



Bay County

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



\$15,616,395
economic impact



189
students enrolled
At MSU



\$740,404
spending with local businesses



1,736
MSU alumni in Bay County



\$3,729,274
financial aid disbursed



1,037
youth in 4-H

Message from the District Director

Michigan State University (MSU) Extension helps people improve their lives by bringing the vast knowledge resources of MSU directly to individuals, communities and businesses. For more than 100 years, MSU Extension has helped grow Michigan's economy by equipping Michigan residents with the information they need to do their jobs better, raise healthy and safe families, build their communities and empower our children to dream of a successful future.




With a presence in every Michigan county, Extension faculty and staff members provide tools to live and work better. From a personal meeting to information online, MSU Extension educators work every day to provide the most current information when people need it to ensure success – in the workplace, at home and in the community.

Whether it's helping grow Michigan's agriculture economy, capturing opportunities that use our natural resources in a sustainable way, controlling health care costs by giving individuals the information they need to manage chronic illness or preparing tomorrow's leaders, MSU Extension is creating opportunities and building communities that make Michigan strong, prosperous and a great place to live.

On behalf of the MSU Extension team serving *your* County, thank you for your continued support. I would also like to thank all of our partners, businesses, families and youth that we serve. It is a pleasure and honor to work with you and meet your needs in our community.

Mark Rankin, District Director

 989-907-6500



Program Highlights

4-H for Bay Youth

This year Holly Mueller created a huge opportunity partnering with the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce facilitating the Mad City Money Program to all the Western High School 9th graders, reaching approximately **290 students**. It's a hands-on simulation where students choose a career, income, family and debt. Western High School 9th graders participating in the Mad City Money Program learned to make financial decisions and even make mistakes in a safe environment. Students are surprised at the cost of living everyday life. In the future Holly has the opportunity to reach 9th graders at Central High School along with every high school in Bay County.

Bay County 4-H continues their partnership with Hampton and MacGregor Elementary. Holly uses the MSU Extension curriculum, Heads In Hearts In, offering family engagement events such as Science and Literacy nights for families in the community, bringing in **300 students and parents** from the community. At Hampton Elementary Holly provide curriculum programming to **all one hundred and twenty 2nd graders** on introduction to fractions, re-grouping, measurements, money, plant parts, and soybean necklaces.

Bay County has thirteen 4-H clubs that participate in livestock and horse projects. This year **107 youth** participated in the Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition. The Bay County 4-H Livestock Auction had **60 youth** showcasing their animals and had **four youth** who placed at the MI 4-H State Horse Show.

Laken Clark is a freshman at Western High School. She's been a member of 4-H since age 5:

Statement: I was very surprised and happy to be awarded the \$2,000 Pre-College Scholarship to MSU. It means a lot to me because I have always dreamed of going to MSU for certain career choices, such as Landscape Architecture. This scholarship will help towards the tuition and with my success at MSU. I'm very grateful for this award, through my attendance at 4-H Exploration Days, and now I am one step closer to MSU's great academics and for my future as a Spartan.

The Bay City Bowman's Club continues to support the Bay County Shooting Stars Archery Club. Over **50 youth** participated in the program. Three certified archery instructors provide leadership to the program. There were **10 youth** who participated in the 4-H Archery State Shoot in August.



Western 9th graders making financial decisions and mistakes in a safe in environment participating in Mad City Money



Statement: Lindsay Rotarius, Director of Education for the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, said: "The teachers have been saying that they haven't seen their students so excited."



4-H Shooting Stars Archery Club and instructors: Kurt Lantz, Jeff Schulz, and Justin VanderPol.

Program Highlights

The **4-H Tech Wizard program** accomplished much in 2019. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs were offered at Washington Elementary School, where **17 mentees and five mentors** participated in hands-on science program activities such as Astronomy where they studied the constellations and the Northern Lights. They learned about Geology and the meteor, Chicxulub crater, that possibly made the dinosaurs extinct. A mentor provided leadership teaching the 4-H Tech Wizards beginner coding activities. Mentees and mentors created code and the others had to match the code by stacking the cups in the proper sequence.

These programs would not be possible without community support from; Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Bay City Bowman's Club, Bay City Public Schools, Bay County Farm Bureau, Bay County Fairboard Bay County Juvenile Home.



Learning how to code by stacking cups.

Volunteer Central

MSU Extension reaches far and wide because of dedicated volunteers that give countless hours to our programs. At MSU Extension, we host over **20,000 volunteers with 16,000 dedicated to the 4-H Youth Development programs.**

In 2019, Jodi Schulz was part of a team that provided leadership to the development of a new volunteer screening and data management tool called Volunteer Central. Volunteer Central was custom-made according to our needs and how we screen and utilize volunteers. Volunteer Central became live to MSU Extension staff and volunteers in early January of 2020, however, Jodi was a vital part of creating several fact sheets and training resources. Additionally, she was a part of the team that trained over **250 staff, several from Bay County**, to use Volunteer Central and become familiar with the system's features for both staff and volunteers.

https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/#/volunteer_home



Program Highlights

Michigan Sea Grant Extension

This program 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 residents, 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.

At the Saginaw Bay 4-H Fishing Camp, **+25 Bay County youth** learned how to fish and explored Great Lakes issues at Bay City State Park. **Ten Bay County youth** also served as counselors gaining leadership skills. This 4-day camp incorporates the Project F.I.S.H. philosophy of hands-on sportfishing and aquatic resource education. Activities included Aquatic Ecology; Tackle Crafting; Fish identification and anatomy; Boater and Angler Safety; and more. To serve as Great Lakes stewards, youth removed 800 pounds of invasive European frog-bit from the park and learned how to sanitize equipment to prevent the spread of invasive species. Youth also receive a rod, reel, tacklebox, t-shirt, and lots of information related to the fishing and the Great Lakes to help them be successful anglers following camp. This camp is supported by many partners including 4-H, Saginaw Bay Walleye Club, Saginaw Bay W.I.N., Bay City State Park, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Bay County Health Department, Bay City Public Schools, and Future Anglers Foundation.

In partnership with the Bay County Community Development and Environmental Affairs, we hosted the **Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Trail Conference** in Bay City. Attendees explored fisheries heritage and stories through the lens of Saginaw Bay fisheries and Bay City area partners – both new to our network and partnership. Participants and contributors represented more than **26 organizations** ranging from local, state, and federal agencies and universities, museums and history organizations, tribes and fishing industry, education, tourism, and other local community collaborators. This conference also resulted in a new Saginaw Bay-focused fisheries heritage trail story featured as part of the regional GLFH Trail website.

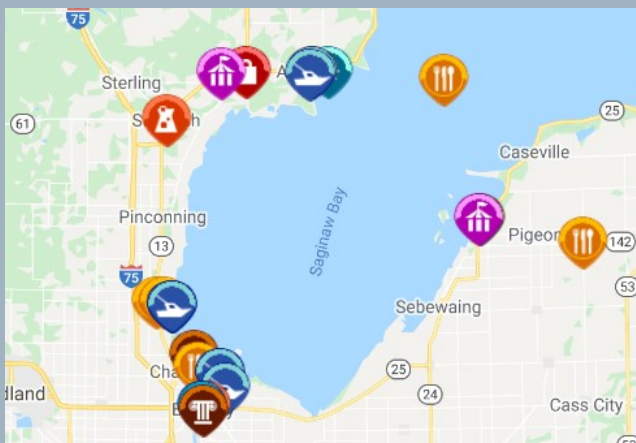
<http://www.greatlakesfisheriestrail.org/>



Mark Stevens teaching Saginaw Bay 4-H Fish Camp participants fish anatomy and how to filet fish.



Every camper caught a fish at the camp.



The Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Trail is an online, mapping tool stakeholders can use to explore fisheries-related places around the Great Lakes. It now features Saginaw Bay opportunities.

Program Highlights

Child and Family Development

There is no more important time in a person's life than those formative years between the ages of birth and five. Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) 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 2019, eight one-time presentations, and one educational series (a class that meets a minimum of four times) were held in Bay County reaching **176 adults**. After participating in MSU Extension early childhood one-time workshops, 100% of participants indicated that they understood the importance of actively supporting their child's learning, 100% were prepared to support their child's learning and growth and 100% had techniques to help children learn.

A total number of 16 hours of direct programming was delivered in Bay County. Through these presentations **2,250 children aged 0-8 and 410 children aged 9-12 were impacted**. Topics presented include screen time for young children, resiliency, positive discipline and social emotional health.

These programs were made possible and supported by Bay county collaborators such as the Bay-Arenac Great Start Collaborative, NEMSCA Head Start, the Bay-Arenac ISD and the Great Start Eastern Regional Resource Center.

SNAP-Ed

MyPlate, the USDA guideline for nutrition, was taught in **22 Bay County Pre-K classrooms**. Through a series of six classes for each room over **337 youth** were reached. Programming included trying new fruits and vegetables along with physical activity such as jumping jacks, toe touches, and running in place.

In addition to nutrition education for seniors living in high rises in Bay County, there were **244 senior market fresh coupon books** distributed throughout the county. The coupon books were used to purchase locally grown produce.



According to the CDC, the first 8 years of a child's life is foundational for his/her lifelong health, learning, and success.



MSUE helps parents and caregivers understand the importance of actively supporting their child's learning.



Pre-schoolers tasting different kinds of fruit.

Program Highlights

Sugarbeet Advancement

For the Sugarbeet Advancement team, 2019 was a year of great change. On May 15th Daniel Publitz joined the team as the new director of the program. In September the team moved from the Morley Building, Saginaw to the Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center in Richville.

The work being done by Sugarbeet Advancement can be divided into two broad categories, including research and farmer education.

Sugarbeet Advancement's research this year consisted of 24 field trials. Each of these trials were done in collaboration with a sugarbeet farmer, with **7 of the trials being located in Bay County**. Even the trials that were not conducted in Bay County have a major impact on approximately **77 Bay County sugarbeet farmers**, providing them with useful information and recommendations which can be implemented on their farms.

The second component of Sugarbeet Advancement's mission is to use the information gained through its research, and the research of others, to educate sugarbeet farmers. The 2019 Bean & Beet Symposium, held at the Horizon's Conference Center, is a trade show as well as three hours of presentations by sugarbeet researchers. An estimated **450 people** attended this event with **150 attending** the presentations from across the state. **27 Bay County farmers** attended Michigan Sugar's winter agronomy meetings held at six different locations. In December Sugarbeet Advancement hosted Seed Week, intended to help farmers make an informed decision when selecting which varieties of sugarbeets to plant. **25 Bay County beet farmers** attended.

Farm Management

Farm Management programs in Bay County provide educational resources on critical topics such as extreme delays in spring crop planting and commodity program choices in the 2018 Farm Bill.

Resources to address delayed planting concerns were provided and accessed by Bay County farmers. Meetings were held though out the Saginaw Valley region and supplemented with individual consultations and analysis tools for additional assistance. In addition, **three farm families** participated in the TelFarm financial analysis and benchmarking program, and received educational consultations for farm business planning.



Sugar Beet Harvester picking beets in a farmers field.



Dr. Linda Hanson, USDA-ARS, MSU, presenting at the Symposium.



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

Program Highlights

ServSafe

In 2019, Lisa Treiber taught six 8-hour Servsafe Certification classes in Bay County, reaching **50 participants**.

MSU Extension offers this national certification program for those working in food service, specifically managers and other leaders. This course provides participants education to successfully pass the ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification exam. ServSafe teaches about foodborne illness, how to prevent it and how to train employees about the latest food safety issues. The ServSafe Manager course uses proven techniques, provides new Food & Drug Administration food code rules and content related to the food industry. Topics include providing safe food, forms of contamination, the safe food handler, the flow of food, food safety management systems, safe facilities & pest management, cleaning & sanitizing.

Social Emotional Health

MSU Extension Social Emotional health programming aims to promote health and wellbeing, including understanding important connections between physical, mental, social and emotional health. **In 2019, 10 presentations were held in Bay County, reaching 297 adults and 30 youth.** Topics and programs presented included: RELAX: Alternatives to Anger, Stress Less with Mindfulness, Mindfulness for Educators, and Mindfulness for Parents and Caregivers. Special presentations were also held with Families Against Narcotics-Bay Region, the Bay County Prevention Network, and the Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District.



The ServSafe Certification program teaches about food-borne illnesses and how to prevent it.



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



MSU Extension Educators and Staff Serving Bay County

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Housed in Bay County*