

YOUTH BUILDERS



Through the Cooperative Extension System, County Agents are involved with the development of thousands of youth through the 4-H youth program. 4-H'ers develop skills and knowledge in many areas such as crops, livestock, horticulture, conservation, photography, and citizenship. These activities help provide a foundation for leadership and help acquaint young adults with career opportunities in agriculture, environment, water quality, horticulture, forestry and natural resources.



***Providing a foundation
for leadership***

COMMUNITY BUILDERS



Extension Educators...

- Are the link between the public sector, private organizations, and community leaders. They help build a cooperating partnership between rural and urban communities.
- Are major players in the changing face of agriculture production and management practices. These practices have and continue to keep American agriculture strong and globally competitive. Agents also serve on international assignments to design and implement programs in other countries.
- Work with civic groups, fostering community enhancement. They provide expertise to land use planning and zoning commissions and social service agencies.
- Work with urban and rural communities in partner with organizations and communities to develop and deliver programs in the areas of community horticulture, environmental protection and enhancement, and consumer education.

NACAA



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS

In 1916, a group of County Agents joined together and formed what is known today as the National Association of County Agriculture Agents. NACAA membership is open to any member of a state association that meets the state membership requirements.

***County Agents help build
partnerships
between rural and urban
communities***

NACAA leadership promotes a nationwide effort to facilitate excellence in Extension programming through high standards of professional performance. In seeking this objective, NACAA encourages and promotes:

- high standards of professionalism
- scholarships for members to continue their education
- recognition for outstanding professional achievements
- workshops and seminars on current issues.

ANNUAL MEETING



ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE

NACAA members gather at their Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference to share ideas, recognize achievements, attend professional workshops, and plan future programs.

Members actively participate in meetings by making presentations that share their professional knowledge. NACAA members also present their work in the form of a poster session on applied research and Extension education programs.

Tours are held to broaden County Agents' professional horizons. Academic credit is available for attending the Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference.

NACAA members participate in professional improvement seminars on topics such as:

- Public Relations and Agricultural Issues
- Teaching and Educational Technologies
- Leadership Development
- Forestry and Natural Resources
- Agriculture/Horticulture Production and Marketing
- Community Development
- Environmental Issues

- The NACAA Educational Foundation administrates a vested endowment that provides scholarship funds for use by members. Individual and group awards have exceeded \$25,000.00 annually.
- *The County Agent*, a professional magazine, keeps members and retired members up to date on association activities, current issues, and enhances the exchange of ideas. Agents are the primary contributors of magazine articles.
- NACAA networks with the agriculture industry to improve the viability of a profitable and sustainable agriculture.
- NACAA has an approximate annual membership of 4,000 County Agents plus an active group of 2,700 retired lifetime members.

NACAA started out as a small seed of an idea many years ago. It has grown and flourished to become one of the strongest educational organizations in the nation.

NACAA members are caring professionals who have continued dedication to professional excellence.



More information is provided on our Web page,
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NACAA is an equal opportunity professional association



NACAA

**“COUNTY AGENTS”
 EXTENSION EDUCATORS**

*Dedicated to
 Professional Excellence*



County Agents are professional educators who work with individuals, families, businesses, and communities. These professionals may be called Extension Educators, Area Regional Specialists or Administrators promoting education on issues relating to:

- agriculture
- water quality
- pest management
- natural resources
- forestry
- food safety
- community development
- aquaculture
- Commercial & Community horticulture

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As part of a national and global educational network, Extension educators combine expertise and resources at the local, state, and federal levels. This network includes:

- County government
- Land-grant Universities
- USDA Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service
- Joint Council of Extension Professionals

Extension educators are located in county, regional, and university offices throughout the country, serving a variety of roles.



Extension educators enable individuals, families, and communities across the United States and its territories to make informed decisions through the following processes:

- Applied research and demonstrations
- Teaching one-on-one or in groups
- Providing and interpreting research-based information
- Working with mass media
- Networking with agencies/organizations to solve local problems
- Raising community awareness on agricultural, environmental, and other timely issues
- Helping individuals learn how to influence public policy decisions

Extension educators continue formal and informal studies to stay current with scientific, social, and economic issues and adopt this knowledge to the local situation. This knowledge is gained through the NACAA's own professional improvement programs, university courses, publications, in-service trainings, industry training, field demonstrations, and through other professional associations.

Extension educators provide unbiased research based information using the latest communication technology.