



Big Sky Big Leadership

A statewide leadership class offered
in Broadwater County.



2025-2026 APPLICATION PACKET

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

-- Coretta Scott King

Welcome to *Big Sky, Big Leadership, Broadwater County!*

This program is a statewide community leadership initiative developed by MSU Extension and offered at the county level. It seeks to address the need for leaders in rural communities and help participants develop skills, increase understanding of local community dynamics and improve community awareness of local issues.

Program Goals

- Identify, educate and motivate emerging leaders to serve.
- Increase awareness and understanding of the county's needs and resources.
- Develop social capital among class participants.

Participant's Perspective

- **Learn** - Broaden your understanding and appreciation of issues and opportunities within Broadwater County and how you can personally and professionally benefit from being involved.
- **Engage** - Experience our county through innovative, fun, interactive sessions at various venues throughout the county.
- **Develop** - Challenge yourself as an individual to enhance your overall leadership skills.
- **Connect** - Establish relationships with a diverse group of people you otherwise might not have met to develop friendships and working partnerships.
- **Act** - Make a difference. Develop a personal commitment to become involved with projects and organizations in your community.

Program Components

- **Leadership Skill Development** – This is the fundamental part of the program. Leaders must increase their own capacity to successfully deal with growing complex issues. Sessions will use interactive techniques to engage participants in a variety of topics including leadership styles, personality types, emotional intelligence, communication, understanding generations and conflict management.
- **Community Experience** – The community experience provides participants with the opportunity to increase their awareness and understanding of the local community resources and issues. Each session provides either an on-site visit to a location, guest speaker or a panel to present critical information on a topic. Topics include agriculture, local government, county growth, education, manufacturing, natural resources and mining.
- **Group Project** - The third core component is the group project. Participants are challenged to plan, implement and evaluate a project that benefits the community and engages all participants. The purpose of the project is to utilize the skills learned and to reflect on knowledge gained through the community experiences to create a project that positively impacts the community.

Program Logistics

The program will start **Friday, September 12** in Townsend includes nine monthly sessions running from September through May. The program will take place on the second Friday of every month at locations across Broadwater County including Townsend, Radersburg, Toston, Wheatland and Silos/Winston. Each session will run approximately from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Participants are expected to attend and actively participate a minimum of six sessions with the September being required. However, the more you participate, the more you benefit from the program! Please note that some additional time outside of scheduled sessions may be required for the group project and other class activities.

Cost: The tuition is \$180 per person. Scholarships are available. Consider asking your employer for professional development financial assistance.

BROADWATER COUNTY PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

Applications due August 27, 2025.

If you prefer to complete this application online, it is available at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/broadwater/>.

Name _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Work Phone _____ Email _____

Mailing Address _____

Please describe present/past community involvement efforts (including community organizations, clubs, elected/civic roles, volunteer roles, etc.).

Organization	Dates	Position Held/Responsibilities
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Employment

Current Position _____ Employer _____

Mailing Address _____

Responsibilities:

What motivated you to apply for the leadership program and what do you hope to gain from this experience?

What do you envision for yourself in terms of future community leadership roles and impacts?

Do you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions?

Please check the following before signing:

- ☐ I have read the program goals and logistics and understand the commitment and expectations of this program.
- ☐ I agree to attend and actively participate in at least six sessions but will do my best to attend as many as possible.
- ☐ I am able to attend the first session on September 12, 2025.

Signature: _____

Thank you for your interest in the program! Please return application to:

Broadwater County Extension
416 Broadway
Townsend MT 59644
broadwater@montana.edu

Questions can be directed to Allison Kosto, MSU Extension Agent in Broadwater County, at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.

If you need any special accommodations or have questions about the physical access, please contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 in advance of your participation or visit.

Montana State University Extension is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of educational outreach.