

Emmet County 2021-2022 Annual Report



I'm delighted to share the results of another successful year of partnership between Emmet 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, 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, and are rooted in community relationships and responsive to community needs.

Our partnership with you makes this all possible. On behalf of the MSU Extension team serving Emmet 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. - Adam Koivisto, District 14 Director



4-H GROWS HERE



Rita enjoying the afternoon, riding her horse Beau



Crafter Best in Show Exhibit



My name is Amanda Foster. I was born and raised in Petoskey where I've grown my family. I've spent most of my life with 4-H. It all began as a member, then a parent, a leader, and now the Emmet County 4-H Program Coordinator.



I've experienced firsthand the benefits of 4-H. It brings responsibility, self-confidence, and most importantly communication and life skills.

I'm proud to say my kids enjoy a similar lifestyle I grew up with. We have a small hobby farm with horses, pigs, cattle, sheep, chicken, ducks and, most recently, bees.

As a family, we create a new goal every year to either learn something new or start a new project. My kids are learning valuable skills that they will carry with them, and we enjoy every moment of chaos a farm brings.

I'm excited to share my enthusiasm for agriculture to our youth in Emmet County and provide hands-on experiences to help kids learn. I can't wait to share the same opportunities my children have with others.





4-H GROWS HERE



Fair has come and gone with a whirlwind of activities. The busy week never allows for much downtime between barn chores, show preparation, shows, barn duties, time spent with friends and, of course, the little time 4-H'ers have to jump on a few rides and enjoy a yummy elephant ear.

The beginning of fair is always quiet, and sometimes a bit awkward. After all, it's been a year since the kids are together for longer than just a quick monthly meeting. Friendships are rekindled and new friendships are formed in both youth and adults. You can hear the praise and encouragement from these friends on the sidelines at shows or in the show prep area as they all pitch in to make it happen! Although 4-H is competitive, everyone wants to compete with the best, even if that means helping one another to make sure they are on a level playing field - that's just what the members will do.



Monday night's Swine Show



Completing a GooseChase Mission—Doing the Conga!



Racing 4-H Club releases pigeons with messages!

Our 4-H motto “to make the best better” is apparent when taking a bird’s eye view of our 4-H’ers. At the end of the day, all the kids win. They’ve spent months upon months with their project, caring, learning, documenting, pushing themselves and their animals to be the best. Everyone leaves fair with new goals but are extremely proud of their accomplishments.

As the week dies down, it’s sometimes hard to process all the things that happened in such a short time. This year we played a scavenger hunt using an app called GooseChase. It encouraged our 4-H families to learn more about others and push some outside of their comfort zone of talking to new people. Some of the challenges included, find someone with birth months for each month of the year, take a picture of 4-Hers from 5 years old- 18 years old, take a selfie with the Fair Manager, find random things around the grounds, community service ideas for the upcoming year and even doing



Molly with Fair Manager, Agnes Shaw



Arianna riding her pony, Honey



Clowning around during Saturday’s costume contest

4-H GROWS HERE

the chicken dance in the chicken barn! We learned new things about people and even who had the best pig calls, snorts, or gobbles on the ground! Everyone enjoyed running around trying to complete 266 missions. 26 teams were formed, 3,680 submissions, and endless connections and laughs were made. The game helped us piece together the week as we looked back at the videos and pictures of the memories made. It also gave us an opportunity to ask on an individual level of our youth’s goals, challenges, program ideas, educational ideas. Overall, it helped me to get to know them a little better, and we all shared some memories along the way.





4-H GROWS HERE



87 year-round youth
9 year-round clubs



Junior Beef, Bunnies,
Sheep, and Chickens,
Oh My!



- 4-H Clubs**
- Barnyard Fusion 4-H Club
 - C4 Community 4-H Club
 - Pounding Hooves 4-H Club
 - Flying Clover 4-H Racing Pigeon Club
 - Wild Riders 4-H Club
 - Stable Mates 4-H Club
 - Bear River 4-H Club
 - Magic Needles 4-H Club
 - Lakeview Livestock 4-H Club

On behalf of myself and our 4-H program, I would like to thank our generous community for the wonderful support. Our community has gone above and beyond to ensure our youth have the best experiences and learning opportunities available. For more information or ways to support the 4-H program, contact me at furgeso3@msu.edu or by calling 231.439.8974.—Amanda Foster

COMMUNITY FOOD & ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE

Supporting Food & Farming Entrepreneurs

The MSU Product Center assists Emmet County residents in developing products and businesses in the areas of food, agriculture, natural resources and the bioeconomy. Product Center Innovation Counselor, Wendy Wieland, conducts confidential counseling with entrepreneurs that is tailored to meet the needs of the client. It may include developing a business plan, navigating the regulatory maze, accessing a supply chain or researching funding options. Wieland also assists clients in accessing specialized services offered through Michigan State University. These services range from feasibility studies for larger scale projects or grant applications to nutritional labeling and packaging assistance for a first-time artisan food manufacturer.



Over the past year, Emmet County based MSUE Product Center staff assisted 23 Emmet County businesses, who in turn employ more than sixty-four people and have combined annual sales over \$2 million. One new business was launched and thirteen jobs were created. The number of women owned and led businesses continues to grow, with those firms representing more

than half of the total. Area farms increasingly rely on Agritourism activities to meet growing consumer demand for a direct connection to local farms. These businesses attract 'new to farming' entrepreneurs and remain an important part of the agricultural industry in Emmet County.



MSU Extension works to increase farmers' success while protecting the environment, ensuring food safety, reaching new markets and advancing agriculture through applied research. Agriculture is now one of the fastest growing sectors of the Michigan economy.

COMMUNITY FOOD & ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE



Making It In Michigan

hosted by

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Product Center
Food • Ag • Bio



THE 2022 VIRTUAL NORTHERN MICHIGAN SMALL FARM CONFERENCE

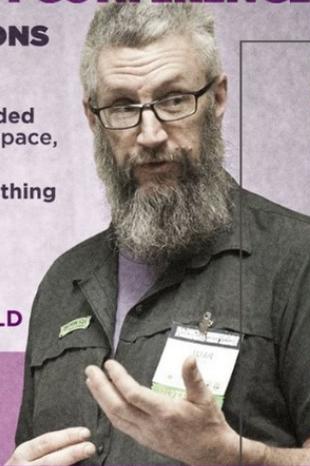
20 LIVE SESSIONS
VIA ZOOM FROM
FEB 2-6, 2022

plus, view pre-recorded content at your own pace, with captions

transcripts for everything

access to all materials for one year

\$25/HOUSEHOLD



Diversifying Farms, Building Local Food Systems

Local food system development is another focus of MSUE staff serving Emmet County. MSUE staff continues to support area Farmers' Markets, Farm to School initiatives, food security efforts, all in an effort to build capacity and resiliency in our local food system. These initiatives are made possible through collaborations with a host of community partners: Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, Crosshatch Center for Art and Ecology, Health Department of Northwest Michigan, Local Food Alliance of Northern Michigan, Public Schools of Petoskey, North Central Michigan College, Grain Train Natural Food Market, Harbor Springs Public Schools, Petoskey Area Chamber of Commerce, Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation, Northern Lakes Economic Alliance, Michigan Farm Bureau, and USDA Rural Development. For a detailed look at some of these efforts, see the Local Food Alliance report at:

[2022 Petoskey Area Chamber State of Community](#)

COMMUNITY FOOD & ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE



Excite Vaccination Education program: Ribbon Skirt Workshop Cohosted with Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Youth Services office 2022



Leadership from Michigan State University attended a Meet Michigan event on Thursday July 28th in Petoskey. The meeting consisted of updates by University leaders to the crowd of stakeholders, as well as question and answer with attendees and the panel. MSU Extension stakeholders from across District 14 were invited and attended the event.

Attendees at Meet Michigan Thursday July 28th 2022. Panelists (standing), MSU Provost Dr. Teresa Woodruff, Interim Dean of the MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dr. Kelly Millenbah, Director of MSU Extension Dr. Quentin Tyler and AgBio Research Director Dr. George Smith.

COOKING MATTERS



MSU Extension Cooking Matters Receives New Grant to Help Parents Learn Food Skills Education through their Healthcare Provider

District 14 Local Families Expected to Benefit from Pilot Project

MSU Extension is a recipient of a new grant to test innovative ways to bring food skills education to parents and caregivers of young children (age 0-5) through their healthcare provider. The grant from the national Cooking Matters campaign; which works to inspire families to make healthy, affordable food choices; will help District 14 local families learn the skills to plan, shop for and prepare healthy meals.

Pregnant women and caregivers of young children have regular touchpoints with the healthcare system, and healthcare providers are often a trusted source of information reported by this audience. However, nutrition and food skills education are often limited in healthcare settings, or not delivered in an accessible way. Research conducted by Cooking Matters and the University of North Carolina shows that parents and caregivers of young children want flexible, individualized education opportunities in healthcare settings that will help them meet their families' health and wellness goals.

"Ask any pregnant woman or caregiver to a young child who they turn to for trusted advice, and they'll most likely say their healthcare provider," said Jill Panichelli, Director of Partnerships and Expansion for Cooking Matters. "That advice should include how to make the best food choices for your family within your budget. Through this new partnership with MSU Extension, we'll better understand how to reach busy families with these important skills, because everyone deserves delicious, healthy food."

MSU Extension will use Cooking Matters' award-winning curricula and content to test shorten lessons, implement Bright by Text messaging, and disseminate QR code education materials. MSU Extension will also conduct focus groups and take part in a learning cohort with other organizations around the country, to share best practices and support successful implementation of the grant. The pilot project will run from May 2022 to October 2022.

We are grateful for this grant opportunity, as we continue to evolve as a Cooking Matters Implementing Agency. A HUGE thanks to Alcona Healthcare Centers for their continued partnership and look forward to serving parents and caregivers of young children at their sites.

~Imelda Galdamez (MSU Extension Cooking Matters Principal Investigator)

COOKING MATTERS®



FOOD AND HEALTH

We are very pleased to announce that Jane Sherry joined our MSU Extension team. Jane began her journey with us on August 8th 2022:

“Hi, my name is Jane Sherry, and I am the new Community Nutrition Instructor for MSU Extension, based in Gaylord. I will be teaching classes on nutrition and physical activity in three counties: Otsego, Charlevoix, and Emmet County. I am passionate about helping others to make healthy decisions for themselves. I look forward to making a difference in my community!” - Jane



Burn calories, not toast.

Satisfy your hunger for exercise with a kitchen-inspired workout.



#MoveItMonday

MoveItMonday.org

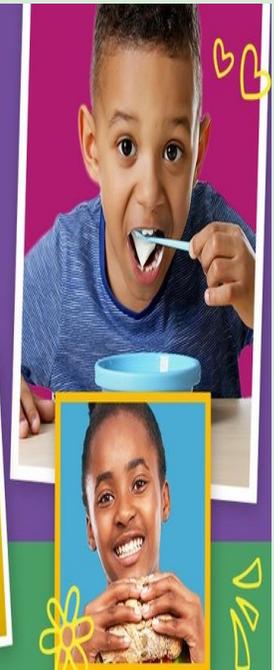
MOVE IT MONDAY!

SHOP, COOK & EAT
WITH NUTRITION
in mind!

#KidsEatRight

KIDS eat right.

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation



MSU Extension’s programming promotes healthy lifestyles and empowers Michigan residents to take control of their health. Participants learn how to build nutritious diets on a budget, reduce foodborne diseases and become leaders in the food industry.

4,779 DIRECT EDUCATION CLASSES OFFERED



528

Face to Face



93

Hybrid



4118

Virtual



40

Phone

AGRICULTURE

Northern Michigan has so much to offer in terms of its natural resources. Our counties are homes to beautiful woods and waters, as well as many acres of productive farmland. In addition to growing the food that feeds many families across our towns, our state, and our nation, our farms are also the livelihood of many families that call our counties home. Agriculture is an essential component of building and maintaining rural economies. As an organization, we work diligently to provide our local farms with up to date, useful information, and research that contributes to their growth, economic security, and environmental sustainability.

Farming in Northern Michigan poses challenges that are unique to our area. Because of these unique challenges and isolation from many agricultural services, MSU Extension works to bridge the gap between our farms, and other areas of agriculture that our farms compete with. One way we help our farms in this respect is through multiple on-farm research projects. These local research projects give our area producers management and crop variety data that is specific to our area. No two farms are alike, therefore providing this data on the local level helps our county's farmers to be more competitive and more profitable.



2021-2022 FY Highlights Utilized by Emmet County Residents:

Heroes to Hives Courses

Beef Quality Assurance Certification

MI Ag Ideas to Grow With Confidence

Cabin Fever Conversations

MI Great Beer State Conference and Trade Show

Supporting MSU Extension also gives our local producers increased access to information and expertise from faculty and specialists within Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. In turn, faculty and specialists also receive insight into issues facing agriculture in our area, which can aid or steer their research, to our local benefit. We also work to inform our area producers and agribusiness professionals of current issues facing agriculture through multiple forms of communication including newsletters, press releases, grower meetings, field days, and web meetings. This helps our producers to be prepared for any production issues that can affect their farms.

EMMET COUNTY OFFICE

As MSU Extension continues to bring research and education to citizens across the state, these wonderful resources help reach every community member in our counties:

- [Ask Extension](#) offers one-to-one answers from MSU Extension experts and Extension Master Gardener volunteers on topics such as lawns, gardening, agriculture, food safety, food preservation, natural resources, community development, youth programming and more! Visit Ask Extension at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert> .
- **The MSU Extension Lawn and Garden Hotline** is made up of Extension Master Gardeners with the knowledge and resources to help community members with questions from “What plant is this?” to “What’s eating my flowers?” Call the hotline at: (888) 678-3464,

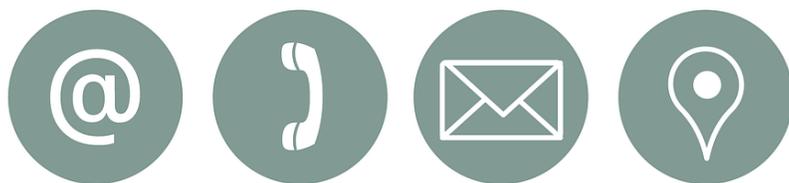
Resources at your Fingertips

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3434 Harbor-Petoskey Rd, Suite D
Harbor Springs, MI 49770

PHONE: 989-348-1770

EMAIL: msue.emmet@msu.edu

WEB: www.canr.msu.edu/emmet



When in doubt, a quick call, email, or stop by the Emmet County MSU Extension office is always a great idea. Office Manager, Sheri Kriesch, will use the extensive resources of MSU Extension experts, articles, and research to help find answers to your questions.



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

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MISSION:

Michigan State University Extension helps people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical needs and issues and opportunities.

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