

Russell County



Community Voices

“The Elk Garden School Community Ministry is a faith-based food pantry serving Russell County. With the help of Master Gardeners, they use 80 raised garden beds to grow fresh vegetables. Volunteers grew 4,125 pounds of produce this year and shared it monthly with approximately 125 families.”



Ellen Gilmer
Master Gardener

2,100

Social Media Following

Partners for Solutions

“The Virginia Quality Assured program puts knowledge into action by coupling science-based production recommendations with proven marketing techniques. The collaboration among farmers, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Tri-State Market, and Extension created a real solution to add value to preconditioned feeder calves. In 2023, participating producers realized an additional \$157.23 per animal.”



Scott Jessee
Agent



Russell County youth pose for a photo during a week at 4-H Camp.

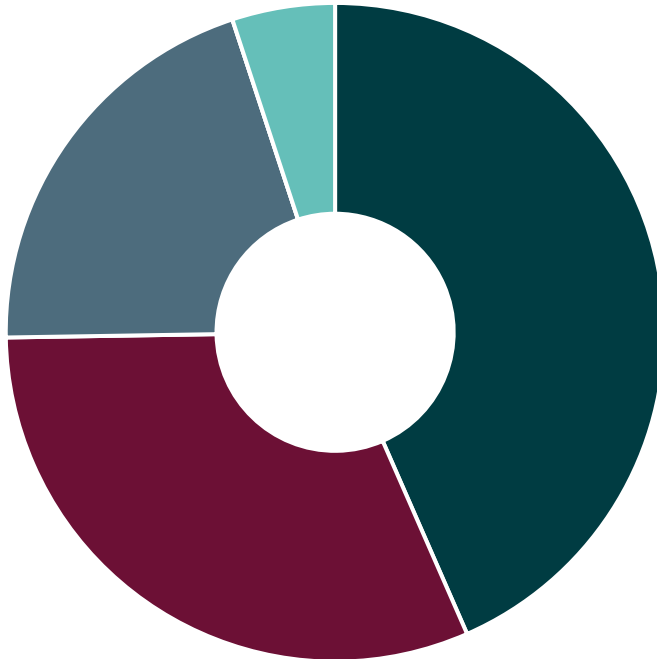
Sharing Knowledge

A summer highlight for many children in Russell County is 4-H Camp. 4-H Camp provides educational programming to young people through hands-on, experiential learning. A week of personal independence teaches youth to make their own decisions, solve problems, and manage their resources without the help of family. In many instances, children gain a better appreciation for family members by learning how to become more responsible and resilient.

Camp provides the full benefits of a 4-H educational experience in an outdoor environment. During July 2023, 146 campers, teens, and volunteers were residents for a week at the Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Abingdon. With growing interest in 4-H, Russell County will be able to expand the program in 2024 to include 260 young people.

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Funding by Source



47% State

15% Local

19% Federal

13% Grants

6% Other

Total Funding: \$523,323

\$5.72

return on investment
for every dollar
invested by the county
in **Russell County**

\$79,772

value of extension
volunteer hours in
Russell County

To find out how you can support your local Extension office,
visit www.cals.vt.edu/make-a-gift.