

Food and Agriculture

125

farm businesses received technical assistance, leading to greater profitability and environmental sustainability

Natural Resources

\$521K

in future value of improved acreage

Consulted with **277** landowners who manage **10,852** acres
2,162 additional acres managed with forest stewardship plans
\$203,000 generated in forest product and tax revenue

Community and Economic Development

5

downtown building facades renovated in Pittsfield with grant funds secured in partnership with Extension specialists

Youth and Families

75

people were brought together to build community resiliency during and after the pandemic; they represent local partners and agencies in the Kearsarge Region

Provided training in social and emotional mindfulness to teachers and staff at East Side Learning Center and the Pace Charter School

4-H families helped elderly residents of Merrimack County Nursing Home carve pumpkins for Halloween

Nutrition lessons were offered in English, Swahili, Kinyarwanda, Nepali, Farsi and Spanish

439 volunteers

17,795 hours

\$507K** value of volunteer time

*In 2021, for every \$1.00 that Merrimack contributed, UNH provided \$1.75 of statewide resources.

**State Values of Volunteer Time (NH): \$28.54; independentsector.org/



Statewide Highlights 2021

MAKING LIFE **BETTER** IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



Extension

Economic Expertise

- Dairy specialists worked with ten farms to identify and initiate changes to improve milking parlor efficiencies, increasing production and quality while supporting animal comfort
- Extension's crop weather monitoring stations and plant disease forecasting tools were utilized by 76 apple growers to make informed decisions and avoid unnecessary pesticide applications
- Extension forestry specialists trained 201 forest industry professionals

Community Development

- Community and economic development specialists helped expand a makerspace and business incubator in Concord and helped generate facade improvements to five downtown buildings in Pittsfield
- Efforts to increase tourism and nature economy have included a regional branding and marketing campaign to promote the Sugar River Region in Sullivan, a plan to expand biking trails in Northfield and neighboring towns, and installation of signage to guide trail users to downtown businesses and services in Bristol

Extension specialists worked with **2,483** NH businesses

Lifelong Learning

- Food safety specialists provided certification opportunities to food service workers from schools, hospitals, food pantries and other public establishments
- Natural resources specialists brought together 85 communities for a land conservation conference called Saving Special Places
- The 4-H Virtual Club reached 220 youth and summer programming reached over 400 children

COVID-19 Response

- With N.H. Department of Agriculture, secured \$500,000 USDA-NIFA State Department of Agriculture Farmer, Rancher Stress Assistance Network grant to raise awareness, provide education and offset costs related to farmers' mental health
- With \$225,000 in funding from the Extension Foundation, provided research-based information to North Country and Strafford County communities to support informed vaccination choices
- Provided hands-on training to teach community members how to build a greenhouse at Winnisquam Middle School; this led to a gardening curriculum for students during hybrid learning
- With \$680,000 from a USDA grant, provided agriscience-based remote learning experiences to 800 rural elementary school children