



Partnership: MSU Extension in Daniels County **A Solid Alliance for the Future**

A partnerships can be defined in many ways: affiliation, alliance, collaboration, connection or union are a few of the synonyms that come to mind. In Daniels County, the partnership that has been developed with Montana State University Extension is a reflection of the mission of the Land Grant College’s commitment to its citizens.

Improving the lives of Montana citizens by providing unbiased research-based education and information that integrates learning, discovery and engagement to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of individuals, families, and communities is an enduring mission. With that is formed the union between MSU Extension and the people they serve throughout Montana in County offices.

The first partnership formed between Daniels County and Montana State University occurred in 1922. That collaborative effort concentrated on Agriculture education. Soon after, youth development in the form of 4-H was put into the program, followed by family and consumer science. For over nine decades, the partnership has experienced changes in agriculture, families and communities, with each challenge creating a strong bond in the relationship.

Long lasting partnerships cannot exist without having two parties whose mission or goals are in sync and focused. After 93 years, Montana State University Extension Daniels County and the citizens of Daniels County continue to have a strong alliance.



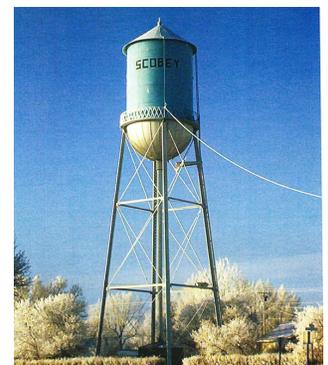
Harvest in Daniels County can be as beautiful as a wide open space or as troubling as a storm cloud moving in while the harvest is still in motion. In Daniels County, the farmer faces the many different elements when trying to make sure their crop is successful.

Daniels County: A Place Where Partnerships Grow Good Results

Nestled in the Northeast Corner of Montana, Daniels County is a proud community of innovative and hardworking Montanans. Seeking knowledge to improve their economy, society and environment is an everyday goal for the residents in this small community.

Working with the different organizations, committees, boards, agencies, school and private industries is a large part of the role and scope of the Daniels County Extension Office. For example, recently, the Daniels County Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture and Daniels County Extension Horizons revised a brochure entitled “Scobey Country.” Both organizations had seen the need for such a document several years ago and the need continues to grow. By pooling their resources and updating the information, a new more informational brochure has been created.

In early 2015, workshops focused on the New Farm Bill created a partnership that was rich with liaisons from the Farm Service Agency, MSU Extension and other resources from throughout the United States. All worked together, hosting free workshops in Daniels County, aiding producers and landowners in making decisions on the farm program. Having knowledge of the new farm programs lessens the stress created by understanding the changes.



Scobey Country

Directory

*We Have Much To Offer.
Take Advantage of
Our Sights, Services
Our Pioneer Town and Museum*

4-H: Where Relationships Make Learning Fun

Stepping Up and Helping Others

Having fun and learning all at the same time is a great way to spend an afternoon. In 4-H that is how most workshops or events happen. However, sometimes events can quickly turn into awkward and challenging situations.

The morning of July 27, the Daniels County Fairgrounds came under siege by a terrific summer wind storm that left electrical poles snapped at the ground and some roofs missing in the county. By 5:30 am, the beef barn was filling with water and animals were getting restless.

Pulling together to battle a barn filling with water, 4-H families started digging, shoveling and moving animals to “higher” ground. The focus was not on that morning’s livestock competition. It was on helping everyone get through this unexpected event. There was never a moment of hesitation and by 8 am, the skies cleared and the show began.



A brave 4-H member crosses in front of the 4-H Building on the Daniels County Fairgrounds on July 27 during a severe summer storm, which made a very soggy start to another great fair.

Shauna Ferguson-Farver, 4-H Leader and parent, posted to her Farver Farms Facebook page a truly telling account of the weather and the fair. A few excerpts from that post:

“This morning, 4-H families spent the early part of the morning working together to muck out the animal barn where all the steers are. Flooding in there last night had all the stalls wet and needing fresh straw. Then we all headed around the corner to help the traveling tattoo parlor pack up their camp & displays, as the wind started to really howl.

At the moment, the name of the game is moving exhibits around in the 4-H building to dodge leaks & keep everything dry. Meanwhile, the Farmer & Prairie Girls

are helping patch leaks to keep water out of food booths, while others are building up a makeshift dike to keep water out of the steer barn, and others are helping move equipment to the roping barn & set up a makeshift stage for the scheduled night show tonight. All of this, while many of these families can only wonder how much crop loss they’ll have at home from the rain, damaging wind & hail when this is all over.

We plant our seeds & pray for rain...& it’s not our job to question the Divine plan, or the timing of it, but still....we wonder. Even in the wondering though, we’re thankful. Grateful that the losses are simply material. Blessed by the small moments of friendship & community created by diversity....coffee & doughnuts over a stack of straw bales in the 4-H barn. Its days like these that bring out the best in rural communities & small towns all across America.

And as I sit here in the 4-H building, it occurs to me that all this can really be summed up in the 4-H pledge.

I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, & my health to better living. For my club, my community, my Country, & my World.

Can I get an Amen?!”

The 2015 Daniels County fair won’t be easily forgotten.

4H Member Recognized by National Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees

Wick Cole, a 4H member in the Green Acres 4H club, was recognized by the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. for submitting an essay to the 2015 National 4-H Essay Contest. For the 2015 essay contest, the topic was *Planting for Bees from Backyards and Up*.

4H members who are involved in beekeeping as a project were challenged to discuss ways that habitats in their community could be modified to become “bee friendly.” Wick represented Montana in this National contest.

Wick has worked with his parents, Jesse and Holly Cole of Scobey, on their family beekeeping venture for seven years. He has done the project in 4H for two years.

Congratulations to Wick for representing Montana .



Wick Cole, 4-H Beekeeper, prepared to work with his bees.



Agriculture: Where Affiliations Benefit All

Safety First Everytime on an ATV

Without a doubt the horse has been replaced on the farm and ranch by all-terrain vehicles or ATVs. Along with this new and sometimes quicker mobility comes increased safety issues. More and more ATV accidents are occurring in rural areas. Unfortunately these accidents are often fatal.

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) can be a great tool on the farm or ranch, but using them improperly can greatly increase the risk of accident and injury on the job. Everyone uses them, from the youngest family member to the oldest. ATVs are used to spray weeds, handle animals, build or fix fences and many other activities on the farm and ranch.

Last year, there were several fatal ATV accidents in Montana that unfortunately involved adults and children. In Daniels County, there were at least two ATV accidents that injured adults. Fortunately they were not life threatening but it could have been a different story.

The Daniels County Extension and Daniels County Weed District hosted a full day safety training course in Scobey in 2015.

The instructor was Ken Nelson, MSU McCone County Extension Agent and Certified/Licensed ATV Safety Institute Trainer. The training was provided for single-rider type ATVs.



ATV Safety course participants going through the “figure 8” maneuvers. Instructor Ken Nelson evaluates the quickness and alertness of each rider. After this intensive exercise in driving, participants discussed improvements that could be made.

The Good, the Bad, and the What is That?

There is one truth in Agriculture. If an insect or a weed shows up that is not commonly seen, the phone will start ringing off the hook and samples will arrive non-stop in the office.

“What are all those white butterflies,” “Will they eat my crop,” “Are they laying eggs?”
“Are they cutworm adults?”

During the mid-summer, a sudden population explosion of white and yellow butterflies appears out of nowhere.

Millions seemed to be swarming roadside ditches and fluttering through fields and over cropland.

Needless to say, with crops maturing, this unknown visitor put everyone on edge.

Fortunately, the white and yellow butterflies were identified as two types of butterflies: **Cabbage white butterflies and Clouded Sulphur butterflies. The butterflies themselves are not the pest, it is the larva stage of growth that is the pest! It was not crops that were affected, but gardens!**

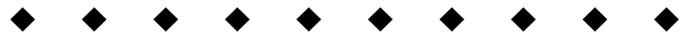
Cabbage white butterfly is an imported pest and is a common insect in gardens. It is associated with broccoli, cauliflower, and other cabbage family plants. If the home gardener picked a head of broccoli that had worms in it, they encountered the cabbage white butterfly larva.



Clouded Sulphur Butterfly is a native and is associated with the pea family including alfalfa, white clover, and peas. In fact, its preferred habitat is many different open areas including fields, lawns, alfalfa and clover fields, road edges, and meadows.



Relief was expressed by many farmers and ranchers after the true identity was discovered with the help of the Schutter Diagnostic lab and MSU Extension entomologists.



There is still diligent monitoring for those insect and weed pests that are of concern and have potential to cause economic impact.

Traps for Orange Wheat Blossom Midge, Army Cutworm, Pale Western Cutworm and Dingy Cutworm were located in Daniels County in various locations. All data was collected and posted to the Montana Pestweb site. The Pestweb is designed to provide for a rapid response to developing and expanding pest problems. Its purpose is to serve as a “real time” monitoring system to help producers track the distribution of key crop pests throughout the state of Montana in order to help guide scouting efforts and aid in the implementation of integrated management practices.

A three-year research project has been started this past fall as a partnership with Valley County Extension, studying the management and biology of a relatively new weed, Narrowleaf hawksbeard.

Community: Where Connections Count

School Enrichment

The youth of Daniels County hold the key to the future of the community. Introducing them to new ideas, experiences and skills only enhances their relationships with other youth, adults and community leaders. Two beautiful fall days in September, Daniels County Extension and the Weed District joined the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service in an outreach program with the Scobey Elementary School.

The focus of the field trip was to transform each student into a botanist whose job was to hike through a field, identi-



Andy Johnsrud, NRCS Soil Conservationist, works with kindergartners and fifth grade Scobey School students to identify plant species.



Once the “botanists in training” collected their specimens, the real work began; identifying if they had a native, introduced or invasive species.

fying all the different plant species and determining if they were native plants, introduced plants or noxious weeds.

One highlight of the day was the pairing of kindergartner’s with fifth grade students to do the field trip. Not only were they learning to be scientists, they also learned the art of being a positive mentor.

The students also participated in the FIGHT FIVE Weed Warrior program sponsored by the Montana Weed Control Association. Each student received a backpack that contained a weed identification book, markers and t-shirt that had WEED WARRIOR printed on the front. Students then listed five noxious weeds they will fight to get rid of in our community.

Contact Us



EXTENSION

Daniels County

www.msueextension.org

Montana State University Extension is an ADA/EO/AA Veteran's Preference Employer and provider of educational outreach.

Bobbie Roos

Agriculture Extension Agent; 4-H Development
Family & consumer Science Extension Agent

Ronda Cromwell

Administrative Assistant

Daniels County Extension
10 Railroad Ave
Scobey, MT 59263

Phone (406) 487-2861

Fax: (406) 487-2296

E-mail extensiondaniels@montana.edu

Web Facebook: Daniels County Extension

Facebook: Daniels County 4-H