

SHELBY COUNTY EXTENSION 2009

EDUCATION FOR LIVING

Extension programming provides educational opportunities to help people, individually or collectively, make sound decisions about their lives, businesses, and communities and develop economically, socially, and culturally.

Shelby County Extension offers specialists in Agriculture, Forestry, Horticulture, Wildlife and Natural Resources, Urban Affairs, Family and Consumer Sciences, Economic and Community Development and 4-H and Youth Development.

Agents in Shelby County offer education programs adapted to the needs and interests of local residents. Regional agents work in teams across county lines to provide specialized knowledge in a wide range of subjects.

Shelby County Extension has 16 Regional Extension Agents, a 4-H Agent Assistant, a County Extension Coordinator and Administrative Support Associate providing Shelby County clientele assistance in the areas of Agronomic Crops, Forages and Animal Sciences, Economic and Community Development, Consumer Science and Personal Finance, Human Nutrition Diet and Health, Home Gardens, Home Grounds, Commercial Horticulture, Home Pests, Family and Child Development, Forestry, Wildlife and Natural Resource Management, 4-H and Youth Development, Food Preservation and Food Preparation and Food Safety.

2009 Extension Programming Highlights

Shelby Counties Agriculture remains one of our largest industries, accounting for \$26.8 million in farm and forestry cash receipts. Extension is best known for its commitment to improve agriculture through education and this continues to be a major focus of ACES.

In 2009 Shelby County Agricultural programming efforts included the following meetings:

- Annual Row crop Production meeting
- Forage Field Day for Beef and Horse producers
- Forest Landowner meeting
- Annual Row crop tour
- Invasive Specie meeting
- Beef Quality Assurance training meeting
- Backyard Poultry Production meeting

Warren Griffith, Regional Extension Agent, addresses farmers at the Cotton Variety Trial tour held at the Barber Farm at Harpersville in August of 2009.



Gary Gray, Regional Extension Agent, helps J.T. Lyon establish his fruit u-pick in the Four Mile Community.



Gary Gray assists Bob Pollard, teacher at Indian Springs School with Greenhouse vegetable demonstration.



Regional Extension Agent, Ruth Brock and Shelby County Extension Coordinator Ricky Colquitt with guest speaker Darin White, of Samford University at the Small Business Seminar hosted by Shelby County Extension and South Shelby Chamber of Commerce October 2009.



Ruth Brock, Regional Extension Agent at Senior Picnic in Calera, Alabama. Booth provided information for seniors on estate planning, financial issues, food safety and preparation and consumer affairs.





Regional Extension Agent, Angela Treadaway conducting the House of Horrible Germs program to Shelby County school youth as part of a handwashing demonstration.

Regional Extension Agent Angela Treadaway instructing youth in Food Preservation Programs with 4-H and adult groups.



Regional Extension Agent Jack Tatum assists Shelby County Producers in marketing cattle area Board Sales. These producers add value to

their feeder cattle and Board Sales generates price premium for their efforts.



Joy Maxwell, Regional Extension Agent and Micah Waddell, Agent Assistant with Shelby County 4-H'ers celebrating 100 years of 4-H at Teen Leadership Retreat at Alabama 4-H Center.



Shelby County 4-H received a Grant to teach “Health Rocks” this summer and fall. Health Rocks is a series of curricula for a healthy living program with the goal of bringing youth, families, and communities across the US together to reduce tobacco, alcohol and other drug use by youth. Joy Maxwell, 4-H Regional Extension Agent, Micah Waddell, 4-H Agent Assistant and Tiffany Smith, teen 4-H member, taught the program in July and August to youth attending Elvin Hill Elementary Summer Care Program and Calera Middle.



Shelby County 4-H Volunteers logged over 1,400 hours with Shelby County 4-H Programming.

Shelby County Extension Coordinator Ricky Colquitt demonstrates different clover planting techniques to local farmers at the Cook Farm in Wilsonville. Clovers can reduce the amount of nitrogen fertilizer plants need to grow.



County Extension Coordinator Ricky Colquitt fills planter at 2009 Cotton Variety Trial field in Harpersville Alabama. These Annual trials provide local cotton farmers with valuable insight into which varieties perform best in Shelby county's environment.



Synithia Williams, Regional Extension Agent conducted five seminars for parents and caregivers throughout the year on the following topics:

- Children Mental/ Emotional Issues
- “Tween” Years
- Infant Care
- Literacy
- Family Conflict



Nelson D. Wynn
Regional Extension
Agent conducting drip
irrigation workshop at
North Shelby Library.
Lawn 101 (Calera
Library 2/21), 2 Home
Grown Vegetable
workshops (North
Shelby County and
another one for South
Shelby County 3/28),
Drip Irrigation



Workshop (N. Shelby Library 6/6), Workshop on Orchids (Columbiana Library),
Vegetable Gardening Workshop (Albert Scott Library 5/16).

The Master Gardener Program (August – November). This year Shelby County Master Gardeners Volunteers have put in 10,000 volunteer hours.

- 2 Shelby County Masters participated in the Advance Master Gardener Class on Trees to help teach county wide.
- Shelby County Master Gardener's Help-line answered 77 horticulture questions. The Shelby County help-line is open from March to October every year (1-800-252-GROW).



Retired Shelby County Extension Coordinator Peggy Prucnal and Retired County Extension Agent John Jones receiving appreciation awards at the 4-H Centennial Awards Banquet in April 2009.



Economic and Community Development

Economic and Community Development is a major programming priority in Shelby County.

In 2009, Extension networked with several other agencies including CAWACO and the South Shelby Chamber of Commerce to secure \$33,000 in Educational grant funds. Each of these projects will make a tremendous and positive impact for Shelby County residents.

2009 ACES Challenge Grant Projects included:

Biodiesel Power Education at Calera High School	\$5000
Athletic Field Storm Drainage Solution at Montevallo High School	\$5000
Adaptive Playground: Phase 1 at Creek View Elementary	\$5000
Leeds Elementary Re-Leaf	\$3000
HIRE-Help in Reaching through Aware with Positive Maturity	\$5000
Securing the Future of at Risk Youth with the Shelby County Arts Council	\$5000
Earth & Sky: UM Astronomy & Sustainability Camp	\$5000

Thus far for FY2010, The following projects have been funded.

2010 Rural Alabama Initiative Projects

The Business and Finance Academy at the School of Technology	\$5000
Bibb, Shelby Unite for Youth and Community Development	\$4500

2010 ACES Challenge Grant Projects include:

The Business and Finance Academy at the School of Technology	\$5000
Solving Environmental Problems through Education and Beautification	\$5000

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Auburn University and ACES has made ESL a programming priority in Alabama. The program involves students utilizing Rosetta Stone software to learn English. Shelby County was chosen in the second round of pilot counties to offer ESL training to Shelby Counties 3.7% Hispanic population. The plan was to place a computer with the Rosetta Stone software in the local Extension office for the target audience to use.

Shelby County Extension partnered with the Shelby County Library system and decided the best location for our audience was Pelham and the Library would house and schedule the equipment. To date, 12 students are enrolled and have logged more than 500 hours of training.