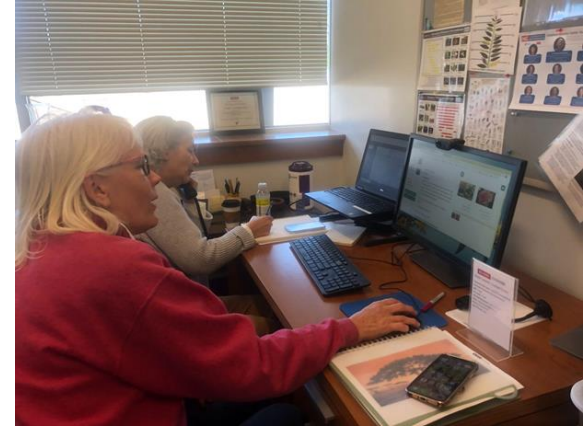


Extension Horticulture Program

2024 Impacts and Updates...so far



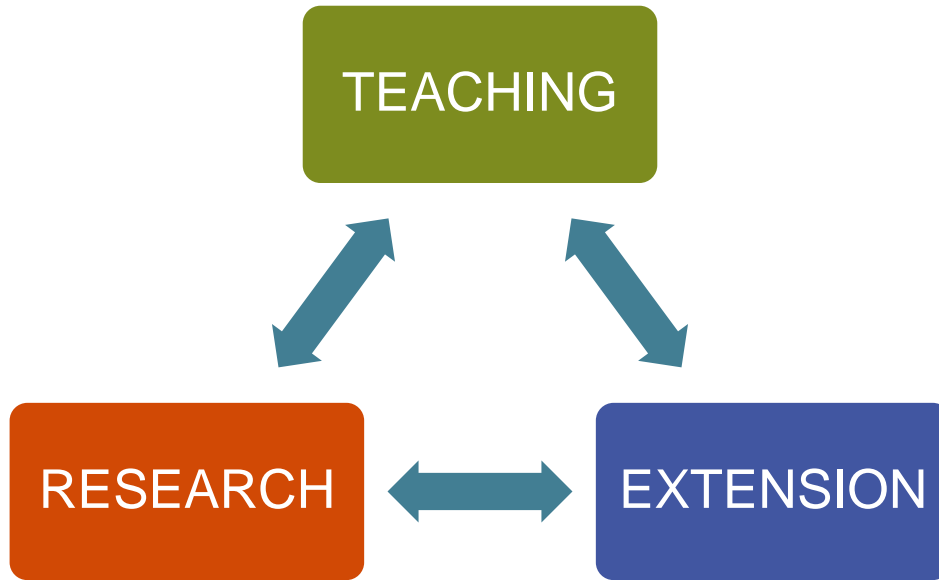
Matt Jones

Extension Agent - Horticulture

What is NC Cooperative Extension?

A Brief Refresher

Land-Grant University Model



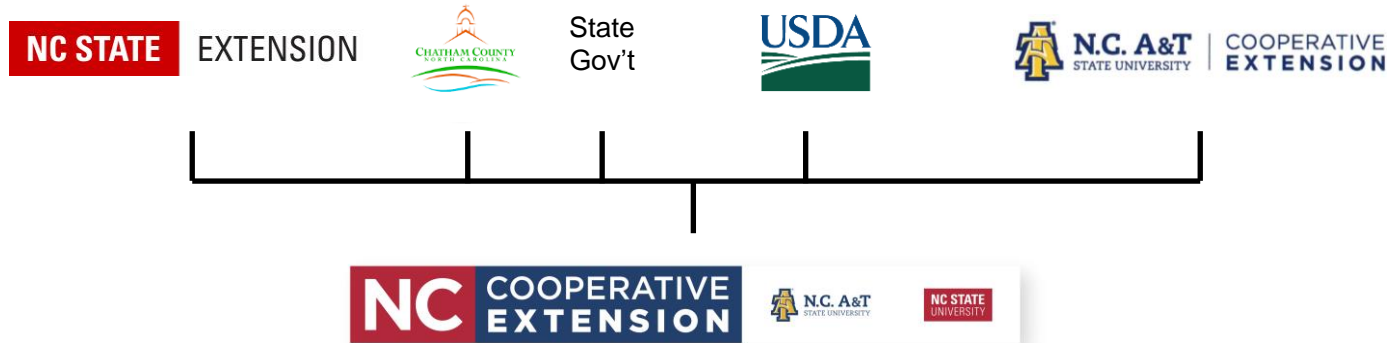
Progress Through Partnerships



- **Federal, State, County Funding**
- **State Match to Federal Capacity Dollars – 1:1**
- **Unique Partnership with Counties**

Partnering for Prosperity

North Carolina is home to two land-grant institutions: NC State University and N.C. A&T State University. The universities work alongside federal, state and local governments to form a strategic partnership called **N.C. Cooperative Extension.**



Core Program Areas

Extension improves the lives of North Carolinians through programs and partnerships focused on agriculture, food and nutrition, and 4-H youth development.

Agriculture



Extension keeps North Carolina's \$100+ billion agriculture industry growing and sustainable by connecting growers with research-based information and technology.

Food and Nutrition



Extension helps people make healthier decisions, reduce their risk of chronic disease and live better lives. Through a range of FCS efforts, our experts promote a lifetime of good health.

Youth Development



Extension's 4-H program is the largest youth development organization in North Carolina. Through clubs and camps, 4-H equips hundreds of thousands of youth with life skills for success.

Evolving and Expanding

Extension was created over 100 years ago to help bring agricultural research to farmers and rural areas. In the 21st century, we have grown to encompass much more without losing sight of our mission.

We continue to evolve and innovate to meet the needs of the diverse audiences we serve statewide.



Lawns + Gardens



**Disaster Planning
+ Response**



**Environmental +
Natural Resources**



**Homes +
Families**



**Community +
Rural Development**



Horticulture Outreach Program

Chatham County

Horticulture Program Target Audiences

Commercial Nurseries



Green Industry & Landscape Professionals



Home & Community Gardeners



Extension Master Gardenersm Volunteers



NC STATE EXTENSION
Master Gardener | Chatham County



Debbie Roos Photography

County Situation

Population
Growth

Environmental Impacts
Agricultural Impacts

Rural
Character

Program Goals

- 1) Promote biodiverse & ecologically-functional landscapes
- 2) Promote home food production and composting

Landscape & Green Industry Conference 2024

- **Extension Resources and Perennials as Shrub Alternatives** – Matt Jones and Amanda Wilkins
- **Tree Health Assessment** – Dr. Barb Fair
- **Organic Lawn Care** – Dr. Grady Miller
- **Trees in Urban Environments** – Travis Black
- **Mole and Vole Management** – Marshall Warren
- **Understanding Pesticide Labels** – Tyler Harran



95

7 CEUs

Nursery and Landscape Consultations



9 Nurseries in Chatham Co.
33 on-site consultation since
Jan. 2024

Extension Gardener

Workshops and Webinars Jan- July 2024

- Tree Identification in Winter (2x)
- Vegetable Seed Starting (2x)
- Pest, Disease and Weed Management for Veggies (2x)
- What's the Matter with My 'Mater? (2x)
- **More in fall 2024!**



275

Other Workshops and Events

- Native Plants for Creeks and Streams
- Sandhills Turf and Ornamental Spring and Fall Meetings
- Installation and Maintenance of Wetland Plants
- Numerous community groups
- EMG training around the state

NC Botanical Garden

- Biology and identification of North Carolina Pines
- Virtual Botany
- Native Ferns: Diversity, Identification, and Use in the Garden



NCNLA Certified Plant Professional

- 30 Hours of Online and In-person Training
- Trained 15 Extension Agents from across the state
- 100% Exam pass rate!



NC STATE

EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Chatham County

June – July 2024 EMG Volunteer Output

77

Active Volunteers

2,780

Hours Volunteered

Next Training:

Fall 2025

1,720

Client Contacts

\$83,261

Volunteer Value

New EMG Initiatives

- Therapeutic Horticulture Team
 - Major success: 339 hours, programs at Center for Active Learning in Siler City, Silk Hope School, Parks and Rec.
- Expansion of EMG-Led Public Outreach Initiatives
 - New structure for more responsive outreach
 - Seed Libraries at all Chatham Co. Libraries
 - Herb Symposium
- Lifelong Learning Pilot Program
- New Resident Brochure and Website (forthcoming)



EMG COLLEGE

Growing Healthy Plants, Pollinators, and People



**James B. Hunt Library
NC State University**

In-person educational conference at the NC State University Centennial Campus in Raleigh

Wednesday, September 25

Opening Sessions

The NC State Extension Master Gardener Program: Growing Healthy Plants, Pollinators, and People



Dr. Charlotte Glen
NC State EMG Program
Manager

**Learn-Grow-Share
Lightning Rounds**

NC State EMG Volunteers



Learn. Grow. Share.

Wednesday, September 25

Concurrent Workshops

Pollinator Garden Design

Debbie Roos

NCCE Chatham County



Growing Wellness: EMG Volunteers & Therapeutic Horticulture

Heather Kelejian

NCCE New Hanover County

Rieppe Hendrick

EMG Volunteer - Chatham County



Plant Disease Diagnosis

Crash Course

Mike Munster

NC State University



Thursday, September 26

Four Tour Options



**Tour - Behind the Scenes
NC State Phytotron
Fox Teaching Greenhouses
Plant Sciences Initiative**



**Tour - Behind the Scenes
NC State Composting Facility
NC State Turfgrass Field Lab**



**Tour - Wake County
Community Gardens
Highlands Methodist
Camden St. Learning Garden
Crosslink Community Garden**

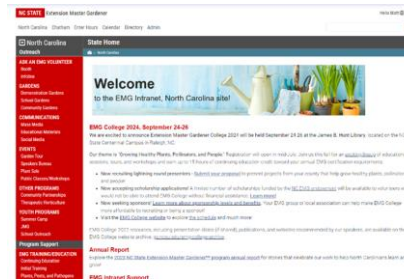


**Tour - Critter Walk with
Dr. Matt Bertone
NC State Centennial Campus**



Thursday, September 26

Four Workshop Options



Managing Mature Landscapes
Julie Sherk, RLA, NC State
Andrew Pfeifer, NCCE

Protecting Pollinator Habitat
Dr. Elsa Youngsteadt, NC State
Dr. Hannah Levenson, NC State

Lifelong Gardening
John Bowen,
 EMG volunteer,
 Buncombe County

EMG Intranet: Tips & Best Practices for Maximizing Your Experience
EMG volunteers:
Nell Armstrong, Buncombe County
Carla Carpenter, Wake County
Wanda Crutchfield, Durham County

Grafted Tomato Plant Sale

- Bacterial-wilt resistant tomato plants
- Raised over \$5,000 to support outreach and education programs

NC STATE EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Chatham County





- Joint Pilot Program between Chatham and Durham Counties
- Once a month weekend program
- Competitive application process
- Working directly with regional conservation organizations
 - Complete an Impact Project



Keep
Durham
Beautiful



**NEW HOPE
AUDUBON**



ROCKY RIVER HERITAGE FOUNDATION



- Joint Pilot Program between Chatham and Durham Counties
- Once a month weekend program
- Competitive application process
- Working directly with regional conservation organizations
 - Complete an Impact Project

Date	Topic	Instructor / Logistics
January 13	Welcome & Orientation	Instructor: Dr. Lise Jenkins, Program Chairperson Location: Chatham County Extension Center How this works - logistics Observations & the scientific method Your Impact Project
HABITAT MODULE		
January 20	Forest Systems	Instructor: Johnny Randall, Conservation, NC Botanical Garden Location: NC Botanical Garden Characteristics of piedmont forests Individual vs system perspective Impact of light, soils, disturbance, land use, and climate on forests Services provided by forests
February 17	River Systems	Instructor: Brena Jones, Aquatic Wildlife, NC Wildlife Resources Commission Location: Chatham County Extension Center Components of a river Types of creeks, streams, and rivers comprising piedmont watersheds Mussels: something small to understand something big River services, disturbance, and impact
March 16	Piedmont Climate / Geology	<u>Climate</u> Instructor: Dr. Walt Robinson, Climate & Society, NC State University Location: Zoom Piedmont's existing climate Impact of climate change <u>Geology</u> Field trips - multiple choices, size limits, 1-2 hr hike, meet at trail head, locations around our region
FOOD WEB MODULE		
April 20	Botany	Instructor: Matt Jones, Agent, Chatham County Extension Location: Stan M. Adams Training Facility, 2832 Big Woods Rd, Chapel Hill Plant taxonomy Anatomy and physiology Converting the sun's energy . foundations of the food web How to identify plants
June 1	Insects	Instructor: Dr. Ashley Troth, Agent, Durham County Extension Location: Durham County Extension Center Insects anatomy & life cycles Identification & classification Next step in the food web A brief history of time and how insects became specialists vs generalists

Consumer Horticulture Programs

Workshops and Webinars

Agent-Taught Workshops, with EMG Assistance

- Lawn Care Fundamentals (Aug 15)
- Cool Season Vegetable Gardening (Aug 20 and 22)
- Native Perennials (Oct 1)
- Spring Flowering Bulbs (Oct 15)
- Fundamentals of Composting (Nov 7)
- Worm Composting (Nov. 19)

EMG –Taught/Organized Workshops

- Herb Symposium (Sept 21)
- Firewise Landscaping (Oct 3)
- Lifelong Gardening – Pilot Fall 2024
- Houseplants – Pilot Fall 2024

Questions?

Thank you!