

2013 Extension Impacts in Jefferson 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 11.3 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Jefferson 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

- The Plant Diagnostic Laboratory received 1,104 samples in 2013—a 14 percent increase from 2012—providing more information pertaining to **plant disease control, insect control, and proper pesticide use**.
- Extension staff provided proper planting instructions and tree placement for a portion of more than **500 trees planted in Birmingham City Parks** as part of the nationwide 50 Years Forward celebration. The trees were planted by 250 volunteers.

Economic and Community Development

- Through the e-Workforce Broadband program, 97 high school students **learned the proper way to write a resume**, how to search for a job on Internet sites, how to use Facebook and Twitter to locate job opportunities, and how to apply for a job online.

Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- 604 students in three schools successfully completed CHAMPION, the Community Health Aerobic Motivational Program Initiating Optimal Nutrition. Students developed an **increased understanding of food groups, portion sizes, and best food choices** by using the USDA MyPlate concept.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- A financial simulation for young people, Reality Check, helped more than 2,000 understand the **importance of staying in school, wise money management**, and financial security before starting a family. 150 volunteers assisted with the program.

4-H and Youth Development

- **4-H enriches the lives of more than 5,442** urban and rural young people in Jefferson County every year through traditional 4-H clubs, community clubs, special interest clubs, enrichment programs, faith-based organizations, summer day camps, afterschool programs, and partnerships with a variety of youth organizations.
- 61 Extension 4-H volunteers logged **720 hours of service valued at \$22,661.60**.