

2018 Program Impact Report

N.C. Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership of NC State Extension, Cooperative Extension at NC A&T State University, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and local governments. Extension professionals in all 100 counties and with the Eastern Band of Cherokee connect millions of North Carolinians with trusted tools and technology from NC State and NC A&T. Together we enrich the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians.

Agriculture & Natural Resources

Molly Sandfoss continued to help steer the Foothills Food Hub project with several partners. She is also facilitating the establishment of the McDowell Local Food Advisory Council as a non-profit to develop McDowell County's Local Food system for economic development & food security. The McDowell County Center is on the forefront of raising awareness of our local food system to the public by improving opportunities for increasing local food access by increasing food access points, hosting grower-buyer meetups, and hosting a public awareness event, McDowell County Farm to Table.

Adam Lawing had an active youth program with Livestock Judging, Junior Livestock Show, & Agriculture Awareness Field Day. The Livestock Judging team had an award-winning year and members attended a camp in Oklahoma. Adam also worked with the Cattlemen's Association to provide programming in animal husbandry and pasture management.

Molly & Adam aided 4 producers who secured \$24,000 in grants through 2018 WNC AgOptions program. These grants are often geared toward increasing production or diversifying.

Matt Burneisen had several successful litter reduction programs. The annual Lake James/Catawba River Cleanup removed 6,500 pounds of debris. Matt also initiated classroom learning opportunities at 3 schools.



Program Efforts

Over **29,000** contacts made with residents

Offered **2,763** hours of formal training

989 volunteers contributed **4,132** hours, valued at **\$102,019**


Generated **\$17,435** for program use

Over **23,500** website page views


227 Facebook posts with **698** friends

Outcomes & Impacts

 **\$81,000** saved proper landscape practices

 **500** students increased STEM knowledge

 **6,500** pounds litter removed

 **53%** adults increased vegetable intake

 **\$65,000** income gains proper animal husbandry

4-H Youth Development

Chad Ray focused on school enrichment with field days, embryology, and Summer Discovery. Approximately, 500 students increased knowledge in STEM through 4-H. McDowell 4-H also supported 3 special interest clubs that enhanced life skills and focused learning.



Family & Consumer Sciences

Janet Bryan partnered with MCS and other agencies to deliver the Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program. EFNEP graduated 22 adults and 14 youth. With EFNEP, families are eating healthier, preparing food safely, and moving more.



NC State Extension are leaders in food safety & food preservation. Cathy Hohenstein provided training for 8 individuals in food preparation and preservation. She provided food preparation demonstrations at the Tailgate Market using fresh, local food. Cathy also provided a certification opportunity in Safe Plates for food service employees. She is our liaison with the Old Fort Extension and Community Association. The Old Fort ECA provide community support to the Old Fort Library and Old Fort Elementary School Media Center.

Goals 2019

Improve the health and nutrition of individuals, families, and our community.

Conserve our precious natural resources.

Improve production, profitability, & sustainability of agriculture sector.

Grow the skills young people need to succeed in life.

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