

MANISTEE COUNTY 2021–2022 ANNUAL REPORT

PROGRAMS
ACCESSED BY
RESIDENTS

209

SOCIAL MEDIA
REACH

7,986

ONLINE
REACH

4,263

PROGRAMMING
REACH

1,222



I'm delighted to share the results of another successful year of partnership between Manistee 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 outreach 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. We continue to innovate post-pandemic by providing our outreach online, asynchronous, hybrid as well as in-person formats. These options have increased accessibility to Michigan State University resources by your residents. Our staff live and work alongside county residents, are rooted in community relationships and are responsive to community needs.

Our partnership with you makes this all possible. On behalf of the MSU Extension team serving Manistee County, thank you for another great year. We look forward to your continued support and hope you will be able to join us during one of our upcoming programs. - Jennifer Berkey, District 3 Director

*Helping people improve their lives through an educational process
that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.*





SUPPORTING AGRICULTURE & AGRIBUSINESS

Master Gardeners volunteered **80** hours valued at **\$2,396**



TelFarm

Agriculture Labor Sessions

MSU Extension helped **14** area farms representing over **70** jobs and **\$11.5 million** in sales in 2021 complete analysis of their farm's financial records to improve their financial standing.

Year-end tax estimate meetings provided farmers with the opportunity to save over **\$95,000**, resulting in more resources being available for purchases by these farmers in their communities.



Business of Cheese Making



Home Horticulture

- Through volunteer outreach, Extension Master Gardeners donated over 80 hours in Manistee County last summer, at projects such as the Armory Youth Project and Sophia Street Community Garden. By volunteering their time, they were helping to improve food security, improve sense of community, and developing youth through gardening.
- Soil test kits were a popular purchase this past year!
- County residents are always welcome to call, visit, or email Extension with questions regarding horticultural issues. Residents were also able to Zoom in for identification or diagnoses of plants, insects, and other problems!
- In addition, Manistee County residents were able to get questions answered by using Extension's Ask An Expert online service, as well as by calling the statewide Lawn & Garden hotline (1-888-678-3464), which are hosted by teams of MSU Specialists, Educators, and MSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers.

Farm Business Management

- MSU Extension Educator Stan Moore worked with multiple northern Michigan farmers to ensure a successful farm transfer to the next generation. Many of these farmers are using resources through the "Legacy of the Land" farm stress project, funded by both MDARD (Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural

Development) and federal grant dollars.

- 12 individuals completed the Artisan Cheese class in 2021, including several northern Michigan farms. Stan provided education on the "business of cheese making." Individuals who have completed this class are moving forward with new cheese-making enterprises on their farms.
- Stan Moore served as one of the educators for MSU's Hay Production 101 on-line program. 46 out of 60 respondents indicated that they improved their knowledge as part of this program, and 50 out of 60 indicated that they intended to make changes based on their involvement in the course.
- Over 190 individuals attended one of two Agriculture Labor sessions, coordinated by Stan Moore, at the Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market Expo held December 2021. Stan also provided multiple labor education meetings to farmers, including two virtual presentations, and two out of state programs for dairy farmers and fruit/vegetable farmers. These out of state meetings attracted over 700 farmers including some from northern Michigan.
- Stan Moore hosts a monthly "TelFarm User's Group" during the winter months. In 2021, five sessions were held with an average of six to seven MSU TelFarm program farmers. These sessions provide an opportunity for farmers to build the agenda, hear from the experts, and learn from one another. Although this is offered statewide, most participants have been from northern Michigan.



SUPPORTING AGRICULTURE & AGRIBUSINESS

Partnerships & Outreach

Fruit Crop Research

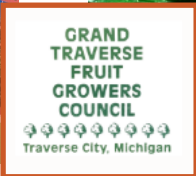
Profitable & Efficient Business & Production Practices



Over **650** contacts with Michigan grape growers to assist with production challenges and establish approximately **200** acres of new vineyards across the state



Northwest MI Orchard & Vineyard Show



Orchards & Vineyards

- The Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center (NWMHRC) has been partnering with the Grand Traverse Fruit Growers' Council for over 62 years to host the annual Northwest Michigan Orchard and Vineyard Show. This show is the northwest region of Michigan's premiere educational event and trade show for tree fruit and wine grape growers. Each year, these partners convene at the Grand Traverse Resort in mid-January for a two-day outreach program that provides cutting-edge information and research about tree fruit and wine grapes to Michigan fruit producers. Topics vary yearly based on grower need and seasonal challenges. Educators rely on Fruit Council membership to communicate with regional growers and share experiences on their own farms to best develop and organize a relevant and timely educational program. The Fruit Council membership solicits statewide agribusiness vendors to populate the biggest agricultural trade show in the region. These business partners support the annual Orchard and Vineyard Show but also provide the latest information on equipment, supplies, materials, and regulatory updates that growers rely on to manage their farms efficiently and effectively.

- The Fruit Council has sponsored many research projects throughout the years, many of which would not have been possible without this local support. Proceeds from the last two Orchard and Vineyard Shows were dedicated to the NWMHRC in support of a laboratory expansion. Although this project was put on hold during the pandemic, we broke ground on this new lab in February 2022. With the commitment of the Grand Traverse Fruit Growers' Council and other regional horticultural societies, these funds will be matched with other partners including the Michigan Tree Fruit Commission and MSU to complete this lab, hopefully in time for the 2022 field season.
- In order to strengthen connections and partnerships with the Michigan grape and wine industry, as well as other higher education institutions, MSU Extension collaborated in 19 industry meetings and events, as well as 15 nationwide extension meetings hosted by other higher education institutions such as Cornell and Penn State Universities. MSU Extension's Grape and Wine Educator also manages the vineyards at the NWMHRC during the growing season to support timely research for the northwest MI grape and wine industry.



DEVELOPING YOUTH & COMMUNITIES

85 Enrolled Youth
31 Adult Volunteers

Manistee County 4-H
May 17 · 🌐

Our first in-person 4-H event with [Dublin Heights Sports Club](#) was a huge success! Thank you DHSC, Manistee US Forest Service, Manistee Conservation District, MSU Extension Leadership and all the 4-H and community Volunteers who came out in support of this community service project and made it possible. We hope this is just the beginning of our transition back to more in-person events, only time will tell, but this was an incredible first step towards that as well as the new 4-H programs in Manistee county such as 4-H Shooting Sports and Outdoor Recreation. #SpartansWill #Manistee4HWill #TogetherWeWill



Learning life skills through hands-on experiences



Expanding Manistee 4-H

- Through youth voice, new 4-H interests and programs are coming to Manistee County, and the leading contender is 4-H Shooting Sports! Two grants have been applied for to aid in the implementation of this youth program: an On-Target Mini Grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation, and a Friends of NRA Grant. The On-Target Grant was awarded for the total amount of \$500 and is being used to send 4-H Gold Volunteers to train to become 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors.
- Continuing in the spirit of Manistee 4-H expansion, we received several new volunteer applications for the program and accepted five new program volunteers. Because of these volunteers, a brand new 4-H Club was formed and chartered in Manistee this year, to accommodate the influx of 4-H enrollments.
- Manistee 4-H has been working to build new partnerships within the community to increase access to 4-H programs and events. This year, partnerships have been building between 4-H and several

community centers: Pleasant Valley Community Center, The Woods Event Center, and Maple Grove Township Community Center. Almost equal distances apart from each other and spread from Arcadia, Kaleva, and Wellston, these partnerships have already yielded rewards for Manistee County and the 4-H Program through community connections that become 4-H participants or 4-H volunteers, space to provide essential programming, and a visual and consistent 4-H presence in the community.

Return of Nature Day at Magoon Creek

- Manistee County 4th grade students returned to the Magoon Creek Nature Center in 2021 to have an outdoor, hands-on classroom experience. Several program presenters shared their favorite topics about nature with the students. This was offered in a hybrid format for schools that still had field trip restrictions due to COVID-19 and for 4th (now 5th) graders who missed their trip in 2020 due to COVID.



DEVELOPING YOUTH & COMMUNITIES

Manistee County Fair



NEWS ADVOCATE

LOCAL NEWS

4-H Cloverbud kids follow in the steps of older generations

Kate Goodman, For the News Advocate
Aug. 22, 2021

MANISTEE COUNTY — As a young child with older siblings, one might find themselves following in their siblings footsteps. Looking up to their siblings, dreaming of participating in all events and sports, but, what is one to do if there isn't a sport offered to the younger generation?

The answer: 4-H Cloverbuds. The Cloverbud program was designed for younger kids to participate in 4-H events. The Manistee 4-H program is one of the oldest in Michigan, estimated to be around since the early 1800s.



Manistee County 4-H at the Fair

- 4-H across the state returned to in-person fair experiences in 2021, and Manistee and Benzie youth returned to Manistee County Fair in 2021. The Manistee 4-H Livestock Council purchased a brand new, digital livestock weight scale for the program, one of a few modern technologies at Fair. Other new modernizations for 2021 included using Fair Entry to manage class registrations, class placings, buyer information, buyer invoicing, and more. New 4-H events were hosted during the Manistee County Fair Week as well, such as Water Balloon Wars, 4-H Hoverball, the 4-H Barn Dance, and onsite Buyer's Appreciation Dinner during the livestock auction. These events not only were fun for the kids throughout the week, it also helped retain program members who were considering departing from the program. All these events will return to Manistee County Fair in 2022.



4-H Hoverball



Manistee County 4-H
August 13 at 11:47 AM

Manistee/Benzie 4-Her Allie and her canine Bo are our first 4-H Farm Dog and Handler to be Farm Dog Certified at Northwest Michigan Fair this morning! Congrats Allie and Bo, we're so proud of you both!





KEEPING PEOPLE HEALTHY & ENSURING SAFE FOOD



Cooking Matters for Teens



153 students positively impacted

"My students talk about food choices more."

"My students notice the different food groups."

"Kids are more likely to take a 'no thank you' bite – or at least try new foods."



Show Me Nutrition, Bear Lake



Milk for Onekama varsity athletes

Chocolate Milk for Athletes at Onekama Consolidated Schools

- MSU Extension works closely with Onekama's athletic teams to help student athletes reach peak performance by staying hydrated with chocolate milk. By partnering with MSU Extension, Onekama receives funding to purchase chocolate milk for their teams. Provided by the United Dairy Industry of Michigan, the Chocolate Milk: Nature's Sports Drink program encourages athletes to choose chocolate milk after grueling practices and games as it contains nine essential nutrients needed for overall health. Grant recipients have included the varsity football team and varsity boys basketball.

"Our student athletes are working extremely hard on the court and in the classroom and it will be great for them to have an option of chocolate milk to refuel. After a hard and intense practice or game, the athletes can drink chocolate milk which gives them fluids and electrolytes to rehydrate and replenish critical nutrients lost during practice and games." Nathan Bradford, varsity boys basketball coach

Youth Get Engaged

- Show Me Nutrition** Youth at Bear Lake and Onekama Schools participated in the Show Me Nutrition for youth, Pre-K through 8th grade. It is geared to promote healthy eating, physical activity, and food safety. Age-appropriate topics include MyPlate, nutrients, vitamins, snacks, healthy eating, and physical activity. Youth also participated in a virtual presentation, Let's Get Moving, which takes children on an adventure to learn why physical activity is important and how we can eat according to the MyPlate to make sure we have the energy we need to think, learn, grow, and play! Participation in these programs helps grow healthy bodies and minds so students are more attentive at school and can lead family members in making healthier choices.
- Cooking Matters for Teens** Cooking classes with the Armory Youth Project taught participating teens how to make healthy food choices, meals, and snacks for themselves, their families, and friends by using affordable and easy to cook recipes. Through a local grant, the Armory Youth Project was able to provide all attendees with take-home groceries so they could replicate the meal they made in class, at home. These



KEEPING PEOPLE HEALTHY & ENSURING SAFE FOOD

MSU Extension of Manistee County
November 5, 2021

Are you a resident of Crawford, Manistee, Missaukee, or Wexford county? Join us for a FREE online, self-paced nutrition class and earn up to \$100 to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Call 231-935-9255 to register, or register online at: <https://bit.ly/3o2qnWZ>.

EARN UP TO \$100 IN FRUITS & VEGETABLES

MY WAY TO WELLNESS

FREE, SELF-PACED ONLINE CLASS

Complete Nov. 16-Dec. 28, 2021

The program is for people in Crawford, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford Counties

#SNAPEdWorks Funded by the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—SNAP. Delivered by MSU Extension.

MSU Extension of Manistee County
May 12, 2021

Are you a resident of Crawford, Manistee, Missaukee, Oceana, or Wexford counties? Earn up to \$100 in fruits and vegetables? We're teaming up with District Health Department #10 and Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital Check out some of our upcoming classes by visiting the link below!

<https://bit.ly/33EloCk>

EVENTS.ANR.MSU.EDU
Munson PFH Spring/Summer 2021
Provides participants with tips and tricks to make cooking for one enjoyable and to include he...

Direct education from SNAP-Ed Programming works!

"I will continue to pay more attention to the food labels. You would never know how many empty calories they [beverages] contain!"

"The stretches that we worked on [in class] were also eye opening and will be something I will continue to do daily."

"I am making new goals to include more drinking water and eating a wider variety of fruits and vegetables."

71 adult participants

Building Better Lives . . .
One step at a time

classes teach youth how to feed themselves healthful food and to be safe in the kitchen as well as gaining independence while developing food preparation skills for future employment.

Partnership with Telamon

- Telamon provides educational services that lead to better jobs, lives, and communities. A program in partnership with Telamon focused on parents whose children attend a migrant and/or seasonal head start program. During this one-time presentation, attendees learned tips for a healthy lifestyle and how small changes can lead to big results!

Prescription for Health

- In partnership with District Health Department #10 and Munson Healthcare, residents of Manistee County are eligible to receive a prescription for \$100 in fruits and vegetables by accessing free, virtual nutrition education provided by MSU Extension's

Community Nutrition Instructors. Participants could engage in a few different programs like Eat Healthy, Be Active or My Way to Wellness that allowed residents to learn at their own pace and in their own homes. Eating healthy is made easy with increased access to fruits and vegetables plus engaged learning with our Community Nutrition instructors.

As a result of participating:

- ~ 50% of participants planned meals in advance more often
- ~ 40% of participants reported an increase in fruit and vegetable consumption
- ~ 40% of participants made small changes in their daily routine to be more active
- ~ 40% of participants increased participation in muscle-strengthening activities



FOSTERING STRONG COMMUNITIES



Portage Lake
150 year
celebration and
channel
dedication

Manistee County Regional Summit



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Michigan State University Extension
Land Use Series

Sample Zoning for Wind Energy Systems

Original version: March 6, 2017
Last revised: October 6, 2020¹

This document presents zoning ordinance sample amendments for utility scale wind energy systems (WES) and smaller wind energy systems (SWES).

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | MSU Extension

New sample zoning for wind energy systems

Mary Reilly, Michigan State University Extension - October 23, 2020

An updated wind energy zoning resource is available for local units of governments in Michigan.



Michigan Sea Grant

- Michigan's Great Lakes coasts are not just beautiful — they are dynamic ecosystems home to many species of fish, birds, plants, and other wildlife in a wide variety of habitat types. A large boating community, commercial and recreational fisheries, and rapid development along Michigan's coasts all present opportunities and challenges for the ecosystem. Michigan Sea Grant works to keep balance in the Great Lakes by supporting research, education, and outreach.
- Michigan Sea Grant assisted with planning a July 2021 Celebration at the Portage Lake Harbor (Onkama Township) which was a 150th Year Celebration of Portage Lake and the recent channel reconstruction (north of \$8M). Elected leaders from Manistee County Commissioners, Onkama Township, Onkama Village, along with members of the Portage Lake Harbor Commission, joined in the celebration and ceremony to recognize the support of Portage Lake and the channel reconstruction.

Government & Public Policy

- MSU Extension provided a two-hour workshop on wind energy zoning for the Brown Township planning commission. Wind energy zoning is very technical, and it has also been known to be controversial. The

township used information from this workshop to finish the details on new wind energy rules in a recent zoning ordinance update.

- MSU Extension provided customized training in June for the Manistee County planning commission on the Roles and Responsibilities of County Planning Commissions. Manistee County is unique due to contract zoning combined with a strong history of planning and GIS. The planning commission took several actionable steps after this meeting, including amending the bylaws to allow for meeting cancellation if there are no agenda items or for other reasons.
- The Manistee County Regional Summit in September offered a fantastic opportunity for MSU Extension to share the latest information on the Open Meetings Act. The Act was modified during the pandemic to allow for remote participation and then further amended to require a return to in-person meetings after December 31, 2021. Through a quick and interactive program, MSU Extension Educators shared the basics and lesser-known elements of the Act with participants from the region.
- Manistee County Economic Development Council met in November to chart a strategic course and identify priority actions. MSU Extension provided facilitation services to assist this dynamic board in developing a simple one-page summary they could use to convey



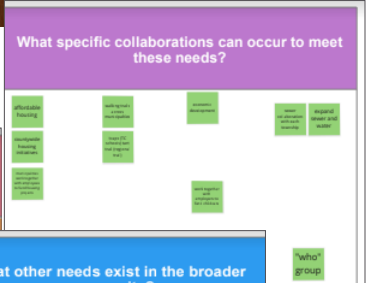
FOSTERING STRONG COMMUNITIES



ARPA workshop series: Over **750** participants from many of Michigan's nearly **1,900** units of government.



Northern Michigan Counties Association



priorities to the community. The plan is designed to be modified as plans and priorities evolve.

- County delegates to Northern Michigan Counties Association celebrated their return to in-person meetings in 2021 with great participation and decided to try hybrid meetings for 2022. Participants share lessons learned in their counties, learn about topics currently impacting county government, and discuss the impacts of pending legislation on county government.
- A series of meetings from late 2021 through early 2022, explored both House and Senate bills aimed at solving problems with the provision of Community Mental Health services. The goal of these discussions is to learn more about what is in the bills and to propose improvements to ensure higher quality services with less negative impact on counties.
- In September-October 2021, member regions of the Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) and MSU Extension hosted local and tribal government officials to explore American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund spending opportunities in a regional context. The workshop content was based on the U.S. Department of

Treasury's May 17, 2021 Interim Final Rule for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The 14 workshops, including an in-person in Traverse City, covered:

- ~ ARPA Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Basic Rules
- ~ Best Practices & Early Examples of ARPA Spending
- ~ Practical Considerations for Contracts, Accounting, and Project Management
- ~ Group Discussions Related to Regional Collaboration
- ~ Leveraging Other State & Federal Funding and Priorities

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