

2013 Extension Impacts in Macon 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 7.14 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Macon 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

- 88 percent of those attending wildlife food plot establishment training indicated that their knowledge regarding agronomic practices has changed, **helping them produce better wildlife food plots**.

Economic and Community Development

- Boosting broadband programs, including Broadband 101 and eHealth, helped more than 300 residents **increase broadband Internet use and awareness**.
- Led by the Economic and Community Development Institute, Macon County residents were offered **free, hands-on broadband internet training** and an opportunity to influence the future of their community.

Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- Through the Successful Aging Initiative, more than 125 seniors **learned about home safety and elder abuse**, finding employment, and being productive to improve their quality of life.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Macon County's Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) classes help **reduce obesity and poor nutrition** and the associated risks of chronic diseases by promoting healthy eating and physical activity. More than 75 percent of participants in the Cent\$ible Nutrition and Have a Healthy Baby programs showed improvement in one or more nutrition behaviors, thus helping improve health and quality of life.
- Working with the IRS VITA program and the Alabama Asset Building Coalition, Extension helped Macon County clients prepare more than 50 federal and state tax returns, **saving clients more than \$10,000 in tax preparation fees**.
- The Nutrition Education Program (NEP) serves adult Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and applicants in the food assistance offices, helping them learn to **make healthier food choices**. School-based programming for youth of families in the SNAP program is helping **reduce childhood obesity**.

4-H and Youth Development

- More than 500 young people in Macon County participated in 4-H and youth development programs and activities. 4-H'ers engaged in hands-on learning activities in **science, healthy living, food security, and emergency preparedness**.