Berkeley County Annual Report 2019

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 Berkeley 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

- The Blender Bike Curriculum has reached over 2,000 kids and spurred an interest in healthy living throughout the schools in the community.
- The Berkeley-Jefferson Extension Master Gardeners provided over 3,600 hours of community service through educational talks, demonstrations and workshops.
- The Nutrition Outreach Program expanded its reach to include cooking sessions for families, thereby facilitating healthy eating habits and quality family interaction, as well.

4-H/Youth Development

Tri County Camping

- Served over 200 youths, and nearly 60 adults, as part of our camping program.
- Classes range from STEM-based learning to global education.
- Incorporated many leadership opportunities to serve a wide variety of diverse members.

School-based Learning

- Visited and taught in over 40 classrooms, covering 12 different lessons.

Berkeley County Youth Fair

- Over 380 members participated in youth-based projects for the fair. It totaled nearly 400 indoor exhibits and nearly 400 animal and livestock projects. The livestock sale sold 207 animals, resulting in $384,024.50 from community supporters.

Community Clubs

- Berkeley County currently offers over 20 4-H Club options throughout the county.

Special Interest Programs

- Berkeley County offers several specialized teams and groups, including Bees Knees
Beekeeping, Youth Leadership Association, livestock judging, horse evaluation, a soil and land judging team, a dairy judging team, a poultry judging team, and a STEM club.

**Shooting Sports Program**
- Berkeley County now offers 4-H shooting sports programming. Over 70 kids visited the open house in October, and nearly 27 have completed an archery and air rifle season.

**Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**Extension Master Gardener Program**
- This volunteer group trained 20 new Master Gardeners and reached over 2,200 people, including more than 800 youths, through a variety of programs, such as Tomato Fest, Gardening 101 and Community Education Outreach.

**Agriculture Education Dinner Meetings**
- Three educational dinner meetings were held in 2019, covering topics that included alternative forages, oak management and deer management, and soil health, with a total of 119 people in attendance.

**Other Agriculture and Natural Resources Programming**
- Over 100 private applicators attended the programs and earned credits for license renewal.
- 27 local producers were educated about food safety as it relates to the Food Safety Modernization Act.
- Taught gardening programs for 146 participants, including 114 youths.

**Family and Community Development**

**Community Educational Outreach Service**
- 96 CEOS members participated in seven community clubs in 2019. Notable achievements for the year included reading over 3,000 books to local youths, serving 12,500 volunteer hours and completing 14,000 hours of participation in the Health Motivator program.

**Family Nutrition Program**
- The adult health and wellness program provided nutrition education and hands-on healthy cooking opportunities to 70 participants around the county at various locations, such as SPOKES, Bethany House, Bee Hive, Telamon and day report centers.
- Programs were presented to a diverse population, including limited-income families, individuals in drug recovery, disabled and homeless individuals, and English as a second language students.
- Conducted Nutrition Education Aimed at Toddlers training for staff and parents at Tiny Tots Village Child Care Center.
- In partnership with the WVU Medicine Center for Diabetes and Metabolic Health and the Salvation Army, the adult Nutrition Outreach Instructor launched a family cooking class designed to encourage children to learn cooking skills and families to cook together.
- The youth Nutrition Outreach Instructor served 740 students and a total of 34 groups in 2019.