To serve 37,512 residents of Talbot County with our 13 UME Faculty & Staff along with 95 volunteers and over 35 partnerships

How are we doing this?

Solutions in your community

University of Maryland Extension, Talbot County
Annual Report 2016
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extension.umd.edu/Talbot-county
The University of Maryland Extension, Talbot County

County, State and Federal Partnerships

The University of Maryland Extension, Talbot County Office is a unique organization that provides research-based, informal education to citizens of the County and local area. Our educational programs cover a wide range of topics, including agricultural production, natural resources, food safety, nutrition and healthy lifestyles, youth development, volunteer development, urban agriculture and agricultural nutrient management. These educational and training programs provide current, practical information through workshops, seminars, clinics, camps, displays and newsletters.

The University of Maryland Extension Office represents a partnership of County government, the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. We are glad to share with you this summary of our activities and accomplishments that provided noticeable impacts for the benefit of our communities.
We are pleased to present our 2016 Annual Impacts Report for the University of Maryland Extension in Talbot County. Inside you will read of the local impact being made by Extension Educators in the areas of Agriculture, Youth Development, Family and Consumer Sciences and Watershed Restoration. The University of Maryland Extension is proud to provide research based programming that can make a significant difference in the lives of Talbot County Residents.

Sincerely,

Aly J. Valentine

Aly J. Valentine, Area Extension Director

The Talbot County Extension Advisory Council

The Talbot County Extension Advisory Council is a registered non-profit, volunteer board of local residents who advise and support the work of the Talbot County University of Maryland Extension office. They represent leaders who value the impact Extension makes in Talbot County and Maryland. We would like to recognize and thank the members who served during 2016.

Officers:
Raymond Harrison, Jr., President
Agriculture Producer
Laura Heikes, Vice-President
Executive, Shore United Bank
Deborah Urry, Secretary
Executive Director
Eastern Shore Higher Education Center
Henry Leonard, Treasurer
C.P. A., CBIZ MHM, LLC

Board Members:
Eddie Boyle
Farm Bureau President
Cassandra Vanhooser:
Director, Talbot County Tourism and Economic Development
Chris Myles-Tochko:
Master Gardener Volunteer
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Educator, Shannon Dill speaks with Producers (Women in Agriculture Programming/Annie’s Project)

Pictured at left—Producers in Action

Agriculture Tour for local government officials
Program Educator(s)
Shannon Dill, Educator
Brian Kalmbach, Nutrient Management Advisor

Program Description
UM Extension Talbot County office offers a variety of educational services to producers. Some programs train or recertify agricultural producers to meet State regulations. Other seminars provide technical and business information that introduce new technologies or practices that help farmers improve production, operate more profitability, and maintain the environment. Of particular note are the Women In Agriculture programs offered: Annie’s Project, Wednesday Webinars, and the Annual Women In Agriculture Conference.

In addition, our office assists agricultural producers by writing and updating nutrient management plans that are required by Maryland regulations. Maryland’s Nutrient Management Program provides clients with information on Best Management Practices (BMP’s) that aim to balance nutrient applications with crop nutrient requirements, thereby enhancing farm profitability while protecting water quality.

Training Sessions Conducted
62
Participants Reached:
2,868

Highlights for the Nutrient Management Program in Talbot County for 2016 include:

Prepared Nutrient Management Plans for New Acres:
2,149

Updated Plans for Acres Previously Operating Under a Nutrient Management Plan:
29,097

Worked with Traditional Farm Enterprises in Poultry, Dairy, Beef, Horse, Corn, Soybeans, Small Grain Production:
65

Faculty & volunteers from the Talbot UME office talk with Governor Hogan at MACO.
4-H Youth Development

Participants learn about raising livestock

After school science promotes scientific literacy

Teens learn about medical career opportunities

Members participate in public speaking & community service projects

Students explore agricultural & environmental science

Tom Hutson, Educator
Melissa Tucker, Program Assistant
Program Educator(s)
Thomas Hutson, Educator
Melissa Tucker, Program Assistant

Program Description
The Talbot County 4-H Youth Development Program provides a supportive setting for youth to reach their fullest potential. Children learn beneficial cognitive and life skills through community-focused, research-based, experiential educational programs. Participation is open to all youth ages 5-18.

4-H has a 100 year tradition of voluntary action through strong public-private partnerships at federal, state and community levels. Local volunteer leaders partner with Talbot County Extension staff to provide direct leadership and educational support to young people in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

4-H youth develop relationships that inspire people to voluntarily help themselves and others as they interact with caring adults and peers.

4-H Program areas include:
- Science, Engineering and Technology
- Healthy Living
- Citizenship and Leadership
- Volunteer Development

Program Highlights/Impacts/Outcomes

Number of programs (club, school, afterschool, camp):
30

4-H Club Members:
85

Total 4-H Enrollment (Club, In-School, Afterschool, Outreach):
1,235

Volunteers:
47

Volunteer estimated hours:
2,480

Volunteer dollar value:
$58,249
Master Gardeners/Horticulture

Mikaela Boley, MG Coordinator (Center) surrounded by volunteers

Master Gardener Volunteer Booth Waterfowl Festival

Discovering caterpillars

Therapeutic Horticulture at Pines Genesis
Program Educator(s)
Mikaela Boley,
Horticulture/Master Gardener Coordinator

Program Description
Certified Master Gardeners are county residents who have been selected and trained by University of Maryland Extension (UME) to deliver research-based horticultural information to the public. Each Master Gardener, who receives over 50 hours of training from UME, commits to donate 20 hours of volunteer service each year back to their community. The mission of the Master Gardeners is “educate residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities.”

They assist county residents through several approaches including demonstrations, workshops, lectures, and plant clinics at county libraries, schools, parks, community gardens, demonstration gardens, fairs, and more. Program areas include, but are not limited to Bay-wise landscaping, water management, composting, Grow It Eat It (vegetable gardening), deer resistant gardening, integrated pest management (IPM), herbs, horticultural therapy, children’s gardening, pollinators, native and invasive plants, and environmental horticulture.

Program Highlights/Impacts/Outcomes

Educated Residents/Visitors at Events:
436/417

Total Master Gardener Volunteers/New Trainees:
48/15

Therapeutic Horticulture Workshops:
20

Demonstration Gardens/Living Shorelines:
6

Certified New Bay-wise Yards:
8

Estimated Volunteer Hours:
765

Volunteer Dollar Value:
$20,380
Family Consumer Science

Program Educator(s)
Nate Bratko, Educator and Project Leader

Food Supplement Nutrition Education

Food Supplement Nutrition Education (FSNE) also known as Maryland’s SNAP=Ed supports healthy eating and physical activity education for low income children and families. FSNE educators work with the schools and community partners to provide education resources including food demonstrations. Additionally, FSNE educators train other community educators and teachers to independently incorporate nutrition into their daily programming. Strong partnerships with county schools, agencies and organizations allow FSNE to impact healthy food preferences for participants and to bring healthy eating and physical activity to the forefront of conversation across the county.

Program Highlights

Youth served through partnership with
Chesapeake Multi-Cultural Center

Youth and families served through gardening & nutrition education - Magnolia Meadows

Agencies & organizations that received nutrition education through the Talbot County Hunger Coalition Partnership

Over 30
Staff Members

Our staff provide critical support to the Talbot Extension office. Each individual plays a significant role that is essential to planning and implementation of educational programs for Talbot County residents.

Pam Chollet
Program Management Specialist
Finances, Grant Management, Communication and Operations

Victoria Corcoran
Program Management Specialist
Women In Agriculture/Annie’s Project Programming

Taylor Robinson
Assistant
Data Management & Analysis Agriculture Programs

Brian Kalmbach
Nutrient Management Advisor

Austin Rickets
Coordinator Community Gardening & Nutrition Project
Program Educator
Eric Buehl
Watershed Restoration Specialist

Program Description
Improving water quality through storm water management and watershed restoration techniques, the Sea Grant Watershed Protection and Restoration Program works with local and state governments, watershed organizations and community groups to build partnerships, identify funding sources and advise/assist in the planning and implementation and monitoring of restoration projects.

Educator provided grant assistance to two watershed-based organizations, the grants resulted in

$205,393

Program Highlights/Impacts/Outcomes

Agencies and Groups Receiving Grant & Technical Assistance for

18

Reached program attendees on topics of water quality and stormwater management:

103

Contact us at:
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