

# Greenbrier 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 Greenbrier 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

- Enhanced the focus and outreach of youth programming to include special interests, such as after-school, STEM and virtual activities. Distributed 3,000 Camp in a Bag activities to 1<sup>st</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade youths during the summer.
- Served nearly 547 youths through virtual camping, in- and after-school programming, livestock and agricultural opportunities, and Energy Express.
- Worked with hog producers in the Midwest who had nowhere to go with their finished hogs due to shutdowns in the processing industry. Through the COVID-19 Market Hog Project, Extension agents marketed 450 butcher-ready hogs to 160 families supplying approximately 88,000 pounds of pork to Greenbrier Valley residents. This helped hog producers and ensured families had meat during an uncertain time.
- Partnered with Monroe County on the Ham, Bacon and Egg Program serving 94 youths, aided in securing approximately \$45,885 through a virtual sale and aided in recruiting 49 buyers.
- Selected to participate in the FARMacy program (one of 10 counties), which supplied 30 diabetic patients with \$16,000 worth of fresh vegetables over a 15-week period. Funded through a Walmart grant with all \$16,000 used to purchase produce from local farmers.

## 4-H/Youth Development

### *Camping*

- 41 campers participated in virtual camping getting the opportunity to experience shooting sports, outdoor recreation, arts, STEM, canoeing, etc.

### *4-H School-based Programs*

- 120 youths enrolled in 4-H after-school and in-school enrichment opportunities related to gardening, leadership, STEM and healthy lifestyle education.

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

- 269 youths enrolled in 4-H county clubs and activities.
- 244 projects were exhibited at the county level 4-H Virtual Exhibit with 48 exhibits showcased in the state level 4-H Virtual Exhibit, one of which earned Best of Show.

- 125 volunteers were recruited from the 4-H Leaders Association, completing 1,244 leaders' hours, 572 parent hours and 1,214 members' hours of community service; \$5,366.01 was raised by leaders, members and parents.

### ***Energy Express***

- Greenbrier County hosted three virtual sites and provided 15 AmeriCorps positions.
- 61 youths in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades participated in the program.
- 3,510 meals were served through weekly pick-up food distribution.
- 336 books were sent home with youths to encourage reading at home.
- Raised \$34,500 of local funding to support Energy Express programming.

## **Agriculture and Natural Resources**

### ***Local Foods***

- Worked with hog producers in the Midwest who had nowhere to go with their finished hogs due to shutdowns in the processing industry. Through the COVID-19 Market Hog Project, Extension agents marketed 450 butcher-ready hogs to 160 families supplying approximately 88,000 pounds of pork to Greenbrier Valley residents. This helped hog producers and ensured families had meat during an uncertain time.
- The Court House Farmers Market supported more than 30 vendors and producers. A drive-thru farmers market was developed to allow vendors to sell during the pandemic. The market averaged 150 vehicles passing through during the four weeks it was open, and it was one of the few markets in the state that operated the full extent of the normal season (April – October).
- Through a variety of videos and educational Facebook posts, nearly 150,000 potential contacts were made with the public. Videos and posts covered a variety of topics on home horticulture, plant pests and diseases, as well as general education about the agriculture industry.

### ***Youth Agriculture Education***

- Promoted the Greenbrier/Monroe 4-H and FFA County Virtual Youth Livestock Show sponsored by the GMYLA serving 113 youths; aided in securing \$110,000 for the Greenbrier/Monroe Virtual Livestock Show.
- Partnered with Monroe County on the Ham, Bacon and Egg program serving 94 youths; aided in recruiting 49 buyers and securing approximately \$45,885 through a virtual sale.

## **Families and Health**

### ***Family Well-being***

- 16 Healthy Grandfamilies Coalition members were trained on the Healthy Grandfamilies curriculum.
- One group started the program; however, due to COVID-19, it was cancelled.
- \$3,450 of federal money through West Virginia State Extension was given to the county Healthy Grandfamilies Coalition for programming efforts.

### ***Healthy Living/Nutrition***

- Edible Greens/Wild Eats lesson was taught virtually two times.
- Co-taught the 4-H Cooking Class at virtual 4-H camp to eight youths.
- Taught four virtual classes for Extension Employee Wellness Activities: Pairing Wine and Food (27); Edible Greens/Wild Eats; Meal Planning (37); Charcuterie Boards (17).

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## Greenbrier County Report 2020

- Served as experts for “WVU Today” Expert Pitches on food safety and giving experiences.
- Published a journal article in “Journal of FCS” on Stress Less with Mindfulness.
- Presented a Stress Less with Mindfulness poster at the West Virginia Rural Health Association conference.
- Published an “Adventures and Aging” Community Educational Outreach Service lesson.

### ***Workforce Development/Early Childhood***

- Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist Instructor
  - Taught spring semester 2 (5 participants), fall semester 3 (5 participants) and fall semester 1 (3 participants) virtually through Zoom.
  - Five different Greenbrier County child care centers are represented in the classes.
  - Developed five lessons for transitioning to online programming.
  - Brought in \$4,500 to fees account for instruction.

### ***Workforce Development/Leadership***

- Community Educational Outreach Service
  - Advised nine local clubs with a total of 97 members.
  - Taught one virtual class at WVCEOS state conference.
  - Held CEOS lesson leader training for three counties (23 CEOS members attended).
  - Facilitated two Purposeful Reading virtual book clubs; eight individuals attended the first one and five attended the second one.
- West Virginia Public Broadcasting TV Series
  - Contributed to the pilot episode “Monarch Butterflies: Butterfly Bites” food demonstration.
  - Contributed to the November episode “Holidays: Gifts in a Jar” food demonstration.
- Languages of Appreciation
  - Taught two sessions to 38 Greenbrier Sporting Club employees.
- Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA)
  - Completed Institutional Review Board training to become an Extension Certified Research Adviser.
  - Assisted with HSTA educational lessons.
  - Co-taught the “My Hometown is Cool” video to be used statewide.

### ***Food Preservation/Food Safety***

- Tested 24 canning dial gauges.
- Mailed and emailed canning information to 44 individuals.