EPAF

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

2010 Professional Improvement Meeting
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Presentation of Extension Programs
Twenty-fourth Annual Proceedings

EPSILON SIGMA PHI- Alpha Delta Chapter
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS
FLORIDA EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

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UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

"Still Leading in Dynamic Times"

Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa, Lake Buena Vista, Florida

24th PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS

Wednesday, September 1st, 2010 **9:00 am– 3:00 pm**

EPAF Abstract Committee & Editors:

Rebecca Jordi (Nassau County)
Joy Hazell (Lee County)
Andrew Diller (Escambia County)

EPSILON SIGMA PHI – ESP
Tim Wilson (Bradford County)……..Westminster

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS – FACAA
Ron Rice (Palm Beach County) ……Scotland B

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS- FAE4-HA
Sarah Hensley (Sumter County)……Scotland A

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES – FEAFCS
Judy Corbus (Washington County)……Scotland C

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS – FANREP
Andrew Diller (Escambia County)……Emerald

EPAF offers our thanks to:

- **The Chairs and members of the ESP, FACAA, FAE4-HA, FEAFCS, and FANREP Abstract Committees** who had the difficult task of reviewing and selecting the abstracts to be presented.
- **All Extension faculty who submitted abstracts** – continue the excellent work!

MAP OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES

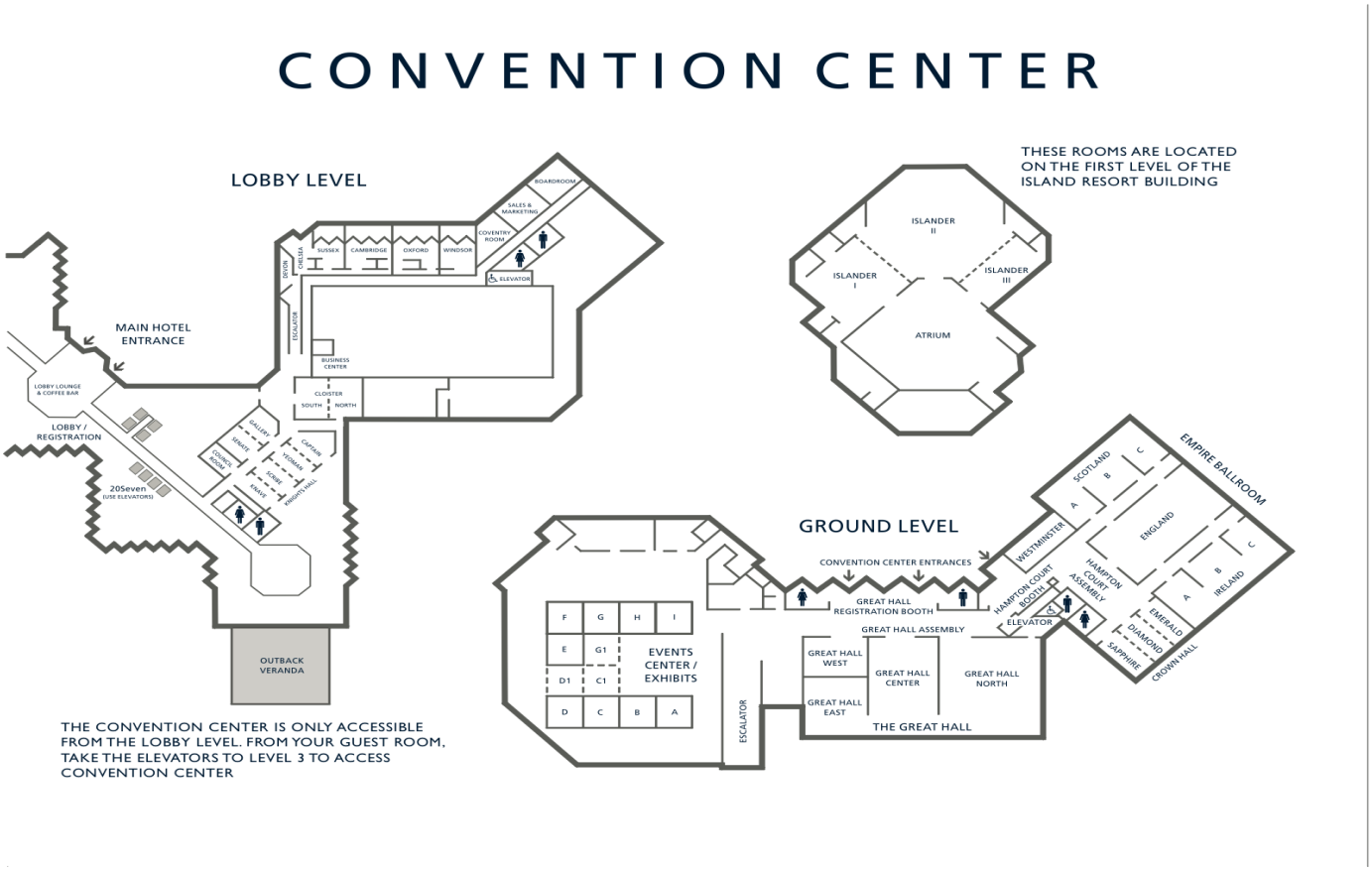

Table of Contents

Visit the EPAF website at http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/ for an online version of this abstract book.

Conference archives include previous year's abstracts.

Wednesday, September 1	NR/Horticulture & ESP	FACAA	FAE4-HA
TIME	**Westminster**	**Scotland B**	**Scotland A**
8:50am	Introductions	Introductions	Introductions
9:00am	Designing with Nature. **T. Becker, p. 10**	Western Flower Thrip Monitoring for Pepper *(Capsicum annuum)* Production. **D. Sui*, J. Funderburk, p. 21**	Ready SET Blastoff: A 4-H Day Camping Experience. **M. Brew*, C. Coody, C. DeCubellis, B. Esteve, H. Futch, p. 32**
9:15	Impact of Rainwater Harvesting Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents. **L. Barber, p. 10**	Effect of Clipping Height on Weed Control and Yield of Perennial Peanut (*Arachis glabrata*). **C.Smith, p. 21**	Using Project Learning Tree to Train the Trainers in Env. Educ. Programming. **V. Spero-Swingle**, **D. Hurley**, **J. Swingle, p. 32**
9:30	Start a Community Garden Program. **E. Thralls, p. 11**	Operation S.A.F.E. – Ag. Ext. Teams Up With FL Ag. Aviation Assoc. to Provide Calibration Training for Aerial Applicators. **L. Baucum*, R. Rice, p. 22**	Invitational 4-H Shooting Sports Competition. **G. Thomas, p. 33**
9:45	Water Conservation Through Homeowner Irrigation Education. **J. Sullivan, p. 11**	Annie's Project in FL: Adapt. of MW Farm Risk Mgmt. Curr. to meet needs of FL's Women Ag. Prod. **N. Wilson*, L. Spence*, S. Kelly*, S. Strickland*, et al., p. 22**	Manners for the Real World. **M. Brinkley*, H. Kent, p. 33**
10:00	**Break**	**Break**	**Break**
10:15	Antigua and Barbuda Pesticide Certification Training Program. **K. Rudisill*, N. Samuel*, S. Brown, E McAvoy, W. Kern, p. 12**	Weather Watch Program Provides Information to Ag. Producers Assisting Them to Make Cold Protection Decisions. **R. Atwood, C. Oswalt, p. 23**	How to get $10,000 for 4-H Campership**s**. **J. Lilly, p. 34**
10:30	Using Eventbrite for Online Program Registration. **L. Royer, p. 12**	Pasture Weed Training in North Florida. **B. Wilder, J. Breman, p. 23**	Ag In The Classroom Summer Day Camp. **K. Bryant***, **K. Stauderman***, **J. Taufer, p. 34**
10:45	Partnerships Create Success for Extension. **E. Courtney**, **J. Bearden**, **B. Saari, p. 13**	Evaluation of Cool-Season Legumes using Two Seeding Methods in North Central Florida. **T. Wilson*, Y. Newman, p. 24**	4-H Grievance Process – Every County Should Have One. **C. Suggs, p. 35**
11:00	FUNDraising Made Easy. **M. Moore***, **P. Davis***, **K. Rudisill**, **S. Theberge, p. 13**	Seeded Bermudagrass for in Central FL Pastures. **J. Walter*, S. Gamble*, Y. Newman, D. Mudge, C. Bateman, J. Shuffitt, E. Jennings, M. Warren, p. 24**	Legisl8ture. **L. Cash, p. 35**
11:15	Flip Video Project . **M. Nayfield-Crisp, D. Palmer, p. 14**	Agricultural Water Quality Forum. **D. Mayo*, C. Smith, T. Obreza, p. 25**	Teaming Up for Youth. **N. Moores, p. 36**
11:30	**Break for Box Lunch**		

Wednesday, September 1	**FANREP**	**FEAFCS**
TIME	**Emerald**	**Scotland C**
8:50am	Introductions	Introductions
9:00am	Four Years of Low Impact Dev. Workshops: Multi-Agency Collaborations & Real-World Outcomes. **M. Kipp, E. Foerste*, p. 52**	Family Nutrition Program is Powerful in Pasco. **M. Nayfield-Crisp, p. 42**
9:15	GreenStar Staff Training Program. **R. Madhosingh-Hector, V. Crayton, p. 52**	Growing a Pizza. **A. Hinkle, p. 42**
9:30	Pinellas County Green Business Partnership. **M. Campbell, p. 53**	Florida Agriculture: Growing up Healthy with Foods from Florida. **N. Gal*, N. Masciarelli, N. Samuel, p. 43**
9:45	Middle School Green Ambassadors Showcase Earth-Friendly Knowledge at Green Living Expo. **S. Kraeft, p. 53**	Nutrition Day at Bronson Middle High School. **M. Turner, p. 43**
10:00	**Break**	**Break**
10:15	Should We Use Wood for Energy: High School Students Can Decide! **M. Monroe***, **A. Oxarart**, **J. Tomasello Ireland, p. 54**	Seafood for Your Health. **B. Saari, K. Zamojski, p. 44**
10:30	Reaching the Masses: Using Polycom for One-day Recert. Event for Pesticide Applicators. **F. Fishel, K. Langeland, J. Cuda, p. 54**	"Getting Healthy----Great Food-----Smart Choices". **M. Maddox, p. 44**
10:45	Impact of Microirrigation Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents. **L. Barber, p. 55**	Edible Garden. **A. I. Medina-Solórzano*, A. Kristen**, **C. Gomes, p. 45**
11:00	Targeting High Water Use Customers to Conserve Water Resources in Citrus County. **J. Bradshaw, p. 55**	Addressing Health Disparities in the African American Community. **N.C. Jensen, p. 45**
11:15	Community Efforts to Improve Water Flow and Filtration Through Natural Area Restoration. **A. Post, p. 56**	Internationalizing FL Ext.'s Diabetes Self-Mgmt. Ed. Program: Antigua Experience. **L. Bobroff, N. Gal, N. Jensen, p. 46**
11:30	**Break for Box Lunch**	

Wednesday, September 1	ESP, Ag., & Wildlife	FACAA	FAE4-HA
TIME	**Westminster**	**Scotland B**	**Scotland A**
1:00pm	The Digital Extension Newsletter Project: Accomplishments and Innovative Uses; "Digital" Means Yes We Can! **J. Ludlow*, et al., p. 14**	Evaluating How Accurately Lawn Fertilizers Are Applied Using Homeowner Equipment. **S. Arthurs, K. Stauderman, p. 25**	Vegetable Gardens: A Healthy Environment to Learn, Grow and Consume. **X. Diaz, p. 36**
1:15	Teaching Farmers How To Build Food Safety Plans For Their Farm. **R. Hochmuth*, L. Landrum, K. Allen, E. Toro, A. Barbaglia, p. 15**	Compost the Most: A Composting Education Series sees Leap in Practice Change. **W. Wilber, p. 26**	Clay County 4-H Paws Project. **J. Schrader*, S. Conner, p. 37**
1:30	Video Conferencing and Multi-County Programs – Using Technology to Reach New Agriculture Audiences. **L. Harrison**, **J. Atkins, p. 15**	Horticulture Training Program for Inmates at Hillsborough Correctional Institution. **M. D'Abreau, p. 26**	Fun, Fitness and 4-H. **A. Duncan*, N. Moores, p. 37**
1:45	Multi-county & Multi-programming Efficiencies for Ext. Agents & Clientele: Hastings Blueberry Prod. Wrkshps. **J. Breman**, **J. Sewards, p. 16**	Victory Gardens: Escambia Extension Empowers Homeowners w/ Practical Gardening Expertise. **L. Johnson, E. Bolles*, A. Diller, D. Lee, p. 27**	Recycouture Day Camp: Reduce, Recycle, Re-Fashion. **S. Swenson, p. 38**
2:00	**Break**	**Break**	**Break**
2:15	Range Cattle Research & Educ. Center Second Annual Youth Field Day. **S. Crawford***, **L. Baucum**, **B. Carlisle**, **L. Wiggins**, **C. Davis**, **R. Gornto, P. Hogue, C. Kirby, et al., p. 16**	Master Gardener Projects as a Graduation Requirement. **C. Saft, p. 27**	Early Release 4-H Workshops. **B. Estevez, p. 38**
2:30	Multi-state and Multi-agency: Diverse Partnering Reaps Benefits for All. **W. Giuliano, W. Sheftall, p. 17**	Teaching Water Saving Methods to New Villages Residents **J. Davis, p. 28**	Falling Waters State Park Eco-Camp. **J. Dillard, p. 39**
2:45	Sod Harvest Effects on Soil Phosphorus Conc. in Central & South Florida. **J. Walter*, R. Bateman*, P. Deal, C. Kirby, M. Silveira, p. 17**	Focusing on The Villages, Florida Friendly Landscaping™ in the Nation's Fastest Growing Micropolitan Area. **B. Burn, p. 28**	4-H FIRST Robotics Clubs. **T. Pehlke, p. 39**

Wednesday, September 1	**FANREP/FACAA**	**FEAFCS**
TIME	Emerald	Scotland C
1:00pm	Title: Great Partnership Can Equal A Quick Response: Gulf Oil Spill Disaster. **J.Hink***, **J. Chatfield**, **T. Spencer, p. 56**	Engaging the Corporate Community in Financial Education through Community Networking. **A. McKinney, p. 46**
1:15	Blue Crab Traps Removal Exercise & Dev. of Guidelines for Statewide Crab Trap Removal. **J. Hazell, B. Staugler, p. 57**	Florida Master Money Mentor Program. **M. Gutter, p. 47**
1:30	The Kids, Let's Go Fishing! Program. **L. Krimsky, p. 57**	Payday Lenders: Avoid Taking the Bait. **L. Spence, p. 47**
1:45	Reach Out With Science (ROWS). **B. Saari*, J. Bearden*, K. Zamojski, S. Wilson, p. 58**	Homemade Laundry Soap. **C. Rogers, p. 48**
2:00	**Break**	**Break**
2:15	The Great Goliath Grouper Count Pilot Project . **B. Fluech*, J. Hazell*, E. Staugler*, J. Stevely, p. 58**	Response to the Explosion of Interest in Home Canning. **M. Keith, p. 48**
2:30	Increasing Capacity for Collaboration – Sci., Mngmnt., & Education e*X*change 2009. **R. Northrop, M. Andreu, p. 59**	SNAP-Ed Family Nutrition Program Report Generating Database and Instruction Book. **C. Kilbride, p. 49**
2:45	An Overview of the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute. **L. Racevskis*, J. Hazell*, p. 59**	Wakulla County Builds Community Partnerships and Offers Innovative Programming. **S. Swenson, p. 49**

Professional Development, Marketing, Natural Resources, & Agriculture

Westminster

Tim Wilson, ESP Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker(s)*	Abstract
8:55	**Moderator**	Introductions & Procedures
9:00	**T. Becker**	Designing with Nature.
9:15	**L. Barber**	Impact of Rainwater Harvesting Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents.
9:30	**E. Thralls**	Start a Community Garden Program.
9:45	**J. Sullivan**	Water Conservation Through Homeowner Irrigation Education.
10:00		**Break**
10:15	**K. Rudisill, N. Samuel**	Antigua and Barbuda Pesticide Certification Training Program.
10:30	**L. Royer**	Using Eventbrite for Online Program Registration.
10:45	**E. Courtney, J. Bearden**	Partnerships Create Success for Extension.
11:00	**M. Moore, P. Davis**	FUNDraising Made Easy.
11:15	**M. Nayfield-Crisp**	Flip Video Project.
11:30		**Break for Box Lunch**

Time	Speaker(s)*	Abstract
1:00	**J. Ludlow**	The Digital Extension Newsletter Project: Accomplishments and Innovative Uses; "Digital" Means Yes We Can!
1:15	**R. Hochmuth**	Teaching Farmers How to Build Food Safety Plans for Their Farm.
1:30	**L. Harrison**	Video Conferencing and Multi-County Programs – Using Technology to Reach New Agriculture Audiences.
1:45	**J. Breman**	Multi-County and Multi-Programming Efficiencies for Extension Agents and Clientele: Hastings Blueberry Production Workshops.
2:00		**Break**
2:15	**S. Crawford**	Range Cattle Research and Education Center Second Annual Youth Field Day.
2:30	**W. Guiliano, W. Sheftall**	Multi-State and Multi-Agency: Diverse Partnerships Reaps Benefits for All.
2:45	**J. Walter, R. Bateman**	Sod Harvest Effects on Soil Phosphorus Concentrations in Central and South Florida.

*For a complete list of authors, see the schedule at a glance beginning on page 4 or the actual abstract.

Designing with Nature
T. Becker, Lee County Extension

Objectives: Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ state legislation enacted in 2009 encourages homeowners to improve water quality, conserve water and reduce non-point source pollution in their yards. Two stormwater control techniques are recommended and being adopted by Lee County residents: rainwater harvesting and a filtration technique using native plants called a rain garden. **Methods:** Starting in 2007, the FYN program agent worked with advisors and volunteers to create a public program showing residents 'how to' construct rain barrels and design rain gardens. Subsequently, FYN workshops, outdoor displays and tours featured the two methods. **Results:** By October, 2009, 5,999 residents had attended training or tours; 25 public rain displays were created and long-term partnerships established with municipal governments to expand outreach capacity. A 16-page training guidebook and 19-minute video were created. In 2009, a rain harvesting demonstration was designed and built to illustrate use of cisterns, solar power and rainwater for low-volume irrigation. In all, 1,620 residents obtained 1,270 rain barrels. Daily water savings is estimated at 13.5 gallons fresh water per household daily. Total water collected using these barrels, estimated at 840,000 gallons, would fill fifty-seven, 28' x 14' swimming pools. **Conclusions:** After multi-year instruction and outreach, state public policy initiatives, green building and community stormwater initiatives, Lee Counties hands-on rain water source control and rain garden demonstration techniques are helping achieve permanent behavior change by its residents and helping to meet stricter watershed and stormwater treatment objectives.

Impact of Rainwater Harvesting Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents
L. Barber, Hillsborough County Extension

Project purpose was to teach residents to harvest rainwater while decreasing stormwater runoff, erosion and pollution. **Objectives:** After participating in a rainwater harvesting workshop, participants will: 1) install and use a rain barrel; 2) adopt at least one method of rainwater utilization, such as landscape irrigation, washing garden tools or fertilizing plants while watering; and 3) decrease potable water use for landscape irrigation. **Methods:** For over 10 years, Horticulture and FYN agents/coordinators have taught rainwater harvesting workshops to Hillsborough County residents with funding through inter-County departments and external grant monies allowing us to provide educational materials, live demonstrations on converting a food grade barrel into a rain barrel and providing one spigoted barrel to workshop households. In 2010, a County-wide questionnaire was distributed to more than 1,600 attending households. **Results**: Seventy-two percent (N=131) installed the rain barrel within 3 months after attending the workshop. Seventy percent (N=127) indicated the rain barrel was easy to install. Seventy-seven percent (N=140) reported a decrease in potable water use post workshop. Of the one hundred twenty-two people harvesting rainwater, seventy-five percent (N=91) are capturing between 0 - 250 gallons per month, while twenty-five percent (N=31) are collecting between 251 to more than 501 gallons per month. **Conclusions:** Survey results reflect heightened knowledge about rainwater harvesting which decreased stormwater runoff, erosion and pollution. Extrapolating these results, 300,400 gallons of rainwater were harvested per month (or 3,604,800 per year).

Start a Community Garden Program.
E. Thralls, Orange County Extension

These economic times have generated numerous requests from citizens about starting community gardens. Sometimes it is because the community lacks immediate access to fresh vegetables because there are no grocery stores in the community. Sometimes it is because there is insufficient room in the landscape for a personal garden or the home-site it not conducive to vegetable production. Regardless, it is Extension that is contacted to provide educational assistance in the development of community gardens within the county. Finding a site is the greatest obstacle. **Objectives:** Create a community garden program county wide that is responsive to citizen requests. **Methods:** Develop collaborative relationships within county offices that have a vested interest to respond to citizen needs such as the Parks Department (property), Community Center Division (population in need of fresh vegetables), Neighborhood Services (grant assistance), and Cooperative Extension (education). Identify strengths and weaknesses within each office and then coordinate. Find champions for the effort and suggest that a program be developed to be responsive to citizen needs. **Results:** Since the program began four months ago, three new community garden groups have been established on county property for the purpose of growing fresh vegetables for those citizens working in those gardens. Six educational classes have been developed and four of them have been presented to 27 participants. **Conclusions:** Although, some minor tweaking continues, Extension is in the forefront of this effort, providing educational material for vegetable gardening and leadership development; a necessary component for the sustainability of community gardens.

Water Conservation Through Homeowner Irrigation Education.
J. Sullivan, University of Florida/IFAS Osceola County Extension.

Objectives: The Florida Yards & Neighborhoods program at the Osceola County Extension offers education on Florida-Friendly Landscaping™, including the topic of irrigating efficiently. Improper irrigation practices result in unhealthy landscapes, wasted water, and wasted money. Water management districts and local water providers continue to strengthen irrigation regulations, making efficient irrigation practices more important than ever. In Osceola County, a municipality and a water authority partnered with the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods program to offer homeowner irrigation education. The objective of the programming was to improve people's irrigation practices, which contributes to water conservation. **Methods:** Irrigation consultations and workshops taught people how to operate automatic irrigation systems efficiently. Additionally, local water providers dismissed a homeowner's irrigation violation warning for attending a workshop. **Results:** In 2008-2009, over 195 households participated in workshops and consultations. Water use records of participating households were examined before and after irrigation education. As a result of education, participants adopted more efficient irrigation practices, saving approximately 2,000 gallons of water per household each month. That equates to more than 4.7 million gallons of water saved per year in those households. **Conclusions:** Homeowner irrigation education plays a part in local water conservation efforts, and helps secure a future water supply. Irrigation education has also had the benefit of introducing Florida Yards & Neighborhoods programming to otherwise unreached audiences.

Antigua and Barbuda Pesticide Certification Training Program

K. Rudisill*, Bay County Extension; **N. Samuel***, Marion County Extension; **S. Brown**, Lee County Extension; **E McAvoy**, Hendry County; **W. Kern**, Ft. Lauderdale-REC.

Introduction: Safe handling and application of chemical products are crucial to achieving desired pest control and to protect non-target organisms. The Antigua and Barbuda Pesticide and Toxic Chemicals Act of 2007 dictates that persons performing pest control activities for remuneration must be certified. The Antigua and Barbuda Ministry of Agriculture partnered with University of Florida/ IFAS to develop a pesticide certification training program modeled after Florida's program. **Objectives:** enhance the knowledge base of pest control applicators on identification of pests, control options and safe use of pesticides; and ensure that all actions governing the use of pesticides are in accordance with the requirements of the Act. **Methods:** Five UF/IFAS faculty members developed a needs assessment survey and modified the Florida curriculum based on the results of the survey. The module included four training categories: core, structural pests, lawn and ornamentals, and agriculture. Training was conducted and was attended by 65 people. **Results:** Twenty (20) participants took the Structural Pest Control training, 25% (5) passed. Twenty seven (27) took the Agricultural category training and passed. Sixteen (16) participants from the landscaping industry participated. Fourteen (14) took the Lawn and Ornamental category exam and 8 passed. **Conclusions:** A regular training and exam schedule is needed for pest control applicators to ensure compliance with the Act and proper pesticide usage to protect pesticide users, public health, and the environment.

Using Eventbrite for Online Program Registration

L. Royer, Osceola County

For eight years, Osceola County Extension Service has partnered with various agencies that provide money for home purchases. To receive funds, a homebuyer must take Extension's A Home of Your Own class. The demand is high for both funding and class. The Extension office receives about 30 calls daily regarding class registration. When registration opens, the 150 spots are filled in less than a day. It takes about five minutes to register each person. **Objectives:** To improve the overall registration process for the A Home of Your Own program and minimize the cost and time spent by staff on registration. **Methods:** Using the Eventbrite website, registration page is created for each class and collects information from each client. Online payment is available and convenient for participants. Registration page is easy to find as a link is added to the Extension website and a custom web address is created by Eventbrite. **Results:** Since March 2009, 530 clients have used the Eventbrite website to register for the A Home of Your Own class. The registration information is easily downloaded into an excel file. Also, the site can be used to email participants, create name tags, sign-in sheets and has electronic scan for sign-in. The county has saved about $2,500 on staff time for registration and sign-in for the class. **Conclusions:** Eventbrite is an excellent resource for Extension professionals to use, making registration seamless and efficient. Set-up is easy and adaptable. Also, unless there is a charge for a program, Eventbrite is free.

Partnerships Create Success for Extension

E. Courtney*, Okaloosa County Extension; **J. Bearden***, Okaloosa County Extension; **B. Saari**, Okaloosa County Extension

Okaloosa Saves, coordinated through the Okaloosa Extension Office, involved the entire office to coordinate an "EcoNomic Living Expo" which highlighted programs on money and sustainability for youth and adults. **Objectives:** To develop community partnerships to promote UF/IFAS Extension event. To promote saving money and sustainability through Smart Choices. **Methods:** Local community organizations and businesses were contacted and became involved in the Expo. New and existing partnerships were developed as a result. The EcoNomic Living Expo featured seminars, workshops, exhibits and youth activities. In-kind partnerships allowed Extension to advertise this event through various media, including: billboards, radio, TV, newspaper, internet and posters. Partners included media, financial institutions, Securities & Exchange Commission, Troy University, Master Gardeners, Okaloosa County, health organizations, youth centers, Air Force Bases, and environmental groups. **Results:** 2010 media outreach included six billboards (estimated 2,243,510 autos), radio & TV (2,300,000 impressions), newspaper & newsletters (1,312,900 impressions). Over 500 people attended the Expo, with 246 attending one or more seminar/workshop. Forty volunteers donated 172 hours. Partnerships donated $10,300 cash for this project, as well as $4500 in in-kind. There were 27 exhibitors, in addition to Extension exhibits. 270 participants set savings goals and became "Okaloosa Savers," pledging to save $44812 monthly. **Conclusions:** Involving community partners in Extension efforts increased marketing outreach, attendance, and educational opportunities and knowledge for citizens in Okaloosa County.

FUNDraising Made Easy

M. Moore*, Bay County Extension; **P. Davis***, Bay County Extension; **K. Rudisill**, Bay County Extension; **S. Theberge**, Bay County Extension

Extension programs provide a unique role in the community. Extension performs its' role by providing specific services that are part of their mission statement and commitment to others. However, Extension across the country is faced with severe budget reductions, some more than others. Bay County Extension faculty is creatively raising funds to support their programs and supplement the office budget. One example of fundraising for the Extension office is serving as test proctors. This is a mutually beneficial relationship between Extension Staff and the School of Business and the Florida Department of Agriculture. Supporting the School of Business is an interdisciplinary team effort while the Florida Department of Agriculture is revenue generator for the Horticulture Agent. Another partnership generating revenue for the FCS Agent is with the College of Pharmacy. **Objectives**: To raise money to 1) Support educational programs, 2) Purchase office equipment and furnishings, and 3) Support Professional Development Activities. **Methods**: The 4-H, FCS, Sea Grant, and Horticulture Agents collaborated to proctor exams and receive funds for each exam proctored. The FCS agent periodically mentors pharmacy students during their training rotations. **Results**: Approximately $7,500 has been raised since 2008. **Conclusions**: Mutually beneficial partnerships have developed between Extension and the following Agencies: University of Florida School of Business and the College of Pharmacy and the Florida Department of Agriculture. Extension allows these agencies to offer programs in the county and faculty receive funds to improve local programs for their community.

Flip Video Project

M. Nayfield-Crisp*, Pasco County Extension; **D. Palmer**, Hillsborough County Extension.

Objectives: To learn new technology and share with others creative ways to promote Extension educational programs. **Methods:** Agents received a $250 mini-grant to purchase camera equipment and trained other agents, para-professionals, and Family and Consumer Science professionals across the state how to use equipment. Together, they produced several five to ten minute videos on various topics, including a "bloopers" version to illustrate how easy it is to make mistakes and with practice, taping a second time, and editing, a finished product is easily achieved. Agents shared not only what was learned going through the process but also the finished products that were used as training videos for self-improvement of techniques as well as nutrition education. **Results**: A total of eight short videos were produced, edited, and combined to make two videos: "Introduction to the Family Nutrition Program" and "Grandma's Secret Recipe" (food safety) that were five minutes each. These were shown six times to a total audience of approximately 248 over a three-month period to promote the Family Nutrition Program and nutrition education. **Conclusions:** The Flip video camera offers an inexpensive, quick and user-friendly way to present a short message in an appealing new format. With a little time and practice, skills are continued to improve thus making the marketing of Extension programs easily achieved.

The Digital Extension Newsletter Project: Accomplishments and Innovative Uses; "Digital" Means Yes We Can!

J. Ludlow*, Calhoun County Extension; P. Vergot III, Director, Northwest Extension District, Quincy; W. Cherry, Calhoun County Extension; A. Diller Escambia County Extension; T. Friday, Santa Rosa County Extension; C. Stevenson, Escambia County Extension; K. Zamojski, Walton County Extension

Objectives: Extension newsletters are "Channels of Information," and many types have been developed by faculty for clientele**.** Objectives of the Northwest Digital Newsletter Project are to enable instantaneous district-wide distribution of agent generated information, to develop agent expertise, to develop a clientele management system, and to develop web-based links for each Extension Program Area. Objectives of the project future are to enable consistent Northwest District-wide marketing grounded in "Solutions for Your Life," and enable workshop registration and subscription services managed directly by clientele. **Methods:** Software was developed by UF IFAS IT so that each agent works directly on-line collaborating with other agents of the same program area to create a variety of information resources. Once information is submitted digitally, the software *automatically* creates web-based and "pdf" based materials. **Results**: Each Northwest District county extension web-site now links to five extension program areas. These links are their home-base to all channels of information including newsletters, fact sheets, alerts, videos, blogs, social marketing, etc. Agents and clientele have direct anytime access to timely, research-based information, and through the new Subscription Management Service, may choose to receive a variety of targeted information. Consistent Northwest District marketing materials, such as banners and displays, have been used at many events. **Conclusions**: The Digital Extension Newsletter Project facilitates use of new technologies and multiple channels of information, and reduces distribution costs. It encourages clientele participation by allowing them to choose the information they want, and by engaging them in Extension activities throughout the Northwest District.

Teaching Farmers How To Build Food Safety Plans For Their Farm

R. Hochmuth*, **L. Landrum**, NFREC-Suwannee Valley; **K. Allen**, **E. Toro**, Suwannee County Extension**; A. Barbaglia**, Levy County Extension

Objective: Three training workshops were presented to help farmers build a Food Safety Plan for their farm and/or packing house in preparation for a third party audit. **Methods**: Leadership in planning the training strategy was developed by a team of Northeast District County Extension agents with guidance from Extension Food Safety Specialist, Dr. Keith Schneider. The team decided to develop the pilot trainings built around a free on-line "build your own" food safety manual at the Primus Labs web site, www.primuslabs.com. County faculty led the two day trainings with every farmer or farm family member at a computer logged into the site. If a farmer requested to attend the training, but was not comfortable using the computer, an Extension agent; or a staff member from NFREC, Florida Farm Bureau, or FDACS was provided as a "training buddy". **Results**: After the training sessions were completed, 25 farms from 13 counties in North Florida had developed their own Farm and Ranch plan and 13 had developed plans for the Packing Facility. The training also included increased knowledge through a "self-audit" providing the farmer insight on the strengths and weaknesses of their plan. **Conclusions:** Most of these farmers do not have the financial capacity to hire personnel to develop and implement a food safety plan. This farmer need provides a great educational opportunity for Extension agents statewide.

Video Conferencing and Multi-County Programs – Using Technology to Reach New Agriculture Audiences

L. Harrison*, Leon County Extension; **J. Atkins**, Santa Rosa Extension

Objectives: To utilize existing and available conferencing technology to offer educational programs to under and/or un-served client groups in multiple, non-contiguous counties. The participants in statewide locations should have the opportunity to question the speaker and facilitate in-depth discussion. **Methods:** Equine and small farm topics were selected for two difference program series. Information and data in the programming came from a diverse group of sources and agencies so offering participants a variety of credible sources on specific topics not commonly available on the same venue because of time commitment, scheduling and distance difficulties. Program promotional efforts included the traditional methods of news releases and mail-outs to e-mails and internet postings. Prospective attendees were encouraged to sign up in advance ensuring enough print material was available at each broadcast site. Optional print material was available for sale, but not required for participation. **Results:** The small farms sessions reached 179 participants over the four session series. The multi-state equine management session reached 169 participants over the four session series.

Post course surveys indicated 70% plus learn useful information. A majority of those participating in either offering had little to no previous experience with Florida Extension. **Conclusions:** Programs tendering specialize topics with relatively few potential participant over a wide geographic area or programs offering highly specialize speakers\presenters who collectively have scheduling, travel time or distance commitment difficulties are the best use of the technology. Proper pre-event promotion is critical to success. System hardware and software both require a level of competence to operate.

Multi-county and Multi-programming Efficiencies for Extension Agents and Clientele – Hastings Blueberry Production Workshops

J. Breman*, St. Johns, Putnam, and Flagler County Extension; **J. Sewards**, St. Johns and Putnam County Extension.

Multi-county (MC) agents are challenged for time and resources. Workshops that provide applied training in crop production require extensive preparation and resources. Commercial agriculture agents target commercial producers. Horticulture agents target homeowner and Master Gardener (MG) clientele. **Objectives:** 1) To find a common subject matter that would apply to commercial, as well as residential and MG. 2) To build a base of resources that could be used for diverse clientele. 3) To centralize the events. 4) To advertise the educational events uniformly among the counties served. **Methods:** Both commercial and residential clientele requested blueberry production information. A demonstration block of two commercial blueberry varieties under five different mulching systems and three irrigation management schemes at the UF Partnership Office at Hastings was prepared for a field tour of 11 stops demonstrating management issues. A commercial blueberry field day and a separate homeowner/MG blueberry field day were planned with agendas that targeted their specific information needs. The demonstration block was used for both field days. The commercial field day was advertised through the Tri-county Commercial Ag. Newsletter. The homeowner/MG field day advertised electronically to the multi-county batch email system. **Results:** Twenty-three farmers attended the April 20 Introduction to Commercial Blueberry Production Workshop. Thirteen homeowner/MG clientele attended the Blueberry Field Day May 13. MG volunteers harvested bushes to collect yield data, which was used to estimate economic returns for the 2010 growing season. **Conclusions:** Multi-county efficiencies were achieved when multi-programming allowed the same resources to be shared with different target clientele.

Range Cattle Research and Education Center Second Annual Youth Field Day

S. Crawford*, Hendry County Extension; **L. Baucum**, Hendry County Extension; **B. Carlisle**, Polk County Extension; **L. Wiggins**, Hendry County Extension; **C. Davis**, Okeechobee County Extension; **R. Gornto,** Highlands County Extension; **P. Hogue,** Okeechobee County Extension; **C. Kirby,** Manatee County Extension; **J. Arthington,** Ona Range Cattle Research & Education Center; **B. Sellers**, Ona Range Cattle Research & Education Center; **R. Speckmann,** Ona Range Cattle Research & Education Center; **Silveira, M.,** Ona Range Cattle Research & Education Center; and **J. Vendramini.,** Ona Range Cattle Research & Education Center;

The UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center (RCREC) at Ona and the Extension Agents of the UF/IFAS South Florida Beef-Forage Program (SFBFP) teamed to organize the Second Annual Youth Field Day. **Objectives:** The Second Annual Youth Field Day was designed for youth ages 8 to 18 in order to continue to increase agriculture awareness; to promote research and educational programs of the Range Cattle REC; to increase knowledge in the areas of ultrasound use in the livestock industry, cattle reproduction, cattle research, weather networks, livestock handling, and farm safety; and to expose the youth participants to potential careers in agriculture. **Methods:** The day began with an introduction to the Research Center followed by educational hands-on workshops. **Results:** A total of three hundred eleven (311) participants attended the Second Annual Youth Field Day; 115 adults and 196 youth. The participants represented twenty central and south Florida counties. An evaluation tool was designed to determine the success of the program. Of all

respondents, one hundred (100) percent indicated that the Second Annual Range Cattle REC Youth Field Day met their expectations and needs. Furthermore, one hundred (100) percent of the respondents stated they plan to use the information presented and ninety-four (94) percent indicated they would attend next year's field day. **Conclusion:** As a result of the knowledge gained, it is certain that the South Florida Beef Forage Group will hold the Third Annual Ona Youth Field Day.

Multi-state and Multi-agency: Diverse Partnering Reaps Benefits for All.

W.M. Giuliano*, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation; **W. Sheftall***, Leon county Extension; **H.K. Ober**, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation; **J. Dillard**, Jefferson County; and **RJ Byrne**, Thomas County.

Objectives: Because many wildlife are declining and concomitantly many people are exploring alternative sources of income from their properties, we provided a wildlife management program with the goal of increasing knowledge and application of proper wildlife management, increasing income generation potential from wildlife-related activities, and testing the efficacy of multi-state and multi-agency collaboration. **Methods**: We used a series of field days to convey information on wildlife management to landowners in North Florida and South Georgia, utilizing the expertise of individuals from numerous organizations: FL-GA Game Management Update Series, including Bobwhite quail management, Dove and waterfowl management, Sport fish pond management, White-tailed deer management, Wild turkey management, Hunting dog and human first aid, and Soils and herbicides in wildlife food plots. **Results**: 322 individuals attended workshops, with 185 evaluations returned. An overview of results include: 22% increase in knowledge; 53% planned to implement their own wildlife management program; 59% planned to make changes to their practices according to new knowledge gained, potentially impacting several thousand acres of land; 79% planned to share what they learned with others; and 72% anticipated saving money and 33% anticipated earning money as a result of what they had learned a the workshops. Additional details will be discussed. **Conclusions**: We achieved are goals of increasing the knowledge and application of proper wildlife management, increasing income generation potential from wildlife-related activities, and developed a model approach for multi-state and multi-agency collaboration. A description of what made the program successful and how to replicate it will be discussed.

Sod Harvest Effects on Soil Phosphorus Concentrations in Central and South Florida

J. Walter*, Brevard County Extension ; **R. Bateman*,** Osceola County Extension; **P. Deal**, , USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; **C. Kirby,** Manatee County Extension; and **M. Silveira**, Range Cattle Research and Extension Center

Objectives: To quantify the amount of phosphorus removed in different sod production systems. **Methods:** The project investigated St. Augustine Grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum)* and Bahiagrass (*Paspalum notatum* Flugge) sod harvested for use in landscape plantings and the revegetation of roadsides and other disturbed areas. Fifty-two pieces of sod randomly collected from 26 locations in Central Florida, two pieces per location. Each sample was divided into 3 compartments: above-ground and below-ground biomass, and soil. The components were analyzed for total phosphorus.

Results: Phosphorus removal ranged from 60 to 500 pounds of elemental P per acre or approximately 140 to 1,160 pounds of P_2O_5 per acre per cut assuming that the entire area is harvest or clear cut. On average, the soil component accounted for 54% of the total P removed, below-ground biomass accounted for 40% of the total P removed, and the above-ground biomass accounted for 6%. Samples from fields where biosolids were applied removed 181 pounds of P per acre as compared to chemical fertilized fields where 76.5 pounds of elemental P was removed.
Conclusions: Sod production can remove significant amounts of phosphorus, greater amounts of phosphorus were removed from sites where biosolids were applied.

Agriculture and Horticulture
Scotland B

Ron Rice, FACAA Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker(s)*	Abstract
8:45	**Moderator**	Introductions & Procedures
9:00	**D. Sui**	Western Flower Thrips Monitoring for Pepper *(Capsicum annuum)* Production.
9:15	**C. Smith**	Effect of Clipping Height on Weed Control and Yield of Perennial Peanut (Arachis glabrata).
9:30	**L. Baucum**	Operation S.A.F.E. – Agricultural Extension Teams Up With the Florida Agricultural Aviation Association to Provide Calibration Training for Aerial Applicators.
9:45	**N. Wilson, L. Spence, S. Kelly, S. Strickland**	Annie's Project in Florida: Adaptation of a Mid-West Farm Risk Management Curriculum to meet the needs of Florida's Women Agriculture Producers.
10:00		**Break**
10:15	**R. Atwood**	Weather Watch Program Provides Information to Agricultural Producers Assisting Them to Make Cold Protection Decisions.
10:30	**B. Wilder**	Pasture Weed Training in North Florida.
10:45	**T. Wilson**	Evaluation of Cool-Season Legumes using Two Seeding Methods in North Central Florida.
11:00	**J. Walter, S. Gamble**	Seeded Bermudagrass for Central Florida Pastures.
11:15	**D. Mayo**	Agricultural Water Quality Forum.
11:30		**Break for Box Lunch**

Time	Speaker(s)*	Abstract
1:00	**K. Stauderman**	Evaluating How Accurately Lawn Fertilizers Are Applied Using Homeowner Equipment.
1:15	**W. Wilber**	Compost the Most: A Composting Education Series sees Leap in Practice Change.
1:30	**M. D'Abreau**	Horticulture Training Program for Inmates at Hillsborough Correctional Institution.
1:45	**E. Bolles**	Victory Gardens: Escambia Extension Empowers Homeowners with Practical Gardening Expertise.
2:00		**Break**
2:15	**C. Saft**	Master Gardener Projects as a Graduation Requirement.
2:30	**J. Davis**	Teaching Water Saving Methods to New Villages Residents.
2:45	**B. Burn**	Focusing on The Villages, Florida Friendly Landscaping™ in the Nation's Fastest Growing Micropolitan Area.

*For a complete list of authors, see the schedule at a glance beginning on page 4 or the actual abstract.

Western Flower Thrip Monitoring for Pepper *(Capsicum annuum)* Production
D. Sui*, Palm Beach County Extension; **J. Funderburk,** UF-IFAS NFREC

Palm Beach County growers produce near 14,000 harvest acres of bell peppers, 25% of Florida production, with annual farm sales of $104 millions. Western flower thrip (WFT) *(Frankliniela. occidentalis)* is a major invasive pest to bell pepper production in Florida, forcing growers abandoning IPM for calendar sprays and causing yield loss of 20-50% during the 2005-2008 seasons. Since the majority of thrips population is constituted by many Florida native species which are competitors to WFT, the ability to differentiate WFT from the native thrip species is the key for growers to re-adopt IPM and lower the culls. **Objectives:** 95% of 25 pepper growers changing their "Blind Sprays" to WFT-ID featured IPM practices, and reducing the culls to 10% or less. **Methods:** Working together with IFAS entomology specialists and scouting companies, we organized 3 hands-on workshops to train growers for WFT identification and monitoring, established economic thresholds and IFAS recommendations, and field demonstrated cull reduction by practicing IPM. **Results:** Surveys showed: 21 growers (85%) have re-adopted the WFT-ID featured IPM practices and lowered the culls to 2-10% ($28.8 million in yield gains and reduced pesticides). **Conclusions:** Such WFT monitoring IPM extension program is applicable to all pepper production in Florida and worldwide. It also improves agricultural environment by following the economic threshold, under which there is no spray needed, and by putting natural enemies back to work.

Effect of Clipping Height on Weed Control and Yield of Perennial Peanut (*Arachis glabrata*).
C. Smith, Jackson County Extension.

Perennial peanut clipping height and harvest timing vary among hay producers. Many producers clip perennial peanut very short to recover more hay. Some producers harvest the last cutting as late as possible while others harvest earlier to allow perennial peanut time to recover before frost. **Objectives:** We wanted to compare the effect of clipping height and timing of the last harvest on weed control and perennial peanut yield. **Methods:** An experiment was initiated in an establish field of "Floragraze" perennial peanut. Treatments were arranged in a randomized complete block with four replications. Plots were 5 feet wide and 15 feet long. Plots were harvested by clipping with a walk-behind sickle-bar mower with a 30 inch cutting width. Perennial peanut was clipped at either one (1) inch or three (3) inches at each harvest timing. Perennial peanut green weight and dry weight were recorded to determine yield for each plot. All plots were harvested in June and again in either October or November. **Results:** Data from the June harvest indicated that clipping to one inch increased perennial peanut as compared to the three inch height. The 2nd harvest revealed similar results regardless of the timing (October or November). Plots harvested in November had fewer winter weeds than those harvested in October. **Conclusions:** Clipping height and timing of the last harvest does influence yield of perennial peanut and weed control in the following spring.

Operation S.A.F.E. – Agricultural Extension Teams Up With the Florida Agricultural Aviation Association to Provide Calibration Training for Aerial Applicators.

L. Baucum*, Hendry County Extension; **R. Rice,** Palm Beach County Extension.

"Spray Smart" is a popular large-boom ground-rig sprayer calibration offered by Agricultural Extension Agents from Hendry and Palm Beach Counties. Aerial applicators needing aerial CEUs often attend these sessions. In order to provide more specific aerial calibration training, we coordinated with the Florida Agricultural Aviation Association to provide an Operation S.A.F.E. (Self-Regulating Application and Flight Efficiency) calibration training. **Objectives**: Following the Operation S.A.F.E. Field Calibration Fly-In and Seminar Workshop, participating pilots representing 40% of the aerially-sprayed sugarcane acreage in Florida will quantify in-flight baseline spray patterns, make recommended calibration adjustments and equipment re-configurations, and repeat with additional flight tests until optimum spray patterns and calibrations are confirmed. **Methods:** Florida aerial applicators were invited to a 2-day workshop designed to increase spray application accuracy with improved coverage uniformity and reduced drift potential. Day 1 included in-flight spray pattern and swath uniformity testing with calibration measurements using fluorescent dyes, a software-driven fluorometer, and water sensitive media. Day 2 included seminars on drift mitigation, spray droplet control technologies, and web-based calibration software tutorials. **Results:** The 10 participating aircraft represented 70% of the aerially-sprayed Florida sugarcane acreage and initially tested below optimum calibration and/or exhibited airflow vortexes that compromised droplet patterns. Equipment reconfigurations and re-calibrations led to a 5 to 10% improvement in spray spectrums. **Conclusions:** The improved spray uniformity profiles resulting from the Operation S.A.F.E. Workshop translate into appreciable savings in flight time and cost of total applied materials. A single large aircraft spraying roughly 150,000 acres/year would save an estimated $112,500/year.

Annie's Project in Florida: Adaptation of a Mid-West Farm Risk Management Curriculum to meet the needs of Florida's Women Agriculture Producers

N. Wilson*, Marion County Extension**, L. Spence*,** Marion County Extension**, S. Kelly*,** Sumter County Extension**, S. Strickland*,** Hernando County Extension**, S. Taylor,** Hernando County Extension**, J. England,** Lake County Extension**, R. Kluson,** Sarasota County Extension**, N. Demorest,** Columbia County Extension**, A. Wysocki,** UF/IFAS Food & Resources Economics, **M. Gutter**, Family, Youth and Consumer Sciences.

Annie's Project is an inter-disciplinary farm financial risk management program for women in agriculture. Over a two year period a team of 14 Agriculture and FCS Extension Agents and UF/IFAS Specialists adapted the Annie's Project curriculum to Florida. The program was launched in Marion, Sumter, Suwannee, Hernando and Sarasota Counties. **Objectives:** Gain knowledge in the five risk management areas and be provided the tools and resources needed to minimize risk; Understanding of interpersonal skills and how it relates to their farming business; Learn how to interpret financial statements; Be empowered to make appropriate farm financial management decisions; Evaluate the insurance coverage of their farm and make changes. **Methods:** Workshops were composed of various learning strategies for example: lecture, group work, case studies, and panel discussion. Each session provided in-depth instruction on the five risk management topics and taught by qualified experts representing the industry, government, university and local

businesses. **Results:** Participants were provided weekly evaluations. 90% percent of the responses indicated they would be implementing QuickBooks Pro as their new record keeping system. Behavior changes such as creating a business plan and will were observed in most participants. 100% of the women verbally or on evaluations indicated this was the best program they had ever attended and felt the networking opportunities with other women producers, local resources and UF Faculty were important. **Conclusions:** A total of 100 producers participated in this new type of interdisciplinary programming with the program expanding by 100% next year to 10 counties offering this program.

Weather Watch Program Provides Information to Agricultural Producers Assisting Them to Make Cold Protection Decisions.

R. Atwood*, Lake County Extension and **C. Oswalt,** Polk County Extension

Objectives: The goal of the weather watch program is to educate and assist agricultural producers in making good cold protection decisions based on agricultural forecasts thereby saving water and money. **Methods:** Growers subscribe to the Weather Watch program at an annual cost of $100.00. These monies support the cost of a meteorologist who specializes in agricultural weather forecasting. This fee also covers the costs associated with the operation of a toll free phone line in which agents give updates on current weather conditions and how they affect cold protection decisions. Additionally, at the beginning of season subscribers receive a printed copy of the Weather Watch manual (74 pages). The agents provide educational instruction on the use of this information to make site specific cold protection decisions. **Results:** A survey was conducted for 2009-2010 season in which 97% of respondents said that the information provided by the Weather Watch program helped them in making their cold protection decisions. Ninety percent of agricultural producers stated that they saved at least 1-2 hours of running water per cold event. **Conclusions:** Based on survey results the weather watch program saved an average of 2,000 gallons of water per acre for each cold event. Total acreage is estimated to be approximately 218,780. This equates to 437,560,000 gallons of water being saved by the Weather Watch program per cold event. The 2009-2010 season had 17 nights when temperatures approached freezing for a total of 7,438,520,000 gallons of water saved. The information provided from weather watch extension education program resulted in $2,231,556.00 savings in cold protection costs.

Pasture Weed Training in North Florida.

B. Wilder,* Alachua County Extension, **J. Breman**, Multi-County Agent: Alternative/Specialty Crops

One of the most common questions asked of county agents by clientele is weed identification. Unfortunately, there are thousands of weed species in Florida, which makes the identification process quite daunting. In addition, many livestock agents do not have a strong background in weed science and have stated they would benefit from an in-service training in pasture weed identification and control. We decided to organize a pasture weed training in north Florida targeted towards livestock and agriculture agents. **Objectives:** 1) To improve livestock and agriculture agent knowledge of pasture weed identification and control expertise. 2) Organize an in-service training that would be “hands-on” as well as build skills and resources for agents to use with clientele in their counties. **Methods:** The Identification and Control of Weeds in Pastures and Fence Lines

Workshop was held on August 14, 2009 in Micanopy, FL. The training was organized by Barton Wilder and Dr. Jacque Breman. The speakers at the workshop were Dr. David Hall, retired extension botanist, and Dr. Jason Ferrell, extension weed specialist. **Results:** Eighteen extension agents learned to properly identify and control 45 pasture weeds. IFAS photography captured 45 images of the weed specimens for use in future trainings. The agents also learned to use a plant press to preserve weed specimens for future use. **Conclusions:** Due to the positive response to the training, the organizers would like to see the workshop become an annual event. Possible changes to future workshops include a change of location and a multiple-day workshop format.

Evaluation of Cool-Season Legumes using Two Seeding Methods in North Central Florida

T. Wilson*, Bradford County Extension; **Y. Newman,** Agronomy Department

Cool-season legumes are a cost-effective alternative source of N for pastures and they provide high nutritive value to livestock. When overseeding cool season legumes into warm-season perennials, good seed to soil contact is critical because of the grass competition. **Objectives and Methods:** To evaluate the adaptation of different legumes and to compare two different methods of land preparation, three replicates of four legumes ('Dixie' crimson clover, *Trifolium incarnatum*; 'CW' berseem clover, *Trifolium alexandrinum*; 'Armadillo' medic, *Medicago polymorpha*; and 'Devine' medic, *M. minima*) were broadcasted into two blocks each representing a method of land preparation (disking, and chisel plus disking). Legumes were broadcast according to variety recommendations. Treatments were arranged in a randomized block design and data analyzed using Proc Mixed in SAS. **Results:** Dry matter yields were significantly higher when using chisel plus disking than disking alone ($P \leq 0.05$). Dixie and Armadillo had similar DM yield (5,070 lb/acre) followed by CW berseem (3,965 lb DM/acre) and Devine medic (2,315 lb DM/acre; $P \leq 0.05$). **Conclusion:** Dixie, Armadillo, and Berseem showed a good adaptation to the Pelham fine sands found in Bradford County. When overseeding cool-season legumes into bahiagrass pastures, a combination of chisel plus disking seems to provide better seed-to-soil contact than disking alone.

Seeded Bermudagrass for Central Florida Pastures.

J. Walter*, Brevard County Extension; **S. Gamble***, Volusia County Extension, Y. Newman, Agronomy, University of Florida; D. Mudge, Orange County Extension; C. Bateman, Osceola County Extension ; J. Shuffitt, Marion County Extension; E. Jennings, Pasco County Extension; and M. Warren, Flagler County Extension.

Situation: Hybrid bermudagrasses are outstanding warm-season perennials however vegetative propagation requires conditioning of planting material and specialized equipment not feasible for many landowners of limited acreage. Seeded types are an alternative that offers ease of establishment for the medium to small land-owner. **Objective:** The objective was to evaluate the adaptation of seeded types of Bermudagrass in Central Florida, and to educate the small acreage clientele about seeded bermudagrasses options and their management. **Procedure:** Three replicates of eight seeded bermudagrass varieties plus two hybrids (Tifton 85 and Coastal) bermudagrasses were planted in a randomized block during July 2008. During establishment, percent plot cover, winter survival and flower date were recorded. Plots were harvested during the

growing season every 28 days and evaluated for dry matter yield and quality. Fertilizer and weed control practices followed IFAS recommendations. Plots were successfully established and one growing season of data collected; and two field days were conducted. **Results:** Hybrid Tifton 85 bermudagrass was highest yielding (10600 lb DM/acre/year) followed by seeded types Mohawk and Cheyenne, which were similar in production to hybrid Coastal (8100 lbs/acre). Seeded type, Mohawk, exhibited early season growth as compared to the other grasses the first year. **Conclusion:** Seeded bermudagrass varieties can produce acceptable dry matter yields per acre comparable to Coastal bermudagrass. Additional evaluation is needed to capture year-to-year variability and sustainability. Seeded bermudagrasses are easier to plant, requiring less coordination and equipment than the vegetative varieties, offering ease of establishment to landowners.

Agricultural Water Quality Forum

D. Mayo*, Jackson County Extension; C. Smith, Jackson County Extension; T. Obreza, UF Soil & Water Science

The announcement of EPA's Proposed Numeric Nutrient Water Quality Criteria for Florida in January or 2010 created a great deal of concern and fear for farmers and ranchers. Local producers did not understand the repercussions of these standards, or what the best course of action was for their individual farms. **Objectives:** An advisory committee of agriculture leaders was organized to discuss the proposed standards. The committee developed the idea for a Forum to provide farmers and ranchers a better understanding of the EPA's proposal, find out what level of nutrient loading had been measured in local area water bodies, and the best course of action to protect them from liability. **Methods:** The Forum was held on April 15, 2010. Seventy eight farmers, ranchers, and government agency personnel attended the educational forum. Four informational presentations were followed by a panel discussion which allowed audience interaction. **Results:** Each speaker recommended that the best approach to dealing with the proposed was to sign up for the BMP program. **Conclusions:** Exit surveys indicated that: 85% found the information presented at the Forum helpful, 83% had a better understanding of how water quality issues relate to agriculture after attending, and 63% plan to take action as a result of the Forum with 32% still considering action. Of those planning to take action: 50% plan to investigate the BMP program, 36% were ready to sign up for the BMP Program, 46% wanted more specific information related to their farm, and 21% will seek professional advice.

Evaluating How Accurately Lawn Fertilizers Are Applied Using Homeowner Equipment.

S. P. Arthurs, Mid Florida Research and Education Center,UF and **K. Stauderman***, Volusia County Cooperative Extension, UF.

Inappropriate use of fertilizers in urban environments is a contributing factor to increased nutrients loads in Florida water bodies. **Objective:** We tested how accurately lawn fertilizers were applied by 36 master gardeners and other horticultural professionals. **Methods:** Volunteers were asked to apply a label rate of fertilizer (Scotts® Turfbuilder 32-0-10 at 2.81 lbs/1000 sq. ft. and Sunniland 10-0-10 at 6.5 lbs 1000/sq.ft.) using three spreaders (Scotts HandyGreen® Hand-Held rotary, Scotts Basic™ Broadcast Rotary and Scotts AccuGreen® 1000 Drop). **Results:** On average, applications using

the hand-held rotary spreader were relatively accurate (103% of target rate), while applications using basic broadcast rotary spreader tended to be over applied (160% of target rate) and applications using the drop spreader tended to be under applied (42% of target rate). There were also some differences between the slow release (fine granular) and high volume low N quick release (coarse granular) fertilizers, although this difference depended on the type of equipment used. **Conclusion:** Our simple study highlights that fertilizers are not always accurately applied; sources of individual error included variability in applicator walking speed, inaccurate swath widths (either too narrow, e.g. with rotary push or too wide, e.g. with drop spreader), and the amount of pesticide loaded into containers. A good approach to test individual equipment and allow a quick check of overuse or underuse is for applicators to (1) determine lawn area to be treated and (2) calculate and weigh required amount of fertilizer needed accurately, before application.

Compost the Most: A Composting Education Series sees Leap in Practice Change.
W. Wilber * Alachua County Extension Service

In January of 2010 yard waste pick up changed in Alachua County. The waste department stipulated that yard waste must be contained in purchased bags or reusable containers. The County Waste Department wants to increase homeowner composting of yard waste on site. Because of these policy changes, a partnership was formed between the Alachua County Extension Service and the County Waste Department to deliver composting education to homeowners. **Objectives:** To increase homeowner knowledge in composting and to deliver a skill set to enable them to start composting and to make experienced composters more successful. To train a core set of compost champions who could later train and help others to learn composting. **Methods:** A three part class series was delivered that included hands on demonstrations, lectures, tours, and student presentations. The original curriculum came from IFAS information and from the book, Let it Rot by Campbell. **Results:** As a result of the composting series, 100% of first time composters were composting within two weeks of taking the classes. Experienced composters reported increased knowledge gained in the importance of pile temperature and pile aeration. All attendees reported an increase in knowledge of different composting methods, vermicomposting and large scale composting for community gardens. **Conclusions:** Alachua County's model for dealing with yard waste is changing. As we move to a more sustainable community, composting yard waste will be essential. By creating a composting curriculum, training series and a core of composting trainers, Extension will be prepared to educate for this change.

Horticulture Training Program for Inmates at Hillsborough Correctional Institution
Marina R. D'Abreau, Hillsborough County Extension

Hillsborough Correctional Institution is a female facility that offers vocational and betterment programs. In February 2010, a pilot horticulture training program was initiated to provide the landscape industry with a labor pool of individuals trained in landscape Best Management Practices, to provide inmates with life skills, to reduce the recidivism rate and to encourage inmates to participate in community volunteer efforts upon release. **Objectives:** 50% of participants will complete the course and pass the final exam with a score of 80%. 25% of participants will be able to obtain a job in the landscape industry within 1 year of release. For participants with longer

sentences, 75% will demonstrate and apply landscape BMPs while assigned to grounds maintenance. **Methods:** Participants take a 16-week course with classroom and hands-on instruction. A pre- and post-exam measures change in knowledge. Participants must attend at least 14 classes and pass the final exam with a score of 80% or greater to receive a certificate of completion. **Results:** The pilot class began with 24 inmates, and 17 completed the course. Of those, 7 will be released in the next 12 months, and their efforts to find a job in the landscape industry will be tracked and recorded. **Conclusions:** This program can be reproduced across the state. The time component is significant, and support from the Warden is essential. For future attempts, long-term follow-up will be most successful if training is limited to inmates who will be released a few months after the completion of the training.

Victory Gardens: Escambia Extension Empowers Homeowners with Practical Gardening Expertise
L. Johnson*, E. Bolles*, **A. Diller**, and **D. Lee,** all from Escambia County Extension

Objectives: The aim of the Victory Garden program was to address the significant interest in backyard gardening and do-it-yourself landscape management by creating capable, self-reliant gardeners. Community members vocally expressed an interest in lowering their food costs by growing their own food and improving their quality of life. The programs were designed to provide in-depth information to successfully grow, maintain, and utilize vegetables, fruits, aquaponic systems, lawns, and perennials. **Methods**: The two-hour educational sessions include lectures, field demonstrations, and hands-on activities to increase homeowner understanding and implementation of gardening, aquaponics, and food preservation techniques. Because individuals enjoy hands-on activities and learn best when given an opportunity to put theory into action, an outdoor aquaponic tank and demonstration garden was incorporated into lessons to show basic principles of plant installation, lawn care, and propagation methods. A Master Gardener volunteer constructed and planted a 200 square foot raised bed for demonstrating soils, vegetable and herb varieties, and cultural practices for home gardening. Extension coordinated with the Road Prison horticulture department to grow vegetable transplants for participants and provide citrus trees as door prizes. Eleven educational sessions were conducted on Saturday mornings. **Results**: The Victory Garden sessions reached 464 residents with Extension information. Program evaluations indicated that 93% of participants gained new knowledge on subject matters and 100% intended to use the information learned from programs. **Conclusions:** The diverse sessions of the Victory Garden program were of great interest to the community and addressed topics that brought practical, researched-based information to clientele.

Master Gardener Projects as a Graduation Requirement.
C.S. Saft*, Suwannee County Extension

Historically, even with diligent interviewing and screening there are usually a couple of new Master Gardener graduates who never give back their required volunteer hours. The Agent has spent considerable time and effort training Master Gardeners with little return for their effort. **Objectives:** Ensure that 100% of new Master Gardener graduates give back some of their required hours and give an educational project piece to the county program. **Methods:** Trainees were required to create an educational piece based on a suggested list of projects or personal choice.

Guidelines were given and resource materials were provided. Trainees gave a 15 minute presentation on their projects in the last two weeks of class. **Results:** 100% of Master Gardener trainees graduated and completed self-directed projects that were given to the county program. The Agent also learned about the initiative, creativity, presentation skills, and self-motivation of trainees. **Conclusions:** Master Gardener trainees researched and gained new knowledge on their respective topics that they never took the time to learn before. Evaluation of the trainees allowed the Agent to better understand the strengths of trainees and how to utilize them better in the future. Completed projects are now available for use at festivals, fairs, workshops and for rotating displays at area libraries. The projects have also been shared with other Master Gardener programs and Soil & Water Conservation Districts in Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, and Taylor counties. The projects provide an opportunity for all trainees to give back time and free Agent time.

Teaching Water Saving Methods to New Villages Residents.

J. Davis, Sumter County Extension

Objective: Florida is second in the nation for water use. Florida also has one of the fastest growing retirement communities in the country. The Villages community consists of over 65,000 people. In 2008, the U.S. Census bureau listed The Villages as the fastest growing micropolitan area in the United States. Due to this rapid rise in population and development, water conservation has taken a center stage in The Villages. Inefficient irrigating wastes the water and contributes to pollution. The objective of this project was to implement water saving methods to new residents moving to Florida. **Methods:** Monthly workshops teach water saving methods such as how to operate an irrigation controller, proper irrigation maintenance and Florida-Friendly Landscaping™. Visual media aids, hands-on demonstrations of irrigation controllers and components were incorporated in this project. Pre and post tests were distributed to examine behavior change. **Results:** 76% (n=54) of residents now manage their irrigation controller correctly. 93% (n=54) of residents now properly maintain their irrigation system. 52% (n=54) of residents now irrigate the recommended ½" to ¾" of water per week. 64% (n=54) of residents irrigate only on assigned days. 61% (n=54) now select proper Florida-Friendly plants for their area. **Conclusion:** Based on results, this project has been a success. Attendance has increased to an average of 75 residents per workshop every month. The Villages now routinely advertise the workshop to new homeowners attending orientation. Workshops will continue to be taught to new and existing residents of The Villages.

Focusing on The Villages, Florida Friendly Landscaping™ in the Nation's Fastest Growing Micropolitan Area.

B. Burn, Sumter County Extension

The UF/IFAS Extension Program Review Team suggested that the Sumter County Urban Horticulture Program increase extension education opportunities to the untapped market of The Villages. According to the Census Bureau, The Villages is the fastest growing micropolitan area in the United States. The county extension office is thirty miles from this growing population. **Objectives:** 1000 residents will attend 2009 Focusing on The Villages Urban Horticulture Program events, while 50% of surveyed attendees will adopt at least one Florida Friendly Landscaping ™ (FFL) principle. **Methods:** Two educational methods, Florida Gardens Twice on Tuesday and Florida Gardens

Questions and Answers, were developed to reach The Villages' residents within their location. In-kind contributions of facilities enabled question and answer sessions and group teaching events to be delivered thirty-one times to area residents. **Results:** 2,665 residents attended these creative educational opportunities. 500 residents were unable to attend due to limits on facility size. An online follow up survey evaluated 2009 Focusing on The Villages events. 69% (192) of attendees adopted at least one FFL principle. 75% (133) of respondents stated that their specific horticulture questions were adequately answered, while 60% (133) of attendees adopted UF/IFAS recommendations to solve their landscape problems. **Conclusions:** Focusing on The Villages significantly increased participation in the Urban Horticulture Program and lead to adoption of FFL practices in one of the Nation's fastest growing retirement communities. Adoption of FFL principles has the ability to reduce storm water runoff, water usage, and will result in proper applications of fertilizers and pesticides.

4-H and Youth

Scotland A

Sarah Hensley, FAE4-HA Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker(s)*	Abstract
8:50	**Moderator**	Introductions & Procedures
9:00	**M. Brew**	Ready SET Blastoff: A 4-H Day Camping Experience.
9:15	**V. Spero-Swingle,**	Using Project Learning Tree to Train the Trainers in Environmental Education Programming.
9:30	**G. Thomas**	Invitational 4-H Shooting Sports Competition.
9:45	**M. Brinkley, H. Kent**	Manners for the Real World.
10:00		**Break**
10:15	**J. Lilly**	How to get $10,000 for 4-H Camperships.
10:30	**K. Bryant, K. Stauderman, J. Taufer**	Ag In The Classroom Summer Day Camp.
10:45	**C. Suggs**	4-H Grievance Process – Every County Should Have One.
11:00	**L. Cash**	Legisl8ture.
11:15	**N. Moores**	Teaming Up for Youth.
11:30		**Break for Box Lunch**

Time	Speaker	Abstract
1:00	**X. Diaz**	Vegetable Gardens: A Healthy Environment to Learn, Grow and Consume
1:15	**J. Schrader**	Clay County 4-H Paws Project
1:30	**A. Duncan, N. Moores**	Fun, Fitness and 4-H
1:45	**S. Swenson**	Recycouture Day Camp: Reduce, Recycle, Re-Fashion
2:00		**Break**
2:15	**B. Estevez**	Early Release 4-H Workshops
2:30	**J. Dillard**	Falling Waters State Park Eco-Camp
2:45	**T. Pehlke**	4-H FIRST Robotics Clubs T. Pehlke*, Orange County Extension

*For a complete list of authors, see the schedule at a glance beginning on page 4 or the actual abstract.

Ready SET Blastoff: A 4-H Day Camping Experience

M. Brew*, Marion County Extension; C. Coody, Union County Extension; C. DeCubellis, Ghilchrist County Extension; B. Estevez, Suwannee County Extension; H. Futch, Hamilton County Extension.

Objectives: Igniting an understanding of, and appreciation for, science is central to 4-H's science, engineering and technology (SET) mission mandate. In response to this a day camping program entitled "Ready, SET, Blast Off" was developed and piloted in Marion County, Florida during the summer of 2009. The primary objectives of the day camp were to: 1) Increase the number and diversity of SET learning opportunities available to youth; 2) to reach a more diverse urban audience; and 3) to engage and retain intermediate aged youth. **Methods:** The day camp consisted of 10 lessons spread over 4 days and covered a variety of topics ranging from character development and communication to the scientific method. Participants had the opportunity to develop and test hypothesis, launch model rockets, conduct experiments and design a space station. Life skills targeted included critical thinking, decision making, character, healthy lifestyle choices, and communication. **Results:** Of the 45 participants 33 were female (75%) and 21 were minorities (47%). This represents a significant increase in minority enrollment. Eighty-nine percent of participants (n=40) indicated significant gains in SET based knowledge and skills as evidenced by a minimum 35% positive increase in scores between pre and post evaluations. Thirty participants (67%) indicated an interest in pursuing a SET related career. **Conclusion:** Programs such as "Ready, SET, Blast Off" can serve as a platform for youth to experience science based learning in a fun and engaging atmosphere. During the summer of 2010 this camping curriculum was utilized by four additional Florida Counties.

Using Project Learning Tree to Train the Trainers in Environmental Education Programming

V. Spero-Swingle, Brevard County Extension, **D. Hurley**, Brevard Zoo, **J. Swingle**, Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

Objectives: Environmental Education (EE) is a growing field and with the current disconnect between youth and the environment, as well as the rising obesity rates, getting youth active, outdoors, and caring for the environment is relevant and important. One of the most effective ways to introduce EE is through a curriculum called Project Learning Tree (PLT). Most PLT trainings target teachers, but UF/IFAS/Brevard County Extension, in collaboration with the Brevard Zoo and Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, offered a training to address the needs of Parks and Recreation employees in charge of summer camps, after school programs, recreation centers, and special events. By the end of the training in April 2010, 80% (n=16) of the attendees should feel comfortable with and plan to use PLT in their programming. By August 2010, 80% (n=16) of the attendees should have used PLT in their programs in an effort to teach EE concepts. **Methods:** Post-tests and follow up surveys will assess the perceived knowledge and behavioral change of the attendees. **Results:** At the end of the training, 75% (n=16) of the attendees planned to change their instructional practices based on what they learned and 94% (n=16) agreed and/or strongly agreed that they acquired new skills at the training and the information, strategies, and instructional methods were helpful. **Conclusions:** By training the trainers to utilize this resource, they in turn can provide EE to their audiences. EE and outdoor education has been shown to increase learning, instill behavioral changes, and promote environmental awareness.

Invitational 4-H Shooting Sports Competition
G. Thomas, Flagler County Extension

Objectives: (1) Provide a safely conducted shooting sports competition for 4-H members who could compete in a match that would provide practice to increase their shooting skills for future competitions; (2) Provide an opportunity for 4-H youth to develop and strengthen life skills associated with shooting sports; (3) Increase public awareness of the 4-H shooting sports program. **Methods:** An invitation was sent out to all of the 4-H shooting sports clubs in the state to compete in this inaugural event hosted by the Flagler County 4-H shooting sports clubs. Eighty shooters from 10 counties were joined by 110 coaches, parents and friends. **Results:** Results of a written evaluation showed that 95% of the respondents stated the competition was helpful in providing practice to better their shooting skills for future competitions. Eight-five percent of the respondents stated the 4-H shooting sports program is usually/always helpful in developing the life skills of leadership, goal setting, concentration/focus, self confidence and decision making. Ninety percent of the respondents stated the competition was conducted in a safe/orderly manner. In addition to local newspaper coverage of this event, the 4-H Extension Agent was invited to speak about the competition on the National Rifle Association's nightly satellite radio program with a listenership of an estimated 400,000 people. **Conclusions:** This event provided the opportunity for 4-H shooters to increase marksmanship skills, build life skills and for the public to be educated about 4-H shooting sports.

Manners for the Real World
M. Brinkley*, Liberty County Extension; **H. Kent*,** NW RSA

Objective: "Soft skills" are necessary for work and life and help youth develop a sense of belonging and independence, which are two essential elements of positive youth development. The objective of this program was to teach 150 youth leadership manners, public manners, and social manners. **Methods:** The advisory committee and afterschool partners identified etiquette training as a need. Lesson plans and skill-a-thons were developed for elementary, middle, and high school youth to help them master social and business etiquette skills for today's world. The program has been used in club programs, camps, and school settings. **Results:** The program was evaluated using pre and posttests and skill-a-thons to measure knowledge gained; a follow-up parent survey measured behavior change. Seventy-eight percent of 64 youth surveyed demonstrated knowledge gained about table manners, and 69% demonstrated the correct way to make introductions and shake hands. Eighty-one percent demonstrated the proper procedure for displaying and folding the American flag, and 68% demonstrated knowledge gained in good sportsmanship behavior. Twenty-five percent of 16 parents surveyed reported that their child demonstrated increased awareness of proper etiquette when dining at a restaurant. Fifty-eight percent indicated that they had seen an improvement in their child's manners since participating in the program. **Conclusions:** The curriculum has filled a need to have quality materials readily available to teach youth valuable life skills and is available at http://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu/4H/Manners/manners.htm. These materials are currently being piloted in other states. Through a multistate effort, a youth project book is being developed.

How to get $10,000 for 4-H Camperships

J. Lilly, Jefferson County Extension

Objectives: To provide financial assistance to economically disadvantage youth in Jefferson County attending 4-H Summer Camp at Cherry Lake. **Methods:** Potential donors were identified: local merchants and families. Jefferson County 4-H sent letters to potential donors in March 2009. A reminder post card was later sent. Thirty-eight letters were sent out; thirty-five return with donations. In 2009, Jefferson County 4-H received $10,640.00. In order for campers to qualify for the campership they must meet the following criteria: youth must be a foster child, or family must receive Food Stamps, TANF (*Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*), FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) or WIC (*Women, Infants, and Children*). While at camp, each camper is required to write a personal thank you letter to donors. After camp, a camp DVD, a fruit basket, and thank you letters were delivered to donors. **Results:** As a result of the camperships in 2009, Jefferson County 4-H had the largest summer camp attendance of any county. **Conclusions:** The camp experience exposes youth to a world outside of Jefferson County. Jefferson County's resident help enrich the lives of at-risk youths through donations. Personal thank you letters from the campers and camp DVD allow donors a firsthand look on how their contributions are making a difference in a child's life.

Ag In The Classroom Summer Day Camp

K. Bryant*, Volusia County Extension; **K. Stauderman***, Volusia County Extension; **J. Taufer***, Volusia County Extension.

In this electronic age, youth spend more time interacting using computers and cell phones and less time outdoors in nature. The result is that many students are lacking in knowledge and awareness of outdoor environmental and agricultural issues that will affect them today and in the future. The Jr. Master Gardener introduces nine (9) and ten (10) year olds to the art and science of gardening and helps them develop life-skills to become good citizens within their communities. This program offers horticulture and health education through fun and creative activities. **Objective:** To help students develop a better understanding of Florida's multi-faceted agricultural industry and its relationship to our economy, environment, health, and quality of life. **Methods:** A week long summer day camp was conducted with twenty-three (23) participants. Topics presented included: plant growth, insects, attracting wildlife, food crops, environmental issues and horticulture. Activities included instruction from Extension Agents, Master Gardeners and student volunteers. Daily sessions involved hands-on activities, lectures, scavenger hunts and demonstrations. **Results:** The participants were surveyed to determine the most popular session. Sixty-eight percent (68%) expressed that the "grow-heads" and "dairy days" (ice-cream making) were most enjoyable. "Honey Bee Education" and "Strawberry Jammin'" showed the most knowledge gained, based on before and after test results. **Conclusions:** The majority of participants indicated increased knowledge of Florida grown produce. All participants sampled recipes made from locally grown ingredients. This program impacts the local economy by encouraging the purchase and consumption of fresh Florida agricultural products. Additionally, youth showed increased appreciation for the value and impact agriculture has on their everyday lives.

4-H Grievance Process – Every County Should Have One
C. Suggs, Lee County Extension

Objectives: To establish a Code of Conduct and a Grievance Process that establishes expectations for 4-H participants, parents, and volunteers when they represent 4-H at club, county events, fairs, and a process to address 4-H grievances as they occur. **Methods:** The County 4-H Youth Council, County 4-H Advisory Board, and Club Organizational leaders gathered code of conducts and grievance procedures from 4-H counties in Florida and Colorado. Several meetings of the various groups were held to gather input. A committee made up of 4-H Council youth, 4-H Advisory Board members, and 4-H Foundation Board members met to develop a Lee County Code of Conduct and Grievance Process. The final version was sent to the 4-H State office and County legal for review and input before implementation. **Results:** All 482 youth signed the Lee County Code of Conduct and Grievance Process for the 2009-2010 4-H year. Complaint calls and letters to the DED and state 4-H office reduced to 0 for the program year. There were two grievances that went to the Lee County review committee in 2009-2010 and all parties felt they were handled fairly and in a timely manner. **Conclusions:** Through implementation of the Grievance Process Lee County 4-H members understand what is expected of them as 4-H members and representatives at out of club activities. They also understand the steps that need to be taken to file a grievance.

Legisl8ture
L. Cash, Volusia County Extension

Objectives: Legisl8ture has four objectives: (1) To encourage Intermediate 4-Hers to participate in State Legislature; (2) to teach Parliamentary Procedure and Public Speaking skills; (3) to provide Senior 4-Hers the opportunity to practice and teach the younger youth; and (4) to provide the youth with the privilege of meeting and engaging their local legislators. **Methods:** District VIII officers work with the Agent to organize the event. This is a one-day event that takes place the week before State Legislature. The morning is spent in committees. After lunch, the “House” convenes and bills are presented and debated. Legislators and guest speakers visit during the event. Participants were provided with padfolios, pens, bill books, voting cards, business cards and activity guides from the Senate and House of Representatives. **Results:** In 2009, 37 youth from Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia Counties attended the event. Seventy three percent (n=27) completed the evaluation. Seventy four percent (n=20) reported that they learned parliamentary procedures and how committees operate; 81% (n=22) reported that they learned how a bill becomes a law; and 85% (n=23) reported that they learned about the roles of Speaker, Clerk and Committee Chair. When asked if this event would encourage them to attend State Legislature, 93% responded “yes.” **Conclusions:** Before an event like State Legislature, it is a good idea to hold a local one. Legisl8ture prepares youth in a familiar setting among friends. It provides the opportunity for debate on timely and interesting subjects and the chance to meet their legislators.

Teaming Up for Youth

N. Moores* Hernando County Extension/4-H Agent

The economic situation was poor in the summer of 2009; many county employees were facing layoffs, decreased benefits and mandated furloughs. Extension Faculty created a plan to offer children of county employees and current 4-H members a day camp for only $10 a week that would cover plant science, rocket science, aviation, aerodynamics, water conservation, forestry, crafting, recreation and more. **Objectives:** Youth will demonstrate an increased knowledge of scientific reasoning, an increased understanding of environmental impacts and responsible behavior, experience multiple hands-on learning activities related to science, and teen counselors will plan and carry out several recreation and team building activities and enhance their leadership skills and knowledge. **Results:** 100% of youth demonstrated an increased knowledge and application of scientific principles; demonstrated ways to lessen environmental impacts and preserve natural resources; participated in at least 10 hands-on learning activities; and 100% of the teen counselors demonstrated a greater understanding of recreation leadership and team building. Diversity: 24% of the youth participants represented minority populations. Hernando County's overall population is only 11% minority. **Method:** The agents and FYN Coordinator all worked together to plan a five day, interactive camp that cost nothing but time and cooperation. Everyone focused on their areas of expertise and one of our most important resources was the trained and experienced teen Camp Counselors. They were the extra helping hands that allowed us the ability to hold up to 20 kids per class. Campers were active every step of the way building, amongst other things, volcanoes, rockets, lunar modules, kites, pizza gardens, terrariums, edible bugs, rain barrels, friendship quilts, exploding scrapbook boxes and more. **Conclusion**: Team efforts can provide cost effective programs for all youth.

Vegetable Gardens: A Healthy Environment to Learn, Grow and Consume

X. Diaz, Marion County

Youth Garden Project cultivates personal growth, self responsibility and community awareness. Youth who participate in vegetable garden projects discover fresh food, make healthier food choices, and are physically active. A research done by Tuft University suggest that youth who plant and harvest their own vegetables are more likely to eat them.[1] **Objective:** Youth will acquire knowledge by hands on work and real life experiences thus gaining a greater understanding of and appreciation for agriculture and nutrition. **Method:** The Seminole garden project gives youth ages five to eighteen a chance to understand of vegetable production by preparing a garden plot, covering subjects such as, soil preparation, compost, irrigation and entomology, and the completion of a recordbook. Understand the costs involves in vegetable production, market value, selection and how to incorporate the vegetables grown in their diet. **Results:** 50 vegetable gardens were grown in Marion County. This hand-on project impacted 873 4-H youth. **Conclusion:** Base on the experience on work in a vegetable garden project with nutrition education and cooking projects, gave youth the opportunity to value their own products, share with the community and consumed them. Furthermore, youth acquired knowledge on cost savings through growing their own versus buy it the market.

[1] Tufts University, School of Nutrition. Center on Hunger, Poverty, and Nutrition Policy. The Link between Nutrition and Cognitive Development in Children. Policy Statement. Medford, Massachusetts, 1994.

Clay County 4-H Paws Project

J. Schrader*, Clay County Extension; **S. Conner**, Clay County Extension

Objectives: 4-H members will develop character and learn valuable life skills through community service projects that focus on providing help and giving assistance to others. **Methods:** Members of the Ham Jammers 4-H Club in Clay County, Florida learned that limited income seniors at local meal sites were not eating their lunch-time meals. They were taking food home to share with pets because they could not afford pet food. As a result, they were not getting the nutrition meant to be provided by this program. Our 4-H youth and their leaders organized a pet food drive and secured 1685 cases of food, valued at $64,000, from a pet food producer and the PAWS Program was born. In partnership with the Meals on Wheels program, youth delivered pet food and meals to meal sites and home-bound participants. **Results:** 87 seniors were helped through the project and were able to enjoy the meals without worry their pets might go without. 4-H members developed relationships with the seniors and also provided other assistance. The club received much media coverage and used the community service hours in applying for scholarships. The pet food company has offered to provide supplies to groups in surrounding counties in hopes this will encourage others to conduct similar projects. **Conclusions:** Working in partnership with local county agencies provides 4-H members an opportunity to observe, understand, and participate in community issues and solutions. These 4-Hers learned many life skills such as goal setting, organization, and communication and also gained ideas for future projects.

Fun, Fitness and 4-H

A. Duncan* (Citrus County Extension) **N. Moores*** (Hernando County Extension)

Objective: Provide 200 district members a hands-on experience during which they would: a) burn a total of 50,000 calories without conventional exercising; b) learn one method of having fun while becoming healthier; c) spend up to 6 hours in the sun without experiencing any negative effects. **Results**: The number of participants was 267 with 58 registering for the fitness challenge. After the 6 hour event, average calories burned for thirty minutes of an activity were calculated and more than 61,000 were burned by those participating in the challenge and a total of 246,720 were burned by all attendees. Observation, questioning and follow up led to the conclusion that no participant burned due to sun exposure and no injuries were reported for the entire event. **Method:** District VII Council members held a fun & fitness day at Weeki Wachee Springs. This event included educational material and a fitness challenge. The material included the number of calories burned during some common summer activities (swimming, walking) and contained websites for more information. The second side was Sun Exposure Education; information on SPF numbers, screen –vs- block and hydration. All participants were encouraged to sign up on the Fitness Challenge Posters and record every thirty minutes of a single “burning” activity. While visiting the posters or the pavilion, everyone was reminded to reapply their sun protection and to stay hydrated. When participants registered or came to ask questions, the agents educated them on how easy it was to burn calories and “exercise” while having fun and that not all workouts had to be in a gym. **Conclusion:** Burning calories while having safe sun fun is a great way to promote 4-H Health Rocks.

Recycouture Day Camp: Reduce, Recycle, Re-Fashion
S. Swenson*, UF/IFAS Wakulla County Extension

Objectives: To allow youth the opportunity to learn what body image is, family, peer, and media influences on image, and being healthy at any size through UF/IFAS curriculum. The participants learned how to be more "planet friendly" to reduce waste and be more creative by re-fashioning a piece of clothing from a re-sale store. **Methods:** The day camp included the following: the presentation of the UF/IFAS curriculum on self-image and being healthy with discussion following; the creation of a fabric block from accumulated "junk"; and learning how to plan, transform and model a completed garment. All projects based on from a re-sale store or underutilized items that needed re-fashioning to be of value to the participant. Sewing, creativity, and reading centers were provided for the participants to utilize so each could fully realize their goals. **Results:** The majority of the participants indicated that they learned to design and sew clothing. They indicated that they learned how to work in a group which included the need to share materials and instructors' time. Participants learned that it is appropriate to save money and the planet by finding ways to creatively re-fashion items of clothing. The participants indicated that they have a raised awareness of being healthy at any body size. **Conclusions:** Participants, when encouraged, will creatively express themselves and one medium can be to re-fashion clothing. A 4-H Sewing Club was formed as a result of the day camp with one of the camp volunteers becoming a leader.

Early Release 4-H Workshops
B. Estevez, Suwannee County

The practice of providing children and youth with extended learning opportunities (before- and after-school, weekend, and summer) to expand their learning and participate in a variety of extracurricular activities is long standing. After-school activities can provide young people with a positive alternative to spending time on the streets or being home alone in the afternoons. There is a growing body of research indicating that high-quality after-school programs can reduce risk-taking behaviors, provide positive developmental opportunities, and improve the academic performance of students, particularly those at risk for academic failure. This is especially true in Suwannee County, which has on record some of the highest high school dropout rate in the state of Florida. **Objectives:** Use partnerships to teach youth life skills during a three hour period on early release school days. **Methods:** Advertised through 4-H newsletter and leader emails. Arranged leadership, forestry, first aid, bread making, teambuilding, birds of prey and two meat science workshops led by industry professionals. Workshops were three hours in length on the first Wednesday of the month during the school year. Pre and post tests were administered for each workshop. **Results:** Youth increased their knowledge by an average of 58% in the specialty areas provided at the workshops. **Conclusions:** Youth were able to apply the concepts from hands-on experiences to learn life skills and relate them to their own lives. Youth were also able to interact and learn about careers with professionals from their respective fields.

Falling Waters State Park Eco-Camp
J.P. Dillard, Washington County

Objectives: Eco-Camp sought to increase the awareness of the unique ecology of Falling Waters State Park by engaging youth in field based science experiments, habitat observation and the scientific process. **Methods:** The 4-H Agent approached the Park Specialist at Falling Waters State Park about implementing Eco-Camp within the park during the summer of 2009. After gaining support, two middle grades science teachers were recruited to teach the majority of the program with the Park Specialist and volunteers from the Chipola Area Groundwater Outreach Project providing the remainder of instruction. Using curriculum from Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, Project WET and The Schoolyard Activity Guide, lessons were developed that focused on the habitats within Falling Waters State Park, its unique ecology and landscape and conservation practices. **Results:** Thirty-seven youth participated in the six-day camp with six hours of programming each day. Three new 4-H volunteers were recruited, screened and trained. Collaborations with Falling Waters State Park, the Washington County School District and the Chipola Area Groundwater Outreach Project were established to support the camp. **Conclusions:** Youth completing Eco-Camp 2009 completed activity portfolios that were assessed for completeness. 100% of youth participants received a 90% or better on their portfolio. Eco-Camp 2010 is scheduled to be held this summer and will again be taught by last year's volunteers. Eco-Camp has expanded to a multi-county program to include youth in neighboring Holmes County. Two youth who completed last year's Eco-Camp have been recruited to serve as teen leaders during 2010 Eco-Camp.

4-H FIRST Robotics Clubs
T. Pehlke*, Orange County Extension

Objectives: To develop Science, Engineering, and Technology (S.E.T.) life skills among 4-H youth through involvement with FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics. **Methods:** The National 4-H Council has established a partnership with FIRST robotics in accordance with its S.E.T. initiative. FIRST is the international robotics competition founded by Segway creator Dean Kamen (http://www.usfirst.org/). There are four levels of competition: Junior FIRST LEGO for ages 6-9, FIRST LEGO for ages 9-14, FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) for ages 14-18, and FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC) for ages 14-18. "Under strict rules, limited resources, and time limits, teams … are challenged to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program a robot to perform prescribed tasks against a field of competitors" (USFIRST.org). The season culminates in a series of team competitions that recognize robot performance, design, presentation skills, community service, much more. **Results:** Orange County was the second 4-H program in the country to have clubs participating in FIRST robotics. We currently have two clubs competing in FRC, one in FTC, and have plans to add a FIRST LEGO team next year. Over the past two years Orange County 4-H robotics teams have won regional competitions in Florida, Connecticut, and North Carolina. **Conclusions:** FIRST robotics teams have proven to be a great addition to the 4-H program. Through this relationship we have attracted new youth and volunteers, established community partnerships, and attracted additional media attention.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Scotland C

Judy Corbus, FEAFCS Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker(s)*	Abstract
8:50	**Moderator**	Introduction & Procedures
9:00	**M. Nayfield-Crisp**	Family Nutrition Program is Powerful in Pasco.
9:15	**A. Hinkle**	Growing a Pizza.
9:30	**N. Gal**	Florida Agriculture: Growing up Healthy with Foods from Florida
9:45	**M. Turner**	Nutrition Day at Bronson Middle High School.
10:00		**Break**
10:15	**B. Saari & K. Zamojski**	Seafood for Your Health.
10:30	**M. Maddox**	"Getting Healthy----Great Food----Smart Choices."
10:45	**A. Medina-Solorzano**	Edible Garden.
11:00	**N. Jensen**	Addressing Health Disparities in the African America Community.
11:15	**L. Bobroff, N. Gal, N. Jensen**	Internationalizing Florida Extensio's Diabetes Self - Management Education Program: The Antigua Experience.
11:30		**Break for Box Lunch**

Time	Speaker(s)	Abstract
1:00	**A. McKinney**	Engaging the Corporate Community in Financial Education through Community Networking.
1:15	**M. Gutter**	Florida Master Money Mentor Program.
1:30	**L. Spence**	Payday Lenders: Avoid Taking the Bait.
1:45	**C. Rogers**	Homemade Laundry Soaps.
2:00		**Break**
2:15	**M. Keith**	Response to Explosion of Interest in Home Canning.
2:30	**C. Kilbride**	SNAP-Ed Family Nutrition Program Report Generating Database and Instruction Book.
2:45	**S. Swenson**	Wakulla County Builds Community Partnerships and Offers Innovative Prgoramming.

*For a complete list of authors, see the schedule at a glance beginning on page 4 or the actual abstract.

Family Nutrition Program is Powerful in Pasco
M. Nayfield-Crisp*, Pasco County Extension

Objectives: 1) To increase the nutrition security of Florida families by providing practical programs about general nutrition, food selection, food safety/sanitation. **Methods:** The USDA grant-funded Family Nutrition Program started in Pasco, October 2007 and immediately became one of the largest programs in the state. Agent hired/trained seven new program assistants. The first year, 18 Title I elementary schools were targeted. By the end of the next year, 14 additional elementary schools, as well as 10 middle + 10 high schools were added = 52 total eligible sites. PAs taught nutrition lessons often accompanied by a hands-on food demonstration. At the end of each year a survey was done. The first year measured knowledge gained, the second behavior change, and the third utilized Turning Point Technology. Students reported they planned to change the following behaviors: #1 – Participate in physical activity every day to improve health (85%); #2 – Choose a greater variety of fruits and veggies every day (82%); #3 – Choose healthier snack foods at school and home (78%) **Results**: In 2009, the program assistants reached over 155,000 face-to-face and another 180,000 indirectly. In March 2010, community in-kind/match donations reached and all-time high of $108,000 for one month. By the end of 2010 (3rd year), the total grant value increased from $584,919 to $987,073. **Conclusions:** The Family Nutrition Program has become a very powerful tool not only for increasing nutrition basic nutrition/food safety awareness but also for developing community support and increasing funding for additional staff to extend Extension FCS programming.

Growing a Pizza
A. Hinkle, Escambia County Extension

Objectives: Target 200 youth from Escambia County with a nutrition and agriculture program to increase positive personalized nutrition habits and agriculture awareness. **Methods:** Lessons were designed to provide experiential hands-on learning opportunities for the youth. Groups rotated through five pizza stations. Youth learned about wheat that forms the dough, herbs, fruits and vegetables that top a pizza, nutrients found in pizza, and everything that happens for pizza to get from the farm to the table. Volunteers and agents assisted the youth with hands-on activities which included games, plantings, and making and eating their own healthy pizza. **Results:** 197 youth completed pre- and post-tests with nutrition, agriculture, and horticulture questions. *Growing a* Pizza supported knowledge gains and positive behavior changes. Overall knowledge gain was 23.5%. Knowledge regarding the type of wheat grown locally increased 54%. Knowledge about healthy pizza increased 37.5%. When asked one thing they learned, the biggest responses were that all MyPyramid food groups can be used for a pizza, veggie pizza is good for breakfast, and information about wheat and how flour is made. The top items children said they would add to their next pizza: pineapple and carrots. **Conclusions:** Youth increased agriculture, horticulture, and nutrition awareness as well as positive intended nutritional behaviors. Youth leaders commented that this was a very creative way to learn and would continue to incorporate the information into future lessons and activities.

Florida Agriculture: Growing up Healthy with Foods from Florida

N. Gal *, Marion County Extension; **N. Masciarelli,** Marion County Extension; **N. Samuel,** Marion County Extension

Objectives: To increase awareness of Florida's agricultural commodities and the importance of proper nutrition and physical activity in youth ages 8 to 11. This 8-page, healthy-lifestyles, educational newspaper is based on the USDA MyPyramid guidelines for youth, encouraging healthy food choices and regular physical activity for a lifetime of wellness, while skillfully incorporating Florida-produced foods and commodities, including facts and statistical data. **Methods:** For visual interest and stimulation, nutrition and health information is cleverly blended with eye-appealing illustrations of Chef Nicky, the fruit and vegetable loving guinea pig mascot. Concepts are presented, reinforced, and evaluated through various instructional activities like crossword puzzles, word scramble, activity journal, writing prompt, science experiment, matching identification, recipes, and fill-in-the-blanks. This publication meets the Florida Department of Education Sunshine State Standards for math, science, and reading/language arts and can be adapted for any region or state by simply substituting the foods and commodities. **Results:** Extension produced for Florida Agriculture in the Classroom for distribution to 3rd - 5th grade classrooms; pre/post tests were developed for teachers to measure knowledge gain and are available online at flagintheclassroom.com, along with an activity answer key. Evaluation results of the 30,000 copies deployed are being handled by Florida Agriculture in the Classroom. Preliminary pilot results from 100 youth show a mean score of 41% on the pre-test and 78% on the post-test, indicating a 90% increase in knowledge gained. **Conclusions:** Early intervention of positive lifestyle behaviors is the key to normal growth, healthy development, disease prevention, and overall wellness.

Nutrition Day at Bronson Middle High School

M. G. Turner*, Levy County Extension; **A. Phillips**, Levy County Department of Health; **S. S. Strickland**, Levy County Department of Health; **I.M. Hatch**, Levy County Family Nutrition Program; **K. J. Krueger**, Levy County Family Nutrition Program; **C. L. Brock**, Levy County Family Nutrition Program, **C. Jones**, Levy County School Board Wellness Committee Chair.

Objectives: to find an acceptable way to teach nutrition education in a high school setting. Levy County School Board Wellness Policy requires five (5) hours annual nutrition education taught by integrating throughout the curriculum. UF IFAS Levy County FNP regularly teaches nutrition in elementary schools, but does not reach middle/high schools successfully. **Methods**: FNP proposed a "Nutrition Day" where all teachers/students would teach/learn nutrition with MyPyramid as the day's theme. This allows nutrition to reach ALL students for the six (6) hour day and meet the requirement in just one day. Upon administration approval, FNP collected nutrition lesson plans that followed the sunshine state standards for ALL classes. Teachers taught the first four periods. A nutrition pep rally and outdoor nutrition activities took place during the last two periods. An evaluation was given to students and teachers the following week. Approximately 614 students and 37 teachers participated. This was a joint venture between agencies listed above and the administration, faculty and students at the local middle/high school. Program format could easily be adaptable to many subject matters. **Results**: Evaluations show that the majority of teachers and students enjoyed the day. 58% (121 of 209) students reporting indicated that they learned at least one new piece of nutrition and/or physical activity knowledge. Outside activity observations

indicated that middle school students knew more about MyPyramid than the high school students. We've been invited back next year! **Conclusions**: This method is an acceptable way to continue nutrition education in the middle/high school setting.

Seafood for Your Health

B. Saari*, Okaloosa and Walton County Extension; **K. Zamojski*,** Walton County Extension;

Objectives: The Seafood for Your Health program was designed to increase consumption of local seafood, reduce concerns about mercury and other contaminants, and increase knowledge about types of seafood and cooking methods. **Methods:** The agents conducted three hour classes in two locations. Classes began with participants identifying their current seafood knowledge and experience. The agents then presented information on the health and safety of seafood. In a hands-on experience participants prepared seafood recipes and tasted various types of seafood ranking each in flavor, oiliness, and satisfaction. The agents developed an educational booklet containing seafood information and recipes. **Results:** Participants were surveyed following the class for changes in knowledge and behavior. Participants reported gaining a clearer understanding of mercury and other contaminants and increased knowledge about the health benefits of eating seafood. Through the tasting session participants gained exposure to new types of seafood. 100% of participants planned to increase seafood consumption as a result of learning new information about its health and safety. **Conclusions:** This type of seafood program proved to be successful with multiple audiences. Follow-up surveys of participants demonstrated behavior changes lasting months after the program. The booklet has been adapted for use in other counties.

"Getting Healthy----Great Food-----Smart Choices"

M. Maddox*, Sumter County Extension

Objectives: In Sumter County Florida, 33% of the adult population has been diagnosed with high blood pressure and 43.8% with high cholesterol. Overweight and obesity are concerns with 72.7% adults not consuming the proper servings of fruits and vegetables per day. 35.1% adults are overweight with a BMI greater than 25 and 25.1% with a BMI greater than 30. 1,142 individuals died due to cardiovascular diseases, heart diseases and hypertension. Through workshops participants adopted at least three practices for attaining healthy nutritional behavior changes and demonstrate healthy food choices by reducing the sodium, fat and sugar in their diets. **Methods:** A series of 5 different two hour nutrition classes were designed to educate county employees and individuals to by make healthier food choices and save money. Topics addressed included: hidden sodium, fat and sugar in the diet, shopping wisely and making healthy choices when eating out. **Results:** 800 individuals and 40 county employees signed up for classes. Two sessions were held for county employees and two sessions for 450 individuals with 350 individuals waiting for future classes. 85% of participants lowered their blood pressure, cholesterol and A1C. 75% made healthier choices when shopping and eating out by selecting items lower in fat, sodium and sugar. **Conclusions:** Pre and Post test along with six month follow-up survey were used to measure the results. Individuals improved their quality of life and 60% of individuals saved over $100.00 a month in medical bills by making healthier food choices. Additional classes will be offered.

Edible Garden

A. I. Medina-Solórzano*, Palm Beach County; **A. Kristen**, Palm Beach County, **C. Gomes,** Volunteer

Objectives: 1- To teach participants gardening skills that enable them to plant South Florida friendly tropical fruits and vegetables. 2- To teach participants the nutritional value and how to prepare what they grow. **Methods:** This program is designed to teach about growing and using unusual tropical fruits and vegetables. The workshop lasts 3 hours and is divided in two parts: horticulture and nutrition/tasting. In the horticultural portion, participants are taught how to grow and take care of plants in pots, their backyard, and hydroponics gardening. Other topics include crops that can be grown in South Florida, harvesting timelines, and site preparation. In the nutritional portion, participants learn the nutritional value of known and new produce and calories burned while gardening. A food demonstration shows how to prepare and serve the foods. A display and tasting exotic tropical foods follows at the end. Participants receive a plant seedling or seeds. **Results:** A total of 137 participants attended. Post program evaluation indicated 100% learned about new fruits and vegetables. Ninety percent of participants indicated a desire to increase intake of fruits and vegetables and will use the information and handouts. **Conclusion:** Studies by Centers for Disease Control indicate that a diet high in fruits and vegetables is associated with lower risks for chronic diseases. This program will help improve the health, lifestyle and economic well being of individuals in Palm Beach County.

Addressing Health Disparities in the African American Community

N.C. Jensen*, Pinellas County Extension

Data from a 2005 Pinellas County Health Department survey indicated that the African American population in Pinellas County was 3 times more likely to die from complications of diabetes than their White counterparts and bore a disproportionate burden of the disease. In addition, African American high school students were twice as likely to be overweight as their White counterparts, demonstrating an even greater disparity than in Florida as a whole. **Objective:** To reduce and eliminate gaps in diabetes and childhood/adolescent obesity/overweight among the African American population of St. Petersburg through activities designed to: increase awareness of risk factors; promote healthy behaviors; reduce high risk behaviors; and improve access to health care. **Methods:** To address the health disparities, a coalition of seven community partners including Pinellas County Extension, was formed and funded through a 3 year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Beginning in 2007, a number of focused, community-based collaborative projects, including youth exercise and nutrition classes, family programs on healthy food preparation and weight management and diabetes disease management services got underway. In addition, a grassroots leadership organization, the Midtown Health Council, consisting of private citizens, neighborhood leaders, business persons and healthcare agencies and providers was formed to support the projects and serve as a community liaison. **Results**: Evaluations show increased knowledge about health disparities, improved health behaviors, lower body mass index, lower HgbA1c and improved patient-health care provider interactions among program participants. **Conclusions:** Collaborative partnerships can work to address health disparities in minority communities.

Internationalizing Florida Extension's Diabetes Self-Management Education Program: the Antigua Experience.

L.B. Bobroff, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences, **N.J. Gal,** Marion County Extension, **N.C. Jensen,** Pinellas County Extension, **T. Thompson,** Florida Department of Health, & **P.L. Doering**, College of Pharmacy.

The increasing incidence of type 2 diabetes necessitates creative approaches to provide diabetes self-management education (DSME), which reduces risk of debilitating and costly health complications. *Take Charge of Your Diabetes* (TCYD) is an in-depth collaborative DSME program designed by a team of Extension faculty in Florida. The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) supports TCYD by funding training and providing technical support. **Objective**: To expand the outreach of TCYD beyond the U.S. border. **Methods**: In 2008, we began a discussion with the Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS) in Antigua about providing TCYD training and in January 2010, the training was provided by four county and state University of Florida faculty and our FDOH contact. We first visited with health professionals at the MBS, the hospital in St. Johns, and local health clinics to learn about the Antiguan health system and their approaches to DSME. The three-day training, which they videotaped for future trainings, was attended by 30 health professionals, including dietitians, diabetes educators, nurses, pharmacists, and physicians. We provided research updates and detailed training on the TCYD program, including program planning, implementation, and evaluation. **Results**: Their response to the training was uniformly positive and the MBS made a televised public commitment to implement the TCYD program as soon as possible, which they accomplished within three months of the training. We continue to provide research and program updates. **Conclusions**: TCYD can be adapted for use in other cultures when local health professionals receive in-depth training in program implementation.

Engaging the Corporate Community in Financial Education through Community Networking.

A. McKinney, Duval County Extension.

Objective: To increase financial literacy in Duval County, Florida, by implementing financial education programs at worksites. To increase corporate worksites from two in 2008-09 to 8 sites in 2009-10. **Methods:** The agent developed a general audience financial education program and trained volunteer educators over a three year period. By partnering with the Real Sense Prosperity Campaign - a United Way Initiative, a committee of influential community leaders was assembled in 2009 to assist the agent in marshalling social marketing resources to multiply efforts to increase worksite programming in 2009-10. Tactics included a breakfast for corporate CEOs and Human Relations Directors at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Jacksonville Branch, news articles were placed with the Manufacturer's Association online newsletter, personal contacts were made by influentials, brochure and video were produced. **Results:** Twelve new corporate programs or series were presented in 2009-10. Over 500 employees attended 26 presentations. 93% surveyed increased their knowledge of financial best practices. **Conclusions:** Extension can leverage resources and increase programming efforts and results through strategic networking

Florida Master Money Mentor Program

M. S. Gutter, Family, Youth, and Community Sciences

Objectives: The main objective of this program is to provide peer-to-peer support and financial education to low- and moderate-income Florida families to promote positive financial practices. **Methods:** Master Money Mentors provide one-on-one consultations for individuals and families who are experiencing financial difficulties. Volunteers receive 20 hours of comprehensive financial training, including utilization of community resources, strategies for dealing with financial problems, and the mentoring process. Opportunities are provided in class to practice mentoring skills in small groups and one-on-one. Each volunteer agrees to provide financial mentoring to at least 24 individuals within one year of training. Volunteers are required to complete continuing education throughout the year to be re-certified each year. **Results:** Thirteen counties are currently participating in the program. In two counties, training has already been conducted and 22 mentors are seeing clients. Three other counties currently have mentor trainings scheduled, while eight counties are in the process of scheduling trainings. Efforts are continually being made to extend the program into additional counties. Impacts will be measured by changes in financial knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors through pre- and post-tests. Follow up studies will be used to document sustained behavior changes. **Conclusions:** By establishing this training program, we aim to increase financial knowledge and positive financial practices relating to budgeting, savings, debt management, banking services, housing, and credit management. That knowledge can then be spread in rural and low-income communities where it can have a profound impact.

Payday Lenders: Avoid Taking the Bait

L. Spence, Marion County Extension Service.

Situation: In this period of economic uncertainty, when hours have been cut back and jobs lost, individuals seek alternative solutions to mitigate their financial crises. A payday lender seemingly offers a quick and easy solution. Capitalizing on unfortunate circumstances, predatory lenders grant their customers short term loans that increase the borrower's initial encumbrance. Research finds that payday lending is designed to keep borrowers in debt, not to provide one-time assistance. **Objectives:** 1) Seventy-five per cent of attendees will show increased awareness and knowledge about the topic; 2) Sixty-five per cent will share with at least one person, at least one thing they have learned in the class. All objectives were measured by a post-test evaluation. **Methods:** The method of delivery was a 60-90 minute interactive program using a Power Point, worksheet, and role play. **Results:** To date, 43 individuals have attended this program. Eighty-two per cent (N= 38) showed increased awareness and knowledge about the subject. Eighty-two per cent (N=38) indicated they would share some part of what they learned with someone who did not attend the program. **Conclusion:** Extension financial management training helps individuals develop skills and learn strategies intended to help them avoid predatory lenders. Extension is perfectly positioned to counter increased marketing efforts targeting the ill-informed consumer

Homemade Laundry Soap

C. Rogers, Suwannee County Extension

The present downturn in the economy has caused the resurgence of money-saving ventures such as canning, gardening and making products from scratch. What began as a county fair display featuring an eco-friendly, low-cost, homemade laundry soap became a very popular program. The recipe required only three ingredients; Twenty Mule Team® Borax, Arm and Hammer® Washing Soda, and either Ivory® soap or Fels Naptha®, and took about twenty minutes to make. Cost analysis revealed this soap costs approximately one cent per load. In addition, the soap softened clothes so that money was also saved by reducing or eliminating the cost of fabric softener. **Objectives:** To teach a specific method for saving money by making homemade laundry soap. **Methods:** A display called "Clean It Green" was created for the Suwannee County Fair. Workshops for demonstrating how to make the laundry soap for adults and youth utilized a multimedia presentation, fact sheets, posters, and samples. Many e-mail contacts were established as a result of the product and the recipe was e-mailed. An article was written for the local newspaper. **Results:** At least 20% of the approximately 350 contacts have made at least one batch of homemade laundry soap. **Conclusions:** At one cent per load the resulting savings was approximately $20 per batch per contact. Depending on the size of the family, participants could save hundreds of dollars per year. One mother of four boys has been making two batches of laundry soap per month, saving $40 each month and $480 per year.

Response to The Explosion of Interest in Home Canning

M. Keith, Hillsborough County Extension

Objectives: Responding to growing interest, classes were offered to increase participants'; 1. knowledge and 2. confidence in their ability to safely can foods at home. **Methods**: Classes were advertised in local papers, through county employees' e-mail, county TV and publicity office, in Master Gardeners' classes, compost and rain barrel workshops, at gardening events and others. Registration was on Eventbrite.com. Each class covered one or two types of canning: fruit; pickles, either cucumber or other vegetable; tomatoes; jams and marmalades; or pressure canning of vegetables. Classes were participatory demonstrations with participants around the stove and checking the canners. **Results:** Twenty classes have had full registrations, with almost 180 people trained. The majority had no prior canning experience or had only made jam/jelly. After class between 40 and 80% reported feeling 'very confident' that they could can at home, the rest felt 'pretty confident". Most reported planning to can tomatoes or fruits, followed by jams, pickles, vegetables and then meats and seafood. **Conclusions:** Public interest in home canning is exploding. People choose to can for economy, to avoid losses during power outages, to store food at camp and hunting blinds, to know exactly what's in their food, or for perceived health and flavor benefits. About half of those who had canned reported that they would change their procedures, thus increasing their safety. While hands-on classes are preferable, when they are not possible participants can learn safe procedures and be confident in their abilities via participatory demonstrations.

SNAP-Ed Family Nutrition Program Report Generating Database and Instruction Book
C. Kilbride, Martin County Extension

Objectives: To design a complex database for USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) county providers, to easily input data for their monthly reports to track clientele, education, match income, budgets, and more. Currently, the University of Florida's Family Nutrition Program provides ten required monthly forms in PDF format and four in Excel. Although the information within many of these forms relates to one another, none of them combine the data automatically. Thus the process has been to rewrite the same information in several different ways and hand-calculate to produce a finished product. **Methods:** A FileMaker database was designed for compilation and calculation of data obtained from county educational program statistics, where county personnel enter data only once, to be used in a variety of monthly reports. A 58-page Instruction Book was also designed as a step-by-step resource guide. For downloading the program and updates, a website was created for easy access. **Results:** This new technology compressed a two-week data gathering and report writing process into two days. The impact for county personnel is: ease of use, locates data in seconds, increases productivity, and improves accuracy. **Conclusions:** Forty Florida counties are currently beta-testing this database. The finished product could significantly impact other SNAP-Ed providers nationwide who would be in need of operating and maintaining an effective data gathering system at the county level.
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Wakulla County Builds Community Partnerships and Offers Innovative Programming
S. Swenson*, UF/IFAS Wakulla County Extension

Objectives: To teach basic computer skills through the utilization of the UF/IFAS *Keeping the Pressure Down* curriculum. **Methods:** Wakulla County Workforce Center requested training on basic computer skills. In hopes of building a stronger partnership among community agencies, the Wakulla County FCS Agent and a volunteer coordinated an eight session series in the computer lab of our county's library. The participanyd created a hypertension handout in Word, assessed a day's sodium content through Excel, and assembled an educational Power Point on hypertension. Through the manipulation of information, participants learned the latest in the subject matter while practicing basic computer skills. **Results:** Participants increased their computer skills while learning how to reduce the risk of hypertension, reduce blood pressure, coronary heart disease risk and stroke. Through the public awareness of the series, 10 computers and stations were donated to the Extension Office for future programming. **Conclusions:** The incorporation of valuable health and nutrition information into the computer training series allowed the learning process to work most effectively. The potential for this "marriage" of subject matter training with needed health-related information offers many opportunities for future programming. Evaluations not only proved knowledge gain and the intent to change behaviors but participants encouraged future offerings to include this interrelationship of knowledge and technique building. The participants felt that by manipulating "real" information, a deeper level of learning resulted.

Natural Resources and Horticulture

Emerald

Andrew Diller, FANREP Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker(s)	Abstract
8:50am	**Moderator**	Introduction & Procedures
9:00	**E. Foerste**	Four Years of Low Impact Development Workshops: Multi Agency Collaborations and Real-World Outcomes.
9:15	**R. Madhosingh-Hector, V. Crayton**	GreenStar Staff Training Program.
9:30	**M. Campbell**	Pinellas County Green Business Partnership.
9:45	**S. Kraeft**	Middle School Green Ambassadors Showcase Earth-Friendly Knowledge at Green Living Expo.
10:00		**Break**
10:15	**M. Monroe**	Should We Use Wood for Energy: High School Students Can Decide!
10:30	**J. Cuda**	Reaching the Masses: Using Polycom for a One-day Recertification Event for Pesticide Applicators.
10:45	**L. Barber**	Impact of Microirrigation Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents.
11:00	**J. Bradshaw**	Targeting High Water Use Customers to Conserve Water Resources in Citrus County.
11:15	**A. Post**	Community Efforts to Improve Water Flow and Filtration Through Natural Areas Restoration.
11:30		**Break for Box Lunch**

Time	Speaker	Abstract
1:00pm	**J. Hink**	Great Partnership Can Equal a Quick Response: Gulf Oil Spill Disaster.
1:15	**J. Hazell & B. Staugler**	Blue Crab Trap Removal Exercise and Development of Guidelines for Statewide Crab Trap Removal.
1:30	**L. Krimsky**	The Kids, Let's Go Fishing! Program.
1:45	**B. Saari, J. Bearden**	Reach Out With Science (ROWS).
2:00		**Break**
2:15	**B. Fluech, J. Hazell, B. Staugler**	The Great Goliath Grouper Count Pilot Project.
2:30	**R. Northrop, M. Andreu**	Increasing Capacity for Collaboration – Science, Management and Education e*X*change.
2:45	**L. Racevskis, J. Hazell**	An Overview of the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute.

*For a complete list of authors, see the schedule at a glance beginning on page 4 or the actual abstract.

Four Years of Low Impact Development Workshops: Multi-Agency Collaborations and Real-World Outcomes

M.J. Kipp, Program for Resource Efficient Communities; **E.C. Foerste***, Osceola County Extension; **M.W. Clark**, Department of Soil and Water Science; **M.E. Hostetler**, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation; **H.S. Knowles**, Program for Resource Efficient Communities; **B.C. Larson**, Program for Resource Efficient Communities.

Objectives: Conventional approaches to land development and stormwater management have led to significant declines in water quality statewide. Five years ago, Low Impact Development (LID) was a relatively new concept to many Florida professionals, yet LID design, engineering, and management approaches offered promise for improving land development processes and reducing associated adverse impacts. In 2006, the Program for Resource Efficient Communities (PREC) began to address the need for Florida-specific LID outreach by developing educational workshops for elected officials, developers, local government staff and field practitioners. **Methods**: Since their inception, the LID classes have grown in scope and content. To date, UF state and county Extension faculty and collaborators have delivered 22 LID local government workshops and 16 LID continuing education courses to over 1,500 professionals working in land development and water resource protection throughout the state. Program impact was evaluated in two ways: participants completed written in-class evaluations, and in April 2010, over 1200 of them were invited to complete an online "LID Implementation" survey. **Results**: Consistently, class evaluations were positive, with at least 4 out of 5 participants indicating that they would 'definitely' recommend the program to others. Online survey respondents indicated that they, collectively, are aware of 132 Florida-specific LID policy and project applications, and that the UF/PREC programs played a role in facilitating a majority (58%) of those applications. **Conclusions**: LID principles and practices are gaining traction throughout the state and UF Extension is playing a key role in this critical water quality arena.

GreenStar Staff Training Program

R.Madhosingh-Hector, V. Crayton*, Pinellas County Extension

Objectives: Pinellas County's Comprehensive plan states that Pinellas County "will incorporate its sustainability commitment into new employee orientation, and will offer, and require all management staff to train in sustainable and efficient operations for incorporation into daily office operations." The GreenStar program was developed and implemented to raise awareness and educate staff on Pinellas County Government's sustainable strategies and directives in the areas of waste reduction/recycling, green purchasing, pollution prevention and energy conservation. **Methods:** Quarterly classroom workshops, webinars, supplemental fact sheets, publications and electronic newsletters. In addition, we conduct follow-up online or paper surveys and review paper recycling reports. **Results:** To date two classes have been conducted, 58 staff has completed the training and 97% earned 70% or better on the final exam. Also, 50% of the participants reported the following: 96.2% purchased green products with one or more of the following environmentally preferable attributes: post-consumer recycled content, processed chlorine Free – Unbleached, third party certification, low or no VOC; 96.2% reported the shutdown of their computer and peripherals nightly; and 100% reported paper recycling efforts. **Conclusions:** By developing a targeted training

program, county staff will have the knowledge and tools to implement sustainable practices thereby satisfying Pinellas County's directives to reduce waste, purchase environmentally preferable products where practical, and reduce energy consumption.

Pinellas County Green Business Partnership
M. Campbell, Pinellas County Extension

Objectives: Support implementation of green and sustainable practices by businesses that reduce costs, decrease environmental impacts and create healthier work environments. This program provides recognition for businesses that attain the specific goals set out in the program. **Methods:** A voluntary assessment provides the framework for the program, supported by site visits, educational programs, and on-line resources for implementation of cost effective and impactful sustainable practices. **Results:** Results have shown cost reduction for businesses in energy used and for waste disposal. A Green Business Partner decreased energy costs by approximately 50% due to the change over from conventional bulbs to LED lights throughout his business with a two year and four month pay back period. **Conclusions:** Sustainable practices implemented by businesses save money, reduce environmental impacts and promote the change to a sustainable culture within the business, which supports the triple bottom line of sustainability: people, profit, and planet.

Middle School Green Ambassadors Showcase Earth-Friendly Knowledge at Green Living Expo
S. Kraeft*, Wakulla County Extension.

Objectives: To mentor ten middle school students in sustainable practices and present their knowledge to youth attending the Green Living Expo event in Wakulla County. Students will form and participate in an environmental club within their schools to continue teaching what they have learned and develop their leadership skills within their communities and 4-H. **Methods:** Students were recruited through science classes and participated in a spring break camp that taught them about recycling, tree identification, natural resource preservation and litterless lunches. Students exhibited presentation skills, leadership and practiced good environmental stewardship throughout the camp. Students produced fact sheets, posters and created activities to present during the Green Living Expo. During the Expo, visiting youth presented an Eco-passport at each of the five Eco-Stations and learned about specific sustainable practices. **Results:** Ten students completed all mentoring sessions and presented their information to 185 youth in attendance at the event. Forty three participants received Eco-Ambassador pledge cards stating their intent to practice what they learned. Behavior change in participants and visiting youth will be measured during the month of July with a follow-up survey to see how many of the green practices discussed and taught that each student is still practicing. **Conclusions:** Students who were mentored all exhibited a significant gain in knowledge of sustainable living practices, appreciation of local natural resources and expressed a positive interest and commitment to continuing their learning in an informal setting. Curriculum resources and sample materials developed and used will be available at workshop for Agents.

Should We Use Wood for Energy: High School Students Can Decide!

M. C. Monroe* School of Forest Resources and Conservation; **A. Oxarart**, School of Forest Resources and Conservation; **J. Tomasello Ireland**, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

As communities explore options for reducing carbon emissions with renewable resources, local wood may become attractive. Whether this is a good idea depends upon local understanding of energy sources, biomass supply and cost, and forest management. **Objectives:** To increase students' knowledge of energy and the possibilities of using wood for energy through investigative activities; practice critical and systems thinking skills; weigh advantages and disadvantages of using wood for energy; and evaluate how using wood for energy affects sustainability. **Methods:** We developed a curriculum of 15 engaging activities for high school biology, environmental science, and economics teachers that explore woody biomass and develop critical thinking skills in the context of sustainability. **Results:** A pilot test in Santa Rosa County found that the activities increase student knowledge about energy, carbon, and woody biomass. Students enjoyed learning about local energy use. In addition, teachers appreciated the engaging lessons. The teachers suggested shortening activities to fit a class period and providing more details on activity preparation, assessment, and organization. Culminating activities may not be used, however, if teachers do not have enough time to devote to the program. **Conclusions:** This adaptable and locally relevant unit can supplement science and social studies classes and enable students to investigate a current and potentially controversial issue. Revisions have made the unit more teacher-friendly. The ultimate goal of teaching about sustainability is not easily accomplished in a short unit, however, but could be the theme of a course on current issues. Materials can be downloaded from www.sfrc.ufl.edu.

Reaching the Masses: Using Polycom for a One-day Recertification Event for Pesticide Applicators.

F.M. Fishel, Department of Agronomy; **K.A. Langeland,** Department of Agronomy; **J.P. Cuda*,** Department of Entomology & Nematology

State law mandates that restricted use pesticide applicators be certified and licensed. There are approximately 12,000 applicators in Florida. To maintain their licenses, applicators are required to accumulate CEUs during the license cycle. Traditional CEU training programs have been on- site classroom-type meetings, primarily conducted through Extension. For efficiency reasons, innovative methods are being developed and evaluated for delivering CEU training. **Objectives:** 1) To use polycom for delivering a one-day statewide CEU certification program. 2) To determine if this delivery method is an effective approach for pesticide certification training. **Methods:** An agenda was formulated and submitted to FDACS for program approval. Upon approval, the Pesticide Information Office solicited all county Extension offices and RECs for hosting a site. On 30 March, the event was held with speakers delivering presentations from the main campus and one satellite location. Audiences at host sites were then requested to complete an on-line assessment. **Results:** In total, 50 host sites throughout Florida participated and the program attracted 1,028 applicators. Selected results from 667 returned surveys (65%) showed that: 1) This was the first polycom event for most of the participants, and the majority would be willing to attend a similar event in the future. 2) Likert scale responses from the applicators were overwhelmingly positive for the format. They indicated knowledge of herbicide use and IPM increased, and the information presented

would help their job performances. **Conclusions:** Polycom is an efficient means of delivering pesticide training and can be used effectively for educating certified applicators.

Impact of Microirrigation Workshops for Hillsborough County Residents
Lynn Barber, Hillsborough County Extension

Purpose was to help residents decrease potable water use for landscape irrigation by utilizing microirrigation. Outdoor irrigation contributes to the greatest amount of discretionary water use in the Tampa Bay area — up to 50 percent in some instances. **Objectives:** After participating in a microirrigation workshop, participants will: 1) adopt one or more water conservation methods; 2) decrease potable water used for landscape irrigation; and 3) gain financial savings from implementation. **Methods:** For over 10 years, Horticulture and FYN agents/coordinators have taught water-wise workshops to Hillsborough County residents. Inter-departmental and county funding provided educational materials, microirrigation kits, timers and rain gauges to workshop attendees. In 2010, a county-wide questionnaire was distributed to more than 1,000 households that attended one of 37 workshops. **Results**: Seventy-five percent (N=60) adopted at least one method of water conservation; 70% (N=56) maintained 2-3 inches of mulch; 64% (N=51) hydrozoned landscape beds and used a rain gauge adjusting irrigation accordingly. Sixty percent (N=48) are applying ¾ - 1 inch of water per irrigation application, and 98 % (N=78) found microirrigation helps conserve water. **Conclusions:** Per survey results, knowledge gain resulted in an average of 128.57 gallons saved per month (1,542.84/year). Average monthly savings was $19.27 ($231.24/year). Extrapolating these results, 128,570 gallons of potable water were conserved per month (or 1,542,840 per year), and $231,240/year savings on water bills.

Targeting High Water Use Customers to Conserve Water Resources in Citrus County.
J. Bradshaw,* Citrus County Extension

Situation: Florida's estimated statewide residential per capita usage is 106 gal/day (Marella, 2004). In comparison, water billing data in Citrus County indicate a residential per capita water usage of 221 gal/day. This being the case, a need existed for identifying high water use communities in Citrus County and educating them on methods of conserving water inside and outside the home. Based on current water billing data, the community of Sugarmill Woods was identified. **Objectives:** Program objectives include: (a) increase residents of Sugarmill Woods awareness of a variety of methods of water conservation by 20% and (b) implement methods which reduce domestic water use by 10%. **Methods:** Educational workshops and instructional materials were developed and implemented at six community centers events at Sugarmill Woods attracting more that 150 residents per event (900 total participants). **Results:** In addition to pre and post workshop evaluations, Sugarmill Woods' water usage dropped from 2.8.m million gal/d in Jan 2008 to 2.3 million gal/d in September, 2009. Approximately .5 million gallons per day of water was saved within the Sugarmill Woods community (182.5 million gal/yr). Collectively, residents also realized a 12% reduction in their billing rates. **Conclusions**: Access to water resource billing records makes it possible to target audiences who need water conservation educational programs. Additionally billing records enhance Extension's ability to evaluate the extent of practice change gauging overall program impact.

Community Efforts to Improve Water Flow and Filtration Through Natural Area Restoration.
A. Post, Sarasota County Extension

Objective: The Sarasota County Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program for Community Associations provides outreach programs to educate communities on strategies to preserve and restore natural areas as part of its outreach efforts. **Methods:** Assistance and information on identification of non-native invasive plants, strategies to remove non-native invasive plants, selection of appropriate native replacement plants, and management strategies, is provided during on-site outreach programs. In addition, grant funding opportunities to help these efforts are researched and discussed. **Results:** Of the 402 community associations that received on-site educational programs during the length of the program (2000-2009), 11% (44) reported that they have removed invasive plants and restored natural areas or stormwater retention areas. One such effort took place in the Calusa Lakes community, where about 16 acres of wetland preserve areas were infested with Brazilian Pepper. During 2006-2009, volunteers worked to remove Brazilian Pepper in about 12.5 acres (80%) of the infested areas, and replanted appropriate native wetland species such as Wax Myrtle, Dahoon Holly, Red Maple and Sweetbay Magnolia. Plans are underway for a collaborative effort to remove non-native invasive plants between Calusa Lakes and their neighbor, Mission Valley Golf Course. Invasive plants alter the functions and value of natural and stormwater retention areas by displacing native species and disrupting natural processes such as water flow and filtration. Preserving and restoring natural areas will improve natural processes, and improve water quality and quantity. As an added benefit, this project brought the community together, and proved to be a positive community building effort.

Title: Great Partnership Can Equal A Quick Response: Gulf Oil Spill Disaster
J.Hink*, Pasco Extension, **J Chatfield**, Florida Department of Environmental Health, **T. Spencer**, The Humane Society of Tampa Bay.

Reason: With the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico impacting Florida's shore line, volunteers wanted training. **Objectives:** Train and certify volunteers to (1) handle, treat and clean oil contaminated wildlife (2) handle oil related cleanup (OSHA / HAZMAT training), (3) provide professionals continuing education credits (CEU). **Methods:** Lecture series regarding care of affected wildlife, medical issues, treatment and nursing care advice as well as cleaning techniques once patients are stabilized. The classes also focused on safety with animal handling and protection from hazardous materials. Two different types of trainings were held certifying participants to respond to this disaster. A 6-hour training with seminars and wetlab for Oiled Wildlife Response and 6 hour OSHA / HAZMAT (both BP approved). Certification tests and on line resources by industry approved trainers. **Results:** All 200 participants gained knowledge skills to help with the difficult task to clean and rehab oiled wildlife and how to protect themselves and others from further contamination. Veterinarians and vet assistants received CEUs. Members of local, state and federal agencies participated along side with nonprofit organization and individuals to learn how to help. Both classes were approved through BP and all individuals received certification that allows them to respond to this disaster if needed. We have had several requests for help to reproduce this program. **Conclusions:** By having a great working relationship and working cooperatively with community partners, you can create a quality educational program and meet a critical need in a very short time frame.

Blue Crab Traps Removal Exercise and Development of Guidelines for Statewide Crab Trap Removal

J. Hazell*, Lee County Extension; **B. Staugler*,** Charlotte County Extension, **Dorothy Zimmerman,** Florida Sea Grant

Objectives: Lost blue crab traps pose a problem in Florida's waters by continuing to trap organisms. They can also pose a navigational hazard. The program objectives were: To conduct in cooperation with the area's commercial fishermen a volunteer blue crab trap removal exercise and training; work in partnership with FWC to develop guidelines for conducting volunteer blue crab trap clean up events; and develop outreach materials to educate the public about marine debris, explain the role of commercial fisheries in marine resource stewardship, and outline clean up procedures. **Methods:** The Agents held two train the trainer workshops and a hands on trap removal exercise to increase participants' ability to organize or become resources for clean ups in their region. A document entitled "Steps to Organizing a Local Derelict Crab Trap Removal Event" along with a "How To" video were produced, and posted on the Florida Sea Grant and FWC websites. **Results:** As a direct result of the project 6 clean up events were held around the state removing a total of 450 derelict crab traps from a marine environment encompassing 50,000 acres. The removal of traps restored diversity, function and productivity of coastal and marine ecosystems. Partnering with commercial fishermen allowed the demonstration of the positive role they play in marine resource stewardship. **Conclusions:** The project resulted in strengthened partnerships between Florida Sea Grant, FWC and commercial fishermen as well as enhancing the marine environment. Future clean ups can be conducted by trainees, increasing the benefit to partners and the environment.

The Kids, Let's Go Fishing! Program

L. Krimsky*, Miami-Dade County Extension

Objectives: The Kids, Let's Go Fishing! program is a partnership between Miami-Dade County's Sea Grant Extension Program and the Fishing and Conservation Trust. This family fishing program targets first time anglers and introduces them to the sport of fishing, while promoting local marine industries and responsible fishing techniques. **Methods:** The program combines educational components with interactive hands-on participation. The trips start with a preparatory lesson where participants learn about state fishing rules and regulations, proper handling and release techniques, and safety precautions. While fishing, ongoing instruction with the kids and adults focuses on using circle hooks and dehooking tools, as well as the identification and ecology of the fishes caught, and how this information relates to the State's rules and regulations. **Results:** Participation in the fishing program resulted in measureable knowledge gained and resultant behavior changes. Participants showed increases in their ability to read and understand Florida's fishing regulations and how to properly handle a fish, as well as their likelihood to use dehooking tools and circle hooks. 6 months after their participation, behavior changes include always referring to Florida's fishing regulations and the use of circle hooks and dehooking tools. The program also helped to increase business revenue and repeat business for the for-hire charter boats. **Conclusions:** The Kids, Let's Go Fishing Program succeeded in its objectives of promoting the sport of fishing and responsible fishing techniques, and increasing local business revenue and the number of anglers. In 2010, the program expanded to include five fleets in three counties.

Reach Out With Science (ROWS)

B. Saari*, Okaloosa and Walton County Extension; **J. Bearden*,** Okaloosa County Extension **K. Zamojski,** Walton County Extension; **S. Wilson,** Walton County Extension

Objectives: Reach Out With Science (ROWS) is a program that features an innovative outreach approach to teach Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) principles, though recreational and educational activities targeting at-risk youth. **Methods:** Youth received instruction in marine and upland environments and scientific principles were reinforced by participation in various educational activities such as rowing, healthy lifestyles, GPS/Geocaching, ATV safety and shooting sports. Delivery methods for this program include an overnight camp, day camps, and science clubs. During the overnight five-day camp, youth self selected the areas they wanted to participate. Youth gained hands-on instruction in their area of focus. **Results:** Nearly 1000 youth and adults participated in various adaptations of the ROWS program. Combining these multi-disciplinary activities enhanced learning in the focus areas and increased appreciation of the environment in which they live. Knowledge gain and behavior changes in the areas of environmental awareness, healthy lifestyles, and science were indicated on post-surveys. **Conclusions:** Participants that have participated thus far have reported an increased affinity for the recreational activity and the natural environment. A multi-disciplinary approach and multiple delivery methods make this program easily replicated in other counties.

The Great Goliath Grouper Count Pilot Project

B. Fluech*, Collier County Extension; **J. Hazell*,** Lee County Extension; **E. Staugler*,** Charlotte County Extension; **J. Stevely,** Manatee County Extension

Objectives: Goliath Grouper are a protected species with a life history that is not well understood. The Great Goliath Grouper Count (GGGC) will (1) provide fisheries managers with a "regional snapshot" of goliath grouper size distribution and minimum abundance values for designated artificial reefs in Southwest Florida and (2) increase participants' knowledge and awareness of goliath grouper ecology and management issues. **Methods:** Trained divers will collect data on goliath grouper abundance and size distribution and document site characteristics at approximately 60 pre-determined artificial reefs between Collier and Pinellas Counties within the same 5-day period. All participants will be required to participate in pre-count training sessions taught by Sea Grant Agents and designed to reduce sampling errors and promote consistency through the study area. The training are also meant to educate participants about goliath grouper ecology and management issues. **Results**: The GGGC will take place the first week of June. Data collected from GGGC will be compiled into a GIS map and used to compare differences in goliath abundance and size distribution between different sites. Evaluations from the training sessions will be compiled to assess the effectiveness of the trainings in educating participants about goliath grouper ecology and management and sampling protocols. **Conclusion:** The GGGC provides a unique survey of a large number of reef sites in a short period of time that is beyond the resources of scientists working alone. It's an opportunity to provide fisheries managers with additional data that can be used during future goliath grouper stock assessments.

Increasing Capacity for Collaboration - Science, Management and Education e*X*change 2009
R.J. Northrop, Hillsborough County Extension; **M.G. Andreu**, Ph.D., UF-IFAS

Objective: In August 2009 the Tampa Bay Watershed Forest Working Group (TBWFWG) was originally formed in 2006 to establish and foster a collaborative focus on forest conservation within the context of sustainability. This program supported the TBWFWG mission of 'creating a scientific framework for ecological assessment and sustainable management of the Tampa Bay watershed's trees and forested ecosystems'. **Methods:** To create opportunities for interaction – among diverse groups and build understanding among members, agencies and private organizations the TBWFWG organized the 1st Watershed Forest Annual *eXchange* and invited peer reviewed presentations to highlight current forest conservation and restoration work within the watershed. Intended outcomes included fostering collaboration and dissemination of innovative ideas. Fourteen presentations were made by government agencies and private organizations. **Results:** A survey of the 96 attendees indicated that: 1. presentations provided insights into incorporation of ecosystem-based technical, social or economic perspectives decision-making process (100%); 2. new technical, social or economic tools were incorporated into forest management or planning (82%); 3. the workshop fostered new or renewed interest in collaborating with other biological, physical or social science/management professionals (91%); 4. presentations stimulated investigation new or innovative approaches to solving natural resource problems (91%); and 5. specific information from the workshop has been applied to personal or professional life (100%). **Conclusion:** The workshop was significantly successful in fostering new and innovation collaborative approaches to solving the complex natural resources.

An Overview of the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute
L. Racevskis*, Food and Resource Economics & **J. Hazell*,** Lee County

Objectives: The Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute (NRLI) is a professional leadership development program based on the belief that by applying the appropriate skills and tools, contentious issues can be resolved. NRLI provides training in these skills and exposes participants to diverse perspectives. This proposed EPAF session would introduce agents to NRLI and present examples of natural resource and policy issues studied in the program. **Methods:** Over the course of eight months, a class of approximately twenty Fellows participates in eight 3-day seminar and activity sessions. Each Fellow completes a Practicum, which allows individuals to implement skills learned in the program and apply them in a real world context. Each session is held in a different part of the state in order to illuminate the diversity of Florida's unique ecological, economic, and social characteristics and dynamics. Sessions consist of a combination of field trips, expert presentations, panel discussion, and interactive classroom instruction. **Results:** After nine classes and 170 alumni who have completed a Practicum, the program can be shown to have had significant positive impacts. An alumni survey is implemented annually to assess program impacts, and alumni testimonials are regularly collected to demonstrate program benefits. **Conclusions:** NRLI exposes participants to diverse viewpoints, allowing them to enhance their leadership skills while expanding a statewide perspective on natural resource issues. NRLI has an active Alumni Association, a key asset that provides graduates with continual networking opportunities and can help extension agents build stronger networks with stakeholders around the state.

NOTES

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

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Members of the Extension Professional Associations of Florida are encouraged to prepare program abstracts for 2011. Abstracts are ranked for selection based on a scoring system that emphasizes objectives and measurable results. The **abstract title** should briefly identify the subject and indicate the purpose of the program. The abstract should be a brief, factual summary of the content of the program and should include:

- **objectives** of the educational effort/program
- **methods** used
- the **results**
- **conclusions** or interpretation of the program's significance
- the body **should not exceed 250 words.**

CONTENT

Abstracts should describe a creative method implemented or an innovative subject researched by the author(s) as part of an Extension program.

ENTRIES FOR 2011

The Call for Abstracts is made by electronic mail in April or May. Format and entry instructions will be specified then.

Prepare now for the 2011 annual meetings!