



## 2017 REPORT TO THE PEOPLE: COLLETON COUNTY

### Mobile Farmers Market Targets Underserved Communities

The goal for the two Mobile Farmers Markets is to increase the accessibility of fresh fruits and vegetables to underserved communities and provide economic growth for our participating local farmers. The Colleton Mobile Market is offered on Wednesdays for 8 weeks during the summer at 7 of our subsidized housing complexes. Each week between 50 and 75 families visit the Mobile Market; we enjoy talking with children as they purchase fruits and vegetables. We accept SNAP and hand out healthy recipes and nutrition information to anyone visiting the mobile market. In addition to our Mobile Market, we offer a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) style market to African American Churches. Families pay \$5 each week and we delivered the vegetables and fruits to the participating churches where the families pick up their basket of vegetables. The CSA market is offered in June and July at 7 locations and reaches 88 families weekly. Master Gardener volunteers and members of Eat Smart Move More Colleton County assist weekly with selling at the Mobile Market and preparing our CSA vegetable bags.



▲ Residents visit the mobile market to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables.



▲ Youth studied flora and fauna native to the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary during “Water in the ‘Boro” 4-H summer camp.

### Colleton County 4-H Programs

In Colleton County 128 youth were enrolled in 4-H clubs. Educational programs, reached over 360 kids this year. Youth participated in livestock projects, aviation camps, natural resource camps, leadership and teamwork activities, and food and nutrition workshops. Colleton County 4-H developed partnerships with the Low Country Food Bank, USC Salkehatchie, and Colleton County School District. 4-H reached out to local agencies and received sponsorships which allowed youth to participate in activities at little to no cost. “Water in the ‘Boro” 4-H camp introduced youth to the flora and fauna of the Great Swamp during a week-long camp in the Walterboro Nature Sanctuary. Specialists in forestry, wildlife, and safety gave lessons on interacting with nature so that we can co-exist rather than impact one another. In addition to learning about nature in Colleton County, youth have been introduced to robotics through the 4-H Robotics Club. Youth from 2nd to 6th grade meet weekly to learn to program and build Lego Mindstorm robots. The goal of the 4-H robotics team is to compete in the South Carolina 4-H Engineering Challenge which takes place in the spring.



**SC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
*AT A GLANCE*



**AGENTS**  
133



**PROGRAMS**  
11,158



**CONTACTS**  
242,239



**YOUTH & FAMILIES  
REACHED**  
104,156



**AG ED**  
163



**AGRONOMIC**  
133



**LIVESTOCK & FORAGES**  
316



**HORTICULTURE**  
1,858



**4-H**  
4,278

**NUMBER OF  
PROGRAMS**



**76  
FORESTRY**



**FOOD  
SAFETY &  
NUTRITION**  
2,967



**WATER  
RESOURCES**  
1,174



**181  
AGRIBUSINESS**

**Farm Safety Still a Priority**

Farming remains one of the most hazardous industries in the United States. In an effort to increase awareness of the dangers associated with farming the following educational programs were conducted:

- A quarterly farm safety newsletter containing safety tips is distributed electronically to producers in Hampton, Colleton & surrounding counties.
- During National Farm Safety & Health Week, news articles on farm safety topics were published in local newspapers in Hampton & Colleton counties and the Cattle Connection.
- Two farm safety presentations were given to 4-H members in Colleton and Hampton counties attending an outdoor day camp and a tractor driving competition.
- Farm safety presentations were given at the Colleton/Bamberg Young Farmers, the Hampton, Allendale, Jasper, Beaufort Young Farmers, and the Lowcountry Cattlemen's Association meetings.
- The safe uses of pesticides were topics at pesticide application recertification trainings given in Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties. Farm safety awareness programs are an effective way to educate farmers on the dangers associated with their important occupations and help reduce farm related accidents.



▲ Marion Barnes briefs a youth on a tractor operation safety prior to competing on the driving course at the 4-H Tractor Driving Competition.



- ◀ The Clemson Extension Master Gardener Program trains, selects, and utilizes knowledgeable volunteers to facilitate the educational work of the local Consumer Horticulture Agent, by delivering researched-based information to citizens of the state. Colleton Master Gardeners reported 143 hours of community and educational service in the county. Pictured is Laura Lee Rose, Horticulture Agent conducting one of our monthly Brown Bag Lunch programs that explores seasonal home and gardening topics.

<http://www.clemson.edu/colleton>