

Conservation Partnership Field Day

an official S.C. New and Beginning Farmer Program Event

Farmers and natural resource professionals are invited to meet the Cooper Family of Kershaw County and learn how they've partnered with USDA-NRCS and other organizations to add high tunnel vegetable production to their farm enterprise, improve soil health through cover cropping and reduced tillage, conserve water through efficient irrigation practices, and create habitat for pollinators and beneficial insects. Enjoy a BBQ lunch, tour the farm and network with farmers and natural resource professionals!

Speakers include:

- High Tunnels Gena Moore, Organic Research Coordinator, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
- Pollinator Habitat Sudie Daves Thomas, Wildlife Biologist, USDA-NRCS
- Cover Crops and Soil Health Gordon Mikell, Conservation Agronomist, USDA-NRCS and Dr. Buz Kloot, Associate Professor, USC
- Irrigation Efficiency and Water Conservation Dr. Dara Park, Soil and Water Specialist, Clemson University
- •Technical and Financial Assistance through USDA-NRCS Kellee Melton, Assistant State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS

The event is free, but preregistration is required. Register online at https://cooperfamilyfarms. eventbrite.com or RSVP to Charlie Fisher at fisherc@rcgov.us or 803-576-2080.



9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, March 15 Cooper Family Farms, 209 Stokes Road, Bishopville, SC

Directions: From I-20 E, take Exit 108 and turn left from the exit ramp. From I-20 W, take Exit 108 and turn right from the exit ramp. Proceed to the stop sign at the BP station and turn left onto Hwy. 34 (toward Camden). Go 1 mile and turn right onto Stokes Road. (S-28-404). Go one mile, farm is on the left. Watch for "Field Day" signs!

This workshop is sponsored by the Kershaw and Richland Soil and Water Conservation Districts with support from the organizations shown below. Some material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2016-70017-25351.

