



Eileen Klein, Arizona Board of Regents President.



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

Cooperative Extension

Maricopa County

# Maricopa County Cooperative Extension

## January 2016

IMPROVING THE LIVES, COMMUNITIES, AND ECONOMY IN MARICOPA COUNTY

IN THIS ISSUE

### CENTRL Leadership Luncheon

By Monica Pastor

CENTRL, Arizona’s Center for Rural Leadership, hosted their 2nd annual Leadership Luncheon Especially for Women on December 2, 2015. CENTRL is a non-profit that partners with The University of Arizona College of Ag & Life Sciences Cooperative Extension. The luncheon was sponsored by Central Arizona Project.

Eileen Klein, President of the Arizona Board of Regents, gave an overview of her “journey in public service.” Ms. Klein shared her personal leadership experience beginning with her position as a staff member for the House of Representatives and acknowledged former state Representative Jean McGrath, who was in attendance. She worked in the private sector with United Healthcare and then was asked by Governor Brewer to serve as the Budget Director and then her Chief of Staff. She served in the Governor’s office for four years. Two years ago she moved to her current position with the AZ Board of Regents.

Ms. Klein indicated she is passionate about cultivating good leaders and indicated to the participants that in order to be successful, they need to cultivate

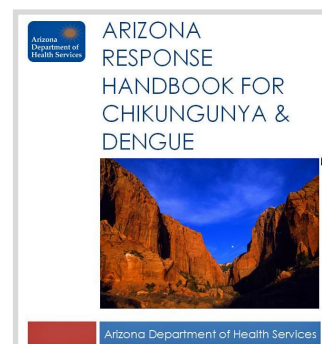
connections with others. She encouraged the 52 attendees to look for opportunities to hold leadership roles in State Boards and Commissions and be willing and available to serve when called. She emphasized that the government needs community members to be involved and share their expertise as well as voice opinions on the issues that affect them. She stated that our government needs input and the wisdom from those affected by regulation.

She provided an overview of the Regents’ goal to develop a strategic plan to reposition the three state universities. ABOR is moving the \$4.5 billion academic system to a more student centric entrepreneurial model. She indicated that by 2020, 2/3 of the jobs in Arizona will require some type of post-secondary education. Ms. Klein also said the Regents support the UA CALS Veterinary School as well as strive to continue to protect and preserve Cooperative Extension.

*Project CENTRL, <http://centrl.org/>, is an intensive one-year educational program that gives selected individuals an exceptional personal and professional leadership development experience.*



“Gro4H” Campaign



### Mosquitoes in Our County



Program Spotlight: Smartscape

## Maricopa County “Gro4H” Campaign

By Kim Christman

The University of Arizona Maricopa County Cooperative Extension and the 4-H Program are asking for your support in the expansion of our existing programs and to “Gro4H” through new audiences in both our urban and rural communities. Our goal is to increase our youth enrollment by 25% through our 4-H Club Program, teen leadership opportunities, and new Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) programming.

What does 4-H do for youth...

- \* Provides opportunities for youth to gain valuable life skills.

- \* Engages youth in hands-on learning where they gain mastery, experience belonging, learn independence, and practice generosity.

- \* Develops confidence and skills in decision-making, public speaking, empowerment, and so much more!
- \* Strengthens the relationships and bonds between youth and caring adults. Maricopa County 4-H would greatly appreciate your donation to our program.

If you would like to donate, or find out more information about the “Gro4H” Campaign, please go to:

<http://extension.arizona.edu/maricopa-county-gro4h-campaign>



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## Mosquitoes in Our County

By Kirk A. Smith

Maricopa County is home to over 4 million people (about 60% of the total Arizona population). The Vector Control Division of the Environmental Services Department is responsible for protecting our citizens from mosquito related issues. People are often surprised that we have mosquitoes in such a harsh environment. Unfortunately, in 2014 we responded to over 8,000 mosquito complaints. As our population continues to expand, our surveillance program expands as well. We now set over 750 traps weekly throughout the county.

Ten different mosquito species are currently of concern. All but three are nuisance pests and are not associated



with disease transmission. However, two species in the *Culex* genus are vectors for two bird viruses known as West Nile (WNV) and Saint Louis Encephalitis (SLEV). Birds are the primary hosts but humans can acquire this disease if bitten by an infected mosquito. WNV has been in the county since 2004. For 2015, our county is involved with an SLEV outbreak, which has not been seen for many years, leading the nation in human cases and infected mosquitoes.

There are two new mosquito-borne threats heading our way. These are vectored by the yellow-fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*. This species is found throughout the county and in large numbers. Dengue and a newcomer called Chikungunya are found throughout the Caribbean and Central/South America. Both are moving close to our southern border. Dengue is of particular concern since it is a human disease caused by any one of four closely related dengue viruses.

Our laboratory uses a technology called Real-Time PCR that allows genetic testing of mosquitoes for the presence of these diseases. This year we have processed

over 19,000 samples, 97 of which tested positive for WNV and 60 for SLEV. None of our Chikungunya samples were positive.

In response to the Chikungunya/Dengue threat in Arizona, the Arizona Department of Health Services in collaboration with universities, the private sector, and state, county, and local governments developed a response handbook to this threat. The plan discusses roles and responsibilities for the human side of the equation and the mosquito management programs.

For more information:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/mosquito-borne/index.php#mosquitoes-of-arizona>

<http://www.maricopa.gov/publichealth/diseases/mosquito/>

<http://www.maricopa.gov/EnvSvc/VectorControl/>

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Smartscape



**You're how old?**

The Smartscape program has been running for 21 years.



**Sponsors**

The Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) sponsor Maricopa County Smartscape.

FAST FACTS

**Up to 70%**

of Residential water use is attributed to outdoor uses.

**Over 1400**

program graduates in Maricopa County.

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**Program Spotlight:  
Smartscape - A Training Program for  
Landscape Professionals**

Dry conditions have always been a part of our Sonoran Desert environment. Like most of the desert southwest, we are experiencing increasing population growth, drought, climate changes, and potential restrictions in water supply availability that will challenge us to use water more efficiently. Currently, up to 70% of residential water use is attributed to outdoor uses such as landscaping and pools. Exterior water use will continue to be the focus of conservation efforts, and programs like Smartscape will be critical in changing water-use behavior and implementing long-term sustainability.

Smartscape is a comprehensive, research-based, professional training program specifically designed for landscape professionals. The program focuses on the fundamentals of design, installation, irrigation, and maintenance of attractive, water-efficient landscapes that offer a unique sense of place and value to communities. Each basic Smartscape course delivers 20 hours of high-quality education on the best irrigation and horticultural practices for the desert southwest. Smartscape was developed collaboratively by [Tucson Water](#), the [University of Arizona Cooperative Extension](#), the [Arizona Municipal Water Users Association](#), the [Arizona Nursery Association](#), the [Arizona Landscape Contractors Association](#), and industry representatives. The program was launched in both Tucson and Phoenix in 1994. Smartscape was among the first successful programs of its kind, serving as a model for additional organizations to develop similar programs.

Over the years, our landscapes have changed as well as what our community expects from our landscapes. While we have made great strides in the last 20 years, there is still room for improvement, and quality educational programs are key to this effort. We feel that the most effective



*Instructor Jeff Lee, Town of Gilbert Water Conservation Specialist, demonstrates techniques for landscape water audits.*

way to have an impact upon the industry is to provide training and certification programs as well as promote to consumers the benefits of hiring properly-trained professionals. Smartscape-trained professionals become an excellent resource for providing first-hand knowledge directly to the consumer, and they have the potential to significantly influence landscape material selection and water management. Smartscape graduates are our ambassadors, helping change the culture of our landscapes every day, with a reach and influence beyond what either our university or municipal water conservation professionals could have accomplished individually.

The next Smartscape course will take place from March 7 - 30, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm at the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Office.

For more information, visit [www.smartscape.org](http://www.smartscape.org) or view the [Registration Information/Flyer](#).

# The Director's Cut

By Ed Martin

I hope everyone had a great 2015 and is ready for 2016. At the Extension office, we are starting to put together our annual reports, reviewing the impacts we've had on the people and communities in Maricopa County. Our office hosted over 12,000 people in 2015 –including those who came to learn and those who came to teach. We trained about 500 new volunteers who helped us reach out to our communities, helped kids learn about leadership and responsibility through 4-H; taught nutrition and healthy living through SNAP-ED/EFNEP; helped teach the importance of water through AZ Project WET and Smartscape; emphasized the importance of agriculture through our Ag. Literacy program; helped reduce water use and decrease the environmental footprint of our agricultural and turf industries; provided a head-start to children with our Early Childhood Development program; and taught folks how to better cultivate and nurture the environment in our unique Sonoran desert through our Master Gardener and horticulture programs. This year promises to be just as exciting. Look for us downtown this month at the Connect2STEM event with our colleagues at the UA Phoenix Medical School. The Connect2STEM event takes place Saturday, January 9, the same weekend as the College Football Championship game in Glendale! We also have registration open for three of our most popular and impactful programs, Project CENTRL, Summer Ag. Institute (SAI), and Smartscape. The application deadline for CENTRL and SAI is March 1<sup>st</sup> and Smartscape is open until full.



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## ABOUT TOWN

**Connect2STEM**  
 When: Jan. 9 10:00am - 3:00pm  
 Where: NE Corner of 5th St. and Van Buren  
 More Information:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Connect2STEM/>  
 Registration:  
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/connect2stem-attendee-registration-registration-18639882390>

**Brain Builders for Life Training**  
 When: Jan. 23 / 30 & Feb. 13 / 20 9:00am - 3:00pm  
 Where: Maricopa County Cooperative Extension  
 More Information:  
<http://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/resources/BBL%202016-%20Application%20-%20Phoenix.pdf>

**L TSAE Learning the Signs/Act Early Autism Training - For Child Care Professionals**  
 When: Jan. 29 & Feb. 27 9:00am - 3:00pm  
 Where: Maricopa County Cooperative Extension  
 More Information:  
<http://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/resources/LTSAE%202016-%20Application%20-%20Phoenix%20.pdf>

**Smartscape**  
 When: Mar 7 - 30 (Mon. & Wed.) 3:30pm - 6:00pm  
 Where: Maricopa County Cooperative Extension  
 More Information:  
[www.smartscape.org](http://www.smartscape.org)

**The Water Cycle in My Backyard**  
 When: Mar. 12 8:30am - 3:00pm  
 Where: Maricopa County Cooperative Extension  
 Target Audience: Teachers of grades K-12  
 More Information:  
[http://arizonawet.arizona.edu/STEM2\\_oworkshops](http://arizonawet.arizona.edu/STEM2_oworkshops)

**Project CENTRL - Class XXV**  
 Application Deadline: March 01  
 When: Seminars take place throughout the year  
 June 2016 - June 2017  
 Where: Meeting Locations Vary  
 More Information:  
<http://www.centrl.org/>

**Summer Agricultural Institute**  
 Application Deadline: March 01  
 When: June 6 - 10  
 Where: Start at Extension Office and travel north  
 More Information:  
<http://cals.arizona.edu/agliteracy/programs/SAI>



**Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Monthly Event Calendar**  
<http://extension.arizona.edu/calendar/month?ctid%5B%5D=16>

**Check us out at:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/MaricopaCountyCooperativeExtension>

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