COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Extension Service	Presenter(s):	Craig E. Gross
Meeting Date:	Thursday, June 11, 2009	Type of Request:	Consent

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of staff's request to renew the annual Agreement between Fayette County and the University of Georgia for the provision of Extension Service Programs in Fayette County for a period beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.

Background/History/Details:

For decades, the University of Georgia has provided counties in Georgia with a host of services and programs through what is commonly known as the County Extension Service. Originally, Extension Services centered around the agricultural needs of property owners throughout the state. Over time, those needs have changed, but the Extension Service has evolved to continue meeting the needs of homeowners and youth relating to issues of an agricultural, horticultural, natural resources, and water management nature. Youth programs are designed to teach leadership, interpersonal, familial, service-based,and overall life skills.

Each year, the County must renew its notification to the University of Georgia that Fayette County wishes to maintain its relationship which provides these services. Also, Fayette County provides some personnel-related funding for the Extension Service to augment UGA's budget. Additionally, the County provides office space from them. In keeping with budgetary limitations, the FY 2010 annual budget for the Extension Service to be provided by Fayette County is projected to be $38,786.27, which is less than FY 2009.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Request Board of Commissioners to notify the University of Georgia that Fayette County wishes to enter into an agreement for the continuation of Cooperative Extension Services for a period beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010, and authorization for the Chairman to execute said notification.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Funding included in proposed FY2010 Budget.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	Yes	If so, when?	Annually
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?	No	Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Yes	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

Fayette County
GEORGIA
Where Quality Is A Lifestyle

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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May 28, 2009

Mr. Greg Price, District Extension Director
University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences
Northwest District
UGA Griffin Campus
1109 Experiment Street
Floyd Building, Room 227
Griffin, Georgia 30223

Dear Mr. Price:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that we wish to renew the agreement between the Fayette County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service, for the provision of Extension Service Programs to our County. The term of this agreement shall be from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. An annual budget is attached.

Sincerely,

Jack R. Smith, Chairman
Board of Commissioners
Fayette County, Georgia

County Extension Coordinator	Date
District Extension Director	Date
Associate Dean for Cooperative Extension Service, UGA	Date
Dean/Director of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, UGA	Date
Vice President for Public Services and Outreach, UGA	Date

140 Stonewall Avenue West, Fayetteville, Georgia 30214 • Phone 770.305.5400 • Fax 770.305.5210 • Web Site www.fayettecountyga.gov

Department:	County Extension	Cost Center:	10010400
Function:	General Government	Fund:	General

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Fayette County Extension is to provide lifelong learning to the people and to respond to people's needs and interest in agriculture and natural resources, families, 4-H and youth through education and information, using unbiased, research-based education.
Fayette County Extension links the resources of the University of Georgia, Fort Valley State University, Fayette County and the United States Department of Agriculture to provide educational programs, information, and assistance to the citizens of Fayette County.

MAJOR DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS

The Fayette County Cooperative Extension, backed by the resources of Fayette County, the University of Georgia, Ft. Valley State College and the Department of Agriculture, provides educational programs, information, materials, and actual assistance to the citizens of the county. Education and information is also provided to the citizens by telephone consultation, formal educational (classroom) programs, school programs, plant clinics, site visits, newsletters, news articles, radio and collaboration with other community agencies. Publications, web site and laboratory services are other delivery methods for safe - education and information to the county citizens.
The basic goal of the Fayette County Cooperative Extension Office is to provide information that will contribute to learning for life, which, in turn, helps citizens make informed decisions with unbiased, research-based information – this improving quality of life. We are also Fayette County's gateway to the University of Georgia and all the resources associated therein.

MAJOR FY 2010 GOALS

- Develop an active and efficient Leadership System, made up of adults and youth, that will help give direction and focus to future program efforts and ideas as well as increase our programming scope and outreach.
- Increase awareness of water quality and quantity through educational efforts, programs, newsletters and news articles on storm water management, water runoff, erosion, and efficient uses of water in the household and household landscape.
- Complete the design and concept for the Old Courthouse's new landscape. The landscape will be an educational showpiece that will offer numerous opportunities and suggestions to the people in the county, region, and state for efficient and effective landscape design, water management and utilization and cooperative educational efforts.
- Continue the organization and utilization of our Master Gardeners through educational programs and plant clinics allowing them to share their knowledge and passions to the people of the county.
- Increase the number of certified and active Master Gardeners by 12.
- Plan, coordinate, and offer seasonal and timely programs on landscape management, garden utilization and horticulture education. These programs will reach over 500 people annually.

- Plan, advertise and offer two food safety programs designed to help teach clients the safe and recommended ways to harvest, process and can their garden produce.
- Increase certified and active volunteers in the youth programs by 10%. All certified volunteers will have completed their University of Georgia background screening, have had reference checks completed, attended a training on the ages and stages of human development and all have been overnight chaperone certified.
- Increase youth participation in our 4-H Youth Development programs by:
  - Increasing the number of Fayette County grade schools involved in our science-based curriculum by three (3) – thus increasing the number of youth in the program by 250 youth.
  - Increasing the number of 5th and 6th grade youth that participate in the district level competition for public speaking and education by 15%.
  - Increasing the scope and depth of our Junior 4-H (middle school aged) program by placing a concentrated effort in offering programs and resources to the middle schools. We will increase participants by 30%.
  - Create and nourish a Senior 4-H (high school aged) county council that will make youth programming decisions and will become active resources for community service and leadership opportunities in the county. These youth will also develop and initiate a "youth-based" community service project and fund raiser.
- Increase the number of educational newsletters and articles produced to help educate citizens on timely topics, programs and opportunities in the county, area and state. Our goal is to have at least one news article per month in the local newspaper and at least one article a quarter in a regional magazine. We will also produce a newsletter and distribute it quarterly focusing on Agriculture and Natural Resources including water management and utilization, Horticulture, 4-H Youth Development, and Family and Consumer Sciences.

SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURES/STAFFING CHANGES

With the current budget restrictions and directly from the Board of Commissioners, we will be reducing our current staff by one part-time program assistant.
Budget cuts will also necessitate the delay of rehiring the County Agriculture and Natural Sciences Agent

Current Staffing – (FTE)* Program Assistants	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010 Requested	FY 2010 Adopted
4-H Youth Development P.A.	2.20	2.20	2.20	1.68
Natural Resources/Horticulture P.A.	0.73	0.73	0.73	.73
Total County Personnel	2.88	2.88	2.88	2.40

WORKLOAD INDICATORS

Workload Indicators	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Estimate	FY 2010 Estimate
Phone Calls Answered	13,821	13,151	13,824	13,900
Contacts Programming Efforts	110,486	111,486	111,782	112,106
Volunteer Hours	9,809	9,359.25	9,875	9,963
4-H Enrollment	2,491	2,389	1,998	2,346
Leadership Training Participants			377	420
Publications Distributed *	108,627	109,562	109,201	108,950
Soil Samples Performed	601	455	690	705
Water Samples	56	76	83	93
Forage Samples	1	1	2	2
Microbiology Samples	0	9	11	10
Plant Tissue Samples	1	1	2	2
Well Inspections	2	2	8	5
Pesticide Applicator Licenses	12	10	20	15
Water Use Registrants #		55	160	#
Home Site Visits	313	350	378	385
P.A.R. Produce Generated (lbs.)		6,417	28,205	31,205

* Reduction in publications is due to the increase amount of clients utilizing the web based applications to receive information. We do not currently have a way to monitor those numbers.
# Water Use Registrants based from drought restrictions. Further registrants are based on future drought and drought restrictions.

2008
Fayette County Extension Office
Annual Report

4-H Youth Development

The Fayette County Extension Office provides youth programming that influences many youth from the county and the area. We currently have partnerships with seven public schools, two private schools and some home school families. These participants as well as our Junior and Senior 4-H'ers participate in numerous area, district and state events and community programs.

Our in-school enrichment programs are designed to be a supplemental curriculum program to the schools and help to reinforce the Georgia Performance Standards.

These programs are an asset to the county and to the school's youth, but they are also used as companion programming for Fayette County's Storm Water Management Plan and their grant initiative.

We are fortunate in Fayette County to also have two "specialty" clubs. We have a very active Horse Club that hosts educational programs, horse shows and judging events throughout the year. Some of those youth placed 4th in the State in the Horse Quiz Bowl in 2008. Our 4-H S.A.F.E. Shotgun Senior Team placed first in the State last year and had the opportunity to participate in the National shoot in Nebraska. What a learning experience! The S.A.F.E. club not only provides an avenue for youth to participate in area, state and national events, but it develops leadership, responsibility, goal setting and team building – all in a fun environment.

We are currently in the process of trying to develop a BB Shooting Club and also a Service Oriented Club. We hope that they both will be in place in 2009.

4-H'ers 5th through 12th Grade

1,886	5th Grade students (In-school Enrichment Classes)
37	Home School 4-H'ers
112	Middle School Program
162	Junior 4-H'ers (grades 6-8)
42	Senior 4-H'ers (grades 9-12)
39	Horse Club Members (grades 5-12)
34	Shotgun Club Members (grades 6-12)
162	Rock Eagle Camp (grades 5 and 6)
6	Wilderness Challenge Camp (grade 6-8)
5	Junior Camp (grades 7-8)
1,998	Total 4-H'ers involved in all programs (some numbers include duplicates for programs)

Adult Volunteers

2	5th Grade In-school Enrichment Classes
8	Home School Volunteers (2 Leaders and 6 Parents)
9	Parent Volunteers for Junior and Senior Classes
3	Horse Club Volunteers
21	Shotgun Club Volunteer Leaders and Parents
12	Summer Camp Program Volunteers
55	Volunteers (representing Thousands of Hours of Volunteer Service)

5th Grade In-School Enrichment Programs:

Mean, Miserable, Menacing Microbes:

Description/Lesson Overview: In this lesson students will be introduced to microorganisms through demonstrations of how germs (microorganisms) spread. Students will also discover the harmful effects of microorganisms if proper hand-washing techniques and food preparation are not followed.

Goal: The student will make a real life connection with how microorganisms are spread. The student will be made aware of the harmful effects of microorganisms on our bodies.

Georgia Performance Standards:

S5L4. Students will relate how microorganisms benefit or harm larger organisms.

Participant demographics:

Adults: 49 Youth (5th grade): 1,451

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
1,500	702	798	802	603	43	0	52	36

Plant Classification:

Description/Lesson Overview: In this lesson students will learn to classify plants based on plant category, leaf type, leaf arrangement, leaf shape, and root type. The lesson engages the learner through small group, hands on classification of plant material.

Goal: Students be engaged in a hands on experience in classification of plant material and generalize to real life experience.

Georgia Performance Standards:

S5L1 Students will classify organisms into groups and relate how they determined the groups with how and why scientist uses classification.

Participant demographics:

Adults: 47 Youth (5th grade): 1,449

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
1,496	701	795	801	601	45	0	49	34

Inherited Plant Traits:

Description/Lesson Overview: An interactive lesson designed to give students an opportunity to simulate plant genetics through a hands on activity. This lesson provides students an opportunity to understand that the traits passed from the parent organisms to their offspring may possess variations of these traits that may help or hinder survival in a given environment.

Goal: Students will have an opportunity to use supporting evidence to show that traits are transferred from a parent organism and that those traits that an offspring receives from a parent may not always be visible.

Georgia Performance Standards:

S5L2 Students will recognize that offspring can resemble parents in inherited traits and learned behaviors.

Participant demographics:

Adults: 46 Youth (5th grade): 1,442

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
1,488	697	791	794	604	47	0	43	31

Youth Development Summer Opportunities Promotion
Description/Lesson Overview: Youth are introduced to the numerous summer programs that Georgia 4-H and the Fayette County Extension Office conduct.

Participant demographics:
Adults: 47 Youth (5th grade): 1,443

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
1,490	703	787	794	602	49	0	45	34

Poison Pump:
Description/Lesson Overview: A killer has swept through the streets of London; hundreds are dead! Would you believe that an accomplice to this crime is something you use every day? Through a series of clues, students solve a mystery to discover that water can also produce negative effects for people.
Goal: Students should analyze and interpret data (clues), leading them to understand that water is a shared resource and can spread diseases.
Georgia Performance Standards:
2 S5CS1 Students will be aware of the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness and skepticism in science and will exhibit these traits in their own efforts to understand how the world works.
S5CS4 Students will use ideas of system, model, change and scale in exploring scientific and technological matters.

Participant demographics:
Adults: 46 Youth (5th grade): 1,436

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
1,482	698	784	793	598	46	0	45	30

Georgia Barrier Islands:
Description/Lesson Overview: In this lesson students learn the dynamics of barrier islands and locate the barrier islands. Causes of erosion will be discussed through examination of the current state of Jekyll Island.
Goal: Exploration of Georgia's barrier islands with emphasis on Jekyll Island and the consequences of beach erosion.
Georgia Performance Standards:
S5E1 Students will identify surface features of the Earth caused by constructive and destructive processes.
GA 4-H Core Value: Environment
Objectives: The learner will:

- Define barrier islands and locate Georgia's barrier islands on a map
- Describe the processes of erosion and accretion
- Describe the formation of sand dunes
- Explain the importance of sand dunes
- Identify sea oats and explain their importance

Participant demographics:
Adults: 43 Youth (5th grade): 1,442

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
1,485	696	789	795	590	46	0	54	29

Community Service:

Projects (not a complete list):

- Collecting Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald House
- Share the Warmth (collected hats, gloves and mittens for needy families and children).
- Christian City Store (clean-up and restock shelves, organization and customer service)
- Rivers Alive – Lake Clean-up Participants
- Cards for the Soldiers (Holiday Card Campaign)
- Kroger Customer Cabin Campaign
- One for the Chipper Participants
- Sam's School (assist teachers and program assistants in school)

Hours:

- Each month the Fayette County 4-H'ers and the volunteers provide hundreds of hours of community service in the county and area on several projects. We are the process of setting goals for 2009 that will allow us to continue to achieve in helping the community and being a viable asset.

Leadership Development:

4-H Officer Training:

168	5th grade 4-H Officers (President, 1st and 2nd Vice President and Secretary)
6	Junior/Senior Club Officers
4	Horse Club Officers
5	Shotgun Club Officers
183	Total 4-H'ers elected and trained as officers

Leadership Training:

7	Fall Forum
0	Junior Conference
0	Junior Rally
2	State Congress
5	State Council
5	Georgia Youth Summit (work in Peachtree City on youth eating and marketing habits)
49	Monthly Class or Club Meetings with Officer Leadership 7 monthly meeting for 46 School programs plus 12 monthly meetings for 3 Clubs = 358 opportunities)
377	Total Leadership Opportunities for 4-H'ers in 2008

District Project Achievement: (language arts development and presentation)

10	Senior 4-H Participants (grades 9-12)
7	Junior Participants (grades 7-8)
26	Cloverleaf Participants (grades 5-6)
9	Adult Volunteers
43	4-H'ers involved in district level presentations

Other Area and State Programs:

2	Certified Shotgun Leaders Trained
1	State and Nationally Certified Shotgun Leader – provided state training 5 times
10	PeaNutrition Participants
10	State Horse Quiz Bowl Participants
9	State Horse Judging Participants
12	State 4-H Shotgun Participants
46	Area Shotgun Participants (includes various events)
90	Participants in area and state 4-H events

Other 4-H Projects (not a complete list):

- 4-H Petting Zoo at the Kiwanis Fair
- St. Jude's Benefit Trail Ride
- Homemakers Club presentation in July
- Numerous Civic Group Presentations
- 4-H Summer Activities
- Earth Day
- 4-H Year-End "Class of the Year" Party
- Officer Induction
- "Get a Strike" with Fayette County 4-H Program
- Belk's Charity Event
- "One for the Chipper" Event

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The Fayette County Extension Office's Agriculture and Natural Resources programs include programming not only in the agriculture sector, but also recycling, horticulture, water safety, water planning and management, water quality, youth programs as well as the very popular Master Gardener program.

We have several programs that have been an asset to the county through the drought conditions and has also invited many alternatives during our current economic cycle.

The Agriculture and Natural Resources programs also collaborate well with other county programs and are an integral part of the State's reporting and education system. We have partnered to provide programming in the areas of storm water management, drought management, water use, pesticide safety and certification as well as participating in Earth Day. A major undertaking this last fall was to do a thorough investigation of the recycling facilities and efforts in Fayette County. Once this information was compiled, a new directory was created and published on the Fayette County website and the University of Georgia- Fayette County web. These efforts help to keep Fayette County a beautiful and clean community and gives access 24 hours a day.

Unfortunately, we do not currently have an Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent on staff, but we continue to offer some base programming through the combined efforts of our existing staff and the wonderful volunteers in our programs.

We hope to be able to hire an Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent starting in July 2009 so that we can combine and nurture some existing programs and plant seeds for several new programs.

2008 Program Summary

485	Soil Samples
65	Water and Pond Samples
12	Microbiology Samples
6	Well Inspections
16	Private Pesticide Applicator License Tests Completed
195	Outdoor Water Use Registrants Trained and Certified

Junior Master Gardener Program:

Description: The Junior Master Gardener Program is a innovative youth gardening project. Level I of the JMG program is designed for children in grades 3 to 5. It is modeled after the highly successful Master Gardener Program and offers horticultural and environmental science education, leadership and life skills development through fun and creative activities. This program is committed to helping young people become good gardeners and good citizens so they can make a positive contribution to their community, school and family. The basis of the educational components is environmental education and water enrichment.

Participant demographics:

Adults: 18 Youth (2nd – 5th grades): 15

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
33	5	28	24	4	1	0	4	3

Master Gardener Certification:
Description: The Master Gardener Program in Georgia is a volunteer training program designed to help Extension agents transfer research-based information about gardening and related subjects to the public by training home gardeners. Master Gardeners currently are active in many Georgia counties. Through this program, volunteers benefit from the classes and ongoing training and the opportunity to share knowledge with others; the agents and community benefit from the service. Fayette County volunteers attend a structured in-depth training and take two tests during the training to become certified interns. They must then volunteer in the community for 50 hours before they become certified Master Gardeners. Twenty-five of those hours must be volunteering in the Extension Office.

Participant demographics:
Adults: 16

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
16	5	11	11	3	2	0	0	0

Education Series:
Description: The Fayette County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Fayette County Extension and the ANR Agent provide educational programs for youth and adults in the county and surrounding area. These educational programs can be classroom type programs, Home Owner education programs, Home Owner Association meetings, lunch and learn programs and plant clinics.

- ✓ **Get Water Smart:**
  Participants are educated in the avenue of healthy plants with less water use.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 3

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
42	29	13	27	6	3	0	6	1

- ✓ **Common Landscape Insects and Their Control:**
  Safe and effective uses of pesticides and organic controls for pest to protect ground water and run off.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 2

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
29	12	17	21	7	2	0	0	1

- ✓ **Turf Care in 10 Easy Steps:**
  Managing turf, efficient fertilization and water management.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 1

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
6	2	4	5	1	0	0	0	0

✓ **Tree Root Protection During Construction Activities:**
Maintaining tree and plant life to minimize erosion, ground water contamination and beautification of the area. Emphasis is also placed on air control and site selection.

Participant demographics:
Session provided:

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
8	6	2	5	2	0	0	1	0

✓ **Lawn Care:**
Learn about diseases and weed control associated with various types of turf grass. Learn how to get the beautiful, full lawn you always wanted while protecting the environment.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 1

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
8	3	5	7	1	0	0	0	0

✓ **Rain Barrel Workshops:**
A rain barrel is a rain water harvesting system that is connected to a downspout from a house or building. By collecting the rainwater, one can save energy, water and money. Rain barrels also help reduce erosion, and storm water runoff as well as increase water quality.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 3

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
50	28	22	38	10	2	0	0	2

✓ **Vegetable Gardening:**
Learn how to grow vegetables using plasticulture from long-time expert and Honorary MG Lester Bray. Benefits include less water, fertilizer and pesticides.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 2

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
39	17	22	31	4	2	0	0	0

✓ **Indoor & Outdoor Insect Control:**
Learn how to attract beneficial insects and reduce the harmful ones without insecticides.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 2

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
32	16	16	26	4	2	0	0	2

✓ **Landscape Design and Maintenance:**
Designing your landscape can be a difficult task. Come learn the secrets of the pros. Your yard will be the envy of the neighborhood. This class will discuss Xeriscaping, water management and plant grouping to help reduce resources needed to maintain your landscape.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 1

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
30	24	6	23	5	1	0	1	0

✓ **Xeriscaping:**
Developing a water wise landscape.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 2

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
11	2	9	9	1	0	0	1	0

✓ **Container Gardening:**
Beautiful flower pots are a conservative way to spruce up your home. Learn creative ways to keep your plants beautiful all year long.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 2

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
40	4	36	35	3	2			8

Plant Clinics:
Do you need to know about drought resistant plants? Deer resistant plants? A disease or insect on your plants? Pests that are eating your shrubs or vegetables. Fayette County Master Gardeners provided educational topics and consultation to local participants. They answered questions concerning: diagnosis of pests, topics on plants, shrubs, vegetables, water conservation and disease control.
Participant demographics were not kept as the style and function of the programs did not allow for sign in and demographic collection.
Session provided: 5

Water Certification:
Fayette County Extension Office and the Fayette County Master Gardeners provided training and testing for Fayette County residents so that they could become water certified during the water restrictions and drought period of 2008.

Participant demographics:
Session provided: 18 in group and individual settings

Total	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	Asian	Native American	Multi	Hispanic
26	19	7	23	1	2	0	0	0

Master Gardener Overview:

12	Newly Trained Master Gardeners
71	Returning Master Gardeners
6,322.25	Volunteer Hours by Master Gardeners
$118,668.63	Value of volunteering from Master Gardeners
4,946	Total Number of Persons Contacted by Master Gardeners
24,786	Total Miles Driven by Master Gardeners in volunteering roles.
28,205	Total Pounds of Produce from Plant A Row (P.A.R.) Garden

The Fayette County Master Gardeners have gone through a major reorganization to help their programming efforts and to increase their visibility in the County. In 2008, they created the Fayette Master Gardener Association and have educational activities and programs every month.

Other Programming Efforts

Fayette County Extension's base programming includes 4-H Youth Development and Agriculture and Natural Resources, but the Fayette County Extension Office participates and collaborates with numerous organizations and groups to provide additional programming. Some of those efforts include:

- The Old Courthouse Landscape Plan
  Collaborating government and private industries to update and maintain the Old Fayette County Courthouse. Current efforts have been to set a direction and start planning to update the landscape utilizing new technologies and ideas to showcase alternative landscape designs and ideas. The goal is to complete this process while maintaining and focusing on the educational value of the project.
  Wrote and received Urban Tree Legacy Grant
  Coordinated and co-wrote State of Georgia 319 Grant
  Collaborating partners include:
  - Fayette County Engineering
  - Fayette County Building and Maintenance
  - Fayette County Chamber of Commerce
  - Main Street Fayetteville
  - The Old Courthouse Art Show
  - Innovative Irrigation
  - Thom's Trees
  - Andy's Nursery
  - Nearly Native Nursery
  - The University of Georgia
  - Fayette County Extension Office

- Partnering with the Fayette County Schools
  Three projects are underway to help build relationships and programming with the Fayette County Schools. Those projects include:
  - Resource Book – Informing schools about Fayette County Extension and our programs.
  - Soils Lab – an interactive program with a middle school to help enrich their science class.
  - Water Education – we are working to partner with a middle school to help design and implement a community garden/education program. These programs will focus on building from the Soils Lab and will also focus on water management and utilization.

- Effective Communication
  Today's fast paced world makes it harder to conduct effective programs and to communicate to potential new target audiences as well as effectively and efficiently communicate with existing partners. New and updated communication efforts include:
  - Updated Fayette County Extension website
  - Created and Published University of Georgia – Fayette County website
  - Created and utilizing ListServ applications for:
    - Fayette County Master Gardeners
    - Fayette County Master Gardeners Interns
    - Fayette County 4-H
  - Created and implemented a web based calendar to highlight Master Gardeners events
  - Created and implemented a Facebook® Main Page for Fayette County 4-H
  - Started a text message service to communicate with Senior 4-H Members
  - Developed web based form for Master Gardeners to submit monthly reports.
  - Updated several volunteer forms for web orientation and use.