



IMPACT 2012

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

Disaster Education and Response

April 27, 2011 a record sixty-two tornadoes landed across the state of **Alabama** killing 247 people and clearing land for miles. Three tornadoes were EF-5, the strongest category reserved for wind speeds exceeding 200 miles per hour. Extension Family and Consumer Science agents provided assistance in recovery in the following ways:

- 1) Search and recovery
- 2) Daily briefings with EMA to assess needs
- 3) Extension office served as volunteer check-in point
- 4) Disaster recovery packets assembled and supplied to recovery centers
- 5) Staffing recovery centers
- 6) Camp Birmingham was launched for youth needing a safe place to be (since schools were destroyed) during the day during the recovery process
- 7) Disaster Relief Centers located at two County Extension offices
- 8) Disaster Preparedness Resource Fair –at Alabama A&M University was attended by 150 people and had over fifty vendors.

Over 2000 participants attended emergency preparedness fairs, expos and trainings aimed at helping individuals and families presented by **Utah** State Extension. Evaluations indicated an increase in knowledge and level of confidence in emergency preparedness.

Environmental Education

The School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program conducted by the **University of Tennessee Extension Service** made 1244 direct contacts and over 20,000 indirect contacts through local media and exhibits. Extension agents were also involved in a grass-roots effort to encourage the 136 school systems to adopt IPM. A phone survey in 2011, with a response rate of 71%, demonstrated approximately 65% of the school districts are using greater than 70% of the IPM practices. The mean monthly fluid ounces applied decreased by 93% and the number of liquid pesticide applications per year decreased 83% during the IPM year.

Alabama Extension System also provided Integrated Pest Management training and disseminated bed bug information to multi-family housing applicants.

The University of Wyoming Extension educators collaborated with community partners to present seven Reduce/Reuse/Recycle Hazardous Household Waste Collection Days to address the need for reducing the amount of recyclable items taken to the landfill. Extension educators also developed a two page recycle guide for citizens. Efforts of this coalition have resulted in increasing residents' efforts to reduce carbon footprints, repurposing trash and recycling items for benefit to others.

Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart



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Healthy Homes and the Environment

According to the Department of Energy, buildings use about 1/3 of energy and 2/3 of all electricity in the United States.

University of Missouri Extension targeted 92 children in third through fifth grades in a fun, action-oriented energy and natural resource management curriculum to address energy waste and efficiency. Students constructed simple tools to determine air leaks as well as participate in home energy audits. The program resulted in 85% home energy audit compliance; 100% demonstrated new knowledge on home energy reduction methods; and 88% of students recognized the Energy Star logo symbol.

University of Nebraska Lincoln Extension provide programming to address energy efficiency and management practices, increase use of green technologies and energy conservation methods. From 2004-2011, families in one water shed protected their water resources and decommissioned 41 illegal wells and upgraded over 45 septic systems. Approximately 9,585 youth attended water festivals and learned about Nebraska's water resources.

Indoor Air Quality/Healthy Homes

Based upon the need for addressing the danger of radon gas and need for home and business testing, the **University of Georgia Extension** has designated five educators responsible for statewide radon gas consumer education. During 2011, 176 programs and 89 exhibits were presented reaching a total of 81,290 participants. An audience equaling 4,043,142 were reached via statewide media (newsletters, news columns, television/radio, webpages).

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension educators are receiving relevant training to promote healthy communities. As a result, 200 individuals were engaged in healthy homes programming that included carbon monoxide testing, green cleaning recipes, and "Help Yourself to a Healthy Home" publication distribution.

eXtension.org continues to be a well utilized resource for all Extension educators on Nutrition, Health, and Fitness. Extension educators have contributed fact sheets, programs, and resources to this site covering child care; drinking water and human health; families, food and fitness; family care giving; food safety; parenting, and personal finance. New research-based resources are added continually for consumers and professionals.

NEAFCS is the 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:

- Food preparation, food safety, and nutrition
- Financial management
- Healthy lifestyles
- Home and work environment and safety
- Relationships and parenting skills

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