

# 2013 Extension Impacts in Autauga 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 4.9 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Autauga 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

- 60 percent of attendees at the Beef Reproductive Management Series indicated that they will adopt Extension-recommended **practices to improve their operations**.
- The Autauga County Master Gardeners contributed **8,083 volunteer hours equaling \$145,494** and providing 19,620 people with educational horticulture information.
- The Commercial Horticulture Program provides guidance to the **greenhouse, nursery, and floriculture industry that produces more than \$237 million** per year in sales and creates 6,988 jobs; to vegetable growers, \$24.7 million in direct sales; to fruit growers, \$10.3 million in direct sales; and to nut crop producers, \$5.6 million in direct sales.

## Economic and Community Development

- 1,368 kindergarten, first, and third graders learned about farm and rural life through Farm City Week Kid's Tour. 166 **volunteers donated hours equal to \$22,051**.
- 860 students assembled emergency preparedness kits and **made disaster preparedness plans** at Be Ready for Disaster Day.

## Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- Through the B.E.A.M. (Birding in Elmore, Autauga, and Montgomery Metropolis) program, more than 250 urban young people assembled, installed, and monitored nest boxes, providing needed **nesting sites for native songbirds**.
- More than 50 percent of youth in CHAMPION (Community Health Aerobic Motivational Program Initiating Optimal Nutrition) **reported becoming more physically active**.
- Through participation in Urban SNAP-Ed, 149 youth in afterschool programs learned about **nutrition, food safety, food preparation**, smart shopping methods, and exercise.
- More than 600 students in Prattville learned about various careers and job readiness skills to be **successful as career professionals**.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

- 74 young people participated in Financial Education for Youth Academy, with 46 percent reporting that they will **change their behavior in setting financial goals**.
- As a result of 22 Autauga County residents attending Eat Healthy, Be Active community workshops 14 participants agreed to **change their eating habits**.
- 15 participants in the Enhancing the Safety of Locally Grown Produce workshop reported that they will **provide safer produce**.

## 4-H and Youth Development

- 4-H in Autauga County is **reaching young people and changing lives**.