

EXTENSION TRENDS: **BENEWAH COUNTY**

University of Idaho Extension, Benewah County • www.uidaho.edu/benewah



2022 By the Numbers

- **5,354** direct contacts
- **3,951** youth participants
- **72** volunteers
- **4,464** volunteer hours
- **\$603,702** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Benewah County: Erin Reid, Jennifer Steele, Amber King, Sally Grant, Kristy Tucker and Steve Cuvala.

UI Extension Educators



Gail Silkwood
208-245-2422
gsilkwood@uidaho.edu



Chris Schnepf
208-292-2525
cschnepf@uidaho.edu

2022 Impact

The greatest impact for UI Extension, Benewah County in 2022 was in Youth Development through the Ignite Your Spark programs. The grant funding that funded this opportunity provided staffing and program materials for new venues, activities and experiences that allowed the program to show the community what youth can do in 4-H.

A Master Food Safety volunteer was added to the volunteer programs this year and that program has been well received, reaching those in need of food safety and preservation information. The Idaho Master Gardeners partnered with the local library this year to provide a horticulture education series that was well attended each week. The annual Sixth Grade Natural Resource Tour, small farms and forestry education workshops also continued throughout the year.

4-H in Benewah County

The UI Extension, Benewah County 4-H program was greatly enhanced by new volunteers and grant funding to include additional STEAM programming such as sewing, engineering and natural sciences. Through grant funding, project day camps were held for youth to experience 4-H STEAM project areas that did not currently have 4-H volunteers leading education. Opportunities for youth to experience these project areas opened a new connection with them and a more robust understanding of the depth of 4-H opportunities to community members and families. 4-H project program participation increased this year through these opportunities, allowing students to explore new opportunities and experiences through 4-H resources.

On the Horizon

In 2022, UI Extension, Benewah County was awarded an American Recovery Protection Act grant to start a middle school entrepreneurial and STEM club. This will be a large endeavor that will provide quality programming to not only elementary school students, but now to middle school students. This funding has also been used to expand programming to include weekly 4-H STEM activities to Calder School District and to Kootenai Middle School students via busing to the STEM lab in St. Maries. Delivery of programs for small farms, horticulture and food safety will also continue.