

2000 PROGRAM REPORT

WSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION CLARK COUNTY

Gateway to the University



World Class. Face to Face.

*Bringing the University to You -
Taking Your Needs to the University*

ABOUT COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Origin. The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 gave each land-grant university a mandate to extend results of research and experience based knowledge to the people of each state to improve the quality of their lives and enterprises. This Act created a unique partnership of federal, state, and local governments to bring non-credit, practical education to people using the expertise and resources of this nationwide network that is Cooperative Extension.

Washington State University Cooperative Extension

- ◆ Helps people develop leadership skills and use research-based knowledge to improve their economic status and quality of life.
- ◆ Emphasizes holistic and systems approaches.
- ◆ Builds the capacity of individuals, organizations, businesses, and communities, empowering them to find solutions for local issues.
- ◆ Addresses critical issues in developing programs.
- ◆ Focuses on prevention.
- ◆ Collaborates with government, industry, community organizations, and others.
- ◆ Provides high accessibility.
- ◆ Values the indigenous knowledge of our constituents.
- ◆ Recognizes the commitment of our volunteers.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WSU Cooperative Extension wishes to recognize our critical partnership with Clark County for bringing informal life-long learning opportunities to all residents of the county.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT COOPERATIVE EXTENSION.....	2
SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	2
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	I
2000 HIGHLIGHTS.....	1
OVERVIEW.....	1
GENERAL PROGRAM SUPPORT.....	1
<i>General Office Staff.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Green Thumb Work Training.....</i>	<i>1</i>
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT.....	2
4-H CLUBS.....	2
GROW CART PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS.....	3
4-H JUVENILE JUSTICE - FIRST TIME YOUTH OFFENDERS.....	3
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS.....	4
AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES (ANR).....	4
WSU FOOD & FARM CONNECTIONS TEAM (FFCT).....	4
<i>Harvest Celebration.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Farming West of the Cascades Publication Series.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Web Site.....</i>	<i>5</i>
HORTICULTURE.....	5
<i>Commercial Horticulture.....</i>	<i>5</i>
Business of Horticulture.....	5
<i>Master Gardeners Volunteer Program.....</i>	<i>5</i>
4-H Support.....	5
Answer Clinics.....	6
Speaker's Bureau.....	6
Demonstration Gardens.....	6
Special Projects.....	6
ANIMAL SCIENCES.....	6
<i>Dairy and Other Animal Species.....</i>	<i>6</i>
4-H Youth Support.....	7
NW Dairy Shortcourse.....	7
Master Goat Farmer Training.....	7
Special Projects.....	7
<i>Livestock Advisor Volunteer Program.....</i>	<i>8</i>
Annual SW Washington Horse Symposium.....	8
Winter Livestock School.....	8
Workshops.....	8
International Alliance for Animal Therapy and Healing.....	8
General Outreach.....	9

NATURAL RESOURCES.....	9
<i>Watershed Steward Volunteer Program</i>	9
<i>Master Composter / Recycler Program</i>	9
Workshops.....	10
General Outreach.....	10
Demonstration Sites.....	10
AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES PARTNERSHIPS.....	10
FAMILY LIVING & CONSUMER SCIENCES.....	11
CLOTHING, TEXTILES, AND FOOD PRESERVATION.....	11
<i>Master Clothier Volunteer Program</i>	11
<i>Extension Homemakers Program</i>	11
<i>Master Food Volunteer Program</i>	12
<i>Home Based Business Education</i>	12
FAMILY NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM.....	12
<i>Impacts</i>	13
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES PARTNERSHIPS.....	13
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION COOPERATIVE.....	14
<i>Purpose</i>	14
<i>EIC Mission</i>	14
PROGRAMS.....	14
<i>Project WET Festival</i>	14
<i>Classroom Presentations</i>	14
<i>Professional Development for Educators</i>	15
<i>Community Outreach</i>	15
EIC RESOURCE LIBRARY AT WSU VANCOUVER.....	16
EIC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.....	16
APPENDIX A: ORGANIZATIONAL CHART.....	17

2000 HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Extension trained 149 volunteers during 2000.
- ❖ Volunteers worked over 27,000 hours (equivalent to over 13 full time staff) valued at \$425,000 based on \$15.39/hr established by the Independent Sector Value of adult American volunteers.
- ❖ Staff and volunteers provided educational services to over 55,000 people through workshops, conferences, clinics, individual consultations, web pages, phone calls, email, and other educational methods.
- ❖ The *Environmental Information Cooperative* (a unique six agency partnership) provided environmental education to over 6,000 students and teachers in Clark County.
- ❖ Extension leveraged \$81,650 in grant and fee for service funds, in addition to \$27,500 worth of in-kind services.

OVERVIEW

This report summarizes 2000 programming within the Washington State University Cooperative Extension Clark County office. These summaries outline the major projects within each program area as well as the extensive array of partnerships that Extension develops to implement its programs.

Volunteer Programs. Extension trains volunteers in different subject matter areas, providing 25 to 70 hours of instruction. Trainees attend all training sessions in order to “graduate”. These trained volunteers agree to return a certain number of hours in service to the educational projects of each Extension program area. Current volunteer programs include: *Master Gardeners, Master Composters, Livestock Advisors, 4-H Club Leaders, Watershed Stewards, and Master Clothiers.*

GENERAL PROGRAM SUPPORT

- ◇ Almost 13,000 phone calls from the public were answered in 2000.
- ◇ 1,922 Publications were sold through the Extension office.
- ◇ 3,000 Publications and fact sheets were provided free of charge to the public.

General Office Staff. Three full-time staff members support all program areas through routine clerical work, budgeting, web page work, brochure design, desktop publishing, public contact, and other duties.

Green Thumb Work Training. Extension provides work training on an on-going basis for trainees participating in the national Green Thumb work training program. Extension trains each participant in basic office skills and computer use in return for the half-time services of trainees. Participants must be over 55 years of age and meet certain income

requirements. Each participant generally remains for six months to one year. This program provides essential public contact support for Extension at a negligible cost to Clark County while also providing needed job skills and experience to trainees.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The WSU Extension 4-H youth development program reaches Clark County youth from eight to nineteen years of age through three methods: the 4-H club program, the Grow Cart School Enrichment Program, and the Juvenile Justice Community Club. All areas emphasize developing life skills in youth. An Extension Educator and two half-time Program Coordinators comprise the staff for these programs. **Volunteers in the 4-H program provided 12,780 hours of volunteer service and worked with 5,883 youth representing 6% of the youth in the target age groups.**



Junior Livestock Auction Beef Weigh-in

4-H CLUBS

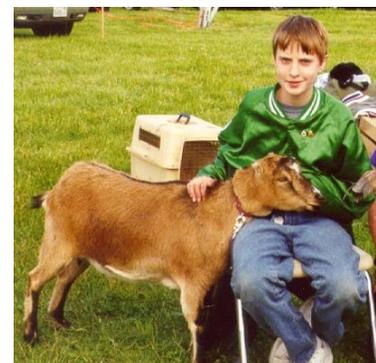


Over 1300 youth participated in 130 clubs based on their interests in particular subjects. These clubs are directed by 355 volunteer leaders. Extension provides both *new leader* and *character education* training. Clubs include:

Animal Sciences (livestock, dogs, cats, guide dogs, llamas, etc.);
Expressive Arts (photography, performance, etc.);
Family Living (clothing, food preparation, etc.);
Mechanical Sciences (computers, small engines, aerospace, etc.);
Plant Sciences (gardening, beekeeping, entomology);
Environmental Stewardship (water resources, geology, earth savers, etc.).

4-H leaders mentor youth in programs intended to teach youth life skills such as responsibility, planning, goal setting, decision-making, and evaluation of their projects. Programs foster leadership, team work, problem solving, self-confidence, caring, and sharing.

- ◆ Eight counties sent 283 SW Washington youth to the annual *camping program* stressing leadership development. Older youth also learn to mentor younger children.
- ◆ *4-H in Action 2000* drew 435 youth and adults to explore what belonging to 4-H entails and to participate in workshops.



- ◆ 4-H youth participated in 115 projects.
- ◆ Fifty adults received leader training in the 4-H system.

GROW CART PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS

This school enrichment program utilizes classroom gardening to develop and enhance positive life skills in children, grades K-8. Teachers report that Grow Cart activities taught students how to take responsibility for a living thing along with how to home garden. Teachers also reported that activities improved student's math skills. The Grow Cart program reached 3480 students in 24 Clark County schools through the teaching efforts of 67 teachers trained in this curriculum.



- ◆ Thirty developmentally handicapped youth work with a teacher in growing plants such as tomatoes. The teacher reports that this project empowers the children.
- ◆ Community grants totaling over \$2,000 helped this program develop additional projects.

4-H JUVENILE JUSTICE - FIRST TIME YOUTH OFFENDERS



This program offers first-time youth offenders 10 to 16 years of age an opportunity to relearn and reinforce acceptable behaviors through community gardening. WSU Master Gardeners and community leaders serve as mentors and teachers for these youth.

- ◆ Fifteen youth participated in at least one, two hour session to complete community service hours.
- ◆ Food from the garden supplied the North County Community Food Bank with 435 pounds of produce.

"The fresh produce brought to us from your garden project was a real blessing to those in crisis in our area. We were able to assist 145 people with... fresh produce..."

- Food Bank Coordinator



Youth had a general sense that they were contributing to the community." –
Juvenile Justice staff

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS

Educational School District #112
Vancouver School District
Battle Ground School District
Evergreen School District
Camas School District
La Center School District
Washougal School District
Clark County Parks and Recreation
Vancouver Parks and Recreation
Master Gardener Foundation
Vancouver Housing Authority
Battle Ground and Vancouver libraries
Battle Ground Alternative School

Gate Work Study Program
SW Washington Medical Center
Clark County Solid Waste Program
SW Clean Air Agency
American Red Cross
State Grain Inspector
School Employees Credit Union
Talk About Trees
Clark County Juvenile Justice Division
City of Vancouver Neighborhood Assoc.
Water Resources Education Center
Clark County Corrections - Maybry Center
Battle Ground River Home Link

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES (ANR)

Extension faces the challenge in the near future of developing programming that meets farmers' changing needs as agriculture in Clark County transitions from commodity based wholesaling to value-added, specialty niche farms selling directly to consumers and retailers.

WSU FOOD & FARM CONNECTIONS TEAM (FFCT)

The *Food and Farm Connections Team* consists of 29 faculty and staff, mostly in Western Washington, dedicated to enhancing sustainable community food and farm systems through education, research, and partnerships. Clark County Extension ANR faculty participate in this team which helps local agriculture through regional initiatives and projects.



Harvest Celebration. The FFCT launched the second annual Harvest Celebration Day on October 7, 2000 that included eight counties (King, Pierce, Skagit, Clark, Clallam, Kitsap, Snohomish, and Mason). Each county organized tours and open houses of area farms, festivals, banquets/dinners featuring locally produced food prepared by local chefs, music, dances, and other events to celebrate local agriculture, local farmers, and food. This event drew over 13,000 people onto 82 farms and helped connect local residents with local farmers. In Clark County, 750 people visited ten sites.

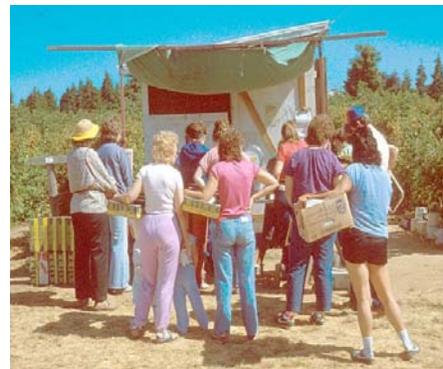
Farming West of the Cascades Publication Series. The FFCT continues to publish a series of Extension publications on farming in areas west of the Cascade Mountains.

Web Site. The FFCT maintains a site to serve farmers with an emphasis on niche and value-added farming. The site also features a calendar listing local, regional, and national events of interest to area farmers. The site can be found at <http://foodfarm.wsu.edu/>.

HORTICULTURE

Commercial Horticulture

The one faculty member in commercial horticulture worked directly with almost 200 commercial horticulture operations including berries, Christmas trees, greenhouse production, ornamentals, and direct marketing operations. Questions often involve looking at alternative agricultural systems that provide a higher return. In addition, the horticulture faculty oversees the Master Gardener volunteer program.



Business of Horticulture. This annual series of workshops started in 1995 and provides those interested in farming with ways to remain profitable in our region. Sixty farmers and landowners participated in workshops exploring direct marketing, “green” certification, herbs, greenhouse sales, specialty production, and value-added processing.

Master Gardeners Volunteer Program

This program supports over 300 volunteers who serve the residents of Clark County and each year trains at least 30 additional volunteers. Fifty-one volunteers graduated in 2000. This program works closely with the Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County which was formed by Master Gardeners (MG) to help support this program. The foundation provides financial support for the program assistant to coordinate the MG program.

Volunteers provided over 9,700 hours of time and interacted with over 15,000 members of the public in 2000.

4-H Support. MGs provide technical support to the 4-H Grow Cart Program combined with financial support from the MG Foundation. MGs also serve as judges for horticultural activities within 4-H.

Answer Clinics. MGs provide answers to horticultural questions involving insect identification and problems, plant cultural and disease problems, and plant identification (e.g., weeds, poisonous plants). MGs hold regular clinic hours in the Extension office year-round. Special clinics are offered at other events: the *Home & Garden Idea Fair*, farmers' markets in Vancouver and Battle Ground, the *Clark County Fair*, local nurseries, neighborhood associations, and in a Camas Safeway.

Speaker's Bureau. Master Gardeners serve as speakers for Garden Clubs, Granges, youth groups, business groups, church groups, neighborhood/home owner associations, and local nurseries. Topics include ground water protection, pesticide safety, the safe handling of garden equipment, to moles, seed saving, disease resistant varieties of plant materials, home food supplies, landscaping, over-wintering bulbs, container gardening, and cover crops.



Demonstration Gardens. Volunteers assisted with several demonstration gardens including: *Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Garden* that shows seed saving and the plants grown at the Fort during the 1840s; *Kaiser Permanente Poison Prevention Garden* where MGs led tours in the spring and summer months to help educate citizenry in the prevention of plant poisonings; *Wildlife Botanical Gardens* that demonstrate the use of Northwest native plants in addition to gardens which display

fruits and vegetables that attract wildlife; an *edible landscape garden* at the Clark County Fairgrounds in its fifth year; and an integrated pest management garden.

Special Projects

- ◆ Worked with Clark County Public Utilities to educate the public on the appropriate plants to use under power lines.
- ◆ Funded (through the MG Foundation) two small grants to help two students attend community college.
- ◆ Worked for the ninth year with the *Vancouver Housing Authority* to implement a 'self-sufficiency' fundraiser that helps young people get off public assistance and into jobs and homes.



ANIMAL SCIENCES

Dairy and Other Animal Species

Although the number of dairies has decreased in the region, dairy sales have increased almost \$12 million during the last decade to over \$72 million. Clark County dairies contribute 20% (\$14.2 million) of these total farmgate sales. Other animal species have increased to over \$40 million in farmgate sales, with Clark County accounting for \$12 million of this amount.

The animal sciences faculty member covers six SW Washington counties and works with dairies on many issues: management efficiency, herd health, labor, breeding, feeding, forage, food safety, water quality, and animal rights. Through work with dairies, 130 farmers reduced the incidence of disease in their herds and/or reduced non-point pollution this past year.

4-H Youth Support. Extension provided support to 109 Clark County 4-H youth in animal science clubs where youth learn animal management, fitting and showing skills, and other practical skills that teach discipline, responsibility, self-confidence, better communication, and leadership 4-H Support.

NW Dairy Shortcourse. The annual NW Dairy Shortcourse attracted over 100 regional dairy farmers to review methods for improving farm management to increase their profitability. A majority thought that they would incorporate at least part of what they learned into their farm operations.

Master Goat Farmer Training. This Western Washington session trained 27 participants on dairy goat management. Follow-up showed that participants decreased annual operating costs through the application of what they learned.

Special Projects

- ◆ Extension hosts a goat management listserv for more than 800 members. Over half of these members stated that the information posted to the listserv helped them improve their management techniques.



- ◆ Dairy Day tours for schools attracted 1,800 students, teachers, and parents in Clark County to local dairies to experience first-hand where milk and milk products come from, as well as basic food safety.

Livestock Advisor Volunteer Program

This program trains volunteers to work with small-scale family farmers. The program provides 60 hours of instruction to trainees in return for volunteer service within their local communities. Volunteers receive instruction from Washington State University staff, Oregon State University staff and local experts. Training in various animal species combines with the study of water quality and land management issues. Facilitation skills, the environment and how agriculture fits into and affects the local community also comprise elements of the training. After graduation one volunteer stated that "I knew that I wanted to be involved in my community, make friends with the same interests that I have and feel like I am contributing to the betterment of Clark County. This training has exceeded all my expectations." ***Thirty active volunteers provided 500 hours in educational service to over 3500 people during 2000.***

Annual SW Washington Horse Symposium. Sponsored by Extension, Livestock Advisors, Clark County Executive Horse Council, and the Whole Horse Institute, this event drew over 175 participants from Washington and Oregon in 2000. Speakers addressed subjects relating to horse purchase, maintenance, care, training, and land management. One participant enthused that "Everything was great, they keep getting better every year."



Winter Livestock School. This fifth annual workshop offered beginning and experienced small farmers instruction on a variety of topics ranging from small-scale enterprise development to subsistence raising of animals to reducing the impact on our environment. As part of our partnership in the Metro Small Farms Team, the 2000 Winter Livestock School rotated to the Rock Creek Campus of Portland Community College in Oregon. This multi-state collaboration increased the workshop's visibility and outreach efforts. Over 200 people attended. As one participant put it, "Farm design is more important than I thought. I will manage my pasture better, keep horses off in the winter, and fence the duck pond."

Workshops. Livestock Advisors arranged workshops for the general public and advanced training for themselves. The Advisors partnered in several workshops with the Southwest Washington Health District, Clark County Public Works, and the Clark Conservation District. Workshops included:

Pasture Management
Wells and Septic Systems
Lambing Management School

Farrowing School
Fencing
On-Farm Composting

International Alliance for Animal Therapy and Healing. This conference brought together professionals utilizing non-traditional healing practices to lay the groundwork for establishing certification standards and guidelines. This represents a first for the Extension Livestock

Advisor Program. Based on its reputation for providing quality programming, the Coordinator was requested to direct the planning for the 2000 conference, “*New Frontiers in Animal Healing*.” Sixty practitioners from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Australia participated.

General Outreach. Livestock Advisors also participated in various events.

- ◆ *Clark County Fair Educational Booth* – In collaboration with the Clark County Cattle Producers and the Clark Conservation District, this educational booth earned the “Best Educational Exhibit” award in 2000.
- ◆ *Touring Farms* - Advisors bring animals to schools and other events to bring about an awareness of the role of animals in agriculture and the importance of supporting our local farmers.



NATURAL RESOURCES

Watershed Steward Volunteer Program

The *Watershed Steward* program, in partnership with Clark County’s Department of Public Works, trains volunteers who return their hours by working on both implementation and educational projects. Watershed Stewards proactively work with Clark County residents in protecting and preserving watersheds from the effects of non-point pollution, such as erosion and other runoff from development, residential, and agricultural sources. Public education remains a primary tool in efforts to mitigate the effects of these and other activities on the county’s watersheds. Clark County’s National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit lists education as a requirement, while the Endangered Species Act (ESA) listings and remedies further underscore the need for educational efforts in this area. This program promises to significantly leverage the time of both Extension and Clark County in providing educational opportunities in environmental stewardship to the general public.

Plagued with organizational problems in its first ten months, the program was reorganized and a new Coordinator hired in late 2000. Given a short planning and advertising timeframe, the Fall 2000 program trained six volunteers in the basics of riparian vegetation, native plants, ecology, monitoring, stormwater, water quality, agricultural practices, composting, relevant laws and regulations, integrated pest management, and other subjects.

Master Composter / Recycler Program

The Composting and Recycling Program is carried out in direct partnership with Clark County’s Department of Public Works to decrease the volume of solid waste that enters landfills or must be shipped elsewhere. The *Master Composter/Recycler Program* trains volunteers to work with homeowners to better compost organic debris that would otherwise enter the solid waste stream. Typically, the program provides 45 hours of instruction to

trainees in return for an equivalent 45 hours of volunteer service within their local communities. **Sixty volunteers provided 1035 hours of educational service to more than 7600 people in 2000.**

Staff and volunteers provided outreach to both the general public and students in various forums:

Workshops. Staff and MC/R volunteers organized 28 workshops in 2000. Backyard Composting workshops teach homeowners the fundamentals of composting household organic materials and how composted material might be used around the home. Wormshops for community members concentrate on teaching the basics of vermicomposting food scraps without causing odor or pest problems. Teachers and students received similar training on vermicomposting that could be used as part of their classroom instruction. Other general presentations were made to neighborhood associations.

General Outreach. Displays at community events, demonstration sites, and the distribution and/or sale of compost bins round out the educational outreach provided by the MC/R program.

- ◆ Displays at the Home & Garden Idea Fair, Pomeroy Herb Festival, and the Clark County Fair, Winter Livestock School, 4-H events, and the Lacamas Lake Watershed Festival.
- ◆ Compost cages were distributed to 320 people and 44 people bought or received composting bins.
- ◆ Staff fielded 2000 requests for composting information.

Demonstration Sites. The MC/R program maintains three compost demonstration sites: at the Center for Agriculture, Science, and Environmental Education (CASEE) in Brush Prairie; at H & H Wood Recyclers in Orchards; and at the Michael Servetus Universalist Unitarian Fellowship site in Vancouver.

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES PARTNERSHIPS

Hough Elementary School
King Elementary School
Pleasant Valley Elementary School
Harney Elementary School
Clark County Department of Public Works
Clark County Indoor Play Park
Vancouver Downtown Association
Hough Foundation
Clark County Dairy Goat Association
Clark County Cattle Producers
Clark County Pork Producers

Oregon State University Extension
WSU Vancouver
WSU Research & Extension Unit
Clark Conservation District
Vancouver School District
Clark County Fair
SW WA Llama Association
Head Start
Amazia Veterinary Clinic
Vancouver Housing Authority
SW WA Health District

(Agriculture & Natural Resources Partnerships continued)

Hoyt Arboretum (Portland)	Clark County Farm Foresters
Interstate Rock	Portland Exposition Association
Shorty's Nursery	Clark County Weed Board
Department of Fish & Wildlife	Hearty Plant Society of Oregon
Clark County Public Utilities District	Camas Safeway
Vancouver Farmers Market	Battle Ground Farmers' Market
Specialty Nursery Association Clark County	Vancouver Botanical Garden
Fort Vancouver National Park	Elks Club
Rain or Shine supply house	WA Department of Ecology
Clackamas Community College	USDA / NRCS
Clackamas County Extension	Portland Community College
Wilco Farmers	Columbia County Extension
Oregon Department of Agriculture	OR Association of Conservation Districts
Portland State University	

FAMILY LIVING & CONSUMER SCIENCES

CLOTHING, TEXTILES, AND FOOD PRESERVATION

Volunteers in this program area provided about 1,800 hours of service to 5,000 people in Clark County.

Master Clothier Volunteer Program. The Home Sewing Association provided funding to implement a pilot project to teach quilting enthusiasts about textiles and educating others. In return, these trained volunteers would teach youth in their local communities. Twenty-one volunteers started training in 2000 and will finish in February 2001.

Staff and volunteers organized a two-day *Fiber Arts Conference* for this region. Seven home based business vendors set up at this conference which attracted 130 participants. Local textile artists taught sessions.

A Master Clothier volunteer coordinated a three-day *Historical Quilting workshop* that boasted 29 home-based business vendors and drew participants from nine states.

Extension Homemakers Program. Volunteers in this program deliver education on general household management, particularly economical food choices and preparation, and clothing. Volunteers taught families in the Vancouver Housing Authority neighborhoods. Volunteers provided support to the Clark County Fair in organization and superintendent duties. Extension Homemakers raise funds to buy equipment for their programs and to award small scholarships to low income students for a summer camp experience.

Master Food Volunteer Program. Food volunteers provided information to over 3400 people through workshops, telephone referrals, and pressure gauge testing. Topics included food safety and food handling, such as e-coli contamination and pressure canning.

Home Based Business Education. This small program works with other programs in the office to help educate people interested in small business startup and management. Presentations included those to the Winter Livestock School and the Washington Wool Growers. Two classroom presentations for alternative school youth emphasized entrepreneurial skills and workforce preparedness.

FAMILY NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Food stamp recipients and their children learn healthy nutrition, food buying and preparation, and food safety and handling through this federal, USDA grant funded program. This program serves communities that are often underserved, such as immigrants, African-American, Hispanic, and others. Classes and publications provide parents information on feeding children, nutritious food selection, and how to budget food stamp dollars. Children learn about making healthier choices using the Food Guide Pyramid, creating healthy snacks, safe food handling, and proper handwashing techniques. Through this education, participants learn self-esteem and self-confidence that fosters their personal growth. **Staff in this program reached 1,130 children and 1,790 adults in 2000.**



This program includes events such as:

- ◆ *Food Guide Pyramid*, a series designed to help third graders make healthy food choices;
- ◆ *Super Snacks for Kids*, an after-school program that teaches how to make healthy snacks;
- ◆ *Feast with the Beasts*, a program where children learn about nutrition through comparisons to zoo animals;
- ◆ *Food, Fun, and Facts*, a newsletter on nutrition and food to children's parents outlining possible family projects;
- ◆ *GloGerm* programs that emphasize handwashing for children;
- ◆ Materials for parents such as the *Parent Letter* and the *Handwashing Chart*;
- ◆ Training for Head Start cooks in food safety and sanitation;
- ◆ *Ready to Learn*, a series of classes for adults on nutrition, food handling and storage;
- ◆ Teen parenting classes for proper child nutrition.

Impacts. A parent survey of 55 families demonstrates how this program positively impacts the lives of those it touches.

Desired Outcomes	Before Program	After Program
My child is making good food choices when selecting his/her own snacks.	67%	95%
We wash our hands before eating.	76%	98%
We eat more than one kind of fruit and vegetable each day.	62%	93%
We use the Food Pyramid when deciding what to feed the family.	44%	65%
We read food labels to choose more nutritious foods.	45%	84%

“Overall, your program has made me look at things more closely when making purchasing decisions.” -- *Adult Program Participant*

“The most important thing I learned is when you are young, you need calcium, or when you’re old, your bones break.”
-- *Youth Program Participant*

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES PARTNERSHIPS

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)
Battle Ground Food Bank
SW Washington Health Department
Elahan House (mental health)
Habitat for Humanity
Coats & Clark store
Caton CPA
Fred Meyer, Safeway, McDonalds
George Schwary Graphics
Utah State University
Clark County Department of Social & Human Services
YWCA
Hancock Fabrics
WinCo
Clark College

Battleground School District
Evergreen School District
Vancouver School District
Lewis & Clark High School
Warm & Natural Store
Taie Silk
Daisy Kingdom
WSU Small Business Development Center
Vancouver Housing Authority
Salvation Army
Early Childhood Education Assistance Program
Safe Choice shelter
Open House shelter
Salvation Army
Vancouver food banks

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION COOPERATIVE



Purpose. The Environmental Information Cooperative (EIC) comprises a truly unique partnership among six organizations: Clark County, the City of Vancouver, Clark Public Utilities, WSU Vancouver, WSU Cooperative Extension, and the SW Clean Air Agency. Each organization provides a budget and/or in-kind services to the EIC. The EIC coordinates and implements the delivery of environmental education from each partner. K-12 students are the primary audience in Clark County, although business, other educators, and the general public also benefit from EIC programs. The EIC develops educational programs mutually beneficial to the partnering agencies to minimize the duplication of services and maximize the use of resources. Environmental education programs (teacher workshops and classroom presentations) and environmental resource materials are coordinated and provided to K-12 students, educators, business, and community in Clark County. Staff includes a Director and Education Specialist.

EIC Mission. Through the shared resources of a cooperative partnership, the EIC creates and nurtures greater awareness and stewardship for the environment and encourages action taking by the people within Clark County that will protect, conserve and restore our natural environment.

PROGRAMS

EIC programs reached 4400 students, 313 teachers, and 1445 members of the general public during 2000.

Project WET Festival. Working in cooperation with the Water Resources Education Center, the Department of Ecology and the national Project WET program, the EIC offered a two-day, modified version of its annual Columbia River Watershed Festival in September 2000. The event was funded in part by a Salmon Enhancement Grant from Metro. Over 550 students, 20 teachers, and 114 parents and volunteers participated in interactive, hands-on activities designed to promote awareness and appreciation for groundwater, drinking water and aquatic habitats.

Classroom Presentations. Interactive classroom presentations such as *River Rangers* (grades 3 & 4) and *Actions to Protect Water for People and Salmon* (grades 5-7) provided 55 action-oriented classroom experiences for 1,474 students. Students wrote:

“Thank you for telling us about water resources. ...My favorite part was the ant hill thing [model of an underground aquifer]. That was cool.”

“Thank you for the books you gave us about the different things we learned. We really enjoyed having the great presentation you gave us with the models.”

“If you hadn’t come, we wouldn’t know all the information that we know now. Thanks!”

Professional Development for Educators. EIC built on its established environmental education workshop series with the assistance of an Environmental Education Grant from Metro. Over 250 teachers, youth leaders and environmental educators participated in the 19 workshops offered:

Birds Go to School
Bugs Go to School
Salmon Go to School
Worms Go to School
Project WET

Project Learning Tree Environmental
Education Activity Guide

Aquatic Bugs Go to School
A-Way with Waste
Care for Air
Wild Aquatic
NatureMapping Levels 1 & 2



Workshops meet the needs of teachers by aligning environmental education activities to *Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)*. In October, the EIC became a Washington State Clock Hour provider to assist teachers in maintaining licensure. Teachers who attended the Project Learning Tree's summer workshop received stipends from the Washington Forest Protection Association. Teachers attending workshops during regular school hours qualified for substitute reimbursement monies to pay for substitute teachers. Teachers' commented:

"Well done! Great for our FOSS and Washington Studies!"

"Extremely useful information... applicable for an elementary classroom."

"The [Horizon Project] web-site will be a valuable tool in teaching weather."

Community Outreach. The EIC reached out into the community on general environmental education and salmon and fish recovery issues through participation in community organizations and events. Programs included the Lower Columbia River Estuary Project, Master Composter / Recycler training, Lacamas Lake Festival, McDonald's Science Fair and Habitat Partners.

The EIC produced and distributed five issues of the newsletter *Greenlines* to over 1200 teachers and community educators. The EIC also distributed fact sheets, bibliographies, flyers, booklets, and a list of community resources. Another publication, *Environmental Education Field Trips for Teachers and Educators in Clark County*, was compiled and distributed as a new resource for educators.

In addition to the existing kits and demonstration models like the Groundwater and Watershed Models, the EIC acquired two new education kits, *The Bird Discovery Box* donated by Vancouver Audubon, and the *Salmon Kit* donated by WA Fish and Wildlife.

EIC RESOURCE LIBRARY AT WSU VANCOUVER.

The EIC maintains an environmental resource library located within the Washington State University Vancouver campus library. The EIC collection comprises books, periodicals, curriculum, videos, a lateral file of newsletters and reports, and internet access and links. In 2000, the collection totaled over 1,800 books, videos, and curricula that could be located through the library’s on-line catalog.

- ◆ Loaned over 1900 items
- ◆ Distributed over 25,000 print items
- ◆ Responded to over 2,400 inquiries
- ◆ Provided 253 in-person consultations

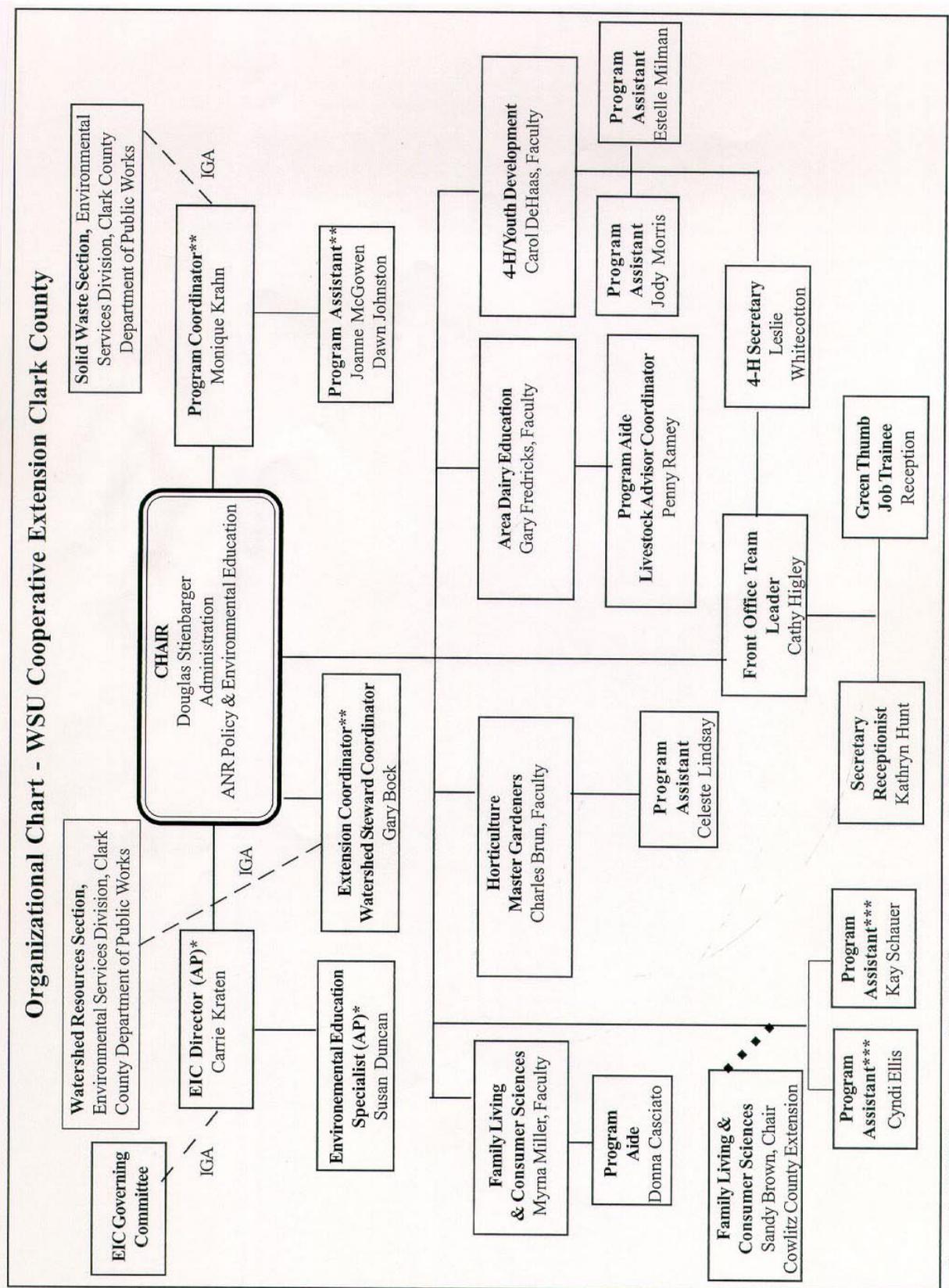


EIC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Clark College
Clark County
Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center (CSEEC)
Educational School District #112
City of Vancouver
Clark Public Utilities
Directors of Volunteer Programs Association (DVPA)
Habitat Partners
Partnerships for Environmental Education Resources & Services
Washington Library Media Association
Waste Connections, Inc.
Vancouver Audubon
SW Clean Air Agency

Lower Columbia River Estuary Project
Mount St. Helen’s Institute
Environmental Education Association of Washington (EEAW)
Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces
National Wildlife Federation
PSU - Stewards of the Environment
ESD112 Science and Math Education Resource Center (SMERC)
Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge
Waste Reduction Education Advisory Committee (WEAC)
WSU Cooperative Extension
WSU Vancouver
US Department of Fish and Wildlife
WA Department of Fish and Wildlife

APPENDIX A: ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



* Located at WSU Vancouver ** Paid from funds supplied by Solid Waste *** Paid from funds supplied by a USDA grant