

# LSU AgCenter Jackson Parish Profile

Report to Stakeholders January 2025



## ABOUT THE LSU AGCENTER

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a statewide network of parish extension offices, research stations and academic departments, the LSU AgCenter helps Louisiana citizens make the best use of natural resources, protect the environment, enhance agricultural enterprises, and develop human and community resources.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Nutrition and Community Health

- Students at Jonesboro Elementary School have strengthened their knowledge of Louisiana Commodities through Harvest of the Month.
- Partnership with Jackson Parish Library has allowed homesteading programs to continue with clients checking out incubators, seeds, and learning hot water bath canning techniques through educational programs provided by LSU AgCenter.
- Pollinator Gardens were placed at Chatham Branch Library.
- Students in Jackson Parish are learning to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables as they learn cooking skills in their classroom.

### 4-H Youth Development

4-H is a Youth Development Organization devoted to bringing innovative programs to youth across the nation. Nearly 400 students in Jackson Parish School clubs explored various life skills to enhance their success as they move through life. The youth worked on skills such as writing professional letters and properly addressing envelopes. They created resumes and worked on interview skills all while learning to work as a team. Outside of their school clubs, Jackson Parish youth were encouraged to participate in parish, regional and state activities such as livestock and equine production, Food Challenge, forestry, and ATV Safety.

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

Jackson Parish is situated in North Central Louisiana with 569 square miles of land and 11 square miles of water. Forestry and poultry are the two leading agronomic enterprises in the parish. The LSU AgCenter has a strong influence on environmental and natural resource management. Programs like Ag Awareness, A Walk with Nature, and Forestry Mill Tour reach over 600 individuals in the parish that focus on natural resource management.



### Jackson Parish Extension Office:

182 Industrial Dr.  
Jonesboro, LA 71251  
Office: 318-259-5690  
Fax: 318-259-5664

**Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### Email:

[kmbourgeois@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:kmbourgeois@agcenter.lsu.edu) – 4-H Agent

[schevallier@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:schevallier@agcenter.lsu.edu) – NCH Agent

#### Website:

[www.LSUAgCenter.com/jackson](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/jackson)

### Social Media:

Facebook: Jackson Parish 4-H

### Parish Chair:

[wmoon@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:wmoon@agcenter.lsu.edu)

### Additional Contact: Adm. Coord.

[mdenis@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:mdenis@agcenter.lsu.edu)

## PROGRAMS

### 4-H and Youth Development

- Jr. Leadership
- Outdoor Skills/Shooting Sports
- Livestock Club
- School Gardens
- ATV Safety

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Animal Production.
- Forestry/Natural Resources.
- Horticulture/Lawn and Garden.
- Pasture/Forage.
- Fruit/Vegetable Production.
- Pond Management.
- Wildlife Management

### Nutrition and Community Health (NCH)

- Family Resource Management
- SNAP-Ed
- Healthy Communities

## WHOM WE REACH:

1200 youth per month (includes 400 4-H members, 100 4-H Shooting Sports members, 16 school 4-H Clubs, and 250 through Nutrition and Community Health)  
1250 adults per month (1100 through agriculture and natural resources and 150 through Nutrition and Community Health)

## HOW WE REACH THEM:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, camps, field days, publications, newsletters, class series, website, social media, Ag Awareness, ATV Safety Trainings, Forestry Awareness, A Walk in Nature and workshops.

## EXPANDING OUR EFFORTS:

150 volunteers from 4-H, Master Gardeners, Outdoor Skills, CRM ATV Safety, family, and community volunteers.

## PARISH FACTS:

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, forestry, wildlife, and animal enterprises to Jackson Parish residents. The total dollar amount from these commodities were: Animal enterprises, \$86,632,755; forestry and wildlife, \$47,353,873; plant enterprises, \$5,111,122.  
Land area - 580.00 square miles; Population —15,031; Population under 18 years old — 21.2%; Population 65 years old and over — 20.7%; Median household income — \$41,298; Persons below poverty — 21%

## LOCAL ISSUES AND PLANS FOR THIS YEAR:

### ***Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.***

- Conduct Forestry, Plant Science, and Animal Science field days and clinics.
- Conduct Master Gardener field days and clinics.
- Write news columns, do radio program, webpage content and seminars on agriculture practices.
- Conduct farm and home educational visits.

### ***Promote the wide use of natural resources and protection of the environment.***

- Before and after natural disasters conduct tree care seminars.
- Present program related to cost shares on wildlife control and tree plantings.
- Develop a comprehensive tree care program and tree best management practices plan for guidelines.

### ***Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.***

- Develop and implement service-learning projects throughout the parish.
- Work with local food pantries to provide items for those with food insecurities.
- Junior Leaders will work with the local civic clubs on parish and city projects, focus on life skills education, and other youth development activities.

### ***Strengthen families and communities.***

- Build stronger, healthier communities working with elected officials to adopt policies to ensure safe access to the places in which citizens work, learn, play, and pray.
- Teach families how to eat healthy and incorporate physical activity habits into their everyday lives.
- Teach communities how to grow and prepare healthier food options through cooking, canning, and farm to table alternatives.
- Teach food safety techniques to ensure clients are handling food in the safest manner.



## HOW IS EXTENSION FUNDED?

- Federal funding from the USDA/ NIFA.
- State general funds from the Louisiana Legislature.
- Local support from parish government, including police juries and school boards.
- Self-generated funds.



## WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY?

Our stakeholders at the parish level are the local supporters and beneficiaries of the LSU AgCenter cooperative extension programs. Their support keeps these critical programs in their communities.



## EACH PARISH OFFERS PROGRAMMING IN:

- 4-H and Youth Development.
- Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- Nutrition and Community Health



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our website:  
[www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com)