

EXTENSION TRENDS: CANYON COUNTY

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2020 By the Numbers

- **9,661** direct contacts
- **3,527** youth participants
- **296** volunteers
- **5,695** volunteer hours
- **\$563,317** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Canyon County.

UI Extension Educators



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2020 Impact

A total of 17 new Idaho Master Gardener volunteers were certified in 2020 and 65 total volunteers logged 5,695 hours, a value of \$128,360. Volunteers taught 1,055 clients who grew and donated a total of 14,732 pounds of produce to local food banks.

The PNWPest Alert Network generated 103 alerts for the Treasure Valley. Survey results indicate 48% reporting were able to manage pest problems more effectively and 24% spent less time on pest management issues. Over the past 17 years, subscribers report a 5.64% decrease in pesticide use on their crops.

One National Diabetes Prevention Program was completed and two others were started in 2020, including a new partnership with the Nampa Recreation Center. Since 2017, this program has enrolled 83 participants with 54 completing the program or currently enrolled and a total of 698.8 pounds lost.

The Winter Beef School featured presentations and a tour of the new CS Beef plant in Kuna. Several articles were published in the Cattleman's Corner newsletter, which is shared with local beef producers, and a journal article was published about the success of the newsletter.

4-H in Canyon County

UI Extension, Canyon County offers traditional 4-H programming as well as a series of spring and summer 4-H day camps, Short Term Enrollment Programs (STEP), in-school, afterschool programs and community celebration events. With over 630 youth members in 55 clubs, the Canyon County 4-H program is home to one of the largest 4-H club programs in Idaho. Youth participate in projects ranging from livestock, pets, foods and nutrition, leadership, art, and more. Members can complete a project in six to eight weeks through the STEP program.

Spring and summer day camps are held at a variety of sites in the county and on a variety of topics. Many camps are focused on STEAM projects and reaching underserved youth.

On the Horizon

Jerry Neufeld is using drone technology to investigate if multispectral sensors carried by drones can be used to scout onions and hops for damage caused by insects. Nic Usabel is working on a collaborative effort, U and I Together: An activity series where all ages can learn!, during the summer and fall of 2021. He is also offering a Junior Master Gardener training for schoolteachers on the curriculum Learn, Grow, Eat & Grow! Samantha Ball is collaborating with meat scientists around the state on a Red Meat Science curriculum for adults and youth, which will focus on beef, sheep/goats, and swine. Jackie Amende will focus programming on health and nutrition, including the annual Dining with Diabetes program. She will also train youth and adult community members to become Community Wellness Volunteers and work with them throughout the year to serve and give back to their communities. She will continue to co-facilitate the Caldwell Health Coalition which continues to identify and bridge health gaps in the Caldwell community.

The 4-H program will continue to provide outreach to in-school and afterschool programs. In 2021, a \$6,000 grant was received from the Idaho STEM Action Center for new robotics equipment. With the grant, 30 Edison Robots and 17 Chromebooks were purchased and two afterschool programs and several summer school programs have already been reached with this new equipment.