

LSU AgCenter Sabine 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

A healthy lifestyle is vital at every age, yet obesity remains a concern in Louisiana. In Sabine Parish, we partner with preschools and the Council on Aging to promote nutrition and activity. The Happy Healthy Me curriculum teaches preschoolers healthy habits early, while Let's Eat for the Health of It helps adults, including seniors, make balanced food choices and stay active. By engaging all ages, we foster a lasting culture of wellness.

4-H Youth Development

Through a partnership with a state lesson study program, Sabine Parish 4-H is dedicated to equipping over 700 students with essential life skills that prepare them for real-world challenges. From phone etiquette and internet safety to laundry care, first-aid, cultural awareness, and handling disappointment, the program covers a broad spectrum of practical knowledge. In addition to these valuable lessons, Students can participate in a variety of 4-H clubs beyond the classroom, including photography, cooking, shooting sports, Cloverbuds, and Junior Leaders. These opportunities provide hands-on learning experiences that foster personal growth, leadership, and lifelong skills.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Sabine Parish is a leading producer of poultry and timber, with beef cattle, dairy, and honey production also playing key roles in its agricultural economy. Many retirees are drawn to the area for its abundant recreational opportunities, particularly around Toledo Bend Reservoir, and take great pride in their lawns and gardens. With a strong emphasis on outdoor recreation, wildlife and fisheries management remains a vital topic. The Sabine Master Gardeners host annual educational programs like the "Down and Dirty" seminar, demonstrations at local festivals, and Ag-Magic at the Louisiana State Fair. Over 34 active Master Gardeners educate more than 2,500 citizens each year on landscape design, vegetable gardening, flowering plants, and turf management.

PROGRAMS

4-H and Youth Development

- 4-H.
- FFA.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Forestry and Wildlife Commercial
- Agricultural
- Horticulture/Lawns and Gardens
- Animal Waste/Nutrient Management
- Poultry
- Dairy

Nutrition and Community Health

- Healthy Communities

- SNAP-Ed.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Your address

1125 W. Mississippi Ave. Suite B
Many, LA 71449
Phone: 318-256-3406
Fax: 318-256-6339

Email:

Sabine@agcenter.lsu.edu

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Website:



LSUAgCenter.com/Sabine

Social Media:

[Facebook.com/sabineparish4H](https://www.facebook.com/sabineparish4H)

Parish Chair:

Chris Pearce
Tpearce@agcenter.lsu.edu

Additional Contact:

Lydia Cook
Lsepulvado@agcenter.lsu.edu

WHOM WE REACH:

More than 1,000 youth (including 550 4-H members and 17 school 4-H Clubs) and 5,000 adults (1,300 in agriculture and natural resources and 3,700 family, Nutrition and Community Health)

HOW WE REACH THEM:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, field days, publications, newsletters, class series, website, social media and workshops.

EXPANDING OUR EFFORTS:

165 volunteers from 4-H, Master Gardeners, family and community, Poultry and Livestock.

PARISH FACTS:

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife, and animal enterprises to Sabine Parish residents. The total dollar amount from these commodities were: Animal enterprises, \$132,786,787; aquaculture and wildlife, \$6,513,411 plant enterprises, \$59,055,627. Land area — 865.27 square miles; Population — 24,145; Population under 18 years old — 24.9%; Population 65 years old and over — 16.8%; Median household income — \$52,407; Persons below poverty — 19.6%

LOCAL ISSUES AND PLANS FOR THIS YEAR:

Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.

- Attend beef cattle/Forage meetings
- Assist with poultry litter management and dead bird disposal
- Assist with the Master Gardener Program
- Conduct pesticide recertification meetings
- Assist homeowners with lawn and garden questions

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

- Work with the Sabine Soil and Water Conservation District promoting their feral hog program.
- Promote the BMP's of soil health and soil nutrient testing.
- Educate the public through various Livestock seminars and field days.

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

- Develop and implement service-learning projects throughout the parish.
- Junior Leaders will work with SPA (Sabine Prevention Alliance), character education projects and fashion club members on promoting youth development activities.
- Work with Sabine Humane Society assisting with caretaking responsibilities.

Strengthen families and communities.

- Provide nutrition education and physical activity opportunities for older adults at the Sabine Council on Aging to support healthy aging and well-being.
- Conduct interactive lessons at Sabine Preschools to promote early childhood nutrition and movement, helping young children develop lifelong healthy habits.
- Offer workshops on practical, budget-friendly meal planning and grocery shopping strategies to help families make nutritious choices.
- Educate families and caregivers on safe food handling, meal preparation, and physical activity to enhance overall community health.



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