Iowa State University Extension and Outreach connects the needs of Iowans with Iowa State University research and resources. We are working with the people of Bremer County for what we all want: a strong Iowa.

**Bremer 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:

- Economic Development example
- Food and the Environment example
- Health and Well-being example
- K12 Youth Outreach Example

**K12 Youth Outreach**

Bremer County 4-H is a vibrant program that offers specialty clubs, traditional clubs, workshops, county wide events for families, and creating partners with Bremer County Community entities. Where you can see Bremer County 4-H programs in action:

- Annual Omelet Brunch
- After School Programs
- Annual Safety Day
- STEM programs
- Bremer County Fair
- Awards Banquet
- Day Camps
- Multiple county wide workshops to help educate the youth of Bremer County!

Our Mission is to empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. We achieve this mission by having safe environments, inclusive settings, caring adults, and endless opportunities. Good habits begin when we are young. Bremer County 4-H provides all youth with programs to help educate, build confidence and nurture relationships that last a lifetime. Bremer County has 14 clubs with 300 members in grades 4-12 and a strong Clovers program of 100 in grades K-3.
Health and Well-Being

Grew and donated over 7,700 pounds of fresh vegetables and fruit from our Waverly Community Sharing Garden and orchard. The past five years we have donated over 28,000 pounds to church meal site and area Food Banks. Also serve on Waverly Food Secure Network, plus North Iowa Food and Farm Partnership.

Over 300 Bremer 4th graders attended our annual Progressive Ag Safety Day. We partner with Bremer Farm Bureau on this vital training to teach safe habits.

Conduct stream water quality sampling on three county creeks to monitor nutrients and bacterial levels to protect citizens’ health and aid farmers.

Food and the Environment

165 farmers attended Pesticide Applicators Training classes in Bremer County.

Over 15,000 attended our regional extension booth at the Hawkeye Farm Show, which featured cover crops, nutrient management, and women's agriculture programs.

Over 100 fall cornstalk samples (15 stalks per sample for nitrate) from 28 area farms were collected to help farmers better manage their nutrient inputs. Cosponsored Cover Crop Field Day in March on the Brian Meyer farm near Readlyn - over 90 attended to learn how to manage cover crops.

Water quality issues are being addressed by serving on the Bremer SWCD board plus the Upper Cedar and Upper Wapsipinicon Watershed Management Authority boards. Aided the Iowa Soybean Association in creating the Upper Crane Creek Watershed Improvement board.

Bremer County’s first and only bioreactor was funded, built, and managed though our office on an area farm along Crane Creek.

Produce the “Farm and Yard” newsletter for rural and acreage clients which now goes via hard copy (205) and electronically (217) area farms and homes. This newsletter received the 2018 ISU Extension and Outreach Ag and Natural Resources Newsletter of the Year Award.

Worked with Iowa Flood Center and area farmer to bring special internet-based weather station to area in 2018. Citizens can access 24/7 to see soil conditions at 2-4-8-20# levels.

Economic Development

Aiding the City of Tripoli via the Iowa Roadways Community Visioning Program, which over the past five years has resulted in creating: the 2.4 mile Sweet Water Bike/Walk Trail; converting an empty mini-mart into a Welcome Center/Community Building; two parks; plus improvements to the downtown area along Hwy 93.

Weekly extension radio program for the past eight years on local radio station KWAY to extend our educational efforts.

Serve on Waverly Tree Board and Bremer Roadside Management advisory committee to improve area tree canopy and rural roadsides.

Presented programs to service groups on various topics for community betterment.

Honored with State Partner Award by Trees Forever at the annual convention.

ISU Extension and Outreach
Bremer County
720 7th Ave SW
Tripoli, IA 50676
319-882-4275
www.extension.iastate.edu/bremer

County Extension Staff

Ron Lenth
County Program Coordinator

Jeannette Mukayisire
Family Finance Specialist

Katie Diemer
County Youth Coordinator

Tammy Curley
Office Assistant Bookkeeper

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