

# 2013 Extension Impacts in Greene 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 5.23 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Greene 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

- Home Grown programs increased participant knowledge by more than 50 percent; installing drip irrigation **increased profits by 30 to 40 percent** for vegetable growers and small gardeners.
- Regional on-farm soybean variety tests showed yield differences of 11 bushels between two varieties resulting in an **difference of \$154 per acre**.
- Extension workshops helped small ruminant producers **reduce production and overhead cost** and show an increase in profit, quality meat, marketing, and herd management.
- Extension corn silage, genetic selection, economic protection, and weed control education **helped landowners save \$45,000** in the last three months.

## Economic and Community Development

- 25 participants in Small Business Round Table Workshops **increased their business management knowledge by 75 percent**.
- The Forest in the Classroom/Classroom in the Forest program helped fifth graders **expand their understanding of tree management strategies**.

## Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- 326 students participated in the Greene County Reality Check Program. Evaluations indicated that the students **learned how to balance a checkbook and make a spending plan**.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

- 38 people **learned better eating patterns** in the Eat Healthy, Be Active classes.
- A **21 percent reduction in food-borne illness**, hospitalization, and deaths from food-borne illness are a result of Extension's food safety education. Each food-borne illness costs on average \$1,834 in direct medical expenses and lost productivity.
- The Alabama Home Caregiver curriculum helped 9 caregivers **improve knowledge and skills in home care**.
- 65 percent of household heads from the county's most vulnerable population completed six weeks of nutrition education in the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. **100 percent showed a positive change in nutrition choices**.

## 4-H and Youth Development

- 215 students in Greene County participated in 4-H programs that help them increase their **leadership, citizenship, and life skills**.