

# EXTENSION TRENDS: **BOUNDARY COUNTY**

University of Idaho Extension, Boundary County • [www.uidaho.edu/boundary](http://www.uidaho.edu/boundary)



## 2020 By the Numbers

- **4,893** direct contacts
- **2,040** youth participants
- **75** volunteers
- **2,531** volunteer hours
- **\$57,398** extramural funding

## Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Boundary County: Joan Poppino, Jan Bayer, Shirley Anderson, Liz Bigsby, Craig Anderson, Lauren Kuczka, Tom Daniel, Tim Dillin, Georgia Earley, Wes Hubbard, Kristi Kellogg, Deanna Lauber, Julie Newcomb, Marqui Ronniger, Dennis Weed, Liz Wood and Greg Johnson.

## UI Extension Educators



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## 2020 Impact

Ten citizens completed the Master Food Safety Advisor program and fulfilled their volunteer obligations. 2020 was the second year the program was offered after a 20 year hiatus. The program educates about safe food handling during harvest, storage, preparation, and consumption. Participants attend a seven-week training that covers food safety basics, foodborne illness, spoilage, smoking and drying, high and low acid canning, preserves, pickling, freezing, and volunteering. Volunteers answer questions, host educational displays at events, and present workshops. Of the new advisors, six plan to participate in the Advanced Master Food Safety Advisor program in 2021.

More than 65 forest owners, loggers and professional foresters attended UI Extension forestry programs held in Boundary County and many residents also attended programs held in adjacent counties. Programs on forest health, fire risk reduction for homes located in the wildland urban interface, and a multi-faceted program, 10 Acres and a Dream, were offered via Zoom with over 316 participants, including many from Boundary County. Currently, five Boundary County forest owners are certified UI Extension volunteers with the Idaho Master Forest Stewards.

## 4-H in Boundary County

A total of 255 youth participated in traditional 4-H programs and exhibited their projects at the county fair. The UI Extension office worked closely with the Boundary County Fair Board to adjust scheduling and protocols to ensure the fair was safe for exhibitors and the community. The market animal sale was broadcast live so spectators could watch from home and two outside viewing stations were set up at the fairgrounds so people could watch while safely distancing from others.

With the help of a part time AmeriCorps member, several summer day camps were held, including cooking camp, natural resources camp, Camp Clover, Hometown Heroes Day, Babysitting 101, and a youth farm tour.

4-H Friday Friends celebrated its 13th year of all-day school year programs for elementary-age children. The program received \$6,000 in grants which allowed enrollment rates to stay affordable for families.

The shooting sports program has seen rapid growth which has resulted in a shortage of supplies. In response, the 4-H program applied for and received funding from the NRA Foundation for twelve .22 caliber rifles, eye protection, and ear protection, a value of \$3,800.

## On the Horizon

Boundary County has been selected as the newest site for the Idaho FORM Project which focuses on building community partnerships with rural communities to create sustainable and evidence-based mental health programs. The project is funded by the Idaho Community Foundation and strives to reduce the stigma towards mental health, increase mental health knowledge and access, and decrease the number of suicides in rural Idaho. There will be ongoing community conversations regarding mental health and opportunities for the community to participate in QPR Suicide Prevention and Mental Health First Aid trainings.

The 4-H program is partnering with BCSD 101 to host a part time AmeriCorps member who will focus on providing STEAM education at Naples Elementary and 4-H Friday Friends during the school year. During the summer they will help with day camps.