

News Article
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Spring Educational Programs - Something for Everyone

Want to learn something new? The Alabama Cooperative Extension System and other agencies will be hosting a variety of programs in the coming months. Just check out some the below workshops.

If your interest leans toward plants, you may want to attend the **Fruit and Vegetable Growing Workshop** that will held at the Calhoun County Extension Office in Anniston on March 30, 2007. The program will run from 9:00 a.m till 3:00 p.m. and will include presentations on cover crops, marketing, fig production, okra production, and other related topics. There is a registration fee of \$3.00. For more information contact David West at 256-237-1621.

If your interest is cattle you may want to attend the **Alabama Voluntary BVD Control Program** that will be held at the Chambers County Extension Office on April 10th and at the Elmore County Extension Office on May 24th starting at 6:00 p.m. The program will address Bovine Virus Diarrhea (BVD) which is one of the most significant viral infections in cattle. For more information, contact Regional Extension Agent, Henry Dorough at 256-362-6187.

For those who may have an interest in beekeeping, the date to remember is April 17, 2007. A **Beekeeping Workshop** will be held at the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (Beard Building). There is a registration fee of \$7.50 that does not include lunch. Early registration is encouraged to ensure adequate handouts are printed. For more information contact Fred Fulton at 334-279-7359.

For those interested in goats, mark Saturday, April 21, 2007 on your calendar. This will be the date for the **Tuskegee University Goat Day**. The program will be on the Tuskegee Campus and will run from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The program will include presentations on goat research, parasite control, reproduction, pasture management, hoof trimming, animal evaluations and more. There is a registration fee of \$15 for adults and \$5 for youth. For more information contact Sybil Caldwell at 334-725-2346. Also on May 5, 2007 there will be another Goat Workshop on Gastro-Intestinal Parasite Identification and the FAMACHA Record System. This workshop will be held in Talladega County at the Marianna Greene Henry Equestrian Center. For more information contact Maria Leite-Browning at 256-372-4954.

Want to learn how to design a Nature Trail? The Alabama Wildlife Federation will be hosting a one day free workshop on how to develop an **Outdoor Classroom Nature Trails** for your school or community. The program will be held at the AWF headquarters in Millbrook. The program should be of interest to teachers, volunteers, and master

gardeners. A fee of \$10 will be collected to cover the meal. For more information contact Doyle Keasel at 334-844-6398 or April Waltz at 256-882-9322.

Professional loggers may want to mark three dates on their calendar. The next **Professional Logging Managers Course** will be offered in Thomasville on May 17, 24, and 31, 2007. The three days of training will include Forest Management, Harvesting Methods, and Operations Safety. Loggers who complete all three days will become PLM certified. There is a registration fee of \$125 if you pre-register or \$150 at the door. Additional people working under the contractor can take the course for \$70 each. For more information contact the Alabama Forestry Association at 334-262-1258.

Forest landowners may want to attend our next **Coosa County Spring Forestry Tour** which is tentatively scheduled for May 19, 2007 on the farm of Chuck Welden in the Socapatoy community North of Alexander City. The tour will focus on the management of forest lands for birds including information on game and non-game bird species. The tour is hosted by the Coosa County Forestry Planning Committee. For more information contact Roger Vines at 256-377-4713 or the Forestry Commission Office at 377-4638.

As you can see, spring is a busy time of year and there are lots of educational options. So why not pick up the phone and register for one or more of these workshops.