



Extension Committee on Organization & Policy (ECOP)

Cooperative Extension Strategic Opportunities

"Preparing for and responding to economic and natural disasters"
Improve community economic vitality, capacity, adaptability and resilience
Increase community capacity to manage opportunities and challenges resulting from population shifts and demographic changes
"Protecting our rich natural resources and environment"
Increase understanding and informed decision-making around environmental issues, competing land uses and rural/urban interdependence
Increase understanding and implementation of environmentally-responsible and sustainable community planning, growth, development, and management
Enhance air, water and soil quality through application of science-based management practices
"Ensuring an abundant and safe food supply for all"
Increase choice of safe and healthy food options
Reduce food borne illnesses and diseases related to food production, handling, preparation and processing
Increase access and use of safe, nutritious, and affordable foods from diverse sources
"Foster greater energy independence"
Increase knowledge and use of science-based energy efficient technologies and energy conservation to develop greater energy independence
"Help families, youth and individuals be physically, mentally and emotionally healthy"
Decrease obesity
Increase self-responsibility and resiliency skills in youth to reduce high risk behaviors
"Enhance workforce preparation and life skills"
Increase the number of youth entering careers that require science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills
Increase financial literacy and financial independence
"Strengthen the profitability of animal and plant production systems"
Increase sustainability, diversity and profitability of agricultural and natural resource-based enterprises
Increase understanding of the importance and impact of agriculture and natural resources
Increase use of farm risk management practices

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ECOP is the representative leadership and governing body of Cooperative Extension, the nationwide transformational education system operating through land-grant universities in partnership with federal, state, and local governments.