

SARASOTA COUNTY EXTENSION

delivers valuable programs and resources across core areas to help people, businesses, and neighborhoods in Sarasota County solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future.

4-H / YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



- Group activities, clubs and camps
- Public speaking and communication
- Positive youth development
- Life skills
- STEAM education
- Workforce development
- Citizenship, Leadership
- Volunteer training/development
- Experiential learning opportunities

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



- Small- to large-scale commercial agriculture
- Urban and rural agriculture
- Community food systems
 - Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program
- Disaster readiness and recovery
- “Beginning Farmer” incubator program
- Home-based food business education

GARDENING / LANDSCAPING



- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ outreach
- Master Gardener volunteer program
- Community and school gardens
- Continuing education, licensing for lawn and landscape professionals
- Homeowner irrigation evaluations
- Homeowner association consultations
- Tree education and adoptions
- Plant Clinic help desks
- Urban/landscape pest identification

NATURAL RESOURCES



- Water quality/conservation education
 - Florida Master Naturalist Program
 - Florida Waters Stewardship Program
 - Wildlife awareness education
 - STEM education and outreach
- Sustainable fisheries / living shorelines
 - Mangrove, coastal conservation
 - Recycling and waste reduction
- Composting education and awareness
- Integrated pest management education

NUTRITION / HEALTHY LIVING



- Healthy living solutions
- Lifestyle-based disease prevention
- Aging health, nutrition and mobility education
- Nutrition education and cooking skills
- Food safety best practices
- Wellness for busy professionals
- Home-based sustainable food planning and practices

SUSTAINABILITY



- Sustainability and resilience planning
- Sustainable economic development
- Sustainable Communities Workshop
 - County employee education
 - Green living outreach
 - Energy efficiency support
- Solar technologies education
- Electric vehicles information
 - Green building programs
- County sustainability commitments

Our programs include:



An Equal Opportunity Institution.

The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations, such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact 941-861-5000 or sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu at least two weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs. Learn more at ada.ufl.edu and scgov.net/ada.

Helping clients
is our
most important role.

59,580 clients educated through classes, field visits, phone calls, emails or other direct consultations

2 million connections through web visits, blog posts, and social media interactions

\$45,131 estimated annual savings through delivery of energy-saving devices and information

3,274 students received lessons and activities in nutrition, healthy living, and gardening topics

AND

10,545 area youth received education and experience through 4-H clubs, programs and activities

8.8 million gallons of water saved through conservation education, home irrigation audits, and distribution of **132** rain barrels

4,995 pounds of food waste diverted from landfills through 12 active home, school and other composting education/projects

And our latest client survey shows:

96%
of clients
benefitted from
contact

91%
gained
knowledge
or skill

91%
adopted
(or plan to adopt)
change

282

Extension and Sustainability volunteers



provided **13,604** hours of service,
worth **\$448,932** in labor

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partners the resources of Sarasota County, the University of Florida, and the United States Department of Agriculture to provide a wealth of information through myriad opportunities, including:

- « **Classes, workshops and events** »
- « **Plant clinic plant and pest advice** »
- « **Neighborhood consultations** »
- « **Free home irrigation evaluations** »
- « **Volunteer and citizen science programs** »
- « **Community/school garden expertise** »
- « **Newsletters and digital publications** »
- « **Speakers bureau** »
- « **Sustainable lifestyle/community education** »
- « **Educational curricula and resources** »

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