

Washoe County Extension Programs

2023-2024 Annual Report

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EXTENSION
College of Agriculture,
Biotechnology & Natural Resources



4-H Youth
Development

The logo for Master Gardeners, featuring a stylized green leaf icon to the left of the text. The word 'Master' is in a bold, sans-serif font, and 'Gardeners' is in a cursive script font.

Master
Gardeners



Extension

- Extension **identifies critical community needs** and designs educational programs and activities to address those needs.
- Extension provides ongoing **program evaluation** to ensure educational offerings impact and improve lives of Washoe County residents through a planned educational process.
- Extension funds from the ad valorem tax are appropriated for educational programs on:
 - **Community and Economic Development**
 - **Health and Nutrition**
 - **Agriculture**
 - **Natural Resources**
 - **Youth, Personal and Family Development**
 - **Horticulture**



4H Youth Development

- 9,840 youth in total were impacted by 4H Youth Development programs
- 4,674 youth in **School Enrichment Programs**
- 2,939 youth in **After School STEM Programs** in 23 Washoe County Title I schools
- 78 youth in 4-H **Overnight Camp Programs**
- 811 youth in **STEM/STEAM Day Camps**
- 365 youth in **4-H clubs** facilitated by club volunteers
- 966 youth participated in **STEM/STEAM-based projects**



Horticulture – Community Education



- **NevadaScapes** provided hands-on training to 70 Washoe County homeowners on conserving water, reducing irrigation run off, and keeping pesticides and pollutants out of the Truckee River.
- **Grow You Own, Nevada** provided practical information on growing food at home to encourage self-sufficiency and reduce food deserts. 403 Washoe County residents attended, and over 500 people viewed the recording of the program.
- Extension partnered with Bee City USA and Master Gardeners to launch the **Pollinator Garden Tour**. Over 100 residents attended this event to learn about pollinator-friendly gardening.



Horticulture – Workforce Development



- **Green Industry Training**, a course for new professionals in the nursery and landscape industry, was taught to 91 professionals; 30 tested and received their certification.
- **Nevada Bilingual Landscaper training** is a hands-on training taught in English with a Spanish Language interpreter. 40 participants this year learned about pruning, landscape management, irrigation, and pest control in English and Spanish.
- **Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL)** taught landscape professionals how to conserve water in local landscapes. 33 landscape professionals attended for free, and 29 passed the certification exam.
- The **Urban Integrated Pest Management** program taught 8 webinars on pest management for professionals and the public. 2,020 unique viewers joined these webinars from NV, ID, UT, and MT.
- The **Pesticide Safety Education Program** provided CEUs for 110 pesticide professionals.
- The **Weed Warriors** program provided training and CEUs to 33 weed management professionals across Nevada on noxious weed management.

Master Gardeners

- Master Gardeners (MG) are trained volunteers who teach research-based educational workshops, answer community questions, and grow seedlings adapted to Northern Nevada's climate.
- Washoe MG volunteers logged a total of 5,324 volunteer hours. They answered 1,378 phone calls, emails, and walk in questions from the community.
- 916 community members attended the MG "Gardening in Nevada" horticulture education series.
- MG grew generated \$14,364 in local sales from the annual seedling plan sale.
- MG started a Junior MG program, with drop-in after-school classes at the South Valley Library. 117 youth have attended these programs.



Living With Fire



- The Living With Fire program (LWF) provides practical, research-based recommendations on preparing for wildfire and reducing wildfire threats to homes and communities in Northern Nevada.
- LWF shared resources at 14 community events in Washoe, where they directly interacted with 671 adults and 51 youth.
- LWF hosted 14 workshops, where they shared information with 591 adults and 40 youth.
- LWF hosted the Fire Adapted Nevada summit at UNR, with 106 attendees.
- LWF taught 68 classes on Fire Science at Academy of Arts Career and Technology. 14 students joined local wildland firefighters in a “Mock Fire” drill near Hidden Valley.



Health and Nutrition

- Extension's Health and Nutrition department delivered Supplemental Nutrition Education Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) programming to 2,076 limited-resourced, SNAP-eligible Washoe County residents across the lifespan through nutrition education, health promotion, and policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) approaches.
- 93 Pre-K children received classroom-based nutrition education programming.
- 141 Pre-K providers received nutrition training.
- 1,300 K-12 children received classroom-based lessons and activities about healthy eating and physical activity.
- 250 SNAP-eligible adults received evidence-based nutrition programming.





Additional Programs

Nevada Radon Education Program

- The Nevada Radon Education Program educates Nevadans on the dangers of radon gas, a naturally occurring carcinogen that is the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers.
- 2,435 Washoe homes were tested for radon.
- 153 homes were mitigated for radon.
- 949 Nevada real estate professionals educated on radon and received CEUs.

Early Childhood Education

- The Early Childhood Education program utilized the Preschool Development Grant to provide early childhood workforce development programming to new and experience early childhood and Pre-K educators.
- Professional Development courses include recognizing neglect, reducing SIDS, wellness practices, and early childhood development by age.

FY2023-2024 Fiscal Report



County Extension Funds Summary

- \$2,318,344 – Opening Balance
- \$2,044,813 – Revenue
- \$1,886,633 – Expenses
- \$2,476,524 – Ending Balance

Total Extension Expenditures in Washoe County

- \$1,886,633 – County
- \$294,440 – Federal
- \$1,142,089 – State
- \$1,578,346 – Sponsored
Projects
- \$225,297 – Other

- \$5,126,803 – Total