



# 2024 Report to the Community

N.C. Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership of NC State Extension, Cooperative Extension at N.C. A&T State University, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), and local governments statewide. Extension professionals in all 100 counties and with the Eastern Band of Cherokee connect millions of North Carolinians with trusted tools and technology from NC State and N.C. A&T. Together we enrich the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians.

## As a Result of Extension Programs in 2024

- 1,293 participants increased their knowledge of local food and agricultural systems
- 1,523 pounds of local food donated for consumption by vulnerable populations
- 1,375 youth enhanced their knowledge of biological sciences or plant sciences
- 138 youth participated in 4-H clubs
- 781 participants increased their knowledge of natural resource best management practices (water quality, erosion control, native plants, invasive species, etc.)
- 714 participants increased their consumption of fruits and vegetables
- 133 participants gained knowledge and/or skills in managing financial products and financial identity
- 2,201 individuals began home food production by starting a vegetable and/or fruit garden
- 77 crop producers adopted best management practices (nutrient management, conservation, production, cultivars, pest management, marketing, etc.)
- 1,137 continuing education credits received by NC licensed pesticide applicators (farmers, nursery operators, landscapers, turf managers, etc.)

## Forsyth County Team

**Mike Bowman**

*Soil & Water Conservationist*

**Maria Brown**

*Office Assistant*

**Chris Bryant**

*4-H Youth Development Agent*

**Caila Cater-Edwards**

*EFNEP Educator*

**Colleen Church**

*Interim County Extension Director*

**Rebecca Craps**

*Env & Natural Resources Agent*

**Kathy Hepler**

*Administrative Assistant*

**Rhett Kyle**

*Family & Consumer Science Agent*

**Madeline Loman**

*Soil & Water Conservationist*

**Virginia Lopez**

*Family & Consumer Science Agent*

**Derek Morris**

*Horticulture Technician*

**Ashlyn Nix**

*Arboretum Technician*

**Anika Parks**

*Volunteer Coordinator*

**Celine Richard**

*Urban Horticulture Agent*

**Leslie Rose**

*Horticulture Agent*

**Matthew Scoggins**

*Community Garden Coordinator*

**Vacant**

*4-H Youth Development Agent*

*Comm Hort/Field Crops Area Agent*

*STEM/Urban Ag Literacy Coordinator*

# Forsyth County Agricultural Park Ground Breaking

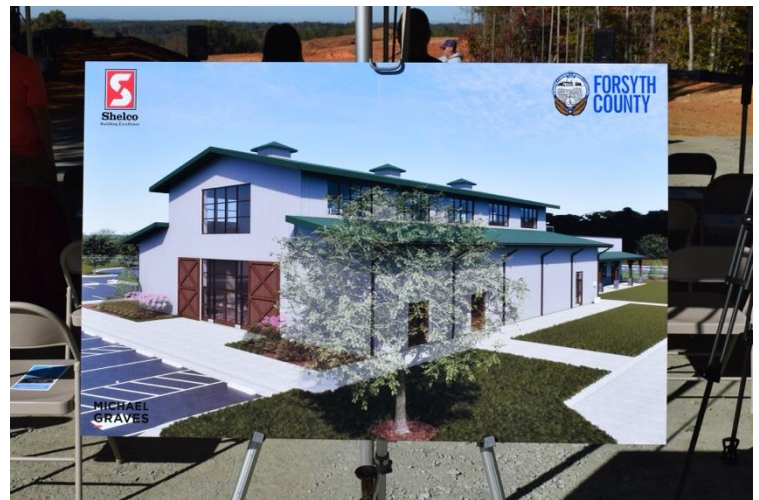
## October 21, 2024



Phase 1 of the new Forsyth County Agricultural Park located off Doral Drive in Tobaccoville is scheduled to be complete at the end of 2025. Phase 1 includes the office space for N.C. Cooperative Extension and NC Forest Service, the event center and a primitive riding rink. Phase 2 will include a multi-use arena, stables, horseback riding trails and additional park features, such as shelters, restrooms and multi-use trails.



Office Space



Event Center

**We extend a special thank you to our Extension volunteers who:**

Reached **13,373** client contacts in 2024, and contributed **12,634** hours of volunteer service, valued at \$29.95 per hour, totaling **\$378,390!**

### Forsyth County Center

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