

# PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



## Message from the District Director

I'm happy to share highlights from another successful year of partnership between Presque Isle County and MSU Extension. Thanks to your continued support, we've helped residents lead healthier lives, supported local businesses and farms and created meaningful opportunities for youth development. Our programs—offered in-person, online and in hybrid format—make MSU Extension resources more accessible than ever. Our staff live and work in the community, building strong relationships and responding to local needs. Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to another impactful year and hope to see you at an upcoming program.

- Adam Koivisto, District 14 Director

## Impact



**1,797**

Reached through  
programming



**12,584**

Reached by social media



**156**

Programs accessed  
by residents



Summer Rec 2025

4-H PROGRAM

Summer Rec, with 59 youth participants, was a huge hit with local families yet again. Some of this year's highlights included kayaking at the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center, a walking tour of Rogers City's new murals, a recycled art series and two awesome beach days!



Our awesome counselors and directors!





4-H PROGRAM



We're excited to welcome the 4-H Regulators Horse Club! Four passionate volunteers have stepped up to share their knowledge of horses and riding. Monthly meetings cover a wide range of topics related to horses, from anatomy to safe riding practices.



Presque Isle youth were trained in lifesaving skills - CPR & First Aid, during three separate babysitting clinics held throughout the county this year.



Aftercare at a local school.



Our Archery program still has a strong presence in the community.



Embryology in our schools

A new special interest (SPIN) club was introduced this year, centered around the fun and tactical game of chess! Participants met weekly to challenge their opponents and enjoy friendly competition.



Thanks to a grant awarded by AAACU and a sponsorship by Bishop Chevrolet, we were able to purchase 10 tumbling composters to send home with families at a composting event held in May.

During a SPIN club, called 4-H Wild Explorers, youth engaged in hands-on activities exploring native plants and wildlife right in their backyards. *Pictured is one participant spying a squirrel nest up in a tree during the nature*



727 participants in children and youth development programs from Presque Isle County, such as Summer Rec Program.



# 4-H Ocqueoc Summer Camp

# 4-H PROGRAM

The tradition of 4-H camp at the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center carries on! 60 youth and 15 counselors from Presque Isle, Alpena, Montmorency, & Alcona counties enjoyed 3 days of adventures. Highlights included studying water bugs, a forestry session with our district forester, yoga, tower building, archery, and bottle rockets. Thank you to all our amazing volunteers for helping to make this year's camp a success!



## Cloverbud Day Camp at the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center

4-H Clover Buds Day Camps was a success! We made firefly art, dissected owl pellets, built terrariums, made leaf printed t-shirts, and so much more!





SNAP-Ed PROGRAM



"Marilynn Ellenberger from MSU Extension joined Miss Bruning's class to talk about nutrition. Students learned about healthy food choices and balanced meals. A big thank you to Ms. Ellenberger for making nutrition fun."  
- From Rogers City Area Schools FB Page



A student demonstrates "The Claw," which is a safety skill taught during "Teen Cuisine."



"Rock and Roll Ice Cream" is a popular recipe. Students are always surprised to learn they can make healthier, cost-effective versions of their favorite treats at home (or in the classroom).



441  
Participants  
in HNI  
programs  
for Presque  
Isle County!

SNAP-Ed PROGRAMMING

SNAP-Ed is an evidence-based program that helps people lead healthier lives. SNAP-Ed teaches people using or eligible for SNAP benefits about good nutrition and how to make their food dollars stretch further. SNAP-Ed participants also learn to be physically active. This program has proven to reduce the risks of chronic disease and improve overall health for millions of people making a low income. SNAP-Ed works by building partnerships with all types of community organizations. Communities have social marketing campaigns, hold nutrition education classes, and improve their policies, systems, and the environment of the community.



AG PROGRAM

**EXTENSION AGRICULTURE & AGRIBUSINESS IN MICHIGAN**

**59,018 participants**  
in MSU Extension agriculture and agribusiness related programs.

**992 programs**  
provided by in MSU Extension agriculture and agribusiness educators.

**170,000 subscribers**  
to agriculture and agribusiness related MSU Extension News Digests.

**711 news articles**  
published on the MSU Extension website, in addition to 109 bulletins and fact sheets.

MSU Extension’s agricultural programs connect individuals with practical, research-based solutions that enhance farm success and support surrounding communities. By sharing knowledge and resources, we promote a strong and sustainable future for Michigan’s agriculture.

57 Soil Tests processed for Presque Isle County!

REACHING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

Michigan is agriculturally diverse both in what we produce and who produces it. MSU Extension goes beyond traditional methods of working with farmers with a strategy to reach farms at every level and size of production. We understand that some farmers may not be able to meet in person due to distance or timing of an educational offering, so we incorporate a vast array of online learning and digital informational opportunities to meet people both where they are and when they have the time to consume information integral to their farming success. In the past year, we have reached audiences in a variety of ways.



**100**  
years MSU Extension has provided soil testing services

MSU Extension Soil Testing Program

Following the 2022 closure of the MSU Soil and Plant Nutrient Laboratory MSU Extension launched a new soil testing program in partnership with A&L Great Lakes, Inc. The lab analyzes samples and provides data that Extension staff use to generate MSU-specific fertilizer and soil amendment recommendations. From January to December 2024, MSU Extension issued recommendations for 4,377 home lawn and garden samples—a 23% increase over 2023—and 1,819 commercial and farm samples, up 11%. Demand remains high across Michigan, reflected in both county office feedback and strong sales of the Home Lawn and Garden Soil Test Mailer, the top-selling product on shop.msu.edu. Through this new program, MSU Extension continues to deliver trusted soil testing services that Michigan residents and farmers have relied on for over a century.





# Fostering Strong Communities

## Michigan Sea Grant

Dedicated to the protection and sustainable use of the Great Lakes and coastal resources, Michigan Sea Grant is a cooperative program of the University of Michigan, Michigan State University (MSU), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). We promote research, education, and outreach to enhance responsible and sustainable use of our diverse Great Lakes resources. Through MSU Extension, Michigan Sea Grant works with Michigan citizens, industries, and coastal communities to encourage responsible use of, the benefits, and enjoyment of Great Lakes resources that positively influence our state’s economy, environment and quality of life.

Highlights of programming include:

- **Lake Huron Regional Fisheries Workshops** have provided an educational opportunity for more than 160 anglers, charter captains, and others learning with fisheries researchers and managers from across Michigan.
- **Sea Grant Center for Great Lakes Literacy provides education leadership for the Northeast Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative.** 82 educators engaged more than 3,952 students in learning Great Lakes and natural resources stewardship projects in (and with) their communities across northeast Michigan.
- **4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp** is a statewide science, careers, and youth leadership camp and MSU pre-college program hosted in Presque Isle County, Michigan, serving 65 campers from across Michigan.

397 people from Presque Isle County attended community, food and environmental programs, like Sea Grant.



Mi Paddle Steward participants learn how to identify native and non-native aquatic plants locally in the Thunder Bay River.



4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources campers explore fisheries and maritime history science and careers.



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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MSUExtensionPICounty>

This past year MSU Extension - Presque Isle County has helped community members through phone, email, Facebook and office walk-ins.

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

## **MSU Extension Lawn and Garden Hotline** (888) 678-3464

Calls answered by Extension Master Gardeners with the knowledge and resources to help with gardening and lawn questions.

## **Ask Extension** [canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert](https://canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert)

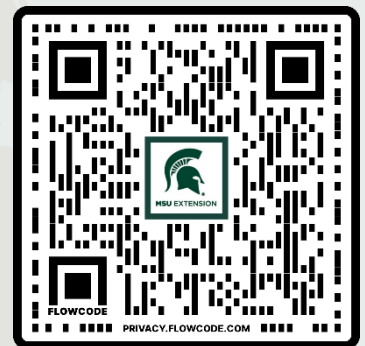
One-to-one answers from MSU Extension experts on topics such as lawns, agriculture, food preservation, natural resources, and more!

## **Soil Testing** [homesoiltest.msu.edu](https://homesoiltest.msu.edu)

Don't guess - soil test! Learn what vital nutrient your soil is missing for healthy growth in gardens, lawns, and crops. Purchase soil tests in our office or online.

## *Stay Connected!*

Scan the QR code to sign up for monthly emails highlighting local MSU Extension events and information you can use



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