West Virginia University.

Doddridge 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 Doddridge 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

- "Stick with 4-H" provided Doddridge County youths with a safe method to join 4-H. Over 80 4-H'ers and their family members participated in the drive-thru event. Each member received PPE equipment and other fun engaging 4-H materials.
- Doddridge County Extension Service packaged seeds for Doddridge, Tyler, Ritchie and Pleasants counties. Roughly 450 seed packets were made and mailed.
- Three series of porch packets were developed and distributed for 136 individuals in Doddridge County. Programming materials included hands-on learning activities, ways to improve mental health and other materials for healthy living.

4-H/Youth Development

- 70 4-H members registered for 4-H Fun Week with each box containing four experiential learning kits and the opportunity to engage with other youths through an online week of educational programming.
- "Stick with 4-H" provided Doddridge County youths with a safe method to join 4-H. Over 80 4-H'ers and their family members participated in the drive-thru event. Each member received PPE equipment and other fun engaging 4-H materials.
- 25 4-H members participated in a virtual project exhibit as a substitute for the county fair. Exhibit link was provided to the community through the WVU Doddridge County Extension Service and Doddridge County 4-H Facebook pages and local newspapers.
- SPIN Club Boxes: Four SPIN Club Learning Kits were offered to 4-H members in Doddridge, Ritchie and Tyler counties.
 - 27 youths participated in the Cloverbud program and engaged with four educational lesson kits.
 - o 15 youths participated in the Cookie of the Month activities.
 - o 17 youths participated in You're the Chef programming.
 - o 13 youths participated in DIY Arts and Crafts SPIN club activities.

Special Interest Programs

- 69 youths completed quality assurance training. 36 4-H members sold over 72 livestock animals through an online auction. The majority of livestock buyers were community stakeholders and donated \$6228.59 to the livestock association barn fund.
- Doddridge County Teen Leaders sponsored two trail blazing events at the Doddridge County Park. Teens and their families worked on four different trails to increase visibility and promote healthy living for the community. The county park plans to name a new trail after the Doddridge County 4-H program.
- With assistance from a Parkersburg Area Community Foundation grant, the Doddridge County Teen Leaders purchased summer and fall flowers for Main Street. Teens and their families worked on planting and maintaining the flower beds throughout the summer.
- The Parkersburg Area Community Foundation granted the Doddridge County Teen Leaders with funds to purchase seasonal banners along Main Street. Teens planned and designed each banner for each season and National 4-H Week.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Doddridge County Extension Service facilitated a live hog distribution. Over two different distribution dates, 75 hogs were dispersed to local families for home butchering.
- Doddridge County Extension Service packaged seeds for Doddridge, Tyler, Ritchie and Pleasants counties. Roughly 450 seed packets were made and mailed.
- Over 50 adults attended educational classes on maple syrup, weed management and growing hemp in Doddridge County.
- Master Gardener volunteers donated and planted fruit trees at the county park and educational classes were offered to support their learning.
- The Doddridge County Extension Service office hosted continuing education credit hours for four area foresters.
- A Fall Farm Photo Contest was created on the Doddridge County Extension Service Facebook page to promote community engagement. Over 10 submissions were accepted, and the community engaged with photos 581 times.

Families and Health

- 14 grandfamilies have received assistance through the Healthy Grandfamilies program, which supports grandparents raising grandchildren.
- Three series of porch packets were developed and distributed for 136 individuals in Doddridge County. Programming materials included hands-on learning activities, ways to improve mental health and other materials for healthy living.
- Nine mentors were recruited and supported summer literacy through the weekly summer library program and by sharing resources when assisting the Board of Education with summer food distribution.