

2013 Extension Impacts in Clay 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 4.02 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Clay 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

- Forage Field Day in Clay County attracted 90 people; \$200,000 worth of equipment was on display, and **100 volunteer hours were donated**.
- 400 residents participated in Smart Yard and Home Grown workshops. Half of the participants **extended their gardens to year round** by planting cool-weather vegetables and using cold protection; 79 percent of participants reported that they now identify pests before applying pesticides.

Economic and Community Development

- Participation in the Tour East Alabama project **increased tourism and tourism dollars** in not only Clay County but also in the 8-county East Alabama Region.
- Hometown Hospitality **customer service training** was conducted for 15 participants as a pilot for future programs.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- 23 people were **trained in food safety** as part of the ServSafe Food Safety Certification including managers in the school lunch program in Clay County Schools.
- 10 people learned about the challenges of **food safety for senior citizens** and smart grocery shopping.
- The Pink and Teal Luncheon for **Breast and Ovarian Cancer Awareness** held in conjunction with Randolph County had 15 in attendance learning about prevention, screening, and health.
- 21 participants in two Eat Healthy, Be Active workshops agreed to **change eating habits, become more active**, and keep track of what they ate for three days.
- **2,547 clients were served** by the Clay County Nutrition Education Program.

4-H and Youth Development

- More than **318 young people** participated in 4-H in Clay County. These included enrolled members and those who participated in enrichment programs, one-day workshops, and camps. Involvement included 54 groups, more than 22 clubs, and 39 volunteers.