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We are pleased to provide you with the information contained in this report. Current educational information is supported by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Included in this report are monthly updates from our different departments; 4-H & Youth Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Better Living for Texans, Family & Community Health, and Horticulture.

If you are interested in participating in any of the mentioned AgriLife Extension educational programs throughout the year, please feel welcome to do so.

All Extension programs are sponsored by AgriLife program area committees for anyone's educational benefit. We would like to acknowledge the Extension volunteer base, Extension Specialists, and cooperators who contributed to the planning of all educational information compiled in this educational newsletter.

4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Steven Baringer, 4-H and Youth Development Extension Agent



Above Left: Our very own 4-H President, Hannah Davis teaching a lesson in Entomology. Above Right: One of our Clover Kids Camp participants enjoying a fishing enrichment project.

DENTON COUNTY 4-H RECENTLY HOSTED AN EXCITING AND ENRICHING CLOVER KIDS CAMP, LEAVING A LASTING IMPRESSION ON 22 ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG PARTICIPANTS. THE THREE-DAY EVENT, HELD AT THE NORTH TEXAS FAIRGROUNDS, AIMED TO INTRODUCE KIDS TO THE DIVERSE WORLD OF 4-H PROJECTS WHILE FOSTERING A LOVE FOR LEARNING AND PERSONAL GROWTH.

PRESENTERS INCLUDED CURRENT INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR 4-H MEMBERS, MEMBERS OF OUR AGRILIFE STAFF, AND OUR MASTER GARDENER & MASTER NATURALIST VOLUNTEERS. TOPICS INCLUDED GARDENING, SMALL ANIMAL PROJECTS, NATURAL RESOURCES, FOOD & NUTRITION, ENTOMOLOGY AND MORE.

EVERY LESSON GAVE OUR CLOVER KIDS A HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE AND INTRODUCTION TO THE WORLD OF 4-H! THEY WERE ALL INVITED BACK TO BE A PART OF ONE OF OUR CLOVER KIDS CLUBS. THE CLOVER KIDS CLUB IS OPEN TO ANY K - 2ND-GRADE STUDENT IN DENTON COUNTY. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO MAYBE INTERESTED IN CLOVER KIDS CLUB PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION!

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Zach A. Davis, Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Agent

ON JULY 20, 2023 WE HELD A PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING CLASS FOR HOME OWNERS AND PRODUCERS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A PESTICIDE LICENSE. THE TRAINING COVERS A WIDE VARIETY OF TOPICS INCLUDING SAFETY, WEED IDENTIFICATION, DRIFT MANAGEMENT, LAWS AND REGULATIONS AND CALCULATIONS FOR CHEMICAL MIXES. THE TRAINING IS THE FIRST STEP TO BECOMING A LICENSE HOLDER AND IT IS A REQUIREMENT FOR PRIVATE APPLICATORS IN THE STATE.

FURTHERMORE, TO EDUCATE MORE PEOPLE ABOUT OUR DENTON COUNTY OFFICE I ATTENDED CONGRESSMAN BURGESS ENERGY FAIR AND SUMMIT ON JULY 29, 2023. THE EVENT ALLOWED ME TO VISIT WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS AS WELL AS ELECTED OFFICIALS.

SINCE WE HAVE EXPERIENCED A LOW MOISTURE DROUGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE SUMMERS IT HAS CAUSED STRESS ON YARDS, TREES AND SHRUBS WHICH HAS CAUSED CONCERNS WITH MANY OF OUR RESIDENTS, NEEDLESS TO SAY, JULY HAS BEEN A FULL MONTH OF SITE VISITS TO MANY OF OUR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

ALSO, OUR DEPARTMENT HAS SUPPORTED OTHER PROGRAM AREAS, SUCH AS, ASSISTING AT THE LOCAL FARM TO TABLE CAMP. I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE LIVESTOCK ANIMALS FOR THE YOUTH PARTICIPANTS, THE KIDS HAD SO MUCH FUN PETTING THE ANIMALS. WE HAVE ALSO PICKED UP DUTIES FOR THE HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT DUE TO THE STAFF VACANCY, WHICH HAS KEPT US BUSY.



Above: Pesticide Applicator treating invasive plants.

BETTER LIVING FOR TEXANS

Dusty Fife, Better Living for Texans Extension Agent



The BLT program helps people make healthy meals, improve their physical fitness, save money at the grocery store, grow their own foods, and adopt better food safety habits.

JULY WAS DUSTY FIFE'S LAST MONTH AS OUR BLT AGENT. WE WANTED TO TAKE THE TIME TO WISH DUSTY THE BEST ON HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING BLT PLEASE REACH OUT TO OUR OFFICE.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH

Chandani Kothari, Family and Community Health Extension Agent

FARM TO TABLE CAMP WAS OUR HIGHLIGHT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY. THIS IS THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW THAT WE HAVE OFFERED THIS CAMP ALONG WITH DENTON PARKS AND RECREATION. IT WAS A FUN-FILLED CAMP WHERE CHILDREN BETWEEN 6 TO 11 YEARS LEARN ABOUT WHERE FOOD COMES FROM, GARDENING, AND NUTRITION.

TOMMY CALVERT FROM FARM BUREAU BROUGHT THEIR TRAILER EXHIBIT FOR AN INTERACTIVE LESSON ON GRAINS AND PROTEIN FOODS. OUR AG AND NATURAL RESOURCES AGENT, ZACH DAVIS BROUGHT HIS SHEEP TO THE CAMP. THE KIDS LEARNED ALL ABOUT RAISING SHEEP AND GOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO PET THEM. MASTER GARDENERS TAUGHT THE CAMPERS ABOUT PLANT PARTS WE EAT, HOW TO GROW PLANTS, AND TAKE CARE OF THEM.

THEY ALSO DID A TASTE TEST OF VARIOUS MICROGREENS AND LEARNED TO GROW SOME MICROGREENS IN A CONTAINER. THEY ALSO PLANTED SOME BLUEBONNET SEEDS IN A PAPER ROLL POT. EACH DAY THEY PREPARED A HEALTHY SNACK WITH A VARIETY OF INGREDIENTS FROM EACH FOOD GROUP!



*Above Left: Tommy Calvert providing a lesson to the camp participants.
Above Right: Farm to Table Camp Participants.*

HORTICULTURE

Horticulture



DID YOU KNOW:

THE DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION (DCMGA) IS A VOLUNTEER PROGRAM DESIGNED TO GROW HORTICULTURAL INFORMATION THROUGHOUT DENTON COUNTY.

TO BECOME A DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER, A PARTICIPANT ATTENDS 70 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION, CONDUCTED UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE DENTON COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT IN HORTICULTURE, THEN SHARES THIS KNOWLEDGE BY DONATING 70 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.

THE MASTER GARDENERS WORK ON DOZENS OF PROJECTS EACH YEAR, AS WELL AS THREE SPECIAL PROJECTS: THE ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR AND PLANT SALE IN THE SPRING AND THE FALL INTO GARDENING IN AUTUMN.

FOR MORE INFORMATION FOLLOW THEM ON FACEBOOK AT THE ADDRESS BELOW OR VISIT THE DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER WEBSITE AT WWW.DCMGA.COM



UPCOMING EVENTS



4-H Gold Star Banquet - 08/12

**Cooking Well for Healthy Blood Pressure - 08/07, 08/ 14,
08/21**

Training on a variety of topics available on-line.

For more information on these programs go to <https://denton.agrilife.org/> or call us at 940-349-2882
Don't forget to like and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

