

Proudly Helping the Residents of Camden County

4-H Youth Development—Developing Skills for Life:

Annually, 4-H faculty, staff and volunteers create opportunities for 336,318 Missouri youth. 4-H project work and related educational experiences help youth explore interests in citizenship, communications, leadership, and science-related careers. Nine Camden County middle-school students enhanced their leadership and community engagement skills by completing the 4-H Youth EXCEL (Experience in Community Enterprise and Leadership) program in 2011. Thirty one Camdenton R-III students participated in the FIRST Robotics program gaining hands-on experience working with technology, and working as a team to plan, design, build, market and operate their robot.



Youth who participate in 4-H are:

- 300% more likely to be helping and contributing members of their families & community,
- 300% less likely to engage in risky or problematic behavior,
- 76% more likely to make better grades,
- 70% more likely to participate in science, engineering or computer technology programs, and 40% more likely to pursue courses or careers in these fields,
- 70% more likely to go to college, and 20% more likely to graduate.

Nutrition and Health Education Program—Improving Healthy Lifestyles:

The **Advanced Stay Strong, Stay Healthy** program was first piloted in Camden County in 2005 and has now been developed and adopted throughout the state. This 10-week intermediate program builds on the fitness base created by Stay Strong, Stay Healthy and focuses on strength, balance, and flexibility. A national training for the program is planned for the future. The Missouri statewide data from three-month follow-up surveys show:

- 76% continue to lift weights after the class at home, in a group or at a gym after completing the program.
- 92% have started other physical activities (walking, gardening, etc.) since ending the class.
- 79% describe their activity level as “somewhat more” or “a lot more” after completing the program.
- 74% describe their health as “somewhat improved” or “a lot more” improved after completing the program.
- 81% agree or strongly agree that their ability to do everyday tasks has improved after completing the program.



Family Nutrition Education Program— Nutrition and Life Skills for Missouri Families:

Students at Camdenton R-III Schools (Dogwood Elementary, Oakridge Elementary, Hurricane Deck Elementary, Hawthorn Elementary, Osage Beach Elementary, Camdenton Middle and High Schools), Macks Creek, Climax Springs and Stoutland along with clientele from MOCA, Head Start, Share the Harvest Food Pantry, the Pregnancy Help Center and Lake Area Industries all benefited from FNEP programming in 2011. University of Missouri Extension Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached **3,829** low-income participants with nutrition education in Camden County during 2011.



Business Development Program—Supporting Economic Development and the Creation of Jobs:

The University of Missouri’s Business Development program served 17,207 people in 2011 and created millions of dollars in economic impact. In Camden, Laclede, Miller and Pulaski counties during 2011, business assistance and training was provided to 280 entrepreneurs and their businesses. In assisting these owners with business start-up, management, marketing and or finance related issues, MU Extension & the Missouri Small Business Development Centers contributed to the county’s economic prosperity through growth in jobs, sales and investments. Economic impact reported by clients in 2011 included:

- New jobs 31
- Sales increases \$181,802
- New business start-ups 4
- Loans & investments in business \$1,097,500
- Acquired Assets \$1,033,167

Leadership Camden County—Encouraging Awareness & Action of Area Residents:

In 2011 26 area individuals graduated from Class 16 of the Leadership Camden County program, and joined the 370 plus class graduates to date. The program provides participants with an opportunity enhance their knowledge and understanding about what is going on in the county, and the resources that exist. Class members and alumni are engaged in a myriad of community organizations and boards, and actively give-back to the local community following class participation.



Lake Area Master Naturalist Program—Supporting Natural Resource Education & Volunteerism:

Organized in 2009, the Lake of the Ozarks Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalist Program has 70+ members and provides Lake Area residents with an opportunity to participate in the stewardship of Missouri’s natural resources. In 2011 Lake of the Ozarks chapter members completed 2,504 hours of volunteer service assisting with community projects such as Eagle Days, Stream Team water quality monitoring, several Low Impact Landscaping projects, and the initiation of a Conservation Kids Club program (in partnership with Camdenton R-III Schools).



Lake Area Master Gardener Program—Helping Others Learn to Grow:

The Master Gardener Program provides in-depth horticultural training to individuals throughout Missouri who then volunteer their time applying what they have learned to help others in their communities learn about gardening and environmental education. In 2011 members of the Lake Area Master Gardener Program completed 3,200 hours of volunteer education and horticultural services contributing to the beautification of the Lake Area.