



Marquette County 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS



4 Extension professionals based in the county, 50+ providing educational opportunities



\$9,640,336 total economic impact in Marquette County



2,139 youth involved in 4-H, early childhood or after school enrichment



12 affiliated clinical sites, 18 medical interns/residents/fellows



\$2,169,302 spending with local business



88 enrolled MSU students, 877 alumni



MSU disbursed \$1,978,406 in financial aid to county students

100+

MSU Extension serving Marquette County over 100 years

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Once again I am delighted to share the results of another successful year of partnership between Marquette 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 services 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. Our staff live and work alongside County residents, are rooted in community relationships and are responsive to community needs.

Again this year, we've welcomed Marquette County residents into our online community: we've offered online educational courses, answered questions on topics ranging from gardening to food safety, raised program awareness through social media, and provided a library of research-based resources they've browsed on our website.

Our partnership with you makes this all possible. On behalf of the MSU Extension team serving Marquette County, thank you for another great year. We look forward to your continued support and hope you'll be able to join us during one of our upcoming programs.

Erin Daines, District 2 Director



MARQUETTE COUNTY

Additional MSU Extension Reach

- Michigan State University Extension staff have been actively serving the residents of Marquette County.
- Services from across all reaches of Extension are accessible because of the Gold Standard commitment Marquette County has made with Michigan State University Extension.
- Marquette County residents are able to access services in the areas of Agriculture & Agribusiness; Children and Youth; Community, Food and Environment; and Health and Nutrition.

2240

Marquette County Residents Served

284

of Programs Marquette County Residents Attended



MARQUETTE COUNTY

MSU Extension Reach Breakdown

284

Programs Marquette County
Residents Attended

86

Agriculture &
Agribusiness
Programs

667

Community, Food &
Environment
Programs

171

Children &
Youth
Programs

1316

Health &
Nutrition
Programs

Program Highlights

VETERAN'S OUTREACH

In an effort to connect veterans with the benefits they fought for, specifically, the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**, the SNAP For **Veterans Outreach Program** in March alone distributed **2,440 Resource Guides for Veterans brochures** and **550 vegetable seed packets** to fulfill requests from residents in Marquette County. These items have reached **Veterans, Veteran family members, Veteran Service Officers, Veteran Organizations, and active Coast Guard and Army units, the Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist serving units in Marquette County, Community Organizations, Food Banks, Churches, and organizations hosting a Feeding America Mobile Food Pantry.**

SNAP encourages healthier eating, local shopping, helps maximize benefits, and increases overall health and well-being of veterans and their families. However, only 59% of eligible veterans are enrolled, highlighting the need in closing the enrollment gap among veterans.

The SNAP For Veterans Outreach Program recognizes the power of the continuum of support to reach and advocate for those veterans most in need as part of a holistic approach in improving veteran health & wellness, education, employment, and overall quality of life. For example, food insecurity affects as many as 25% of veterans, and is linked to chronic pain and obesity, which are common conditions among veterans. **Type 2 diabetes affects 25% of veterans due to service-related chronic pain, joint damage, and exposure to herbicides such as Agent Orange.** SNAP For Veterans offers **Personal Action Towards Health (PATH)** programs tailored for veterans living with **Chronic Pain and Diabetes.**



Program Highlights

Connections through Signing: American Sign Language Beginners Series

Through a collaboration between **4-H staff in Marquette, Dickinson, and Mackinac Counties and our deaf co-worker from Oakland County, 4-H launched a beginning American Sign Language series via zoom.** This series was 8 sessions- each 90 minutes long and every session was packed with information. Participants learned the **ASL alphabet, numbers 1-20, family signs, questions (who, what, when, where how, how much, what's up), animal signs, color signs, sports and recreation signs, deafness vocabulary, and tips for communicating with a deaf or hard of hearing person.**

The first series was offered in June and was very successful, with 25 youth registered. One mom shared her appreciation for our program: "I'm Priya's mom and I want to wholeheartedly thank you for hosting the sign language workshop. Priya has been interested in learning sign language for a couple years now since a student with autism was in her 4th grade class with her. She learned some basic signs from his aide and helped frequently with him. She considered him a good friend and was sad for him to go to a different school until high school (it's just how his special education program is arranged).

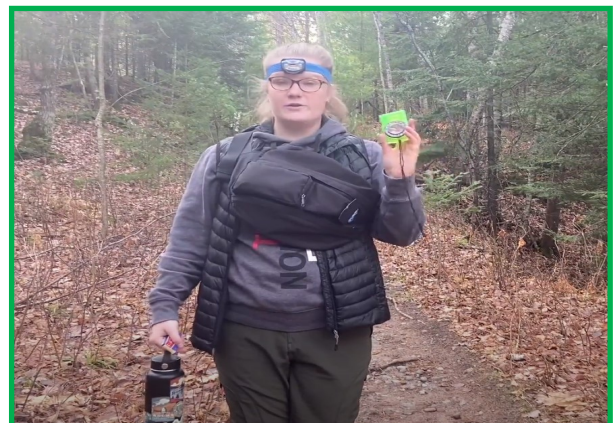
She made it a goal to learn more sign language before she sees him again but books are SO hard to learn from. We thought about signing her up for an online class or two but it was often for adults and hard to find a good fit. Low and behold, along comes your class! She was so very excited and happy to learn. Thank you so much for hosting, it meant so much to her and will hopefully jumpstart a bit more learning of sign language!"

Priya and her mom attended a county board meeting during the summer to express their appreciation to the board. Priya was all ready to sign an introduction, but the members couldn't see her as the meetings was a webinar. However, she shared her story and thanked the board for making 4-H possible.

With such positive feedback, the team agreed to run the series again. The second series was offered in **August and had even greater success, with 30 youth registered (20 who were new to 4-H).** Two examples of the multiple parents that reached out to the team to express appreciation:

"Thanks for doing this!! It is so very cool that the kids are learning to sign. Rachel is signing her name all the time. And you should have seen the grin on her face when she signed I love you to me. This is awesome that you are offering this!!" said Jody (Rachel's mom).

"I really want to commend the entire staff and instructors involved in this ASL class! You all are amazing! My son, Joshua, loves this class and is learning so much in such a short amount of time. I am curious if you will be offering another session building upon what he has already learned? Or if you will be offering this session again because I have friends who are interested in it? Thanks again! Truly a wonderful and positive experience!" said Shawn (Joshua's mom).



Orienteering—What to Bring, November 2020

Program Highlights

Bulbs in the Garden Kits

Youth from all around Marquette County registered to receive daffodil and grape hyacinth bulbs in October 2020. With instructions from 4-H plant specialist, Dixie Sandborn, the families learned how and where to plant their bulbs as well as about various ways to plant their bulbs (indoors or outdoors).



Top—Halle Graves planting grape hyacinth bulbs October 2020.

Bottom—Halle's grape hyacinths blooming May 2021.

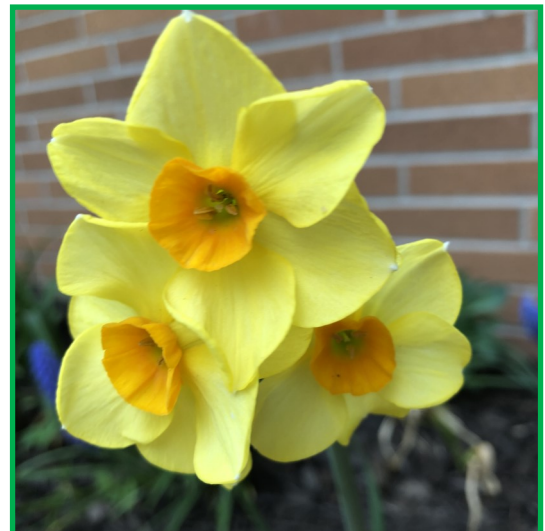


Hayden and Halle Graves planting their garden



Top—Hayden Graves planting daffodil bulbs October 2020.

Bottom—Hayden's daffodils blooming May 2021.



Program Highlights

Other 4-H Highlights from 2020



Fishing November 2020



Fishing Basics, November 2020



Fishing Challenge
Eli and Matthew Caron



Fire Safety, October 2020

Program Highlights

Great Lakes Water Levels with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers




This program was titled: **"Great Lakes Water Levels: Record Highs in 2019 and the Outlook for 2020"**.

It was advertised across the entire state as a public lecture that may be accessed in person in Marquette or online via Facebook Live or as a Zoom webinar.

The primary speakers were Lauren Fry, Ph.D. and Chris Warren, P.E. of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Detroit District.

Approximately 100 people attended in person and about 40 people attended online.

The [video recording](#) of the event is closed captioned and available publicly on [Michigan Sea Grant's YouTube](#) channel.

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| PUBLIC LECTURE | |  |
| <i>In partnership with the NMU Biology Department, Michigan Sea Grant presents</i> | | |
| Speakers: | "GREAT LAKES WATER LEVELS: RECORD HIGHS IN 2019 AND THE OUTLOOK FOR 2020" | |
| Lauren Fry, Ph.D. Chris Warren, P.E. | | |
| Office of Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Detroit District | | |
| Presentation + Q&A Session Wednesday, February 19 6 – 8 pm | | ALL ARE WELCOME! |
| Jamrich Hall Room 1322 Northern Michigan University 1401 Presque Isle Ave Marquette, MI 49855 | |  |
|  NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY | | <small>Coastal storm on Lake Michigan Justin Selden, Michigan Sea Grant</small> |

CLIMATE AND HEALTH

ADAPTATION VISION

The multi-year Marquette Area Climate and Health Adaptation Project, coordinated locally by Brad Neumann, Senior Extension educator, continued in 2020 with two pilot projects in Marquette Township and the City of Negaunee. The two communities were successful in their applications for technical assistance in the forms of facilitation and environmental design for two key study areas.

Marquette Township sought the expertise of MSU Extension and the MSU School of Planning, Design and Construction to reimagine a more climate-resilient stretch of the U.S. Hwy 41/M-28 Corridor, while the City of Negaunee took the opportunity to design a more sustainable Teal Lake shoreline.

Engagement with each community began in late 2019 with initial **face-to-face visioning workshops**. For 2020, second and third community engagement workshops in each community were conducted remotely via Zoom. Both community visioning processes produced final plans and each community sought additional available funding through the **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to implement a portion of their plan**. This spring, **Marquette Township** will be developing a small trailhead on the north side of 'Pete's Pass' using pervious materials and native plantings. The City of Negaunee will be planting shade trees along the east shoreline of Teal Lake to slow runoff into the lake and shade the nearshore waters. Furthermore, both communities are utilizing their climate and health adaptation plans to apply for additional funding for implementation.

Partners on the Marquette Area Climate and Health Adaptation Project include: MSU Extension, MSU School of Planning, Design and Construction, the MDHHS Climate and Health Adaptation Program, Marquette County Health Department, Marquette County Climate Adaptation Task Force, and Marquette local governments.

Investing in Marquette County Youth with 4-H

According to research completed by the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University, 4-H'ers are **4X** more likely to make contributions to their communities, **2X** more likely to be civically active, and **2X** more likely to make healthier choices.



Lake Superior 4-H Club and Innovative Club Work

With the organizational club leader unable to plan projects due to family commitments, this club was very fortunate to find **two students from Northern Michigan University** who wanted to jump in for their **Student Leader Fellowship Project**. Once it became clear the club wouldn't have face-to-face meetings in the fall, the two new volunteers, Tara Myers and Val Gage, and 4-H educator Liana Pepin, got to work to find ways to keep members engaged and learning.

The team of three agreed to begin with a welcome kit of supplies for the club members: a compass, a 4-H water bottle, a 4-H Grows Here decal, a 4-H button, and a 4-H pencil. The volunteers would begin making **demonstration videos** for specific skills they had hoped to teach over the coming school year. Over the past eight months, seven videos have been sent to members, with a challenge at the end of each one. Each challenge is to practice the skills in the video and take pictures or video of the attempts. The members upload those pictures/ videos into a restricted google drive for the rest of the group to view. This was a way for members to share in one another's successes and also let the volunteers know their work was being received and put into practice.

Not only did the leaders provide **instruction for outdoor skills**, but they also provided **get-to-know-you activities**. They asked each other questions from a basket and took turns answering. They also encouraged members to answer some of the questions in video form and upload to the google drive. Zita Riesterer, whose daughter has been in the club for 6 years said, "Very Impressive rollout!"

There are eleven youth enrolled in the club currently.



take two sticks (one should have a Y top) and lean them against each other

Michigan State University Extension helps people improve their lives by bringing the vast knowledge resources of MSU directly to individuals, communities, and businesses. For more than 100 years, MSU Extension has helped grow Michigan’s economy by equipping Michigan residents with the information they need to do their jobs better, raise healthy and safe families, build their communities, and empower their children to dream of successful futures. For more information about the programs we offer please refer to the contact information below.

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|--|------------------|
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MSU Extension Upper Peninsula



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