



## **Southeastern Community College Whiteville, North Carolina Curriculum**

### **SCHOOL**

Southeastern Community College, public, 2-year, 10,460, Whiteville, North Carolina.

### **GOALS AND OUTCOMES**

#### **Goals**

Columbus County Xeriscapes is designed to introduce recognized principles to nontraditional students and community members, helping them to develop new practices to be used in agribusinesses or other small businesses. An area on campus will be identified to serve as a learning laboratory, demonstrating xeriscape design emphasizing native plants, water retention methods and other principles. The learning lab will be used by students in the Environmental Science Technology and Agricultural Biotechnology programs. Continuing education classes and workshops will also be developed for both small business owners and the general public to introduce xeriscape design. Specialized workshops will be developed and promoted to current plant nursery owners to increase interest in supplying native plant species and to landscape businesses to incorporate xeriscape principles.

This project is a priority for SCC as a natural continuation of current efforts to increase awareness of “green” while also strengthening green career pathways. Columbus County Xeriscapes is targeted to non-traditional students and the general public, many of whom are unemployed and/or lower-skilled. It will also create an on-campus learning lab for education and training activities.

#### **Accomplishments and Outcomes**

- Identified area on campus to serve as a learning laboratory, demonstrating xeriscape design emphasizing native plants, water retention methods and other principles.
- Curriculum development is in process and will be ready to be incorporated into Agricultural Biotechnology programs for spring 2012 semester.
- Continuing Education classes and seminars have been developed and dates identified to offer in Spring 2012 semester

#### **Challenges and Responses**

- Identifying suitable site location because of underground utilities – Coordinated efforts with appropriate campus personnel to achieve this goal.
- Educating public to embrace this project – Making a coordinated effort to increase publicity through newspaper articles, off-site presentations/recruitment, and partnering with local agricultural and appropriate agencies throughout the service area of the college

### **ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT**

#### **Funding and Resources**

This project received a Greenforce Initiative grant. The Greenforce Initiative, a partnership of Jobs for the Future and National Wildlife Federation, is an effort to strengthen the capacity of community colleges to green the skills of the modern workforce.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Contacts**

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