

2013 Extension Impacts in Pickens 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 3.61 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Pickens 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

- 275 students and teachers from Pickens County **learned the importance of forest management** and environmental stewardship through the FAWN (Forestry Awareness Week Now) program.
- 60 professional loggers and foresters from west Alabama **received valuable continuing education credits** through the Professional Logging Managers Workshop sponsored by Extension and the Pickens County Forestry Planning Committee.

Economic and Community Development

- 29 people are currently participating in the twenty-first Leadership Pickens class. To date, more than 450 have graduated from this outstanding program that encourages members to become **active leaders in the community**.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- 132 people learned to **eat healthier and put more activity in their everyday lives** in a six-week Eat Healthy, Be Active series at the Aliceville Senior Center.
- Bullying is a topic of national concern, and the Pickens County Extension office **addressed the issue through a bullying forum**. The Dave Matthews' Center from the University of Alabama worked with 80 students, teachers, and community leaders to frame the issue and begin local dialogue.
- 61 heads of households from the county's most vulnerable population completed 6 weeks of nutrition education in the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. As a result, 100 percent showed a **positive change in eating habits and food choices**.

4-H and Youth Development

- The **Pickens County 4-H Forestry Judging team** placed second among 13 state teams that competed in the National 4-H Forestry Invitational Competition in West Virginia.