

LAWRENCE

COUNTY FARMERS' FEDERATION



Lawrence County Farmers Federation

The Lawrence County Farmers Federation is a membership organization built by farmers and is an advocate for agriculture, family values and good government to improve life for all residents.

The Federation supports Lawrence County's large agriculture and forestry industries through youth programs, farmer workshops, and educational and promotional activities. These efforts help strengthen the county's farm community, which generates jobs and provides healthy, local food for Lawrence County families. Members also enjoy the benefits including access to great rates from hometown Alfa agents.

The Lawrence County Farmers Federation encourages development of agriculture's next generation through education of young people, including Lawrence County School students and members of the newly formed Lawrence County Young Farmers Program.

The county Federation offers college scholarships to qualified high school seniors to continue their education in agriculture. The organization sponsors youth programs throughout the year to help young people learn more about farming and agricultural careers.

The Lawrence County Farmers Federation Women's Leadership Committee is involved in activities



Scholarship Awarded

Auburn University student and scholarship recipient Kaitlin Green of Lawrence County was honored at the Alabama Farmers Federation (AFF) 2014 Scholarship Recipients Luncheon last fall at the Grand National Hotel in Opelika. Green is studying horticulture. The \$1,750 scholarship was funded by the Lawrence County Farmers Federation and the AFF's Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation. From left are AFF President Jimmy Parnell, Green and Lawrence County Farmers Federation President Allen Pickens.

promoting agriculture and educating the public about its impact on the county and state.

The Federation's board members are leaders in the community and are actively involved in agriculture.

The board's main focus is to grow membership within the organization and educate Lawrence County residents about the importance of agriculture. For more information, contact any board member.

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Dana Namie

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Ag In Action

The 26-foot long learning lab "Ag In Action" trailer allows Lawrence County elementary and middle school students an opportunity to experience farming through hands-on activities and audio visual technology. This mobile lab is the first of its kind in Alabama and one of only four in the nation. The Lawrence County Farmers Federation participated in the event at local schools last fall. The Federation encourages local students to become familiar with agriculture and its importance to our county and state. The lab includes life-like farm scenes of cattle, poultry, crops, trees and other agricultural products. A simulator and large-screen monitor inside the lab allows students to experience driving a combine in the field. Videos of a cattle farm, poultry houses and timber operations also are part of the lab's touch-screen technology.

Youth Leadership Conference

Lawrence County students Drew Parker, Skylar Pounders, Samantha Culver and Ivey Terry joined more than 90 teenagers from across Alabama at the Alabama Farmers Federation's annual Youth Leadership Conference. The conference, held at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana June 30-July 2, fosters agricultural involvement through interactive workshops. High school sophomores, juniors and seniors networked with peers from similar backgrounds and honed communication and leadership skills at the conference. They also learned about state government and responsibility from Alabama State Treasurer and guest speaker Young Boozer.



Land Judging

The Lawrence County Natural Resource Conservation Service hosts a annual land-judging event. This program helps students learn about the land, soil types, conservation efforts and improvements that help generate higher crop yields. Participating teams usually are members of the FFA Land Judging Team at their school who come together to compete on a county level in preparation for FFA district and state competitions. The students judge cropland, pasture land, forestland and a home site. The Lawrence County Farmers Federation participated in this event in September at the farm of Jimmy Glenn in the Speake Community.



Who Grew My Soup?

The Lawrence County Farmers Federation gave copies of the book "Who Grew My Soup" to elementary school libraries in Lawrence County. The book is about soup ingredients that come from agriculture. It is designed to raise student awareness of where food comes from. Members of the Lawrence County Farmers Federation Women's Leadership Committee Daphne Oliver and Kathy Harrison watch fellow committee member Sandra Rose Terry read the book to first graders at Hatton Elementary. Each year, the county Federation purchases a different book for each elementary school library in the county.



Youth Leadership Farm Tour

Sponsored by the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, 10th and 11th graders students are selected for the Youth Leadership Lawrence program. The one-year program helps develop leadership and learning skills. Students tour various areas of work and government each month and visit the state capital during the legislative session. The group celebrates Agriculture Month in November to coincide with Farm-City Week. The Lawrence County Farmers Federation helps sponsor area farm tours where students meet local farmers. Here, Larkin Martin, owner and operator of Martin Farms in Courtland, is on the cotton picker talking to students.

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