Extension seeks comments on long-range work plan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 26, 2010
CONTACT: Debbie Carter, Extension information officer, 907-474-5406, dscarter@alaska.edu

Fairbanks, Alaska—The University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service is seeking public comment on its draft plan, which will guide work for the next five years.

Extension thanks all who contributed ideas for the draft strategic plan and is seeking comments on it by June 15. The plan outlines goals, objectives and strategies in six areas: energy, health, food safety and security, economic development, climate change and youth, family and community. It is linked from Extension’s home page at www.uaf.edu/ces. Comments may be made through a link on the site.

In addition to hundreds of comments received from Alaskans, the plan will consider the results of a Dittman Research and Communications Corp. poll. Extension commissioned the random sample poll to determine which issues are the greatest concern to Alaskans, public knowledge of Extension and the best methods to reach clients.

Extension director Fred Schlutt says he hopes the strategic plan will provide a blueprint for how Extension can be most helpful to Alaskans.

Extension is a nationwide education network supported by a partnership between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and land grant universities such as the University of Alaska Fairbanks. It provides fact-based, practical information to Alaskans on many topics, ranging from energy conservation and gardening to wood stove safety and making sauerkraut. Its 4-H program reaches more than 13,000 Alaska youths every year.

Extension district offices are located in Fairbanks, Delta, Anchorage, Palmer, Soldotna, Bethel, Nome, Juneau and Sitka. For more information, call toll-free, 877-520-5211.

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