



Chippewa County 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS



4 Extension professionals based in the county, 50+ providing educational opportunities



\$3,546,763 total economic impact in Chippewa County



1,270 youth involved in 4-H, early childhood or after school enrichment



5 affiliated clinical sites



\$149,349 spending with local business



40 enrolled MSU students, 417 alumni



MSU disbursed \$905,353 in financial aid to county students

100+

MSU Extension serving Chippewa County over 100 years

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Once again, I am delighted to share the results of another successful year of partnership between Chippewa 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.

Again this year, we've welcomed Chippewa 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 service Chippewa 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.

Erin Daines, District 2 Director



CHIPPEWA COUNTY

Additional MSU Extension Reach

- Michigan State University Extension staff have been actively serving the residents of Chippewa County.
- Services from across all reaches of Extension are accessible because of the Gold Standard commitment Chippewa County has made with Michigan State University Extension.
- Chippewa County residents are able to access services in the areas of Agriculture & Agribusiness; Children and Youth; Community, Food and Environment; and Health and Nutrition.

737

Chippewa County Residents Served

201

of Programs Chippewa County Residents Attended



CHIPPEWA COUNTY

MSU Extension Reach Breakdown 201

Programs Chippewa County
Residents Attended

101

Agriculture &
Agribusiness
Programs

252

Community, Food &
Environment
Programs

202

Children &
Youth
Programs

182

Health &
Nutrition
Programs

Program Highlights

BOAT 2 SCHOOL

Two online lessons were created for **JKL Bahweting School's 6th grade classes**. These lessons were modeled based on our in-person **Boat 2 School** program. Lesson One was an "Eat A Fish" cooking demonstration, the second lesson was interactive walleye ecology and dissection. In addition, a virtual tour of the **Sault Tribe Walleye Hatchery** was prepared, but not finalized. Footage taken by the Sault Tribe will be used to finalize an online program for 2021. Sixty participants were reached.



Fish cooked by 6th grade student JKL Bahweting School

FRUIT TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP

This tree fruit care and pruning class and demonstration was hosted by and held at the Bay Mills Indian Community youth activities building on February 15, 2020. The program was requested by the tribe and organized and promoted by **the Chippewa County Conservation District. Dylan Parker**, district forester, presented on the topic on site selection and tree hardiness. Jim Isleib delivered the remainder of the presentation on variety selection, diseases, pests, general fruit tree care and pruning tools.

The class then moved to a young orchard site followed by a large, overgrown tree site.

Jim conducted pruning demonstrations at both sites. The program was open to the public with **19 participants in attendance**.



Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration

Program Highlights

HEALTH AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

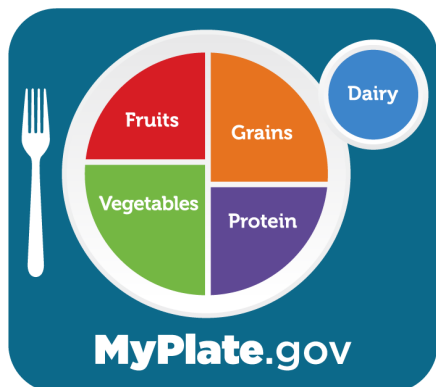
Cody McLaren, Community Nutrition Instructor, delivered one-time programming to local 6th grade students from the **Eastern Upper Peninsula Schools**.

The lesson delivered was "**Whole Grains**". Students were able to sample whole grain pancakes. **145 students** were reached.

FAVORITE QUOTES

Some of Cody's favorite quotes from programs such as Eat Healthy, Be Active; Cooking Matters and Teen Cuisine include:

- "working out is making me want to eat healthy!"
- "The color scared me before, but after trying it, I now LOVE IT!" (this is in reference to guacamole)
- "Had the cooking temp sheet hanging in the kitchen to better explain what temperature to cook things to, especially making chicken for peers at dinner."
- "Since I started eating healthy proteins, fats, cutting out added fats, and limiting greasy foods, I now feel amazing, and my skin even seems a lot better."



RELAX

RELAX AND STRESS LESS WITH MINDFULNESS

Tracie Abram delivered the RELAX Alternatives To Anger as well as Stress Less with Mindfulness programs in Chippewa County. These are just a couple of the programs offered from the social-emotional health team of Extension Educators.

GNOOZHEKAANING GITIGAAN KITS HELP GARDENERS GROW

In **May of 2020 172 Chippewa County** households received gitigaan (garden) kits reaching a total of **573 individuals**. Kits include seed starting soil mix, containers, seeds, vegetable seedlings and educational materials to support both beginner and experienced gardeners in growing their own food. Participants were able to choose from **salsa garden, salad garden, pickling garden, early cold hardy garden and four sisters (corn, beans, squash and sunflowers) kits and add-on popular seeds like zucchini and green beans**. MSU Extension was grateful to partner with Bay Mills Community College and Bay Mills Community Health on this project to make the drive through, no contact kit pick-up possible. A follow up call was held to further support gardeners in asking questions, troubleshooting growing issues and sharing their own garden tips. Gitigaan kits were free and open to all.



Program Highlights

BEGINNING GRASS-FED BEEF PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Kat Jacques, Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program, was approached by the Bay Mills Community College Land Grant Department requesting this workshop.

The workshop was held on February 8, 2020 and featured **Dr. Jason Rowntree, Associate Professor Animal Science, Michigan State University.**

Topics included:

Introduction to Grazing

- Be able to articulate the “why” on your farm
- Understand forage combinations that can work in Northern Michigan
- Understand how to manage pastures for grazing
- Understand how to manage soils for healthy pastures

Grass Finishing- Parts 1 and 2

- Understand the dynamics of the grass-fed beef industry
- Understand the impact of beef genetics on grass-finishing success
- Understand how to manage forages and grazing (for bison and sheep also) for successful grass finishing
- Understand the need for quality packing and processing.... Ensuring a high-quality product

Economics

- Understand some basics of economics and grazing
- Understand the factors that can influence profitability in grass-finishing

There were 27 participants in attendance.



AGRICULTURE

Summary of activities in Chippewa County by **Jim Isleib, U.P. Crop Production**

- 49 phone/e-mail consultations, estimated
- 19 soil test clients, 54 soil test recommendations
- 48 Chippewa County residents attended live (pre-pandemic) or online meetings, including:
 - * Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference in Escanaba, March 11
 - * Recipes for Forage Success, Rudyard, March 9
 - * Swine Health Champions, online, May 18

Chippewa County residents viewed “What’s U.P. @ UPREC?” video series on You Tube or Facebook (unknown #)

88 Chippewa County residents received a mailed copy of the monthly MSU Extension “U.P. Ag Connections” Newsletter with another 50 (estimated) receiving a digital copy.

Investing in Chippewa County Youth with 4-H



*According to research completed by the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University, 4-H'ers are **4X** more likely to make contributions to their communities, **2X** more likely to be civically active, and **2X** more likely to make healthier choices.*

EMBRYOLOGY COMES TO LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The “Beginning of Life” 4-H project was brought to Lincoln Elementary School April 2021. The Embryology program is designed to teach responsibility, caring, and respect for a living thing. With an emphasis on a “hands-on” experience. The program helps youth grasp developmental processes and stages of growth while introducing youth to scientific processes and other areas of science.

Maggie Merchberger 4-H Program Coordinator for Chippewa County taught The “Beginning of Life” 4-H project virtually in eight lessons. These lessons included studying the parts of an egg to incubation, and keeping records of how the eggs were developing. Ending with the big event, hatch day. In addition to setting the eggs in the incubator, the students also learned how to candle the eggs and build a brooder box for the newly hatched chick. The program ended on May 7, 2021.

Mrs. Dovick, and Mr. Plummer’s 4th grade class and Mrs. Weber’s 2nd grade class took part in the Embryology program virtually. Maggie Merchberger was able to zoom into the classrooms to teach lessons on Embryology **to 70 students**.

The students helped to set 19 eggs in each classroom, which were purchased from **Townline Hatchery, a Michigan company**. The classrooms successfully hatched 22 chicks. The students were very proud of their



Michigan State University 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 their children to dream of successful futures. For more information about the programs we offer please refer to the contact information below.

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MSU Extension Upper Peninsula



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