4-H Grows Here

Farm to school programs are on the rise, and this trend is evident in South Carolina. Through funding provided by Boeing, Master Gardener Associations, and additional community supporters, 4-H has implemented 15 gardens in Greenville County and trained 53 educators to utilize our Garden Stem curriculum. The School Gardening for South Carolina Educators program was developed in partnership with Clemson Extension Horticulturists and The College of Charleston. This 5-week online training course provides educators with the technical support they need to grow successful school gardens. In addition, they are provided a 600-page curriculum aligned to the South Carolina Educational standards, a planting guide, and seeds and transplants for the garden. At the end of the course, educators have the opportunity to attend a hands-on garden workshop. Garden kits were developed that include garden necessities, such as raised beds, irrigation, tools, soil, and compost. 4-H provides additional support with learning activities, club development, and an opportunity for students to attend Junior Master Gardener camp.

Community Tree Keepers Course

Trees provide social, communal, environmental, and economic benefits to a community. Most tree species can live 60 to 100 or more years. Studies show as trees mature, they provide more benefits and increase in value. However, in urban landscapes, the average lifespan of a tree is 7 to 13 years, with trees often failing due to improper planting or poor tree care practices. Quality education for community members about proper tree planting and tree care practices is needed to help prolong the life of trees in urban forests. In response, Greenville County Urban Horticulture Extension partnered with TreesGreenville and Trees SC to host the inaugural Community Tree Keepers course in September. Sixteen participants attended the course. Topics of instruction for the 5-week course included:

- Soil Management
- Pests and Diseases
- Tree Hazards & Risks
- Site Analysis
- Species Selection
- Tree Installation and Establishment
- Pruning
- Long Term Care

Instruction was provided by Extension agents, Cory Tanner and Jordan Franklin, and TreesGreenville Executive Director, Joelle Teachey. For more information visit, http://www.treesgreenville.org/treekeepers/.

http://www.clemson.edu/greenville
Health Extension in the Community

Each year, an estimated 350,000 people have a heart attack in an out-of-hospital setting. Of these, about 90% will die unless CPR is administered quickly. This doubles or triples a person’s chance of survival. To increase the number of people who could offer assistance to someone in an emergency, Health Extension also offers free Hands-Only CPR class to the community. While Hands-Only CPR is not available as a certification, it is a part of a new practice to teach community members to quickly recognize an emergency, such as a heart attack, and to administer chest compressions until trained personnel arrive. Health Extension offers American Heart Association First Aid, CPR, and AED certifications.

Since May 2017, Health Extension has certified 37 people in CPR, First Aid, and AED use for adults and children. Health Extension also offers group support and education classes for the community to learn more about hypertension and diabetes. Participants learn how to prevent and manage those diseases to live a healthier life. After participation, participants have increased their knowledge, on average, by 9%, which allows them to be able to better manage their chronic condition.

In an attempt to attract new forest landowners to local forestry associations, Clemson Extension, along with the Forestry Association of SC and SC Tree Farm program, held a one-day intensive workshop called Managing Your Upstate Forest at the University Center in Greenville. Topics included Forest Economics, Prescribed Fire Liability, Wildlife Management, Forestry Taxation, Forest Health, Invasive Species, and GIS and GPS Technologies.

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