

# Franklin Parish Profile



Report to Stakeholders

January 2011

## About the LSU AgCenter

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a unique 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 & Consumer Sciences

In the current economic climate, wise money management is critical to everyone. Financial literacy lessons were taught to 1,751 youth and adults through classes, workshops, and interactive real world simulations.

Three-hundred kindergarten through fifth grade students at Franklin Academy and Family Community Christian School learned the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices by participating in the Smart Bodies program sponsored by the LSU AgCenter and Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Through a partnership between the LSU AgCenter, Franklin Parish Health Unit and Franklin Parish Library 100 parents of newborns participated in the Little Bookshelf program and received 12 board books and parenting fact sheets on the importance of early literacy and tips on reading to their children.

### 4-H Youth Development

Approximately 350 4-H'ers increased their knowledge on safety basics after attending six educational lessons focused on safety and participating in hands on activities during monthly 4-H Club meetings. The youth also became more aware of how to become competent citizens. The results of 70 pre tests and 70 post tests indicated a 26% increase in knowledge attainment from 5th and 6th grade students on leadership skills.



### Agriculture & Natural Resources

Forty-six private pesticide applicators either took the test or renewed their applicator card by attending a Franklin Parish Extension Service recertification training. Eighty agricultural workers received Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Handler training increasing their knowledge about handling pesticides safely.

Fifteen agricultural producers in North Louisiana have completed the requirements to become 2009-2010 Certified Master Farmers in the LA Master Farmer Program. Over three thousand producers are enrolled in the program and one hundred fifteen have completed certification with fully implemented management plans. Six field day presentations demonstrated the benefits of Best Management Practices to over one hundred seventy-five producers. Three LA Master Farmer Phase I trainings were conducted.

Two six-day and one three-day environmental camps were conducted, focused on an in-depth study of the bottomland hardwoods ecosystem. Thirty-five youth and thirty-two adults, including staff and twenty-six volunteers participated. Eleven state and federal agencies, two school districts and two private donors collaborated to provide funding, instruction and teaching facilities for the three camps.



## Franklin Parish Extension Office

**Address:** 6562 Main Street  
Winnsboro, LA 71295

**Phone:** 318-435-7551

**Fax:** 318-435-8216

**Email:**  
Franklin@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Web site:**  
LSUAgCenter.com/Franklin

### Office Hours:

**Monday - Friday**  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**James Hendrix**  
Parish Chair  
jhendrix@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Kathleen Burnett**  
Administrative Coordinator  
kburnett@agcenter.lsu.edu

## Programs

### 4-H and Youth Development

### Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)

Crop Production - corn, cotton, grain sorghum, rice, soybean, pasture, hay

Aquaculture - catfish, recreational ponds

Animal Production - beef cattle, home poultry flocks, horses

Horticulture - lawns and gardens, sweet potatoes, fruits and nuts

Pest Management

### LA Master Farmer Program Environmental Education

### Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Family Development  
Family Resource Management  
Nutrition and Health

**Who we reach.**

4797 - Youth (includes 421 4-H members & 14 school 4-H clubs)  
 2808 - Youth Education Outreach

9983 - Adults  
 5,897 Ag & Natural Resources (individual contacts)  
 4,086 Family Consumer Sciences

**How we reach them:**

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 4-H clubs             | Class series       |
| School Enrichment     | Demonstrations     |
| Field days            | Workshops          |
| Newsletters           | Web sites          |
| Publications          | Social media       |
| Camps                 | Farm /home visits  |
| Multi-parish outreach | Distance education |
| Partnerships          | Collaborations     |
| E-mail                | Project clubs      |

**Expanding our efforts:**

58 Volunteers - 4-H, ANR, FCS

**Parish Facts**

LSU AgCenter County Agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to Franklin Parish clientele. The 2008 total dollar amount from these commodities were:  
 —Plant enterprises - \$105,493,759  
 —Aquaculture and wildlife - \$7,766,307  
 —Animal enterprises - \$13,296,709

**Data from the Louisiana Ag Summary**  
**Web site: [LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary](http://LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary)**

- \*Population - 22,387
- \*Land area (square miles) - 623.4
- \*Persons under 18 years old - 25%
- \*Persons 65 years old and over - 16.6%
- \*\*Median household income - \$28,282
- \*\*Persons below poverty - 29.1%
- \* 2010 Census                      \*\*2000 Census

**Local Issues & Plans for this year.**

**1. Increase productivity and profitability of agriculture.**

Conduct on-farm variety demonstrations in corn, cotton and soybean.

Write articles for local newspaper and parish web page. Distribute crop production information through newsletters and email, highlighting herbicide use and systems approach to crop production.

Interact individually with producers and homeowners through office visits, farm and home visits to address production and pest management concerns.

Make educational presentations to local civic organizations and garden clubs.

**2. Promote the wise use of natural resources and protection of the environment.**

Conduct training for private pesticide applicators and agricultural workers. Conduct LA Master Farmer Program training sessions. Presentations and teaching at Model Farm and Research Station Field days. Conduct (3) Wildwoods Wanderings Environmental Camps. Development of and presentations at on-farm demonstrations. Presentations at commodity production meetings, field trips, civic groups and schools related to soil, water, air, plant, animal and people related to environmental education.

**3. Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H youth development.**

Youth in grades 4-12 will have an increased knowledge of safety issues.

Youth will solve problems by using reasoning skills, life experiences, accumulated knowledge, and relevant available information.

After school club youth will become more engaged members in service to the Franklin Animal Rescue. After school project clubs include Shooting Sports, Wild Riders Horse Club, Junior Leaders and Fashion, Food & Fitness Club.

**4. Strengthen families and communities.**

- Conduct financial education programs for adults and youth.
- Conduct family development education for parents, grandparents and child care providers.
- Conduct nutrition education programs for youth and adults



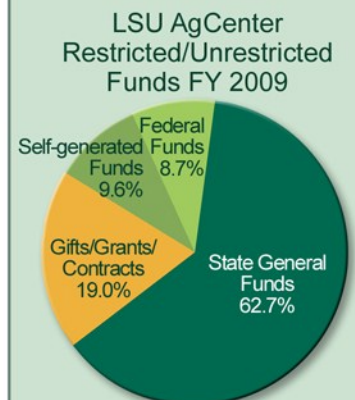
\*Local Funding  
 Parish Consolidated Government  
 Parish School Board

**How we are funded.**

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter's Extension programs. Just 20 percent support keeps these programs in your community.

Your parish extension office offers programs in:

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



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site: [LSUAgCenter.com](http://LSUAgCenter.com)