

EXTENSION TRENDS: **BLAINE COUNTY**

University of Idaho Extension, Blaine County • www.uidaho.edu/blaine



2023 By the Numbers

- **2,070** direct contacts
- **695** youth participants
- **15** volunteers
- **24** volunteer hours
- **\$47,500** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Blaine County: Lindsay Mollineaux, Pat Purdy, Lynea Petty, Tracy Green and Susan Kranz.

UI Extension Educators



Grant Loomis
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2023 Impact

Educator Grant Loomis has been collaborating with UI Extension Barley Agronomy Specialist Jared Spackman on a field trial monitoring nutrients and investigating sulfur in the Wood River Valley compared to other sites in the study. Loomis' work with the board game Pest Friends also continues with Jason Thomas from UI Extension, Minidoka County. Their goal is to better educate educators and the public on improvement practices in pest and weed control for crops and to show the value of game-based learning in agriculture, with an emphasis on integrated pest management. Loomis has also led an activity called Real Colors where 4-H youth and adults can better learn about themselves and their fellow peers and the way each color type interacts and communicates with one another based on their predominant color type.

4-H in Blaine County

Associate Extension Educator Chandra Vaughan conducted eight 4-H summer projects: embryology, gardening, baking, leathercraft, crafting, rocketry, Wildlife Day Camp and Livestock Education Day. The Extension office also worked with the Blaine County Fair Board and the Blaine County Market Animal Sales Committee for a successful fair.

The U.S. Forest Service also partnered for the seventh year in a row to offer Adventure Quest summer day camp at the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Adventure Quest provides fun recreational pursuits combined with learning about the natural environment. All Things Wild is another four-day residential 4-H summer camp. The focus of this camp is hunter skills workshops which incorporate history, ethics, conservation, wildlife management, laws and regulations, survival, camping, orienteering, environment, and shooting skills in the disciplines of rifle, shotgun, and archery.

On the Horizon

After-school 4-H programs and day camps had a very successful year and efforts will be made to grow by offering new and exciting programs in the years to come. Blaine County 4-H is gearing up for the new 4-H year with market animal weigh-ins and 4-H projects. An emphasis will be placed on growing the new meat goat program FCS 4-H projects in Blaine County. Idaho Master Gardener course classes should also be available to interested members of the community.