Liability of Prescribed Burns

Recognizing the need to promote continued use of prescribed fire as a forest management tool in Kershaw County, Ryan Bean, Area Forestry and Natural Resources Agent, developed, planned, organized, and hosted Managing Liability of Prescribed Burns on May 26, 2017 in Camden, SC. Prescribed burning is the most cost effective and most beneficial forest management tool available to a landowner or land manager. Over the years it has become difficult to implement the practice due to urbanization, legal implications, and lack of service providers. 41 attended from surrounding counties to hear Bean cover topics such as: CPFM Certification, Wildland Urban Interface, Writing a Burn Plan, Desirable Weather Conditions, and Smoke Management. Jonathan Calore of the SC Forestry Commission covered Laws and Regulations and Mark Fryer of Davis-Garvin, LLC discussed insurance policies available to those interested in conducting prescribed burns. AgSouth sponsor of the event helped to keep costs down by providing a catered meal. Foresters could earn 4 CFE’s. Surveys indicated the knowledge gained would save time and money for those conducting prescribed burns.

Meet Your New Agents

The Kershaw County Office is pleased to welcome Faith Isreal as the new Food Safety & Nutrition Agent and Justin Shaw as the new 4-H Agent. Isreal is a graduate of Winthrop University where she received her Master of Science in Human Nutrition. In August, Isreal obtained her ServSafe® Instructor and Proctor Certification to teach food safety classes to the restaurant and food service industry. At the Kershaw County’s Family Community Leaders’ Fall Council meeting, Isreal spoke to members on the topic, “Seafood & Seniors: The Value of Omega 3 Fatty Acids”. Isreal looks forward to working with Kershaw County residents to address their food nutrition awareness and food safety concerns. Shaw earned his bachelor’s degree from The Citadel in 2007 and recently earned a Master’s in Educational Leadership. As a former health and fitness teacher and 4-H and FFA student, Shaw will use his years of experience to coordinate various programs and activities associated with 4-H. He looks forward to teaching Kershaw County youth ages 5-18 leadership, citizenship, and life skills through 4-H to empower them to become healthy, productive, and contributing members of society.

http://www.clemson.edu/kershaw
Garden Seminar

Horticulture Agent Jackie Jordan is passionate about gardening and loves sharing her experiences and knowledge with the citizens of Kershaw County. She and the Kershaw County Master Gardeners worked together to put on the Gardening Then and Now seminar on January 21, 2017. Guest speakers included WLTX Meteorologist Jim Gandy and Clemson Horticulture Professor Bob Polomski.

Jackie Jordan and Darlington Agent Trish DeHond presented CSI: Clemson Solves It, a look into the role of a county extension agent.

A total of 98 people attended the seminar. Other topics covered included new plant introductions, new concerns about mosquito vectored diseases, and the impact of weather and climate change on gardening.

In September, Tri-County Cattlemen held its 40th annual feeder calf sale. Area cattle producers worked together with Clemson Extension Livestock Agent Brian Beer to market semi-truck loads of feeder calves. The sale marketed 19 loads, or 1,280 head. Marketing feeder calves in truck load lots of uniform size commands about $75 more per calf than traditional cattle auction markets. Participants gained an average of approximately $6,000 additional income per farm.