



# MSU Extension Education & Research Improving the Quality of Life

## In Stillwater County

### **4-H Teen Leadership**

Stillwater County Extension meets monthly with 4-H Teen Leaders to assist with an educational program and plan community service projects and the annual 4-H Achievement Program, which the youth conduct. Some of the Teen Leaders choose to participate in the 4-H interstate exchange, while others apply and interview for counselor or counselor-in-training for a bi-county camp with Yellowstone County in which approximately 85 campers and 25 counselors and CITs attend. About 25 teens are involved in the leadership program.

### **Drug-Free Community Grant/Methamphetamine Education**

Stillwater County was one of three communities in Montana and 27 applications nationwide to receive received a \$500,000 grant over the next 5 years. The first informational meeting in October of 2004 Stillwater County Extension plans to focus on three aspects of the meth education program, education for the schools, a program to inform retailers, and a community program that educates landlords and landowners how to identify if methamphetamine is being produced on their property. More information on the Drug-Free Communities Support Program is at <http://drugfreecommunities.samhsa.gov>.

### **Food Safety**

Stillwater County Extension is a resource for various food preservation questions, and offers the nationally recognized ServSafe food safety education program in conjunction with the Stillwater County sanitarian. Extension offered Safety Works in two classes in Columbus FCS classes in spring of 2004 and another series of sessions in Absarokee. Stillwater Extension also offers basic food safety instruction such as teaching hand washing to elementary children including 65 elementary students K-3 at Park City School. In November of 2004, Still water County team-taught HACCP to food service workers in Billings with Travis West, former Stillwater County sanitarian.

### **Cross-county 4-H Programming**

Stillwater County works with agents in Yellowstone County, Carbon County and Big Horn County to plan multi-county 4-H project events, 4-H Sewing Festival and 4-H Foods Festival. Nine additional counties are invited to participate. In spring of 2004, a multi-county finance event called it Reality Check Weekend was offered for teens. We had approximately 30 in attendance and will decide whether to continue the event next year. Stillwater and Carbon counties have cooperated for two years on a communication event with over 90 youth attending.

### **Education for Homemaker Clubs**

Stillwater County Extension teaches educational programs for eight homemaker clubs including Humor Laughaerobics, One-Dish Meals for the Busy Family, Low Carbohydrate Diets: Craze or Crazy? and Alzheimer's Disease: the Forgetting.

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Stillwater County Extension Office is located at the Courthouse in Columbus Phone: 406-322-8035



An educational resource dedicated to improving the quality of people's lives by providing research-based knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of families, communities and agricultural enterprises.