



Eaton County 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS



MSU had \$75,619,076 total economic impact in Eaton County



527 youth participated in 4-H clubs, early childhood or after school programs



MSU Extension website received 22,038,201 page views by Michigan residents. Of the 560 Eaton County sessions, over 66% still used desktop computers to access the webpages.



1,411 Eaton County residents participated in 435 different MSUE programs in 2023, with an estimated 8,944 contact hours by programming staff.

100

Serving Eaton County over 100 years

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Eaton County MSU Extension provided programming from all four MSU Extension institutes in 2023. Each institute is home to Educators, Program Instructors, Program Coordinators, Paraprofessionals, Students, and various part-time staff who live and work in the local communities. A detailed list of staff is included at the end of this report. The following pages highlight just some of the programming that staff delivered to Eaton County residents in 2023.



During this period, over 1,400 Eaton County residents participated in 435 different in-person or online programs. In addition, 459, 4-H youth and 210, 4-H volunteers participated in club activities and projects leading up to the 2023 Eaton County Fair. Your local MSU Extension staff and the statewide network of Educators worked through local partners to bring the University's research and resources directly to our County residents.

CONTACT



Eaton County MSU Extension
551 Courthouse Drive #1
Charlotte, MI 48813



canr.msu.edu/outreach
msue.eaton@msu.edu



Michigan State University Extension



(517) 543-2310



@MSUExtension

MICHIGAN STATE
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Extension



Supporting Agriculture and Agri-Business

Agriculture and Agribusiness Institute



Farm Business Educators explain the Farm bill.

PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPATION

Animal Agriculture	31 and 140
Farm Business	9 and 62
Consumer Hort.	21 and 267
Environmental	5 and 14
Field Crops	45 and 166
Fruit Crops	10 and 48
Ornamental Hort.	5 and 37
Vegetables	5 and 53



Photo by Heather Dyer.

PROGRAMS HOSTED LOCALLY

- Williams Farm Machinery Customer Appreciation Day
- Charlotte FFA - SPS Presentation
- Charlotte FFA - ERAIL Presentation
- Smart Gardening, Delta Twp District Library, Closing out your garden
- One-on-one education 161



Fifty-nine on-farm research trials were conducted across Michigan in 2022 to help inform producers in 2023.

ON-FARM RESEARCH

Since soybean yield increases have not kept pace with those of corn, wheat, and sugar beets, on-farm research helps producers evaluate products, practices and equipment. This is all with an eye to increase yield and profitability.

Last year fifty-nine on-farm research trials were conducted across Michigan to help inform producers. In 2023, MSU Extension cooperated with the Michigan Soybean Committee to plan, promote, conduct and evaluate six regional meetings to share the research results and gather feedback.

After summarizing the survey results, the financial impact of the research applied was one of many helpful findings. The average amount of additional income was \$17.03 per acre applied to 16,058 acres, producing an actual financial impact of \$273,512 in 2023!

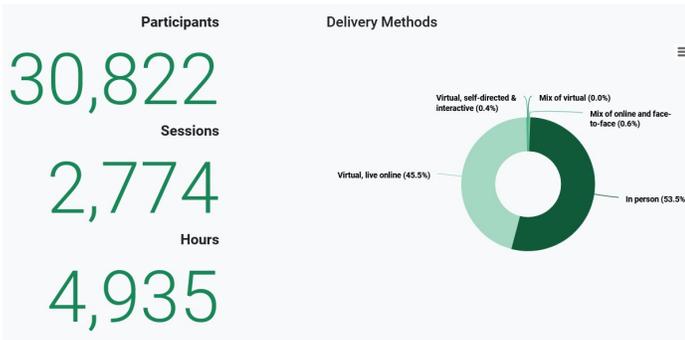


Supporting Good Health and Safe Food

Health and Nutrition Institute

PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPATION

Food Safety 57 programs
 General Health 70 programs
 SNAP-Education 7 programs
 Statewide over 30,000 participants!



PROGRAMS HOSTED LOCALLY

Family Medicine Immunization Update
 Tai Chi I - Charlotte
 TeenCuisine - Delta Township
 Michigan Cottage Food Law Training
 Alison House
 Presentations on food budgeting, meal planning, and using food pantry foods



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Our Community Nutrition Instructors work with schools, community groups, even the courts, providing basic nutrition education and physical activity. On one occasion this past year, Joanna Urban was wrapping up programming with a fourth-grade class. They were discussing what they had learned about nutrition and physical activity. One student raised his hand to comment about a change that occurred after tracking his physical activity. "I get way over an hour of exercise every day now. Since the first day you came to our class, I cut four hours of video games out of my day....I told my dad that I was worried about how much he plays video games, and he told me he would stop playing them completely."





Supporting Youth Development

Children and Youth Institute



The MSU Extension Children and Youth Institute provides programs for youth, caregivers, and families.

PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPATION

4-H general learning	20 programs
Career Exploration and Workforce Development	16 programs
Child and Family Development	76 programs
Healthy Living	2 programs
Leadership and Civic Engagement	12 programs
Science literacy	7 programs



4-H offers youth the opportunity to pick an animal or still-life project and learn throughout the year. The culmination is often the show at the County Fair.

PROGRAMS HOSTED LOCALLY

Youth Involvement In 4-H Clubs	459
Youth Involvement In 4-H and afterschool	527
4-H Clubs	25
4-H Volunteers	210
All participants received training, participated in meetings, updates, and even learned parliamentary procedure.	



4-H is Michigan's largest youth development program serving over 200,000 youth each year.

4-H INVOLVEMENT IN THE FAIR

Beef	50 entries
Cavies	9 entries
Dairy	13 entries
Dairy Market	89 entries
Goats	54 entries
Poultry	31 entries
Rabbits	67 entries
Sheep	55 entries
Swine	111 entries
Horse	38 entries
Dog	27 entries
And hundreds of non-animal entries	



Supporting Strong Communities

Community, Food, and Environment Institute



PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPATION

Community Food Systems	5 programs
Financial and Homeownership	26 programs
Government and Community Vitality	21 programs
Leadnet	5 programs
Natural Resources	14 programs
Product Center	14 programs
Sea Grant	11 programs



PROGRAM EXAMPLES

- Spending Plans Saving
- Foreclosure Prevention
- Introduction to Lakes
- MSU Gate “Guppies” class: Woods, Water, and Wildlife of Michigan
- Conservation Conversations
- One-on-one education 18 contacts

Participants

3,285

Sessions

281

Hours

441

HELPING STRUGGLING HOMEOWNERS

MSU Extension Educator Brenda Long is on the Financial and Homeownership Education (FHE) team. She assisted homeowners with the online Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund (MIHAF) process. Many of these homeowners did not have the technology skills to self-apply and upload the required documents. She also provided follow-up assistance. As a HUD certified housing counselor, Brenda could also provide in-depth mortgage counseling to homeowners including communicating with their mortgage servicers and submitting a mortgage assistance application. She also worked closely with several county treasurers who referred homeowners facing foreclosure for delinquent property taxes.

Statewide over 3,285 participants in Finance and Home Ownership programs!

MSU Extension staff located in Eaton County

Zaire Parotte	4-H Program Coordinator	(517)543-4420	zaire@msu.edu
Heather Dyer	Health & Nutrition Social Media	(517)543-4405	dyerh@msu.edu
Health/Nutrition	Community Nutrition Instructor	(517)543-4468	
Agriculture	Agriculture and Agribusiness	(517)-543-4463	
All institutes	Office Manager	(517)543-2310	
Bill Hendrian	District 8 Director	(616)527-5358	hendria2@msu.edu

Additional MSU Extension staff serving Eaton County

Charles Gould	Bioenergy Educator	(616)994-4547	gouldm@msu.edu
Sheila Hebert	Maternal Infant Health Educator	(517)432-3076	murphysh@msu.edu
Monica Jean	Field Crops Educator	(616)443-8782	atkinmon@msu.edu
Steve Whittington	Field Crops Educator	(989)831-7500	whitti34@msu.edu
Ezra Pompos	Housing & Financial Instructor	(517)887-4588	epompos@msu.edu
Holly Tiret	Social Emotional Educator	616-632-7893	tiret@msu.edu
Roxanne Turner	CYI / 4-H Supervising Educator	517-546-3950	turnerr@msu.edu
Eric Walcott	Government & Public Policy	517-353-9106	walcott3@msu.edu
Casey Zangaro	Swine Educator	989-875-5292	zangaroc@msu.edu
Paola Bacigalupo Sanguesa	Dairy Educator	970-888-1356	paolabs@msu.edu
Katie Ockert	Community, Food, Environment Educator		ockertka@msu.edu