

Making an impact in **ALBEMARLE COUNTY/ CHARLOTTESVILLE**



“4-H has been an important part of our kids’ education. They have learned new skills, accepted increasing responsibilities, and worked to better themselves while helping others. Whether giving presentations, learning safe food handling, talking to legislators, or showing animals at the fair, 4-H has challenged them to achieve their goals.”

**LYNNE HEETDERKS,
4-H MOM AND VOLUNTEER**



Twenty-two percent of Virginians rely on wells, springs, or cisterns for household water, and they are responsible for maintaining those private water systems.

Since 2009 the Albemarle County/Charlottesville office of Virginia Cooperative Extension has held annual well water testing clinics that educate rural landowners about water systems and the quality of their water. During that time, 719 samples from wells serving 1,705 people have been analyzed. The program includes sampling instructions, interpretation of results, solutions, and well maintenance tips.

The most common issues/contaminants found and the percentage of samples they affected include low pH (38%), lead (24%), copper (20%), and total coliform bacteria (61%). Participation in this program has increased every year, with 173 samples in 2018 alone. Many first-time participants (42%) report never having tested their water before.



“Extension addresses our community’s food, health, and nutrition needs by offering educational programming such as food safety, home food preservation, elder nutrition, Teen Cuisine, and much more.”

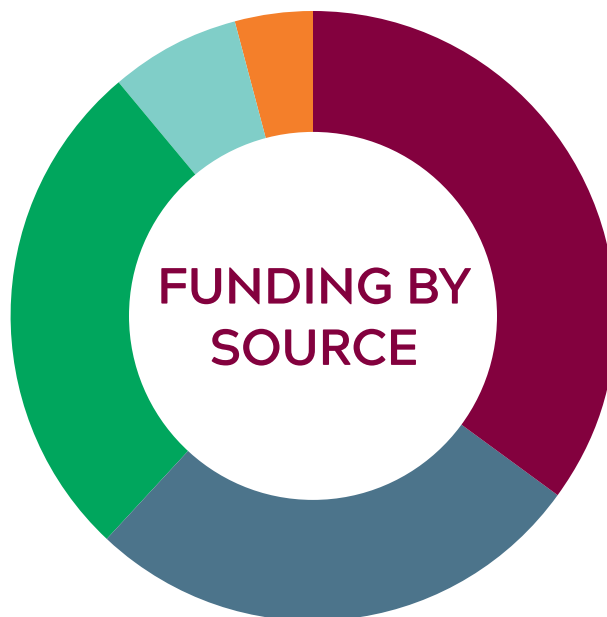
**KIMBERLY BOOKER,
EXTENSION AGENT,
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

ALBEMARLE COUNTY/CHARLOTTESVILLE BY THE NUMBERS

\$734,931

TOTAL FUNDING:

- 35% State
- 27% Federal
- 27% Local
- 7% Grants
- 4% Other



\$16.12

RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR EVERY
DOLLAR INVESTED BY THE STATE IN
ALBEMARLE COUNTY/CHARLOTTESVILLE

\$3,612,320

VALUE OF EXTENSION VOLUNTEER
HOURS IN ALBEMARLE COUNTY/
CHARLOTTESVILLE



OUTREACH BACKED BY RESEARCH

Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station researchers and specialists work in Blacksburg and at the state's 11 Agricultural Research and Extension Centers to create knowledge that benefits the commonwealth. They then share this knowledge with Virginia Cooperative Extension agents, who share this information with the citizens of Virginia to help individuals, businesses, and communities thrive.