

# Tucker County Annual Report 2020

## Putting Knowledge to Work!

The West Virginia University Extension Service works to provide solutions in your community through key programs and resources, including agriculture and natural resources; 4-H and youth development; food and nutrition; health and wellness; financial planning; and home gardening. These research-based programs and services are available to all Tucker County residents thanks to the tremendous support of our community members, local organizations, volunteers and local partners, including the Board of Education and County Commission.

## Highlights

- 60 youths participated in a summer “Camp in a Bag.”
- \$5,800 received for 4-H programming from the Tucker County Endowment Fund and the Clorox Company.
- 21 individuals received direct farmer assistance with soil fertility recommendations

## 4-H/Youth Development

### *Camping*

- 60 youths participated in the Tucker County Camp in a Bag. Campers also completed community service projects.
- 116 youths participated in Tri-County Camp URLinked (a virtual camp for 4-H’ers), including three Tucker County youths.
- 31 youths registered for a residential Winter Retreat, but due to COVID-19 we had to cancel.

### *4-H School-Based Programs*

- 200 microgreen kits were distributed, with meals at Tucker Valley Elementary Middle and Davis Thomas Elementary Middle School
- 200 STEM Kits were distributed. with meals at Tucker Valley Elementary Middle and Davis Thomas Elementary Middle School

### *Traditional 4-H Programming and Clubs*

- 102 youths and 30 Cloverbuds were enrolled in the Tucker County 4-H program.
- 23 community volunteers were vetted to assist with 4-H programming efforts.
- 52 youth participated in county events: posters (15), photo contest (2), National 4-H Week Challenge (12), pumpkin carving contest (6), and livestock project tour (17)
- 2 youths participated in the Cloverbud Virtual SPIN Club (a special interest club)

### *Special Interest Programs*

- 805 youths participated in statewide virtual project book workshops, which included topics such as STEM, livestock, record guides, citizenship, health and nutrition, sewing, photography, forestry, entomology and finance. (46 total workshops)
- Created/taught virtual workshops on the following topics: goats (32 attendees), vet science (14 attendees), dairy (6 attendees), Cloverbud plants and animals (26 attendees), and Ag SPIN Club (15 attendees).

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

### *Lunch n' Learn: Garden Series*

- 41 individuals registered for 11 sessions that ran from May 14 through July 23. Sessions were recorded and sent to participants who were unable to participate live. Topics included preserving for your pantry, companion planting, composting, fall gardening, season extension, bees/pollinators and weed control.
- Co-taught sessions on soils and soil testing, alternate ways to garden, growing for your pantry, brambles and grapes and rain barrels.

### *Youth Agriculture*

- 31 completed project books and 62 animals exhibited (sale total \$74,954.10).

## Families and Health

### *County-Wide "Biggest Loser Challenge"*

- 25 individuals participated in the challenge.
- 70 percent had a 5-lb. or more weight loss.

### *Grow This West Virginia Seed Distribution*

- 226 Grow This! Tucker County participants received 738 seed packets.

### *Youth Education – Walking Program*

- 17 walking logs were submitted with 88.2% increase in steps taken
- More than 200 Tucker Valley students participated

## Community Development/Tourism/Economic Development

### *Community Involvement*

- Staff members continue to serve the community by volunteering their time and expertise to a number of boards/committees, including: Tucker Valley Elementary Middle School Local School Improvement Council, Hamrick PSD Board, Tucker County Planning Commission and Senior Center.
- Partnered with the Family Resources Network and Mountaineer Food Bank to distribute 1,250 boxes of food.