

Doddridge County Annual Report | 2016

Putting Knowledge to Work!

West Virginia University Extension works to provide “solutions in your community” through key program areas including agriculture, environment and natural resources, 4-H youth development, food and nutrition, health and wellness, financial planning and home gardening. These research-based programs and services are available to all residents of Doddridge County thanks to the tremendous support of our community members, local organizations, volunteers and local partners – the Board of Education and County Commission.

Highlights

Extension provided leadership and resources for a county-wide comprehensive planning effort initiated this year. Leading to the formation of the Doddridge County/West Union Planning Commission and ultimately a comprehensive land use plan.

The Doddridge County 4-H Foundation established a \$75,000 endowed account with the WVU Foundation to provide support for 4-H Youth Development activities and program.

Partnering with Doddridge County Schools to improve student performance in STEM disciplines has been a primary focus this year. STEM principles have been taught through food science workshops, livestock quality assurance training, robotics and rocketry.

4-H and Youth Development

In 2015, we celebrated 100 years of 4-H camping!

- 118 youths attended county 4-H camp.
- 4 youths attended the national 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus in Washington, D.C and met with West Virginia’s Congressional and Senatorial Delegations.
- 183 kids were active members of a community 4-H club.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Oil and gas production is having a significant impact on the county. Extension provided education and training on handling financial windfalls and understanding forced pooling through two public meetings.
- 54 soil tests, involving 2,853 acres were performed.
- 28 individual land/mineral owners received assistance from Extension through one-on-one

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consultation.

Community, Economic and Workforce Development

- A study was conducted to assess public opinion of the oil and gas industry and its impact on county residents. Results have been shared with county leaders and will be utilized to plan future educational programs.
- 16 students received ***Safe Land USE*** training preparing them for careers in oil and gas production with 9 of those students currently working in the industry.
- 57 youths successfully completed the ATV Safety Institute Rider Course.

Families and Health

- Nutrition education courses were offered including a Heart Health Luncheon; 24 women were encouraged to try a variety of heart-healthy foods and cooking methods.
- 72 Senior Citizen Home Health Aid providers received training on the Take Charge of Your Health curriculum to share with their homebound clients.
- 21 participants in food safety programs increased their knowledge of using current and research-based processes in food preservation.

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The WVU Board of Governors is the governing body of WVU. The Higher Education Policy Commission in West Virginia is responsible for developing, establishing, and overseeing the implementation of a public policy agenda for