

WSU EXTENSION NEWS

Stevens County Newsletter

In this issue:

- **Awards Received!** Our Director, Debra Hansen, received awards for her work with Broadband Action Team and Leadership!
- **4-H:** Time to start thinking about fair registrations!
- **Agriculture: *Animal Heat Alert!*** Plus, July 21st "Field Workday" at Vetter Farm—need volunteers!
- **Master Gardeners:** Plant Clinic volunteers enjoy sleuthing answers for pest, disease and other plant problems! *Answer Clinics available every Monday, 9-11am!*

Are you Ready for Fair? Are you Ready for Heat?



BIG NEWS! Extension Stevens County Director Receives Awards!



Professor and County Extension Director Debra Hansen received the

"Award of Excellence in Individual Programming" from the Western Extension Directors Association, representing 13 states. She has been instrumental in three signature initiatives which have had a profound effect beyond Stevens County and Washington State.

Two of these: **Broadband Action Teams** and the **Distributed Conference Model**, are solutions to challenges faced by remote rural communities.

The third – **Ripple Effects Mapping** – is an innovative approach she developed that has been adopted across the nation and in several countries. She also won two awards during COVID that we missed announcing – the **"WSU President's Award for Leadership for Faculty and Staff"** and the **"College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences - Faculty Excellence in Extension Award."**

"Never have I seen someone more passionate about being a champion for our local communities. I wish people could see what I see... the 'battles' she persistently wages on our behalf to solve problems for Stevens County." —Linda Teller, Extension Coordinator/Office Manager

4-H Happenings

Fair Season is Almost Here

It's time to start thinking about getting your registrations done.

Fairs are a great opportunity to show your crafts, sewing, animals, baking, garden produce, and more for both adults and youth. Even if you don't show, you can still visit a local fair to check out what others are doing, enjoy entertainment, and support your community. Several fair books are out and available in various community locations for local fairs. Additional information can be found below...

Valley Fair – August 12. Books are currently available at the Extension office and other community locations. Animal registrations are due by August 1. Visit [August 12, 2023 - Home \(weebly.com\)](#) for more information.

Hunters Fair – August 19. Books are currently available at the Extension and other community locations. Animal registrations are due by August 7. Visit [Hunters Community & 4-H Fair \(hunterscommunityfair.com\)](#) for more information.

NE WA Fair – August 24-27. Fair Books are expected to be out by July 10. Watch their website [Northeast Washington Fair Grounds - Stevens County WA](#) for books and online registration. Registrations will be due August 12.

Clayton Community Fair – August 25-27. Fair books and other information is available online at [Clayton Community Fair](#). Exhibit and animal registrations due by August 7.



For information about our 4-H program, visit our website:

[4-H Youth | Stevens County](#) or contact [Shannon Rowley](#), 509-684-2588

Agriculture News

Summer has arrived here in Stevens County, so once again, it's time to think about livestock and heat-related stress. See the graphic below for information on how to keep your livestock safe in the heat. (click on graphic to view larger version on our Agriculture webpage)



ANIMAL ALERT

PROTECTING LIVESTOCK DURING A HEATWAVE



Commercial producers and youth with animal projects should prepare now for the upcoming heat and dangerous conditions

Donald A. Llewellyn, Ph.D.
Associate Professor/Livestock Extension Specialist
Washington State University Extension
don.llewellyn@wsu.edu
509-725-4171

Craig McConnel, DVM, Ph.D.
Associate Professor/Veterinary Medicine Extension
Washington State University Extension
cmccommel@wsu.edu
509-335-0766



ENVIRONMENT

- Proper ventilation and air circulation in barns/sheds
- Provide shade outdoors
- Fresh, cool water available



FEED

- May need to reduce energy (grains) and increase fiber (forage/hay). Please do so slowly/responsibly to prevent issues like bloat
- Avoid endophyte infected forages (fescues or other crops), as they can worsen heat stress



HANDLING

- Avoid handling if possible
- If not, avoid handling during heat of day



WATER

- Essential in staying cool.
- Especially important in pregnant and lactating animals.
- Keep water clean and cool (look for blue-green toxic algae)

- Look for signs of dehydration (lethargy, dry eyes/nose, eyes appear sunken/dull)

| Animal | Amount of water/day | Amount of feed/day |
|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| Lactating cows | 20-25gal/day | Free choice hay, protein supplement to meet requirements |
| Dry cows | 5-15 gal/day | Free choice hay |
| Lactating sow | 3-7 gal/day | 8 lb of grain |
| Dry sow | 3-6 gal/day | 2 lb of grain |
| Lactating ewe/doe | 2.5-3 gal/day | Free choice hay, protein supplement to meet requirements |
| Dry ewe/doe | 1-2 gal/day | Free choice hay |
| Chickens | 1 gal/20 birds | 3 lb of grain/20 birds |
| Horses | 10-15 gal/day | Free choice high quality hay |
| Rabbits | 0.1-0.25 gal/day | Free choice high quality hay |
| Llama/alpaca | 2-5 gal/day | Free choice hay |

Adapted from Markwick (2002), Almond (1995), and FEMA (2013).
Keep in mind each of the various species of domesticated animals with have specific needs



OTHER:

- Look for signs of heat stress
- Look for signs of respiratory and digestive disorders
- Have an emergency plan for wildfire
- Contact WSU Extension Specialists, County Extension Office, and/or Veterinarians for assistance in planning for heatwave



Happenings at Vetter Farm

July 21st Field Workday – The Stevens County Conservation District and WSU Extension are looking for volunteers to help us with weed pulling and clean-up around our new pollinator garden!

Please contact us to volunteer!

Stevens County Conservation District:

(509) 684-7579

For more information about Agriculture programs offered by WSU Extension in Stevens County, please visit our website: [Agriculture | Stevens County](#), email: [Kathryn Hoogheem](#) or call 509-684-2588

[Farmer Assistance Request Form](#)

Master Gardener News



L to R: Master Gardeners - Lavera, Suzi, and Jean sleuthing answers for people with plant and pest problems!

ASK A MASTER GARDENER!

Mondays, 9-11am — **Answer/Plant Clinic @ WSU Extension office (closed Labor Day)**

- * **WALK-IN** (986 S Main St, Suite D, Colville): bring us a sample! **PLEASE SEAL** it in a see-through plastic container, like a Ziploc baggie or a jar with a lid
- * **CALL** 509-684-2588 (ask for Plant Clinic—only on Mondays, 9-11am)
- * **EMAIL** photos or questions with Subject Line "Plant Clinic" to: extensionstevens@wsu.edu

Saturday, July 8th — **Booth** at Colville Farmers Market, 9am-1pm

Friday, July 28th — **Booth** at Chewelah Farmers Market, 11am-3:30pm

For information about our Master Gardener program:

[Master Gardeners | Stevens County](#) or contact [Linda Teller](#), 509-684-2588