



Pender County Government Update

Department

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Consumer Horticulture & Local Foods - Tiffanee Boone

- Has been putting gardening information on the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer facebook page. Participated in a Visit NC Farms app planning meeting, went to a district Agricultural Agents meeting in Wilson County, and trained 2 Extension Master Gardener Volunteers how to put together a powerpoint presentation for a training for the other volunteers.
- Has answered phone calls, text messages, emails, and facebook messenger questions about gardening and soils.
- Planning the next initial Extension Master Gardener Volunteer training. If you are interested in joining the next Extension Master Gardener Volunteer class, please fill out the application here: <https://pender.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/01/nc-state-extension-master-gardener-pender-county-initial-certification-training/>
- Taught around 50 Pender Adult Services Volunteers about fall gardening chores and how to arrange flowers in pumpkin vases.
- Amy Mead and I will teach a rain garden class at 801 S Walker St in Burgaw on Saturday, November 12th from 10 am to noon. It will be a lecture about how to set up your own rain garden and ideas for plants to go in it. Then we will have a hands-on class outside in the garden. Everyone will go home with a plant that will thrive in their own rain garden at home.
- Extension Master Gardener Volunteers had an Ask a Master Gardener booth at the Farmer's Market at Poplar Grove. They had an excellent fall plant sale at Goosebumps in the Grove at Poplar Grove with around 1000 people coming to the event. They also worked in the Burgaw demonstration garden and had a planning meeting at Poplar Grove.

Mark Seitz - CED

Recruiting people interested in farming, or who have land and want help creating a farm business plan, to sign up for the 2023 NC Farm School.

<https://ncfarmschool.ces.ncsu.edu/2023-nc-farm-school/>

Attended 57th Annual NC Irrigation Conference in Raleigh. Precision irrigation application methods are significantly lower water use in crop production without cutting yield.

Pender Beekeepers Bee School will start Jan 30 and run every Monday evening through Feb 27 at 801 S. Walker Street in Burgaw.

Regional crop production winter meeting schedules are being set in collaboration with NCSU faculty and Extension Agents. The schedules should be available Dec 1 and will be posted on the Pender County Extension website.

Pender County 4-H did programming at Malpass Corner Elementary for PACES Afterschool on Nov 1st and 8th. Youth learned about what gratitude is and discussed what they are grateful for. They also discussed how they are grateful for themselves and what they like about themselves. Made gratitude trees and did body tracings and decorated them how they see themselves.

Traci Spencer - 4-H

Attended the 2023 Downeast Dairy Calf Project planning meeting in Lenoir County to start preparing for the next Pender County 4-H Dairy Calf Project.

Attended zoom meeting to prepare for 2023 4-H Online club re-enrollment and 2022 4H Online closeout

Attended the Volunteer Fall Day training and meeting at Robeson County Extension with (2) 4-H adult volunteers.

Attended a 4-H Health Rocks meeting. Planning on implementing the curriculum in the public schools in 2023.

Completing taking orders for the 2022 Pender County 4-H Wreath Fundraiser.

Scheduled and planned the 4-H & EFNEP Christmas Workshop to be held in December. Taking sign ups now.

Planning and taking registrations to decorate and ride on the Burgaw Christmas Parade Extension float.

Working on ERS and 4H Online end of year reports.

Cynthia Rivenbark - EFNEP

* Continuing to teach at local middle schools with the Teen Cuisine curriculum. I will graduate my first 2 schools on November 16th and 17th. There are 52 youths graduating .

* I started teaching all 4 Kindergarten classes this past week at Malpass Corner Elementary School. I have 72 youth that are absolutely outstanding students. I go there every Tuesday and Thursday morning until Dec. 8th.

* After Thanksgiving, I will be teaching at West Pender Middle with the 21st Century after school.

* In January, I will start teaching at 4 local elementary schools with Paces and 21st Century.

*Also, in January, I plan to teach the Kindergarten classes at Penderlea for 6 weeks.

Greg Skelly - EYFP

The Empowering Youth and Families Fall 2022 Cohort has completed it's course! We will welcome three new families to the ranks of Opioid Abuse Fighters in Pender County at their graduation event next Thursday, November 17. The cohort will travel to 4-H Camp Millstone in Ellerbe NC on December 2 to begin plans for an Opioid Abuse Prevention Awareness and Avoidance Event here in Pender County in the near future.



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LIBRARY

- The library's community survey closed on October 31. We received a combined total of over 250 responses from our community members. Library staff is excited to review the results in order to help us learn how we can improve our services to better meet our community members' needs.
- The library is continuing its partnership with Trillium One Community but on a new day and time! A representative from One Community will continue to provide information to community members on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Main Library in Burgaw. One Community provides community members who have been impacted by the pandemic with free resources to support their mental and behavioral health needs. Visit trilliumhealthresources.org/for-individuals-families/one-community or call 1-877-685-2415 for more information.
- A representative from EDSI / NC works was in the lobby of the Main Library in Burgaw to share about their WIOA Youth Program on Tuesday, November 1. The WIOA Youth Program helps teens and young adults ages 16 to 24 with career advice, obtaining work experience, and paid on-the-job training. A representative will be available Tuesday, November 15 and 29 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Main Library in Burgaw.
- The Mt. Calvary Center for Leadership Development will be at the Main Library in Burgaw every Wednesday from 3 to 5:45 p.m. and at the Hampstead Branch Library on Tuesday, November 8 from 10:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Mt. Calvary Center is working to empower and improve the Pender County community's quality of life by providing programs and information about community health, transportation, food insecurity, and more. Free COVID-19 home test kits and other personal hygiene supplies will be available.
- The Hampstead Branch Library will host another session of Laughter Yoga on Saturday, November 12 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Join yoga instructor Carol Johnson for a joyful and relaxing experience. No prior experience or yoga mat is necessary!
- On Monday, November 14 the Hampstead Branch Library is hosting a free genealogical program from 4 to 6 p.m. Library staff member Jon Stewart-Taylor will share information about the online genealogical resources available through the Pender County Library. The presentation will focus on HeritageQuest, which is available at home without charge to library card holders.
- Library staff will be attending Cape Fear Area Agency on Aging's Fraud and Scam Prevention Event on Thursday, November 17 at 10 a.m. Attendees will hear from area agencies on how to detect and prevent fraudulent activities and how to avoid being scammed. This event will be held at the Hampstead Annex.
- The library is excited to announce we received a grant titled ecoEXPLORE through The North Carolina Arboretum! EcoEXPLORE is a science program for children in grades K-8 that helps children become citizen scientists. Families can check-out backpacks with a night-vision trail camera, a birdcall, binoculars, and more!



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UTILITY OPERATIONS

Pender County Utilities (PCU) News 11/11/2022

PENDER COUNTY UTILITIES (PCU) & WATER DISTRICTS:

PCU has implemented a call and text notification system for delinquent water accounts. Prior to this system, we had to cut off over 200 customers. For the month of October, we only had to cut off 91 water accounts for non-payment.

Water meters are in short supply due to supply chain issues. PCU is temporarily unable to issue irrigation meters, as we need to prioritize our supply to customers that need water for their homes and businesses. It is possible that even those meters may become limited in the near future. We have active orders for more meters but have been given delivery dates of January 2023 or later.

Field staff work and status updates since last report:

- Extensive water line flushing in the Hampstead area
- 4 new water taps completed by staff
- 11 new water taps completed by contractor
- Staff repaired twelve-inch water main break at intersection of Bell Williams and Hwy 210
- Staff repaired four-inch force main leak at Regional lift station
- Staff replaced faulty pump and motor at 210 booster station
- Staff repaired two damaged water services
- Completed interviews for Utility Locator position
- Meter reading county wide

- Working on a comprehensive list of fire hydrants to be repaired or replaced
- Check all sewer lift stations for proper function
- Test all high-level floats at sewer lift stations
- 2 after-hours emergency calls staff responded too
- 17 Water meter inspections completed
- Numerous water meter sets completed
- 100 plus work orders completed
- Automatic flush valves on Riverland Dr, Michigan Ave, Old Landing Rd, Royal Tern Dr, Bahama Dr, Deer Run, Racoon Rd, and Manhollow Church Rd
- 437 plus locates in last two weeks
- The amount of locates is extremely limiting to staff to complete other tasks

WATER PRODUCTION NUMBERS:

June 2022 Daily Avg: 1.59 MGD from WP, 0.402 MGD from Wallace, 0.908 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.560 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.467 MGD for Hamp/SH)

July 2022 Daily Avg: 1.68 MGD from WP, 0.059 MGD from Wallace, 0.751 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.444 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.195 MGD for Hamp/SH)

August 2022 Daily Avg: 1.67 MGD from WP, 0.164 MGD from Wallace, 0.788 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.526 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.314 MGD for Hamp/SH)

September 2022 Daily Avg: 1.67 MGD from WP, 0.020 MGD from Wallace, 0.758 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.234 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 0.992 MGD for Hamp/SH)

October 2022 Daily Avg (thru 26th): 1.62 MGD from WP, 0.312 MGD from Wallace, 0.848 MGD to Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.333 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.181 MGD for Hamp/SH)

November 2022 Daily Avg (thru 9th): 1.49 MGD from WP, 0.162 MGD from Wallace, 0.803 MGD to

Hamp/SH (thru 210 BPS), 0.334 MGD from Annex & Kiwanis Wells (Total 1.137 MGD for Hamp/SH

MAPLE HILL WATER SYSTEM & WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

- Wastewater samples collected today for the wastewater plant
- The lagoon is looking good
- Odor problems have died down now I need to work on the green algae in the lagoon
- Groundwater wells were sampled on Monday, November 6
- Flushing some of the dead ends but I still need 2 to 3 hydrants fixed and some blow-off put in the system.
- At the transfer station, the yard hydrant is going to have to be replaced. There's a hole in the bottom of the pipe. A temporary fix has been applied.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

- All water and wastewater licenses for the plant's staff have been renewed for 2023.
- BFPE was on-site to perform fire extinguisher testing.
- Hach was on-site to complete quarterly calibration and verification of turbidimeters and chlorine analyzers.
- Staff from both plants assisted in repairs to the air compressor.
- The GAC exchange that was originally scheduled for Nov. 7th was pushed back to Nov. 29th due to carbon availability.
- Overall, the plant is running well with no issues.
- Total water production numbers for October: 49.22 million gallons for an average of 1.59 MGD. This was slightly over our projected usage of 48.90 million gallons.
- Production numbers for November through the 9th: 13.40 million gallons for an average of 1.49 MGD.

PCP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - MKKAES (Melinda K. Knoezer Adaptive Ecosystem)

The wastewater plant is running well. We are gearing up for winter and the storms that come with it.

- We welcome the new help (Dustin) Maintenance Tech. He has jumped right in and is proving to be a big help.
- We'd like to take a moment to thank our veterans including the ones we have on staff shout out to Brian.

SOLID WASTE

- We've had no problems with the scale in the past couple of weeks.
- One of our Transfer Station employees was out last week recovering from surgery
- Traffic across the scale has slowed.
- Waiting time at scale is about 3 minutes in and 4 minutes out.
- Still waiting on desks.

November Tonnages

MSW TBA

C&D TBA

Recycling TBA

Tires TBA

Electronics TBA

Metal TBA

White Goods TBA

Out of County Loads for October

New Hanover County 13.48

Onslow County 3.26

Duplin County 1.66

