

Garden Column for the Salisbury Post  
Darrell Blackwelder  
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Cooperative Extension is planning a number of events and activities this spring. Below is a list with descriptions of events and activities that may be of interest.

**Small Fruits Workshop:** Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Agricultural Center on Old Concord Road in Salisbury. NC State University Extension Small fruits specialists Bill Cline and Connie Fisk along with Extension agents Mary Helen Ferguson and Amy-Lynn Albertson will be presenting cultural information on blueberry, bramble and grape production. This is a multi-county workshop designed primarily for those contemplating Pick Your Own operations or those interested in producing fresh market fruit for farmer's markets, however, the workshop is open to the general public. The workshop at the Agricultural Center begins at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and will resume at 1:30 p.m. with an optional blueberry on-farm pruning demonstration.

**Rain Barrel Sales:** North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service is selling rain barrels. The barrels are heavy duty commercial grade polyethylene with a brass spigot, stainless steel screen and overflow valves. These barrels are designed to collect rain water from gutters to irrigate shrubs and other plant materials during extended periods of drought. Costs: \$90-80 gallon barrel \$80-60 gallon barrel. Deadline to order rain barrels is March 5, 2008 with pick-up tentatively scheduled for March 13 at the Ag Center on Old Concord Road in Salisbury.

**Crepe Myrtle Pruning Workshop:** Cooperative Extension will conduct workshop on pruning crepe myrtles Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. at the Agricultural Center in Salisbury. The workshop may move to other locations to look at other examples of how to prune crepe myrtles.

**Commercial Pesticide Workshop**-Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a workshop, "Pesticide Update for Commercial Landscape Contractors" Thursday, March 8, 9:00 a.m., at the Agricultural Center in Salisbury. This meeting has been

approved for two hours recertification credits have been approved for the following subclasses: (O)Ag Pest-Plant, (N) Demonstration & Research, (L) Ornamental and Turf, (D) Dealer This workshop is designed commercial pesticide applicators in the lawn maintenance industry. Space is limited so it is important to reserve your space.

**Salisbury-Rowan Farmer's Market:** Officially opens Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. at the corner of Bank and Main Street in Downtown Salisbury. Those interested in participating can find more information the market at [www.salisburyrowanfarmersmarket.com](http://www.salisburyrowanfarmersmarket.com) The market needs your input to plan for 2008. Please go to this site complete the on-line questionnaire.

Contact Cooperative Extension for more information about these and other activities at 704-216-8970 or e-mail [Darrell\\_Blackwelder@ncsu.edu](mailto:Darrell_Blackwelder@ncsu.edu)

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