer.

Quality Assurance programs

4-H members taking market animals or lactating animals to the fair are required to complete a quality assurance program. Certified instructors teach members about environmental stewardship, cross contamination, good versus bad production practices, proper housing emergency planning and decision making regarding their project animals. Members learned about being a good neighbor and animal care standards. Older youth may opt to take a quality assurance test rather than attend the programs. Over 450 junior fair members will participate in quality assurance in 2022.

4-H in the Classroom

Classrooms around the county have been filled with 4-H excitement! Some students anxiously awaited the arrival of butterflies in their classrooms! The butterfly program continues to be the most popular projects in the schools. Students learn about the life cycle of the butterfly. Twenty-four classrooms across the county hatched chicks as part of the Chick Quest program. In addition, students are learning about nutrition, electricity and other STEM related projects and participating in yoga lessons.

New Advisor Orientation

Sixteen potential new 4-H volunteers are in the process of applying and completing a screening process. Each new volunteer must complete an application and screening process, which includes a background check. In addition, the potential volunteers must attend an orientation meeting and training in child abuse and protection.

Make Meetings Matter

Over 200 volunteers completed a program about managing their club meetings in an organized and efficient manner. The volunteers received tips on making club meetings more impactful and welcoming. In addition, these volunteers also completed training regarding youth protection and volunteer screening policies. Volunteers learned about different types of child abuse and how to recognize signs of each. They also learned about the proper way to document, and report concerns about neglect and abuse.

Fair is Icing on the 4-H Cake

Thirty volunteers and teens from across the state participated in this session at the Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference in March. The lesson was taught by Beth Miller, 4-H Educator. The description of the session was: When many people think of 4-H, they think of the county fair. And while 4-H is a part of the fair and fair can be a part of 4-H, it should not be the total focus of 4-H clubs. County fair participation can be the icing on the 4-H cake but should not be the main ingredient. We will show you the ingredients that will lead to a successful 4-H club and successful 4-H members. Ingredients such as project work, demonstrations, 4-H camp, community service and leadership activities are essential to the recipe for success. In addition, we will show you how to “ice your cake” by being involved in the county fair.

Real Money. Real World.

This financial literacy program is once again being offered in Auglaize County schools. The classroom teacher completes 4 lessons with the students prior to a real life simulation where students must purchase items for their households and manage a monthly budget. Programs are being conducted in Wapakoneta High School, St. Marys Middle School and ACE Academy. All counties conducting Real Money. Real World. programs received the Compass Award from Ohio Treasurer Robert Sprague's Office. This award was granted for demonstrated innovation and excellence in the field of financial literacy.

SNAP-Ed

Spring has been filled with nutrition series at CORS Head Start locations in Wapakoneta and St. Marys, Blume Alumni Apartments, Wapakoneta Village Apartments, and A.C.E Academy- reaching over 120 individuals directly through nutrition and food resources education. My focus this year is “Back to Basics”- empowering participants with fundamental skills such as how to properly prepare rice, boil eggs, prepare dried beans, and meal plan.

Outreach and Success

Through indirect programming I have reached 1037 individuals in Auglaize and Mercer counties since October.

A nutrition success story from an Auglaize County SNAP-Ed program was featured on Celebrate Your Plate’s social media pages on May 6, 2022.

New Partner Agencies:

M.A.V Youth Mentoring has partnered with SNAP-Ed to allow programming at sites in St. Marys, Wapakoneta, and Van Wert.

Current and Upcoming Events:

Summer series include classes at Coleman Professional Services, Summer Food Service Program at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Wapakoneta, Auglaize and Mercer County WIC agencies, Blume Alumni Apartments, and Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

OSU Extension Staff

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



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