

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension



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Get inside Extension and discover how we support healthy people, healthy environments, and healthy economies. Read about some of the ways ISU Extension meets local needs, improves quality of life, and helps make Guthrie County a better place to live. You'll be amazed at what we do.

Marvin Smith

Extension Council Chair

Kelsey Bailey

County Extension Education Director

Healthy People example

ISU Extension in Guthrie County identified a need for an after-school program for youth grades kindergarten through 6th on early dismissal days.

Extension staff along with adult and youth volunteers conducted early-dismissal after-school programs in Guthrie Center and Casey communities. The after-school programs were a partnership between ISU Extension, local libraries and local elementary schools.



Farm safety is always a concern for

rural families and communities. With the initiative of a dedicated community volunteer and many other volunteers, Guthrie County hosted a county wide Farm Safety Day. All third grade students from the five Guthrie County school districts attended the event.

Baby sitting is a first job for most young people. Guthrie County conducted a Baby Sitting Basics program for students 6th grade and beyond. Participants took part in hands on learning where they developed skills in taking care of children and gaining knowledge in how to handle difficult situations responsibly.

Healthy Environments example

Farmers are exposed to many hazardous chemicals when working on and around farming operations. Guthrie County hosted two Private Pesticide Applicator meetings for local farmers. The pesticide



Guthrie County Extension Council

Marvin Smith, Jim Clark, Sherry McClellan, Jim Calvert, Bev Arganbright, LaRoyce Kress, Patti McAndrews, Keith Wilson, Jann Zimmer

Guthrie County Extension Council

Every Iowa county has an elected Extension Council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county.

We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Bio-economy
- Youth
- Agriculture
- Healthy Lifestyles



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We are your local link to make connections

for campus enrollment, continuing education, campus visits, campus exhibits, conferences, camps, and sporting events.

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applicator training provides learning opportunities for farmers to use chemicals responsibly, keeping themselves safe as well as the environment.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training is conducted by ISU Extension Field Agronomists. Attending the training keeps Iowa farmers in compliance with Iowa's chemical applicator licensing law.

Healthy Economies example

One might believe with the historically high grain prices we have experienced over the year that grain marketing should be easy, for some maybe but for others it might be more difficult.



To help local farmers develop grain marketing strategies, ISU Extension in Guthrie County and Guthrie County Farm Bureau partnered in bringing the ISU Extension and Iowa Farm Bureau Federation grain marketing seminar "Winning the Game" to Guthrie County. Participants learned the fundamentals of creating and implementing a grain marketing plan. They practiced applying their newly gained knowledge by using a computerized grain marketing simulation game.

According to the program a grain marketing plan is "A proactive strategy to price your grain that considers your financial goals, cash flow needs, price objectives, storage capacity, crop insurance coverage, anticipated production and an appetite for risk" (Winning the Game, 2006)

The cattle industry is an important part of the agricultural economy in Guthrie County. With competition for grain and the competition for pasture land and hay ground, cattle feeding has become a challenge for area producers. ISU Extension of Guthrie County and Stuart Veterinary Clinic sponsored a dried distillers grains meeting for cow calf producers. Dr. Dan Loy, ISUE Beef Specialist and Darrell Busby, ISUE Livestock Field Specialist, conducted the meeting. From the meeting producers gained knowledge in proper feeding of corn ethanol co-products, identified benefits and risks of feeding the product, and proper storage and handling of the product. Many local and surrounding producers attended the meeting, they generated valuable discussion on cost effective methods of feeding beef cows as well as maintaining cow herds in Guthrie County.



Impact example

As a result of the "Winning the Game" grain marketing seminar, one producer reported implementing a grain marketing plan that they created after attending the class. This producer used the philosophy of setting target selling dates and selling prices to develop their plan. They learned to stay committed to their pre-harvest marketing plan and it has shown to be profitable for their operation. The producer was thankful for attending the seminar, "I learned to take the 'what if' factor out of grain marketing."