

Caddo Parish Profile

Report to Stakeholders October 2019



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

Family, Nutrition and Health

Many Caddo Parish residents suffer from overweight, obesity, and chronic disease. Nutrition education programs currently offered include Smart Portions and Healthy Communities. Nutrition agents have taught general nutrition education at Shreveport Farmers' Market, Martin Luther King Health Center, North Point UMC, Volunteers of America, Shreveport Green, Akin's Nursery, Shreveport Optimist Club, AARP, Caddo Council on Aging, the Southern Hills Homemakers Club, and Southwood Square Senior Living. Articles are also written periodically for "318 Forum" and "The Best of Times." The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) serves Caddo Parish and reached 124 limited-resource adults and 834 youth with nutrition education this past year. EFNEP celebrated its 50th year in 2019. Healthy Beginnings for Your Baby is also offered and teaches parenting skills to pregnant women and mothers of infants.

4-H Youth Development

The Caddo 4-H program reaches more than 1000 youth through club meetings, school-enrichment, workshops, and after-school programs. Project clubs include shotgun, archery, rifle, Jr. Leadership and livestock. 4-H club members receive monthly educational lessons about life skills focusing on communication, social skills and self-esteem. Data was collected from 4th-8th grade members and the results are as follows: 100% recognized that for good communication to happen, they need to consider their voice, body, and words. 94% learned that they are better able to get along with others when they learn to understand and accept the differences in each other. 87% thought that writing a thank-you note was an important skill. 86% learned that doing things without being told is practicing self-motivation. Through the senior citizen service learning project, youth collected food items, toiletries, and made Valentine's cards for the Food Bank, Northwest Veterans home, and nursing homes. Youth participated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring", visited and played games with seniors at residential facilities, assisted with chores for senior citizens within their communities.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Caddo parish currently has cotton, corn, and soybean test plots. Each covers approximately 20 acres with 16-20 varieties per plot. The plots will be planted March-June, 2020 and will be harvested August-October, 2020. The test plots are a joint effort between Caddo parish and Dean Lee Research Station in Alexandria. This year, row crop production meeting and beef/forage production meetings were held for local producers in Caddo parish. Over 70 producers attended and learned about best management practices, new varieties, and current research on pest management.

Caddo Parish

Extension Office

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Parish Chair

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Additional contact:

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Administrative Coordinator

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Programs

4-H and Youth Development

- Citizenship/Leadership
- Healthy Living
- Science, Engineering & Technology

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Animal Production
- Beef Cattle
- Community Gardens
- Corn
- Cotton
- Forestry
- Horticulture/Lawn and Garden
- Pastures
- Pest Management
- Rice
- Soybean

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)

- Community Nutrition
- Dining with Diabetes
- EFNEP – Expanded Food & Nutrition Program
- Healthy Beginnings
- Smart Choices

Whom we reach:

32,336 youth
9,356 adults

How we reach them:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, field days, publications, newsletters, class series, website, soil analysis, school gardens, demonstrations, Master Gardener, EFNEP programs, pesticide training, social media, and workshops.

Expanding our efforts:

676 volunteers from 4-H, Master Gardeners, family and community, nutrition and Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Parish Facts:

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, fisheries, wildlife and animal enterprises to Caddo Parish residents. The total dollar amount from these commodities were: Plant enterprises, \$70,451,275; Fisheries & Wildlife, \$1,071,041; and Animal Enterprises, \$34,076,048
Land area — 878.54 square miles; Population — 246,581; Population under 18 years old — 24%; Population 65 years old and over — 16.5%; Median household income — \$40,815; Persons below poverty — 26.4%

Local issues and plans for this year

Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.

- Conduct Crop Production meetings to educate local farmers on the latest research-based information and technology.
- Conduct pesticide recertification meetings to local producers, home owners, nurseries, and pest control companies.
- Conduct farm and home educational visits.
- Continue to provide information to local farmers and home owners on crops, animals, gardens and wildlife.

Strengthen families and communities.

- Establish a Healthy Communities Coalition in Caddo Parish.
- Conduct nutrition education workshops with information on health and nutrition, food safety and preservation, MyPlate, and incorporating physical activity with technology.
- Continue to provide high quality education to clients in the Dining with Diabetes class series.

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

- Develop leadership skills in 4-H youth through educational programs conducted in school club meetings, service-learning, workshops, and after-school settings.
- Youth will learn and apply key life and social skills for success through educational programs during 4-H club meetings.
- Develop volunteers to lead youth through positive youth development activities on the parish, regional, and state level.

Caddo Extension Funding FY2019-2020

- Self-generated – 9.6%
- Local Support
Grants/Contracts – 25.5%
- Federal Funds – 20%
- State General Funds – 44.9%

Local Funding:

- Caddo Parish Commission
- Caddo Parish School Board

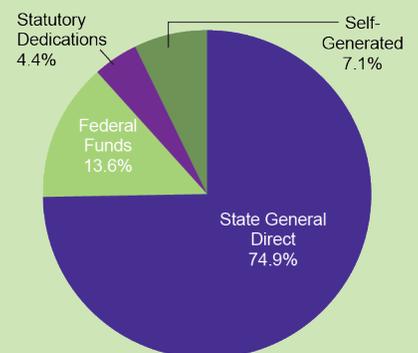
How we are funded

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter extension programs. Just 20% support keeps these programs in your community.

Your parish extension office offers programs in:

- Sustaining Louisiana agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
- Building leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.
- Family, nutrition and health to enhance the quality of life for Louisiana's citizens.

LSU AgCenter State Appropriated Funds FY 2019-2020



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our website:

LSUAgCenter.com