WHAT WE DO

- **We teach.** In classes, seminars and workshops; public presentations; with newspaper columns and stories; on radio; on the telephone; on the internet; on video and through research-based publications.

- **We build partnerships.** We foster relationships with people and organizations and exchange ideas and information with the audiences we serve.

- **We provide research-based learning opportunities.** We educate people with reliable facts and processes that are based on science.

- **We strive to improve the quality of life in Arizona.** We are dedicated to helping make Arizona a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Agriculture

Applied research and educational programs assist farmers, ranchers and businesses through improved marketing strategies, management skills, resource management and production practices.

**Cotton IPM (Integrated Pest Management)**

This integrated pest management program implemented in Arizona has resulted in a combined 58% reduction overall in pesticide sprays over the past nine years and a corresponding cumulative savings of more than $130 million in reduced pesticide costs. Faculty from the UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences worked together with growers, the USDA, the Arizona Department of Agriculture, the Arizona Cotton Growers' Association, Cotton Incorporated, industry and others to develop this program.

**Arizona Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (AzVDL)**

The AzVDL, in conjunction with Homeland Security, provides services to veterinarians, animal owners and federal and state agencies for the diagnosis of disease problems of livestock, companion animals, zoo and wild species.

Family, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences

These programs help individuals, families and communities become more resilient and healthy by teaching nutrition and wellness, family development and financial management.

**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**

Arizona Cooperative Extension collaborates with other agencies to offer assistance to grandparents raising grandchildren; in 2004, Pima County’s Kinship Adoption Resource Education Family Center received 1,400 new contacts from local grandparents, 591 kin caregivers participated in support groups in Pima County and the program became a model for other communities. Kinship Kare of Northern Arizona, a Cooperative Extension-based collaboration with community agencies, is assisting 311 grandparent-led households, representing 18% of the grandparent-led households in Coconino County.

**EFNEP (Extension Food and Nutrition Education Program)**

EFNEP addresses the needs of low-income, minority families and youth nationwide. This program teaches families with children to stretch their limited food dollars, plan and prepare nutritious foods and make informed choices about food and other lifestyle issues that support family health and well-being. In 2003-2004 more than 4,083 low-income families, including 15,828 family members and 4,693 youth, attended EFNEP classes in Arizona. As a result of the program, nearly 94% reported positive changes in choosing healthy items for meals.

Home Horticulture

Through trained Master Gardeners, citizens have access to research-based horticultural information, appropriate for local environments, including gardening, food production, landscaping, native plants, water conservation and environmental stewardship. In 2004 the Maricopa County Horticulture Hot Line, staffed by 45 volunteers per week, fielded 15,000 gardening and landscaping calls and assisted 3,500 walk-ins with gardening and landscaping questions at the main Extension office and three satellite locations. Yavapai County's 85 Master Gardener volunteers contributed 8,703 hours of service. They provided information and assistance to 1,248 face-to-face office clients, 1,370 phone clients and 74 e-mail clients.
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4-H Military Partnership

In Arizona, 4-H works with five statewide military installations and serves as a host for four Air Force bases overseas to provide consistent youth programs. A key benefit is that soldiers can focus on their mission, knowing that their children are in safe, supervised environments with caring adults. In Cochise County, the Arizona 4-H Military partnership has resulted in 150 new 4-H club members.

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)

Project WET promotes awareness, knowledge and stewardship of water resources. Offered through the UA Water Resources Research Center and county Extension offices, Project WET provides a consistent conservation strategy designed to encourage wise water use throughout the state. Forty workshops reached 738 educators in 2004. By reaching classroom teachers who, in turn, reach students, Project WET faculty are developing water-literate citizens and decision-makers for tomorrow.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Faculty members teach land management professionals, landowners and homeowners how to use natural resources more wisely and protect the environment with applied research and educational programs in water resources, invasive species and watershed and rangeland management.

Forest Health Program

In cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, the Arizona Forest Health Program provides assistance to protect, improve and restore forested ecosystems from the adverse effects of insects and diseases in Arizona with emphasis on private and state-owned lands. The program provides a wide range of education and assistance programs to, and in coordination with, state forest land resource managers, county extension offices, private landowners and the general public.

Rangeland Monitoring Education and Collaboration

Rangeland monitoring education teaches livestock producers, agency professionals and concerned citizens how to make science-based, statistically valid measurements that estimate available forage, soil protection and species composition and distribution on rangelands. Monitoring is especially important during times of drought and helps range managers make informed decisions about destocking and restocking ranches with cattle.

VOLUNTEERS

They are essential to Cooperative Extension programs, such as 4-H Youth Development, Master Gardeners, Bone Builders, Master Watershed Stewards and Master Consumer Advisors. Volunteers freely give of their time and talents to benefit Arizona residents and communities. Nearly 12,000 volunteers contributed 134,664 hours to Cooperative Extension programs in 2004 at a value of $2.4 million.

STRETCHING THE UNIVERSITY: AN AGRICULTURAL DEGREE PROGRAM IN YUMA

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences offers a B.S. degree in Agricultural Systems Management (ASM) in Yuma. The curriculum was developed in response to numerous requests for a degree program that would allow local students, many of whom work full-time, to obtain a B.S. degree in an agriculturally-related field without spending “residence time” in Tucson. The program, offered through a partnership among the UA, Arizona Western College and Northern Arizona University, currently has an enrollment of 45-55 students. The program yields a degree that is readily marketable to the large agricultural industry base in the Yuma area.

4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. 4-H involves youth, families and volunteers from major urban centers, suburban communities and rural settings. In Arizona, this program reaches a diversity of youth: 64.2% of participants identified themselves as minority in 2004. Yearly, more than 100,000 youth participate in 4-H youth development programs.