# Cooperative Extension Service and Energy Education

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**NASULGC: A Public University Association** 

# Who is Cooperative Extension?

- 75 Land-Grant Universities
  - 57 States, Territories and DC
  - 18 Historically Black Land-Grants
  - Native American Institutions

#### **Land Grant Universities**

- 1862 Morrill Act
  - Agriculture
  - Mechanical Arts
  - Military Science
- Today Major Public Universities

#### **Focus of Land-Grant Universities**

- Learning
- Discovery
- Engagement



### Legislation Expanded Efforts

- 1890 Morrill Act
- 1887 Hatch Act
  - Agricultural Experiment Stations (Research)
- 1914 Smith–Lever Act
  - Cooperative Extension Service
- 1994 Native American Institutions

# Extending Research-based Knowledge

- Engagement and Cooperative Extension
  - Linked to University and Other Research
  - Over 3,000 County Offices
- USDA Historic and Ongoing Linkages
- Many Other Agencies and Groups
- Engaging Individuals, Business and Communities in Transformational Learning

# Cooperative Extension System

- Cooperative is Intentional!
- Non-formal, non-credit learning
- Community-based
  - Learning community often engaged in the development of the learning process
- Often first responders in education
- Deploying knowledge to user communities
- Applied research with users
- Most Programs at no or minimal cost



### Transformational Learning

- Setting Learning Outcome Goals
- Developing Education Programs
- Delivering Education Programs
- Measuring Outcome Goals

# Seeking Actionable Change

Changing behavior, habits, policy and practices

Beyond just knowledge

Action

# Partnerships and Funding

- States through the Land-Grant Universities
- Local Governments Counties and Cities
- Federal
  - USDA
    - Cooperative States Research, Education, and Extension Service
  - Other Partnerships
- Private Partnerships
  - Foundations, Associations and other

# **Community-based Programs**

- Economic and Community Development
- Families and Home
- Personal Development
- Environment
- Plants
- Animals
- Energy



# **Economic and Community**Development

- Small Business
   Development
- Entrepreneurship
- Disaster Preparation and Response
- Public Issues Education

Energy



#### **Families and Home**

- Family Financial Management
- Housing
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Environmental Safety
- Parenting
- Caregiving/Elder Care



Energy

Photo from <a href="http://Servingthosewhoserve.org">http://Servingthosewhoserve.org</a>

# **Personal Development**

- Healthy Life Style
- Stress Management
- Nutrition
- Food Safety
- 4-H Youth Development
  - After-school
- Leadership Development



Energy Choices

#### **Environment**

- Water Quality
- Soil Conservation
- Pesticide Management and Use Training
- Home Air Quality
- Climate Change
- Energy



#### **Plants**

- Home Horticulture and Gardening
- Small Farming and Community Gardens
- Commercial Crop Production
- Food Processing
- Woodlands and Forests



Energy Production

#### **Animals**

- Ranching
- Veterinary and Public Health
- Commercial Animal Production
- Sustainable Agricultural Systems
- Insect and Pest Management



Energy and Waste Streams

# Cooperative Extension Energy Responses

- Agricultural Systems
- Renewable Energy
- Energy Efficiency
  - Homes
  - Businesses
  - Local Government/Communities
  - Educational Institutions

# Agricultural Systems

- Equipment and buildings
- Indirect energy use
- Integrated energy systems
- Land-based sources of energy
- Sustainable Resources

# Renewable Energy

- Bio-fuels and products
- Solar
- Wind
- Methane
- Geothermal
- Co-generation

# **Energy Efficiency**

- Building Sciences
- Agricultural Production Systems
- Food Processing Systems
- Communities

### Some History

- Before 1977
  - Farm Efficiency
- 1977 Legislation created energy extension program
  - Eliminated in 1990's

### DOE/NASULGC Partnership

- Pilot project 2005-2008
  - Biomass
  - Housing in Hot-Humid Zone
  - Youth Education in Energy
  - Structures Educational Programs
  - Integrating Research
- Limited funding

# Other Partnerships

- DOE/NASULGC
- Sun Grant Program
- Energy Star
- USDA/REE Energy Science and Education Program
- State Energy Offices
- Many Others

#### eXtension

- Developed by LGUs
  - Currently funded by LGUs and USDA/CSREES
- 24/7/365 Trusted Information and Education
- Communities of Practice
- http://about.eXtension.org

#### Possible COPs

- Bio-fuels and Products
  - Ethanol, Bio-diesel, Methane
- Energy Efficient Buildings and Structures
  - Homes, Small Businesses, Educational Institutions, Local Government
- Renewable Energy
  - Scalable energy systems, net-zero farms
- Rural Communities Dealing with Changing Land-use

### **Program Connections**

- For local program information and access call
  - one of the 3,000 local county or city
     Cooperative Extension Offices, or
  - the state Cooperative Extension Office at the Land-Grant University

# NASULGC: A Public University Association

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