

EXTENSION TRENDS: **TETON COUNTY**

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2023 By the Numbers

- **6,117** direct contacts
- **1,366** youth participants
- **49** volunteers
- **1,500** volunteer hours
- **\$848,191** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Teton County: Cindy Riegel, Bob Heneage, Michael Whitfield, Rebeca Nolan, Hallie Poirier, Wyatt Penfold and Hayes Swinney.

UI Extension Educator



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2023 Impact

Using curriculum developed as part of a Cultivating Success USDA-NIFA grant, UI Extension, Teton County contributed to grant deliverables and evaluation of the statewide project, hosting three hands-on small farm and horticulture classes. A summary of the multiyear project was reported at the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting.

UI Extension, Teton County hosted community food system programs including the six-week High Altitude Victory Garden course and edible and permaculture design lessons at the Eastern Idaho Master Gardener Convention, reaching 50 clients. A two-part workshop series on High-Altitude Beekeeping was created reaching 40 new beekeepers, with a hands-on apiary inspection offered to participants and Teton Valley Beekeeping Association members. Course evaluations were positive with participants stating they would like to continue learning more in-depth about beekeeping in future classes.

Support for the Teton Food and Farm Coalition continued with meeting facilitation and outreach, as well as work on the Agritourism in the Tetons project with continued development of the GIS-based online agritourism directory at tetonfoodfarmcoalition.org.

4-H in Teton County

Teton County 4-H continues to adapt and grow, reaching a broader audience annually, with over 200 youth participants (over 10% increase from 2022). To address income inequality in Teton County, 99 enrollment scholarships totaling \$2,100 were awarded. There are over 40 4-H clubs led by community volunteers, with a large emphasis on STEAM. An Idaho Health and Welfare grant supported a full-time 4-H coordinator and part-time 4-H assistant through September 2023. In October 2023, a 4-H AmeriCorps instructor was hired to help with county youth development.

The 4-H STEAM club had a 142% increase in enrollment, necessitating a second club for homeschool youth. Teton County 4-H executed eight 4-H Friday STEAM Summer Day Camps, reaching over 40 youth. STEAM programming was also taught weekly and across the county to over 200 youth in afterschool programs (70% of participating youth are considered at-risk and 50% are underserved). Volunteer development and continued partnerships with community organizations such as the Above and Beyond in the Classroom (ABC) program were nurtured. These partnerships are helping 4-H reach more at-risk minority students in the community and improve access to participation.

On the Horizon

In 2024, UI Extension, Teton County will offer the Idaho Master Gardener Course (Feb.-Sept.) and co-host a statewide six-week Annie's Project course. Annie's Project helps support women in agriculture by fostering problem solving, record keeping and decision-making skills around five areas of agricultural risk management: production, legal, market, human and financial.

The 4-H youth development program also continues to grow rapidly with new clubs and program participation. There is a recognized need for program expansion for Cloverbud members (ages 5-7) so new clubs and leaders will be added to meet increased demand. Teton County 4-H Leader Council meetings are held monthly at the Extension office, cultivating new leadership opportunities for adult volunteers.