## **2024 Focus**



#### 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<sup>™</sup> 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**

- Disaster preparedness/awareness
- Home-closing education
- Food preservation skills/knowledge
- Food safety awareness
- Aging health, nutrition and mobility
- Family Nutrition Program (FNP)
- Financial tools education (FNP)
- Nutrition exposure (FNP)
- Healthy lifestyles education





#### SUSTAINABILITY

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

#### Our programs include:

























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## 2024 Impacts



## **Helping clients** is our most important role.

45.134

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

connections through 2.3 million web visits, blog posts, and social media interactions web visits, blog posts, and

\$41,413

estimated annual savings through delivery of energy-saving devices

5,220

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

AND

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

4.3 million

gallons of water saved through resource conservation education, home irrigation audits, and distribution of 214 rain barrels

4.920 lbs.

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

### And our latest client survey shows:

satisfied

benefited from contact

information

**Extension and Sustainability volunteers** 



provided 11,804 hours of service, worth **\$373,147** in labor

# SARASOTA

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 »
- imes Plant Clinic plant and pest advice imes
  - « 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 »
  - lpha Educational curricula and resources  $\gg$

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