



Report for the SWCD Board Meeting
4/4/19

Established in 1914, Virginia Cooperative Extension was designed as a partnership of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Land-Grant Universities, and local governments. Today, VCE provides research-based educational programs to the people of the Commonwealth through Extension Agents in 108 county and city offices, 11 Agricultural Research and Extension Center's, six 4-H educational centers, and specialists based at two land-grant universities: Virginia Tech and Virginia State.

- In 2018, 217,964 total youth participated in VCE youth programs with 27.4% from under-represented groups.
- In 2017, volunteers contributed 1,002,727 hours of service valued at \$26,822,947 (based on Independent Sectors value of volunteer hours by state).
- Extension faculty delivered > 5,000 non-conference presentations in 2018.
- Agency 229 (Cooperative Extension and the Ag Experiment Station) generates \$1.34 for every \$1.00 invested by the state.

Selected examples of VCE program impact follow:

- Sixty-six (66) drinking water clinics were held serving participants from 93 counties. In 2018, 2,161 samples from private water supplies were tested. The sampled systems provide water for 5,470 Virginians. Statewide, about 43% of all samples did not meet the EPA standard for public systems for total coliform bacteria, 9% were positive for E. coli, and 9% of samples exceeded the recommended level for lead in water. The most commonly reported actions taken after clinic participation were shock chlorination (23.3%), installing or improving the function of a water treatment device (19.1%), performing maintenance on a well (9.3%), and pursuing additional testing (8.8%).
- Following participation in Generation NEXT, forest landowners could better articulate their land transfer goals and begin planning. Participants indicated the program would increase the likelihood of their property staying intact (81%), in the family (78%) and in woodland (78%). Follow-up surveys reveal that in the 6 months following the short-course, 85% had begun estate planning. Participants estimate an average family savings of \$300,000 as a result of this program. As these landowners continue executing their plans, nearly 120,000 acres of land is expected to remain open and family owned.
- Combined, 14,955 Virginia youth were reached by Extension financial education simulations such as Kids Marketplace, Reality Store, and Real Money, Real World in 2018. For example, 72 agents conducted a total of 137 Reality Store programs with an audience of 9,924 children. Of youth surveyed, 94% stated the program increased awareness of making smart financial decisions; 98% reported that having insurance and a savings account would help plan for emergencies, and; 92% reported there is a clear relationship between performance in school, participation in community activities, and future occupations.
- VCE provides educational programming to enable over 30,000 agricultural producers and pest managers to maintain certification in 27 pesticide applicator categories. In 2018, Extension agents hosted 120 trainings to recertify 2,624 private applicators. Trainers were prepared to do so by attending the 26th

annual Virginia Pesticide Safety Educators Workshop. In addition, Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs hosted 16 online courses to prepare applicators for certification with 257 individuals enrolled).

Selected examples of upcoming VCE educational programs for the month of April include the following:

Tue Apr 2, 2019

1 pm **What Market Makes Cents?**

Where: VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion 4415 East River Road, Petersburg, VA, 23803,

6 pm **Hummingbirds**

Where: Vinton Library, 300 S Pollard St, Vinton, VA 24179, USA

Wed Apr 3, 2019

All day **2019 Virginia Agritourism Conference**

Where:

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Curio Collection by Hilton, 110 Shenandoah Ave NW, Roanoke, VA 24016, USA

9 am **U.S Small Business Administration Lender Roundtable for Small Farmers**

Where: Loudoun County Extension Office 750 Miller Drive Southeast, Leesburg, VA, 20175,

Thu Apr 4, 2019

All day **2019 Virginia Agritourism Conference**

Where:

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center, Curio Collection by Hilton, 110 Shenandoah Ave NW, Roanoke, VA 24016, USA

7 pm **Piedmont Master Gardeners Spring Lecture Series**

Where: Albemarle County Office Building, 5th Street Extended, Charlottesville, VA 22902, USA

Fri Apr 5, 2019

All day **Enhancing the Safety of Locally Grown Produce**

6 pm **Spotted Lanternfly Update**

Where: Carver Center, 9433 James Madison Hwy, Rapidan, VA 22733

Sat Apr 6, 2019

All day **Virginia Spring Holstein Show**

Tue Apr 9, 2019

All day **Beltsville Agriculture Research Center Bus Tour**

Where:

Board at Randolph Farm, VSU, Carver Center, Culpeper, or Spotsylvania Towne Centre, Fredericksburg

Wed Apr 10, 2019

2 pm **Spotted Lanternfly Update**

Where: Carver Center, 9433 James Madison Hwy, Rapidan, VA 22733

Thu Apr 11, 2019

7 am **Breakfast Tree Fruit Meeting**

Where:

Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC (Winchester Fruit Lab) at 595 Laurel Grove Road, Winchester, Virginia

8 am **Introduction to High Tunnel Production - SAVE the DATE**

Where: Charlottesville, VA, USA

Mon Apr 15, 2019

2 pm **Salem Public Library Gardening Series: Gardening with Wildflowers**

Where: Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St., Salem, VA

Fri Apr 19, 2019

6 pm **Boxwood Blight Update**

Where: Carver Center, 9433 James Madison Hwy, Rapidan, VA 22733

Tue Apr 23, 2019

All day 4th Virginia Urban Agriculture Summit

Where: Virginia Beach, VA, USA

9 am Virginia Market Ready Farm to Restaurant Workshop

Where: Southside Virginia Community College, 200 Daniel Rd, Keysville, VA23947, USA

Wed Apr 24, 2019

All day 4th Virginia Urban Agriculture Summit

Where: Virginia Beach, VA, USA

2 pm Boxwood Blight Update

Where: Carver Center, 9433 James Madison Hwy, Rapidan, VA 22733

6:30pm Organic Fruit Growers Study Group

Where: VCE, 100 Dominion Dr., Farmville, VA 23901

Thu Apr 25, 2019

All day 4th Virginia Urban Agriculture Summit

Where: Virginia Beach, VA, USA

7 pm In-Depth Tree Fruit Meeting

Where:

Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC (Winchester Fruit Lab) at 595 Laurel Grove Road, Winchester, Virginia

Fri Apr 26, 2019

8 am Virginia Poultry Federation Youth Convention

Where: Rockingham County Fair, 4808 S Valley Pike, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, USA

Tue Apr 30, 2019

8 am

Horticultural Horizons: Beyond the Garden Path, Innovations in Home Gardening

Where: Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, 1800 Lakeside Ave, Richmond, VA 23228, USA

9 am Setting Up a Sheep or Goat Enterprise Workshop

Where: Randolph Volunteer Fire Department, 2145 Cumberland Rd., Farmville, VA

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Goerlich
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Virginia Cooperative Extension