



IMPACT 2016

Through Extension programs across the nation, Family and Consumer Science Extension Educators provide a multitude of Educational opportunities to meet the needs of diverse audiences.

Healthy Homes and the Environment

Energy Saving



Virginia's Energy Masters volunteers have performed energy-saving and water-saving retrofits in 551 Arlington apartments. Volunteers have installed 639 faucet aerators, 281 low-flow showerheads, 291 toilet tummies, 5,918 outlet gaskets, 307 power strips, and 3,736 compact fluorescent and LED light bulbs.



In **New York**, Cornell Cooperative Extension's *Save Energy, Save Dollars* program covers low-cost ways to reduce energy bills, how to increase energy efficiency, and shares information on free and reduced-cost energy audits and assistance programs.

*"To make my home more energy efficient, I will schedule a free home energy assessment. In the meantime, I will check my windows and doors to see if I need to caulk or weather-strip to reduce drafts." ~ Columbia County, **New York** resident*

This program is co-sponsored by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. This educational program was taught in local communities 333 times reaching over 4,074 households.

Reducing Contaminates/Indoor Air Quality

*"I have benefited from this program in my construction business. Being in compliance with the new EPA rules are important if I want my business to thrive." ~ **Montana** Business Owner*

The EPA's Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP Rule) requires that firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities and pre-schools built before 1978 have their firm certified. In response to this need, **Montana** Extension has trained 1,500 businesses to meet this requirement in their *Renovate, Repair and Paint* training program.



The University of **Georgia** Extension Service has been providing radon outreach since 2003. In 2015 Family and Consumer Science educators distributed 970 test kits and connected with over 600,000 Georgians through programs, exhibits and media. In response to community needs, radon-in-water testing is available.

Montana has high Asthma rates and research shows a direct link between in-home asthma trigger assessments and the health improvement of asthmatics. Through their *National Healthy Homes Partnership* webinars, in-person training, and web

Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart



NEAFCS National Office

140 Island Way, Suite 316

Clearwater, FL 33767

(561) 477-8100

FAX (561) 910-0896

www.neafcs.org

site, www.extensionhealthyhomes.org, participants are helped to better understand how to locate and correct home-related hazards and contaminants.

The *Detox Your Home* program in **New York** informed consumers about the array of household hazardous products they are exposed to in their homes. It highlighted less toxic products that can be substituted instead. It also covered proper storage, usage and disposal tips. An educational exhibit on this topic attracted over 4,000 New York fairgoers.

Safety

In **Florida**, 774 participants in the *First Time Home Buyers Education program—State Housing Initiative Partnership program* learned about homeowner responsibilities and made plans for safe home management. The sessions were offered 39 times in the state.

As a family member ages or has health situations occur they prefer to stay in their own homes, but often cannot because the home is constructed in such a way that they can get in and out or move easily around in the home. **Ohio** is using *Universal Design* education to help people stay safe in their homes. Universal Design trains individuals, families and caregivers about a wide range of features to adapt or add in a home that are user-friendly for all ages and abilities. In one community, 2 programs were offered to 325 participants.



Bed bugs are a growing problem in the US and there is an increased need for research-based information.

"Can't believe I never thought of this before." "I've made a few of these changes to my home, but never stopped to think about a no-step entry before." ~ Ohio Universal Design participant

Oklahoma has developed educational videos, PSAs and educational materials for Extension educators, the public and housing authorities across the state. Through these efforts *Bed Bug* education is being provided in the state for local Housing Authorities and home owners.

Disaster Preparedness

Kansas Extension developed *Prepare Kansas*, an on-line challenge, which focuses on weekly activities during September, National Preparedness Month. In 2015, activities concentrated on accessing alerts and warnings, developing communication plans, assembling or updating supplies, and planning and/or practicing emergency responses. More than 250 participants from 59 Kansas counties and other states registered for the 2015 challenge.

Oklahoma currently ranks third for federally declared disasters. Families who have developed emergency kits and family emergency plans will be less fearful and can mitigate loss. In 2015, 386 Oklahomans pledged to create emergency kits and 40% fulfilled this pledge. *Emergency Preparedness* workshops were offered across 20 communities reaching 595 rural home owners.



This report was compiled by Sonya McDaniel, CFLE, Oklahoma State University Extension, Public Affairs Education Subcommittee member, and Glenda Hyde, MEd, Oregon State University Extension, Vice President – Public Affairs. For more information, email Glenda.Hyde@oregonstate.edu.

National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) provides professional development for Extension professionals who improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities and provide education in the areas of: Childhood Obesity Prevention; Community Health and Wellness; Diabetes Prevention and Management; Financial Management; Food and Nutrition; Food Safety; Healthy Homes and the Environment; Improving Children's Lives; and Protecting our Resources – Family Life.