

# CLAY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S

Leanna Staton

Presenting



## “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.



*Ag-Biz*  
for your venture

A man in a blue shirt and jeans stands next to a red tractor in a field. The tractor has the word "DUNSTON" on its side. In the background, there are wooden fences and trees.

"Mountain BizWorks' excellent course guided me through financial planning and cost calculations, and helped me to diversify my business."

*Skipper Russell*  
Seasonal Produce Farm







1<sup>st</sup> 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



SMM Produce  
GAP Certified  
&  
3<sup>rd</sup> Generation  
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.

THANK YOU

