

AUGUST PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

FARMERS MARKET

Submitted by: Tamara Small

Nationally, and even right here at the Warren County Farmers Market we celebrated National Farmers Market Week, which occurred the first full week of August. The market became even juicier and sweeter with an abundance of produce like watermelons, canary melons, cantaloupes, corn, tomatoes, eggplant, okra, peppers, cucumbers, pear, and the list goes on! Shrimp made a big splash at the market coming in fresh from the NC coast. As Summer begins to wave goodbye and Fall eases in, we're starting to plan for upcoming fall festivities at the market. We will host an "Apple Day" event on September 16th and a "Holiday Market" on November 11th, which will conclude this year's market season.



HORTICULTURE

Submitted by: Paul McKenzie

Cooperative Extension has been working with Charla Duncan, Economic Development Director, on developing a new permanent home for the Warren County Farmers Market at the site formerly owned by the Lion's Club. The Project Committee, which consists of various community members, farmers and current farmers market vendors, has provided input on possible designs for a shelter/pavilion.

The Master Gardener Volunteers are currently in the planning stages for a couple of upcoming projects, including improvements to their demonstration garden beds at the Cooperative Extension office, as well as a potential community garden effort.



SMALL FARMS

Submitted by: Reggie Stevenson

The Small Farms division recently collaborated with local farmers to facilitate the filing of claims for the Discrimination Financial Assistance Program. The program authorizes \$2.2 billion in financial assistance to farmers and landowners who were subject to discrimination in USDA Farm Loan Programs before January 1, 2021. Additionally, Small Farms worked alongside USDA Trapper, Johnathan Carro, to aid landowners in the removal of beavers. Furthermore, the team partnered with William Landis of Franklin County to implement the use of black plastic mulch on Warren County farms. This innovative technique helps manage weeds, warms up the soil during cold weather, and retains soil moisture.

EFNEP

Submitted by: Nitasha Kearney

This month EFNEP created colorful quesadillas for the employees and patients at Warren County Health Department/WIC participants. The Warren County Health Department has been a partner with Warren County Cooperative Extension for the last two years. The Warren County Health Department Facebook page advertises what day of the month EFNEP will conduct food demonstrations on site so you too can join us on the health and wellness journey!

Warren County Cooperative Extension Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program has a new partner, Warren County Senior Center. September 19, 1pm EFNEP and the Farmers Market manager Tamara Small will conduct our first Eat Smart, Move More session at Warren County Senior Center. If you have grandparent responsibilities for school aged children and would like to attend, please contact me at 252-257-3640!

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by: Annie Poythress

For the month of August 4-H closed out our Dairy Show Project with an awards ceremony and pizza party. Warren County also went to 4-H Eastern Center to help with a Shooting Sports competition. Lastly, we have been planning for school enrichment starting up working with Warren County home school groups as well as Warren County Middle School.



AGRICULTURE

Submitted by: Matthew Place

August was busy month of field visits and farmer consultations. We finished up summer 4-H livestock programs and were busy planning for some upcoming events, including: Evening in the Pasture on October 5th, Small Ruminant Field Day on October 25th, and our annual Bull Breeding Soundness Clinic on October 28th. Contact us for more info on these events!

4-H W.A.Y.

Submitted by: Noah Henderson

As the school year gets underway, 4-H W.A.Y. is in position to handle referrals for community service and alternative sentencing. Program staff have visited local schools to provide updated forms and renew contacts with school personnel. Cooperative Extension has also finalized the program agreement with NC Department of Public Safety and has started advertising for a Program Coordinator position.