

REPORT OF THE PLYMOUTH COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

The role of Plymouth County Extension is to deliver research-based information to Plymouth County residents through non-formal methods. The Plymouth County Extension staff work, in concert with UMass Amherst Faculty and Extension staff on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, to provide valuable information in Extension's four major program areas: Agro ecology; 4-H Youth and Family Development; Nutrition Education initiatives; and Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. The Extension System is supported by County, Federal and State funds, and operates under Federal and State laws and agreements. Local citizens, appointed by the Plymouth County Commissioners, serve as Plymouth County Extension Trustees, directing the overall program. Volunteer advisory groups work with Extension staff on developing specific programs.

Extension resources and programs for Plymouth County include: garden lectures, fruit pruning demonstrations; pesticide applicator training and licensing exams; the annual UMass Extension Garden Calendar; educational resource materials; training and resources for agencies serving youth; accredited overnight 4-H summer camps; and teacher workshops and resources. New research findings are translated into practical applications and shared with people and communities through workshops, conferences, field demonstrations, radio and television, technical assistance, and newspaper articles. Publications such as newsletters, booklets, and fact sheets bring information directly to those who need it. Additional information is delivered through office visits, phone calls, and UMass Extension web access.

The Plymouth County Extension office is located at P.O. Box 658, High St. Hanson 02341. (781-293-3541; 781- 447-5946). Regional Extension programs are often conducted in Southeastern Massachusetts. UMass Extension also operates the Cranberry Experiment Research Station, located in Wareham.

Members of the Plymouth County Staff:

Michael D. Koski, 4-H Youth and Family Development Program

Amy McCune, 4-H Youth and Family Development Program

Deborah C. Swanson, Landscape, Nursery and Urban Forestry Program

Debra L. Corrow, Executive Assistant

Elizabeth A. Francis, Executive Assistant (Retired 6/30/02)

Board of Trustees:

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UMass Extension staff funded by Federal or State Program Grants: UMass Nutrition Education Program, 34 School St., Brockton 508-513-3475:

Andrea B. Gulezian, Supervisor

Tammy Short, Nutrition Educator

Maria Pique, Nutrition Educator

Jennifer Anderson, Nutrition Ed.

Joyce Rose, Nutrition Educator

Anita Sprague, Senior Clerk