

Raleigh 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 Raleigh County thanks to the tremendous support of our community members, local organizations, volunteers and local partners – the Board of Education and County Commission.

Highlights

Terrill Peck and Team:

- Received 1st Place National Winner award from NEAFCS for Human Development/Family Relationships for work done on True Colors Research Project.
- Received 1st Place Eastern Region Winner award from NEAFCS for Human Development/Family Relationships for work done on True Colors Research Project.

Rhonda Coleman:

- Presented at National Bullying Conference in Florida.
- iRespect Cyber-Bullying in Charleston at the Legislatures.
- Presented WVAE4-HA & WVAFCS Spring Conference.
- Assisted with development of iRespect (cyber bullying) curriculum to be used state-wide.

4-H and Youth Development

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

Energy Express:

Energy Express meets the needs of 126 youth who struggles with reading by giving them a foundation to attend an excellent program that is well prepared and structured. Raleigh County gained an extra site this year so the Energy Express program was conducted in four Raleigh County Elementary schools.

Resident and Day Camp:

We offered an Older Camp, Younger Camp and a Horse Camp. 130 youth attended these camps. We believe summer camp is one of the most valuable learning experiences a child can have! Young people need strong relationships and emotional skills to meet today’s challenges. Through camping, young

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people learn independence, responsibility, how to get along with others, and how to make the right decision.

- 92 youth participated in Health Rock program.
- 3 youth attended OMC and 25 youth attended Alpha II.

Day Camp:

The summer Day Camp provided quality summer activities for youth ages 5-12 years of age. It is an open site to feed youth that don't get fed during the summer. We offered a structured and positive summer program for five hours a day for four weeks. We averaged 121 youth during these four weeks.

Cyber-Bullying Program:

The program iRespect helps to provide parents, educators, and youth with a reality check that cyber-bullying and bullying does exist. The curriculum for this program provided colleagues with skills, knowledge, and strategies to prevent or respond to bullying. 955 youth and adults participated in this program.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

As Raleigh County producers compete in local food markets, more of the food dollar stays in the county helping the local economy as well as the agricultural producers. In addition, buying local, fresh produce has benefits related to healthy eating and nutrition while at the same time promoting Sustainable Agriculture.

Outputs:

400 soil tests were taken and interpreted as a management tool in order to increase yields on over 20,000 acres of Raleigh County.

Over 300 pesticide recommendations were made as a means to increase yields of agriculture products while at the same time educating the producers and public on the proper use of pesticides. Ten producers obtained their Private Applicator License in 2015, bringing the number to 55 in Raleigh County. Four pesticide education classes were conducted to an average of 9 producers.

Community, Economic and Workforce Development

Robbie Massey taught three ATV Safety classes at Raleigh County high schools in 2015 to 186 students. These classes save lives by improving rider skills and decreasing ATV accidents. Since 2007, Robbie has taught 61 ATV safety classes to 5,139 students at mostly Raleigh County K-12 audiences.

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Robbie Massey taught four Labor Education classes to 82 students in Raleigh County in 2015. These classes improve labor management relations and help labor advocates better determine meritorious grievances.

Robbie Massey taught five Career Connections classes to 697 participants, in 2015. These classes promote West Virginia University and help recruit students to WVU. But more importantly, these classes help participants learn how to prepare and get ready to make the transition from high school to college.

Families and Health

Dining With Diabetes: 14 participants. 100% changed their eating habits and adopted a healthier lifestyle

Healthy Eating Healthy Choices: 52 participants. 30 of the 52 completed an evaluation. 85% indicated that they did learn something new about nutrition and that they would apply that knowledge in preparing meals.

True Colors (Team Building): 394 participants 93% of the participants indicated that they would use the information that they learned within the next 6 months. 88% indicated that they felt confident that they could change their career, relationship and or interpersonal skills based on what they learned.

Smart Money: 158 participants participated in a program offered through the state auditor's office to explain the changes in the pay check system. 75% indicated that they felt that they learned something that they would use within the next 6 months.

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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