



LA Master Farmer Program/ Environmental Education

Two Wild Woods Wandering Environmental Camp committee meetings were conducted prior to the scheduled events to plan and organize the camps.



Two Wild Woods Wandering Environmental Camps were conducted in July. Participants included twenty-nine 4-H youth, representing fifteen Louisiana parishes, one Mississippi county and one Texas county. Twenty-four volunteers, representing seven local, state and federal agencies assisted with the camps. Evaluations of the camps indicated significant gains in knowledge and application of specific information related to the bottomland hardwoods ecosystem.



Information related to surface and groundwater quality was available in hands-on activities to more than 1000 youth and adults attending the Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge's Annual Hunting and Fishing Day, held September 22.

Over 40 outdoor enthusiasts, agricultural producers, landowners and interested local residents participated in the Paddling and Canoeing Business Opportunities and Leasing for Profit on Your Farm Workshop, held September 28-29, at Black Bayou Refuge in Monroe, La. The event was organized by the LSU AgCenter and Mississippi State University's Natural Resource Enterprises' Program.

319 Projects updates were presented to the Tensas-Concordia Soil and Water Conservation District's monthly meeting.

Presented updates on LSU AgCenter programming efforts and upcoming activities to the Franklin Parish Police Jury in August.

Franklin Parish Staff

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- Ginger Boutwell.....** Extension Agent, FCS
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Agriculture and Natural Resources – ANR



A Franklin Parish Crops Tour was held on July 21 to update local producers and agricultural business representatives on agronomic and pest management production practices. The tour made stops at the soybean and corn variety demonstrations planted on the Campbell farm and the cotton variety demonstration on the Dailey farm.

A Worker's Protection Standard (WPS) training was held for employees working on farms. The training is required every three years for agricultural workers. The training covers safe handling and application of pesticides.



A presentation was given at the Lions Club and Rotary Club on the importance of agriculture to the economies of the United States, Louisiana and Franklin Parish.

A presentation was given to the Franklin Medical Center's "Pink Ladies" on patio gardening.



The corn, cotton and soybean variety on-farm demonstrations were harvested. The yield information from these demonstrations are used by producers when making their variety selection decisions for next year.

4-H Youth Development

Two Franklin Parish youth participated in Wild Woods Wanderings Camp in July. Campers experienced learning and application through problem solving activities and critical thinking skills. They also learned how to solve real-life environmental issues in any outdoor environment. Camp is held at the Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge.



Seven Franklin Parish volunteers attended the annual Area Leader Forum in Rayville. The training is a professional development day for volunteers in the Northeast Region

The Smart Bodies program has kicked off at three Franklin Parish schools in September. Family Community Christian

School, Franklin Academy and Winnsboro Elementary School are participating in the educational program that provides nutrition education and promotes physical activity to youth in grades K – 5.

Monthly 4-H meetings will be held at 14 school clubs to distribute the 4-H newsletter and conduct educational programs focused on environmental education and financial management.

Family and Consumer Science



"What is Broadband?" was the title of one of the Connect My Louisiana series of lessons that was presented to Head Start parents and to those attending "Noon Nibbles."

Pre-K through 5th grade teachers at Winnsboro Elementary, Franklin Academy and Family Community Christian School were trained to implement the Smart Bodies Program in their schools to teach children healthy nutrition and fitness habits.



Twenty-two children ages 9-12 participated in the three day "Kids Chef Camp" and learned about eating and preparing healthy foods as well as the importance of physical activity.