



JACKSON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Extension Staff

Robert Hawk, Extension Director

Shannon Royce, Family & Consumer Sciences Agent

Rebekah Davis , 4-H Agent

Kendra Norton Fortner, Livestock Agent

Minda Daughtry, Agriculture/Horticulture Agent

Freda Childers, Administrative Assistant

(828) 586-4009

876 Skyland Drive, Suite 6, Sylva NC 28779

NC COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION



MISSION: Through educational programs, publications, and events, Cooperative Extension agents deliver unbiased, research-based information to Swain County citizens.

JACKSON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Administration/Community Rural Development

Robert Hawk, Extension Director | Swain/Jackson County
robert_hawk@ncsu.edu



FREE SPICEBUSH Seedling Give-Away

April 25, 2025 | 2 PM - 4 PM
Mark Watson Park | Sylva, NC



PLANT FACTS

Perennial Shrub
Grows in a shrubby
partial shade
along streams
& wooded
hillsides
Flowers in Spring
586-4009

CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY!

Join us on April 25 for
a FREE Spicebush
Seedling Give-Away
and receive your own
seedling to plant!

ADMINISTRATIVE

- **Hired Two New Agents** - November 1, 2024
 - NC A&T - Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Agent - Shannon Royce
 - NC State - 4-H Youth Development Agent - Rebekah Davis
- Monthly and quarterly **Staff Conferences** were held
- **Agents Mid-Year Evaluations** (January) and **Annual Evaluations** (June/July)
- **Administrative Assistant Mid-Year Evaluations** in November 2024 and **Annual Evaluations** in April 2025
- **Quarterly Staff Conferences and Two Staff Retreats a year**

PROGRAMMING

- **Swain Soil and Water Conservation Field Day** in April (248 fifth-grade students were taught weather forecasting)
- **Heritage Christian Academy Nature Study** - in February (9 students)
- **Jackson Summer Day Camp** - in July (24 campers)
- **Leopold Education Project- Land Ethics Workshop** - 6 attendees
- **Pond Management Technical Assistance**- 12
- **Forestry Management Technical Assistance**- 14
- **Wildlife Nuisance Technical Assistance**- 31
- **Tree Seedling Give-Aways:**
- **Veteran's Day** - November 11, 2024 to honor Veterans by planting a Norway Spruce seedling (100 distributed to 30 Jackson County residents)
- **Arbor Day Celebration** - April 25, 2025 for conservation and edible landscape (100 Spicebush Seedlings to about 31 Jackson County residents)

FREE Norway Spruce Seedling Give-Away

November 11, 2024
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Mark Watson Park, Sylva
(Conservation Board)

This Veteran's Day,
plant a tree as a
homage to a veteran!

Be sure to stop by and
receive your FREE Norway Spruce
Seedling on November 11!

Grow your tree to big enough
to well make a great holiday
living Christmas Tree.

Remember to bring gloves and
share the spirit of the season
with your neighbors!

586-4009



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Jackson County District 4 Conservation Planning Steering Committee
- Jackson County Farmland Preservation Board
- WCU Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning
- NC RC & D Board

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JACKSON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Family & Consumer Sciences

Shannon Royce, Extension Agent | *Swain/Jackson County*
scroyce@ncat.edu



SENIOR PROGRAMS

Jackson County Senior Center

- **A Matter of Balance:** (8 participants) - designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults.
- **Living Healthy with Chronic Disease:** (7 participants) - participants build confidence in their ability to manage the symptoms of their chronic conditions and improve overall health

Jackson County Programs

- **Sylva Farmers Market - Donation Station:** twice monthly, is a way to support farmers by purchasing their food and makes local foods available to food pantry clients and other food insecure populations
- **4-H Embryology:** (collaborated with 4-H and Livestock Agents) - French Toast/Omelettes with elementary school children.
- **4-H Summer Camp Programs**

HEALTH / FITNESS / NUTRITION

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

OUTREACH

Extension Facebook
Extension Website
SylvaHerald
Newspaper
WBHN & WRGC Radio
Senior Magazine
Program Fliers

Jackson County

- **Local Food Coordinator** for Swain and Jackson
- **Healthy Carolinians Coalition**
- **Jackson County Food Council**
- **Healthy People Healthy Carolinas Coalition (HPHC)**
- Guest Lecturer at WCU

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JACKSON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Agriculture: Livestock

Kendra Fortner, Extension Agent | Swain/Jackson County
kendra_norton@ncsu.edu



LIVESTOCK MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

- **Jackson/Macon/Swain Cattlemen's Association:** Monthly (each month except May, June, and July; these were youth showmanship clinic dates) Meetings in Macon and Jackson County - approx. 32 attendees on average per meeting
- **Annual Farm Tour to Georgia** - 32 attendees

YOUTH LIVESTOCK PROGRAMMING



- The 2024 JCYLG had 14 members ranging from Cloverbud to High School age, who participated in the lamb project, attended six showmanship clinics at Macon County, three local fairs, livestock shows, and completed project record books
- The 2025 JCYLG has 6 members ranging from Cloverbud to middle school age, participating in the lamb project, visited five farms in the Spring, attending six showmanship clinics in Macon County, and hopefully attending three local fairs and livestock shows, and complete project record books.
- The 2025 Jackson County 4-H Livestock Judging Team is the first team that Jackson County has had made up of high school-aged youth. They have had 10 practices on the farm and in the classroom since January, and will attend the State 4-H Livestock Judging Competition in Raleigh at the end of July.

OUTREACH & CROSS PROGRAMMING

- Monthly Radio Spots on WRGC & WBHN
- Monthly News Articles in Smoky Mountain Times and Sylva Herald
- Social Media Posts
- Quarterly Livestock Newsletter: "The Stock Tank"
- Jackson/Macon/Swain Cattlemen's Association
- Face to face contacts, technical assistance, correspondence, farm visits, phone calls, emails, etc.
- School Enrichment- Embryology with 4-H and FCS Agents
- Summer Camp- Jackson Co Parks and Recreation Camp – Dairy Day



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JACKSON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

4-H Youth Development

Rebekah Davis, 4-H Agent
rebekah_davis@ncsu.edu



Since January 2025, Jackson County 4-H has:

- 3 Main clubs (40 total youth enrolled in active clubs, 7 as "members at large")
- Reached 68 2nd graders across 3 schools for Embryology (a 200% increase in students reached, and with 2 new schools included)
- Offered Enrichment and Curriculum to 3 community partner-led day camps, reaching 72 K-5 Jackson County Youth
- Directly reached 6/10 schools in the county (4/8 public schools & 2 private/charter schools)
- Added 2 new level 1 volunteers
- Had 3 of our Shooting Sports youth join the national NC 4-H team in NE
- Between clubs, outreach, and school enrichment, reached 550+ youth and 600+ total residents of Jackson County



(Chicken)
Embryology



with 4-H

Introduction: What's
This?

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Swain County Youth Enrichment and 4-H Center at Fair Grounds, 1000 S. Highway 100, Swain County, NC 28779. For more information, visit www.nc4h.org or call 1-800-444-4444.



4-H PULLET PROJECT

Learn about care, select breeds, check out hatcheries, check out hatcheries, check out hatcheries, and more! Join the 4-H Pullet Project and raise your own pullet. Please call (828) 586-4009 to register.

INTEREST MEETING & INFO
April 11 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Swain County 4-H Center

CHICK RAISING CLASS
May 1 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Swain County 4-H Center

GET 2-4 CHICKS: LAYING BREED VARIETIES
May 1 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Swain County 4-H Center

BROWNSHIP CLINIC
June 1 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Swain County 4-H Center

BROWN @ SWAIN CO. FAIR
August 1 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Swain County 4-H Center

AGES 6-18
\$25

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JACKSON COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Agriculture/Horticulture

Minda Daughtry, Extension Agent | Swain/Jackson County
minda_daughtry@ncsu.edu



Bryson City Pesticide Safety School & Exam

February 19 & 20, 2025

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

N.C. Cooperative Extension - Swain Center
40 Almond School Road (SCC Room 115)
Bryson City, NC 28715

pesticidesafely.ces.ncsu.edu



Pesticide Applicator "X & V" Credit Recertification Training



"V" Credit Class
July 17, 2024
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

"X" Credit Class
(Credits also include: K(PU) - 2, K(SA) - 2, K - 2, X(2) - 2, A(2) - 2, G(2) - 2, H(2) - 2, L(2) - 2, M(2) - 2, O(2) - 2, T(2) - 2)
July 22, 2024
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Jackson Extension Office, Rm 105

LIMITED SPACE - PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO REGISTER

Minda Daughtry
828-586-4009
minda_daughtry@ncsu.edu

Jackson Cooperative
Extension Office
876 Skyland Drive, Suite 6
Sylva, NC 28779

COMMERCIAL & CONSUMER HORTICULTURE

PROGRAMMING / GROUP EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY

- **Garden Life Series** at Senior Centers Jackson Cashiers & Sylva
- **Free Pesticide Pick-Up Day**
- **Pesticide License CEU:** 53 attendees served
- **Landscape Contractor Macon Course:** 20 attendees served
- **Landscape Contractor Jackson Course:** In development 01.2026
- **Landscape Contractor Haywood Course:** 17 attendees served
- **Pesticide Applicator "X & V" Credit Recertification Training**
- **Tomato Grafting Training:** 10 attendees served

OUTREACH CONSUMER

- 51 - Face-to-Face Technical Assistance
- 193 - Correspondence
- 98 Newsletters: 98 people reached
- Mass Media; Social Media; Website Posts 204000
- 13 - Meetings Organized or Facilitated or Attended
- 5 - Community or Garden Workdays
- 4-H Youth Collaboration Parks & Rec Camp Mad Scientist: 20 attendees
- 17 - Tissue and/or Soil Samples

OUTREACH-COMMERCIAL

- 27 Face-to-Face Technical Assistance
- 48 - Farm Visits
- 44 - Correspondences
- Mass Media; Social Media; Website Posts
- **JCCTA & Christmas Tree Extension Team** meetings: attended 3
- Field Soil & Tissue samples: 8 events

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

- Monthly Radio Spots on WRGC & WBHN
- Monthly News Articles in Smoky Mountain Times and Sylva Herald
- Bi-monthly Home Gardening Newsletter
- Jackson County Farmers Market & Sylva Farmers Market
- Jackson County Beekeepers Association

FREE PESTICIDE PICK-UP DAY

NOVEMBER 18, 2024
SWAIN COUNTY RECYCLING CENTER
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Pesticides that will be
ACCEPTED include:

- insecticides
- herbicides
- fungicides
- rodenticides
- growth regulators



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Administration/Clerical

Freda Childers, Administrative Assistant
freda_childers@ncsu.edu

JOB SKILLS & SPECIFICATIONS

- Designs brochures and/or flyers to advertise Extension programs
- Updates Jackson County Cooperative Extension website and Facebook pages
 - Create and posts newsletters and news articles
 - Keeps Jackson County Extension site current
 - Updates Jackson County Extension events on website
- Primary Computer Contact
- Assistant Leave Coordinator
- Work closely with CED and County Finance Office on budget, payments, purchases, State forms, etc.
- Quarterly COSS Review: job performance appraisal
- Manages and reconciles purchases for State issued P-card
- Assist with the Swain County Fair Livesock Shows
- Scheduling and managing all rooms for staff and public use
- Inter-departmental relations with county and state agencies/ organizations & businesses

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES 2024-2025

- Attended monthly staff meetings and staff retreats
- Planned meal and set up for Advisory Council Meeting
- Completed multiple online Extension required trainings

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INTERDEPARTMENTAL CROSS-PROGRAMMING

- Farmers Succession Workshop - in November (12 Participants)
- Farmers Breakfast - 38 attendees

LOCAL COLLABORATIONS

- Local Government, such as Commissioners, County Manager's Office, County Departments
- Soil and Water Conservation
- WNC From the Ground Up
- WCU- Mountain Heritage Day

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