Grower Spotlight

Creekside Nursery & Garden Center
827 Charlotte Highway
Fairview, NC 28730
(828) 299-7172
info@creeksidenursery.com (email)
www.creeksidenurserync.com

- **Owner, Sales & Grower:** Eileen & Mike Forte
- **Number of employees:** 2 part-time, seasonal
- **Square feet/ acres of business:** ½ acre, 1 greenhouse 40’x 90’
- **Grand opening date:** Spring 2005
- **Product mix:** Perennials, annuals, hanging baskets, trees, shrubs, native plants, locally grown organic herbs and vegetable transplants, fruit trees & blueberry bushes!! Creekside has an amazing collection of Jade plants, rare succulents and cacti and indoor plants. Lawn and garden supplies are also available.
- **Clientele:** Wholesale to landscapers and retail to public.
- **New & upcoming:** Heirloom tomato transplants coming soon!!
- **Special services:** Landscaping & delivery of plant materials.
- **Comments:**
  - They have a website with an online ‘jade plant store’.
  - For those interested in organic gardening, Creekside has a good selection of organic fertilizers, potting media, & organic pesticides.

Give’em a call and support your local growers!!!!!

---

**Inside:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calendar of Events</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar of Events (cont’d)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticide Recertification Classes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest Speaker at Pesticide Training</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Maintenance in April</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Disease &amp; Insect ID</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Problems in April</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pond Management Workshop</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop Opportunity</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money for Farmers &amp; Businesses</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bee Sting Seminar</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grower Spotlight (Past Issues)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Calendar of Events

April 19
*Calibration of Sprayer & Spreader Equipment.*  Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fanning Bridge Road, Fletcher.  Back by popular demand!!  This class will be a hands-on approach to teaching calibration of backpack sprayers, boom sprayer, drop spreader and rotary spreader.  3 pesticide credits were approved for A B G H I K L M N O T D X.  There is a $20 pre-registration; please call (828) 255-5522.

April 25
*Perennials and Grasses for WNC Gardens.*  Bullington Center, 33 Upper Red Oak Trail, Hendersonville.  Jean-Claude Linossi, Horticulturalist from Etowah Valley County Club will highlight perennial plants and ornamental grasses that perform especially well in our area.  Pre-registration ($12) is required; call (828) 698-6104.  Visit the website at www.bullingtoncenter.org

April 27-28
‘Growing in the Mountains’ Plant Show & Sale.  9:00 am - 6:00 pm.  WNC Farmers’ Market, Asheville.  Sponsored by the Blue Ridge Horticulture Association.  For more information please call the Extension Center at (828) 255-5522.

May 1-2
*Commercial & Private Applicators Pesticide License Exam & School.*  Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fletcher.  For more information call (828) 255-5522; http://www.ncagr.com/fooddrug/pesticide

May 2
*Pond Management & Aquatic Weeds.*  Madison County Extension Center, Marshall.  6:00-8:00 pm.  The workshop is designed for private pond owners, golf course owners/managers, and pond management consultants.  Topics to be presented include Aquatic Weed Identification and Control, Pond Construction and Design, Pond and Fisheries Management, Water Quality, Fish Stocking Rates, Trout Pond Management, and Feeding.  Contact Madison County Extension Center at (828) 649-2411 for more information and to register for this event.

May 4-5
*Spring Herb Festival.*  WNC Farmers’ Market, Asheville.  Friday & Saturday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.  Sunday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.  Plants, herbal products, crafts, garden information and educational programs.

May 31-June 2
*Washington D.C. Garden Tour*  Among the stops include:  U. S. National Arboretum, River Farm Gardens (American Horticultural Society), Lewis Ginter Arboretum, and J. C. Raulston Arboretum.  Bus trip is $100; hotel $120/night.  Please call Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522 for more information or visit our website and trip is listed under events.

June 19-July 21
*Certified Plant Professional Short Course.*  North Carolina Arboretum, 100 Fredrick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville.  This class is designed to assist participants in developing their level of knowledge and professionalism in the area of landscape plants and use.  For more information contact Cliff Ruth, (828) 697-4891 or Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522.

June 21-24
*South East Greenhouse Growers Conference & Trade Show.*  Greenville, SC  This is the largest educational conference and trade show in the South focused on the greenhouse grower and ‘color’ industry.  Tours, workshops, educational sessions, new varieties, and trade show networking, are all available during the three day event.  For more information call the Extension Center at (828) 255-5522 or visit www.sgcts.org
Calendar of Events (Cont’d)

July 27-28
Landscape Design Workshop. Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fanning Bridge Road, Fletcher. This will be a hands-on workshop in Landscape Design. Some design skills are necessary. Stay tuned for more info or call (828) 255-5522.

September 20
Nursery Short Course & Field Day. Mountain Horticultural Crops Research & Extension Center, Fanning Bridge Road, Fletcher. More info coming soon!

Pesticide Recertification Classes

Pesticide Safety Training Sessions (Category V). Please call to pre-register.

4/17/2007 – Asheville - 2 hours credit V. Private Safety - Guest speaker Julia Storm from NCSU will present on the Ag Health Study. Contact Amanda Stone, (828) 255-5522.
5/8/2007 - Marshall - 2 hours credit V. Contact Elizabeth Ayers, (828) 649-2411

Pesticide Specialty Training Sessions. Please call to pre-register.


***Please visit North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Section for a list of recertification opportunities throughout North Carolina. http://www.agr.state.nc.us/fooodrug/pesticide

Guest Speaker to Present at Pesticide Training - April 17!!

There will be a Private Pesticide Applicator Training on April 17, 3:00-5:00 pm. This class was approved for 2 hours credit for the V category. We are having a guest speaker from Raleigh - Julia Storm. Julia Storm is an Agromedicine Information Specialist from the Toxicology Department at NCSU. She will be presenting on the Agricultural Health Study that looked at the effects of agriculture on the farmer and their families health. If you need your 2 hours of V credit, this is a class not to miss! You are still welcome to attend even if you don’t need the credit! Give us a call and get registered, (828) 255-5522.
Landscape Maintenance in April

Lawns:
- Prepare lawn mowers and sharpen blades. Make sure weed eaters, blowers, edgers, etc. are all working correctly and clean.
- It’s not too late to get good results with crab grass preventer.
- Do not fertilize cool season lawns, like fescue and bluegrass. Nitrogen applied this late may be an invitation for brown patch fungus disease in June.
- If winter annual weeds, such as dandelion and clover, are actively growing and they bother you, you can treat with a post-emergent broadleaf weed herbicide.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn. They provide 25% of a lawn’s fertilizer needs.

Ornamentals:
- Cut back old foliage on grasses and perennials.
- Time to prune summer flowering trees and shrubs, evergreens and over-grown shrubs that need rejuvenation.
- Prune spring blooming plants after the flower fades.
- Divide and replant summer and fall blooming perennials, such as Hostas, Daylily, Shasta Daisy, Asters, Phlox, etc.
- After the flower fades and right before the foliage dies down, Daffodils and other spring bulbs may be dug and relocated.
- Put out fresh mulch.
- Post emergent herbicide may be used on winter annual broadleaf weeds
- **DO NOT** plant frost-tender flowers like summer annuals until May unless you can cover them if we have a frost. The average last frost date in Buncombe County is April 25. But it can vary by a couple of weeks around the county. The ‘safe’ planting date is the 2nd week in May.
- Begin scouting for insect pests and diseases. Cool-season mites can become a problem this time of year.

Landscape Disease and Insect Identification

N. C. Cooperative Extension – Buncombe County Center will be holding 4 classes this season on Landscape Disease and Insect Identification. These classes will teach skills needed to identify diseases and insects in the landscape. Actual live (or dead) samples of insects and diseases will be brought to each class for hands-on teaching. Please feel free to bring in your own samples! We will then discuss Integrated Pest Management approaches to controlling these pests. No class will be the same, so come to one or come to all! The class dates are as follows:

- **May 23, 3:00-5:00 pm**
- **June 13, 3:00-5:00 pm**
- **July 11, 3:00-5:00 pm**
- **August 8, 3:00-5:00 pm**

Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register. Class size will be limited to 20 students. Pesticide credits have been approved for all classes - 2 credit hours for L N D X.
Plant Problems to Watch for in April

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/clinic/Summary/aprwatch.htm

Here are some diseases we observed in the clinic during the month of April. Upon going to the website, hypertext links will lead you to specific information about a certain disease or about diseases in a certain crop.

Turf Grass
Brown patch, Cold injury, Fairy ring, Nutritional problems, Pink snow mold

Woody Ornamentals

General shrubs: Cold injury, Secondary leaf spots on old leaves
Azalea & Camellia: Exobasidium leaf gall
Holly, Japanese: Black root rot, Nematodes
Boxwood, English: Dagger, Lesion and Ring nematodes, Phytophthora root rot
Cherry laurel: Bacterial leaf spot
Dogwood: Spot anthracnose
Indian Hawthorn: Cold injury, Entomosporium leaf spot
Magnolia: Normal leaf drop, Secondary leaf spot
Magnolia, Southern: Normal leaf drop
Maple, Japanese: Sudden dying due to cold injury at soil line
Cypress, Leyland: Botryosphaeria dieback, Cypress canker
Pine & Spruce: Needle cast
Redcedar, Eastern: Cedar-apple rust
Rose: Black spot, Downy mildew, Mosaic virus, Various cane cankers/dieback

Herbaceous Ornamentals

Greenhouse bedding plants/perennials: Botrytis blight, Cultural problems, Fertilizer injury, Impatiens necrotic spot, Pythium root rot, Rhizoctonia root/stem diseases, Sclerotinia stem rot
Bulb Crops (Tulip, Hyacinth, etc.): Bacterial soft rot of bulb, Botrytis blight of foliage, Penicillium bulb rot
English Ivy: Anthracnose, Bacterial leaf spot
Geranium: Botrytis blight, Pythium root rot
Iris: Bacterial soft rot, Cladosporium leaf spot, Stem collapse
Oxalis: Rust
Pachysandra: Volutella blight

Pond Management and Aquatic Weeds Workshop

A Pond Management Workshop will be held at the Madison County Extension Center in Marshall on May 2 from 6:00-8:00 pm. The workshop is designed for private pond owners, golf course owners/managers, and pond management consultants. Topics to be presented include Aquatic Weed Identification and Control, Pond Construction and Design, Pond and Fisheries Management, Water Quality, Fish Stocking Rates, Trout Pond Management, and Feeding. Contact Madison County Extension for more information and to register for this event, (828) 649-2411.
Workshop Opportunity

The North Carolina Urban Forest Council presents “TLC for Trees"

- Thursday, May 17, 2007, in Charlotte, NC – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Friday, May 18, 2007 in Raleigh, NC - 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Featured Speakers:

- **Dr. Michael Raupp**  
  Entomologist from the University of Maryland  
  *Dr. Raupp will focus on Pest Management and IPM issues, with reference to his recent publication on destructive pests of street trees.*

- **Dr. Lucy Bradley**  
  Urban Horticulture Extension Specialist from N. C. State University  
  *Dr. Bradley will concentrate on the theme of Tree Protection and Damage Mitigation.*

*We will have outdoor demonstrations and hands-on portions relevant to the themes and topics.*

Seminar Locations:

- **Thursday, May 17 in Charlotte, NC**  
  Central Piedmont Community College (Central Campus)  
  Tate Hall in the Overcash Center/Halton Theater:  
  1201 4th Street, Charlotte, NC  28204  
  [http://halton.cpcc.edu/directions](http://halton.cpcc.edu/directions); for map, directions

- **Friday, May 18 in Raleigh, NC**  
  NC State Fair Grounds in the Governor Martin Building  
  1025 Blue Ridge Blvd. Raleigh, NC  27607  
  [http://www.ncstatefair.org/directions.htm](http://www.ncstatefair.org/directions.htm); for map, directions

**Cost:**  
$75 for N. C. Urban Forest Council members, $100 for non-members

**Continuing Education Credits:** We have applied for ISA CEUs, pesticide credits and SAF CFEs.

**Questions:** Contact the N. C. Urban Forest Council at (336) 774-0215, NCUFC@aol.com

**Registration:** With payment by credit card is available online at [www.NCUFC.org](http://www.NCUFC.org)  
To pay by check, fill out the form below and mail with your payment to:  
NCUFC, PO Box 25852, Winston-Salem, NC  27114-5852

Seminar location  
_____ May 17 in Charlotte  
_____ May 18 in Raleigh

Payment enclosed  
_____ $75 NCUFC member  
_____ $100 non-member

**Name:**

**Organization:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**E-mail:**
Money for Farmers and Businesses

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns has announced the availability of $176.5 million in loan guarantees and $11.4 million in grants to support investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements by agricultural producers and small businesses.

The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency loan and grant program was established under Section 9006 of the 2002 Farm Bill. It provides loan guarantees and grants to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for the purchase and installation of renewable energy systems or for energy efficiency improvements.

Loan guarantees cover up to 50 percent of a project's cost, not to exceed $10 million. Grants are available for up to 25 percent of a project's cost, not to exceed $250,000 for energy efficiency improvements and $500,000 for renewable energy systems. These loans and grants are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 0.97 million metric tons, replace 821 million barrels of foreign oil and generate almost 2 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually. USDA has funded more than 800 loans and grants since the renewable energy program began in FY 2003. Applications for grants must be postmarked no later than May 18, 2007. The deadline for submitting loan applications, as well as for loan and grant combinations, is July 2, 2007.

To access the NOFA for the energy program please go to: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html or http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/nofas/index.html

Additional information on energy programs through USDA can be found at: www.usda.gov/energy.

All applications go through our NC contact:

H. Rossie Bullock, USDA RD
PO Box 7426
Lumberton, NC  28359
(910) 739-3349 ext #4
rossie.bullock@nc.usda.gov

Bee Sting Seminar for Green Industry Professionals

Dr. Adela Taylor, from Mountain Allergy & Asthma Association will be speaking on what to do in case of a bee sting. She will be demonstrating how to use an Epi-Pen and those who attend will be certified to use the Epi-pen and will receive a prescription. Please call (828) 255-5522 to pre-register; class size is limited.

When:  Monday, April 23, 2007
Time:  4:00-5:30 pm
Where:  N. C. Cooperative Extension
          Buncombe County Center
          94 Coxe Avenue, Asheville.

Recommendations for the use of chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services in this publication does not imply endorsement by NCSU, NCA&T State University or NC Cooperative Extension or discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Individuals who use chemicals are responsible for ensuring that the intended use complies with current regulations and conforms to the product label. Be sure to obtain current information about usage regulations and examine a current product label before applying any chemical. For assistance contact an agent of N. C. Cooperative Extension.
Grower Spotlight – Past Issues

1. **Broad River Botanicals** (828) 664-9902, 2805 Hwy 9, Black Mountain, NC.  
   Perennials – unusual new varieties and top performers, natives; wholesale to landscapers and garden center; will deliver.

2. **Biltmore Estate Nursery**, (828) 665-3635, 702 Brevard Road, Asheville, NC.  
   Perennials, natives, trees, shrubs, grasses and ferns; wholesale to landscapers.

3. **Mountain Meadows Landscape & Dwarf Conifer Nursery**, (828) 626-2695, Weaverville, NC  
   [www.mountainmeadowsdwarfconifers.com](http://www.mountainmeadowsdwarfconifers.com)  
   Over 300 varieties of conifers, dwarf conifers and select deciduous plant material, like fragrant Viburnums and Peony; wholesale to landscapers and retail.

4. **Carolina Tree Form**, (828) 670-8733, 70 Pisgah Hwy, Candler, NC  
   [www.carolinatreeform.com](http://www.carolinatreeform.com)  
   Trees and shrubs, conifers, vines, grasses and groundcovers, native plants and rare, unusual, hard to find specimen and speciality plants; wholesale and retail to serious horticulturalists. Will deliver.

*Individuals with disabilities who would like to participate in any program mention in this newsletter, but who need special assistance to do so, should call the Extension Center at 828-255-5522 at least five days prior to the event.*