

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Fort Bend County

Extension Staff



Vincent J. Mannino
County Extension Director
vmannino@ag.tamu.edu
(Adm. Mgr.: Cheryl Wasicek)



Derrick Banks
Extension Agent (CEP)
Agri. & Natural Resources
Derrick.Banks@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. –Brandy Rader)



Angela Bosier-Romans
County Extension Agent
Urban Youth Development
Angela.Bosier@ag.tamu.edu
(Adm. Asst. —Victoria Zwahr)



Courtney S. Bryant
Extension Agent (CEP)
Family & Consumer Science
Courtney.Bryant@ag.tamu.edu
(Adm. Asst. —Natalie Heimann)



Amber J. Foster
Extension Agent (CEP)
4-H/Youth Development
Amber.Foster@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. – Victoria Zwahr)



Deanne Garrett
Program Assistant
Better Living for Texans
Deanne.Garrett@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. – Joydella Davis)

Dianne Gertson

County Extension Agent - FCS
Better Living for Texans Coord.
dlgertson@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. – Joydella Davis)



John Gordy

County Extension Agent
Agriculture & Natural Resources
John.Gordy@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. – Brandy Rader)



Leticia Rolland Hardy

County Extension Agent
Family & Consumer Sciences
lvrolland@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Assistant – Joydella)



James “Boone” Holladay

County Extension Agent
Horticulture
JB.Holladay@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. – Brandy Rader)



Justin Saenz

County Extension Agent
4-H & Youth Development
Justin.Saenz@ag.tamu.edu
(Admin. Asst. – Victoria Zwahr)



Krystal J. Wilcox

Expanded Food Nutrition Ext. Prg.
Cooperative Extension Program
kjwilcox@ag.tamu.edu



Contact Us: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service – Fort Bend; 1402 Band Road, Suite 100; Rosenberg, TX 77471

Ph. 281-342-3034; Fax. 281-633-7000; Email: fortbend@ag.tamu.edu; Web: <http://fortbend-tx.tamu.edu>

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture & Home Economics, Acts of Congress of May 8, 1914, as amended, and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture.
Dr. Douglas Steele, Director, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.



Extension Education in FORT BEND County

Helping Texans Better Their Lives

Summary of Activities – 2016

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides programs, tools, and resources — on a local and statewide level — that teach people how to improve agriculture and food production, advance health practices, protect the environment, strengthen the economy, and enrich youth. All 254 Texas counties are served by a well-organized network of professional Extension educators and nearly 100,000 trained volunteers.

Extension’s mission in urban counties remains the same as when it started: to provide practical, science-based information that helps people improve their lives and communities. Extension provides real learning for real life by focusing on areas such as:

- Improving family nutrition, health, & well-being
- Promoting water conservation and environmental stewardship
- Supporting business, economic development, & urban agriculture
- Empowering youth and supporting schools

The Extension program in Fort Bend County is part of the statewide Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Cooperative Extension Program of Prairie View A&M University.

It is a member of The Texas A&M University System and is linked with Texas county governments and the national Cooperative Extension System.

We are pleased to provide you with this 2016 annual report of our local educational achievements in Fort Bend County. Our goal is to provide quality, relevant outreach and continuing educational programs and services to the people of our unique and diverse population.

2016 Educational Outreach in Fort Bend County

Educational Sessions Conducted: 1,384

Educational Session Contacts: 88,125

Technology Assisted Programs: 42

Indirect Contacts/Media/Social Media: 75,159

Direct Contacts (office/site/phone): 7,071

Social Media Posts: 3,429

Social Media Followers: 150,824

Volunteers Involved: 1,167

Volunteer hours: 76,771

Value of Volunteers: \$1,808,727.12

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture,
and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas cooperating.*

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Program areas relating to Agriculture & Natural Resources cover a wide range of subject areas through the course of a year. In 2016 major topics included commercial/home agricultural production, marketing, and sales of crops, cattle, and horticulture commodities; animal and plant pest control; wildlife habitats; water/soil conservation & management; and pesticide safety, training and continuing education. Major programming efforts in 2016 included:

- Fall Forage Seminar and Hay Show
- Row Crop Result Demonstration
 - ◊ Cotton, Corn & Sorghum
- Row Crop Production Meeting & Tour
- Feral Swine Trapping Demonstrations
- Four Private Applicator Pesticide Trainings
- Three Licensed Pesticide Applicator CEU classes
- AG'tivity Barn Ag Awareness
 - ◊ Corn, Cotton & Rice
- Three Advance Horsemanship Clinics
 - ◊ Hunter/Jumper, Barrel Racing, & Fundamentals
- 40-hours of Master Naturalist Volunteer Trainings
- AG'tivity Barn Ag Awareness at the FBC Fair
 - ◊ Wildlife Habitats, Fish, & Skins/Pelts/Scats
- Annual Prairie Heritage Festival
- Garden With Confidence Series
 - ◊ Rose Selection/Care, Perennial Color,
 - ◊ Warm-Season Veggies, Gardening with Children,
 - ◊ Shade Gardening & Fruit Trees for FBC.
- 60-hours Master Gardener Intern Trainings
- Fort Bend Regional Vegetable Conference
- Advanced Irrigation Efficiencies Training
- Three Home Rainwater Harvesting Workshops
- Three Drought-Tolerant Landscape Demonstrations
- AG'tivity Barn Ag Awareness
 - ◊ Landscaping, Irrigation & Bees
- Pecan & Citrus Workshops and Production Shows
- Fruit & Pecan Budding/Grafting Workshop

Family and Consumer Sciences

County Extension Agents within Family and Consumer Sciences work across the wide spectrum of family needs. These include foods & nutrition, health & wellness, food preservation, community & volunteer development, financial literacy, and parenting skills. Major efforts in 2016 include the following:

- Cooperative Extension Program Childhood Obesity
- Child Care Provider Conferences (4)
- Child Passenger Safety/Booster Seat Campaign
- Dinner Tonight Cooking Schools
 - ◊ Two cooking Schools
 - ◊ Email tips to 3500 recipients
- Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes Series
 - ◊ Nutrition & Health, Managing Diabetes
- Financial Literacy Series
 - ◊ Money Management, Balancing Checkbooks,
 - ◊ Sale/Exchange of real estate, Investing
- Food Protection Management for Food Handlers'
 - ◊ Hand-Washing, Safe Temps, Personal Hygiene,
 - ◊ Cross-Contamination, Uses/Types of Utensils
- Walk Across Texas Program – 17 Teams
- Texercise Program – Proper Nutrition & Fitness
- Friends of North Rosenberg Garden Fresh Produce
- Food Protection Management – Food Mngrs. Cert. (3)
- Better Living for Texans: Fresh Start to Healthier You
 - ◊ Shopping Tips, MyPlate, Pantry/Frig. Inventory
- Health & Wellness Series
 - ◊ Proper Nutrition & Exercise, Managing Diseases,
 - ◊ Managing Meds, Recognizing Complications
- Healthy Holiday Habits Workshop
- Grandparents as Caregivers Workshop
- Master of Memory Workshop
- 40-hour Master Wellness Volunteer Training
- Parenting Connection Program Series (3)
 - ◊ Child Growth/Development, Positive Discipline,
 - ◊ Effective Communication, Self-Esteem
- AG-tivity Barn Ag Awareness at the FBC Fair
- Hand Sanitation, Benefits of Fresh Fruits/Vegs.
- Texas Extension Education Association support
 - ◊ 4 clubs, 40 members, 1000 hrs of volunteer service

4-H and Youth Development

4-H is a community of young people across America who are taught leadership, citizenship and life skills. 4-H is about having fun, learning, exploring and discovering. In 4-H, young people make new friends, develop skills, become leaders and help shape their communities. Some 4-H youth work with animals, while others choose food, crafts, sports, or even technology. Major efforts include the following:

- The Art of Living Etiquette & Leadership Camp
- Pantry-to-Plate Cooking School & Teen Chef Camp
 - ◊ Reading a Recipe, Eating Fresh Fruits & Veggies,
 - ◊ Kitchen Safety, Food Safety, Food Preparation
- Hatching in the Classroom for 5th Graders (3 schools)
- Gulf Coast Classic Livestock Project
 - ◊ Livestock Husbandry, Ethics/Showmanship
- Junior Master Gardener Programs
- 4-H Robotics Camp & Workshop (1 each)
- Robotics Project Interest Meeting (3 new clubs)
- 4-H National Youth Science Day for 5th Graders
- College Readiness & Entrepreneurship Program
- Multi-County Texas AgriScience Trailride
 - ◊ Discover 4-H, Texas Heritage, Outdoor Cooking,
 - ◊ Camping, Foods & Nutrition, Safety
- One-Day 4-H! (in support of FBC Animal Services)
- Fort Bend County 4-H Awards Banquet
 - ◊ County/District/State Awards, Bronze & Silver Star
 - ◊ "I Dare You," Gold-Star, Hall of Fame,
 - ◊ FBC AP George Scholarships
- Youth Pork Producers 4-H Club Industry Trip to Iowa
- AG-tivity Barn Ag Awareness at the FBC Fair
 - ◊ 10-Day Event, 21 Exhibits, 1097 Students (K-5),
 - ◊ 91 teachers/chaperones, 49,500 visitors,
 - ◊ 409 coloring contest entries
- 4-H Vet Science Certificate Program Info. Meeting
- 4-H Veterinary Science Certificate Program
 - ◊ 5-Year/500 Clinical Skill Hours required,
 - ◊ Youth Completed the curriculum (6)
- State Vet Science Skillathon (7 FBC participants)
- State Vet Science Camp (4 FBC participants)
- Let's Go – Let's Grow 4-H in Fort Bend County
 - ◊ 565 4-H members
 - ◊ 96 Adult leaders
 - ◊ 28 Clubs, 2 new in-school 4-H Clubs for a total of 3
 - ◊ 144 entries in County Roundup, 110 in District and 45 in State
 - ◊ 197 Cattle Project Validations
 - ◊ 185 entries in Major Shows
 - ◊ 104 camp attendees
 - ◊ 22,202 in Special Interest Programs
- National 4-H Week in FBC Proclamation

Community Economic Development

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's Community & Economic Development Program provides educational workshops and technical assistance to communities and individuals throughout Fort Bend County. Its mission is the development of individual abilities and community support for creating and growing businesses, jobs, wealth and income. While CED broadly interfaces in most ANR, FCS & 4-H/YD programming efforts, we are particularly proud of the following:

- Fall Forage Seminar and Hay Show for increasing forage quality, sales and profit
- Row Crop Demonstrations, Meetings and Tours for variety selection, pest control, increased yields and quality
- Private/Commercial/Non-Commercial Pesticide Applicator Trainings for reducing pest pressure & maintaining yields
- *Garden with Confidence* Series to increase home food production and reduce food costs
- Fort Bend Regional Vegetable Conf. to promote commercial fruit and herb production and enhance marketing
- Childcare Provider Conferences to assist providers in increasing effectiveness and quality of their operations
- Health & Wellness programs including WAT and Texercise to reduce the impact of diseases and loss in productivity
- Parenting Programs to help youth grow, prosper & succeed, and become productive members of society
- Financial Literacy Series to teach adults & older youth about money management, investments & owning property.