We believe that knowledge should go beyond the classroom.
By bridging Land Grant Universities and communities, we help researchers understand what people need most while helping those people apply new knowledge that benefits them, their families, and the places they call home.

We innovate to meet learners on their own terms.
Some people want face-to-face contact, others prefer 24-7 access. To meet diverse needs, we use technology to deliver online courses, mobile apps, and solution-oriented websites in addition to staffed local offices.

We partner.
By working with a network of public and private organizations we bring resources to the people who need them most.

We attract dedicated talent.
Diverse, knowledgeable, and creative professionals bring expertise and credibility to a career focused on helping people, businesses, and communities.

What makes the Cooperative Extension System unique?
Established by Congress through the Smith Lever Act and subsequent amendments, the Cooperative Extension System is...

a national network of professionals.
With +32,000 university- and county-based employees and 2.8 million volunteers, we cross every state and U.S. territory.

a system of trusted community members.
We meet people where they live to deliver tailored, innovative, and accessible programs, resources, and partnerships.

a research-based data-driven organization.
Administered by the Nation’s Land Grant Universities including Historically Black and Native American tribally-controlled Colleges and Universities, we connect university science to community issues to change lives.

where co-created solutions happen.
By linking resources and organizations to address locally identified problems we empower resilient communities to address pressing problems in rural and urban America.
Cooperative Extension

Working together to address local issues and strengthen communities since 1914.

KEY ISSUE AREAS

- Food Safety and Security
- Healthy People; Healthy Communities
- Building Youth Leaders through 4-H Youth Development
- Water Quality and Use
- Resilient Food Systems
- Farmer Well-Being and Mental Health
- Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
- Natural Resource Management
- Economic and Community Development
- Sustainable and Profitable Farms and Open Spaces
- Next Generation Farmers

PARTNER WITH US

Cooperative Extension has the infrastructure, capability, and institutional history to partner with your organization and achieve common goals.

For federal agencies, state governments, and county/municipal leaders: Team up with your state’s Cooperative Extension Service to leverage assets, reach underserved communities, and deliver efficient effective programs.

For non-profit and private entities: Integration with Extension’s educational delivery capacity and access to relevant science can result in measurable impacts.

FUNDING

By matching federal funds at least $1-to-$1 with non-federal sources, Cooperative Extension delivers high impact programs and is a diligent steward of taxpayer investment.

Federal (Smith-Lever/1890s Extension) 10-50%
State funding 20-50%
County funding 0-20%
Grants 5-30%
Fee revenue, contract and gifts 5-20%

This document was approved by the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) the representative governing board of the 76 state, territory, and 1890 Land Grant University Extension Programs. www.extension.org/ecop

Contact ECOP’s Executive Director Dr. Rick Klemme at rickklemme@extension.org | 202-478-6029 or ECOP Chair Dr. Mark Latimore, Jr. at latimorm@fvsu.edu | 478-825-6572 to learn more about ECOP and the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities.

For more on Cooperative Extension visit www.aplu.org/CESgoals or the National Institute of Food and Agriculture https://nifa.usda.gov/cooperative-extension-system .

News Updates: www.ecopmondayminute.blogspot.com | Program Impacts: www.landgrantimpacts.org/extension