The Extension Service of Giles County consists of off-campus teaching programs of both The University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University. Bringing research-based information about Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H, and Community Resource Development is our main focus for the community of Giles County.

Adult Agriculture

We offer our clients assistance with crops, beef production, goat, sheep, horse, and other livestock; pest control, and lawn & garden issues.

- Extension made 4256 contacts during 2013 with county beef and forage producers providing research-based information to improve their production practices.
- 55 beef producers sold 2099 calves managed according to Beef Quality Assurance guidelines to increase returns by $16,792.
- Giles Alliance producers added value to their calves by following recommended marketing practices and increased their income by $65,492 pm 582 steers and $12,624 on 263 heifers when compared to the state weighted averages in the August Alliance Sale.
- 94 hay producers reported storing 30,004 round bales of hay weighing approximately 12,000 tons under hay barns which increased returns by $540,000.
- Extension assisted Giles County producers in applying for and receiving $445,900 in enhancement funds to improve their beef and forage operations.
- Extension made 1462 contacts with county corn and soybean producers.
- County producers used proven, top yielding varieties on 2440 acres of corn, increasing their yield by 6 bu per acre or 14,640 additional bushels which increased their income collectively by approx. $61,488.
- Producers used proven, top yielding varieties on 1677 acres of soybeans, increasing their yield by 3 bu per acre or 5031 additional bushels which increased their income collectively by approx. $63,390.
- Producers reported scouting 2505 acres of corn and soybeans to make crop management decisions.
- 14 producers reported using UT recommended resistant, management practices to control pests.
- 25 consumers learned about plant selection and proper planting to save money and time in the landscape.
- 13 consumers practiced best management practices relating to proper pruning and tree maintenance.
- 35 consumers learned how to properly take a soil test and interpret the results.
- 20 consumers learned how to apply landscape fertilizers and pesticides safely.
- 15 consumers implemented water-wise gardening practices to conserve and protect water quality.
- 20 consumers used soil test results to properly amend their soil.

Family and Consumer Sciences

We offer educational programs to assist clients with food, nutrition, health, family living and economics. Basic research education and programming is provided to all interested persons requesting family, food, health, home and money information.

Tennessee Shapes up

- **Tasty Thursdays**– 6 sessions at Southside Elementary:
  - 95 of 145 4th graders eat more vegetables
  - 108 of 145 4th graders eat more fruits
  - 78 of 145 students are more physically active
  - 120 of 145 students wash their hands more often

- **Nutritious and Delicious**– 2 sessions w/38 adults:
  - 38 participants decrease consumption of high-sugar foods
  - 38 participants eat at least six meals together as a family each
  - 12 participants used a thermometer to check the internal temperature of food
  - 14 participants used a thermometer to check the temperature of their refrigerator

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**Serving Giles County Citizens**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct Method</th>
<th>Number of Methods</th>
<th>Contacts Reached</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meetings/ Demonstrations</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>30,981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Client Visits</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Mail/ Telephone Consultations</td>
<td>8,180</td>
<td>12,970</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-site Visits</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>3,489</td>
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**Contacts by Extension Personnel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>Adult</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,260</td>
<td>27,891</td>
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</table>

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.
-26 participants are more conscious when selecting healthy foods and beverages

- *Walking with Ease Arthritis*—6 participants from 2012 that continued exercise and walking in 2013. The original six had lost 27 plus pounds. One member said she could tell she had lost weight in her clothes and she feels much better. Another member stated she had been able to stop several medications because of the consistent exercise and improvement in her health.

**Tennessee Saves**

*Money Wise, Love Your Money and Small Savings Add Up*—post surveys indicate:

- 813 of 1013 identified ways to reduce spending
- 230 of 250 learned how to better manage stress caused by finances
- 148 of 250 learned how to properly maintain and store household financial records

**Base Programs**

- 478 volunteer hours were reported by Giles County Family and Consumer Education Club members. The dollar value for the hours was $10,582.92 (independent sector)
- 13 short-term radon kits were sold
- 142 food preparation and/or preservation inquiries were made during 2013
- 12 food preservation class participants and 12 dial gauge pressure canners were tested

**4-H Youth Development**

Our agents hold monthly club meetings with all 4th and 5th grade classes in the county. Programs include public speaking, bread baking, poster, and demonstrations. Agents also meet with 6th—12th grades to teach financial responsibility, STEM and other subjects that meet school curriculum standards. Students can also participate in livestock shows, various judging teams, poultry project, shooting sports, camps, and many other activities.

- 2013 Enrollment 1969
- 55 4-H members had 100% participation
- 316 Youth competed a 4-H speech.
- 473 Youth competed in demonstrations and bread baking contest.
- 28 4-H members attended 4-H camps.
- Received 2013 $1000 Needs Energy Grant.
- 979 4-H members participated in 4-H STEM programs
- 88 Youth completed *Cookie Mining* where they learned about reclamation of land & non-renewable/renewable resources.
- 11 Youth competed in 4-H horse activities.
- 9 Youth competed in 4-H livestock activities.
- 16 Youth in 4-H Honor Club completed 300 hours of service projects benefiting an estimated 9559 people
- 367 students completed *On My Own* financial responsibility simulation.
- 34 Youth participated in poultry projects.
- 139 Youth participated in the county poster contest.
- 15 youth attended AIM Grand National in Sparta, IL and 1 youth won senior class individual.
- One team won Senior Class B Champions.
- 12 trophies were brought back to Tennessee.
- 22 youth competed at the State 4-H Shoot—15 shotgun, 7 rifle.
- 9 Teen leaders that helped with project groups
- 20 youth participated in the Line and Design Project
- 7 Youth Participated in the Videography project.
- 28 youth believe that a team can accomplish more than an individual
- 30 youth think that everyone on the team is important.
- 30 youth think they have something to contribute to the worth of the team.
- 66 Youth participated in the Giles County Fair with 348 entries in 4-H exhibits.

**Resource Development**

- Extension made 1577 contacts in the area of community resource development during 2013.
- 48 participating vendors at the Lawn, Garden, and Home Show reported sales at the show of $10,300. Those vendors also reported an increase in their clientele base, additional sales following the show and more advertising/visibility as a result of participating. Most vendors were small business owners in Giles County with a few from North Alabama and surrounding Tennessee counties.

**Contact Information**

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