

LINCOLN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

NEWSLETTERlincoln.ces.ncsu.edu**APRIL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to the April Newsletter from Lincoln County Cooperative Extension. We are pleased to have such a great community to serve and help support the mission and vision of Cooperative Extension in this wonderful county that we live in. Thank you for your continued support and dedication! Keep an eye on this monthly publication for upcoming events and information from our Agents.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION?

BY NC STATE UNIVERSITY

The Cooperative Extension System, in partnership with the USDA and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), bridges the gap between a state's Land Grant Universities and its people by translating research into education and action. With a presence in every county across the country, Extension brings cutting-edge discoveries from research laboratories to individuals, communities, and businesses who can put knowledge into practice to improve their lives.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

BY RACHEL EVANS

Did you know that April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month? Lincoln County Cooperative Extension uses many volunteers in several different programs like Family & Consumer Science's ECA, 4-H, and Extension Master Gardeners. Without our many dedicated and kind supporters, many of these programs would not be possible. So to you all, that continue to lend a helping hand, thank you!! From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!!

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart." - Elizabeth Andrew.

NEWS FROM OUR AGENTS

Join Lincoln County Cooperative Extension on April 2nd for the opening day of the Farmers Market with food trucks like Dad's Roadside Grill and more. The market will be held every Tuesday from April through November in the Lincoln County Farmers Market pavilion at 225 W Water St Ext, in Lincolnton.

Call (704) 736-8461 for more information or to become a vendor.



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

April will continue to spring forward with our 4-H School Enrichment Programs at our local schools. Our 4-H Staff will be visiting our schools and teaching life skills through educational programs such as Healthy Living, Embryology, and agriculture through our Mobile 4-H Farm and Honey Makers. Who knew building a bee and touching a sheep could get us connected to our education!

Our 4-H Staff have been visiting many schools teaching valuable life skills through our curriculum. Who knew that hatching chicks in your classroom would teach students valuable life skills? Spring is here and our chicks are hatching out in many of our classrooms.

We would like to thank all our educators who have welcomed us into your classroom, seeing the value of our program.

April 3rd we will have a non school day day-camp where we will take youth to South Mountain to hike and visit local ice cream shop, Knob Creek, for refreshments. Call (704) 736-8462, or email: slgales@ncsu.edu to sign your kid(s) up!!

Is your child interested in learning the basics to American Sign Language (ASL)? Let us know so we can set up classes to better serve our community youth.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Hi everyone! This winter was a busy season of programming, as I was able to offer two SNAP-ED Steps to Health series as well as a Safe Plates Retail Food Manager Certification Course and Home Food Preservation classes. I will be on maternity leave starting this month, but in my absence, I want to leave you some resources for local foods, food safety and general questions.

Local Foods

Spring has sprung and the strawberries and leafy greens from Lincoln County producers are ready for your table. You can find local foods at three farmers markets in Lincoln County:

Lincoln County Farmers Market: 225 Water St. Ext, Lincolnton, NC | **Tuesdays 8AM-1PM**

Denver Farmers Market: 6917 Forest Hills Dr, Denver, NC | **Saturdays 9AM-12PM**

Lake Norman Area Farmers Market: 3618 NC-16, Denver NC | **Saturdays 8AM-12PM**

Food Safety

Check out our upcoming Safe Plates Food Protection Manager Certification courses in the region this year. Contact Andrea Sherrill, FCS agent, Iredell County if you have questions or would like to request a Food Handler's training. (704) 878-3157 | andrea_sherrill@ncsu.edu

General Questions

If you have any questions regarding food safety, nutrition or starting a food business, please reach out to Linda Minges, FCS agent, Gaston County. (704) 922-2127 linda_minges@ncsu.edu



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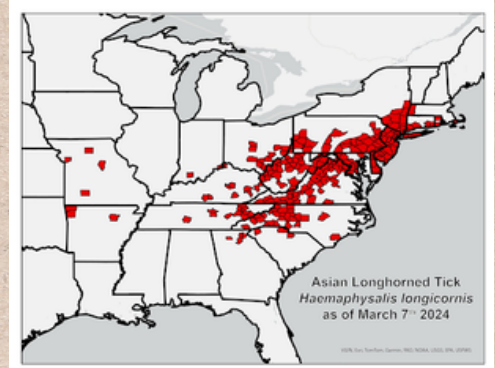
LIVESTOCK

Scan the QR code or click the link to fill out a Livestock Interest Survey for our Lincoln County Livestock Agent to better serve our residents! <https://forms.gle/Rys7y5dTXU7sfZDb9>

Catawba Valley Cattlemen's Association Meeting is April 9th at 6:00pm-8:00pm at Catawba County Center: 1175 S Brady Ave, Newton, NC. Cattlemen and cattle enthusiasts from all counties are welcome to attend. Join us as we learn cattle best management practices and network with local producers. Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Dr. Wes Watson, retired Livestock Entomologist from NC State, will be our educational presenter for the April meeting. Dr. Watson will discuss the Asian longhorned tick that is now active in our area and potentially dangerous to livestock. Attend the meeting to learn more about management and control strategies.

Feel free to contact me with any questions, carson_johnson@ncsu.edu



FIELD CROPS

The Pesticide Classes will continue through April, a Paraquat Training will be offered at the Cleveland County Cooperative Extension Office on April 15th - more information will be sent out soon. I am busy working on getting the Small Grain Whistle Stop Tour for May 9th all set up and ready. It will be at the ASR Grain Company this year - look for my emails for more information on this to come as we get closer.

Please don't hesitate to call me at (704) 736-8461 or email me at heather.schronce@ncsu.edu with any questions you may have about Field Crops or Pesticide Class offering.

HORTICULTURE

Spring may be here, but we're not out of the woods yet. On average Lincoln County experiences its final frost in mid to late April. With that said, use caution when planting your cold-sensitive vegetables like tomatoes and peas.

Horticultural Extension would like to thank our Master Gardener volunteers for the continued contribution of their time to provide Lincoln County residents with gardening education and resources. The passionate efforts of our volunteers have helped educate gardeners around our county in best gardening practices year-round. Try and catch them at the Denver Farmers Market where they attend twice a month to answer your gardening questions!

Feel free to reach out with any Horticulture questions to (704) 736-8461, or email Trevor at tdreese@ncsu.edu

2024 - Pesticide Credits Available NC Cooperative Extension				
Title	Date	Time/Location	Categories	Credits
Licensed Applicator Responsibilities + 2024 Pesticide Updates	3/13/24	1:00-3:00 PM Cleveland County Center	A B D G H I K L M N O T X	2
	4/9/24	3:00-5:00 PM Cleveland County Center		
	5/23/24	5:30-7:30 PM Lincoln County Center		
	6/18/24	3:00-5:00 PM Lincoln County Center		
NCDAB&CS Private Applicators Recertification	3/13/24	3:00-5:00 PM Cleveland County Center	V	2
	3/26/24	9:00-11:00 AM Lincoln County Center		
	4/9/24	5:00-7:00 PM Cleveland County Center		