

Michigan State University Extension in Gladwin County: Solving Problems & Increasing Opportunities for Today & Tomorrow

On August 8, 2023, Gladwin County residents will be asked to continue investment in MSU Extension programs that helps families, businesses and professionals gain the knowledge they need to be healthy and safe, do their jobs better, build strong communities, protect local environments and help young people gain the confidence and skills needed to be successful. MSU Extension programs in Gladwin County help reduce the cost of public investment in health care and other governmental remediation services and increase the educational resources that helps families and local communities thrive.

Gladwin County residents receive \$3.50 in return value for every \$1 invested in MSU Extension programs through the voter-approved local millage.

Empowering and Equipping Youth Success

Data from 2012-2017 Michigan 4-H college access review shows that Michigan 4-H alumni are more likely to enroll in college the fall after high school than other Michigan students.

Since 2012, **61%** of Michigan 4-H youth have enrolled in college the fall after high school. In Michigan overall, that rate is 55%. This data is important as research shows students who enroll in college "on time" are more likely to complete their degree.

In 2023, Gladwin County MSU Extension 4-H programs engaged a total of **262** Gladwin County youth in a variety of virtual 4-H clubs and programs.

4-H club participation has proven to help prepare young people for work, especially for jobs in science, technology, engineering and math. In 2023, Gladwin County 4-H provided 22 program activities to over **800** youth, with 14 clubs and 32 adult volunteers.

Educating to Fight Foreclosure

Michigan has the third highest rate of foreclosure (one in every 2,617 housing units) in the U.S., according to ATTOM, a curator of the nation's property database.

MSU Extension offers financial and homeownership education to community members. Financial capability education offers families and individuals tools and support to manage their personal finances and achieve financial goals. They learn to utilize a spending plan, pay their bills on-time, build a savings, as well as manage their debt and achieve their own financial goals MSU Extension also provides educational programs regarding housing: rental education, home-buyer education and foreclosure prevention. These opportunities are offered in a group setting, or individuals may meet with a housing counselor staff member on a one-to-one basis.

Gladwin County Impact

MSU Extension is eager to continue serving Gladwin County residents in strong partnership with the County Board of Commissioners. By working together, MSU Extension can continue to help people improve their lives by bringing the vast knowledge resources of Michigan State University directly to individuals, families, businesses and communities.