



Bay County

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



\$15,616,395
economic impact



206
enrolled students at MSU



\$1,487,609
spending with local businesses



1,617
MSU alumni in Bay County



\$5,574,549
Financial aid disbursed



1,037
youth in 4-H

Message from the District Director

I'm delighted to share the results of another successful year of partnership between Bay County and Michigan State University (MSU) Extension. Because of your continued support, we've been able to make a difference in the lives of youth, families, businesses and communities.



MSU Extension offers a broad range of research-based educational services to county residents. Over this past year, we've empowered families and individuals to live healthier lives, supported new and local businesses, created opportunities for youth leadership development and career exploration, helped farmers with business management and mental health, and much more. Our staff live and work alongside county residents, are rooted in community relationships and are responsive to community needs.

This year, we've also welcomed Bay County residents into our online community: we've offered online educational courses, answered questions on topics ranging from gardening to food safety, raised program awareness through social media and provided a library of research-based resources they've browsed on our website.

Our partnership with you makes this all possible. On behalf of the MSU Extension team serving Bay County, thank you for another great year. We look forward to your continued support and hope you'll be able to join us during one of our upcoming programs.

Mark Rankin, District Director



Program Highlights

4-H for Bay County Youth

Bay County 4-H continues to partner with Hampton and MacGregor Elementary Schools, along with Handy Middle School. **At Handy Middle School, over 50 youth participate in the 4-H as part of the 21st Century Afterschool program.**

Programming includes STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math), money management, character education and more. While using the MSU Extension resource, Heads In Hearts In, at Hampton and MacGregor Elementary we engage families in out of school time activities. With evenings themed as science or literacy, families learn and grow together through hands-on, experiential activities.

Bay County has twelve 4-H clubs that participate in large and small animal projects, horse projects, woodworking, sewing, photography, baking, cooking, gardening, agriculture and much more.

This year 55 youth participated in the Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition.

Participants showed 437 projects, and some received high honors for Kiwanis Ribbons and Gold Ribbons which enabled them to participate in the Michigan State Fair. One youth won 3rd place at the State Fair for her Acrylic Painting.

The Bay City Bowman's Club continues to support the Bay County 4-H Shooting Stars Archery Club. **They had over 50 youth participating in the program, 10 youth participated in the 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament, and one youth placed 2nd in his age range.**

Five teen counselors and 12 Cloverbuds participated in the Bay County 4-H Cloverbud Camp. During Cloverbud Camp, youth and counselors interacted with several community partners including Painterly Pottery, Delta College Planetarium, and City Market. Youth enjoyed learning about invasive species, composting, worms and especially liked learning from Alicia Wallace about the Gypsy Moth Suppression Program. Health and nutrition education was a component of camp as youth leaned about making healthy snack and food choices.



4-H youth, volunteers, and parents participating in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.



4-H Shooting Stars Archery Club and archery instructors, Kevin Kram and Jeff Schulz.



A touching moment between a 4-H youth with her steer at Bay County's Livestock Auction.

Program Highlights

4-H Tech Wizards

The 4-H Tech Wizards partnered with 4-H to accomplish much in 2018. STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs were offered at Washington Elementary School, Handy Middle School, the Bay County Community Center's Summer Camp program, and the Dow Bay Area Family YMCA after school program and summer camp program.

Thirty-two students at Washington Elementary School participated in hands-on science programs including aviation, chemistry, ecology, money math, weights and measurements, character education, matter, agribusiness, and engineering and design.

Five adult mentors help foster the educational experience for the students throughout the school year. The Dow Bay Area Family YMCA's after school program participated in STEM activities.

Twenty youth, ages 5-12 learned about the skeletal system, locally grown organic produce, proper nutrition and meal planning, basic geometry, and physics.

Forty Handy Middle School students worked with the Michigan Sea Grant program to learn more about extreme weather and its ecological, environmental and economic effect on the Bay County area. They also learned about aviation, electricity, chemistry and physics.

The Bay County Community Center's summer day camp reached out to MSU Extension for STEM programming as part of their summer camp educational program. **Over 100 campers per week learned about animals, locally grown produce, and nutrition.**

Over 50 campers, age 5-12 participated in the STEM program offered by MSU Extension at The Bay Area Family YMCA's Summer Camp program. They built rocket launchers, learned about invasive species, suspension, nutrition and life skills.

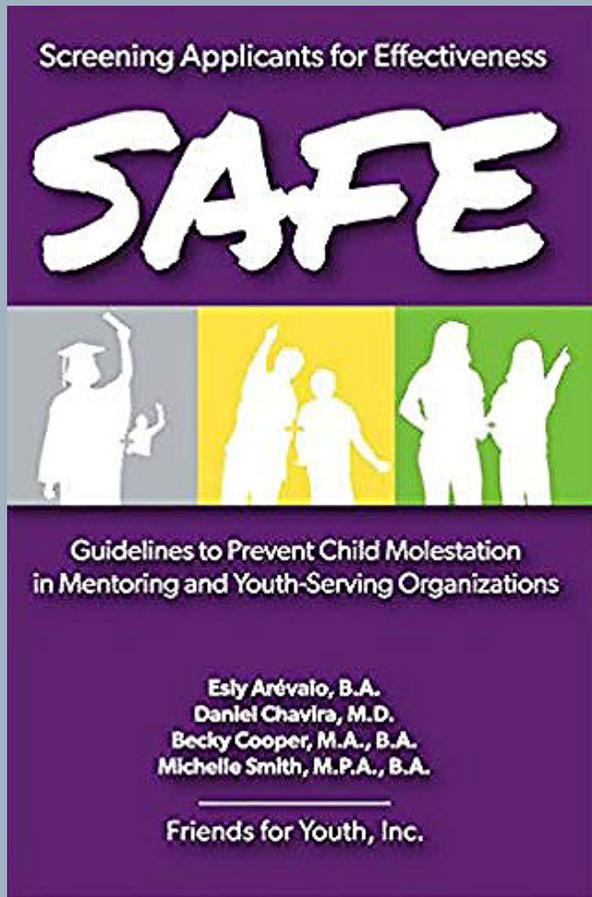


Washington Elementary Tech Wizards learn a lesson on buoyancy.



Handy Middle School students learn about rockets and aerodynamics.

Program Highlights



Empowering staff with knowledge and skills paired with an emphasis on safety in our programs creates the opportunity for staff, volunteers and youth to succeed and thrive in our Michigan communities.



The SMART Girls training was offered at six Boys and Girls Clubs in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

SAFE Program

Providing a safe and nurturing environment for youth is of paramount importance in our MSU Extension programs. To emphasize that importance, in 2018 Jodi Schulz (Bay County) and Christine Heverly (Ingham County) were asked by MSU Extension administration to become certified trainers in SAFE: Screening Applicants for Effectiveness; Guidelines to Prevent Child Molestation in Mentoring and Youth Serving Organizations. With this certification, Jodi and Christine were charged with providing co-leadership to training all MSU Extension faculty and staff members who work with volunteers or children and youth as a part of their job assignment. While MSU Extension uses the Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) to screen potential volunteers, SAFE compliments VSP by building staff's skills and knowledge related to informed intuition, child predators, actual and potential red flags, predator grooming cycles, and the overall screening process for potential volunteers.

In 2018, Jodi and Christine facilitated eight trainings throughout the state in Frankenmuth, Gaylord, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Ann Arbor, Tustin, East Lansing, and Lapeer with over 165 staff in attendance.

Surveys were distributed at each training and indicated that at least 90% of those who responded to the survey either strongly or very strongly agreed that they had a better understanding of what to look for when screening volunteers and felt more confident in the screening process.

SNAP-ED

MyPlate, the USDA guideline for nutrition, was taught as part of SMART Girls; a self-esteem enhancement program, teaching girls how important they are and that they each make a difference. The girls tasted 4 different fruits and vegetables and had fun participating in physical activities. This program was held at Boys and Girls Clubs in the Great Lakes Bay Area **impacting 72 girls ages 10-12.**

480 adults were reached through bi-monthly, MyPlate, presentations held at Good Samaritan Rescue Mission, teaching adults the importance of good nutrient on a limited budget.

Program Highlights

Farm Management

Farm Management Extension programs provide recordkeeping support, financial analysis, and benchmarking services to farms in Bay County and the surrounding areas. **In 2018, two Bay County farms participated, and the program is expanding over the next year.** Consultation programs are also available for farmers planning expansions, new enterprises, and/or transferring the farm to the next generation. In addition, **the 2018 Winter Ag Review seminars brought together 84 area producers, including Bay County residents,** to hear the latest information on regional crop production and cost issues.

Social Emotional

MSU Extension helps young people, parents, caregivers, and community members develop and sustain healthy relationships through increased understanding of the social and emotional aspects of an individual's life. MSU Extension's educational programs promote positive peer interactions, strengthen communication skills, and demonstrate methods of managing stress that help reduce negative, harmful behaviors. *Stress Less with Mindfulness* and *RELAX: Alternatives to Anger* are the MSU Extension's core programs offered to residents of Bay County and statewide.

In 2018, 273 residents participated in classes throughout Genesee, Shiawassee, Bay, Saginaw, and Midland Counties to improve their own skills.

Bay Child and Family Development

MSU Extension supports early childhood development through programs that help prepare Michigan's children from birth to eight years old succeed in school. MSU Extension improves school readiness by teaching parents and caregiver's methods that increase early childhood science and reading literacy, and ways to prepare children socially and emotionally for school.

In 2018, ten one-time presentations were held in Bay County reaching 170 adults. Through these presentations, 852 children aged 0-8 and 27 children aged 9-12 were impacted. Topics presented include screen time for young children, resiliency, positive discipline and social emotional health.



More than 50% of land in Bay County is used as farmland.



Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.



According to the CDC, the first eight years of a child's life is foundational for his/her lifelong health, learning and success.

Michigan Sea Grant



Campers receive a rod, reel, and tackle box to continue fishing after camp.



The Saginaw Bay 4-H Fish Camp helps recruit the next generation of anglers while teaching them about Great Lakes stewardship.

Michigan Sea Grant Extension promotes research, education, and outreach to enhance responsible and sustainable use of our diverse Great Lakes resources. Through MSU Extension, Michigan Sea Grant works with Michigan citizens, industries, and coastal communities to encourage their use, benefits, and enjoyment of Great Lakes resources that positively influences our state's economy, environment and quality of life. Here we highlight our investments with Great Lakes fisheries stakeholders and engaging youth in Great Lakes stewardship opportunities.

The Saginaw Bay 4-H Fishing Camp brought together **+30 Bay County youth to learn how to fish and explore Great Lakes issues at Bay City State Park.** This 4-day camp incorporates the Project FISH philosophy of hands-on, multiple-contact sport fishing and aquatic resource education. Activities included Fishing and Angler Skills; Aquatic Ecology; Tackle Crafting; Fish identification and anatomy; Boater and Angler Safety; Alliance for the Great Lakes Adopt-a-Beach litter cleanup; Invasive Species games; and more. This camp is supported by many partners includes MSU Extension, Bay County 4-H, Project FISH, Saginaw Bay Walleye Club, Saginaw Bay WIN, Bay City State Park, Bay County Health Department, Bay City Public Schools, Future Anglers Foundation, National Professional Angler Association, and ATS Printing.

Saginaw Bay Resiliency Summit and Webinar Series: MSU Extension, Michigan Sea Grant, and local partners worked to bring heightened awareness of extreme storms and to provide information to communities on preparing for such storms in the region. The Saginaw Bay watershed is particularly vulnerable to storm hazards because of the region's unique topography and land-use patterns.

Launched with a survey of decision makers, this project used the assessment to inform educational programming to support community resiliency in the context of extreme storms in flooding. **The in-person summit and webinar series shared information with +50 decision makers and partners.** Topics included hazard mitigation strategies, green infrastructure, funding opportunities, national flood insurance program, and additional tools and resources.

Program Highlights

Project partners and support: NOAA Coastal Storms Program, Bay County Emergency Management Division, East Michigan Council of Governments, Michigan Sea Grant College Program, MSU Extension, Midland County of Emergency Management, and Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative.

Saginaw Bay Sturgeon Reintroduction Effort: Sturgeon are a unique Great Lakes species. They can grow up to 7 feet long and can weigh up to 300 pounds. The slow-maturing fish do not begin reproducing until they are 15-20 years old. Once abundant in many Michigan lakes and rivers, lake sturgeon were nearly eradicated due to overfishing and habitat loss, particularly the destruction of rocky reefs in rivers that sturgeon and other native fish species use for spawning. Lake sturgeon are also now considered threatened or endangered in 7 of the 8 Great Lakes states.

To reintroduce Lake Sturgeon in the Saginaw Bay watershed, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and many local partners are working together to re-establish Lake Sturgeon in the Cass, Shiawassee, Tittabawassee, and Flint Rivers.

MSU Extension and Michigan Sea Grant supported this effort by co-hosting public release event in Frankenmuth, which brought together +200 people to learn more about Lake Sturgeon and release sturgeon fingerlings into the Cass River. We are also supporting new Sturgeon in the Classroom educators in the Saginaw Bay watershed, where local students raise Lake Sturgeon throughout the school year and release the fingerling in the spring into the watershed.

Partners involved in this effort include: The City of Frankenmuth, Frankenmuth Kayak Adventures, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan State University, Michigan State University Extension, Office of the Great Lakes, Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed, Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network, Sturgeon for Tomorrow, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

***For more information, visit
www.saginawbaysturgeon.org***



The Lake Sturgeon fingerlings released in August won't return to spawn in the Cass River until 2038 when they reach adulthood!



Many community members helped release Lake Sturgeon into the Cass River.



Meaghan Gass, Sea Grant Extension Educator, helps youth release sturgeon into the Cass River.

MSU Extension Educators and Staff Serving Bay County

Name	Role	Program Area	Email
Gala Bank*	Secretary		bankgala@msu.edu
Cory Clark	Extension Educator	Farm Management	rischcor@msu.edu
Beth Dow*	Ext. Program Worker	4-H Tech Wizards	dowbetha@msu.edu
Meaghan Gass*	Extension Educator	Sea Grant	gassmeag@msu.edu
Holly Julian*	Program Coordinator	4-H	julianho@msu.edu
Sean Knurek	Extension Educator	Social and Emotional	knurekse@msu.edu
Karen Parker *	Community Program Inst.	SNAP-ED	gentlek@msu.edu
Ben Phillips	Extension Educator	Vegetable Crops	phill406@msu.edu
Mark Rankin	District Director	District 9 & 10	rankinm1@msu.edu
Kylie Rymanowicz	Extension Educator	Early Childhood Ed.	rymanow1@msu.edu
Jodi Schulz*	Extension Educator	4-H	schulzj@msu.edu
Lisa Treiber	Extension Educator	Nutrition	treiber@msu.edu
Tom Wenzel	Research Assistant III	Sugarbeet Advancement	wenzelth@msu.edu
Turina Zimmer	Supervising Educator	Children and Youth Inst.	tzimmer@msu.edu

Housed in Bay County*



MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jeffrey W. Dwyer, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned. The 4-H Name and Emblem have special protections from Congress, protected by code 18 USC 707.