



Crawford County

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS



203,293 youth program participants in Michigan



703 Crawford County 4-H participants



\$16,109 spent with local businesses



12 Crawford County students enrolled at MSU in Fall 2019



\$1,856,814 total economic impact from MSU in Crawford County



228 MSU alumni live in Crawford County



\$122,868 financial aid disbursed from MSU to Crawford County students



251 acres in Crawford County owned by MSU



8.2m total MSU Extension website visitors

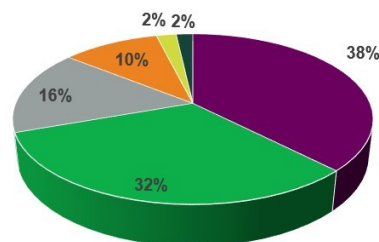
MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

During 2019, Michigan State University (MSU) Extension partnered with Crawford County to strengthen youth, families, businesses and communities. In this report, we will highlight local and statewide programs that made a difference in Crawford County residents' lives; [including:](#)

- helping older adults manage chronic conditions; including diabetes, chronic pain, and preventing falls;
- providing opportunities for youth's career and leadership development through 4-H;
- teaching families how to buy, cook and eat nutritious foods;
- helping communities grow their tourism and community development opportunities; and
- providing a suite of online resources and programs.

Because of your continued support, we are able to help Crawford County residents improve their lives, their work places and their communities. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Crawford County and we're looking forward to another successful year ahead.

How MSU Extension is Funded



- Grants
- State appropriations
- County investments
- Federal Cooperative Extension
- Federal special projects
- MSU general fund



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Program Highlights



SNAP-Ed helps participants learn how to establish healthy eating habits and increase their physical activity, all while staying within their food budget.

Nutrition Education

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education reached **637 youth and 177 adults for a total of 814 participants.**

Through a Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Community grant, instructors were able to provide grade-level assemblies to Crawford-AuSable School District K-5th grades and support their Healthy Kids Club efforts. Other program partners included Shawono Juvenile Detention Center, Juvenile Probation, Grayling High School Viking Food Pantry & Crawford County Commission on Aging.



Forest Field Day at Grayling Middle school took place on the school-district owned 40 acres, where 105 sixth grade students learned about native trees and how to identify them.

Making the Most of Our Natural Assets

From learning forestry practices, enhancing wildlife habitats and the impact of local forestry services at the Forestry & Wildlife Expo to monitoring data on Sentinel trees and learning to identify forest pests at Eyes on the Forest, from clean water education to a bio-mass thermal tour and providing forestry education and camps to local students, **almost 200 Crawford County residents have participated in natural resources education.**



Across the state, there are 3000+ MSU Extension Master Gardeners.

Supporting Home Gardening

MSU Extension offers many resources including the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program, the Smart Gardening initiative and a gardening hotline at 1-888-678-3464.

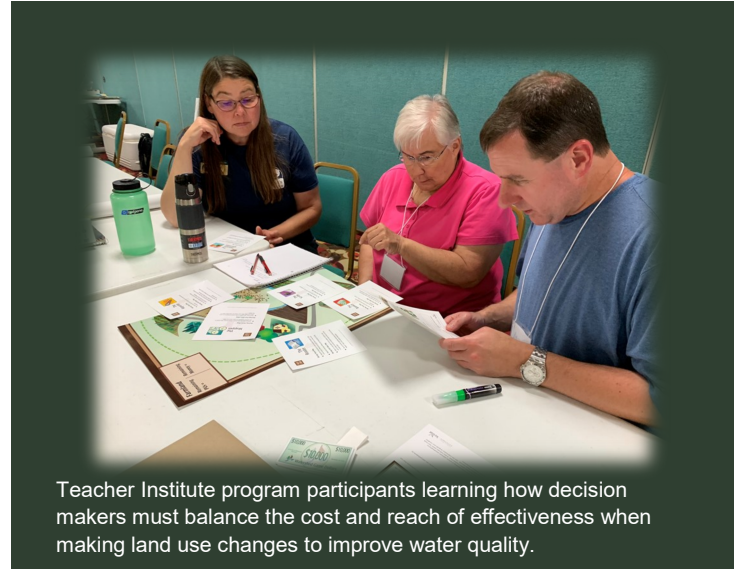
In Crawford County, residents utilized the hotline as part of the 6,500 calls received in 2019. Residents also participated in programs like fruit tree care and pruning, residential and commercial soil testing, and more.

Program Highlights

Developing Youth & Communities

Four Grayling teachers participated in the 2019 Lake Huron Place-Based Education Summer Teacher Institute for two days in Grayling. The teachers learned alongside Great Lakes scientists, managers, interpreters and place-based education experts with a focus on watershed science, place-based stewardship, and Great Lakes literacy principles.

“The networking is great. The instructors are knowledgeable & capable to share their information. The program helped to bring a new perspective to current knowledge.” -Program Participant



Teacher Institute program participants learning how decision makers must balance the cost and reach of effectiveness when making land use changes to improve water quality.

4-H Youth Development

4-H is the nation’s largest youth development organization with programs in every Michigan county, including Crawford. 4-H believes in the ability of youth to not only be the leaders of tomorrow, but to be leaders today in their own communities. Through participating in a variety of clubs, camps, and other special events, youth can increase their knowledge about topics that interest them and learn by doing. In 2019, **703 youth in Crawford County participated in 4-H programs with 80 youth being individually enrolled in local clubs and camps.**



The 4-H Explorers Cloverbud SPIN Club met for 8 weeks to learn what it means to be a 4-H'er. Each lesson and activity tied back to one of the Hs: Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

Fostering Strong Communities

MSU Extension offers evidence-based programming that focuses on the socio-economic potential of the area while addressing the needs of residents and community leadership.

In 2019, programs like Citizen Planner, Understanding Citizen Redistricting, Building a Better Budget in Local Government, The Impact of Federal Politics on Local Government, and Opportunity Zone education were amongst the most popular locally. **Over 21 MSU Extension Educators worked to provide this programming to Crawford County residents.**



Fiscally Ready Communities participants learned about the foundation of fiscal stability in local government and creating a budget process that supports essential investments while addressing current and future challenges.

Crawford County, MSU Extension & Local Partnerships



MSU Extension received two grants to fund evidence-based fall prevention programs for older adults. To maximize grant efforts, we partnered with the Commission on Aging to provide Matter of Balance, Tai Chi for Arthritis, Fall Prevention and Walk with Ease. Grants included training for MSU Extension and Commission on Aging staff. Throughout the year MSU Extension also provided programming on topics such as diabetes, chronic pain and mindfulness. Social – emotional workshops were provided to community partners such as DHHS staff. **Over 100 hundred Crawford residents participated in these programs.**



"I was fortunate to participate in this class. It was very helpful, the booklet was easy to understand and read and follow directions. Nicole Wethington is exceptional and such a competent, caring instructor. She engages the class and we all feel free to discuss and ask any questions. The class benefit me immensely. I am in my eighties!!"

-Dorothy P.

MSU Extension 4-H partnered with Gahagan Nature Preserve, Family Fare, Hanson Hills, and the Crawford Partnership for Substance Abuse Prevention to provide two sessions of a free 3-day summer day camp to Crawford and Roscommon County youth. Participants learned important survival skills such as seeking shelter, orienteering, fire building, and more. Following the camp, because of our partnership with the Crawford Partnership for Substance Abuse Prevention, Crawford County 4-H received gift funds to support future programs.



Stayin' Alive Day
Camp Week 1:
8-10 year olds



Stayin' Alive Day
Camp Week 2:
11-14 year olds

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