



BASKET CASE — FARMS —

Waxhaw, North Carolina

GUIDE TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

FIELD TRIPS, FARM TOURS, AND MORE FOR
LEARNERS





1 Welcome to Basket Case Farms

PAGE 03



2 General Information

PAGE 04



3 Program Descriptions

PAGE 05



4 Program Curriculum Match Guide

PAGE 06



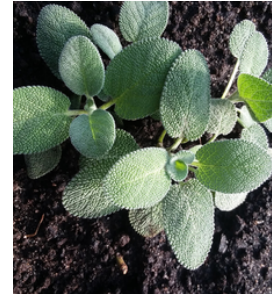
5 Policies, Procedures & Registration

PAGE 07

CONTENTS

WELCOME TO...

BASKET CASE FARMS



At Basket Case Farms we seek to provide all members of the community with access to fresh produce and educational opportunities.

Dear Teachers,

Thank you for considering a visit to Basket Case Farms. We're a nonprofit farm dedicated to growing fresh, organic produce, and giving all of it away. Every vegetable, herb, and fruit we harvest is donated directly to neighborhoods that lack reliable access to fresh food. Education is central to our mission: we believe that understanding where food comes from, and why food security matters, is one of the most powerful lessons we can offer.

The farm operates using fully organic practices and prioritizes sustainability in everything we do. Situated on nearly 550 acres in Waxhaw, NC our farm features:

- 8 greenhouses
- 1 hydroponics grow house
- Outdoor grow spaces
- An apiary
- Mature mixed hardwood & pine forests

This diversity of spaces means every visit can highlight something different to meet the needs of your young learners. We'd love to welcome your class to the farm. Please take a look at the enclosed program guide for a full list of offerings, and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or to start planning your visit.

Warmly,
Ashlyn Spangenberg
Director of Learning & Community Outreach

GENERAL INFORMATION

FIELD TRIPS

All field trips are **free of cost** and include interactive programming, space for lunch on site, and a tour of our farm. Visitors will learn about the mission of Basket Case Farms and how food moves from the farm to our local neighborhoods.

To help you prepare for your visit, background information and pre/post field trip activity suggestions are available upon request. Our field trip options are designed to align with and supplement NC and SC Curriculum Standards, offering hands-on experiences that support, but do not replace, classroom instruction. Most experiences are grade-level adaptable.

Field trips for all school groups can be tailored to the needs of the specific class. Modifications of programming can be made to accommodate grade level and we welcome requests for other topics to help meet your needs.

2026-2027 FIELD TRIP SEASON DATES

SEPTEMBER 1ST - DECEMBER 18TH
JANUARY 4TH - JUNE 4TH



DID YOU KNOW?

Basket Case Farms also offers educational programs for the general public (children, families, adults, scout groups, & community organizations).

For more information, visit our website and see contact info on pg.7!

FIELD TRIPS

Basket Case Farms offers many field trip options for school groups. The descriptions below will help you find the program that works best for your students. See page 7 of this guide for information on how to register for a field trip.

For more information, contact Ashlyn Spangenberg at 803-804-8714 or aspangenberg@gambrellfoundation.org.

POLLINATORS OF THE PIEDMONT

Ages: K-8, Grade-level adaptable

Max group size: 30 students

Available: Year-round

Students explore the role pollinators play in ecosystems and agriculture. The program introduces native pollinators and plants, overviews lifecycles, explains how they have co-evolved to depend on one another, and highlights different methods of pollination. Learners leave with a better understanding of how pollinators support our food systems and the natural world around us.

PLANT SCIENCE: FROM SEED TO TABLE

Ages: K-8, Grade-level adaptable

Max group size: 30 students

Available: Year-round

Students learn what plants need to grow, and about the basic structures and functions of seeds and plants as it relates to food production. Students will leave with a greater understanding botany, where their food comes from and the role of plants in food webs and in agriculture.

SOIL SCIENCE: FOUNDATIONS OF FOOD

Ages: K-8, Grade-level adaptable

Max group size: 30 students

Available: Year-round

This program examines how energy flows through food webs and why decomposers are an essential component of healthy soil. Students will learn about soil composition and soil ecosystems, highlighting their importance to plant growth. Learners will also discover how healthy soil supports agriculture and food production.

CAROLINA ECOLOGY

Ages: K-8, Grade-level adaptable

Max group size: 30 students

Available: August-October, March-May

Students explore the North Carolina Piedmont ecosystem and the role native wildlife plays within it. The program highlights native plants & animals, and how they are connected. Learners gain an understanding of how living things work together to keep the ecosystem healthy and how humans can be better stewards of our environmental resources.

FOOD JUSTICE

Ages: 7th - 12th Grade, Grade-level adaptable

Max group size: 30 students

Available: Year-round

Students learn about the U.S. food system and current and historical factors that affect access to healthy food, including food insecurity, food apartheid, and social determinants of health. Students will also explore the consequences of food insecurity on communities and individuals to better understand its impact within the local community, and solutions for combating food insecurity.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Ages: 4th -12th Grade, Grade-level adaptable

Max group size: 30 students

Available: Year-round

This program examines the challenges farmers face in feeding a growing population while also managing environmental impacts. Students will explore sustainable farming practices relating to soil conservation, water management, pollution reduction, and carbon sequestration. Through hands-on activities, participants investigate how agricultural choices affect ecosystems, communities, and food systems.

FARM TOUR

Ages: All ages welcome!

Max group size: 30 students

Available: Year-round

Included with all field trips! Come learn about the mission at Basket Case Farms and how we work to provide members of our community with access to fresh, nutritional food. Tour our grow spaces and learn about the various farming practices we employ and our work towards environmental stewardship and sustainability.



PROGRAM CURRICULUM MATCH GUIDE

PROGRAM	NC STANDARDS	SC STANDARDS
Pollinators of the Piedmont	LS.K.1, LS.1.1, LS.2.1, LS.3.2, LS.4.1, ESS.4.3, LS.5.2, LS.6.1, LS.8.2, LS.8.3	K-LS1-1, 2-LS2-2, 7-LS2-2, 7-LS2-5, 8-LS1-4
Plant Science: From Seed to Table	LS.K.1, LS.1.1, LS.3.2, LS.4.1, LS.5.2, LS.6.1, LS.6.2, LS.8.2	K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1, 2-LS2-1, 4-LS1-1, 5-PS1-1, 5-LS3-1, 7-LS1-6, 7-LS1-7
Soil Science: Foundations of Food	ESS.1.2, LS.3.3, LS.5.2, LS.6.2, ESS.6.2, ESS.6.3, LS.8.2	5-LS2-1, 7-LS2-3, 7-ESS3-5
Carolina Ecology	LS.K.1, LS.K.2, LS.1.1, LS.4.1, ESS.4.3, LS.5.2, LS.6.2, ESS.EES.6.3, LS.8.2	K-ESS2-2, K-ESS3-1, 2-LS4-1, 2-ESS3-1, 3-LS4-2, 3-LS4-3, 3-LS4-4, 5-LS2-1, 7-LS2-1, 7-LS2-2, 7-LS2-3, 7-LS2-4, 7-LS2-5
Food Justice	EPF.FP.1.3, EPF.MCM.1.2, EPF.FP.1.2, AH.E.1.4, AH.B.1.6, AH.B.1.7, CL.B.1.4, 7.PCH.1.2, 8.PCH.1.1, 8.PCH.1.4, 9.NPA.3.2	N-HS.3.1, N-HS.3.3, P-HS.2.6, USG.4.CC, USG.4.IP
Sustainable Agriculture	ESS.4.3, ESS.6.3, ESS.8.3, ESS.8.4, LS.Bio.5, ESS.EES.4, ESS.EES.5, ESS.EES.6	4-ESS3-1, 5-ESS3-1, 7-ESS3-1, 7-ESS3-3, 7-ESS3-4, B-LS2-7, E-ESS3-2, E-ESS3-3, E-ESS3-4

Our educational programming can be tailored to the needs and grade level of the specific class. We welcome requests for other topics to help meet your needs.



FIELD TRIP REGISTRATION, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1

Fill out the Field Trip Inquiry Form using the link below or QR code:

[Field Trip Inquiry Form](#)



2

Once your form is received, you will receive an email confirming the details of your trip.

3

Review policies and procedures for your trip.

FIELD TRIP POLICIES & PROCEDURES

FIELD TRIP PREPARATION

In order for us to prepare the best possible field trip experience, group reservations must be made at least two weeks prior to your visit date. Please note, field trips take place outdoors. Children and adults should dress appropriately for weather conditions.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

The schedule for our field trip varies based on program request, group size, etc. We are flexible to meet your needs! A sample field trip schedule is outlined below. We will work with you on a more specific plan and will share the details with you in a confirmation email.

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - Program

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Lunch

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM - Farm Tour

FACILITIES

Bus parking, restrooms, and outdoor seating.

TEACHERS/CHAPERONES

The group should bring a minimum of one adult for every 10 students. Adults include teachers, teacher aides, parent chaperones, etc.



NEED HELP?

Contact Ashlyn Spangenberg at 803-804-8714
or aspangenberg@gambrellfoundation.org

STAY IN TOUCH!



BASKETCASEFARMSNC.COM



ASPANGENBERG@GAMBRELLFOUNDATION.ORG



[BASKETCASEFARMS](https://www.instagram.com/BASKETCASEFARMS)



[JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!](#)



EST.

2018

BASKET CASE
— **FARMS** —

Waxhaw, North Carolina