# CLAY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S

Leanna Staton Presenting



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### "SMALL FARM INITIATIVE"

funded by
The Community Foundation
of
Western North Carolina



#### THANK YOU

NACD, DEB BOGAR &

The Scotts Miracle Gro Company







- SFI Community Facilitator
- Consulting Firm
- SFI Board & Committee





#### Resource, Business & Agency Collaboration

Tax Office

Farm Service Agency

**Local Government** 

Mountain Biz Works

Farm Stewardship Association

**NRCS** 

**Cooperative Extension** 

Farming Community & Farm Products

**Local Restaurants** 



#### SFI held 5 community breakfast meetings.







## SPRING FARM FEST

- LOCAL EGGS
- LOCAL HOG SAUSAGE
- GOAT CHEESE SPREAD
- HOMEMADE JAMS & JELLIES
- FRESH LOCAL STRAWBERRIES



4 CLASSES →

- FRUIT & VITICULTURE PRODUCTION
- BEEF PRODUCTION
- SMALL SCALE CHICKEN/GOAT PRODUCTION
- VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

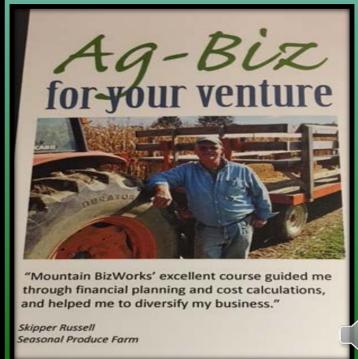
#### 65 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED





SFI sponsored 4 farmers' attendance of an 8 week comprehensive business planning course through Mountain Biz Works.







1st County USDA Approved

"Goat Milk" Creamery

**High Mountain** 

**Meadow Farm** 

New Farmer
Shane Gibson's
Hogs



CSA Farm Family

Lane's End





150 Year Old Farm

Managed by 4<sup>th</sup> generation

Moore's Farm





**Farmers** 



#### SEASONAL HIGH TUNNEL

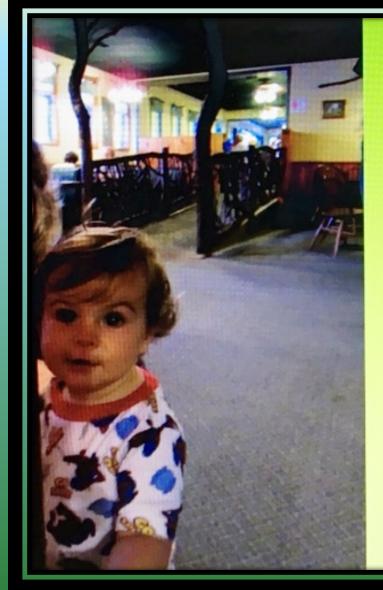




## Clay County's Soil & Water Conservation District's SFI Outcomes

- A countywide survey
- Farm visits, Farmer Interviews, and public breakfast meetings
- Local Product and Producer Guide
- Day long seminar of Practical Agricultural
- 8 week Comprehensive Business Planning class
- Ag Grant and Conference Scholarship Assistance
- CSA, Local Markets, and Seasonal High Tunnels
- Supplementing small farm incomes







 The future of Clay County's next generation depends on how we care for our families, farms, forests, and food. Let's choose wisely.

