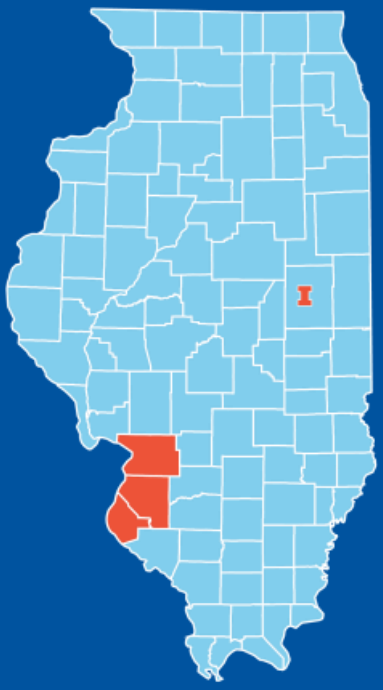
ILLINOIS EXTENSION
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

2019 IMPACT REPORT

University of Illinois Extension
Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair Counties

ILLINOIS EXTENSION
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

University of Illinois Extension provides practical education you can trust to help people, businesses, and communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future. Based in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Extension is the statewide outreach program of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.



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A Message from the Chancellor

The University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign is an economic engine and a driver of innovation, deeply rooted in the Illinois prairie and engaged statewide, from Cook County to Cairo. Illinois Extension brings the University to your doorstep. Extension educators live and work alongside you in every county, allowing the university to support local leaders, businesses, farmers, and residents to address grand challenges and everyday problems with practical, research-based solutions. As a youth, my own 4-H experience inspired a rewarding career in agricultural research and higher education. Today, it's an honor to lead this great public university and deepen its commitment to serve the people of Illinois.

Robert J. Jones
Chancellor, University of Illinois

A Note from the County Director

Thank you for supporting University of Illinois Extension! Extension staff and volunteers work each day, in partnership with others, to continuously support and improve our communities. Please take the time to learn about the exciting opportunities we deliver to our communities' youth, families, businesses, producers, agencies, and schools. Extension is designed to share knowledge, research, and innovation created at the university level with local businesses and residents through Extension staff and volunteers, who live and work in our communities. University of Illinois Extension serving Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties focused on these main areas in 2019:

- Appreciating and protecting our environment
- Growing and accessing food
- Positive youth development
- Illinois Nutrition Education Program (INEP)

While we will continue to concentrate on those key areas, we are also excited about a couple of new focus areas in the coming year. We are expecting great outcomes through the enhancement of our commercial agriculture programming and the new local food systems and small farms programming taking place at the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Center. In addition, our youth programs continue to thrive due to increased interest in leadership, as well as new programming areas. We are looking forward to a great 2020! We invite you to become a partner, participant, and supporter of Illinois Extension. Extension will always be a community effort and we are truly thankful for the generous support from of our donors, volunteers, and partners.

Your gifts make a difference!
Amy Cope, County Extension Director

The Madison-Monroe-St. Clair unit is fortunate to have a staff with a wide range in tenure, from less than one year to 22 years and counting! Our unit focuses on a variety of work throughout the tri-county area, and having a staff with diverse backgrounds helps to achieve our goals in various ways.

Amy Cope, COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR
The **county director** oversees all operations and management of the unit, including personnel, finance, facilities, programming, and key stakeholder communications.

Unit educators concentrate on program development, delivery, and evaluations of educational programs throughout the unit and state. They deliver research-based, educational programs in coordination with staff, community professionals, and College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences faculty.

- Katrina Galati, 4-H Youth Development, Metro
- Rachel Hazen, 4-H Youth Development
- Nathan Johanning, Commercial Agriculture
- Ziaul Rana, Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program
- Elizabeth Wahle, Specialty Crops

Program coordinators perform a large variety of work revolving around supporting local requests and program delivery support. They coordinate the recruitment, training, communications, reporting, and recognition of our many volunteers, 4-H leaders, master gardeners, and master naturalists, among many other countless tasks.

- Angie Abernathy, 4-H Youth Development, Madison and St. Clair counties
- Kelly Brandt, 4-H Youth Development, Monroe County
- Sarah Ruth, Horticulture & Natural Resources

Illinois Nutrition Education Program (INEP) staff members work within Madison and St. Clair counties conducting programs to provide educational services, information, and skills that empower families to make positive changes for their health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)

- Kaitlin Becherer, Program Coordinator
- Laquitsha Bejoile Hayes, Program Coordinator & Smarter Lunchrooms Program
- Rima Abusaid, Community Worker
- Bailey Allen, Community Worker
- Arne' Burns, Community Worker
- Julie Fulton, Community Worker
- Ana Maritza Lemke, Community Worker
- Asia Walker, Community Worker

Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)

- Paula Atkinson, Community Worker
- Aretha Burns, Community Worker
- Stephanie Davis, Community Worker
- Gestavia Peeples, Community Worker
- Chastidy Wilson, Community Worker

Office support associates ensure our offices are operating efficiently, financials and reporting are kept up-to-date, and customer service is delivered. They support our entire staff and are essential to successful daily operations.

- Paige Brown, Waterloo
- Karla Isaak, East St. Louis
- Mary Kay Rahn, Waterloo
- Patty Stanton, Collinsville

The **Extension Council** advises unit staff regarding local programming, partnerships, and finances.

Extension Council 2019 - 2020	County	City
Mr. David Ammann	Madison	Highland, IL 62249
Miss Claire Dorsey (youth member)	Madison	Moro, IL 62067
Mrs. Rosemary Dorsey	Madison	Moro, IL 62067
Ms. Nichole Rinderer	Madison	Highland, IL 62249
Ms. April Rottmann	Madison	Highland, IL 62249
Mr. Adam Mestemacher	Madison	Edwardsville, IL 62025
Ms. Amy Kolweier	Monroe	Waterloo, IL 62298
Mr. Justin Knobloch	Monroe	Columbia, IL 62236
Mr. Brian Mueller	Monroe	Columbia, IL 62236
Ms. Raeleen Neary	Monroe	Red Bud, IL 62278
Miss Janella Neary (youth member)	Monroe	Red Bud, IL 62278
Ms. Victoria Vogt	Monroe	Columbia, IL 62236
Mr. Wilbon Anthony	St. Clair	Caseyville, IL 62232
Mr. Gary Green	St. Clair	Belleville, IL 62223
Ms. Nancy Henss	St. Clair	Trenton, IL 62293
Ms. Kenya Leonard	St. Clair	O'Fallon, IL 62269
Ms. Kayla Thessing	St. Clair	Mascoutah, IL 62258
Mr. Dan Tiedemann	St. Clair	Belleville, IL 62224

Mr. Brian Mueller	Extension State Advisory Council Member	3-Year Term

Madison County Extension Education Foundation	Monroe County Extension and 4-H Education Foundation	St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation
Jan Denby	Don Schrader	Dave Hinton
Amy Rogier	Jennifer Nobbe	Amy Morey
Leon Uhe	Richard Woodcock	Don Kaiser
Patty Uhe	Susan Rick	Nancy Guenther
Rita Skau	Kevin Schreder	Carolyn Sitzes
Debbie Adamick	Justin Knobloch	Winn Pardee
Lynn Weis	George Obernagel	Jerry Albrecht
Mary Hewlett		Edie Sandoval
		Sam Lutton

Members of local foundations are dedicated to planning fundraising events to support Extension programming in each of the unit's three counties.

4-H Hall of Fame

Carleen Paul
Madison County

Dorothy Schilling
Monroe County

Terry Bohn
St. Clair County

Arne Burns, SNAP-Ed community worker, won an Illinois Nutrition Education Program Rookie of the Year award.

Stephanie Davis, EFNEP community worker, won an Illinois Nutrition Education Program Rookie of the Year award for her work in Granite City, Illinois.

EFNEP is also the proud recipient of the Illinois Nutrition Education Program Team Award.

Kelly Brandt, Monroe County's Extension Program Coordinator, won the 2019 Program Support Excellence Award.

Master Gardener Teamwork State Award

The Village Garden in Godfrey

The project included ornamentals, fruits, vegetables, herbs, and much more. Produce from the garden was donated to Crisis Food Pantry in Alton. The garden also has native prairie areas and an insect hotel to increase native pollinator habitats.

View a short video highlighting the garden
go.illinois.edu/GodfreyGarden

Butterfly Festival

Butterfly Festival

Pollinator populations are declining due to the loss of habitat. Butterfly Festival, hosted by Baebler Educational Farm in Waterloo, was an educational event that highlighted the role of pollinators in the ecosystem. Approximately 300 people attended. Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, 4-H clubs, community groups, and businesses provided educational stations for youth and adults. Participants learned about pollination, insect life cycles, native plants, honeybees, and much more.

Appreciating and Protecting Natural Areas

Invading plants, insects, diseases, and fish are threatening natural areas. Citizens can learn more about these pests through educational programs and Master Naturalist training. Master Naturalist volunteers work on stewardship projects to preserve natural areas and provide educational outreach to youth and adults.

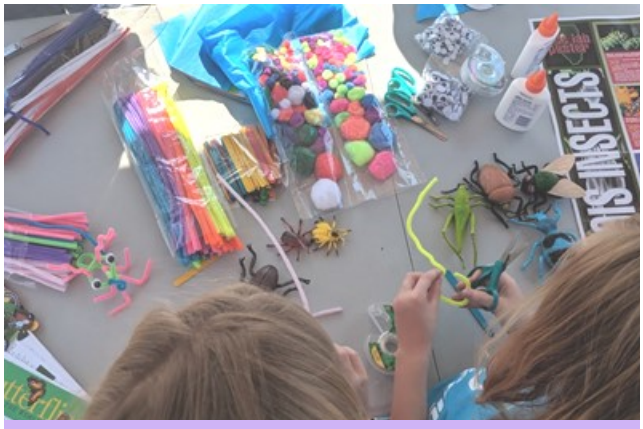
Baebler Educational Farm, *Waterloo*
Cahokia Mounds, *Collinsville*
Henry White Experimental Farm, *Millstadt*
Knobeloch Woods Nature Preserve, *Belleville*
Rock Springs Park, *O'Fallon*
The Gardens at Southern Illinois University, *Edwardsville*
The Nature Institute, *Godfrey*
Watershed Nature Center, *Edwardsville*
Willoughby Heritage Farm, *Collinsville*

50	Master Naturalists
5,170	Volunteer Hours
$131,400	Value to the Community

Our communities need people like the Master Naturalists who understand the invasive plants that are threatening our natural areas and can take action to help remove the plants.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT FORESTER

122 Master Gardeners
10,400 Volunteer Hours
$264,472 Value to the Community



Youth learning about beneficial insects at the Belleville Old Town Market.

Increasing Food Access

Master Gardener projects that donate produce to area food pantries are increasing. These donation provide direct assistance to people in our communities who are experiencing food insecurity. These projects donated over 15,000 pounds of produce in 2019:

F.R.E.S.H. Teaching Garden, *East St. Louis*
Henry White Experimental Farm, *Millstadt*
Junior Master Gardener Garden, *Waterloo*
McKendree University Garden, *Lebanon*
O'Fallon Community Garden, *O'Fallon*
Open Gate Garden, *Maryville*
Stephenson House, *Edwardsville*
Willoughby Heritage Farm, *Collinsville*
Demonstration Garden, *Godfrey*
Fairmont City Library Community Garden, *Fairmont*

Impacting Hunger

Master Gardeners and Illinois Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) combined forces to impact hunger issues in Belleville and Granite City, through the Growing Illinois Food Access Allocation (GIFAA) program. Master Gardeners constructed new vegetable gardens in the communities and provided more educational outreach. Volunteers had an educational youth activity booth at the Belleville Old Town Market. Unit SNAP-Ed staff provided nutrition education to clients, while offering produce recipe cards.

The clients absolutely LOVE all the garden foods! It was fresh and looked wonderful. Clients wanted more and still ask for the homegrown veggies even though it is now December! This is such a blessing to Community Care Center!
MELANIE LOHMAN, COMMUNITY CARE CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Master Gardeners distributed pepper and tomato plants to Crisis Food Pantry clients in Alton, and also taught recipients how to care for their vegetable plants. During the summer, when produce from the Godfrey Garden is delivered, Master Gardeners visit with clients about their vegetable garden.

Master Gardeners teach students at Franklin Elementary School in Belleville about gardening.

Madison County reports over 1,200 acres in horseradish production, which accounts for 39% of U.S. production and 70% of Illinois production. The value of Madison County horseradish production is conservatively estimated at $3,463,600.

Extension Commercial Agriculture Educator Elizabeth Wahle, in partnership with the Horseradish Growers of Illinois, coordinates the annual Horseradish Growers Conference, which is attended by North American growers, processors, and researchers. Her programs focus on issues important to the sustainability of the horseradish industry:

- Regulatory issues
- Pest management
- Crop improvement through breeding

The 2019 Gateway Green Industry Conference featured six breakout sessions, approved CEUs for professional development, and 11 different speakers. One popular topic was chainsaw safety and the open face boring back cut.

Serving Youth in Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair Counties

Wherever you live, 4-H is there. Whoever you are, 4-H is the place where you belong and are part of the club, where you serve in the world where you live, where you act on matters important to you, and where you learn to accomplish the dreams you strive to achieve. Illinois 4-H empowers and prepares youth for success — for today, tomorrow, and a lifetime.

Program Reach

4,239 4-H Participants

113 Adult Club Volunteers

889 4-H Club Members

253 First Year Members

RACE

- 79 % Caucasian
- 18 % African American
- 3 % Asian, American Indian, Pacific Islander, 2 or more races, or unknown

ETHNICITY

- 97 % Non Hispanic
- 3 % Hispanic

RESIDENCE

- 9.3 % Farm
- 33.8 % Small Town under 10,000
- 54.8 % Town 10,000 to 50,000
- 2.1 % Suburb & Cities over 50,000

2018* 4-H Show Premiums

# of Youth	County	Total Distributed
216	Madison	$9,648.47
163	Monroe	$10,419.06
101	St. Clair	$8,465.45

*Distributed in 2019

In 4-H you can choose to learn about the things that interest you the most; from aerospace to visual arts....

Youth Leadership

Monroe County Teen Teachers delivered educational programming at Conservation Day, Health & Safety Day, Science Club, and multiple day care centers throughout Monroe County.

8	Teen Teachers
100	Volunteer Hours
1,350	Youth reached

It was really awesome meeting with kids from all over the state. I showed up in the morning to the capitol building, packed my backpack with information to hand out, and started walking through the hallways to speak with my assigned legislators about the importance of 4-H and why they should continue to support the organization's funding. I strengthened my professional speaking skills by creating 'elevator speeches' to give the legislators as they were on their way to important assembly meetings.

ERIN MILLER AFTER ATTENDING THE SPEAKING FOR ILLINOIS / LEGISLATIVE CONNECTION

The Monroe County Livestock Judging Team participated in the Southern Illinois Sheep and Goat Judging Contest, the Illinois Beef Expo, the DuQuoin Livestock Judging Contest, and the State Livestock Judging Contest at the University of Illinois.

Janella Neary attended the Junior Leadership Conference where she explored new 4-H project areas, learned activities and games to take back to her own 4-H club, learned and practiced new leadership skills, and met other teens from across the state.

Mary Brinkmann served on the Planning Committee of the Illini Summer Academies.

The St. Clair County 4-H Teen Ambassadors continue to support and promote 4-H throughout the county. This year, the group grew to 12 members strong and continue to promote themselves to other St. Clair County 4-H members. They serve as superintendents at the local 4-H shows, and act as positive role models to help promote 4-H throughout the county. As the group keeps growing, more action is being taken to expand the 4-H program.

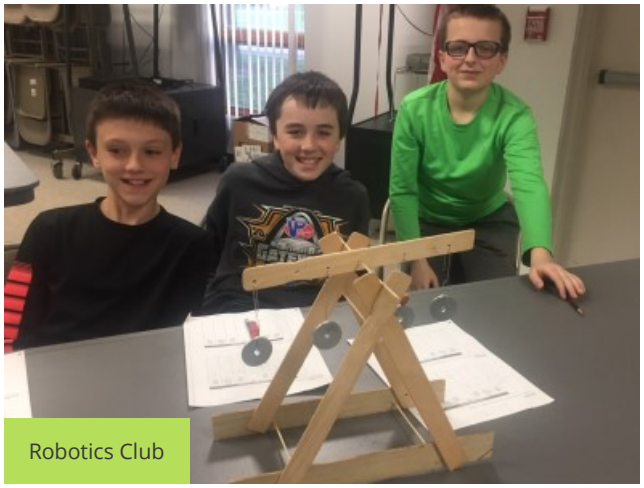
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

71
Youth participated in the KidZone Summer Camp in Edwardsville.

Lexi's programs were a great learning opportunity for our youth! They thoroughly enjoyed all of the activities, and many of the children spoke about what they had learned in 4-H throughout the weeks!
MARYBETH BROWN, KID ZONE DIRECTOR

At Scott Air Force Base, the Tech Wizards studied several topics this spring. A favorite was the science behind CSI, which covered extracting DNA from a strawberry, casting footprints from different types of ground, fingerprinting, etc.

Teen Tech Wizard's project really made me think and step outside my box. It was fun trying to 'survive' in an apocalyptic world.
J. LAW, TEEN TECH WIZARD MEMBER



Robotics Club

The 4-H STEM Spooktakular was a new promotional and educational event for youth in October. Youth participated in Halloween-related science experiments while trick-or-treating at the various stations.

Members of the summer Science Camp enjoyed a field trip to the St. Louis Science Center to learn about aerospace engineering.

EXPANDED FOOD AND NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM (EFNEP)

Since 1969, EFNEP has worked with families in need to improve food selection, food safety, and food buying practices.

Through our work with community partners, EFNEP focuses on parents and caregivers, pregnant women, teens, and youth. Our hands-on classes increase knowledge and influence behavior change, making a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Serving Local Families

621
Total Adult Participants

739
Total Youth Participants

13% (78)
Adult Participants Identified as Hispanic

RACE OF ADULT PARTICIPANTS

- 38% White (236)
- 56% Black (350)
- 2% American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (13)
- 3% Multiple races (18)
- <1% Information not provided (2)

Our Community Partners

17
K-12 Schools

8
Early Childhood Centers

36
Community Centers

8
Youth Centers

Summer Youth Cooking Camps

June – August 2019

30
Cooking Camps

651
Youth

Hats off to the EFNEP Team! They brilliantly delivered another summer youth cooking school to over 650 youth between the ages of 6 and 16. The staff worked on two teams and were able to deliver nine lessons over three days, teaching students to make nine different dishes. The emphasis was on providing new experiences — frittatas, kale, fresh garlic, picadillo, and casseroles were all available to the participants.

Celebrating 50 years
EFNEP
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EDUCATION (SNAP-EDUCATION)

SNAP-Education works with Illinois families in need to make the healthier choice an easier choice where they eat, shop, live, play and learn. Through classes and workshops, and by collaborating with community partners to adopt research-based solutions to encourage healthier nutrition and activity choices, SNAP-Education positively impacts the families and communities we serve.

Serving Local Families

14,917
Total SNAP-Education Participants

34% Adults

66% Youth

7% Identified as Hispanic
34% Identified as Non-Hispanic
59% Unknown

RACE OF PARTICIPANTS

40% White (5,581)
59% Black (8,234)
1% American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (66)

Our Community Partners

38 K-12 Schools
11 Youth Centers
10 Store or Markets
27 Early Childhood
10 Community Centers
16 Food Pantries and Food Banks

SNAP-Education assisted Community Care Food Pantry staff in transitioning to a "shopping-style" atmosphere. They received a donation of 10 gallons of paint to coordinate the shelving with MyPlate colors. Amy Funk, in her previous position as unit educator, conducted volunteer and staff training in conjunction with direct education programs. Our community workers provided nutrition education, food demonstration, and recipe cards at many food pantries.

Community Food Pantries:

- Received produce from one of our grant-funded gardens
- Decreased the amount of waste and time spent in the pantry

Community Care Food Pantry
2,020 individuals
served per month

M.A.N.N.A
Food Pantry
640 Individuals
served per month.

SNAP-Education staff also assisted M.A.N.N.A food pantry in transitioning to shopping-style. As a result, the amount of waste and time spent in the pantry was decreased. The unit educator assisted with updating their food policy. Community workers provided direct education and food demonstrations.

Statewide Webinar Reach

13
Webinars in 2019

390
Reached in Community Involvement and Leadership Webinars

86
Reached in Food Access Webinars

191
Reached in Economic and Financial Well-being Webinars

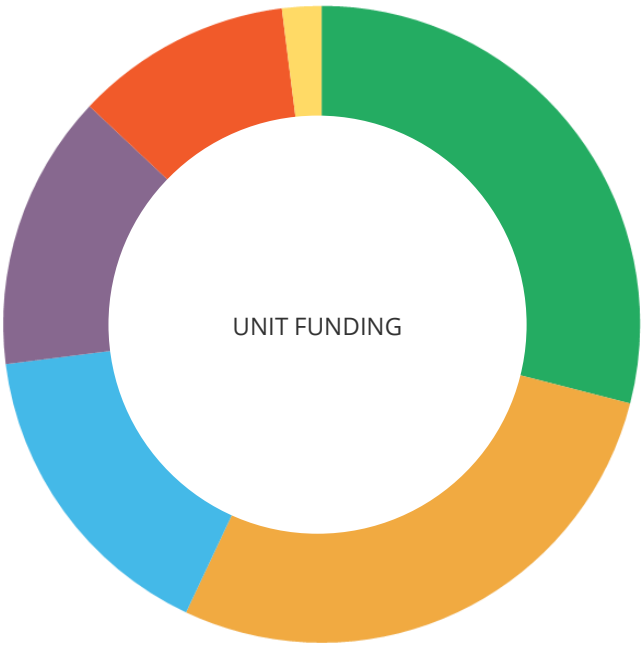
922
Reached in Economic Vitality and Community Resiliency

The Leadership Academy for County Officials, developed by U of I Extension provided training to elected and appointed county officials. Lisa Fallon (Circuit Clerk, Monroe County), Debra Moore (Director of Administration, St. Clair County), and Chris Slusser (Treasurer, Madison County) attended five interactive, day-long sessions on fiscal management, leadership in crisis situations, data-driven decision-making, economic development, community asset development, and more.

Illinois State Treasurer Mike Frerichs spoke at the 2019 Leadership Academy, and discussed how working with other state treasurers across the country helped him address challenges in Illinois.

A New Collaboration with the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Center

Caleb Kinzinger of the Turkey Hill Busy Bees 4-H Club had the opportunity to meet Jackie Joyner-Kersee, and be filmed for a National 4-H Council's Day in the Life advertisement. Caleb spent the day at the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Center in East St. Louis — touring the gardens, picking fresh produce, and preparing a nutritious meal with Jackie, herself!



- 29% Federal EFNEP Funds
- 28% Federal SNAP-Ed Funds
- 16% Federal Smith Lever Funds
- 14% Local Funds
- 11% State Funds
- 2% Grants

Madison-Monroe-St. Clair Unit Local Funders

- Madison County Board
- Madison County Extension Education Foundation
- Madison County Association for Home and Community Education
- Madison County Farm Bureau
- Monroe County Board of Commissioners
- Monroe County Extension and 4-H Education Foundation
- Monroe County Farm Bureau
- Monroe County 4-H Federation
- Monroe County Association for Home and Community Education
- St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation
- St. Clair County Farm Bureau
- Horseradish Growers of Illinois
- Illinois 4-H Foundation
- Illinois American Water
- Land O'Lakes

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Elizabeth Wahle - Horticulturist
twitter.com/ILFoodWeb

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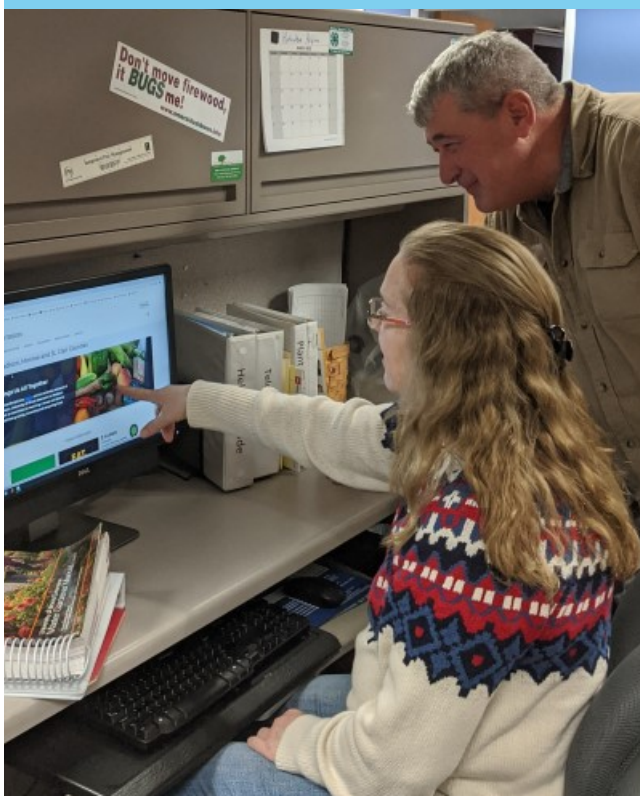
- Madison-Monroe-St. Clair Extension Unit
- Connecting to Our Food Web
- Madison County 4-H
- Monroe County 4-H
- St. Clair County 4-H
- Illinois 4-H
- University of Illinois Extension



Master Naturalists
RiverWatch Program

Madison County 4-H
Fashion Show

4-H Memorial Camp

Teen Teacher

OFFICE LOCATIONS

University of Illinois Extension
901 Illinois Avenue
PO Box 117
Waterloo, IL 62298
(618) 939-3434
Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4:30 pm
(closed Noon - 1 pm)

University of Illinois Extension
1 Regency Plaza Drive
Suite 200
Collinsville, IL 62234
(618) 344-4230
Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4:30 pm
(closed Noon - 1 pm)

EFNEP Training Center
1265 N. 89th Street
Suites 5 & 6
East St. Louis, IL 62203
(618) 397-4973
Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4:30 pm
(closed Noon - 1 pm)

Scott Air Force Base Youth Center
4691 Patriots Drive
Scott Air Force Base, IL
(618) 256-4991
This office is only for military 4-H.

Jackie Joyner-Kersee Community Center
Argonne Drive
East St. Louis, IL 62204
(618) 274-5437
A new collaboration full of potential for the community.

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 any program, please contact the county Extension office. The Illinois Nutrition Education Program is funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.

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