

Extension Agents for Winn Parish

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NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Dr. Allen Nipper, Regional Director

Mrs. Karen Martin, Regional 4-H Coordinator

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(North Louisiana)

NOTE:

Membership and participation in activities and events are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, veteran status, or disability. If you have a disability that requires special accommodation for your participation in the meeting, please contact Don Moon, Jr. at (318) 628-4528

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Serving Winn Parish Through Education

Program Highlights Winter Semester 2003

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Ag & Natural Resources

- Conducted poultry testing for West Nile Virus. Currently, all 10 sites are testing negative. As a result of this project, the Winn Parish Mosquito Abatement Board will receive \$10,000 as setup money for the mosquito control program for Winn Parish. This program will be conducted through the Winn Parish Police Jury.
- Co-coordinated Citizen Core Council planning program meeting. Eight people attended the program and decided to pursue the formation of the council to better educate the people of Winn Parish.
- Coordinated horticulture field day with Dr. Allen Owings of the LSU AgCenter, Linda Smith, Jimmy Shumake and Glen Austin. Dr. Owings discussed the importance of proper planting locations and overall plant care for the home landscape. Twenty people attended the program and asked questions concerning ways to improve their landscapes.
- Assisted LA Map board in GPS mapping of mosquito testing sites for the parish. Currently, there are 10 sites throughout Winn Parish to help monitor mosquito borne diseases and mosquito species located in the area. As a result of this work, the Mosquito Abatement Board is fulfilling their obligations for mosquito surveillance.
- Conducted pruning demonstration for five people showing the proper methods of removing unwanted growth. All adopted these practices and are following recommendations.
- Coordinated mosquito testing and West Nile testing for Winn Parish. As a result of the poultry blood testing, only one bird has tested positive. Due to this, a public notification/news article was written as a warning to the people to let them know how to reduce their chance of being bitten by mosquitoes.
- Visited four hay producers and pulled samples for State Fair hay show. The producers were Kirk Miles and Danny Smith with Bahia grass and Costal Bermuda. Don Price and Buddy Bates with Alicia Bermuda. Kirk Miles' sample was the champion Bahia sample.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Two childcare provider trainings were conducted with 15 childcare workers. Educational topics included *Group Care and Routines*, and *Guidance and Discipline of Young Children*.
- A group of 45 students and adults participated in an FNP educational activity while attending summer day camp. The participants gained knowledge about the Food Guide Pyramid and used food models to practice food grouping strategies.
- Twenty parents attending a Headstart parent meeting participated in a presentation on mosquito control and abatement. The "Fight the Bite" presentation focused on facts about the West Nile Virus and preventive measures to take for protection from mosquitoes. Suggested practices for protecting young children were discussed.
- A group of eight senior citizens participated in an educational lesson on the seasonal vegetable, pumpkins. Pumpkin pointers were discussed on recommended ways for preparing, cooking, storing and serving pumpkin. Clients were educated on the benefits of eating pumpkin, which is very high in nutritional value.
- Diabetes awareness month was promoted through a DEAR exhibit at the local YMCA. Informational fact sheets on the warning signs of the disease were distributed to approximately 100 YMCA visitors.
- Coordinated and supervised the parish FNP program. The FNP Nutrition Assistant conducted nutrition education activities in all eight schools, Headstart Center, local daycare centers, Office of Family Support, Health Unit, Council on Aging and commodity distribution sites.

4-H and Other Youth Development

- Six hundred ninety-two 4-H youth are learning the components of a healthy lifestyle through participation in monthly 4-H club meetings. Educational programs include: Organwise Guys, Blood & Guts, Food Guide Pyramid, Healthy Attitudes and Emotions as related to the six pillars of character, Exercise and Fitness and Environmental Health.

- Sixteen 4-H'ers and one adult volunteer leader participated in 4-H Short Course at LSU. The members competed in nine different contests and four participants earned blue ribbon medals. All participants demonstrated increased knowledge in contest areas and enhanced leadership skills as a result of this experience.
- Two volunteer leaders attended the regional Volunteer Leader training where they participated in educational sessions on the following topics: Project Involving Leap Lessons, Community Service Project Revitalization, Utilizing Extension Resources, Making Impacts with 4-H, Effective Club Programs, Identifying Volunteer Needs and environmental Resources. The leaders reported learning new ideas that they will use in their role as a 4-H volunteer.
- Approximately, forty 4-H club officers participated in officer training sessions to learn about officer duties, club meeting procedures, program ideas and community service projects. Participants also gained information on leadership qualities and the six pillars of character.
- Conducted five dehorn and castrating trainings for 4-H members on goat and swine. The youth learned proper ways to dehorn and castrate the animals in a way that caused the least amount of harm to the animals. The youth demonstrated the proper methods to give injections to their animals.
- Assisted at 2003 Winn Parish Summer Sizzler Livestock show. Over 80 goats, 80 rabbits, 45 beef cattle, 60 pigs and 20 sheep were shown this year. This activity is leader driven and is a fundraiser for the Winn Parish Livestock club. Over \$2,000 was made at the 2003 show. This money will be utilized to help sponsor a 4-H livestock banquet and assist club members at shows throughout the year.
- One high school 4-H member participated in Marsh Maneuvers to learn about the Louisiana wetlands and to experience hands-on environmental activities.

Community Economic Development

- A new bakery business owner was assisted in obtaining nutrition information relevant to the products offered to consumers.