

Meeting Our Mission

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System collaborates with many partners to help people and communities improve their quality of life and economic well-being. We accomplish this mission by providing educational opportunities and information grounded in research-based science in six program areas.



Agriculture

- Provides unbiased information on producing, harvesting, and marketing livestock, aquaculture products, poultry, row crops, horticultural crops, forestry, and food products
- Promotes profitability, public health, food safety, and the environment with the ultimate task of feeding a growing world population and strengthening Alabama's agroecosystem-based economy
- Responds quickly to weather disasters and crises, such as hurricanes, droughts, and the Gulf oil spill, with disaster mitigation, on-site analyses of losses, and effects on food supply and safety
- Through programs such as Alabama Smart Yards and Master Gardener, helps Alabamians save time, energy, and money while improving property values and preserving the environment
- Promotes farm profitability, environmental soundness, and food security through the nationally and internationally recognized precision agriculture efforts, which had a 2009 statewide impact of at least \$10,000,000



Economic and Community Development

- Has educated Alabama's economic development community for 25 years through the AU Intensive Economic Development Training Course
- Directs the Alabama Community Leadership Network with training and assistance to 75 adult and youth leadership programs
- Funds and assists rural economic and community development projects (\$1.15 million since 2007) through the Rural Alabama Initiative
- Provides strategic planning assistance for communities; facilitated a sustainable development plan for the city of Eufaula, the nation's first Audubon Sustainable Community



Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs

- Focuses on building and engaging the leadership and service skills of urban youth for personal growth, positive citizenship, and community development
- Provides computer-based programs to offer one-stop job-shop options that conserve time and resources for thousands of online customers
- Offers legal education through LegalEase, helping consumers with estate, financial, and health management (benefits valued at \$750,000 in 2009)
- Supports farmers with small ruminant production system resources and education to enhance food security





Family and Consumer Sciences

- Trains and certifies food service workers through ServSafe, a training program aimed at ensuring safe food in Alabama restaurants (2,600 food service workers trained and certified in 2009)
- Tests homes for radon (7,300 homes tested and found to have radon at or above EPA action level, 1,700 homes mitigated, and 3,700 new homes built with radon-resistant construction)
- Provides training and resources to help informal caregivers care for themselves, connect with state agencies and benefits, and develop support systems
- Works with IRS in North Alabama, helping citizens file electronic returns (more than \$680,000 in earned tax credit for 850 clients in 2009)
- Provides statewide training and workshops on prostate and colorectal cancer awareness



4-H and Youth Development

- Reaches more than 65,000 youth, ages 9–18; serves as Alabama’s largest youth education organization
- Provides hands-on teaching in agriculture and animal sciences, natural resources and the environment, science and technology, citizenship, and health
- Develops and nurtures life, leadership, and communication skills, including the character and values needed to be productive citizens
- Provides education and activities for youth with parents in the military through Operation Military Kids



Forestry, Wildlife, and Natural Resources

- Forestry: Provides education and management tools to improve sustainable forest management practices as well as tools for recreational and multiple-use management for increased profitability
- Wildlife and Fisheries: Provides education in managing wildlife and fish populations, enhancing wildlife habitats, and minimizing wildlife damage; provides angler and hunter education
- Natural Resources: Implements successful natural resource programs that secure extramural funding including Alabama Water Watch, invasive species control, reef restoration, and oyster gardening
- Community Forestry: Provides education and technology for managing, restoring, and conserving community trees and managing challenges to wild lands associated with urbanization



Contacts

Dr. Paul Mask
Assistant Director
Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife,
and Natural Resources
(334) 844-4450
maskpau@aces.edu

Dr. Joe Summers
Director
Economic and Community
Development Institute
(334) 844-4704
sumneja@aces.edu

Dr. Jannie Carter
Assistant Director
Urban Affairs and New
Nontraditional Programs
(256) 372-4943
cartej1@aces.edu

Dr. Evelyn Crayton
Assistant Director
Family and Consumer Sciences
(334) 844-2224
craytef@aces.edu

Dr. Lamar Nichols
Assistant Director
4-H and Youth
Development
(334) 844-2227
nichocl@aces.edu

Published by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University), an equal opportunity educator and employer.

© 2011 by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. All rights reserved. Reprinted April 2011, EX-0089

www.aces.edu