Cooperative Extension Programs
Delaware State University

OUR MISSION.
As part of the Delaware Cooperative Extension system, Delaware State University connects the public with university knowledge, research and resources to address youth, family, community and agricultural needs. Through our connection to the national 1890 Land-Grant System, we help people, especially those who have limited social and economic resources, improve their lives through outreach education.

WHO WE ARE.
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4-H & Youth Development

Andy Wetherill, MS
Small Farms Educator
WHAT WE DO.

AQUACULTURE
The aquaculture industry in Delaware has great potential for growth. A lack of general knowledge about this viable profit base may, in part, be responsible for the limited size of this industry. Cooperative Extension is addressing these issues. Our efforts have largely been aimed at identifying suitable aquaculture species for use in DE and low input methods to raise them profitably.

CONSUMER ECONOMICS
Financial health is just as important as physical health. Cooperative Extension helps Delawareans learn how to minimize debt for financial stability by teaching consumers about credit card debt and consumer spending. The goal of this program is to promote financial literacy for youths and adults and to help them develop saving habits that include retirement planning on a limited income.

DIET, NUTRITION AND HEALTH
Overweight and obesity have become epidemic health problems in the United States. These health issues lead to chronic health problems including diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. Cooperative Extension programs target people in all age ranges to teach them more effective ways to control their diets and to improve their overall health conditions. Education initiatives address nutrition and food safety, and the importance of daily exercise.

FAMILY LIFE
Families living in Delaware’s urban areas require educational programs and materials that address the specific quality of life issues that they face. Cooperative Extension programs teach Delaware residents how to become more involved in their communities, and provide youth leadership training activities and access to resources for limited resource families.

HORTICULTURE
People of all ages benefit from increased knowledge of gardening and a general appreciation for the natural environment. Cooperative Extension provides train-the-trainer educational programs that teach participants how to plan, plant and care for gardens and landscaping on their property. Programs target people of all ages who come from all walks of life.

POULTRY
The average age of Delaware farmers surpasses 54 years. New generations of youths must be engaged in aspects of the poultry industry if the profession is to continue to grow and remain viable within Delaware. Additionally, small poultry producers require research-based information to maintain environmentally safe operations. Cooperative Extension conducts educational programs for Delaware students on embryology, and poultry care and handling. Fact sheets are produced and workshops are held to keep small poultry farmers abreast of new production and disease prevention techniques.

SMALL FARMS PROGRAM
Limited resource and minority farmers in Delaware have continued to try to stay on the farm, but many have lost their sources of income. Cooperative Extension works with these farmers by suggesting ways to add value to normal commodities, and by offering farmers new and innovative products to market at roadside stands, supermarkets and farmers markets.

SMALL Ruminants
Producers of small ruminants (goats and sheep) have a ready resource in DSU Cooperative Extension. The state specialist in this area is available to provide producers with research-based information on production techniques, parasite prevention and treatment, and how to market livestock to maintain and increase profit margins.

4-H AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Young people who are identified as at-risk face many hurdles. In Delaware, these youths are mostly minority and low income, and they fail to gain the educational skills required to pass mandatory state tests. Cooperative Extension designs and implements programs that help young people develop the social and developmental skills they need for success in life.

For more information, call 302.857.6424
Online:
www.desu.edu/cooperative-extension