



Ogemaw County 2021 Annual Report

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR



It is once again my pleasure to provide you with a snapshot of the work that Michigan State University (MSU) Extension is doing in your community. The circumstances of the past two years have presented new and unique challenges for us and many others. However, because of your continued support, MSU Extension has been able to continue its long tradition of providing programming and educational resources that help to enhance the lives of Ogemaw County residents, contribute to community prosperity and address critical issues as they arise in communities.

In 2021, MSU Extension provided **3,454** points of contact to Ogemaw County residents through articles, virtual and online programming and in person experiences. We worked with local audiences and community partners to deliver our services in the safest way possible and expanded our reach to new audiences through the use of technology.

Your support of:

- MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development allowed over **1,385** youth to learn lifelong skills, develop leadership abilities, explore new interests and discover the value of community service.
- MSU Extension food programs allow residents to learn about the safety, security and affordability of local fresh foods, how to use them, where to find them, or how to start a cottage food business of their own.
- MSU Extension nutrition and physical activity programs allowed over **156** county residents to improve the quality of their diets and become more active.

We hope you are as proud of this important partnership as we are. We thank you for another great year and the continued opportunity to serve this great community.

Julia (Julie) Darnton, District Director

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CHILDREN & YOUTH

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Michigan 4-H is the largest youth development organization in Michigan and provides more than 200,000 young people with experiential learning opportunities to explore new interests and discover their passions. In 2021, **1310** Ogemaw County youth participated in **36** 4-H programs delivered both virtually and in-person (as COVID-19 pre-cautions shifted).



4-H:

- develops youth as current and future leaders by providing programs that instill young people with knowledge and skills to become positive agents of change through leadership development, civic engagement and education, global citizenship, and cultural competency programming;
- assists youth in preparing for and finding gainful employment opportunities through entrepreneurship, financial literacy, career exploration, and workforce preparation programs; and
- excites youth about future science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) careers and build critical STEM skills. These programs seek to increase aspirations and attitudes toward science, interest and engagement in science, and skills in critical thinking, problem solving and decision making.

AGRICULTURE & AGRIBUSINESS

MSU Extension serves the agriculture industry by engaging in research, education and outreach that enhances the quality of life of Michigan residents. In 2021, **59** Ogemaw County residents participated in programming related to animal agriculture, agribusiness management, beekeeping, consumer and ornamental horticulture, and field crops, fruit crops, and vegetables.



Bovine Leukosis Virus is an incurable and untreatable infector of cattle which is estimated

to cost a herd owner \$270 per cow annually. In 2021, MSU Extension was awarded a grant from the Michigan Alliance for Animal Agriculture to help herd owners with low prevalence of Bovine Leukosis Virus (BLV) identify and remove cows that test positive for the virus and to develop a program that recognizes BLV-free status in Michigan. Local educator Phil Durst recruited two farms in the area as cooperators for this project.





17 residents attended the 2021 Corn Silage Field Event and learned about quality differences between corn hybrids and the impact of those differences on the ration for the cows and the costs of feeding them.









PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

HEALTH & NUTRITION

 **ADULT Physical Activity Improvements**


 **44%** increased moderate physical activity participation

 **38%** increased strength training activities

YOUTH	Health & Nutrition Impact	3rd-5th Grade	6th-12th Grade
	increased vegetable consumption	31%	34%
	decreased soda consumption	29%	27%
	increased physical activity	33%	37%
	washed their hands more often	27%	22%
	decreased screen time	31%	27%

YOUTH K-2nd Grade Impact

- 79%** Washed their hands more before handling food.
- 43%** Bring more fruits and veggies as snacks.
- 95%** Can identify healthy food choices.
- 83%** Increased physical activity.
- 77%** Are now eating more fruits and vegetables.



MSU Extension partners with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to provide SNAP-Ed, a nutrition education program designed to reduce hunger and food insecurity and promote healthy eating habits for people who are eligible for food assistance programs. MSU Extension SNAP-Ed community nutrition instructors teach youth, individuals, and families how to make health a priority. The goal of SNAP-Ed is to improve the likelihood that SNAP-eligible persons will make healthy food choices within a limited budget and choose physically active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA food guidance. In 2021, **183 Ogemaw County residents** participated in SNAP-Ed programs, such as Cooking for One, Peak Health Performance, and Eat Healthy Be Active.

SUPPORTING STRONG COMMUNITIES

As a result of MSU Extension’s social-emotional programming, **53** Ogemaw residents learned how to manage their anger, reduce stress, thrive as caregivers, practice mindfulness and strengthen their families’ and communities’ understanding of and response to mental health crises. Residents participated in **26** programs including Stress Less with Mindfulness, Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention, and Mindful Mondays.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Our natural resources programs improve public understanding, help landowners and communities use those assets for sustainable long-term social and economic development and conserve natural resources for future generations. In 2021, **81** Ogemaw residents participated in natural resource programs including Introduction to Lakes, Forest Forensics, Michigan Birding 101, and Introduction to Orienteering.

SPONGY MOTH (FORMERLY KNOWN AS GYPSY MOTH)



In 2021, the number one question received by the MSU Extension Lawn & Garden Hotline was “What do I do about all of these caterpillars?”

27 Ogemaw residents participated in programming to learn about the 2021 *Lymantria dispar* outbreak and other invasive species. Participants learned the history of Spongy Moths and tips for homeowners to take actions to protect the health of their trees.



IMPACT AT A GLANCE



\$2,292,974

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT



180

PROGRAMS HOSTED IN
OGEMAW COUNTY



170

YOUTHS ENROLLED IN 4-H



183

RESIDENTS SERVED IN
SNAP-ED PROGRAMMING



228

ALUMNI RESIDENTS IN
OGEMAW COUNTY



23

STUDENTS ENROLLED AT
MSU



\$488,030

FINANCIAL AID DISBURSED
(2020-2021)



\$6,771

SPENT WITH LOCAL
BUSINESS



33

ASK AN EXPERT CONTACTS



1,719

OGEMAW COUNTY
EXTENSION WEBSITE VIEWS

CONTACT US

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Garden Hotline
888-678-3464

[msue.msu.edu/ogemaw](https://www.facebook.com/MSUEExtensionOgemawCounty4H)

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