

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension



Shelby County 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 Shelby County a better place to live. You'll be amazed at what we do.

Mat Freund
Extension Council Chair

Terry Torneten
Regional Extension Education Director

Thirty-nine Youth Complete Child Care Course

Thirty-nine young people from Shelby County recently completed the summer child care course sponsored by the Shelby County Extension Office. The course included training on the characteristics of a good child care provider, infant care, and behavioral development of children, first aid, and playing with children.



Child Care Course

The course included a visit to Kountry Kids Care, where class participants had the chance to interact with a variety of children and even change diapers. They learned how to make a nutritious lunch. Participants also learned to equip themselves with a "bag of tricks" before they leave home to provide child care services for a day or an

evening. The course was led by Pam Klinkefus of Harlan.

Western Iowa No-Till Field Day

As input costs remain high, and with soils in Western Iowa being highly erodible, it makes sense for farmers to engage in more no-tilling practices. The Western Iowa No-Tillers (WIN) are a group of local farmers, conservation and production experts working together to promote no till.

On June 16th, the WIN group hosted their second annual WIN Field Day, with this year's location being the Carstens 1880 Farmstead near Shelby.



WIN Field Day

Shelby County Extension Council

Laurie Allen, Bill Buman, Dwight Carroll, Shelly Christensen, Mat Freund, Jo Kenkel, Shawn McLaughlin, Lori Peters and Jake Schechinger,

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:

- Financial Literacy
- Quality Childcare
- Leadership Development
- Community Economic Development
- Land Use and Planning
- Planning and Visioning
- Water Quality/Nutrient Management
- Consumer Horticulture



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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.

... and justice for all

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Western Iowa No-Till Continued

With the help of Iowa State University Extension, NRCS and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts the WIN Field Day provided farmers with expert information on no till practices and its benefits. In addition to the featured speakers and in-field demonstrations, several test-plots were planted with different cover crops, and the over 200 attendees were encouraged to visit the plots to see these crops up close.

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey gave a presentation on Agriculture in Iowa during the lunch hour, and the afternoon sessions featured presentations on weather and market outlooks for the coming season. Participant responses were overwhelmingly positive, with many stating that they had picked up ideas they would take home and use to start or improve their own no-till program.

Emerald Ash Borer Awareness

ISU Extension Entomologist Dr. Mark Shour presented a seminar on emerald ash borer and other tree concerns in Southwest Iowa.

For Shelby County residents the major topic of concern is a small, metallic green insect 1/2 inch in length and 1/8 inch wide known as the emerald ash borer (EAB). This insect was accidentally brought into this country in wood used for crating. EAB has already killed millions of ash trees in the Midwest.



Dr. Mark Shour

To learn how to identify damage from this insect and how to diversify your tree plantings to reduce your risk against the EAB, it is recommended you attend this seminar. Dr. Shour

will also discuss other tree concerns for Iowa and will field your horticultural questions.

Attended by 50 citizens, Dr. Shour's presentation was sponsored by the City of Harlan, the Shelby County Plant Iowa Committee, the City of Earling, Tremel Nursery and Crees Garden Center.

Bucket of Junk Contest

The second annual Shelby County 4-H Bucket of Junk contest was led by the County Youth Council members. Ten buckets filled with similar items were prepared for pick up at the Shelby County Extension office. The buckets were full of items sometimes called "junk".



Bucket of Junk

Anyone could pick up a bucket and take it home to prepare a sculpture or piece of yard art that was displayed at the Shelby County Fair. Contestants could clean, sand, glue, cut, weld, bolt, bend, fasten, shape, paint, or finish the items in anyway. The final sculpture was named by its creator. At the conclusion of the fair, the sculpture or yard art was auctioned off. The auction raised significant funds for the Shelby County 4-H Program. The Bucket of Junk contest is a great way to show off some of Shelby County's talent and was a fun addition for the fair.