



LUMBEE TRIBE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES



Vol. 1, No. 1 April 2024



Who We Are

The mission of The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina's Agriculture and Natural Resources Department is to steward Lumbee lands and waters by honoring our ancestors and their traditions, strengthening our existing farm community by advocating for Lumbee agricultural opportunities and promoting tribal food sovereignty.

This issue:

Who We Are?
PAGE 01

Agricultural Practices
PAGE 02

Natural Resources
PAGE 03

Natural Resources
PAGE 04

**Historic Preservation
Office**
PAGE 05

**Historic Preservation
Office**
PAGE 06

Meet Our Interns
PAGE 07

Meet Our Dept. Staff
PAGE 08

Agricultural Practices

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

- The agriculture industry supports nearly 700,000 jobs in North Carolina
- More than 80 different crops and commodities are grown in North Carolina
- More than 8 million acres of land is used for farming
- North Carolina leads the nation in sweet potato, egg and poultry production, and ranks in the top three for Christmas trees, pork, trout, and turkeys
- NC State generates a \$1.6 billion annual impact from research and extension with just four key crops (blueberry, peanut, sweet potato, and tobacco) while supporting over 13,000 related jobs in 97 of the state's 100 counties



➤➤➤ MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLIST <<<<

Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers

- Prune spring-flowering plants, such as forsythia, azalea, and spirea immediately after flowering. If you wait until summer or fall to prune, you will remove next season's flowers.
- If your annuals are flowering vigorously when you plant them, remove at least half of the flowers to give the plants a good start on root, leaf, and flower growth.
- Newly planted trees require regular watering through their first summer. Apply 2-3 gallons per inch of trunk diameter to the root ball at least once a week if it does not rain.
- Newly planted flowers will benefit from liquid fertilization the first few weeks, in addition to slow-release fertilizer applied at planting time.
- House plants can be gradually brought outdoors by the middle to end of the month, and any overcrowded plants can be divided and repotted.

Fruits, Vegetables, and Herbs

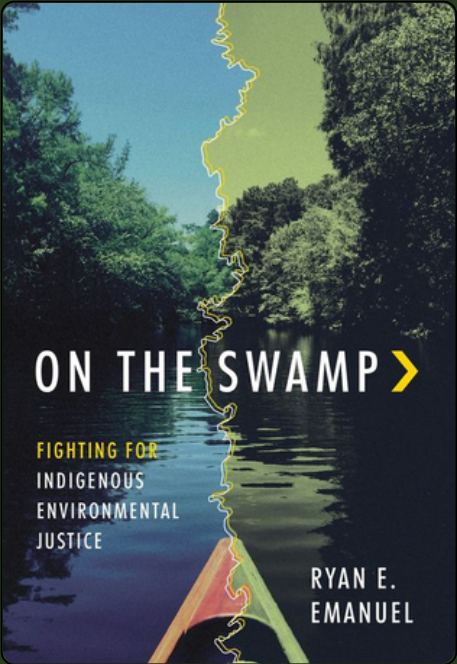
- Prepare garden beds before planting. Till in compost and fertilizer. Add lime ONLY if recommended by soil test reports.
- Set out young pepper and tomato plants in mid-to-late April. Wait a few more weeks before setting out cold-sensitive eggplant and basil plants.
- Keep an eye out for Colorado potato beetle larvae on potato leaves.
- Direct sow seeds of green beans, limas, field peas, cucumbers, squash, zucchini, winter squash, and sweet corn.
- Harvest garden peas, sugar snaps, and snow peas every few days.
- Thin fruit on apple, peach, and pear trees to increase fruit size, prevent limb breakage and reduce insect/disease problems. Fruit should be thinned when they are about the size of a nickel.



Natural Resources

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Over the past year, the Lumbee Tribe Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources have been working with the Lumbee community and Lumbee experts on researching environmental issues that greatly impact our communities. Water quality, wetland degradation, air quality and climate change all are issues being evaluated in our communities to ensure our people are safe. At the conclusion of this project, a statement of expectations will be presented to the Lumbee Tribal Council to be adopted to further protect Lumbee lands and Lumbee People. For more information with environmental testing, please contact the Lumbee Tribe Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.





Natural Resources

LUMBEE CULTURAL BURN ASSOCIATION

Partnerships between the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the North Carolina office of The Nature Conservancy and the Sandhills Prescribe Burn Association has influenced the creation of the Lumbee Cultural Burn Association. The association was created to manage lands and bring back the cultural significance of managing lands with fire. The Lumbee Cultural Burn Association hosted the inaugural cultural burn in December 2023 at the Lumbee Tribe Cultural Center to honor the Winter Solstice. In March, at the same site, over 450 longleaf pine saplings and wire grass seeds were planted as part of the Longleaf Pine Savanna Restoration project. If you are interested or would like to receive more information to participate in cultural burning practices, please contact the Lumbee Tribe Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.





HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

ENGAGING WITH CULTURE & HISTORY



LUMBEE TRIBE CULTURE CLASS

The Lumbee Tribe Culture Class is held every Monday night from 6:30pm until 8:30pm at the Pembroke Boys & Girls Club (120 Youth Drive Pembroke, NC 28372). Participants learn various Powwow style dances and Drumming. Other workshops include traditional Southeastern American Indian arts and crafts such as basket weaving, pottery, Pinecone patchwork, center-seam moccasins, etc. All classes are free and open to the public.

EXPERT ADVICE

You can create your own family archive. For helpful tips and tricks on how to preserve family photos, videos, and documents please contact our office.

LUMBEE TRIBAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE

In an act of self-determination and sovereignty, we are working to create a Lumbee Tribal Library and Archive. This will be a space for tribal citizens to research and learn more about our unique history and culture. We are currently inventorying and digitizing a large amount of historical documents, artifacts, and oral histories. Please stay tuned for updates on when the Library and Archive will be available for tribal citizen access.





HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL

Lumbee Tribal territory (Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson, Scotland Counties) is home to thousands of Historical and Archeological sites. Buried just below the service of our lawns, gardens, homes, roads, and fields are the historical villages, burial sites, and ceremonial centers of our ancestors. Little archeological testing has been done in our territory due to a number of factors. Starting this summer with the aid of Dr. Seth Grooms (Lumbee) and the Appalachian State University Dept. of Anthropology we will conduct a field school to study some of the known Archeological sites in the territory. This will give us a better understanding of our overall history. Stay tuned for more info about this project.





HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

MEET OUR INTERNS



Benjamin Clark

Graduated from UNCP in Dec. 2023 with a double major in History and American Indian Studies. Plans to attend NC State pursuing a Master's degree in Public history hoping to one day become a Museum Professional.



Jacob Butler

A student at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, majoring in History and minor in Pre-Law. Plans to become a lawyer who creates affordable healthcare for rural communities.



Mikayah Locklear

Graduating from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill May 2024 with a Bachelor's in Information Science and a double minor in American Studies and Environmental Justice. Plans to attend Simmons University pursuing a Master's degree in Library and Information Science: Archives Management Concentration.

MEET THE DEPT. STAFF



Larry Edwards

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROJECT

To contact Larry, please use the below info.

Email - ledwards@lumbeetribe.com

Office Phone - (910) 522-5465

Cell Phone - (919) 440-4173



Kevin L. Melvin

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (THPO)

To contact Kevin, please use the below info.

Email - kmelvin@lumbeetribe.com

Office Phone - (910) 522-5465

Cell Phone - (910) 544-8235



Jan M. Lowery

PROGRAM SPECIALIST,

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

To contact Jan, please use the below info.

Email - Jmlowery@lumbeetribe.com

Office Phone - (910) 668-6068