About Our Speakers Bureau

Are you looking for a knowledgeable speaker for your next meeting or other event? North Carolina Cooperative Extension has been in the business of educating people for more than a century. Chowan County’s Speakers Bureau is comprised of educators whose training and expertise reflect Extension’s highly diverse programs which include agriculture, natural resources, horticulture, family and consumer education, nutrition and health and community development. The programs offered last between fifteen and thirty minutes.

To Schedule a Program

Contact the Chowan County Extension Office at 252-482-6585 or email the presenter directly. Please request a program at least two weeks before the preferred date. When you call please have the following information ready:

- Program Topic
- Presentation Date and Time
- Presentation Location
- Length of Program
- Number Expected to Attend
- Contact Person
About North Carolina Cooperative Extension

Headquartered at North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T University, North Carolina Cooperative Extension serves as the primary outreach program for these universities. Our roots can be traced to the passage of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914. In it, Congress provided funds to the nation’s land grant universities to develop a system for helping working class people gain practical knowledge. Thus, Cooperative Extension was born, making information that had been reserved for those attending college available to the masses.

About Cooperative Extension in Chowan County

The mission of Cooperative Extension is to “partner with communities to deliver education and technology that enrich the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians.” Chowan County Extension staff achieve this mission by offering research-based educational programs to the citizens of Chowan County. Often these programs are in partnership with local agencies.

Our Speakers and Their Programs

Heather Lifsey
heather_lifsey@ncsu.edu
County Extension Director Field Crops, Pesticide Ed., Community & Resource Dev.

- Extension—Chowan County’s Best Kept Secret
- Disaster Preparedness for Farms
- Disaster Preparedness for Homeowners
- Agriculture in Chowan County

Katy Shook
katy_shook@ncsu.edu
Area Agriculture Agent Consumer Horticulture

- Natural Lawn and Gardening
- Get Fit with Gardening
- Southern Lawns
- Managing Fire Ants in the Home Landscape

Shari Farless
shari_farless@ncsu.edu
Extension Agent Family and Consumer Sciences

- Identity Theft
- Saving Energy In The Home
- Being a Savvy Supermarket Shopper
- Nutrition
- Medicare—What You Need To Know

Steve Gabel
steve_gabel@ncsu.edu
Area Specialized Agent Aquaculture

- Aquatic Weed Management
- Farm Pond Management
- Aquaculture

Marjorie Rayburn
marjorie_rayburn@ncsu.edu
Area Specialized Agent Water Quality and Commercial Horticulture

- Muscadines and Native Americans
- Water Quality and Pollution
- Septic Systems

North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation.