



YEAR IN REVIEW 2022 | Grafton County

Program Spotlight: Food safety specialists created training materials for non-English speaking refugees and immigrants working in agriculture in Grafton. Specialists also provided technical assistance on the Food Safety Modernization Act to farmers who implemented food safety practices to decrease risk of foodborne illness.



Robert Richer

Master Gardener, Groton

“As with all NH Master Gardeners, I was taught science-based gardening through UNH Extension. Extension is our go-to for the latest in plant science and free seeds for our project at Whole Village in Plymouth. They also have a grant program that helps Master Gardeners keep up with operational costs. We normally apply for funding for mulch, organic fertilizer and tools. This is a huge savings for us. Last season the Plymouth garden distributed over 600 pounds of produce to the local food bank and through Extension’s Nutrition Connections program, supporting classes in preparing fresh foods.”



Linda D. Lauer

Former County Commissioner and State Rep, Coverts Volunteer, Advisory Council member, Bath

“4-H engages the county’s young people in exciting learning and volunteer opportunities such as the Jingle Bell Walk at the county nursing home. Master Gardeners maintain areas around the nursing home where residents and their families can enjoy flowers and plants. Food safety and nutrition specialists educate residents on providing safe and nutritious meals on a limited budget. Farmers and woodlot owners rely heavily on Extension’s technical expertise. Experts from Extension are always available to help.”



Tammy & Paul Collins

Collins Farm, Upper Village, Bath

“We see a renewed interest in home-steading at our greenhouses where we retail flower and vegetable plants. Food shortages and rising costs from the early days of COVID have brought questions from customers who have never gardened before. UNH Extension is our go-to resource for any vegetable growing concern. It is important to have a trusted and knowledgeable partner like UNH Extension to guide us to the resources we need when faced with the challenges of plant diseases or insect management — all of which increases our revenue and success.”



GRAFTON COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS | 2022

FUNDING

\$338,882

GRAFTON CONTRIBUTIONS

\$552,672*

UNH CONTRIBUTIONS

Community and Economic Development

Extension partnered with the Upper Valley Business Alliance in the Hanover/Lebanon area to host local business roundtable discussions

Education and 4-H Youth Development

Fostered intergenerational learning experiences with Grafton County Nursing Home residents through 4-H events including holiday parade, carved pumpkin display and animal parade/petting zoo

Food and Agriculture

Conducted applied research on pest management in apples, reduced tillage in strawberries with cover cropping and completed a cucumber variety trial at the Grafton County Farm

Created training materials in conjunction with NHDES on PFAS, a group of chemicals that contaminate soil and water

Health and Well-Being

Leveraging grant dollars to support local coalitions in Haverhill and the Mascoma region, the Building Community Resilience Project provided technical assistance and training in critical areas such as mental health and chronic disease management

Natural Resources

Based on an increase in land sales and inquiries from realtors, developed Timber Valuation for Realtors program to represent value of forested land more accurately during real estate transactions

VOLUNTEERS

295

VOLUNTEERS

17,402

HOURS

\$535K**

VALUE OF VOLUNTEER TIME

*In 2022, for every \$1 Grafton County contributed, UNH provided \$1.68 of statewide resources

** State Value of Volunteer Time (NH): \$30.75; independentsector.org