



Mason County

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

2016 Outcomes 2017 Plan of Work

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MASON COUNTY RESIDENTS

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Facebook pages:

- Community Intelligence Lab
- Mason County 4-H
- Mason County Master Gardeners
- Mason County Small Farms
- Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board



Mission Statement

Washington State University Mason County Extension helps people put research-based knowledge to work, improving their lives, communities, and the environment.

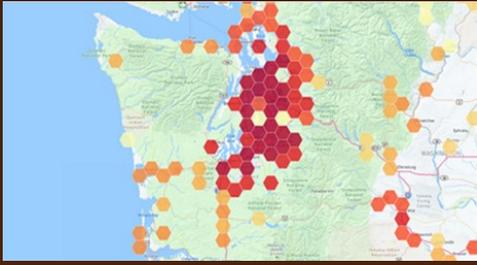
To realize this mission, faculty and staff plan, conduct and evaluate research and experience-based educational programs to improve the lives of Mason County residents.

WSU Mason County Extension also employs the assistance of hundreds of volunteers and community partners and provides access to the resources available at Washington State University and the National Land Grant University Extension System.

Local Programs Include:

- Community & Economic Development
- Food Sense Nutrition Education
- 4-H Youth Development
- Water Resources Outreach & Education
- Noxious Weed Education and Control
- Small Farms Education
- Master Gardener Program
- Consumer Food Safety

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local WSU Extension office. Washington State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Mason County cooperating agencies.



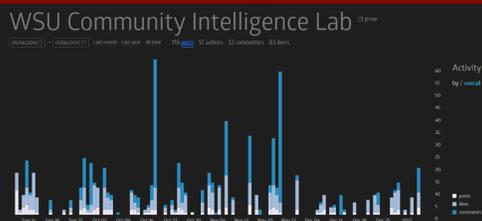
2016 COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY THE NUMBERS

Provided technology consulting to 19 businesses in and around Mason County

Conducted data analysis support for 15 community agencies in the health, education and food sectors.

Submitted 1.2 million dollars worth in grants to create a new industry.

Awarded \$25,000 to conduct research to improve searchability, and accessibility of climate change and food insecurity knowledge.



Community & Economic Development

Situation & Issue

Mason County, like many rural communities continues confront a number of challenges to sustained economic development and community well-being. Poor high school graduation rates, poor health outcomes, limited access to skilled labor in key technology dependent sectors such as advanced manufacturing and information technology. At the same time, drought, fires and warming temperatures in Hood Canal and South Puget Sound also placed additional stress on local government, business, and residents.

Response

Mason County CED continued to focus its efforts on four key areas:

- Coordinated Economic Stabilization
- Strengthen Sustainable Food Systems
- Build Capacity for Data Driven Decision-Making
- Strengthening Community Resilience

Faculty continued working with EDCs, SBDCs, local business, colleges, tribes, and local government agencies to provide:

- Applied Research
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Digital Innovation and Informatics

CED formally launched the Community Intelligence Lab (CIL) build local capacities in information technology, support for technology innovation for rural industry, and analytic services to improve decision-making by local government and community service organizations. The program fills critical gaps in local capacities through:

- IT and Data Analysis Support to Local County and State Partners.
- Data science and technology design research for rural communities.
- Training in data mining, storage and analysis to inform decision-making.

Advancing economic well-being, and quality of life through collaboration, technology, and applied research.

Outcomes and Results for 2016

- The CIL was officially launched in June 2016.
- Faculty designed training programs for building IT and data intelligence capabilities.
- Worked with CSOs, farmers and residents to strengthen regional food systems and health coalitions.
- Conducted research in machine learning for tracking trends and issues in rural communities
- Provided technical assistance to farmers, and promote institutional procurement of local foods.
- Received more than \$50,000 in grants and awards to conduct research and provide technical training to entrepreneurs
- Delivered technology training to businesses and CSOs, improving data collection and information sharing practices.

Staff

Justin G. Smith, PhD. Assistant Professor, Community & Economic Development & County Director, 1 FTE.

Greg Schundler, M.S., GIS Specialist & Program Coordinator, .4 FTE.

Funding

Mason County	\$24,547
CDBG,	\$26,558
eXtension/GODAN—USDA/NIFA	\$25,000
WSU	\$63,293

Goals for 2017

- Access funding for seaweed research and processing for local business.
- Grow the CIL to provide workforce training in information technology, and data analytics.
- Assist local businesses and CSOs in data mining, predictive analytics, & technology planning.
- Develop rural innovation network to explore/experiment with technology entrepreneurship.
- Work with County and tribes to assess and communicate impacts of sea level rise on county infrastructure.

Quotes

Community Intelligence Lab Participant, said:

"This exactly what we need in our community. You are an incredible resource."

Local Business Owner, said:

"I never knew how easy it was to synch Google products to simplify my life!"

Natural Resource Specialist said:

"Amazing! You literally saved my hours of headache. That's money"



Food \$ense Nutrition Education



2016 FOOD \$ENSE BY THE NUMBERS

2,566 Direct contacts
with adults & youth

1,146 Indirect contacts
with parents & adults
via newsletters

104 nutrition
education programs
delivered

Situation & Issue

SNAP-Ed Nutrition Program, known as Food \$ense, is an obesity-prevention program designed to provide nutrition education and behavior change models to low-income youth and adults. It is a collaborative effort of the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, USDA, and Washington State University.

Limited resources and lack of access to healthy, affordable foods are problems for people who have developed obesity in the U.S. More than one-third of all U.S. adults have obesity and are at risk to develop obesity-related health conditions such as heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, some of the leading causes of preventable death. Among adults in Washington State the CDC reports that 36% were overweight with another 27% classified as obese. According to the most recent Healthy Youth Survey in 2014 for Mason County students in grades six to twelve, an average of 15% were overweight and 17% obese. The adult obesity rate of Mason County, WA was 32.20% in 2015.

Mason County ranked 29th of 39 counties in Washington State in health outcomes for 2016. This represents an improvement from previous reports where Mason County ranked 33rd of 39 in 2015.

Response

The primary focus of this work is to provide Mason County residents with information and options about leading healthier lives. All sectors of our community, including individuals and families, educators, organizations, health professionals, small and large businesses, and policymakers combine to shape an individual's food and physical activity choices, and ultimately one's calorie balance and chronic disease risk (Social-Ecological Model (SEM)). Through coordinating efforts, change can be promoted to combat the negative health impacts of caloric overconsumption and lack of consistent physical activity. WSU Extension SNAP-Ed Program is part of this coordinated system-wide approach through delivering evidence based services described in the Food and Nutrition Act. These include individual and group-based activities, multi-level interventions, and community and public health approaches.

Empowering low-income residents to make healthy food choices and choose active lifestyles through education and environmental supports.

Outcomes and Results for 2016

WSU Extension SNAP-Ed Program utilized a balance of strategies with partner organizations to leverage SNAP-Ed financial resources and reach eligible individuals. In addition, goals and outcomes were shared with and reported to Mason County Public Health as part of the collective impact data collection project for the Moving Mason Forward initiative and strategy map, a community wide effort aimed at capturing the multi-layered community efforts to improve health outcomes and quality of life for Mason County residents.

Partner agencies include selected schools, Native American Tribes, and populations that meet low-income requirements:

- Mason County Health Department
- Mason Matters, Healthy Living Coalition
- Mason General Hospital
- Behavioral Health Resources – Harvest Program
- EFI – Exceptional Foresters
- Mason County WSU Master Gardener Program
- Mason County WSU 4-H Program
- Shelton, Mary M. Knight, Pioneer & Hood Canal Districts
- Saints' Pantry Food Bank
- Fred Meyer Grocery Store

Staff

R. Jeanne Rehwaldt, Extension Coordinator Supervisor, .8 FTE (through June, 2016)

Christine Ciancetta, *Professional Worker, .5 FTE/Interim Coordinator (July-September, 2016)

Pamela Bish, *Instruction & Classroom Support Tech 2, 1 FTE

Josh Munro, * Instruction & Classroom Support Tech 2, 1 FTE

Funding

* USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP Ed) grant: \$271,049

Goals for 2017

To positively impact health outcomes using coordinated strategies to leverage current community work. Report outcomes to funders, community partners, and through the Collective Impact system at Mason County Public Health.

Team Nutrition

Pioneer, Mary M. Knight and Shelton School Districts participated in a Team Nutrition pilot to implement Smarter Lunchroom Design. At MMK “celebrity” servers joined students for lunch, a name was given to the cafeteria and increased physical activity at recess were highlights. All School Districts will submit applications for designation as a Healthier US School in 2017.





**2016
4-H YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT
BY THE NUMBERS**

2,375 youth engaged in
4-H Youth
Development programs

100 trained adult
volunteers

16 4-H community clubs

132 youth engaged in
educational camping
programs



4-H Positive Youth Development

Situation & Issue

Youth have certain developmental needs--emotional, social, intellectual and physical--and will attempt to meet those needs throughout their day-to-day lives. Research through the Tufts University longitudinal study discovered that the structured out-of-school time learning, leadership experiences, and adult mentoring that young people receive through their participation in 4-H plays a vital role in helping them achieve success.

Response

The Mason County 4-H Youth Development program reaches out to youth and their families to build skills for life in a variety of ways including project clubs, after school programs, summer camps, special interest projects, internship programs and special events. Programs focus on three important areas with an emphasis on the experiential learning model:

- Positive and sustained relationships between youth and adult
- Activities that build important life skills
- Opportunities for youth to use these skills as participants and leaders in valued community activities

Staff

Dan Teuteberg, Assistant Professor, 4-H Regional Specialist, .5 FTE (split position with WSU Grays Harbor Extension)

Kathy Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator, .75 FTE

Funding

Mason County for 4-H Regional Specialist	\$10,568
Mason County for Program Coordinator	\$28,922
Total Mason County	\$39,490

Total WSU Salary & Benefits	\$93,219
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Grants	\$ 5,000
Fundraising	\$ 789
Partnerships & Sponsorships	\$ 8,220
Gifts	\$ 450

Providing programs that foster opportunities for experiential learning and life skill development to help youth become confident, contributing citizens.

Outcomes and Results for 2016

Thirty seven adults attended Volunteer Education sessions covering topics including communication, learning styles, youth protection, life skill development and youth/adult partnerships. Of the participants completing evaluations 69% reported they increased their knowledge of life skill development in youth. The Mason County 4-H Youth Development Program reached 2,375 youth. The contributions of 100 adult volunteer leaders provided youth with a wide variety of learning experiences including public presentations (public speaking), record books (record keeping, financial documentation, and narrative writing experience), judging, clinics, fairs (teaching poise and social competence in addition to project content skills), and community service projects (civic responsibility).

Goals for 2017

- Increase the number of trained adult volunteers who deliver youth programs via clubs and community programs
- Provide additional youth STEM engagement activities throughout the year at various community locations
- Increase number of community partners



QUOTES

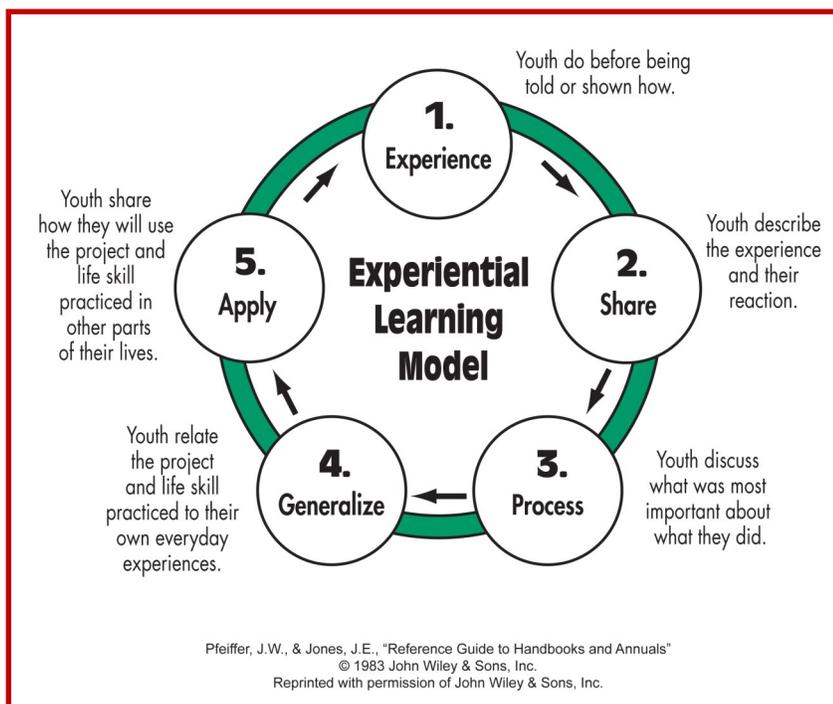
“It means working together and creating something together as a team.”

“Being part of 4-H means seeing young people come together to find their common ground and the hopes and challenges they all share regardless of background.”

“She shows what 4-H is all about by using her HEAD to teach and mentor, her HEART to show love and caring, her HANDS to help all, and her HEALTH to be better at all she does.”

“4-H empowers our youth to achieve higher limits.”

“He struggled with shyness. We have seen major growth in his public speaking and ability to speak in front of groups.”



Water Resources Education & Outreach



2016 WATER RESOURCES EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS

33 educational site
visits to private
properties along Hood
Canal

5 Shore Stewards
newsletters produced
and distributed to 475
households = 2,375
indirect contacts

Over 500 contacts at 6
community outreach
events

350 students engaged
on the water cycle at
Kids' Day at OysterFest

Situation & Issue

Marine and fresh water quality in some areas of Mason County has been degraded and needs improvement. Water quality issues are frequently a result of behaviors on personal property and pressures from continued growth. The marine shorelines of South Puget Sound and Hood Canal both suffer from water quality degradation related to nutrient loading and high fecal coliform bacteria concentrations, shoreline modifications like bulkheads and hard armoring, reduction of shoreline forests, and habitat and native plant removal on private properties. Water quality affects all residents of Mason County who rely on groundwater for drinking, recreate on or near the waters of Mason County, and harvest fish, shellfish, and other resources from our water.

Response

The goal of the program is to increase the number of residents using best management practices for water quality on personal property. Our approach to meeting this objective include a combination of social marketing strategies, using use information technology to build awareness, and develop community partnerships to support a culture of care related to water resources in the County.

WSU Extension partners with Mason County Public Health, Washington State Department of Health, Mason Conservation District and other interest groups to educate local citizens. Efforts focus on the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda's top three priorities for improving the health of Puget Sound:

- Prevent pollution from urban storm water runoff
- Protect and restore habitat
- Recover shellfish beds

Staff

Water Resources Program Coordinator, .5 FTE

Funding

Mason County \$31,000

Protecting public & environmental health through improved home water quality practices

Outcomes and Results for 2016

- Thirty-three site visits were conducted on private properties in the Hoodspout and Union areas of Hood Canal in Mason County.
- Approximately 78% of landowners say their knowledge has increased about water quality impacts due to homeowner activities,
- 69% of landowners on septic system maintenance recommendations.
- 88% of landowners have implemented practice changes since previous assessment in 2014.
- Approximately 350 Mason County fourth graders attended Kids Day at OysterFest where we presented an interactive lesson on the water cycle.
- Approximately 150 people attended Oakland Bay Day, an educational celebration of the natural resources in Mason County.
- Survey of 50 shoreline property owners was completed to determine interest in and needs for small-scale aquaculture.

Goals for 2017

- Hire new Water Resources Program Coordinator
- Develop and provide aquaculture business training and technical assistance for shoreline owners.
- Develop community education strategy that promotes participation in monitoring and stewardship of water resources, e.g. Beach Watchers.
- Conduct up to 5 homeowner septic system workshops in targeted communities.
- Launch real estate training workshops for continuing education with an emphasis on shorelines, wetlands, and low-impact development (LID)..
- Launch exploratory development of an early warning system for responding to imminent beach closures.
- Increase the number of shoreline residents enrolled as Shore Stewards.
- Cultivate long-term funding strategies to support water resources programming.



QUOTES

Local residents provided feedback in reference to educational site visits to their homes on Hood Canal:

“This was an awesome opportunity; I wish more people would take advantage of it to learn all the things they can do to keep the water clean.”

“They were very helpful and willing to stay as long as needed-very beneficial.”





2016 NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM

BY THE NUMBERS

Postcards mailed to 60 property owners with current or historic infestations of the class A noxious weed, giant hogweed. 3 new giant hogweed sites reported by informed citizens

90 acres of National Forest land surveyed and 78 acres treated

Survey and treatment protected nearly 240 acres within Mason county against the threat of knotweed invasion.

This included treatment along 3.75 miles of shoreline, 40 acres of treatment and assistance provided to 63 landowners

Nearly 950 contacts at 10 presentations or public events.

Planning process for the Spencer Lake IAVMP continued with over 50 attendees at a July public meeting.

Noxious Weed Program

Situation & Issue

Noxious weeds take a significant toll on the environment and economy. Without prevention, invasive species can translate into huge costs for control, kill jobs and harm our economy. A report released for Washington State in January 2017 assessed the economic impact of 23 of the most damaging invasive species in Washington at \$1.3 billion a year and a loss of 8,000 jobs.

With more than 200 known invasive species found in or near our state, the economic analysis highlights the damages and potential impacts that could result if 23 of these species were allowed to spread within the State in a single year. Included in the analysis are 12 invasive plants, all listed as noxious weeds in the state of Washington. Of these, Himalayan blackberry, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, spotted knapweed, Scotch broom, purple loosestrife, invasive knotweed and Eurasian watermilfoil are found in Mason County.

Response

The Mason County Noxious Weed Control Program's goal is to decrease the impact that invasive noxious weeds have on the county. The program aims to do this by assisting citizens with integrated vegetation management (IVM) and "early detection rapid response" (EDRR). In addition, public education through presentations and participation at public events is a cornerstone of the program.

The goal of the program is to increase the number of citizens who know about and utilize the resources of the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Program by:

- Providing information based on scientific research to people who contact us via phone, e-mail, office visits and public events
- Providing up to date information and research on the program's website
- Providing services to help landowners control difficult noxious weeds
- Coordinate with property owners to remove dangerous noxious weeds

Reducing economic and environmental impact of noxious weeds in Mason county.

Staff

Patricia Grover, Program Coordinator
Kendall Carman and Keith Reitz, Weed Control Technicians

Funding

- Mason County General Fund \$61,818
- DOE Spencer Lake \$13,303
- Title II Olympic National Forest \$ 7,376

Outcomes and Results for 2016

Noxious weed survey work was accomplished on ninety acres of the Olympic National Forest utilizing funds from a Title II Participating Agreement. In addition, funding from the Washington State Department of Agriculture's knotweed program supported the program's efforts to continue control and survey work on Coulter, Finch and Sherwood Creeks. Additional support was provided to property owners in other parts of the county who sought assistance.

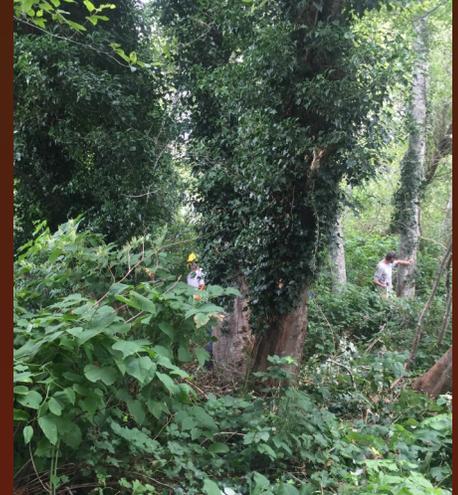
The development of the Spencer Lake Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan was furthered with a complete survey of Spencer lake, multiple steering committee meetings and a public meeting.

Education and outreach efforts resulted in nearly nine hundred-fifty contacts.

Goals for 2017

- Increase the impact the program has on the community by increasing contacts, grant funding, treatments and outreach
- Complete mailing to property owners in the Mission and Little Mission Creek watersheds and initiate knotweed survey and control efforts within those watersheds
- Complete the Spencer Lake Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan
- Renew agreements with property owners on Stimson, Sherwood and Finch Creeks and North Bay for continued knotweed control efforts

NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM



Puget Sound Corps crew removing English ivy and knotweed at Belfair State Park



Noxious Weed Information at Oysterfest 2016

AGRICULTURE IN MASON COUNTY

BY THE NUMBERS

377 Farms

23,743 acres

63 acres

\$40,809,000
Market Value of
Products Sold

Small Farms Program

Situation & Issue

Roughly 96% of the 471 farms in Mason County meet the USDA's definition of a "small farm" –farms with less than \$250,000 gross receipts annually on which day to day labor and management are provided by the farmer and/or farm family that owns, or leases the productive assets. That said, small farms play an important role in our county's economy, food system, natural resources, and way of life.

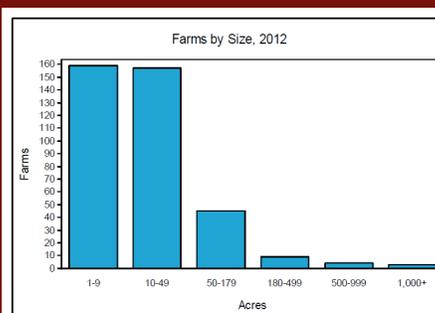
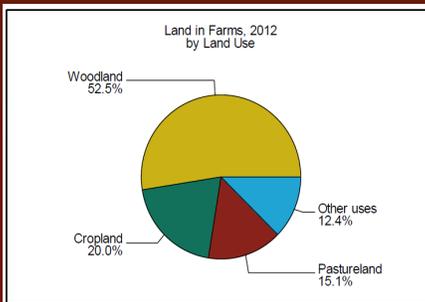
The primary audience of the Small Farms Program is agricultural landowners in Mason County. In addition, the program educates residents, visitors, decision makers, students and others in our community about the agricultural and natural resources of Mason County and builds support for sustainable agricultural operations.

Response

The overarching mission of the Small Farms program is to work with the Mason County community to foster profitable family farms, facilitate land and water stewardship, and provide access to healthy food.

We accomplish this by striving for the following goals:

- Help farmers adopt practices that are sustainable – economically, socially and environmentally.
- Build support for local agriculture, and food systems.
- Unify farmers and consumers in developing local markets and community food access.
- Assist agricultural producers with direct marketing strategies to increase their farm profitability.
- Preserve Mason County farmland for food and fiber production.



2012 Census of Agriculture Mason County
Profile

[http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/
Publications/2012/Online_Resources/
County_Profiles/Washington/cp53045.pdf](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Online_Resources/County_Profiles/Washington/cp53045.pdf)

Fostering profitable family farms, land and water stewardship, and access to healthy food.

Staff

Colin Stewart, Small Farms Educator, .1 FTE.

Funding

Mason County Extension \$10,000
Course Fees \$ 1,750

Outcomes and Results for 2016

- Submitted research grants to improve agriculture for Mason County's distinct ecosystems.
- Initiated curriculum development for an agro-forestry and specialty forest products training program.
- Launched cover-crop trials to identify sustainable management practices in Mason County.
- Coordinated with Shelton Farmers Market, Mason General Hospital and Belfair Farmers Market to improve farmer access to direct markets.
- Developed Mason County Food Map.
- Provided direct service to farmers and farm training providers in Mason and Thurston Counties.

Goals for 2017

- Expand Small Farms Educator to full-time position.
- Deliver Farmers Market Readiness Training to farmers seeking to sell products at area farmers markets.
- Provide support to Water Resources staff to deliver Cultivating Success Program for shellfish growers.
- Develop curriculum and organize Cultivating Success in Agro-Forestry.
- Obtain outside grants and/or funding sources to enhance programming efforts.
- Increase integration with Community & Economic Development, and Food \$ense programs to improve linkages between local consumers and regional producers.



**Mason
Conservation
District**



**2016
CONSUMER FOOD
SAFETY
BY THE NUMBERS**

Answered 19
calls regarding
food safety and or
preservation

15 pressure
gauges tested

8 of
which were
inaccurate

Consumer Food Safety

Situation & Issue

CDC estimates that each year roughly 1 in 6 Americans (or 48 million people) get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die of foodborne diseases. Many of these illnesses can be prevented if consumers follow safe food handling and preparation practices.

Improper home-canning of low-acid foods can result in foodborne botulism, a paralytic and potentially deadly illness caused when an individual ingests the neurotoxin produced by the spore-forming *Clostridium botulinum*. The USDA recommends that dial pressure gauges for canners be checked for accuracy every year to prevent inadequate processing of low-acid foods that allows for the survival of *C. botulinum* spores.

Response

- Providing USDA research and evidence-based home food preservation information to consumers that contact us via phone, office visits and email
- Providing up to date food preservation and food safety information and resources on the Mason County Extension website
- Coordinating dissemination of food preservation and consumer food safety information with Mason County Master Gardener activities when appropriate (flyers and displays for seasonal food information)
- Providing dial pressure gauge testing for home canners as well as the benefits and drawbacks of weighted-gauge (do not need to be tested) vs. dial gauges.
- Assist with registration and navigation of online course "Preserve the Taste of Summer".

Staff

Lisa DeWall, Office Manager (.005 FTE)

Funding

No line item funding for this project area or faculty support.

Increasing the number of consumers that use safe food preservation and food handling practices.

Outcomes and Results for 2016

Nineteen people called and or came into the office to ask food safety and or preservation questions. Fifteen pressure gauges were brought to the Mason County Extension office for testing. eight of those tested did not read accurately.

Goals for 2017

Increase awareness of USDA food safety and preservation resources provided by WSU Extension using social media, local news and web page.

Foodborne Illness and Flu

Sometimes foodborne illness is inaccurately referred to as “stomach flu.” Flu, short for influenza, is a respiratory illness, and only infects people’s airways.

Foodborne illness costs this country nearly \$51 billion per year in medical care and lost productivity (scharff 2011)





2016 MASTER GARDENERS BY THE NUMBERS

4,188 Volunteer Hours =
\$121,410.12* =
2.01 FTE

2100 pounds of produce donated to local food bank

Over 11,052 residents reached

400 youth taught nutrition and gardening skills

*Value of volunteer time in Washington \$28.99

Master Gardener Volunteer Program

Situation & Issue

Home, community and school garden projects are on the rise throughout the state of Washington including Mason County's HOPE Garden at Mason General and Squaxin: Tribe and Skokomish Tribe Garden and Catalyst Park Garden. These efforts are in direct correlation to the rise of hunger and homelessness in Mason County. Research has shown that gardening can improve the overall health, diet and deepen one's sense of belonging in their community.

Response

WSU Mason County Master Gardeners; 1) have grown and donated thousands of pounds of produce to Saints' Pantry foodbank in Shelton; 2) leased affordable 3-season garden plots to 18 families at Catalyst Park; 3) provided gardening mentorships; 4) hosted community educational gardening workshops. In partnership with PNW Salmon Center and WSC AmeriCorps members taught sustainability, nutrition and gardening at Pioneer School's garden and greenhouse to 400 students. Master Gardeners have also raised funds to bring electricity to Catalyst Park in an effort to expand the growing season, increase the volume of food produced and distributed to Saints Pantry Food Bank, create an outdoor teaching space and provide shelter during inclement weather to our garden volunteers.

Staff

Jeannine Polaski; Extension Coordinator Supervisor, .2 FTE

Funding

Mason County Master Gardener Foundation	\$6000
Mason County Extension	\$2000



Promoting responsible environmental stewardship with relevant information to meet the home horticulture needs of Mason County.

Outcomes and Results for 2016

- Conducted year round training to local residents.
- Launched our Through The Gardens Gate workshops.
- Held our annual plant sale, bringing in over \$16,000 to the MG Foundation.
- Held our annual pumpkin sale, with proceeds going to the local food bank.
- Provided weekly donations of fresh produce from Catalyst Garden to Saint's Pantry from May-October .
- Received grant funding from Green Diamond to provide electricity at Catalyst Park.
- Received grant funding from Squaxin One Percent Commission for Catalyst Park to help build covered space for food cleaning and community training space.
- Share educational resources and promoting gardening events on Mason County Master Gardeners' Facebook page.
- In partnership with PNW Salmon Center, WSC AmeriCorps members taught sustainability, nutrition and gardening at Pioneer School's garden and greenhouse to 400 students.

Goals for 2017

- Conduct free monthly gardening workshops at Catalyst Park to community gardeners and members of the public.
- Build a covered structure at Catalyst Park Garden for a rain and shade shelter for conducting workshops on site.
- Bring electricity to Catalyst Park Garden to establish an outdoor classroom where community workshops, nutrition and school gardening classes are held.
- Provide community gardening educational workshops at Public Works January – March on topics garnered from surveys conducted during Oyster Fest.
- As an extension of the weekly diagnostic clinics, provide bi-weekly articles about timely garden topics to Shelton Mason County Journal newspaper.
- In collaboration with Mason County's WSU Food Sense Nutrition Program provide community gardening mentorship

QUOTES

“I appreciate that the trainings and workshops are informative and interactive making the lessons easy to apply in my home garden.”

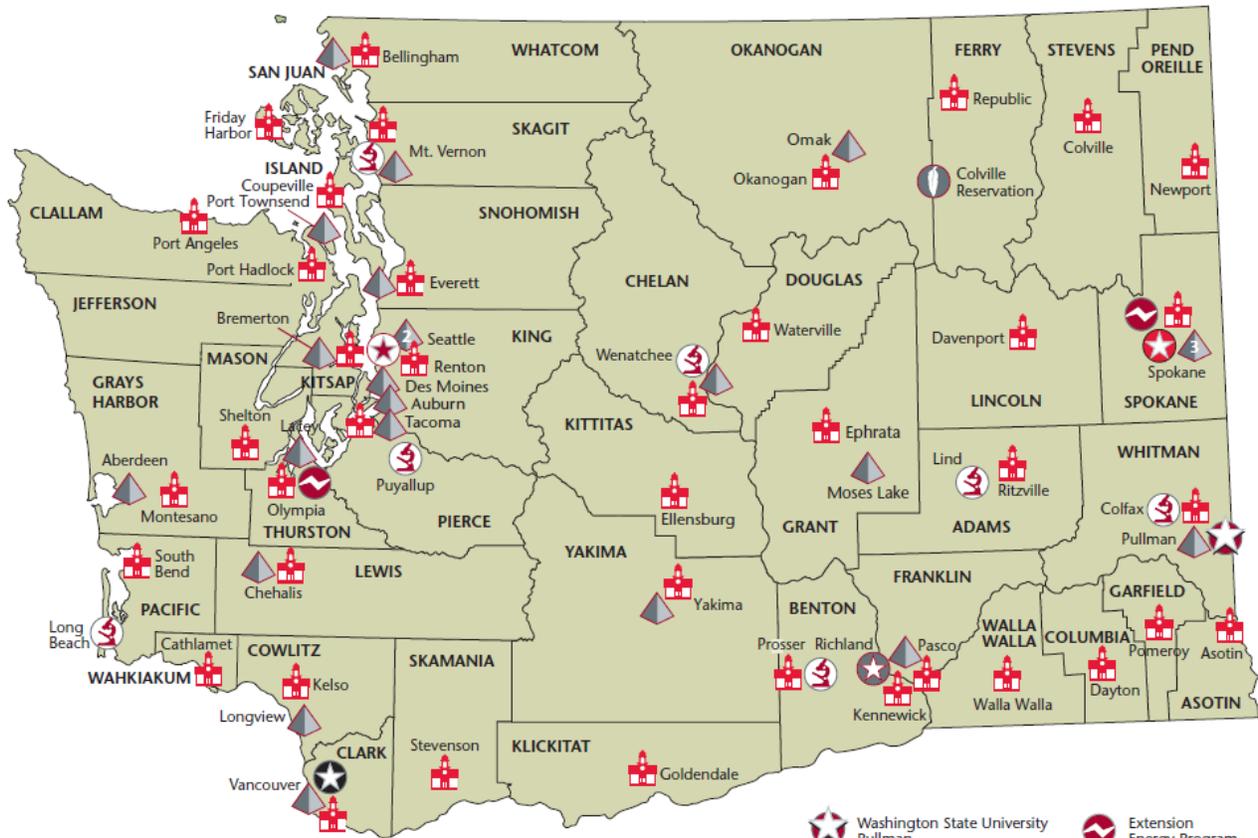
“One of the favorite things about growing food at Catalyst Garden is knowing that I am feeding my community.”

“The Garden Tour is the highlight of my year, it always inspires me to learn new growing techniques each year.”



Fruit Tree Grafting Activity

Washington State University



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
World Class. Face to Face.

Extension County Office
 Research and Extension Centers/Units

Washington State University Spokane
 Washington State University Vancouver

Washington State University Pullman
 Washington State University West
 Washington State University Tri-Cities

Extension Energy Program
 Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program
 Small Business Development Centers/Partnerships

Revised 1/24/12



Mason County

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 EXTENSION



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