Monroe 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 all Monroe 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

4-H and Youth Development

Camping

- In 2018, Monroe County 4-H held a successful county residential 4-H camp program with 124 youth campers and 24 adult volunteer counselors and instructors.
- Local affiliates and businesses provided $8,200.00 in scholarship support for Monroe County 4-H campers.
- Campers had the opportunity to participate in 36 learning opportunities through camp classes.
- Sixteen Monroe County 4-H’ers attended 2018 state camping events, including dance camp, shooting sports camp, OMC and Alpha I camp.

4-H School-Based Programs

- 68 youths were trained in financial literacy through the State Treasurer’s Get a Life workshop.

Traditional 4-H Programming and Clubs

- Monroe County offers nine traditional community clubs with 168 youth participants and 45 vetted volunteer club leaders.
- In fall 2018, two clubs were re-established to serve an additional 30 Monroe County youths.

Robotics Program

- The Monroe County robotics club has 30 youth participants and 10 adult volunteers.
  - Monroe County’s FIRST Tech Challenge and FIRST LEGO League teams competed at the world championship in Detroit, Michigan in spring 2018.
  - Both teams also participated in the West Virginia state championship.
The Monroe County FTC team continues to participate in state and regional qualifier events in the eastern United States, bringing notoriety to our West Virginia 4-H robotics program. They continue to be recognized for outstanding work.

Two members of the robotics program will attend the world FTC championship in 2019 as dean’s list ambassadors for West Virginia.

MCubed, Monroe County’s older FTC team, participated in more than 400 hours of local outreach, including participating in the 2018 State Fair of West Virginia youth exhibit in the Underwood Building.

**Shooting Sports Program**

- 28 Monroe County 4-H members participated in regular shooting sports discipline programming after school in 2018.
- 36 4-H members participated in shooting sports programming at 4-H camp.
  - In 2018, a special tribal games division for shooting sports was included during Monroe County 4-H camp.
- 21 4-H members participated in discipline competitions around the state.
  - 13 4-H members competed in air rifle at a regional qualifier event in Monroe County with Greenbrier and Fayette counties.
  - Five members competed in shotgun, with two shooters placing seventh and 10th in the senior division and one shooter placing fifth in the junior division.
  - Four members participated in the first-ever state muzzle loader competition in October 2018, where two junior shooters placed first and second.

**Youth Agriculture Programming**

- In 2018, eight youths participated in the land judging program. The senior Monroe County land judging team won the state contest and will represent West Virginia in Oklahoma in April 2019. The junior Monroe County team also won their division at the state contest.
- 20 youths participated in the 2018 Monroe County Beef Quiz Bowl team. The junior and senior teams won their divisions.
- The junior livestock judging team won their division at the West Virginia Beef Expo. The team placed second at the West Virginia State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest. Six youths were a part of the junior team, three of which participated in livestock evaluation workshops in Virginia.
- 16 youths participated in the Ham, Bacon and Egg Project.
- 28 youths exhibited livestock projects at the State Fair of West Virginia.

**Agriculture and Natural Resources**

- The Calf Pool program marketed 574 head of cattle totaling $36,303.25 in premiums back to the producer.
- Three winter dinner meeting were held in Monroe County with more than 175 producers in attendance covering topics of bull selection, rotational grazing and estate planning.
- Seven cow-calf farms completed the Beef Trans 4 program.
• Three educational agricultural bus tours were hosted with 124 participants.
• Two pesticide educational workshops were held.
• 127 farm visits were made to producers requesting information.
• Three beef cattle artificial insemination classes were taught to 26 participants.

Family and Community Development

• Three workshops for county wide adult education classes covering budgeting, spending plans, living frugally, and the five communication languages used both in personal relationships and in the workplace.
• The four Monroe County Community Education Outreach Service community clubs boasted 52 members in 2018.
  ○ Four members attended regional lesson leader trainings in March.
  ○ Eight attended the area CEOS meeting in May.
  ○ Two attended state CEOS conference in October 2018.
  ○ Four clubs were recognized for a combined 198 years of active service.
  ○ Two members serve on state or area representative positions.
• Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty taught Build a Budget lessons for 51 seventh graders.
• Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty presented at a regional sustainable development forum on the West Virginia tourism economy and opportunities in resource-based tourism. 21 participants were present.
• A tourism strategic planning session was conducted with 20 participants. Feedback from the session and future meetings will be used to influence efforts of FCD position efforts and continued networking of county tourism partners and interested individuals.
• Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty offered Trip Advisor workshop to residents.
• Consultations on short-term rentals was provided to area residents.
• Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty managed Travel Monroe and the Rural Heritage Quilt Trail presence.
• Two group tours were coordinated through the Monroe County WVU Extension Service office. One group comprised of travelers from all over the United States. The second, a group of cattlemen and women from Pennsylvania. There were 69 participants total with local spending in excess of $1750.
• Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty and staff helped highlight local businesses at regional Taste of Our Towns event in Lewisburg, West Virginia. 25 percent of revenue from the event was donated to Carnegie Hall. $728 was returned to two local businesses and the county tourism effort. 500 items were sold from a well-decorated booth. The event attracted approximately 4,000 people.
- Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty participated in Mountain Music Trail Day at the State Fair of West Virginia, which features regional tourism efforts through three music sets during the final Saturday. Approximately 470 individuals listened and learned. $1,200 went to local musicians.
- Regular Travel Monroe newsletters were sent to interested partners of tourism.
- Monroe County WVU Extension Service faculty participated in a radio segment called News and Views, featuring program highlights and special topics, at least once a month to a listening area of more than 50 air miles.