University of Georgia Cooperative Extension is working hard for its constituents. The following are examples of Extension’s impact in the county over the past year.

**4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

The Camden County 4-H program focuses on life-skill development, stress management, college preparation, workforce development, coastal awareness, special interest clubs and summer programming. Through competitions and club meetings, members learn about life skills, college preparation and future career skills. Staff and volunteers led special-interest club meetings about marine science, poultry, cooking, rocks, and arts and crafts. These clubs met monthly during the school year and had 25 to 50 members each. 4-H staff shared Yoga for Kids with schools and college summer camp, teaching about mindful relaxation and exercise for health. Summer programs kept the 4-H’ers engaged in learning, including multiple day camps in marine science and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects, a babysitting workshop and fun trips. This year was the first annual Exhibit Fair at the Kingsland Catfish Festival and the Photo Poultry Show with the Poultry Club. 4-H staff shared information from an Ocean to Table Seafood Workshop with Marine Extension at club meetings, summer programs, festivals and online.

**AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The Camden County Extension office offers many agriculture and natural resources services to local clientele. The office offers soil, water and plant analyses through the university’s laboratories, as well as in-office and on-site consultations on issues such as pond management, lawn health and maintenance, gardening issues and strategies, water quality and land-use decisions.

Camden County Extension first diagnosed citrus greening, a disease affecting all species of citrus and some related ornamentals, in the county in 2016. Since then, efforts have been made to better educate both citizens and professionals on the disease and the threat it poses to Georgia’s citrus industry and economy. The Agriculture and Natural Resources agent has given a number of presentations both locally and at statewide meetings to educate and spread awareness. She was interviewed on citrus greening for a piece that aired on the Georgia Farm Monitor and may also be found through YouTube. The agent has worked closely with colleagues in Florida both in sample diagnosis and in creating innovative solutions to address the problem. There is currently no regulatory protocol on reporting, handling or disposal of diseased trees. These are issues that have been discussed with the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The agent, along with Extension administration, the Georgia Citrus Growers Association and the Georgia Department of Agriculture, are working on a plan of action to increase education efforts across the state, as well as track the movement and infestation of the disease’s vector, the Asian citrus psyllid.

**FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

Although Camden County Extension does not have a Family and Consumer Sciences agent based in the office, we strive to assist local residents with their questions. Common questions regard food safety, food preservation and treating mold and mildew. These topics and others are answered through a wide variety of free UGA Extension publications available at the county office or by phone conferences with Family and Consumer Sciences agents in surrounding counties.
Counties in Georgia can be a valuable resource for various industries. The Georgia Cooperative Extension System, part of the UGA Cooperative Extension System, is ready to meet the needs of the state and its communities. UGA Extension is ready to meet the needs of the state and its communities. UGA Extension serves more than 2.1 million Georgians annually through publications, workshops, and events. Extension professionals in this program area lead consumer economics trainings and programs such as ServSafe®, Relationship Smarts, and PRIDE, a parent and teen driving education course. Extension also promotes healthy lifestyles through statewide programs. Walk Georgia is a virtual, fitness-tracking resource that encourages physical fitness and healthy lifestyles to better the lives of Georgians. Other health programs managed by UGA include the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed). These classes teach families how to stretch their food dollars, eat healthier meals and snacks, and reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses.

**Agriculture & Natural Resources**

Goods and services related to Georgia’s agriculture and natural resources affect each of the state’s communities every day. Agriculture is Georgia’s largest industry, and its direct and indirect economic impact totals $73.7 billion. More than 392,400 Georgia jobs are directly involved in commodity or food- and fiber-related industries.

UGA Extension faculty and staff play a key role in the success of this industry by sharing university-based research for Georgians to use on the farm and at home. Recommendations in areas including soil fertility, pest management, plant and crop varieties, water quality, and herd health and management focus on maximizing production and profits while minimizing environmental impacts.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension agents also provide homeowners and communities with information on lawn care, landscaping, gardening and water conservation through a variety of workshops. Some agents also work with schools on projects like community gardens and farm-to-school programs.

**4-H Youth Development**

As the youth development program of UGA Extension, 4-H is also part of a national network. Georgia 4-H reaches more than 170,000 fourth- through 12th-grade students across the state and helps students develop the knowledge, life skills and attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. This mission is fulfilled through hands-on learning experiences in agricultural and environmental awareness, leadership, communication skills, citizenship, energy conservation, health, and food and nutrition.

Georgia 4-H’ers are well-known for sharing their knowledge and volunteering throughout their communities. At the school and county levels, students participate in club meetings organized by 4-H Youth Development Extension agents. At the state level, students participate in competitions, summer camps and conferences. Some 4-H competitions and events are also offered at the regional and national levels.

Research indicates that, as a result of participating in 4-H, members are more engaged in their academic studies, less likely to be involved in risky behavior, and more likely to graduate from high school and continue their education.

**Family & Consumer Sciences**

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension specialists, agents and staff assist in addressing real-life issues faced by Georgians of all ages. They provide programs and the latest information on obesity, chronic disease, food and financial insecurity, family stresses, unhealthy housing, food safety and preservation, nutrition and more.

To help promote the positive development and safety of preschool, school-aged and adolescent youth, UGA Extension offers resources for parents, caregivers and others. Extension professionals in this program area lead consumer economics trainings and programs such as ServSafe®, Relationship Smarts, and PRIDE, a parent and teen driving education course.

Extension also promotes healthy lifestyles through statewide programs. Walk Georgia is a virtual, fitness-tracking resource that encourages physical fitness and healthy lifestyles to better the lives of Georgians. Other health programs managed by UGA include the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed). These classes teach families how to stretch their food dollars, eat healthier meals and snacks, and reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses.