

EXTENSION TRENDS: **FREMONT COUNTY**

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2023 By the Numbers

- **8,018** direct contacts
- **3,851** youth participants
- **30** volunteers
- **988** volunteer hours
- **\$170,926** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Fremont County: Blair Dance, Scot Kamachi, Rick Hill, Corbet Peebles, Rebecca Anderson, Natalie Loveland, Anna Rankin, Monika Boyce, Kristen Davis, Wade Trost, Clint Washburn, Bryan Miller, Randy Hillman, Kenny Dalling, Irene Tavarez, Frank Tavarez, Jamie Little, Sam Lusk, Nalder Boyce and Brandon Little.

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2023 Impact

The Land SMART workshop debuted in 2023, teaching small acreage landowners principles of land management to improve soil health, reduce noxious weeds and proper grazing management. Idaho Master Gardener classes were offered online with hands-on labs during the growing season. Two Master Gardeners participated in 2023. The Regional Master Gardener Convention returned to Rexburg after a three-year hiatus, offering hands-on classes for gardeners across eastern Idaho. 50 individuals participated in nine classes. Cereal School and Forage School were offered this year with 30 participants who earned pesticide applicator credits and certified crop advisor credits for attending. Nine people attended the Forestry Field Day held for the first time in Island Park and nine participants attended the Cereal Grain Field Day held in Teton.

Twenty-five In the Garden articles were published in the East Idaho News. These weekly articles provide timely research-based information for the public about gardening. In addition, 24 War on Weeds articles were published in three local newspapers. These articles educate the public about important weeds of concern.

4-H in Fremont County

Fremont County 4-H reached every 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade class across five elementary schools. Nearly 400 kids were taught a STEM class in school from art and leadership to gardening. First graders learned about the changing leaves, how snowflakes form and mixing colors. Fremont 4-H has reached new goals with the largest number of youth enrolled – 425 youth. Sixty-eight youth participated in 4-H camp and 15 teens completed leadership training. Thirty-five youth were involved in shooting sports and Fremont County hosted the state shooting sports event in June with 125 youth participants from around the state. One participant attended the national shooting sports competition in Nebraska. A total of 120 youth sold animals at the Fremont County Market Sale and 21 displayed projects at the Eastern Idaho State Fair. Fremont 4-H had 30 volunteers serve as leaders who taught livestock, small animals, shooting sports, robotics, cooking, hiking and more.

On the Horizon

The Experiential Agritech Program will be offered to Idaho youth in 2024, bringing precision agricultural technology and robotics to schools. Curriculum and equipment will be provided for students to build their own CNC robotic gardens. Students will learn how to program their robotic gardens and conduct experiments. Funding from the INL has jump started this program.

Research on amending the pH of soil with lime continues to progress and expand. In addition, work on terminal alfalfa varieties continues to progress in its second year.

A new 4-H STEM club is up and running in Ashton bringing in new members and volunteers. The state shooting sports event will be hosted in Fremont County again this June.