Dear Partners, Stakeholders and Clientele,

We are indeed in an unprecedented time with the pandemic of COVID-19. As in any emergency or crisis, we at Virginia Cooperative Extension put the health and safety of our fellow employees and the people we serve first and foremost.

To this end, a number of policies and guidelines have been instituted by Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, and Virginia Cooperative Extension. As this event continues and more information is available, these policies may change. We have canceled all Virginia Cooperative Extension events attracting 100 or more people through the end of April. This decision will be evaluated the first week of April if the timeframe needs to be extended. This ban includes all state and local Virginia Cooperative Extension led meetings and events.

We recognize that each locality may have different circumstances. We encourage and empower our faculty to make decisions about holding or cancelling local events attracting less than 100 participants taking into account what is in the best interest of the health and well-being of all parties involved. We encourage them to err on the side of prudence and caution and will support them in those decisions. Cancellations for state and district events will be made by appropriate program leadership.

We will strive to provide the service and information we can to the best of our ability under these circumstances. We are committed to our mandate to serve our communities and we will seek ways to do so that do not endanger anyone during this disease outbreak. For COVID-19 related impacts on Virginia Cooperative Extension, visit: https://ext.vt.edu/covid-19updates.html

Thank you for your understanding, support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Jones, Ph.D.  
Director

M. Ray McKinnie, Ph.D.  
Dean, 1890 Administrator  
Virginia State University