

2013 Extension Impacts in Tallapoosa 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 4.85 FTEs (full-time equivalent employees) in **Tallapoosa 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

- Tallapoosa County Certified Master Gardeners contributed 2,625 volunteer hours to the support of local Extension programs and community service projects at a **net worth value of \$47,250**.
- 250 fifth graders each year **learn the importance of forest management and environmental stewardship** through Forest in the Classroom/Classroom in the Forest. They also learn the economic value of forestry, the county's number one industry.
- 475 fourth graders learned about water quality and environmental stewardship at the **First Annual Water Festival** at Wind Creek State Park.
- Soybean producers received the regional on-farm soybean variety test results. Yield differences of 22 bushels between two varieties resulted in **\$308 per acre**.
- Farmers from Tallapoosa County attended the Alabama Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association state meeting where they gained information that will help them be **more productive, increase income, and be better stewards of the land**.

Economic and Community Development

- 75 people were introduced to **basic computer operations**, including using social media and the Internet, at week-long beginner computer courses in Tallapoosa County.
- 25 miles of the Tallapoosa River were evaluated and documented in an initial effort to join the Alabama Scenic River Trail and **establish a local canoe/kayak trail** and informational map.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- The Nutrition Education Program helped 250 school children and their families **learn the importance of healthy eating and exercise**.
- 105 Dadeville High School juniors participated in Reality Check, a hands-on simulation that **teaches youth about budgeting, credit, and making wise financial choices**.
- 13 people were trained in the **ServSafe Food Safety Certification** required by the Alabama Department of Public Health for all food service establishments.

4-H and Youth Development

- 20 young people participated in the inaugural 4-H Chick Chain program, which emphasizes **animal husbandry, entrepreneurship, leadership, responsibility, record keeping, and showmanship**.
- The 4-H Youth Development Program delivered a variety of interactive monthly 4-H Club and enrichment lessons to **850 young people in Tallapoosa County and Alexander City Schools**.