Tyler County Annual Report 2018

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 Tyler 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

- Improvements to our 4-H camp facilities are ongoing and will enhance the overall camper experience while also improving safety of the facilities. We are grateful for the continued support of the Tyler County Commission and other partners on this project.
- We continue to expand youth programming in specialty interest areas, including safety, nutrition and STEM.
- Developed partnerships and opportunities to provide pop-up markets and other nutrition outreach for families throughout the county, including elementary schools, farmers markets and other locations.

4-H and Youth Development

Activities:

Camping

- The Tyler County 4-H Camp facility continues to undergo much needed upgrades and repairs to buildings and infrastructure. These improvements will update life/safety features of the facility and make the facility more useful for 4-H and other user groups/individuals. The new boys’ dormitory is currently under construction. We appreciate the support and cooperation of the Tyler County Commission in making these important upgrades possible.
- 27 Tyler County 4-H youths and 5 adult volunteers participated in an overnight program at the WVU Outdoor Education Center, which included the zip line canopy tour, science behind the sport sessions and a two-hour forestry program.

4-H Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math Programs

- 26 youths participated in a three-day STEM Adventures Day Camp held at the Extension Office. Youths learned basic scientific principles.

Traditional 4-H Programming and Clubs

- 5 community 4-H clubs
• 38 volunteer leaders
• 90 4-H youth members

**Special Interest Programs**

- **Family Nutrition Program**
  - Nutrition education for 268 youths in grades K-5th (FY 2017-2018)
  - Jump with Jill, a nutrition programming special event was held at AIB and SES (635 youths participated)
  - Germ Fighters (“Germ City”) presented to 141 students at AIB Elementary and 142 students at Sistersville Elementary to teach proper handwashing skills

**Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**Local Foods**

- Tyler County Pop-up Farmer’s Markets at Tyler County Schools (PreK through 8th grade) reached 920 students who could select $4 worth of local produce to take home. Funding for this was provided by a grant that Tyler County Schools obtained through the Stealey Community Fund.

- Pop-Up Farmers Markets were conducted at St. Marys Elementary, Belmont Elementary and Pleasants County Middle School. More than 780 students were given $4 of “Farmers’ Market Money” vouchers, recipes and drug awareness materials. Pre-K students had the opportunity to engage in taste testing items available from the shopping activity. A grant of $4,000 was secured through the Elks National Foundation to support the activity.

**Family and Community Development**

**Families and Health Programming**

- Nutrition Outreach Instructor supported the Wetzel County FARMacy project, which provided prescriptions for fresh fruits and vegetables to limited resource participants in Tyler and Wetzel counties. An average of 21 participants received locally produced fruits and vegetables for 20 weeks during the summer (June to October). Participants could watch food demonstrations highlighting each week’s fresh offerings and taste testing the various recipes.

**Safety Programming**

**ATV Safety**

- Four ATV RiderCourse classes were held this year reaching 14 students. Classes were conducted during the Doddridge and Ritchie County 4-H Camps. All students successfully completed the course. Follow-up surveys indicated a slight increase in helmet use, primarily with younger riders (under age 16).

**Safety Day Camp**

- 110 5th grade students from Sistersville Elementary and Boreman Elementary participated in the Tyler County Safety Day program.
• Safety topics covered included: weather/flood safety, household hazardous materials, lawn equipment, railroad safety, first aid, fire safety and PTO safety.

• Tyler County Farm Bureau and Tyler County Schools were the primary partners for this event.