

# 2013 Extension Impacts in Talladega 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 3.02 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Talladega 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

- A Grain and Soybean Workshop helped 11 farmers increase soybean yields by 8 percent per acre with 3,000 acres yielding an **increased profit of \$146,544** and increase wheat yields 2 percent per acre with producer **increased profits of \$10,600**.
- Extension helped 14 residents realize pond management **savings of more than \$2,520** through proper chemical management efforts and more than **\$50,000 in pond development operations**.
- A multicounty herd bull meeting, which included Talladega County, served as a marketing tool for 90 cattlemen with **80 bulls sold averaging \$3,720**.
- A Smart Yard Landscaping workshop was conducted with 68 percent reporting use of pesticide applications and the use of drought tolerant plants. 88 percent reported altering existing landscapes to **reduce water and pesticide needs**.

## Economic and Community Development

- Broadband workshops trained 52 Talladega County residents **to better use computers**.
- Small business round table discussion groups developed a marketing brochure, "Shop Local in Talladega County." **Holiday sales increased 5 to 15 percent**.
- 10 fruit and vegetable producers participated in a farmers market meeting resulting in weekly markets **providing fresh produce** to consumers in three county locations.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

- The Nutrition Education Program educated **2,410 families** through youth classes in the schools, exhibits, health fairs, and farmers markets.
- 230 residents received **food safety and food preservation training** through 3 workshops and 2 health fair exhibits.
- 285 residents participated in 16 **financial management workshops**.
- The Eat Healthy, Be Active program helped 29 residents make lifestyle changes with a potential **savings of 50 percent or more in health care costs**.
- More than 1,000 residents became aware of **radon health hazards** through a science fair exhibit. Summer library programs included radon publications reaching more than 300 families.

## 4-H and Youth Development

- 3,167 young people participated in the Talladega County 4-H program. 62 screened and trained **volunteers donated 2,286 hours at a value of \$50,612**.