

EXTENSION TRENDS: **BONNER COUNTY**

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2024 By the Numbers

- **1,215** direct contacts
- **626** youth participants
- **121** volunteers
- **443** volunteer hours

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Bonner County: Diane Green, Tina Imlay, Harry Menser, Connie Trotter, Nancy Mangham and Sarah Garcia.

UI Extension Educators



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2024 Impact

The Idaho Master Gardener training program and other horticulture classes were offered in 2024, including a hybrid version of Living on the Land. Evaluations indicated that participants intend to use information learned such as pasture management, soil building, fire safety management, locating and placing well and septic, pasture re-establishment, erosion control and water harvesting.

Idaho Master Gardener volunteers worked with the Lake Pend Oreille School District to offer garden related activities at three of the elementary school afterschool programs. At Southside Elementary, students planted pumpkins as well as cotton t-shirts to assess soil biology. Students were just as excited to “harvest” the shirts as they were to harvest the pumpkins.

A total of 115 forest owners, loggers and professional foresters attended UI Extension forestry programs held in Bonner County, including Identifying Idaho Trees, Landscaping for Fire Prevention and Successful Tree Planting. Bonner County forest owners, loggers and foresters also attended programs held in adjacent panhandle counties. Currently, 19 Bonner County forest owners are certified UI Extension volunteers with the Idaho Master Forest Stewards, who provided over 750 hours of volunteer service to 1,867 forest owners and others in northern Idaho in 2024.

4-H in Bonner County

The traditional 4-H program in Bonner County involves 12 organizational clubs throughout the county. For the 2023-24 4-H year, there were 96 volunteers and 377 youth members. Projects offered included: archery, beef, cake decorating, cat, cooking, crochet, dog, Dutch oven, forestry, geology, goat, horse, jewelry making, leathercraft, photography, poultry, quilt quest, rabbit, rifle, sewing, swine and vet science. In addition to managing the clubs and projects, Bonner County 4-H offers additional county events to 4-H members.

On the Horizon

UI Extension, Bonner County will be offering monthly online garden classes in the evenings. The classes will be short presentations on gardening topics with time for participants to ask any sort of gardening questions.