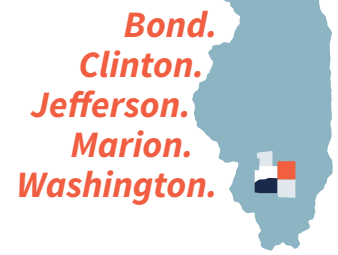


Fall 2022



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



03. Master Gardener Training

Do you have an interest in gardening and a passion for helping your local community?

04. National 4-H Week

4-H is fantastic every day, but 4-H week is an extra special time to share the fun and enthusiasm with others.

06. Staffing Update

We are on a mission to fill a unique staff opening. Do you know someone who might fit the bill?

Fall2022

What a year! Like most people, with the end of year upon us, I can't help but reflect on the last year and everything our incredible team of Extension educators and coordinators has accomplished in our community. In an organization like ours that strives to meet community needs, we set measurable objectives that relate to our impact; we track, measure, optimize, and do it all over again. However, the nature of our work is not measured in sales or revenue. Instead, it is measured in pounds of donated food; families trained in protecting and preserving natural resources; backpacks collected; children showcasing their work at County Fairs; individuals served at mobile markets; they are metrics that penetrate the heart and soul of our community. And we couldn't be prouder of the work we do.

We couldn't do this without partners like you, parents and public-school educators, higher education institutions, libraries, health care systems, elected officials, local municipalities, local family farms, and small business owners. Every single one of you plays a part in the impact we can make. We are so grateful for your support, whether it is through volunteerism or other resources, this local ecosystem we have created is strong and vibrant; together, we are helping combat food insecurity and cultivating the next generation of leaders.

Please enjoy the updates in the following pages and know I am a quick email or phone call away. I welcome the opportunity to talk more about our work and how you or your organization can play a more significant role in serving our community.

Many thanks and best wishes to you in the new year,

Jordee Koehler

County Extension Director

our leadership



Easy, Online 4-H Enrollment!

Illinois 4-H opened a new online 4-H enrollment program for members in October. Illinois 4-H transitioned to online enrollment several years ago, making the process more convenient for families and easier to manage for staff. This newest version allows leaders to manage club information and post reminders and announcements to members. Staff can also post monthly newsletters and notices about upcoming events. The new system is called zsuities and can be found online at <https://4h.zsuite.org/>.



Illinois Extension Educators Kara Boozer, youth development, and Jamie Mahlandt, consumer economics, recently presented one of the breakout sessions for the Regional Office of Education #21 teacher in-service. Kara and Jamie spoke with teachers about the benefit of using Extension programs in the classroom and how they fit with current learning standards.



Photo by Barthelemy Rigaud on Unsplash

2023 Master Gardener Training Registration Now Open

Becoming a Master Gardener is a perfect fit for someone interested in gardening (flower, vegetable, landscaping, etc.) with a passion for helping their community. Training provides participants with research-based education that enables them to share their love for gardening with others. Following the success of the hybrid training for Master Naturalists, Master Gardener training is offered in the same style for 2023. Participants can join the online sessions from home or through a recording. Then trainees come together for hands-on activities and field trips.

Master Gardener Training will begin in February and continue weekly through mid-April. Classes are taught by University of Illinois specialists and Extension educators. Topics include botany, soils, vegetables, fruits, flowers, trees and shrubs, grasses, landscaping, insects, and diseases. You can find out more by calling the Marion County Extension Office at 618-548-1446 or our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/bcjmw/master-gardeners>.

Master Gardener Conference

Local volunteers honored for their service

Continuing education is a crucial component in keeping volunteers excited and engaged. Master Gardener volunteers were thrilled to have the opportunity to come together face-to-face for their 2022 conference. In addition to innovative topic-relevant sessions, local representatives celebrated the annual Master Gardener awards. We are excited to share that four local Master Gardeners (Julie Kar-meier, Carla Haselhorst, Dian Langenhorst, and MyDung Trieu) were nominated for the 2022 State Master Gardener Outstanding Award for leadership and service to our local communities. Each has impacted their local community by contributing to education about food access or enhancing our home and community landscapes.



State Master Gardener Awards

Julie Kar-meier and Dian Langenhorst at the State Master Gardener Conference.

Connect with us on Social Media

Are you on social media?
We are! Let's connect.



/bcjmwu23



@UoflExtBCJMW



Illinois Extension
BCJMW



National 4-H Week Events

Yearly celebration the first week in October

4-H is the largest out-of-school youth program in the state of Illinois. The program has a legacy of encouraging youth to develop

leadership and life skills. Members actively take part in community service, along with mentoring younger members.

LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

for Bond, Clinton, Jefferson, Marion and Washington counties



Scan the QR code

or use the link below
go.illinois.edu/BCJMWneeds

feature

Needs Assessment

Local Illinois Extension Educators are currently hosting a massive Needs Assessment in Bond, Clinton, Jefferson and Washington counties. The findings from this study will guide staff in planning programs for the next few years. The assessment takes an in-depth look at our communities and what educational program opportunities Illinois Extension can provide to improve people's lives. We hope you will complete the survey at go.illinois.edu/BCJMWneeds.

>> *continued from page 4*

Every year National 4-H Week is celebrated the first full week in October. This year the week was packed with school visits and open house events. 4-H staff members had the pleasure of visiting third-grade classrooms in their local communities to talk about 4-H and lead the students

through hands-on activities similar to those found in 4-H project books. In addition, each day of the week had a different challenge for current members, and activity kits were available at all local Extension Offices for youth to pick up and complete at home.



shout outs

Thank You Frey Farms

for donating pumpkins to our local Extension offices to use for fall programs.

Thank You ROE #21 for including our program staff as break out presenters at the teacher's inservice in October. We are looking forward to taking some new programming into local schools.

Thank You Greenville University

for meeting with staff about a new scholarship opportunity that may be a fit for some 4-H members.

NOW HIRING

Do you know someone with a passion for nutrition?

The opening for a SNAP-Ed Educator for Bond, Clinton, Jefferson, Marion and Washington counties will take a unique, multi-faceted professional to fill. This position is housed in Jefferson county and work with staff in all five of our counties. The right candidate has a Masters in a nutrition related field and has a passion for community education. If you know someone who would be great in this role, please send them the link for details. A full list of current openings can be found at <https://jobs.illinois.edu/>.

We are also seeking Jefferson County Office Support, and a Bond County 4-H Program Coordinator. The Jefferson County Office Support opening is based at the office in Mt. Vernon. The right candidate will excel at running an office and supporting program staff. The 4-H coordinator position is based at the Bond County Extension Office in Pocahontas. This person will handle all the day-to-day management of the 4-H program. Being comfortable working with youth and volunteers is a must!

Welcome New Staff!

In October we were thrilled to welcome Daniel Simonton to the local Extension team. Daniel is the new marketing coordinator and will handle digital content. In the coming months you will notice an uptick in our social media presence across multiple platforms as he gets comfortable in his role. He is based in the Jefferson County office in Mt. Vernon.

Illinois Extension Annual Conference

Most Illinois Extension staff members attended the Extension Annual Conference in mid-November. In addition to relevant continuing education, local staff celebrated awards and recognition for staff members. Our very own Rhonda Mueller received the award for Office Support Excellence. It's no surprise to anyone who knows Rhonda that she would receive this honor. She is dedicated, focused, hardworking, and always willing to go the extra mile. Kara Boozer, youth development educator, and Chris Lueking, horticulture educator, were honored for five years of service.



Students recognize our work

Recently, SNAP-ed Community Worker Krystal Pruden was happy to find that local students recognize the Illinois Extension and Eat. Move. Save branding when they see it in the community. Students shared that they had noticed that

the logos on the hand-outs she gave them in class matched the logos on a billboard in their community. We have greater impact when the community recognizes how we work to meet their needs.

Office hours change: As of January 9, 2023 the Bond County office hours will change.

The new schedule will be Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed from noon to 1 p.m. each day for lunch. If you have any questions, please call 618-664-3665.



at a glance here's what's next

December

- 8** Mobile Market, Centralia
- 20** Mobile Market, Nashville
- 23** Winter break starts

January

- 3** Office re-opens
- 12** Mobile Market, Centralia
- 13** Youth Livestock Conference
- 17** Mobile Market, Nashville
- 20** Offices Closed, Staff Meeting

Our counties are fortunate to have more than 130 dedicated volunteers spread across five counties, but there is always room for more. We are seeking volunteers to start new community clubs, lead spin clubs, teach workshops, and be shooting sports volunteers. Time commitments vary. Call Kara for more details at 618-548-1446.

See our full calendar online

Find details on these programs, plus new events being added and online opportunities at extension.illinois.edu/bcjmw/events.

You can also call 618-327-8881 for information or registration.

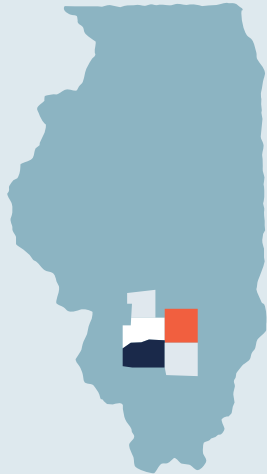
BUSINESS HOURS

Monday through Friday
8 AM - 12 PM & 1 - 4:30 PM



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



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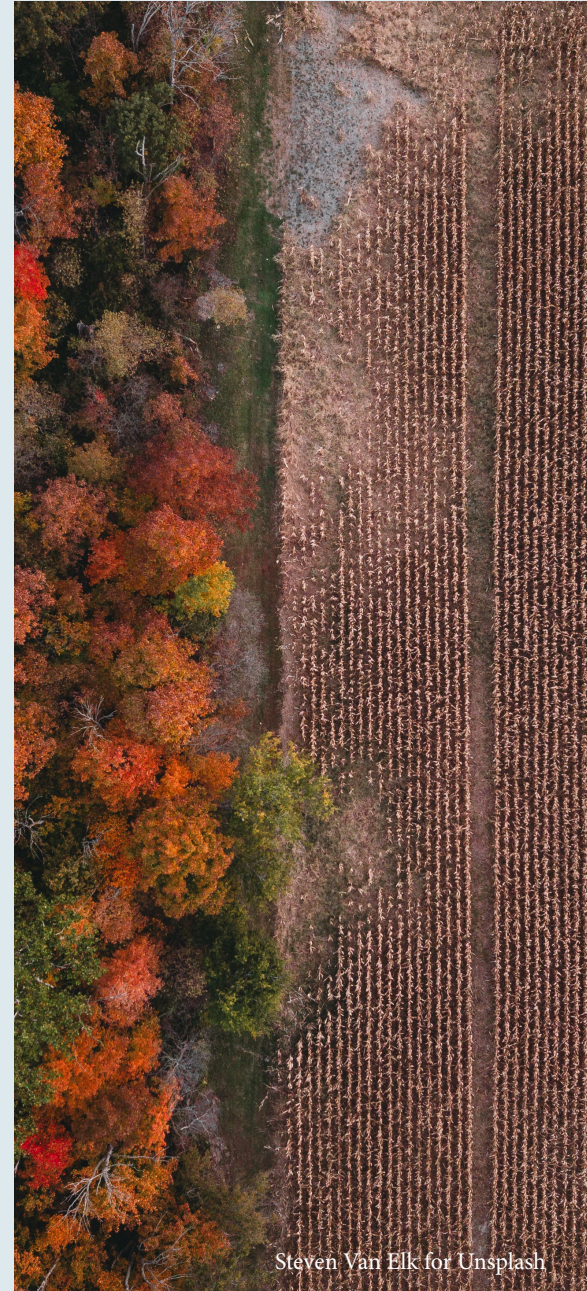
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extension.illinois.edu



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Steven Van Elk for Unsplash

College of Agriculture, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

University of Illinois*U. S. Department of Agriculture*Local Extension Councils Cooperating

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please call the Extension Office at 618-327-8881.