



# Preble County

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## 2008 County Highlights

### Strengthening Families and Communities

- 139 divorcing parents with a total of more than 150 children increased their knowledge of child development, parenting, and communication through a court-mandated parenting seminar. 96% of participating parents stated the seminar increased their awareness of the impact of divorce on their children.
- 93 child-care professionals increased their knowledge and skills through participation in 44 hours of training. Training included recognition of childhood communicable illnesses, child abuse recognition, nutrition/food safety/cooking with young children, preschool literacy, and Ohio Early Learning Content Standards–Math. Training was sponsored by OSU Extension in collaboration with the local Health District, Childrens Services, and Ohio State University Early Childhood Quality Net. All participants report plans to use the knowledge gained.
- 13 local teachers gained knowledge about financial education programs available through OSU Extension for adults and youth.
- 45 teens at two local schools learned more about the real value of money, both now and in the future, through the Real Money Real World program. Teachers of FCCLA programs were assisted by the help of 4-H volunteers and OSU Extension.
- 27 homemakers gave leadership to local community education on nutrition, food safety, family health, consumer awareness, and universal design. Members planned and implemented three community service projects.
- Five 4-H volunteers report gaining useful information in a two hour Safe Food Handling course.
- More than 5,000 adults and 150 youth increased their knowledge of nutrition, food safety, home food preservation, parenting, family finances, universal housing design, health, safety, and consumer decision-making to improve family health and life style choices.
- 230 youth and adults gained leadership skills to plan and implement educational programs reaching more than 7,000 individuals.
- Collaboration with 25 agencies/organizations prevented duplication of services while still meeting the needs of youth and families.

- More than 1,800 adults, 6 teens, 5 volunteers, and 18 educators increased their understanding of universal housing for all ages and abilities through 4 workshops, 4 consultations, and a 3-day exhibit at Farm Science Review. 85% report plans to add universal design features in their homes for ease of living for family and friends of all ages.

### Advancing Employment and Income Opportunities

- Child Care Training (6 classes for a total of 44 hours) for child day-care home and centers increased the quality of child care available in Preble County and reduced small business expenses because local training was available.
- 35 adults gained leadership skills utilized during the Preble County Pork Festival, Senior Fair Board, and Business and Professional Women.
- Collaboration with more than 100 agency and business professionals resulted in data gathered to determine needs and develop new programs to reduce overall costs.

### Enhancing Agriculture and the Environment

- Agriculture is a leading industry in Preble County. There are 1,030 farms with 195,000 acres in farm land. The average farm is 189 acres. Preble County ranks 24th in Ohio in corn for grain production. 52,200 head of hogs were raised in Preble County.
- 83 farmers completed private pesticide applicator recertification training through the Pesticide Applicator Program.
- County residents learned about consumer horticulture through an Emerald Ash Borer display at the Preble County Extension office. Local government officials were invited to a workshop about management techniques related to trees affected by Emerald Ash Borer.
- More than 100 Preble County residents accessed Ohio State University Extension fact sheets, Farm Tax Guides, other educational resources, and web sites at the Preble County Extension office.

### Preparing Youth for Success

- 877 Preble County 4-H youth gained life-long skills by participating in 1,854 projects. 187 adult volunteers provided leadership in 56 4-H clubs volunteering more

than 15,000 hours of their time. More than 70 4-H youth improved their interview skills as participants at the Ohio State Fair. Approximately 165 students participated with their teachers in non-traditional 4-H activities such as Chick Embryology and Real Money Real World.

- 51 youth gained knowledge and practical experience in formulating procedures and policy which affected more than 1,200 youth. 36 Junior Fair Board and 15 Food and Fashion Board members developed risk management, crisis management, and other leadership skills.
- More than 176 advisors and 106 youth attended two volunteer training events improving their knowledge in areas including the history of 4-H, meeting the needs of club members, teaching skills, and leadership development.
- More than 40 adult volunteers and 3 youth developed volunteer leadership and communications skills through participation in monthly meetings of the 4-H Advisory Committee and 4-H Horse Advisors Committee to plan and implement youth/adult training and recognition activities reaching more than 500 youth and adults.
- 21 youth participated in more than 30 hours of training for 4-H camp counselors where they learned about risk management, program planning, and counseling skills to conduct a four-day resident camp for 124 youth campers. Twenty campers received scholarships from the 4-H Advisory Committee. Three adult volunteers assisted Extension staff with counselor training and camp.
- Approximately 340 4-H youth and adult volunteers practiced communication, small business, and customer service skills while conducting a two-day, county-wide fundraising event.
- 103 teen drivers increased their awareness of driving safety techniques through a court-mandated 4-H CARTEENS safe driving course conducted with the assistance of 12 peer leaders in collaboration with 8 adult volunteers from Juvenile Court, law enforcement, and community leaders. 90% of participants reported a need to improve some aspect of their driving.
- Approximately 287 youth livestock producers and their parents learned the value of record keeping, animal handling, and nutrient management at three two-hour Quality Assurance Program trainings.
- Six hours of Livestock Clinics offered the opportunity for 86 4-H youth to increase their knowledge about their project animals.
- More than 925 students in 3rd and 4th grade learned about the variety of projects and opportunities offered through the 4-H Youth Development program visits to all Preble County Elementary Schools and the Preble County Home School group. Awareness Teams gave leadership to the presentations.
- More than 200 youth and parents learned more about the 4-H program at 4-H Family Night sponsored by the 4-H Committee with assistance from approximately 100 4-H youth and adult volunteers.

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