

EXTENSION TRENDS: **LATAH COUNTY**

University of Idaho Extension, Latah County • www.uidaho.edu/latah



2023 By the Numbers

- **11,429** direct contacts
- **1,083** youth participants
- **214** volunteers
- **3,979** volunteer hours
- **\$730,943** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who inform the work we do for UI Extension in Latah County: Jodi McClory, Jenny Parker, Paul Brandenstein, Jen Elliot, Robin Ohlgren, Lovina Englund, Tina Bass, Michelle Reynolds, Mauri Knott, Edie Simons, Joe Stanley, Jennifer Wallace, BJ Swanson, Kim Vogel, Marlys Wilson, Erika Odenborg, Jenny Ford, Rhonda Comstock and Kathie LaFortune.

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2023 Impact

Twenty-seven 'fun'ancial education programs created core memories for 496 elementary students with age-appropriate, creative activities and real-world scenarios that fostered a deeper understanding of financial concepts. A year-long declutter challenge brought 258 participants that send weekly check-ins and have donated more the \$77,000 worth of items. Also offered was the fourth annual Our Financial Conference which drew more than 213 community members to meet local financial businesses and resources to learn ways to enjoy financial wellness.

The Pollinator Summit co-hosted the CALS Distinguished Speaker, Neil Williams from UC Davis with over 150 attendees for the two-day event. The summit brings together gardening and farming audiences to hear the latest research from U of I and other institutions. Due to increased advertising for the Tuesday Market, the collective gross income has risen from \$16,936 in 2022 to \$47,258 in 2023. Four beginning farmers started selling produce at the Tuesday Market this year. Over 50 participants attended farm and garden classes that were offered in person and online.

Weekly visits to the local food banks brought nutritional information and recipes. The Tuesday Market and the Summer Meals Program at Lena Whitmore Elementary saw 5 to 65 individuals that learned about nutrition and tried fun recipes.

4-H in Latah County

Latah County 4-H reached over 309 youth and 51 volunteers with the completion of 354 projects. Leaders hosted county-wide project meetings for goat and beef covering information regarding health, reproduction, nutrition, meat science and more. Also offered was Fair Fun Fridays where a clinician taught showmanship followed by a practice show. At the Latah County Fair, 45 general projects were displayed, and 287 animals were shown. Work continues with the Moscow Middle School Earth Club in the school garden as well as teaching curriculum focused on healthy eating, exercise and life skills.

On the Horizon

The Money Mastery Mentor program will be introduced during the spring semester. This is a three-semester program that introduces students to Extension and financial programming, helps them claim volunteer hours, and prepares them to teach Extension programming. The fifth annual Our Financial Conference will bring new speakers, sponsors, and timely financial information to the community. Financial programming for elementary students will continue into the spring semester.

The Tuesday Market outreach and advertising campaign will move into year two. The fifth annual Pollinator Summit will be held. Farm and garden classes will continue, and the Idaho Master Gardener program will start with hopes of new certified volunteers to maintain local gardens and assist the community with plant problems through the weekly Plant Clinic.

Youth Livestock Field Days will continue, covering nutrition, health, training at home, and evaluation of beef, swine, sheep, and goats followed by an afternoon of various hands-on stations. Leaders are implementing monthly county-wide swine project meetings. These meetings will utilize knowledgeable professors and students at U of I to teach youth breeding, selection, nutrition and handling.