



October 16, 2016

Friends and Employees of N.C. Cooperative Extension:

There is no doubt Hurricane Matthew caused significant damage to several communities in eastern North Carolina. Extension employees essential to the disaster response have also been personally impacted by the storm.

There is a strong desire to help our fellow employees and those who have experienced hardships and loss. There are 3 ways you can help.

First, we will begin distributing on a regular basis a list of assistance needs out in the counties. While most offices are up and running, some are still under water. Your help in recovery efforts may be needed.

Second, we encourage and support you to donate and volunteer. The Lumberton food and supply drive currently going on in Patterson Hall and across the NC State campus is a great way to help. See: [www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article107235317.html](http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article107235317.html) for other opportunities. Many relief/assistance programs may provide an option to use your employee community service leave (CSL). For more information on this, go to [benefits.hr.ncsu.edu/community-service/](http://benefits.hr.ncsu.edu/community-service/).

Third, working together with the N.C. Agricultural Foundation, Inc. and the N.C. Cooperative Extension Ag Programs Foundation, we have established the **N.C. Cooperative Extension Disaster Relief Fund**. Donations will be distributed to Extension employees and those who have sustained significant losses as a result of this storm, and will remain open for responding to future disasters. Secure online donations can be made at:

[go.ncsu.edu/ExtensionDisasterRelief](http://go.ncsu.edu/ExtensionDisasterRelief)

Checks may be made payable and mailed to:

**N.C. Agricultural Foundation**  
NC State Campus Box 7645  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7645  
*(in memo please indicate NCCE Disaster)*

Finally, please remember that there is a free service to all employees and household members of employees through the Faculty and Staff Assistance Program (FASAP). FASAP provides confidential, free support, resources and information for crises, including help in this recovery. For information on where to get help, find shelters, etc., go to [www.guidanceresources.com](http://www.guidanceresources.com) (log in required; Company ID is FASAP).

Our hearts are with those in need and those helping those in need. This will be a long-term recovery, and we will remain dedicated to supporting our fellow North Carolinians over the days, weeks and months to come.

Most sincerely,

Rich Bonanno  
Associate Dean and Director, N.C. Cooperative Extension Service  
NC State University