



Your Partner in Growing

Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

EXTENSION

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE. CHANGING LIVES.

Bringing Assets to Every Community

Knowledge Base

The best, most useful scientific research from universities and government agencies

Practical Education

Programs for young people and adults that help them solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future

Statewide Network of Experts

Dedicated local Extension agents and educators, supported by specialists and trained volunteers, serving every community in Mississippi, in-person and online at MSUcares.com

Resource Partnerships

Relationships with federal, state, and local governments and other organizations that increase reach and impact, multiply dollars, prevent duplication of services, carry out legislative mandates, and support emergency preparedness

Extension is your partner in bringing practical, research-based education from Mississippi State University to people across Mississippi—education that you can trust, education that is essential to the lives and livelihoods of people everywhere.

Extension delivers powerful, measurable impact where it counts most—where you live.

Your Local Extension Program

- helps agricultural producers to thrive and prosper through application of the latest science and best practices.
- supports local businesses with leadership, management, and financial training.
- teaches young people and adults the life skills—in parenting, managing finances, nutrition, and food safety—that they need to become successful and self-sufficient members of the workforce.
- multiplies local dollars by bringing state, federal, and grant funds into the community.
- inspires young people, community members, and agricultural producers to increased stewardship of the environment.
- helps people with chronic diseases, such as diabetes and osteoporosis, to live healthier lives and manage their diseases, thereby reducing demands on local health-care resources.
- prepares individuals, families, and business owners with knowledge, plans, and tactics to mitigate the impact of emergencies and natural disasters.
- builds leadership skills and knowledge in volunteers, who give back thousands of hours of service to their communities.
- guides community leaders in planning for the future, to create opportunity and increase prosperity for everyone.



*Brandi Karisch,
your Extension
beef cattle
specialist,*



helps cattle producers thrive and prosper by applying the latest science.

Brandi Karisch is known all around Mississippi for her dedication to clients. Karisch has developed 132 county, state, regional, and national Extension programs focused on improving beef cattle producer productivity and profitability. Altogether, Karisch's program development efforts have generated nearly \$11 million for Mississippi producers. During 2015, the value of cattle and calves in Mississippi rose to \$448 million, a 1.4-percent increase from 2014.

*Brent Fountain,
your Extension
food safety
specialist,*



supports local businesses and families by teaching best practices in nutrition and food safety.

Brent Fountain leads the ServSafe Food Safety Managers certification program, required for any person or business seeking a license to serve food in Mississippi. Fountain oversaw training of the Extension employees who delivered almost 50 ServSafe certification trainings in 2015. Altogether, 337 participants completed the training, and more than 71 percent of them received their food-handling certification.

*Roberto Gallardo,
your Extension
technology outreach
specialist,*



helps elected officials, businesses, and communities bridge the digital divide.

Roberto Gallardo is committed to showing Mississippi communities how to spur economic development through broadband technology. He spearheads the efforts of Extension's Intelligent Community Institute to help rural communities transition to, plan for, and prosper in the digital age. Already, his work in 22 communities across the state is increasing online education and employment. The institute partners with Fast Forward Mississippi, Innovate Mississippi, the Mississippi Development Authority, the Mississippi Library Commission, and the National Digital Inclusion Alliance, among others.

*Sheran Watkins,
your Extension
agent for 4-H
Youth Development,*



builds leadership skills and knowledge in children and volunteers, who give back thousands of hours of service to their communities.

Sheran Watkins is passionate about teaching children responsibility, leadership, ethics, respect, and work ethic through 4-H. She has trained hundreds of volunteers in a variety of skills and subjects, ranging from workforce development to gardening. Watkins is well known throughout Mississippi as an advocate for children and for educating parents and other adults in the best practices for improving young people's lives.

To learn more about what Extension is doing in your community, contact us. Call, email, or drop by your local Extension office, find us online at MSUcares.com, or catch up with us on social media:



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We are an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

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