

# UC Cooperative Extension in Santa Barbara County

HEALTHY FOOD SYSTEMS • HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS • HEALTHY COMMUNITIES • HEALTHY CALIFORNIANS

## Quote from the field:

"I wanted to thank you for the course in straw bale gardening. I was intrigued by the concept to use as a temporary garden while future landscaping was being contemplated. My yard man was completely skeptical. I am now successfully growing robust tomatoes, summer squash, zucchini, lots of peppers, bush beans and eggplants... Thank you so much for taking your time to spread your love of gardening to so many through your courses." - Nell Able, Santa Barbara County resident and participant in Master Gardener class



CFHL staff leading a physical activity training

## CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE (CFHL)

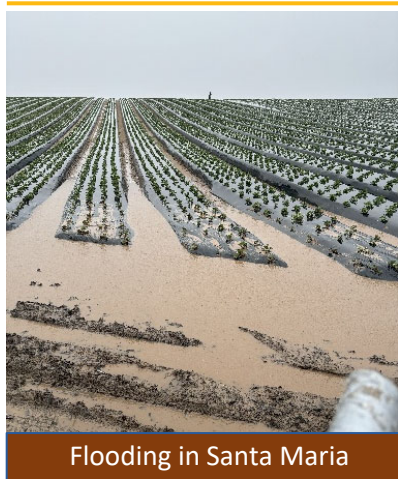
CFHL in Santa Barbara partnered with Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department (SMRP) to enhance youth physical activity opportunities during summer break. SMRP Staff received training in the Be Physically Active 2Day (BEPA 2.0) curriculum, featuring flexible activities appropriate for various age groups and settings. This hands-on training equipped 22 staff with skills to enhance classroom management and build confidence in leading physical activities for youth. By implementing BEPA 2.0 in their summer programs, staff are **empowering youth to build lifelong physical activity habits, supporting of healthy youth and communities**. With the passage of H.R. 1 on July 4th, federal funding for the CFHL program will end on September 30, 2025.



Nursery Irrigation Efficiency Workshop

## Nursery Irrigation Efficiency Workshop

Production Horticulture Advisor, **Emma Volk**, implemented an irrigation workshop at the Growing Grounds Nursery. This workshop applies plant science concepts to real-life irrigation and water management practices. Concepts and skills learned during the workshop can **lead to water-saving practices that benefit both the nursery and local watersheds**. This effort is free for participating nurseries and is funded by CDFA's Water Efficiency Technical Assistance grant program. If your nursery is interested in receiving a free irrigation workshop, please contact Emma Volk at [evolk@ucanr.edu](mailto:evolk@ucanr.edu).



Flooding in Santa Maria

## Small Farms Network

UCANR Small Farms Network assist small scale farmers with disaster relief grant applications. Grants are available for farmers who have suffered extreme weather damage from 2017 to present day. Applicants have been affected by flooding, hail, high winds and drought, incurring hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage or loss. UCANR staff have assisted with nine grant applications for Santa Barbara County farmers since March. **Four applications have been awarded thus far in 2025 totaling \$68,425 in awards**. Applications for these disaster relief grants will be available through November 2025. Any farms that have been impacted by extreme weather are encouraged to apply. Please contact **Claire Tuohey-Mote** at [ctuohemot@ucanr.edu](mailto:ctuohemot@ucanr.edu) (Se habla español).

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1105 E. Foster Rd., Suite F  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Phone: 805-781-5940

<http://cesantabarbara.ucanr.edu/>