

# 2013 Extension Impacts in Madison County



## ACES

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the primary outreach organization for the land-grant mission of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University, delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

## Close to Home

Our commitment is solidified in our ongoing support of offices in all 67 counties. These offices assure our connection to the local needs and issues of all citizens.

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System funds 8.15 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Madison County**. These professionals deliver educational programs throughout the year. Programs are developed statewide and delivered locally in each county. Extension regularly partners with the people of Alabama to assess the educational needs in all walks of life.

## Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife, and Natural Resources

- Madison County producers learned **how to manage the kudzu bug** using minimal insecticide applications to maximize profits.
- Extension helped farmers learn to keep timely financial records to provide year-end tax planning that **can save thousands of dollars each year**.

## Economic and Community Development

- 12 agencies took part in a round table that addressed Hispanic/Latino issues in Madison County. So far, 8 of the 14 topics discussed are being addressed and tracked on the Madison County **Extension Hispanic Outreach** home page at [www.aces.edu/go/427](http://www.aces.edu/go/427).
- 160 Madison County high school students and senior citizens received broadband Internet training. 20 percent of participants **applied for jobs online and began using the broadband home resources**.

## Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- The Heart Truth program helped women throughout the county **learn about heart disease**, the number one killer of women in America. More than 100 women received the Red Dress pin symbolizing women and heart disease.
- In the Teens Making Impact program, students learned to **practice acceptable behavior, make healthy food choices**, balance their diets, use proper table etiquette, and improve decision making skills.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

- Eat Healthy, Be Active provided **tips for losing weight and keeping it off** and determining body mass index (BMI) and calories needed each day. They also completed a fruit and vegetable taste test and were encouraged to rethink drink-matching games.
- A Ten Cash Traps to Avoid workshop helped adults learn to **recognize and avoid predatory lending companies** and strategies for making wise decisions about saving money.

## 4-H and Youth Development

- The 4-H Discover America Summer Tour helped **young people learn about cultures and communities** throughout the United States and cultivate leadership skills.
- 4-H Skins 'n Skulls increased knowledge of sustainability and awareness of how local actions affect the environment, while increasing the capacity to create innovative solutions to environmental problems and **promote advocacy for environmental stewardship**.