Presque Isle County Annual Report 2013
Camps attended by Presque Isle County Youth:

**4-H Summer Camp** for ages 9-12 at Ocqueoc Outdoor Center, 4 days, 3 nights. Theme—Camp 4H2O (Water Quality). 17 youth and 4 teen counselors from Presque Isle County.

**4-H Veterinary Science Camp** Crazy About Critters for ages 9-12 at Ocqueoc Outdoor Center, 3 days, 2 nights. 11 youth and 3 teen counselors from Presque Isle County.

**4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp** for ages 13-15 at Camp Chickagami, 7 days, 6 nights. 1 teen and 1 teen counselor.

**4-H Summer Recreation Program** for ages 8-12 for 6 weeks June 17-July 26. Daily activities based at Rogers City Elementary School where participants receive free breakfast and lunch. 58 children from Hawks, Millersburg, Onaway, Posen and Rogers City attended.

Proven – Because 4-H is part of MSU Extension, the activities youth participate in are all backed by and based on child development research. We use hands-on learning and time spent intentionally thinking about what’s been learned to make it a meaningful experience, learning skills and ideas that last a lifetime. It’s a fact: kids who participate in 4-H get better grades, are more likely to go to college, are less likely to use drugs, cigarettes or alcohol, and are more likely to give back to their communities.

Relevant – Summer Recreation staff targeted 32 different life skills in planned activities during the six week program.

Life Changing – “I really benefitted from learning about different fossils & rocks which hopefully will be my future career.” (Lucas, GLNR Camp)

**4-H Camps and Recreation Program help youth develop the skills needed to make good decisions in the future.**

4-H Camps are a summer highlight for Presque Isle County youth. They look forward to making new friends and participating in fun hands-on learning activities. Camps also provide youth an opportunity to learn the social skills that are needed to interact well with others, participate in groups, work cooperatively to accomplish goals, value differences in other people, and give and accept praise and criticism, which are important tasks for youth as they mature and become responsible adults. Out-of-school programs like camps and Summer Recreation help keep youth engaged and develop skills such as teamwork, decision making and goal accomplishment that will enhance their chances of future success. These MSUE youth programs give youth the needed exposure and “hands on” practice in making sound, well-informed decisions.

At the Summer Recreation Program, skill building lessons included the Protecting You, Protecting Me series; Jump Into Foods and Fitness series; Be SAFE series (anti-bullying); summer safety; health and hygiene; and mock job interviews.

At Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp sessions expose youth to 4 of the 5 Michigan science curriculum standards in earth science and 3 of the 5 standards in biology for grades 8 to 12. While the program greatly increased campers’ interest in the environment, natural resources or the Great Lakes and science, the top three life skills participants indicated they developed were:

- 98.5% Adapting to new living arrangements
- 97.1% Communication
- 97.1% Seeking resources that can help them succeed

4-H has the Flexibility to Accommodate Needs

We strive to meet the special needs of children so they are best able to participate and gain from our programs. These needs may include transportation, food allergies, intellectual disabilities, mental health challenges, physical challenges, or others. We work to assure that staff and volunteers have the training they need.
145 County youth enrolled in 4-H clubs, camps and programs. 63 other county youth participated in one-day 4-H workshops. 39 youth were in organized clubs with volunteer leaders.

**Action Day** gives kids in clubs a chance to share the knowledge and skills they have gained with the public.

**Camp Counselors** play a vital role in keeping kids safe, healthy and happy while away from home at camp. These teen volunteers have great responsibility and gain many skills. 8 teen served at 3 camps.

17 TBL teen mentors meet weekly with youth in grades K-5 in organized and supervised meetings where they share knowledge, skills and fun!

**Teen volunteers** have leadership roles in art and science clubs and events.

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**Michigan 4-H Contributes to Michigan’s Leadership & Citizenship…**

*Building tomorrow’s leaders is one of 4-H’s biggest contributions to Michigan at the state, county and local levels.*

**Proven**— By grade 11, 4-H youth are 3.3 times more likely to actively contribute to their communities when compared with non-4-H’ers.

**Relevant**— The Great Green Gardeners share produce with the local food pantry. TBL Mentoring engages teens as mentors to youth.

**Life Changing**— “I’m excited to come back to TBL as a mentor because I remember how special I felt when I was in it as a kid”

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**4-H Community Garden - More Than Meets the Eye**

4-H clubs are the single most effective way that youth can grow and learn through any number and variety of projects. The 4-H Club is an avenue for youth to practice leadership and decision making. Youth leaders and officers provide direction and leadership to 4-H Clubs, Groups and Committees.

Members of the Great Green Gardeners club learn organization, planning, problem-solving, and respect for the environment, as well as science, math, gardening and woodworking skills. Once the produce is harvested, the Kitchen Kids learn to cook delicious and healthy meals. They show concern for others by sharing fresh produce with the local food pantry.

Members of the club also demonstrated their knowledge of composting and hydroponics at the County Fair.

Other clubs include Funky Fillies Horse Club, 4 Bar H Horse Club and Freedom Riders Horse Club.

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Through MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development, nearly 223,000 Michigan youth per year learn lifelong skills, develop leadership abilities and discover the value of community service!
What is STEM? It’s not the stalk that holds up a flower! It stands for Science Technology Engineering and Math.

The 4-H Robotics and Engineering Club used LEGO Mindstorms® to build and program robots to complete specific tasks such as driving around obstacles and sorting colored objects.

How often do you go to a carnival and the people running the games help you think about how to win? That’s what happens when 4-H is running it! Players are challenged to consider math and science concepts to help them be successful.

Nearly 169,000 youth explored science, engineering and technology through 4-H last year, in such things as consumer and family science, biological sciences, electricity, natural sciences, rocketry, agricultural science, animal science and plant science.

Proven—Young people in 4-H are nearly two times more likely to plan to go to college and are 60 percent more likely to participate in science, engineering or computer technology programs.

Relevant—Presque Isle County 4-H youth intentionally explore science and math through robotics, engineering, animal science and environmental education and in less obvious settings such as art and gardening.

Life Changing—“This has been a real opportunity for (my son) to teach the other kids in the club”

Outdoor Family Fun Day explores environmental and outdoor education through activities such as examining pond water, re-creating a watershed, making fishing tackle and identifying mammal tracks. Community partners include Hammond Bay Area Anglers Association, MDNR, and Hammond Bay Biological Station.

4-H Invests in Robotics Kits for use in multiple settings.

Building and using Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) requires many skills. You begin with a pile of PVC pipe, wires, and connectors, and finish with an ROV that can explore and transmit live video of bodies of water.

Design of the vehicle frame starts with identifying the purpose of the ROV, then moves through constructing the frame, assembling the motors, wiring the controls, assembling the tether, testing buoyancy, and making modifications.

A partnership with Scott Steensma’s class at Onaway Area Community Schools provides months of engineering experience. 4-H Clubs may also utilize the kits. Eventually, clubs may partner with local groups to explore our many county waterways.

4-H Science Blast and Science Saturdays allow the public to enjoy hands-on science activities such as Quest for Speed, ECO Bot Challenge, building a wind turbine or making ice cream. 4-H loans equipment such as GPS units, compasses, or archery and fishing equipment to classrooms.
In 2013, the Northeast Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative network, a partnership for which MSUE provides leadership, served more than 30 schools across eight counties, supporting 118 educators and engaging 6,010 youth in place-based stewardship education experiences in (and with) their communities. Benefiting from this network of partners, professional development, and environmental stewardship opportunities were 12 educators and 589 youth from Rogers City and Onaway Schools. These student stewards, through their learning, are monitoring water quality, developing ‘green’ schools, and promoting biodiversity and coastal tourism opportunities enhancing the communities and environment of Presque Isle County and beyond. For example, as part of the NOAA B-WET water stewardship partnership, some of these youth leaders shared their water stewardship projects with peers from more than a dozen schools across Northeast Michigan during the 2013 Youth Watershed Summit. Even more broadly, these stewardship projects are also reflected as part of a Michigan-focused place-based education documentary, “Growing up Green” now airing on PBS stations across our state and country. Learn more at: www.nemiglsi.org

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Two schools, Two coastal parks, and Too Cool Language Arts Projects

Students from Rogers City and Alcona Middle schools engage in similar projects as they visit, research and write about local threatened and endangered species to promote sustainable coastal tourism at Thompson’s Harbor State Park and Negwegon State Park.

Students Lead Trout River Water Study

Replacing their classroom with the river bank, Rogers City Middle School students monitor health of local Trout River while providing valuable water quality data for the community.

Onaway Area Schools GreenLab

A certified Michigan GREEN School, recycling to reduce waste, producing alternative energy, and working to grow locally in a school-grounds greenhouse are among some of the big ideas that have been tackled by Onaway High School Students.

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“...It was such a positive experience for my science class. The educational benefits were phenomenal! They learned much in the course of the day, and because they were actually out in the field, they will retain their lessons.”

-Holly Wirgau, Teacher Rogers City Middle School

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Included in packet, please see:

⇒ TWO Schools, TWO Coastal Parks
⇒ Youth Watershed Summit

Learn more at: www.nemiglsi.org
Community Vitality

MSUE providing citizens with training that will lead to financially responsible workforce which will lead to more businesses to locate in Michigan, boosting the tax base and strengthening local, state and national economies.

From food to fun, adding value to Lake Huron fishery-dependent industries:

A 2013 Entrepreneurial Farm Tour led by MSUE's Dan Rossman (AABI) brought more than 40 people to northeast Michigan. Complementing this agriculture-business related learning, they also learned about value-added fisheries marketing efforts supported by Sea Grant and benefiting NE Michigan.

Legends of the Lakes™ whitefish marketing initiative has helped the commercial fishing industry to brand and market premium whitefish at a higher value, benefiting Lake Huron commercial fishermen directly.

Michigan Catch & Cook program helps charter captains link with local restaurants, allowing fishing customers to have their catch of the day prepared at a local restaurant. Enhancing tourism values, this partnership received the 2013 Governor's Awards for Innovative Tourism Collaboration.

The Great Lakes fisheries, reflecting recreational sport and charter fishing businesses, along with commercial fishing, are a vital part of Michigan's heritage and economy — across the Great Lakes, these fisheries value in excess of $4-7 billion, annually.

In the recent decade, the Lake Huron ecosystem and fishery has undergone dramatic ecological changes related to ecosystem and food web shifts, resulting from impacts of aquatic invasive species—threatening these social and economic values for our

Positive attitudes toward an improving Lake Huron fishery

Three Lake Huron Fisheries workshops, hosted in 2013, brought together nearly 270 interested anglers, charter captains, and others with fisheries researchers and managers; and offered good news up and down the coastline regarding the health of the Lake Huron fishery.

Since 2005, Michigan Sea Grant Extension has hosted annual educational workshops across Lake Huron to help coastal communities' better understand the ecological changes (or changes within Lake Huron’s food web) occurring within the lake. This year, researchers shared largely positive information regarding the status and trends of fish populations and fishing on Lake Huron. The overall message, this year, is that Lake Huron is proving to be resilient and, today, offers a diverse and valuable fishing experience, despite drastic ecosystem changes driven by invasive species. Paired with these findings, participants shared a changing and much more positive attitude toward the future of the Lake Huron fishery.

Why the positive attitude? Learn more online at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/positive_attitudes_toward_an_improving_lake_huron_fishery
In 2013 MSU Extension nutrition and physical activity program (SNAP-Ed) in Presque Isle County reached more than 300 children, youth, adults and seniors.

Program highlights delivered by SNAP-Ed:

- 99 Onaway Elementary First and Second Graders participated in a six week series called Show Me Nutrition.
- 27 Onaway Day Camp children participated in a nutrition and physical activity presentation including a healthy snack.
- 27 Seniors attended nutrition classes at Case Township Com. Center, Lynn Street Manor, and Hilltop Manor.
- 16 Adults completed a six week hands–on Cooking Matters class taught by a local chef at Case Township Com. Center.
- In Rogers City a 6 week nutrition and physical activity series was delivered at the Summer Rec Program to 45 children.
- Project FRESH nutrition classes were attended by 142 seniors and 25 WIC participants.
- Many other programs were delivered throughout the year by the MSU Extension Nutrition Program Instructor.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed), provides nutrition education to Bridge-card eligible adults and children in group settings. This program aims to create behavior change around dietary quality and increasing physical activity while stretching food dollars. Our program is accountable to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Michigan Dept. of Human Services (DHS) with the ultimate goal of promoting healthy weight management and obesity prevention.

Proven

153 adults and 171 youth in Presque Isle County received nutrition and physical activity education in a variety of venues in 2013 through partnerships with schools, the health department, senior centers and community organizations.

Relevant

Presque Isle County ranks 70th out of 83 in the state based on health outcomes, health behaviors, clinical care, social emotional factors, and physical environment (according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation). These statistics show 33% of Presque Isle adults are obese and 24% of adults reported no leisure-time physical activity. SNAP-Ed nutrition programs seek to make classes accessible to these audiences at no cost to the participant.

Life Changing

55% of Presque Isle adults completing the series reported an increase in fruit and vegetable consumption.

27% Presque Isle youth decreased their intake of sugary drinks and increased the intake of whole grains.

DID YOU KNOW…..77.4% of Michigan adults do not consume adequate amount of fruits & veggies.
Bullying Prevention and Parent Education Programs Lower the Risk of Violence … the total estimated economic cost of mental, emotional and behavioral disorders among youth in the United States is approximately $247 billion per year.

“Don’t Worry that children never listen to you. Worry that they are always watching you”.
- Robert Fulghum

- How to be a nurturing parent
- Ways to discipline without spanking
- How to deal with stress and anger
- How brain development is related to behavior

Programs that help parents and caregivers learn ways to deal with stressors in healthy ways are also strengthening the safety and health of other family members.

Extension Provides practical information you can trust to help people, businesses and communities solve problems, develop skills and build a better future.

Your support of MSU Extension social-emotional programs aimed at bullying and violence prevention allows participants to learn safer and healthier ways to interact with others. This benefits community members through decreased mental, emotional, social and economic costs associated with violence in communities.

Three bullying prevention workshops were held in Rodgers City during November 2013 at the Presque Isle District Library

Understanding how bullying behaviors affect children, families and communities is critical. Parents came together to learn about what bullying is and how to prevent it, as well as strategies for stopping it when it takes place. Communities can reduce and prevent bullying behaviors by promoting healthy social and emotional learning and development. MSUE Educator Carolyn Penniman also helped parents and caregivers learn about young children’s stages of developing self-control, and how to teach them to express emotions in appropriate ways.

The six-session program was conducted in July, 2013 in Onaway by MSUE Educator Carolyn Penniman. Participants improved emotional support to their children through information they learned in the program, such as how to help children understand their emotions and how to teach children different methods for responding to feelings, conflicts, or problems. They also learned parenting skills to manage stress, and how to discipline.
Michigan’s Food and Agriculture ....
Contributes $91.4 Billion to the State’s Economy

Supporting Agriculture is Key to a Brighter Future. Michigan State University Extension works to provide farmers and agribusiness with a cutting-edge knowledge base that increases the economic viability of their industry while protecting the environment and ensuring food safety.

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<td>Pesticide Resistance Breakfast</td>
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Forage Cost of Production Workshops

**Proven:** Producers who carefully analyze the financial component of their agribusinesses are able to cut costs and come out ahead. MSU Extension business management and crop production educators provide tools and information to support success.

**Relevant:** In January of 2013 MSU Extension offered a series of three Forage Cost of Production Workshops in Alpena, Grand Rapids and Bad Axe. Seventy-two producers attended to analyze their financial status with MSU Extension experts. Participants included forage and livestock producers, custom harvesters and marketers, nutritionists, industry representatives, financial lenders, and agency professionals.

**Life Changing:** 63% of the workshop participants indicted that they will incorporate information learned at the workshop into management of their forage operation.

Field Crop Management Seminar at Alpena Community College

**Proven:** Pest populations and crop management recommendations are constantly changing. Producers must stay ahead of the curve to remain profitable. This requires current information based on quality research.

**Relevant:** On January 17th, 2014 forty producers and governmental agency staff from across Northeast Michigan convened at Alpena Community College to participate in the day-long 2014 MSU Extension Field Crop Management Seminar. The seminar was an opportunity for participants to prepare for the 2014 growing season by receiving the latest research results and recommendations for field crop production and pest management from MSU specialists.

**Life Changing:** Participating growers estimated that the information they received would result in $7.00 of savings or added revenue per acre in 2014 across 2,800 acres, or $19,600.00 in total. Thanks to support from the Michigan Corn Marketing Board, the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee and the Michigan Wheat Program this meeting was offered at a reduced price of $20.
**Michigan State University Extension……**

**Supports producers to minimize risk on and off the farm**

MSU Extension provides practical information producers can trust to help them solve problems, develop skills and build a better future.

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**On-Farm Research, Crop and Pest Monitoring**

**Proven:** Farmers gain valuable information from local research and resources relevant to their unique soils, climate and cropping systems. MSU Extension experts partner with producers to generate local, science-based information.

**Relevant:** During the 2013 growing season, MSU Extension Presque Isle Co. collaborated with twenty-six local producers to carry out on-farm research, monitor crop development and/or scout for economically important pests. Crops impacted include wheat, soybeans, dry edible beans, alfalfa, corn and potatoes.

**Life Changing:** Western bean cutworm monitoring by MSU Extension allowed local dry bean producers to avoid or more precisely time insecticide applications. SMaRT on-farm soybean trials allowed growers to evaluate alternative row spacings, fungicide programs for white mold control and two plant health promoter products.

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**Pesticide Applicators Recertification Training and Exam**

**Proven:** MSU pesticide training and recertification programs improve pesticide use practices in Michigan by ensuring that certified applicators receive up-to-date information on pesticide regulation, handling and application.

**Relevant:** On December 13th, 2013 James DeDecker trained seventeen private and commercial pesticide applicators at the Rogers City Library. Many of the participants used the seminar to earn recertification credits toward keeping their certification valid. Others used it as a review prior to taking the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Pesticide Exam that afternoon.

**Life Changing:** MDARD’s Eric McCumber administered twenty-five certification examinations to thirteen individuals. Participants sought certification in several categories including field crops, vegetables, turf, forestry and ornamentals. Everyone that participated in the morning review session (100%) passed their examinations and achieved certification. The pass rate for individuals that did not participate in the review session was 85.7%.
Michigan Communities.......... Benefit from a thriving agricultural economy

Michigan has 54,700 farms that cultivate approximately 10 million acres. One out of every four jobs in Michigan is related to agriculture.

Presque Isle County and U.P. Summer Potato Programs

Proven: Sustainable potato production depends upon access to emerging varieties, technology and management practices.

Relevant: The Presque Isle County and U.P. Summer Potato Programs were held August 27th and 28th in Posen and Cornell, Michigan. These annual events are organized in collaboration with the Michigan Potato Industry Commission and the MSU Potato Research Group to provide Northern Michigan potato producers with up to date information on issues impacting potato production and the industry at large. The Posen program attracted 12 participants and the U.P. program was attended by 19.

Life Changing: The Michigan potato industry represents a significant contribution to the state’s economy. The farm gate value of last year’s harvest was over $174.5 million. The crop’s impact is also felt elsewhere along the value chain among suppliers, marketers, shipping contractors, packers and processors.

Entrepreneurial & Sustainable Farm Tour of Northeast Michigan

Proven: Farm families, in order to be successful and sustainable, need to utilize the resources at their disposal in ways that are agronomically productive and economically viable, as well as environmentally friendly, socially acceptable and community minded. It is easy to understand why these standards are desirable, but much more difficult to meet them when faced with the uncertainty and risk of an agricultural enterprise.

Relevant: MSU Extension’s 2013 Entrepreneurial & Sustainable Farm Tour held September 17th & 18th featured eleven agribusinesses located throughout Northeast Michigan which have explored and seized opportunities to enhance the profitability of their operations while being socially and environmentally responsible.

Life Changing: By seeing and hearing these success stories first hand, the 40 tour participants will be better equipped to achieve their own sustainability goals through targeted changes that suit them and their farm operations.