

# EXTENSION TRENDS: TETON COUNTY

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## 2020 By the Numbers

- **3,017** direct contacts
- **815** youth participants
- **39** volunteers
- **2,000** volunteer hours
- **\$9,841** 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:

4-H Advisory Council: Hailey Beard, Katie Murdock, Missy Matkin, Regina Beard, and Tracy Beebe. Extension Advisory Council: Elaine Johnson, Cindy Riegel, Bob Heneage, Emily Selleck, Betsy Hawkins, Tye Tilt and Doug Self.

## UI Extension Educator



**Jennifer Werlin**  
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## 2020 Impact

UI Extension, Teton County hosted new events and classes such as the 12-week Idaho Master Gardener course and a three-part Cultivating Success whole farm planning course. Of the 19 clients that registered for the Master Gardener course, five completed all requirements including 30+ hours of community service in 2020 (over 150 hours of volunteer time resulted in an in-kind value of over \$4,000). The Cultivating Success course attracted 21 clients and an additional 30 clients enrolled in an online High-Altitude Victory Garden course.

The Teton Food and Farm Coalition continued, with increased attendance at meetings via Zoom during the pandemic. For the fourth year in a row, UI Extension helped the Farmers Market gather economic data, finding that sales increased by more than \$3,000 in 2020 despite fewer vendors. Between 2017 and 2020, sales increased by 86%.

Educator Jennifer Werlin had two peer-reviewed Extension journal articles published and continues to work with colleagues on a USDA-AFRI grant focused on Idaho women in agriculture and how UI Extension can deliver more effective programming. Werlin is also a principal investigator or co-PI on \$10,279 in new foundation grants in 2020. She also serves as a co-PI on federal and state grant projects totaling \$956,859.

## 4-H in Teton County

The 4-H program in Teton County continues to adapt and grow, reaching a broader audience annually, with approximately 150 youth participants in 2020. Over 30 4-H clubs are led by community volunteers, with a large emphasis on STEAM subjects. Five new adult volunteers joined the program in 2020 and total volunteer hours exceeded 1,500 hours. New volunteer trainings were developed, including a diversity and inclusion training. Teton County 4-H also continues to partner with community organizations such as the Above and Beyond in the Classroom (ABC) program in conjunction with the public school system. These partnerships help 4-H reach more at-risk minority students in the community and reduce barriers to participation.

A part-time AmeriCorps volunteer helped promote STEAM programming, including four STEAM day camps. Attendance was limited for safety reasons with an average of seven participants per camp.

## On the Horizon

An additional part-time AmeriCorps volunteer, in partnership with Teton Science Schools, helped execute an applied research project which included aggregating agritourism activities and businesses in the Teton foodshed (Jackson Hole and Teton Valley) and an online survey to gauge consumer interest in agritourism and local food (pre-COVID and present). Results will be presented at the International Workshop on Agritourism in Vermont in 2022. This work has led to a partnership with a coalition of regional nonprofit organizations led by the Western Landowners Alliance who are working to develop a website and mobile application to connect tourists with agritourism activities in the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. Another AmeriCorps member will expand on initial research and aggregate the data findings online through the Teton Food and Farm Coalition website.