

# 2013 Extension Impacts in Washington 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 5.51 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Washington 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

- 100 foresters, loggers, and landowners attended Forestry Field Day, received credit in **Certified Professional Logger Management** and took the Certified Forestry Exam.
- 91.8 percent of the total surface area of Washington County is in forests. Extension has two **forestry and wildlife judging teams** for students ages 9 to 18.

## Economic and Community Development

- Extension offers **entrepreneurship classes** for eleventh and twelfth graders at Washington County High School.
- Partnering with the Angel Network, Extension provides **Small Business Round Table meetings** that focus on the Chatom, Millry, and McIntosh areas.

## Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- Washington County received a grant through the Tombigbee Health Care Authority and Center for Medicare and Medicaid to hire a health care navigator **to help consumers, small businesses, and their employees** look for coverage options in the Affordable Care Act Marketplace. 250 consumers have participated.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

- The Cook4Safety food handler's course reduced by 21 percent illness, hospitalization, and deaths from food-borne illnesses. **Each food-borne illness costs on average \$1,834** in direct medical expenses and lost productivity.
- 66 adults and 174 youth learned about the **significant health concerns** related to obesity and poor nutrition through the Cent\$ible Nutrition; Eat Smart, Be Active; CATCH Taking Off; and CATCH Kids Club programs.

## 4-H and Youth Development

- Washington County has fully embraced the 4-H Centennial Youth Initiative with **enrollment increasing from 5 in 2012–2013 to 661 in 2013–2014**. Washington County now has 4-H clubs for fifth and sixth graders in all county schools. 4-H'ers participate in junior livestock, forestry, wildlife, horse, and Youth Leadership Council programs.