

What is Extension?

Working hand-in-hand with its Texas A&M System partners, the state legislature, and the communities it serves, the mission of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service to serve Texans through community-based education has remained unchanged for almost a century. The expertise provided by Texas AgriLife Extension Service is available to every resident in every Texas county.

The mission of Texas AgriLife Extension Service is a seemingly simple one: improving the lives of people, businesses, and communities across Texas and beyond through high-quality, relevant education. Carrying out this mission, however, is a massive undertaking; one that requires the commitment of each and every one of the agency's 1,900 employees.

Today's Texas AgriLife Extension Service is known for its leadership, dedication, expertise, responsiveness, and trustworthiness. Texans turn to Texas AgriLife Extension Service for solutions, and its agents and specialists respond with answers.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service

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Educational programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners' Court of Texas Cooperating.



Improving Lives. Improving Texas.



**Family and Consumer Sciences
Jefferson County**

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) is part of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M University System, offering practical information for families: raising children, family relationships, life skills, housing and environment, eating well, managing money, and staying healthy.

FCS professionals help solve real-life problems at a time when families in our society are faced with major crises and limited life skills.

FCS educators work to:

- Strengthen the well-being of families
- Develop responsible citizens and leaders in family, community and work settings
- Foster an appreciation for human work and acceptance of responsibility for one's actions [and success]; increase self-sufficiency
- Promote optimal nutrition and wellness (across the lifespan)
- Manage resources to meet materials needs
- Balance personal, home, family and work lives
- Use critical [and creative] thinking skills to address problems

Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Jefferson County will be working to help:

1. families come to the realization that they do have the power to bring about positive change; to see them connect the dots between:
 - a. Health
 - b. Marriage
 - c. Civic engagement
 - d. Tax base, jobs and dollar turnover
 - e. Homeownership
 - f. Economic development
2. change our interactions with children, spouses, and community
3. change our economic situations through education and small business development
4. families change spending and saving habits
5. increase our children's educational achievements
6. immersion into the digital technology and the global community
7. increase homeownership
8. smaller communities revitalize and /or be sustained

Information on a wide variety of topics is available to citizens of Jefferson County through printed materials that may be found on the Texas AgriLife Extension Service website, <http://fcs.tamu.edu>, or from our local office; via telephone conversations and community classes.

All citizens, civic, social, faith-based, profit or non-profit organizations of Jefferson County are invited and encouraged to call and share your thoughts regarding the educational needs of your community and schedule classes, events and/or activities to meet those needs.

Want to Take Part?

There are *many opportunities* for citizens of Jefferson County to take part in our program planning by serving as advisory members of program area committees, by hosting and sponsoring workshops, as master gardeners, adult leaders for 4-H and youth projects. Please call today and volunteer to help make your community stronger.

