Wayne County

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Message from the District Coordinator

With new tools like iPhones, iPods, BlackBerrys, tablets and GPS devices, we can store, find and share information in ways never before seen in history. Michigan State University Extension is joining this technology revolution to bring resources and information closer to you.

During 2012, MSUE revamped its web presence at www.msue.msu.edu to provide quick and easy access to current, relevant, useful information. The search tool lets you find expert information by subject or location, information that is updated on a daily basis by our educators and experts.

To find MSUE staff with specific expertise in your county, search by Wayne County, the area of interest, or name at http://expert.msue.msu.edu. Or you can utilize the online people and expertise search at http://people.msue.msu.edu. If you are need specific expertise can utilize Extension’s national system of experts by choosing the “eXtension Ask an Expert” link (https://ask.extension.org/ask) and your question is shared with Cooperative Extension and university faculty across the United States.

The MSUE web site also contains a robust set of current events and programs that are being offered in Wayne County, and Michigan. MSUE bulletins, soil tests and other materials are available on the web site or by visiting the MSUE Bookstore at http://bookstore.msue.msu.edu/

I encourage you to visit the new “21st Century” MSUE, see how accessible it is to find what you’re looking for. All this cannot and never will, replace our staff, but certainly will help make the work of our exceptional educators even more accessible to you and to Wayne County.

Sincerely,

Marie A. Ruemenapp
District 11 Coordinator

2012 Participation Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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Mission

Michigan State University helps people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

Contact Us

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Wayne County 4-H Youth Program

The 4-H Youth Development Program in Wayne County provides hands-on learning opportunities for youth ages 5-19. It provides fun, learning opportunities through 4-H clubs, after-school programs, school enrichment programs, and local, state, and national events. It is designed to uniquely prepare Wayne County’s youth to step up to the challenge of a complex changing world. It provides developmentally appropriate opportunities for participants ages 5-19 to experience life skills, practice them until they are learned and be able to apply them as necessary throughout a lifetime. Programs provide hands-on learning opportunities in communities across the county through 4-H clubs, after-school programs, school enrichment programs and local, state and national events.

In 2012, 17,624 youth were involved in one or more 4-H club or activity with the assistance of 1,728 trained adult volunteers. Using figures calculated by the Independent Sector, the value of a volunteer’s time is $21.79 per hour. Independent Sector research also shows that volunteers working with youth, like 4-H volunteers, spend a minimum of five hours a week assisting youth.

These volunteers spend quality time engaged in a wide variety of educational activities with the youth involved in the Wayne County 4-H Youth Development Program. In the 2012 calendar year, more than 190 youth participated in out-of-school time 4-H clubs. Annually about 3,000 youth participate in educational programming at the 4-H Center, on the east side of Detroit. Youth participate in projects such as gardening, robotics, videography, citizenship, and animal sciences teaching youth life skills, science literacy, workforce preparation, leadership and civic engagement. Through these projects, youth participants connect with their community through service, and gain a sense of belonging to the club and their county and state program.
4-H Community Center

During 2012, the 4-H Community Center focused on community development, leadership, and creativity. From January through March, participants developed an indoor grow center where seeds grew and were later transplanted in home and school gardens. The youth worked with Blackwell Institute and Golightly Education Center to develop gardens on the school sites. The result, a six-week school training titled “I’m in the DPS Garden with the 4-H,” ran incorporated algebra, science, and writing with working in the garden. The program so successful it obtained partnerships with the DPS Schools and the Detroit Foundation.

As a united force these young people beautified three blocks surrounding the 4-H Center. The projects included a quarter block of planted flowers, murals on abandoned houses, and repairs made to existing flower beds. As the summer came to an end, many bundles of vegetables from the 4-H gardens were harvested and donated in the community, sold at the Eastern Market or eaten during their “Cook what You Grow” on Thursdays. The youth made enough money to sponsor their field trip to C.J. Barrymore’s and a large scale picnic party inviting the whole community.

Closing their summer vacation, the 4-H Garden crew created healthy snacks for their schools using the crops in their raised garden bed. They were able to make 500 kale smoothies and served kale chip snacks to the total population of their schools.

Mentoring Program

The Wayne County 4-H Mentoring program has impacted the lives of more than 300 adults and youth of Wayne County. In 2012, this program provided one-on-one mentoring to 50 high-risk youth.

“My match with my mentor taught me two things. One is that anyone can teach a child but everyone cannot guide one. Also, that everyone has to try something new in life”
— Female high school student
In June of 2012 eight graduating seniors were celebrated. Three of the eight received full scholarships to Big Ten Universities, two were accepted to other four year universities, and the remaining three are attending community college or working.

Matches participated in educational and recreational activities such as workshops, museum tours, sporting outings, and camping trips. Youth participants completed a survey and said after being in the program they have higher expectations of themselves, improved grades, improved attitude, and are better able to resist using alcohol and other drugs.

4-H and Science

There are 21 mentor pairs in the 4-H Tech Wizards program held at the 4-H Center in Detroit. Through this program youth are matched with adults who share their knowledge in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Youth in the program have the opportunity to do projects in the area of media production, robotics, iPad application development, environmental science, and much more. The participants were expected to complete at least 20 hours of service to improve their community, which has a value of about $15,000 to the community. Through these science literacy programs, 98% of participants indicated an increase in science knowledge, problem-solving, critical thinking, and decision making skills.

The stem focus in 4-H has been carried over to community based 4-H clubs as well. In the last year a new robotics club called Motor City 4-H Robotics Club was created.

In addition, five Wayne County 4-H adults and six 4-H members attended the Vet Science workshop at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI. They brought their knowledge back to the county and shared with others. This workshop covered hands-on demonstrations for members to recognize healthy, sick, or injured animals. Along with that the youth met other members who created outstanding vet science projects, which helped the members gain ideas to start their own projects. After attending this event and other similar events 91% of the 4-H volunteers indicated they had an increased confidence in their ability to engage youth in science based learning programs.
Helping the Community

Many 4-H Clubs participate in community service projects such as making valentine cards for seniors, helping plant flowers at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, or educating others on animal care at community festivals. One example is the 4-H Critter Club, who participated in Salvation Army Bell-Ringing event in December in Westland. The group had good attendance, sang carols, and thanked donors very graciously. For the four hour time slot, $112.84 was made for the Salvation Army.

4-H Exploration Days

Thirty-three Wayne County youth and five adults attended MSU 4-H Exploration Days, a three day pre-college event held on the campus of MSU annually where youth stay in the residence halls, attend educational sessions, and experience personal growth as they explore career and personal options for their future. The group was diverse in many areas and got along great! These programs help promote college awareness and develop skills necessary to succeed in college.

Youth in Governance

2012 was the second year of the New York Life Youth in Governance grant project. This grant supports developing citizenship based clubs in urban and underserved communities. Four clubs were established and running successfully in Detroit during 2012: the 4-H Integrated Intellectuals at Detroit International Academy for Young Girls, Detroit; YouthVille in Detroit; Osborn MST; and Teen Hype. These clubs are active in service projects, as well. For instance, the 4-H Integrated Intellectuals 4-H Club participated in the Black Girls Rock Program, St. Jude’s radio-thon, and the anti-bullying walk.
From the New York Life Youth in Governance grant, 15 youth and 4 adults attended Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) Youth Conference at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD. 4-H CWF teaches youth about the federal government, engages them in mock civic activities and gives them the opportunity to see the many historic landmarks in our nation’s capital.

Each delegation was charged with developing an action plan to align with the Revolution of Responsibility campaign. The Michigan delegation agreed that one of the key issues impacting the City of the Detroit is blight, including trash on the streets and abandon houses. The youth created a plan including changes they can make to improve the situation. This plan will be further developed further and youth will act on their plan. The group also had the opportunity to meet with the Michigan Senator Carl Levin and Representative Hansen Clarke. The delegation met with representatives from Senator Debbie Stabenow’s office in her absence. During these meetings, the group decided to ask their legislators for support on their action plan. Speaking on behalf of all, one youth explained the action plan and asked for letters of support.

Representative Hansen Clarke took time to listen to the youth regarding how they would like to make Detroit a better and safer place to live.
Natural Resource & Outdoor Education for Youth

The Wayne County–MSU Extension Natural Resources and Environmental Education Programs provided 8,347 youth and 1,394 adults with fishing, archery, camping, nature study and vessel based education during 2012. These programs are designed to reconnect Michigan citizens, especially those living in urban communities, with the land, to increase their knowledge and to provide experiences and appreciation for Michigan’s natural resources.

Outdoor Skills Clinics

In collaboration with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, MSU Extension offers Outdoor Skills Clinics designed to introduce youth and adults living in Michigan’s urban and suburban areas to multiple outdoor experiences that allow them to explore nature. The clinics are presented at a variety of Michigan State Parks. Urban and non-traditional state park users, people who have not traditionally used state parks or purchased hunting or fishing licenses, are engage in fishing camping, archery, compass reading and nature exploration to develop responsibility, decision making, team work and respect for the natural resources.

Archery

MSU Extension utilized the National Archery and the after-school National 4-H archery programs to provide 1,210 Wayne County youth training and practice in this sport in 2012. Archery does not require great strength or large expenditures in order to participate, making it an excellent family recreation activity. Through archery, participants are taught the basic rules of safety, proper equipment selection and care and beginning shooting techniques as well as concentration, discipline, respect and responsibility.
Angler Education

Family communication and increased quality family-time is one of the outcomes of the angler education MSU Extension provides. Interested adults and youth share experiences that provide training and encourage natural resources, environmental awareness and fisheries stewardship. Experiences take place in classrooms and in various outdoor settings.

Green Schools Teachers’ Training

The Michigan Green Schools Initiative is a statewide program started in 2006 that encourages teachers in K-12 public and private schools to participate in environmentally friendly activities with their students and compete for points earned improving their environmental practices by using fewer natural resources, providing educational outreach and presentations thereby saving scarce school operating funds.

In 2012, MSU Extension educators in District 11 provided training and resources to more than 250 teachers and parent volunteers including 44 teachers from Wayne County, on the topics of water, community food systems, energy and school gardening. Teachers received hands on activities, curriculum and resources that could be taught in their classrooms. Activities that earn points include coordinating a school-wide recycling program or waste-free lunch program, implementing a school-wide energy saving program, participating in activities that promote the health of the Great Lakes watershed such as a local watershed festival or Earth Day event and create a pollinator or vegetable garden and tasting local foods.

Southeast Michigan teachers left the workshops knowing more about resources and curriculum tied to Green Schools activities and how to earn points for their school. To learn how a school can become a green school visit the Michigan Green Schools website.
Great Lakes Literacy: Understanding the influence of the Great Lakes

Many residents of Michigan are unaware of the value and effects of the Great Lakes. Since 20% of the world’s fresh water is contained in the Great Lakes; approximately 95% of North America’s surface fresh water is in them.; approximately 40 million people are dependent on the water from those lakes, knowing about those lakes is more than important. How the lakes were formed, how the ecological systems are unique, how to preserve those systems, how the lakes affect our economy – these are all important features to understand.

To raise awareness and increase the understanding of this valuable natural resource MSU Extension and Michigan Sea Grant focus much of its programming in southeast Michigan on Great Lakes literacy. To this end, MSU Extension and Michigan Sea Grant educators with assistance from COSEE, NOAA, developed and provide the following programs in District 11:

- Great Lakes Education Program (GLEP), a classroom and vessel-based education program for middle school students
- Summer Discovery Cruises, a vessel-based educational program for the general public
- Michigan Clean Marina Program
- Sea Grant Michigan resident education


Great Lakes Education Program

While the Great Lakes are a key economic factor to all the Great Lakes states, there is little information regarding them in Michigan’s K-12 curriculum. MSU Extension and Michigan Sea Grant, with assistance from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Centers for Ocean Science Education Excellence (COSEE) designed an educational program called the Great Lakes Education Program (GLEP) to meet this need.

Taking a bottom sample looking for vegetation growth & life growth of underwater creatures
Classroom and vessel-based field experiences introduce fourth-grade students to the Great Lakes and Detroit River resources. The first phase of the program begins in the classroom with teachers utilizing the GLEP curriculum. The program includes segments that integrate history, geography, physical and biological sciences, math, literature and the arts to increase student interest in natural resources and encourage understanding of their role as environmental stewards, which includes activities that focus on water, land, people and life. These activities are designed to familiarize students with the Great Lakes and the ecosystems.

The second phase of the program is a field experience aboard a fifty foot Coast Guard certified ship which is converted into a floating classroom known as the “Schoolship”. Onboard, students are engaged in exploration of the physical, chemical, cultural and biological dimensions of the Great Lakes watersheds, specifically the Detroit River and Lake Erie. They experience hands-on activities such as weather observation, navigation, marlinespike and marine knot-tying, bottom sampling, plankton sampling, dissolved oxygen experiments, pH and carbon dioxide experiments, water clarity and color testing.

The third, or post cruise, phase of the program is presented by their teachers in their classroom using GLEP post cruise activities to reinforce the concepts they have experienced.

**Summer Discover Cruise**

Michigan Sea Grant Extension has offered Michigan residents the opportunity to "learn about the Great Lakes by being on the Great Lakes" since 2001, through the Summer Discovery Cruise program. This past summer, 34 cruises involved 986 people, 317 from Wayne County, in learning more about Lake St. Clair, with participants coming from 13 Michigan counties and 15 other states.

Conducted in partnership with Lake St. Clair Metropark and Lake Erie Metropark marinas, hundreds of self-motivated learners take part in a variety of educational cruises that provide physical and informational access to Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River delta. Thirteen types of cruises were offered in 2012: Nature; Lake St. Clair History; Great Lakes Science for Teachers; Lighthouses; Shipping Out; Journey Through the Straits, Aliens Among Us, Night Watch, and Handy Billy. Partnering with other environmentally concerned groups provided Sea Grant educators the opportunity to offer Wetlands & Wildlife, with MDNR; Fisheries, with MDNR; Shipwrecks! with DTE Energy; and, Wind, Waves & Weather with the National Weather Service.
Michigan Clean Marina Program

The Michigan Clean Marina Program is a cooperative effort between Michigan Boating Industries Association, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and Michigan Sea Grant. The program seeks to protect the Great Lakes and Michigan’s waterways through education and adoption of practices at marinas that reduce or minimize impacts on water quality and aquatic and coastal habitats. Michigan Sea Grant Extension has programmatic responsibility across the entire state, but is primarily housed in District 11. In 2012, there were 3 marinas certified as a Michigan Clean Marina in Wayne County, and over 15 additional marinas were visited to discuss the Program. William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor (Detroit) has been certified as a Michigan Clean Marina since 2009, and completed the three-year recertification requirements to remain a Michigan Clean Marina.

Sea Grant Education Programs

Michigan Sea Grant is a program of MSU Extension and the University of Michigan that fosters economic growth and protection of Michigan’s coastal Great Lakes resources with support from NOAA. Throughout 2012 Michigan Sea Grant facilitated or assisted with numerous projects in Wayne County including:

Aquatic Invasive Species Education – Sea Grant programs for aquatic invasive species (AIS) centered on education and outreach programs at various locations throughout the county. In 2012, Sea Grant specialists educated nearly 2,500 participants at several Wayne County events. Participants learned about AIS threats to biodiversity and what they can do to help stop the spread of these invaders.
Eating Safe Fish – In 2011 Sea Grant helped with the formation of a Detroit River Citizens Fishery Advisory Council to continue to help shape future fish communication strategies. In 2012, the Council worked to develop a long term strategy for communicating fish consumption information to fishing persons, including funding options, development of a River Walkers Program, and suggestions for additional education and outreach materials. Sea Grant also helped plan the second annual River Days Kids Fishing Fest at Milliken State Park. The free event with over 450 participants, allowed greater Detroit families, parents, grandparents and children the opportunity to enjoy fishing along the Detroit riverfront while building community, creating family memories, enjoying the great outdoors, and learning about water stewardship and sustainability.

Promoting Healthy Sustainable Communities – Sea Grant staff worked with the cities of Trenton and River Rouge to bring MDOT Non-Motorized Training Workshops to the communities. The River Rouge workshop focusing on community bikability featured National Trail experts John LaPlante, PE, PTOE, Vice President, Chief Transportation Planning Engineer of TY LIN International and Tim Gustafson, AICP, TY LIN International. The experts guided 24 participants on a bike tour of River Rouge to identify community assets and potential bike routes.

The Trenton workshop focusing on community walkability featured Dan Burden, internationally recognized authority on bicycle and pedestrian facilities and programs and founder of Walkable and Livable Communities Institute. Dan led 21 participants on a walking tour of Trenton to look at situations that potentially increase and impede walking conditions in the community.
Experts at both workshops shared the economic impacts of creating a network of trails and walkable communities throughout the region. A summary of the workshops was presented at the Downriver Summit in November 2012 that was attended by over 150 community leaders. As a result of the workshops and Summit, the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber, Downriver Linked Greenways and mayors from several Downriver communities will be working to develop and implement placemaking, branding and marketing initiatives in the region.

New Publications: In 2012 Michigan Sea Grant released several new publications as follows available at [http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/publications/bookstore](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/publications/bookstore)

**Divers & Dabblers Poster** - Figuring out the identity of any animal can be an engaging challenge. One clue on its own won’t likely provide all of the evidence you need. Yet, adding up observations creates a mosaic of information that can reveal what species you’ve spotted. This poster helps you find clues on identifying the duck as a dabbler or diver.

**Life of the Lakes** - From the earliest days, people have been drawn to the beauty, resources and way of life found in the Great Lakes. This book explores the part that the fishery has played in the life of the Great Lakes, examining the management, ecology, history, present and future of the lakes from a regional perspective.

The book is written for anglers, educators, natural resource managers, and anyone interested in Great Lakes issues. Now in its third edition, *The Life of the Lakes* continues to provide up-to-date information, focusing on the people, the resources and the fish that all play a part in the story.

**Great Lakes Basin Map** - includes a depth profile of the lakes and major rivers within the system, shows the direction and volume of flow through each of the lakes, and represents the journey of water from Lake Superior out to the Atlantic Ocean. It was designed to be attractive as well as educational and is easy to use – which makes it great for the classroom or as a framed homage to the amazing Great Lakes.
The residents of Wayne County were provided with trainings, workshops and seminars to assist them with personal finance management. Residents also have access to the Mi Money Health website, which contains financial literacy information and resources.

MSU Extension’s Financial, Housing, and Energy work team provided financial literacy training to 306 county youth and adult residents in Wayne County during 2012. Series of six to eight training sessions were provided to families on financial issues including budgeting, savings, credit, insurance, and identity theft which focused on behavior change. Certificates were given to participants who completed the interactive trainings.

A National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) High School Financial Planning Program training was held in Detroit and Clinton Township with attendance from many Wayne County educators and community volunteers. More than 30 adults were trained in how to use this curriculum with youth.

In the NEFE programming for youth, participants learned how to develop financial goals, the importance of saving and staying focused on spending and saving by creating and using a spending plan (budget). Research-based evaluations developed by the NEFE were administered at the beginning of the first session and at the end of the last session. Evidence of the positive after training effects on participants was demonstrated with the results from the evaluations:

92% of the participants were utilizing spending plans after the trainings

88% of the participants were paying bills on time

86% of the participants were keeping track of savings and spending after the trainings
In addition, the senior class of the Detroit Christian School of Excellence (DCSE) participated in an eight week Life Skills workshop. This venture was the result of collaboration between three MSU Extension Institutes (Greening of Michigan, Children and Youth, and Health and Nutrition) which focused on nutrition, financial literacy and career preparation.

**Foreclosure Prevention**

Mortgage foreclosure prevention counseling was resumed in Wayne County during November when MSU Extension hired two counselors the county had been forced to lay off due to budget reductions. Because they are supported by Michigan’s Mortgage Foreclosure Settlement funding allocated to MSU Extension, Wayne County residents are now able to receive foreclosure prevention and home retention issues with no cost to the county. Residents can attend seminars or make appointments for individual counseling sessions. About 60 families have taken advantage of these services.

Specifically, MSU Extension educators and counselors assist clients to resolve mortgage delinquency through MSHDA certified and HUD-approved counseling. Of client cases involving mortgage delinquency statewide, 55% were able to keep their current homes and get back on track with their mortgages and 4% were able to sell their home to avoid foreclosure.

**Community Development and Prosperity**

During 2012, MSU Extension educators provided more than 500 contacts involving on-going facilitation efforts as well as single and multi-day trainings and workshops.

One key program involved fiscal sustainability training for the City of Inkster’s City Council members. The training was a four part series that focused on topics ranging from the former emergency manager law to best practices in budgeting. Evaluations for the program showed that a majority of the participants increased their knowledge of the presented material.

Another project involving MSU Extension staff is a community Visioning Plan for the St. Martha’s Planning Team in Detroit was developed with the assistance of a MSU Practicum class working with the project planning team. The plan is being used to attract investment to the project area located near the intersection of Joy and Greenfield Roads. If successful, part of this project will create more the 25 jobs and bring more than 3 million dollars of investment for the area.
School and Community Gardens

MSU Extension staff partnered with United Way of Southeast Michigan to facilitate the Garden Resource Mini Grant program. Twenty-five schools and organizations in Wayne County, and 70 in total from Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties, received grants from $100-500 to establish and support their garden programs to provide garden and nutrition education leading to food access in communities and neighborhoods across southeast Michigan.

The gardens participating range from small non-profit organizations and elementary schools to community gardens and church gardens and most were very productive in their harvest. 70 gardens produced 16,952 pounds in schools, community and church gardens.

Forgotten Harvest planted their first year of “gardening/farming” on a large scale to produce food for their food pantry sites and grew 416,257 pounds.

A total of 433,209 pounds of produce was grown and donated to food pantries, church pantries, schools, neighborhoods and residents to get healthy food to families. Over 200 youth and adults worked in the gardens.
Community Food Systems staff collaborated with the Georgia Street Community Collective and Master Gardener volunteers to deliver garden based hands-on science and food systems education to 122 youth at A. L. Holmes K-8 Detroit Public School. The weekly activities sparked the students’ interest in science according to Mr. Meriweather, science teacher at A. L. Holmes. “A student who had not been interested in science got very excited about worms after finding some in the garden during the Garden Education program. He went home and did research on his own about worms on the internet, and brought his findings back to school to show me.” Mr. Meriweather also said that some of his students started their own gardens to learn about food systems at home. “My one student said he grew his own carrots with the seeds and training he received in the Garden Education program over the summer and ate all of them, even though they were small.”

Detroit Eastern Market Kiosk Outreach

A new outreach effort was piloted during the summer of 2012 by staffing the MSU Extension Kiosk, an information booth at Detroit Eastern Market, as part of the Michigan Fresh Initiative to encourage people to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables. MSU Extension’s Community Food Systems and Nutrition staff joined Master Gardener volunteers from District 11 to staff the kiosk every Tuesday and Saturday during produce’s peak season, 36 days in total. Information on growing a garden, season extension, use of local produce, storage and preservation of produce, and general nutrition information was provided to promote year round good eating.

The Detroit Eastern Market is a prime location for the project with hundreds of vendors selling every kind of food and plants. The kiosk received an estimated 10,000 visitors from July through October. The Eastern Market Corporation has supported this outreach education effort by providing free canning and preserving information and samples for distribution at the kiosk. Consumers at the kiosk are encouraged to take fresh food fact sheets and bookmarks directing them to the Michigan Fresh website where more information and fact sheets can be found.

The Detroit Eastern Market is open year round on Saturdays, and on Tuesdays from July through the end of October, with the kiosk opening for the 2013 season in May.
Urban Horticulture

Urban horticulture involves educating citizens in gardening and garden related issues. With trends moving toward community gardens and backyard gardening, there is a growing need for educational assistance in these areas. MSU Extension horticulture programs are helping residents make environmentally friendly choices to reduce pesticide use and to make nutrient appropriate choices for fertilizer to protect water quality. It promotes gardening as a means of living a healthier lifestyle in terms of exercise and diet. For residents with limited space, staff help educate residents on alternatives to traditional gardening such as container gardens and intensive gardening in small spaces. Diagnostic services assist in identifying insects and plant problems for homeowners and provide information on invasive plants and pests and their management. As churches, communities and schools develop community gardens, staff members provide educational training and information on the establishment and maintenance of community gardens.

The MSU Extension consumer horticulture staff developed several tools aimed at providing answer to consumer and home owner questions whenever needed, 24/7.

- The toll free Lawn and Garden Hotline connects consumers throughout the state. Over 3,200 Michigan gardeners including 220 people from Wayne County utilized this free service in 2012, by calling 1-888-MSUE-4MI (1-888-678-3464) for answers to gardening, lawn, landscape and pest questions.

- Residents looking for information or answers to gardening, lawn, landscape or pest questions may also visit www.migarden.msu.edu and use the “Ask an Expert” feature to submit their questions to Extension horticulture experts in Michigan, and across the United States. Responses are generally sent within 48 hours.

- Horticulture staff developed an easy to use Soil Test Kit self mailer, available from the MSU Extension Bookstore (www.bookstore.msue.msu.edu). The mailer can be used to test the nutrients of home soils for lawns vegetable gardens, trees, shrubs, flowers and small fruits. Based on the results, a custom fertilization program is developed for each sample. Kits cost $25.

- A series of four Home Garden to Market Garden programs targeted at small scale growers looking to upgrade to a market or truck garden were held with several Wayne County participants attending.

- Backyard Fruit Workshops were given at three locations in District 11, including one in Wayne County. Participants received information on the care and maintenance of smaller fruit trees suited for urban areas.

- Hal Hudson and Frank Gublo worked with the C.R. Drew School on a farm school project to grow produce which was sold at Eastern Market.
Master Gardener Program

Master Gardener achievements in 2012 were significant. The 295 Wayne County Master Gardener Volunteers donated a total of 21,050 hours of volunteer service to local communities. Using figures calculated by the Independent Sector, a Washington based coalition of foundations, corporations and nonprofit organizations, the value of a volunteer's time is $21.79 per hour. In 2012, the value of Wayne County Master Gardeners volunteer time donated to communities was worth $458,679. They reached over 60,000 people through their educational efforts. They assisted with such projects as:

- Developing and working with community and school gardens programs.
- Staffing and distributing information at the MSU Extension Eastern Market Kiosk. The kiosk was set up at the market 36 days, 17 Saturdays and 19 Tuesdays. The estimated number of people who stopped by kiosk, calculated by counting people on selective markets days, was conservatively 10,000 people.
- Maintaining the Wayne County Master Gardener Volunteer web site.
- Operating the greenhouse at the Western Wayne MSU Extension office for plants sold at the annual sales.
- Developing and delivering presentations for at senior homes.
- Working with First Step, a program for abused women.
- Assisting the Southeast Michigan butterfly Association with promoting butterfly gardens and tagging.
- Maintaining the DTE gardens.
- Providing educational programs in Wayne County elementary schools. Many of these are in the form of round robin stations.
- Developing and presenting in-service programs. Wayne County Master Gardener Volunteers completed a total of 4,284 hours of additional education in the consumer horticulture field to best serve the local communities with up-to-date, research based information.
- The Wayne County Master Gardener Coordinator worked with the MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture team to update the basic Master Gardener curriculum and offered one class using the new curriculum for 45 Wayne County residents.
Michigan’s food and agriculture system contributes $91.4 billion annually to the state’s economy. Farming and farm-raised commodities make up 2 percent of that total, or $13 billion. This begins with less than 2 percent of the population on family farms creating a ripple effect impacting the entire state, nation and international exports of close to 200 raw and processed food and non-food products. MSU Extension is unique in that it pulls together science-based faculty and staff members to provide unbiased information to Michigan residents. MSU Extension is a distinctive resource helping farmers and agricultural businesses learn to effectively manage production, financial and environmental systems for success from the individual farm to the state’s natural resource base to the consumer’s dinner plate. All of which comes together to ensure that food and agriculture continue to keep the economy viable.

The overarching goals of MSU Extension agriculture and agribusiness programs are to:

- Increase productivity and financial solvency of Michigan farms and agricultural enterprises. Agricultural revenue translates into more dollars spent in local communities, thereby increasing the tax base.
- Increased productivity encompasses not only the amount of food produced in Michigan but also high quality, safe and affordable food for Michigan residents and for global exports. Non-food crops supply high-quality and high-value products both in and out of state.
- Protect natural resources through educational programming that targets more efficient use of energy, water, fertilizers, pesticides and nutrients and increased use of managed energy sources thereby ensuring clean, abundant water, soil, air and energy resources for future generation.

Agriculture in Wayne County

Agriculture is the second largest industry in Michigan, and an industry that utilizes MSU Extension’s research and assistance to commercial agriculture and horticulture ventures as well as individual consumers across the state. A few examples of expertise provided to Wayne County agricultural producers and agribusinesses:

- Spotted Wing Drosophila is a pest threat to blueberries, raspberries and strawberries grown across the state, including acreage in Wayne County. It is critical that growers monitor, identify and manage this pest both for production and quality/consumer
acceptance. MSU Extension educational programs on this specific issue reached a total of 87 growers, several in Wayne County, who were surveyed. A total of 59 growers followed the MSUE recommendations and 28 did not. The total acreage surveyed was 5,870 acres, and out of those 3,185 were protected by following our recommendation and 2,690 were lost to the SWD damage.

- MSU Extension educators work with farmers throughout Michigan to help maximize the production of fuel producing crops, including switchgrass and miscanthus. Research on effective production methods for fuel producing crops is being conducted in fields at Detroit Metro airport.
- Soil analysis work was completed for three commercial vegetable growers in 2012.
- Integrated Crop and Pest Management Update reached 325 participants, both farmers and consultants reaching many more farmers, including a number in Wayne County. MSU updated production information ranges from insects, diseases, weeds and nutrients and reflects the top issues of drought, rising inputs costs and rapidly evolving technologies.
- The dairy industry in Michigan accounts for about one-fourth of the total gross sales in Michigan’s agriculture. According to “Milk Production, Dispersion and Income 2012 Summary (April 2013), USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, in 2012, Michigan ranked eighth in the nation for total milk production, 8,889 million pounds. Michigan producers in Wayne County and southeast Michigan are able to research based information from MSU Extension Educator Craig Thomas.
- The 2012 Nutrition Basics for Dairy Farmers resulted in an average annual savings of $83,000 per farm based on their intentions to do one or several of the following: decrease expenses, improve milk yields, improve milk fat and/or protein percentage; all of which increase farm profits assisting the last few remaining dairy farms in Wayne County to remain profitable.

**MSU Product Center supports food & agribusinesses**

Creation of new businesses, especially in the food and agriculture sector, has become important to the economic development and viability of Michigan. Local MSU Extension staff and campus-based staff of the MSU Product Center Food-Ag-Bio assist Wayne County residents in developing products and businesses in the areas of food, agriculture, natural resources and the bioeconomy.

The local MSU Extension educator has special training as an innovation counselor to deliver these services. Business counseling is conducted on a one-on-one basis and may take place at the MSU Extension office or the client’s home or business location. The assistance provided is tailored to meet the needs of the client and may include things like developing a business plan, navigating the regulatory maze, accessing the supply chain or seeking funding options.
In 2012, there were 105 Wayne County residents who were clients of the Product Center receiving education and support in developing their businesses. In the past year, 605 counseling sessions were conducted with entrepreneurs from Wayne County. Businesses in food production were the center much of the job creation activity this past year. Eleven jobs were created and nine were retained in Wayne County. The new jobs came from expansion of product lines in existing businesses as well as increased marketing and outreach efforts. Fourteen Wayne County food businesses participated in the Product Center’s “Making It in Michigan Marketplace” Trade Show in November. They promoted their products and had access to buyers from retail establishments across the state to assist in increased sales and business in 2013.

One such example is the work that a MSU Extension educator and the Product Center has provided to assist Will Branch of Corridor Sausage since 2009. In 2012, Will moved the production facility from Livingston County to Detroit. During the transition process, MSU Extension educators assisted and coached him through the completion his HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) food safety plan.

Statewide, MSU Extension educators assisted 193 venture start-ups based on a commencement of a business and continuing planning of a new business or an expansion of an existing business. During 2012, increased annual sales for the cumulative first year sales only totaled over $12,000,000 and the value of increased investment was over $6,000,000.

Food Safety

Through MSU Extension programs, community food handlers are taught the food safety and preservation. MSU Extension uses the ServSafe™ and Cooking for Crowds curricula to educate the public on how to safely cook for large groups. Cooking for Crowds is a program for non-profit groups that prepare food for public events, such as fundraisers. The average participant served up to 300 individuals in the three months after their training.

Through the food preservation workshops the participants are taught information about the temperatures for storing foods, cooling hot foods, storing temperatures, freezing and dehydrating food, as well as canning under USDA guidelines for safe food preservation. During 2012, there were 46 food preservation events held reaching 681 people statewide. In Wayne County, 29 people attended the events.
Nutrition and Physical Activity Education

These programs work to recognize the needs of the Wayne County residents and to provide nutrition materials to improve their diets and lives to show them how implementing a healthy diet can reduce their risk of major chronic diseases. In 2012 MSU Extension has provided 3,254 adults and 3,343 youth with educational programming about nutrition, including how to prepare healthy meals at relatively low costs.

Cooking Matters™ works with families to teach them how to prepare healthy meals on a limited budget. Program participants are shown how to purchase and prepare healthy foods. During each class, they have a hands-on demonstration of how to prepare a meal and then are given the opportunity to plan and prepare meals themselves. After the session adult and teen participants are given groceries to take home and practice what they have learned. The six-week long classes are generally held at Head Start centers, schools, churches, pantries, low-income housing facilities, shelters, clinics, after school/summer programs, senior centers, and senior housing facilities. The class sizes range from 10 to 15 participants. The curriculum has target audiences of children, teens, adults and families.

Project FRESH is a nutrition education program, in partnership with the Women, Infant, Children (WIC) program, that provides participants with coupons to use at participating farmers’ markets. In addition to providing coupons, they teach participants how to choose local grown produce, prepare, store and preserve fresh fruits in their diets.

Eating Right Is Basic™ (ERIB) is a curriculum designed to help families with nutrition and general life development. The program is designed to be a six or seven week, hour long curriculum that works with adults, teens, and childcare professionals to help them acquire knowledge, gain new food attitudes and cooking skills, positively change behavior towards nutrition and better diets, positive life development, and improve total family diet with nutritional well being and physical activity. Participants learn to:

- Save money at the grocery store
- Cook from scratch
- Prepare healthy and tasty meals for their families
- Improve the diets of family members
- Keep food safe, while reducing waste and food-borne illness
- Use leftovers

As a result of ERIB, adults gained better decision-making skills, became more self-reliant, and became better resource managers. In Wayne County, there has been approximately 481 series of classes presented by MSU Extension in 2012.
Another project started this year was a MSU Extension Information Kiosk at Eastern Market. Nutrition staff was available at the kiosk to answer nutrition related questions 36 days, 17 Saturdays and 19 Tuesdays. In addition to answering market goers questions, food preservation books and samples were distributed. Staff estimate, by counting people who stopped at the kiosk on selected market days, that over 10,000 people stopped at the kiosk. As a result of this program, MSU Extension has decided to place information kiosks at the Grand Rapids and Flint markets.

**Dining with Diabetes**

Chronic diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure are among the most prevalent, costly, and preventable of all health issues. Leading a healthy lifestyle greatly reduces a person’s risk for developing chronic disease. Access to high quality and affordable prevention measures are essential steps in saving lives, reducing disability and lowering costs for medical care.

According to the 2012 County Health Rankings report published by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Wayne County is ranked 81st among the 83 counties in Michigan in health factors such as obesity, physical inactivity, diabetic screening and premature death. Often caused by poor diet and limited physical activity, obesity increases the risk for such chronic diseases as coronary heart disease, type 2 diabetes, coronary hypertension, stroke and respiratory problems. Thirty-four percent of Wayne county residents are obese, based on adults who report a body mass index greater than or equal to 30. The national benchmark for obesity is 25% and the overall rate in Michigan is 32%. In 2012, MSUE provided education to 109 Wayne County residents focused on the prevention and management of leading chronic diseases.
A Dining with Diabetes class was held at the Village of Redford in September of 2012. Evaluations show that residents increased their understanding of the nutrition facts label and also increased their use of the label when deciding what foods to eat. They increased their knowledge of foods that contain carbohydrates and which fats are healthiest. Their understanding of trans-fats and what foods contain them was also increased. Finally, residents reported that they are eating less fried foods following Dining with Diabetes.

**Mother to Mother Peer Counseling**

Breastfeeding is recognized as the best source of nutrition for infants. The lowest rates of breastfeeding in Michigan are found among the WIC eligible population, the very group whose infants are at the highest risk of poor health and development.

The Breastfeeding Initiative (BFI) Mother to Mother Program partners with the local Women Infants and Children (WIC) Program located in Detroit and Wayne County to provide breastfeeding education, support, and encouragement to pregnant and breastfeeding women. The Mother to Mother Peer Counselor is a mother with breastfeeding experience recruited and hired from the community by the local Extension and WIC agency. They are available to see mothers in the home, the hospital, WIC clinic, or by telephone.

In 2012 MSU Extension Peer Counselors assisted 467 women with their breastfeeding experience. From the women enrolled 97% initiated breastfeeding, 33% were still breastfeeding at six months, 13% at one year, and 10% exclusively breastfed for six months.
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# MSUE-Wayne County Program Contacts

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## Administration

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2012 MSU connections in Wayne County:

- 4,224 enrolled MSU students
- 22,677 MSU alumni
- MSU spent $33,215,748 with Wayne County businesses
- 641 Product Center Counseling Sessions
- 8 Product Center Business Launches
- Product Center businesses increased sales by $37,400
- Product Center businesses increased investment values by $60,000

Total estimated economic impact was $296,386,367