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# Washington State University Okanogan County Extension Connecting People, Resources and Knowledge

WSU Okanogan County Extension connects the people of Okanogan County to the research and knowledge bases of the state's land grand research university providing solutions to local problems and stimulating local economies. Our county-based educators work with partners in the community to provide educational programs and leverage the broad resources of a major university to resolve issues and create a positive future for the residents of Okanogan County.

#### **STAFF**

Kayla Wells-Yoakum, Director and Family & Consumer Sciences Educator Angelyn Sheppard, 4-H and Master Gardner Program Coordinator Kellie Conn, Office Manager







# **Programs Offered by WSU Okanogan County Extension**



**4-H Positive Youth Development-** Teaches youth to become productive citizens who are engaged in positive change, meeting the needs of a diverse and changing society. 4-H youth development education creates supportive environments for all youth and families to reach their fullest potential.

Master Gardener Program- The Master Gardener program began in 1973 as a WSU Extension-based program focused on training volunteers to diagnose horticultural problems in the community. Today, Okanogan County Master Gardener volunteers address plant and insect problems and presenting programs that address critical issues for residents of Okanogan County. These include: sustainable gardening practices, safe pest management practices, drought tolerant gardens and landscaping and planting for fire protection.

**Broadband Action Team**- As a core member of the Okanogan County and Colville Confederated Tribes Broadband Action Team (Ok Co CCT BAT), that was created in February of 2019, WSU Okanogan County Extension supports the BAT by hosting the meetings, compiling agenda items and recording meeting minutes.

**Health & Wellness Programming-** WSU Okanogan County Extension provides consumer food safety education and free-of-charge pressure canner gauge testing.

Agriculture- The Regional Tree Fruit Extension program brings research-based information to the Tree Fruit Industry through trainings, applied research, technology and consultations. Current program areas include sustainable pest and disease management, soil and water management, and next generation tree fruit network. WSU Okanogan County Extension proctors WSDA Private Applicator Exams the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Tianna Dupont,
Tree Fruit Specialist









# WSU Okanogan County Extension Impacts by the Numbers



4-H Youth Displaying Completed Sewing Project.



Fairgrounds Demonstration
Garden Surrounded by
MG Volunteers and Interns.



WSDA Certified Sprayer Using a Backpack Sprayer to Control for Noxious Weeds.

#### **4-H Positive Youth Development**

Impacts for 2022-2023 4-H Year
8 Certified Adult Volunteers
39 Active 4-H Members Enrolled in a 4-H Club
1 Active 4-H Club

#### Master Gardener (MG) Program

2023 Program Impacts as of July 31<sup>st</sup>

8 Active Certified MG Volunteers

5 Active Certified MG Interns

1 Certified Emeritus MG Volunteer

183 Volunteer Hours

37 Total Diagnostic Intakes

Participated in 8 Farmers Markets

# **Pressure Canner Gauge Testing**

26 Gauges Tested in 202320 Gauges Tested in 2022

# **WSDA Private Applicator Exams**

40 Exams Proctored in 2023 41 Exams Proctored in 2022

# **Regional Tree Fruit Program**

2022 Impacts: 18 Presentations;
11 Workshops and Trainings;
104 Consultations, Farm Visits & Diagnostics.
Average Annual Impacts: 1500 participants reached through workshops and trainings;
1600 orchardists reached through
21 presentations; 130 consultations.



4-H Cloverbud Youth Proudly Shows off His Fair Pumpkin.



An Accurate Dial Gauge for Your Pressure Canner Ensures Safe Home-Canned Products.



Participants at 2022 Okanogan Horticultural Field Day Learn how to Increase Their Honey Bee Pollination from WSU's Brandon Hopkins.