



UtahStateUniversity
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 10
Utah Beef Cattle
Field Day - Provo

February 11
Utah Berry Growers Meeting -
Brigham City

Extension News

February 2009

USU Mandatory Furlough Likely To Bring Changes for Extension

A mandatory furlough from March 9-13 was [announced](#) by USU President Stan L. Albrecht for all full- and part-time USU employees in response to the second round of budget cuts for fiscal year 2009.



Vice President for Extension Noelle Cockett said there will likely be changes to the schedule of Extension programs held during this time, and a notice will be sent out when they are determined.

"The budget cuts facing USU have an incredible reach, an incredible impact," Cockett said. "In addition to the mandatory 5-day furlough, USU Extension has returned \$1 million from the FY09 budget (\$632,000 for state budget cuts and \$372,000 for internal budget recycling), with the return of more money from the FY10 and beyond budgets. Clearly, we will not be able to do all that we have done in the past. However, I'm confident that USU Extension will continue to serve the needs to the citizens of Utah, albeit in a different way and scope."

Cockett further discussed the implementation and impacts of the upcoming furlough during a State of Extension Webcast on February 4. To listen to the Webcast, click [here](#).

New Online USU Tree Browser

Utah State
University Extension
Forestry released a
new online tree



February 17

2009 Utah Onion Association Meeting - Brigham City

February 18-19

Utah Weed Control Association Meeting - Cedar City

<http://www.utahweed.org/conferences.htm>

February 18 & 19

Rural Business

Conference hosted by Senator Bennett - Blanding and Moab

<http://www.ruralutah.com/>

February 25-28

Diverse Ag Conference - Delta

<http://diverseag.org/>

February 27-28

Sheep and Goat Day - Tooele

<http://extension.usu.edu/sheepandgoat2009/>

February 28

Small Acreage Workshop - Syracuse

<http://extension.usu.edu/smac/>

February 25-**March 7**

Western Region 4-H Volunteer Leader Forum - Denver, Colo.

March 7

Small Acreage

Workshop - Cedar City

<http://extension.usu.edu/smac/>

March 9-11

Utah Water Users' Workshop - St. George

March 12-14

4-H Leadermete -

Brigham City

<http://utah4h.org/>

March 12-14

Association of Youth Councils

Leadership Institute - Logan

<http://conference.usu.edu/youth/htm/yout>

browser, www.treebrowser.org, in January 2009 to replace the Utah Tree Browser CD-ROM available from USU since 2002.

This new interactive browser contains more than 1,000 full-color photographs of and information about 241 native and introduced trees growing in Utah and the Intermountain West. Users can browse through a complete list of trees or narrow their choices by selecting from 21 general, growth-related, cultural and ornamental characteristics, including whether a tree is native or introduced.

The USU Tree Browser was created by USU Extension forestry specialist Mike Kuhns and Box Elder County Extension agriculture/4-H youth agent Lyle Holmgren, with programming by Scott McCallister and Robert Holloway and graphic design by Annie Jensen of USU. Partial funding was provided by U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry.

Click [here](#) for information on DVD availability, or contact Mike Kuhns at mike.kuhns@usu.edu for more information.

USU Extension Co-sponsors Sixth Annual Diversified Ag Conference

Utah State University Extension, along with the Millard County Economic Development Association and the USDA Risk Management Agency, co-sponsor the sixth annual Diversified Agriculture Conference Feb. 25-27 in Delta.

The conference is designed to benefit agriculture producers who are interested in more than traditional agriculture, including recreation, tourism, direct marketing, farmers' markets and further processing. Several of this year's conference sessions will focus on issues that affect agriculture and small businesses in today's changing economy.

Adult registration is \$60 per person, which includes meals from Wednesday dinner through Friday breakfast. For the early bird discount and other conference information, visit www.diverseag.org or call the Millard County Economic Development Association at 435-864-1407, your local USU County Extension Office or Ward at 435-797-2323.

Utah Teachers Use Gardening As

Click [here](#) to visit Extension's Upcoming Events Web page.

Tool

Twelve Utah teachers traveled to the National Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) Conference in Costa Mesa, Calif., in June



2008 to share ideas and resources on planting school and youth gardens - thanks, in part, to the Extension Applied Research Program, a Utah State University Extension grant.

At the conference, these "green thumb" teachers attended workshops and shared resources and tips with other teachers and AITC staff. After they returned, the teachers and the Utah AITC staff held three workshops throughout the state to encourage and motivate other teachers to use gardens. More than 90 teachers from 50 schools received gardening resources and plant grow lights to use in their classrooms.

For information on how to start a garden, where to find resources and funding, curriculum and a garden blog, visit Utah AITC's new garden site, the Utah School & Youth Garden Network, at www.gardennetwork.org.

\$25 Million For Biomass Research and Development Announced

USDA and the U.S. Department of Energy announced, January 30, up to \$25 million in grant funding for the biomass research and development initiative.

"The project will aim to create a diverse group of economically and environmentally sustainable sources of renewable biomass," stated the memorandum. "Advanced biofuels produced from these types of sources are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emission by a minimum of 50 percent."

The application for this joint funding opportunity announcement is due March 6, 2009. Projects will be funded in three areas: feedstocks development, biofuels and biobased products development, and biofuels development analysis. For more information, visit grants.gov.

Extension Employees Successful With USU's "Be Well" Holiday Challenge

Many USU Extension employees took on the Utah State University "Be Well" Holiday Challenge, Nov. 17, 2008 to Jan. 11, 2009.



All USU and county Extension employees were encouraged to increase water, fruit and vegetable consumption and engage in daily exercise through a point system for prizes. Anita Kingdon, staff assistant for the associate vice president and Extension marketing director, was one of the six overall winners who earned the maximum 1,232 points, winning a 2 GB iPod shuffle.

The Weber County Extension office employees (pictured) adopted the challenge with a twist. They chose to also earn or lose points for weight loss or gain.

"It's nice to have a workplace be a supportive environment for healthy living, rather than an obstacle to overcome in the pursuit of health," said Donna Carter, Weber County 4-H youth Extension agent.

During the five-week holiday challenge, the office staff cumulatively drank 88 gallons of water, exercised for 65 hours, ate 800 servings of fruits and veggies and, rather than gaining weight during the holidays, had a cumulative weight loss of one pound.

Extension Welcomes Seth Ohms



Seth Ohms joined Extension in June 2008 as an agriculture/4-H youth agent in Millard County. Ohms received his bachelor's degree in biology, with an emphasis in botany, from Southern Utah University in 2001 and his master's degree in range science, studying aspen regeneration, from Utah State University in 2003.

Ohms grew up in Cedar City and enjoys spending time with his wife and four children, and enjoys all aspects of the outdoors.

"I have enjoyed working for Extension, as well as meeting and assisting the residents of Millard County," he said.

Extension Welcomes Rachel Rudd

Extension welcomes Rachel Rudd as our new 4-H Agent in Davis County. She earned her bachelor's degree in family and human development from Utah State University in 2004, and is currently finishing her master's degree in human development. Before coming to Extension, Rudd worked for the non-profit organization, Utah Afterschool Network, where she conducted trainings for program administrators.



"I hope to see my head getting clearer as I settle in, but I do pledge my heart to 4-H and the lives it touches," Rudd said. "I pledge my hands to the service needed and my health to better living for all of you, my clubs, my community, my country and my world. I will do my best to make the best even better!"

Recent Extension Publications

Extension Publications are completed frequently. Please take a look at these posted recently.

[Mexican Cliffrose in the Landscape](#)

[Calendula in the Garden](#)

[Planting Landscape Trees](#)

[Financial Simulations for Young Adults: Making the "Real World" Real](#)

Visit the USU Extension publication site by clicking [here](#).

Help Spread the Word About Extension Career Opportunities

Professional positions within Utah State Extension are currently open and we would like your help in spreading the word. Below is a list of open positions.

Please forward this list to anyone you know who might be interested in applying.

Northern Region

[Military Saves Intern - Davis County](#)

[Weber County Camp Director - 4-H Aggie](#)

[Adventures for Kids](#)

[Student Researcher - Salt Lake County](#)

[Resident Services/Computer Lab Assistant - Davis County](#)

Southeast Region

[Middle School Afterschool Mentoring Coordinator](#)

[Family and Consumer Sciences Assistant - Utah County](#)

Southwest Region

[Mentoring Program Assistant Site Coordinator - Sevier County](#)

[Utah Saves Program Assistant - Garfield County - Bryce Valley and/or Escalante](#)

Visit the USU Extension employment site by clicking [here](#).

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