

N.C. Cooperative Extension
NC State University
2501 Founders Drive, Suite 120
Campus Box 7602; Patterson Hall
Raleigh, NC 27695-7602



McDowell County Extension Intern

Location: McDowell County

Program Area: 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Community and Rural Development

Immediate/Site Supervisor: Molly Sandfoss

Other Mentors and Supervisors: Tom Devine, Matt Burneisen, Chad Ray, Janet Bryan

Position Description/Responsibilities:

Intern will provide support in the Local Food Systems Program.

NC Farmers of the Foothills is a budding regional farmer cooperative.

- Coordinate and engage with local food producers in facilitation of a farmer cooperative.
- Assist with the development and maintenance of an online storefront of regional produce and other value-added products.
- Assist with the aggregation and distribution of local foods from McDowell and other surrounding counties.

Community & Demonstration Gardens

- Assist in the planning and maintenance of community and demonstration gardens.
- Assist with harvest and distribution of produce to organizations that promote healthy eating and food security.
- Provide educational information or presentations on vegetable gardening.

Additional Information

In McDowell, we envision a sustainable local food system enhancing livelihoods for farmers, ensuring food security, and improving overall health and wellness for all. We value cross-sector collaboration, commitment, and communication to strengthen our whole community.

Preferred qualifications/previous coursework:

- Vegetable production, local food systems, food safety.
- Able to demonstrate effective project coordination, facilitation, and implementation based on past work or school experiences.
- Self-motivated, dependable, and flexible.
- Good organizational and communication skills.
- Effective use of technology.
- Ability to work in different environments (outdoor & office).
- Must have a personal commitment to working with diverse clientele and colleagues, ability to work as a team member, and build relationships.
- Must be willing to travel to make on-site visits within our area.
- Work may require some evenings and weekends.

Benefits/skills student will gain through this internship:

- A true Extension experience working to meet the needs of the community.
- An enhanced resume with real world experience.
- Develop and amplify skills in: goal-setting, problem solving, effective communication, collaboration, empathy, teamwork, and others.

