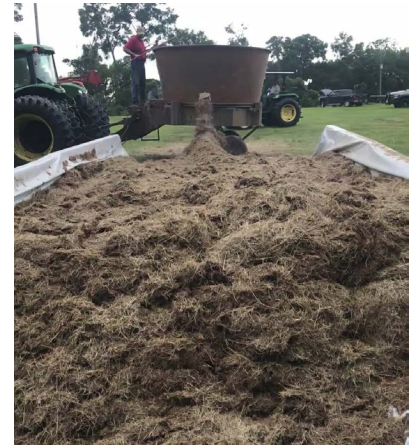


UF/IFAS EXTENSION & ST. JOHNS COUNTY

WORKING TOGETHER

April, May, June 2018

The St. Johns County Board of Commissioners and UF/IFAS Extension work in a cooperative effort to provide relevant programming to citizens throughout the County. During the 2nd quarter of 2018, Extension Agents and Staff recorded approximately **13,327 contacts** with clientele that included emails, phone calls, office visits and field calls. Agents conducted **26 on-site visits** (Agriculture, Horticulture, Schools, Livestock, and Forages) to assist residents one-on-one in St. Johns County. Below are a few examples of impacts reported by our Agents during this quarter.



- The **St. Johns County 4-H Senior Horse Judging Team**, led by our 4-H Program Assistant, placed third overall in the State 4-H Horse Judging competition.
- Two **St. Johns County 4-H Hippology (Equine) Teams**, led by our 4-H Program Assistant, participated in the State contest. The Intermediate team took second place overall and the Senior team took third place overall. Several SJC youth took home individual high point awards.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Horticulture Department taught **5 Florida-Friendly Landscaping workshops to 57 residents** on topics including lawn care, mulch, recycle yard waste, protecting the waterfront, reducing storm water runoff, attracting wildlife to your landscape, and plant identification.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Office assisted the Putnam/St. Johns County Farm Bureau in **Ag Literacy Day by coordinating 11 volunteers at 12 St. Johns County Elementary Schools**. These volunteers read an educational book about **agricultural** in Florida to **over 1,528 students**.
- The Commercial Ag Agent **won a state award** for an applied research poster based on results from **diamondback moth management** trials that are conducted at the Hastings Agricultural Extension Center.
- **Twenty-three thousand and five hundred pounds of potato silage** was prepared for a research/demonstration project that is led by our Production Agriculture Agent. This silage will be evaluated for its nutritional value for its potential use during the winter months. If successful, this material could be used as an alternative feed source by cattlemen during the winter feeding period.
- By attending the program “**Exploring our Environment: Facing the Future**”, taught by the UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns and Flagler Sea Grant Agent, 8 participants indicated that they intend to reduce the amount of electricity and water that they use at home, and to reduce the amount of plastic waste that they create. After completing the class, 88% of the participants felt that their knowledge about climate change had increased.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County **Horticulture Department provided consultations to over 374 residents that provided education and diagnostics** on Florida Friendly Landscaping, turf, palm, citrus, vegetable and ornamental plant diseases, soil pH test results, plant identification and other horticulture-related topics.
- After taking a pesticide class, taught by the Commercial Ag Agent, **5 St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department employees are certified to spray Right-of-Way pesticides safely and correctly**.



- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Family and Consumer Science Agent hosted two seminars by the University of Florida, Program for Resource Efficient Communities to 50 attendees, for Citizens Insurance, that included an overview of **Wind Loads/Forces on Residential/Commercial Structures**, as well as other topics related to hurricanes and home construction as well as **a tour of the UF/IFAS Wind Mitigation Building**.
- Nine St. Johns County 4-H youth competed at the **UF/IFAS Extension Area B Horse Show** in Clay County and all of them qualified for the State 4-H Horse Show in July.
- Six 4-H youth attended the 2018 “Got Beef 4-H Day Camp”, led by our Production Agriculture Agent, traveled 281 miles through four counties and visited seven beef industry tour stops. Participants indicated through a post meeting survey that they **increased their knowledge related to the beef industry, food safety and have hands-on experience preparing their own steaks**.
- At this year’s **St. Johns County 4-H Award Banquet**, 55 youth were recognized for completing and submitting 4-H Clover Awards which provide scholarships for 4-H summer camps. St. Johns County **4-H youth turned in 101 4-H record books** documenting their 4-H project work learning experience over this past year. These efforts provide youth with an opportunity to demonstrate their skills in record keeping, goal setting and communication.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Family and Consumer Science Agent, in collaboration with Flagler Hospital Wellness, **taught 33 diabetes attendees food safety education** that included topics in meat safety, safe practices for storage and refrigeration for vegetables, and proper ways to thaw food. These participants also gained knowledge in hands-on food demonstrations from recipes from the American Diabetes Association.
- The Commercial Ag Agent taught the **Native Pollinators 4-H Summer Camp** where youth helped build a native bee hotel on the grounds of the Agricultural Center.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns and Flagler Sea Grant Agent **taught 147 fourth grade** youth through hands-on demonstration how to plant 150 sea oats plants and 20 dune sunflowers and the about **the importance of coastal dunes to the habitat**.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County **Horticulture Department provided educational workshops, consultation and diagnostic services to more than 570 individuals** at the **2018 EPIC Flower and Garden Expo** on topics that included Florida’s butterflies, vegetable gardening, hydrangeas, crotons, sea turtles, poisonous plants, rain barrels, compost tumblers and Florida Friendly Landscapes.
- The UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Family Nutrition Program provided educational materials, supplies and hard work to **4 school gardens, 1 after school garden, and 2 community gardens**. Crops grown at these gardens included lettuce, kale, onions, broccoli, mustard greens, potatoes, corn, beans, tomatoes, beets and herbs. **Students learned to prepare and enjoy fresh basil pesto, baked potatoes with broccoli, salsa and salads using their harvest**.
- **The St. Johns County 4-H Program awarded a total of \$3,750 in scholarships to three graduating high school seniors who excelled in the 4-H program**. Youth receiving 4-H scholarships were required to submit a portfolio of their 4-H career and take part in an interview session. The St. Johns County 4-H college scholarship fund is primarily supported by private donors.
- Fifteen St. Johns County 4-H’ers **gained knowledge related to food and nutrition** by attending a summer camp that was led by our Family and Consumer Science Agent. They learned the benefits of raising their own food, hands on gardening, food safety precautions, and food tasting/ demonstrations.
- Forty-six participants that attended two classes, taught by our Production Agriculture Agent, gained **knowledge related to toxic and invasive pasture weeds**.

For more information, visit the UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County Website at **<http://stjohns.ifas.ufl.edu>** or contact us at **904-209-0430**.