**Extension Education** engages people, organizations and communities to advance knowledge, economic well-being and quality of life by fostering inquiry, learning and the application of research. Extension builds peoples’ capacity to make informed decisions and improvements in their lives. **Extension Programs** occur where people live, work and play. We facilitate learning on farms, on the waterfront, in the home and in business and community centers. We provide objective, unbiased education based on research and knowledge, allowing people to make their own informed decisions.

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**4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

With more than 6 million active youth, 4-H is the largest youth organization in our country. 4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. Since 1902, 4-H has done this work through hands-on programs honed by our nation’s 112 land-grant colleges and universities (via the Cooperative Extension System) in dynamic partnership with youth living in rural, suburban, and urban America.

In Jefferson County 4-H, youth learn-by-doing through multiple after-school and school enrichment programs, chartered 4-H Clubs, ropes course and Outdoor adventure opportunities, summer camps, county fair, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) challenges, working alongside local veterinarians, building boats and sailing them in Puget Sound, archery tournaments, community service projects, civics -immersion intensives, peer mentoring and leadership, and so many other real-world experiences. Through all of our programs, we seek to embody the vision of 4-H: a world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change.

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**WATER QUALITY**

We offer programs about local natural resources associated with streams, rivers, wetlands, estuaries and marine waters, providing guidance for improving and protecting Puget Sound through education, stewardship and research opportunities.

WSU Extension offers a 6-week BEACH NATURALISTS course for participants to learn more about local nearshore and marine topics through a combination of class and field training, followed by volunteer engagement in environmental activities.

Our SHORE STEWARDS outreach is part of a regional program for people to learn about ways to protect local waters and preserve critical habitat for fish, wildlife and birds. See [https://shorestewards.cw.wsu.edu/](https://shorestewards.cw.wsu.edu/) to learn more.

Our staff work with community partners and volunteers to design and build RAIN GARDENS in our area. Rain Gardens treat storm water runoff before it enters our local groundwater, streams and marine waters.

Our office hosts the JEFFERSON COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (MRC), one of seven MRCs that are part of the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative. The MRC offers educational programs, supports nearshore restoration and citizen-science monitoring, and partners with others to protect Puget Sound and greater Salish Sea.

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WSU EXTENSION REGIONAL SMALL FARMS PROGRAM
Serving Clallam, Jefferson and Kitsap Counties.

WSU Extension Regional Small Farms Program offers education and outreach for agricultural development throughout the Olympic and Kitsap Peninsulas. The overarching program goal is to improve infrastructure for our agricultural producers and processors. Our program focuses specifically on technical assistance for farmers, including but not limited to farm business planning, direct marketing strategies, crop and livestock production, integrated pest and weed management, food safety and regulatory comprehension. We provide numerous workshops, technical services and research opportunities throughout the year to a wide farmer audience, such as new and beginning farmers, mid-large scale and advanced farmers.

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM in Jefferson County has trained hundreds of Master Gardeners over the years, continuing this rich tradition, and welcoming new members each and every spring.

We train volunteers to be effective community educators in gardening and environmental stewardship. The program is supported at the state level and administered by county extension offices. Volunteers are trained by WSU faculty and staff to be community educators about issues of importance in their local areas that enhance natural resources, sustain communities and improve the health and wellness of fellow Washington State residents and our environment.

PLANT CLINICS run from April – September every year. Plant Clinicians are trained by WSU and provide research-based information on home gardening and pest control at no cost to the community. 360.379.5610 x 210.

WSU JCMG SEED LIBRARY is a seed exchange kiosk, stocked with small, pre-packaged quantities of free vegetable, flower, herb seeds and other educational materials related to gardening, growing and seed-saving. Seeds are borrowed, grown and some are returned. Seeds that are returned to the Seed Library donation box will be sorted and labeled by volunteers for future borrowers. Saving seeds helps to preserve genetic diversity, flavor, nutrition and unique varieties. Returning seeds at the end of the growing season will encourage seed strains that are adapted to local conditions.