



UNH Cooperative Extension: Fast Facts

Mission

UNH Cooperative Extension provides a direct link between UNH and people throughout the state. In partnership with local residents and volunteers, Cooperative Extension plans and conducts educational programs addressing needs and issues important to New Hampshire people. *UNH Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy.*

Priorities

Broad goals identified through statewide needs assessment and partnerships with other organizations, agencies and academic departments:

- foster development of competent individuals and strong families
- strengthen New Hampshire communities
- conserve and protect land, water and open space
- strengthen the economic impact of agricultural, forest and marine industries

Fast Facts

- Provides a network of 130 full and part-time Extension educator, professional and technical staff located in all 10 New Hampshire counties and on the UNH campuses in Durham and at its Family, Home and Garden Education Center in Manchester, who design and conduct educational programs.
- Includes 29 campus-based Extension Specialists, the majority located in academic departments, who partner with faculty colleagues in facilitating statewide education and research outreach.
- Involves 10 county advisory councils collectively comprising 140 members (citizen volunteers, legislators, county commissioners) who help identify local needs and priorities and guide the county outreach activities.
- Reaches one in four New Hampshire residents with information or assistance, and recruits, trains and supports over 4,000 trained volunteers who work with staff to conduct educational programs to reach a greater number of New Hampshire citizens (e.g., Master Gardeners, Family, Home and Garden Education Center Info Line staff, Lay Lake Monitors, Marine Docents, Wildlife Coverts, Tree Stewards, Great Bay Coast Watch, 4-H Leaders).
- Links its county offices to distance education networks that provide videoconferencing and satellite downlinks, bringing educational seminars, workshops and training to all parts of the state.
- Receives funding through a cooperative partnership which includes annual appropriations from federal, state and county governments. Grants, contracts, program fees and private contributions provide supplemental funding. A memorandum of understanding between the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and UNH defines the University's responsibilities for program leadership and management. Memoranda of understanding between the University System of New Hampshire and County Commissioners carry out the provisions of state law as reflected in RSA 24:10a.
- Provides over 1,000 educational publications and curricula in all program areas, written by UNH Cooperative Extension faculty and staff.