

# INGHAM COUNTY MSU EXTENSION ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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## Message from the District Director

Ingham County MSU Extension provides people with access to resources and expertise in areas of agriculture, agribusiness, health, nutrition, community, food, environment, and children and youth development. Staff located in Ingham, Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ionia, and Montcalm Counties all serve this area as a part of a statewide team of Extension professionals. Anyone is welcome to visit our office and meet with local professionals or get connected to the appropriate regional expert, purchase soil test kits for their fields or gardens, find pesticide manuals critical for certification, have their pressure canner lid tested or ask questions. People contacted us via telephone, email, in person, or online. In fact, 29,264,562 contacts through social media, web activity, e-newsletters, and handouts were made with MSU Extension statewide in 2024.

## Impact



**7,250** people from the county attended MSU Extension programs.



People from the county attended **846** MSU Extension programs (across the state).



**1,465** people from the county participated in agriculture and agribusiness programs.



**1,642** youth and adults from the county participated in children and youth programs.



**1,842** people from the county participated in community, food and environment programs.



**2,506** people from the county participated in health and nutrition programs.

## Overall Impact

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MSU Extension employees are members of **21** community coalitions within the county.



There were **4** Nutrition and Physical Activity Policy System and Environmental sites receiving PSE education within the County.



There were **346** answers provide to "Ask Extension" questions asked by people from the county.



There were **6** policy, systems, and environmental changes with those PSE sites. **1,225** people were impacted.



**4,093** people attended programs that were hosted in the county.



There were **466,041** contacts through e-newsletters and handouts.



**432** people from the county volunteered with MSU Extension



There were **985** direct client consultations.

## Economic Development, Environmental Conservation, and Agricultural Productivity

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There were **67,320** participants in community, food, and environment programs from across Michigan.



There were **470** virtual programs related to Financial Education, Food Systems, Water and Environmental Quality, Government and Businesses.



There were **145** commercial and farm soil test samples processed.



There is a **\$246.5 billion** annual impact of food and agriculture on Michigan's economy.



There were **38** homeowner soil test samples processed.



There were **413** participants in county agriculture programs.

## The MSU Product Center

- **102 clients served**, including 18 women-owned small businesses
- **9 new jobs** were created
- **173 total employees** serve the businesses represented
- **499 counseling hours** were logged with the clients
- The client's businesses generated **\$5,102,793.00 in annual sales**, an increase of \$63,906.00
- Out of the client businesses, **two were new business starts and there were three new products launched, as well as eight new licenses obtained.**

The Michigan State University Product Center helps Michigan entrepreneurs and businesses to develop and launch new product and service ideas into the food, beverage, and agriculture markets. Whether you are a budding entrepreneur or operate a well-established company, the Product Center is your key to the front door of Michigan State University's vast and varied technical expertise, research and outreach services.



## Business Development

On April 24, 2024, the MSU Product Center recognized several food and beverage businesses for their achievements over the past year. Protein Pints, a company founded in 2022 by two best friends who were craving a better way to consume protein, was recognized as the Young Innovator of the Year. Michigan State University Extension and the Michigan State University Product Center assist entrepreneurs and businesses in developing products and services in the food and agriculture markets. Its team of experts consults with clients on a one-on-one basis, helping new entrepreneurs navigate from concept development to launch and beyond.



## Expanding The Reach of Extension

In March of 2024, Dairy Educator Paola Bacigalupo Sanguesa (pictured second from the left), traveled to Chile and worked together with local professors and researchers to deliver a full day of continuing education for cattle veterinarians and industry professionals. The workshop focused on addressing efficiencies in the milking parlor and on humane euthanasia of cattle, following the objectives of improving production efficiencies and animal well-being. In addition to having a class-style session, the workshop included a hands-on activity where participants learned to use a captive bolt device to perform cattle euthanasia.



In 2024, there were **571** 4-H youth enrolled in **51** 4-H clubs.



There were **289** 4-H volunteers



The 4-H volunteer hour value was **\$9,129.51**.



There were a total of **2,300** county youth participants in MSU Extension programs.



There were **12,861** MI Stronger Family online participants.



**2,081** people participated in nutrition and physical activity programs that were hosted in-county.



**2,506** people in the county participated in health and nutrition programs.



Statewide, 9,808 people participated in food safety programs, and **45** restaurant and food establishment staff received ServSafe® certification in the county.



### 4-H Youth Educational Experience

Ingham County 4-H Program Coordinator Rachel Ochylski, 4-H Volunteer Kim Spaeth and Director of Education at the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy Drew Monks - also a retired science teacher and a member of EAGLE's water quality team - led a group of 4-H students on a trip to the Looking Glass River to collect and identify aquatic insects. The group learned about macroinvertebrates, aquatic habitats and the local watershed. This is one example of the variety of educational examples available to 4-H participants.



### 4-H Showmanship

Partnering with "The Rabbit Show," 4-H Program Coordinator Glenda Weiss was able to offer scheduled educational sessions throughout the Show day. Some of these sessions were taught by members of the committee and youth in our 4-H program. In addition to exhibiting their animals, youth were able to once again participate in a photography contest, a breed identification contest and an educational display contest.

*"Loved having showmanship this year at the state show. Thank you for adding that!" – participant*

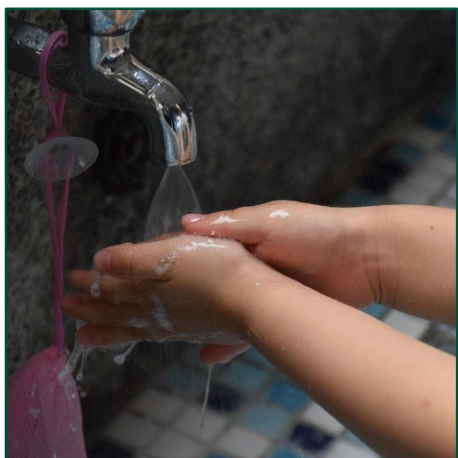




### Extension Health – Walk With Ease

In April 2024, a group of 11 women began a Walk With Ease Program at the Veterans Memorial Park in Stockbridge. They met with MSU Extension Educator, Sheilah Hebert, every Tuesday morning, rain or shine, to walk in the park. Participants worked up from one to two to three or more laps by the end of the program. When the program ended, the group kept going and even moved indoors when the cold weather arrived. Walk With Ease gets people moving and builds healthy habits with long-lasting benefits.

*“I can’t believe I made it around without stopping, a true miracle.” – participant*



### Oh, the Germs!

MSU Extension Community Nutrition Instructor Tammy Fletcher taught a Show Me Nutrition program for six weeks to Mrs. Pretzel’s kindergarten class at Lansing Charter Academy. Every time she arrived at the class, she would pull out Mr. Germ to do a check-in with the students. How was their hand washing? This product produced glowing splotches that represented germs. If the students washed thoroughly, the splotches would disappear. They became eager to show and tell their washing before they ate and after using the restroom. Mr. Germ is a simple tool with great results.



### Community Reach

Our MSU Extension Community Nutrition Instructors often spend time just reaching out to the local community and providing valuable information to help people make healthier choices. If you go to one of the expos at our local schools, you may run into Curtina (pictured farthest right). Curtina and her colleagues often went to expos in 2024 to provide information about “Re-Think Your Drink.” Sugary drinks affect the health of many of our most vulnerable people. This educational campaign teaches people about the lifetime effects of too much sugar and provides them with healthier alternatives to consider.

## 2024 Partnerships:

Active Living for All  
Alison House  
ALIVE  
Angel House  
Biggby Coffee  
Boys and Girls Club of Lansing  
Capital Area Community Services  
C.A.C.S. Head Start  
Caterpillar Corner  
Cavanaugh STEAM Elementary  
Charlotte New Hope Church  
Child Development Lab, MSU  
Community Mental Health-Eaton,  
Clinton, Ingham  
DeWitt Public Schools  
Dr. Eunice Foster Africa Engagement  
Project – WFPMIYI  
East Lansing Farmers Market  
East Lansing Public Schools  
Edgewood Village Apartments  
Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions  
Gardner International Magnet School  
Holy Cross Services  
House of Promise  
Indigenous Youth Empowerment  
Program  
Kendon Elementary School  
Lansing Area Aids Network  
Lansing Board of Water and Light  
Lansing Charter Academy  
Lansing Parks & Recreation  
Lansing Public Schools  
Lansing School District  
Lansing Regional Smart Zone

Meridian Senior Center  
Michigan Association of Children's  
Mental Health  
Michigan Carrot Committee  
Michigan Community Service  
Commission  
Michigan 4-H and FFA State Horse-  
Judging Contest  
Michigan Fly Fishing Club  
Michigan Onion Committee  
Michigan Vernal Pool Partnership  
Middle Grand River Organization of  
Watersheds  
MSU Agriculture, Food, and Natural  
Resources Education Team 2024  
MSU Broad Art Museum  
MSU CANR  
MSU College of Arts and Letters  
MSU College of Engineering  
MSU College of Natural Sciences  
MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine  
MSU College of Social Science  
MSU College of Veterinary Medicine  
MSU Department of Animal Science  
MSU Division of Student Life and  
Engagement  
MSU Global Youth Advancement  
Network  
MSU International Studies and Programs  
MSU James Madison College  
MSU Lyman Briggs College  
MSU Museum  
Neogen  
Peckham AmeriCorps  
Potter Park Zoo  
Punks With Lunch Lansing  
Refugee Development Center

Shared Pregnancy Women's Center  
Schmidt Community Center  
Spartan Child Development Center  
St. Vincent Catholic Charities  
Stockbridge Senior Center  
Success Virtual Academy  
Suntree Apartments  
Tri-County Office on Aging  
United Dairy Industry of Michigan  
Waverly High School  
Williamston Farmers Market  
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

## Ingham County MSU Extension Staff

### Lansing office:

Alena Henry, Secretary  
Alondra Ramirez Carrasco, CNI  
Tammy Fletcher, CNI  
Rachel Ochylski, 4-H Program Coordinator  
Curtina Mysliwiec, CNI  
Ezra Pompos, CFEI instructor  
Laasya Koduri, AmeriCorps  
Erayna Greenwood, AmeriCorps  
**Mason office:**  
Jessica Huegli, Secretary  
Sara Corr, Secretary  
Shannon Stover, HNI educator  
Paola Bacigalupo Sanguesa, AABI Educator

Aurora Patricia Monterosa, CYI Educator  
Glenda Weiss, 4-H Program Coordinator  
Paige Filice, CFEI Educator  
Brent Crain, AABI Educator  
Richard Price, AABI Educator  
Corey Clark, AABI Educator  
Shelah Hebert, HNI Educator  
Diane Wilson, CFEI Educator  
Erin Kelly, AmeriCorps

### Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

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