

Environment, Housing and Energy Program of Work Report From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Number of counties reporting: 78

(All 14 areas represented)

Number of clubs reporting: 311

1. Number of members who took actions related to environment, housing and energy listed below between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020:

- a. Implemented one or more water saving practices in the past year: 1,165
- b. Adopted new landscape practices (such as installing a rain garden): 387
- c. Preserved fruits and vegetables for your family: 1,775
- d. Initiated or participated in an Adopt-A-Highway project: 155
- e. Initiated or participated in a plant and/or seed swap: 493
- f. Initiated or participated in a community beautification project: 545
- g. Sponsored or taught a community gardening class for community members: 81
- h. Implemented landscaping practices to attract bees, birds or butterflies: 907
- i. Sponsored or taught a class on providing habitat for bees, birds or butterflies: 171

2. What topics/areas of Environment, Housing and Energy would your club/county be interested in learning more about?

- Air quality in home
- Bird and hummingbird feeders; freezing & preserving fruits & vegetables; how to make flower gardens beautiful; how to manage a garden to have fresh fruits & in order to save on groceries; Climate Change (how reliable is the information)
- Natural cleaning & disinfecting supplies.
- Birds - Attracting birds, bees, caterpillars; build a bee hotel.
- Native gardens/native plants -- 3
- Mother-In-Law/small housing.
- Invasive pests.
- Mow less, lawn reduction.
- How to attract butterflies, vertical gardening, gardening without soil
- Techniques related to planting flowers for bees, birds and butterflies
- How to make organic spray for flowers
- Household best practices like heat loss through windows
- Lawn care; waste containment--recycling
- Herb gardening -- 3
- Information on bluebirds- type houses, food etc. Carpenters bees ideas for small changes the average person can do to make a difference.
- Landscaping, Permaculture, Local Wildflowers, Attracting Wildlife
- Natural Weed Control; Furniture Repair, Upholstery and Refinishing;
- Getting rid of moles, chipmunks, mosquito, grubs
- Our community has many bees but this is causing problems. We need to learn what plants deter bees. Too many are getting killed. We use lemongrass.

- Landscaping practices to attract bees & birds; learning more about natural seeding flowers and trees
- Adapting housing for physical ease, energy efficient appliances
- Plants that deter animals, insects, deer, snakes
- DIY home maintenance; basic skills and trouble shooting home repairs; hands on canning class; composting.
- Use less plastics. Plastic alternatives. Wild edibles.
- Homemade remedies for cleaning, getting back to nature, remedies, growing herbs, growing plants to keep wasp, yellow jackets away.
- Kill weeds; detract bugs
- We would like to learn more about beautifying our county.
- Native Plants, Pollinator Gardens
- Natural Landscaping to attract pollinators
- How the NCV has affected environmental changes. Solar roofing.
- Class on pesticides/ insecticides
- Plant and Seed Swap
- Gardening/Landscaping; raised bed and container gardening -- 9
- Perhaps we could get a member of the Power Company to make presentation on how to conserve energy.
- Maybe someone could visit and discuss ways to help the homeless.
- The use of solar energy for the home -- 9
- Conserving energy and cutting cost
- Light Bulbs -- 2
- Wildflowers and weeds that are beneficial. Raised beds that are waist high or using different types of containers.
- How climate change is affecting plants and growing seasons
- Birdhouses
- Hummingbird--flowers to attract them
- Pollinators, Edible Landscaping
- Learn more about succulents, how to attract butterflies & birds, how to attract hummingbirds, how to create a monarch way station, how to build a bat house, improving soil quality organically
- Living wall planters - inside/outside
- Composting
- Heirloom vegetables
- Low water gardening
- Landscaping on a budget. Indoor plants help environment. Inside seed swap.
- How to keep our environment clean and healthy; How to conserve energy with efficient equipment; How to save our water by using less; How to be a wise shopper
- Mold/ mildew
- Organic
- How to live in harmony with wildlife
- Climate change
- Housing alterations & options for handicapped and elderly
- Recycling project, landscaping, fairy gardens, downsizing

3. Please share a one paragraph description of an environment, housing and/or energy program conducted by your club/county. (Use back of page if needed.)

- Planned (but did not carry out due to COVID) a vegetable gardening class for low income housing apartments.
- Not able to do so at this time because of the COVID-19.
- Members have collectively tried new gardening ideas and plans; tried new canning and freezing techniques and practiced energy-savings around their homes. Also, collected plastic bottle caps for the recycled bench projects.
- We all try to conserve energy, turning off lights when we leave the room, install motion sensor lights around our house.
- Home Decor and More brought 80 people together to learn organizing, recycling, and decorating tips and tricks.
- Programs by clubs.
- Members practiced water saving with collection of rain water for flower pots. Members purchased "water saver" dishwasher and laundry washer and dryer balls for energy saving.
- We did the lesson on home improvement and hiring a food contractor. Very informative with lots of good pointers
- One club had a lesson on succulents. One club does collect pull tabs and are very concerned with recycling.
- Because of our love of nature, we have researched and learned what trees and plants work better at our houses. The landscape looks awesome! A homemaker member did an Aloe vera give-away and taught how to keep them alive and also how to transplant them.
- Utilizing the county extension service outdoor garden to learn new techniques to incorporate in home gardening. Shared basil seed with extension homemakers and grab n go bags to encourage growing and utilizing herbs for healthier meal plans.
- One member has started a worm composting bin with her 4-H Gardening Club.
- Recycling education continued in schools with several programs being cancelled due to COVID-19. All schools were scheduled with members assigned to teach specific programs/classes. 70 hours of prep and teaching were reported.
- We joined up with one of the Brooks homemakers church to beautify a couple of schools in the neighborhood. We did numerous landscaping chores for both the middle and the high school. We trimmed roses, bushes and trees. We planted some flowers and planted s
- One club had a lesson on honey and pollinator gardens. Another club invited a local bee keeper to speak and she brought in her beekeeping equipment and apparel and hand outs.
- Logan County Homemakers hosted the local conservation office representative to speak on water contamination, how it happens and how to prevent water contamination. Twenty-eight homemakers were in attendance.
- It was cancelled due to covid-19 restrictions.
- Round Pond Club presented club meeting with representative from WRECC. He discussed different lighting needs for the home. Showed bag of energy saving items.
- Many of the people participate in P.L.A.N.E.T. (Paintsville Lake Activity, Nature, and Edible Trail) which is project that works with International, The Army Corp of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife, and Boy Scout Troup leaders to carve the way for a new adventure.
- The Belfry Homemakers club participated in following: Turban workshops, collected needed items for Veterans, purchased items for the library kitchen, sent gifts and contributions to the Belfry Elementary Resource Center.

- The Walton Club has continued the recycling of empty medicine bottles for Matthew 25 Ministries, to be used overseas in underdeveloped countries. This year 1,610 bottles were donated with the help from other Homemakers Clubs from Boone County.
- Making and using rain barrels. The Carroll County Extension Homemakers along with the Carroll County Extension Office and other community members planted 3000 daffodils in the fall of 2019 to bloom this past spring. The flowers were planted in an open field at one of the county parks.
- We had a program on "batteries and bulbs" that shared how to safely store and change batteries, how to dispose, and explained terms like watts, lumens, etc
- LED Lighting
- Our county's environment, housing & energy chair collected plastics and took them to a recycling center. Two hundred seven pounds were taken from this county.
- Pennyriple Area counties had a lesson on LED Lighting.
- Planned a container gardening workshop following the May council meeting. Extension Office was closed due to COVID
- Two members adopted better ways to keep water from eroding lawns. One terraced the side yard. Used ground cover to help slow down the rapid flow of water. Most of us are doing the right things but need to get into community.
- Had programs on air, water and soil quality; learned about air quality and what it means; learned how toxins enter water streams and soil and how unhealthy environment can make us sick.
- The Buzz About Honey lesson was conducted.
- Homemakers continue to practice reuse, reduce and recycle practices.
- Using information from the website eartheasy.com, club members were given information about water conservation around the home. Specific topics included saving water while doing laundry, saving water in the yard and garden, saving water in the kitchen, using water-saving appliances, rain barrels, and water heaters.

Additional Comments:

- Since this had been a hard year to communicate with my fellow club members, we are all looking forward to the coming year.
- Planted turnip seeds in the garden last fall. The middle of March they started coming up. The turnip seeds made greens and grew beautiful flowers. Left turnip greens in the garden with the flowers until it was time to plant the garden in May.
- I enjoy working outside. These are some of the things I have accomplished this year. I continue to have a very large garden and do a lot of canning and freezing the vegetables that I grow. Actually for my age, my garden is very large!