UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

Queen Anne’s County 2016 Impacts

Extending Knowledge, Changing Lives ~ Trusted Research, Local Experts

In 1914, Cooperative Extension was established by the United States Congress through the Smith-Lever Act. The intent was to extend university research and knowledge to the local populace. Cooperative Extension is a national educational network delivered through the nation’s seventy-two land grant universities.

In Maryland, Cooperative Extension is known as the University of Maryland Extension (UME). UME operates through the University of Maryland at College Park, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Extension has field offices in all twenty-three Maryland counties and Baltimore City.

UME faculty and staff are professionals engaged in the delivery of educational programs that address issues of concern at the local and state level. They work to provide “Solutions in your Community” through key program areas including agriculture, environment and natural resources, 4-H youth development, food and nutrition, health and wellness, financial planning, home gardening and the Chesapeake Bay.

Programming is made possible through successful partnerships with local, state, and federal government. UME programming is also supported by grants and donations. These partnerships allow UME to accessible, reliable, and relevant to all resident of Queen Anne’s county as the mid-shore region.

In this report UME Queen Anne’s County is proud to share its outreach, programming, and educational efforts of 2016.
Agronomy Program

Participants report information and production practices that will be implemented following the program. These include: Improved pest management practices (29%), improved fertility management (47%), Improved crop production practices (46%), Use of risk management tools (12%), Regulatory information (31%), a new product or practice (26%). Farm Production and Profitability Winter agronomy meeting participants were asked the expected yield increase due to knowledge and skills gained from Extension programming. The average participant will increase yield per acre between 6.5% and 9.6%. Agronomy meeting participants were also asked the expected profitability increase per acre due to knowledge and skills gained from Extension programming. The average participant increases profitability between $16.23 and $25.23 per acre. Using the average acres farmed per person the overall average profitability is ($20.23*605ac) = $12,239.15 per person.

Impacts – Queen Anne’s County Agronomy Day – 92% indicated the information would be of benefit to them or their operation. Farmers indicated a savings of $20.23 per acre based on the knowledge and skills they gained from Extension programming throughout the year. Based on the 125,725 acres associated with the Agronomy Day program alone, the total estimated economic impact of Jennifer Rhodes’ 2016 agronomy programs is ($20.23*125,725 acres) = $2,543,417.

Private Pesticide Applicator training - On average, participants attending the training increased their profit by $5.95 per acre. Based on the 125,725 acres associated with the applicators trained this year, the total estimated economic impact of the pesticide program annually is($5.95*125,725) =$748,064.
Nutrient Management

An Economic Value of over $131,000 to the Queen Anne’s County Agriculture Community

Queen Anne’s County has 129,005 acres that are harvested as cropland according to the USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture. In general, these acres require a nutrient management plan that can manage nutrients for one to three years. Plans must also be written for poultry producers who raise poultry with no acres tilled. Over $50,000.00 is committed to this program by University of Maryland Extension through non-county funds.

In 2016, the Queen Anne’s County Nutrient Management program through Nutrient Management Advisor Casey Foreman, served 77 cooperators, through 337 plans collectively managing 25,451 acres (19.7% of Queen Anne’s County harvested cropland) (a value of $114,529.50). Further evaluation was completed on 120 fields for 21 cooperators on the use of phosphorus on high phosphorus fields. This evaluation of 2,169.4 acres (a value of $2,664.00) assured the environmentally sound use of phosphorus and in many cases saved cooperators input costs using manure over commercial fertilizer.

A Pre-Sidedress Nitrogen Test (PSNT) was conducted on 25 fields totaling 833.3 acres (a value of $250.00) that received manure to evaluate the need for additional nitrogen for the production of corn. This evaluation showed that 21,986.7 pounds of nitrogen did not need not be applied saving cooperators $10,553.62 in nitrogen costs.

A Fall Soil Nitrate Test is required before any nitrogen can be applied to small grain. The advisor conducted tests on 20 fields (a value of $200.00) totaling 465.8 acres. Eleven (55%) of the fields totaling 156.8 acres were deficient in nitrogen allowing the application of up to 4,704 pounds of nitrogen that had a value to local commercial agriculture vendors of $2,257.92.

UMD Sea Grant Extension

Mr. Eric Buehl works with communities, citizen groups, and governments in the region to help improve water quality in the rivers and creeks that feed into the Chesapeake Bay. His responsibilities are spread across a 5-county area from Talbot to Cecil. His activities specific to QAC in 2016 include the following:

- Provided Grant and Technical Assistance to 6 agencies, groups, and others.
- Participated in 3 events reaching 77 individuals which included two educational presentations and one event display.
- Provided Grant Assistance to a bi-county municipality totaling $18,920 of which $13,920 was approved but work will occur in the adjacent county.
4-H is the nation’s largest positive youth development and youth mentoring organization, empowering six million young people in the U.S.

In partnership with 110 universities, 4-H life-changing programs are research-backed & available through 4-H clubs, camps, afterschool & school enrichment programs in every county & parish in the U.S.

The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development is a decade-long study, completed by a team of researchers at the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University, Medford, MA.

The report shows that 4-H youth excel beyond their peers. 4-H'ers are about:

- **Four times** more likely to make **contributions to their communities** (Grades 7-12);
- **Two times** more likely to be **civically active** (Grades 8-12);
- **Two times** more likely to make **healthier choices** (Grade 7);
- **Two times** more likely to participate in **Science, Engineering, and Computer Technology programs** during out-of-school time (Grades 10 – 12); and
- 4-H girls are **two times** more likely (Grade 10) and nearly **three times** more likely (Grade 12) to take part in **science programs** compared to girls in other out-of-school time activities.

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**In Queen Anne’s County in 2016**

**2,385 youth served through County 4-H Programs**

- **420** youth enrolled in 14 traditional and special interest clubs
- **1,947** youth served via outreach programs school/community sites
In Queen Anne’s County our youth are part of this culture of responsibility and change. Our most notable accomplishments in 2016:

- 6 youth have full or partial college scholarships as a result of the 4-H Marksmanship skills
- 1 4H family hosted 4H Youth from Japan for 3 weeks this summer in an international youth exchange program.
- 8 Youth were certified to be employed in Agriculture by completing the 24 hr. Federal Department of Transportation Youth Agricultural Safety Certification.
- Partnership with Kennard Elementary to provide Bay Awareness Programming for 522 youth.
- Partnership with the Board of Education to expand Agricultural Literacy Education in the elementary schools.
  - Programs included: Agricultural History in Queen Anne’s County, embryology, Growing with Grains, and Ag-Sploration for 1047 elementary youth
- Partnership with the library system to provide outreach programming to those youth not traditionally involved with 4-H. Programs included: STEM, sewing, health, and nutrition. 146 youth reached.
- Queen Anne’s county has the largest 4-H public speaking program in the state with over 200 youth preparing and presenting speeches at the club, county, regional and/or state level.
- In 2016 we initiated a U Learn Farm at our week long county fair. Different species of animals and crops were highlighted each day with over 1800 elementary aged youth and parents participating in the experiential activities.

Traditional programs and workshops in the following areas offered to 4-H youth involved in club programming included: youth leadership training, marksmanship training, communication skills, animal science training, poultry, rabbit and horse workshops, and agriculture safety
4-H & Youth Development

4-H'ers are leading a Revolution of Responsibility - a movement for positive change in every community in America including right here in Queen Anne’s County, MD! 4-H youth are a living breathing, culture-changing revolution for doing the right thing, breaking through obstacles and pushing our country forward by making a measurable difference in the community. This takes uncommon commitment and that is exactly what our youth have!

The UME 4H Program is responsible for identifying problems, opportunities and needs of adults and youth in Queen Anne’s county. The 4H educator and program assistant conduct non-formal experiential learning opportunities for diverse youth ages 5-18 and adult volunteers to meet these needs.

Total grant dollars and donations generated to support 2016 programming in Queen Anne’s County is $13,430

The value of the volunteer service hours to the county is $147,896

“Ever since I was young, I remember 4-H teaching me responsibility, caring for others as well as myself, and giving back to my community. As I have grown older, these morals have also grown inside of me, and show in my public life, and my private.”

Matthew age 16
VOLUNTEERS GIVE BACK!

MASTER GARDENERS

- 51 volunteers
- 2,518 hours of service to the community
- Service valued at $56,655

4H VOLUNTEERS

- 445 ADULTS
- 5,600 hours of service to the community
- Service valued at $131,600

TOTAL VALUE OF SERVICE HOURS BY UME VOLUNTEERS $188,255

Clockwise from upper left— County Fair Booth: Wright’s Chance Plant Sale; Ask a Master Gardener at Adkins Arboretum; Rain Garden, Centreville Library

Masters Gardeners in the Community

Horticulture/Master Gardener Programs

Under the supervision and direction of the Horticulture/Master Gardener coordinator, Queen Anne’s Master Gardeners work to further the mission of educating Maryland residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes and communities. There are 51 active Queen Anne’s County Master Gardener volunteers and 17 new interns who work on a variety of projects in cooperation with government agencies, the green industry and civic and environmental organizations.

In addition to the many classes taught by Master Gardeners, Extension offers the following programs to the residents of the county:

- Spring Native Plant Sale
- Bay-Wise Consultations and Education
- Grow It, Eat It
- Plant Clinics (Chestertown & Kent Island Farmers Market)
- Information booths and panel speakers at community events:
- County based garden tours, Kent Island Day, Corsica River Awareness Day, various HOA meetings, community garden clubs, the county 4H Fair & more.
- Youth Gardening Programs (in the classroom as well as after school)
- Demonstration Gardens
Maryland’s Food Supplement Nutrition Education (FSNE) program provides nutrition education to help low-income individuals and families make healthy food choices, develop food preparation skills, improve food shopping skills, and increase physical activity. FSNE partners with community collaborators at sites with the capacity to provide nutrition education opportunities as well as environmental or policy changes that will help individuals and families establish healthy nutrition and physical activity behaviors. FSNE also provides nutrition education training to volunteers and professionals who provide services to low-income families, thus expanding the reach of the program. FSNE programming sites include schools, preschool and childcare centers, out of school program sites, farmers’ markets, and food assistance sites. Maryland FSNE program outcomes show positive results. Adult learners are developing better food shopping skills and eating more fruits and vegetables. FSNE youth programming helps participants become more willing to try new fruits and vegetables and increase their consumption of healthy foods.

In Queen Anne’s county, the work of FSNE educator Ashley McLaughlin is somewhat limited as not all schools meet the required income guidelines.

In 2016, the FSNE educator partners included the Judy Center, Sudlersville Elementary School, Haven Ministries Food pantry (Kent Island), The Centreville Farmer’s Market, and Queen Anne’s Family Center.

2016 County Economic Impact

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<th>4-H Volunteers</th>
<th>Nutrient Management</th>
<th>Total: $3,685,330 impact!</th>
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Don’t just get answers. Get solutions from someone you trust