

Grange-FFA Sponsor May 23, 2018 Ag Day



The annual Ag Day event included many learning opportunities on agricultural and environmental topics. Here Rachel Peters from the Greenwood FFA shows students a garter snake.



Nearly 150 fourth grade students from Greenwood and Newport Elementary Schools participated in a recent field trip held at the Millerstown Community Park. Greenwood FFA member Abby Taylor (standing, center) guided students through a water quality simulation, one of the many hands-on learning centers featured at Ag Day.

Continuing the success of the past two years with a day-long educational outing focusing on agriculture and environmental issues, the 2018 Ag Day for fourth grade students from Greenwood and Newport Elementary School was held May 23, 2018, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Millerstown Community Park, 110 West Juniata Parkway. The event is co-sponsored by Perry Valley Grange and the FFA chapters at Greenwood and Newport High Schools.

During the morning session, students had the opportunity to participate in the following hands-on learning stations: Wildlife led by retired Greenwood teacher Sam Ritzman; Aquatics by Rich Morder of the PA Fish & Boat Commission, Agriculture in the Environment by Liz Bosak of Penn State Extension, Plant Growth by Newport FFA, Watersheds by Greenwood FFA and Pollinators/Live Butterfly Tent by Perry Valley Grange.

Following lunch, awards were presented for the annual Grange sponsored essay & poster contests. During the afternoon students participated in a macroinvertebrate simulation and worked through the scientific method to determine the waterway with the highest water quality. Ag Day has become a much anticipated field trip that teaches local children about the many agricultural and environmental issues that affect their daily lives. Greenwood FFA teacher and Grange vice president Krista Pontius was the general chairman of the event.