

A grayscale photograph of a large, modern building with a gabled roof. A sign on the front of the building reads "BURGAW". The building has a series of vertical panels and a large overhang at the bottom. The overall image is faded and serves as a background for the text.

BURGAW

# **NC Growing Together Local Food Supply Chain Apprenticeship**

Josie Walker

A grayscale photograph of a building's exterior. The building has a gabled roof and vertical siding. A sign with the word "BURGAW" in white capital letters is mounted on the wall. A light fixture is visible in the peak of the roof. The image is semi-transparent, serving as a background for the text.

BURGAW

## About me

- Trenton, NC
- Agricultural & Environmental Systems, Concentration in Urban & Community Horticulture - North Carolina A&T State University
- Interest in Food Security, Food Justice, Local Food
- Interest in Feast Down East

# About Feast Down East

- **Southeastern North Carolina Food Systems Program (SENCFS)**
  - Non-profit, grassroots organization
  - Fresh healthy and affordable food
  - Expand farm employment, profit and ownership
  - Keep food dollars in Southeastern North Carolina
- **Feast Down East Processing and Distribution Hub, Burgaw, NC**
  - My duties
    - Support the day-to-day operation of the Burgaw hub
    - Identify growers and buyers for the Feast Down East Leland Food Hub and connect these two groups



# Feast Down East Leland Food Hub

- **Making connections with farmers**
  - Cold calls
  - Research
  - Farmers Market Managers
  - Meeting farmers
- **Making connections with buyers**
  - Cold calls
  - Research
  - Meeting buyers

BURGAW



A grayscale photograph of a building's exterior. The building has a gabled roof and vertical siding. A sign with the word "BURGAW" is mounted on the wall. Below the sign, the text "FINAL PRODUCT" is overlaid in a large, bold, serif font. The lower portion of the image shows the interior of a large, open structure with a high ceiling and a series of diagonal support beams.

BURGAW

**FINAL PRODUCT**



## Leland-Based Food Hub Farmer Interest Survey

Feast Down East, in partnership with Brunswick County Cooperative Extension and Brunswick Community College, aims to connect small to mid-scale farms with local markets, in Wilmington, Southport, and the greater Brunswick County area (restaurants, schools, hospitals, grocers, etc.) through a Leland-based local food distribution hub as a means for the sale and distribution of local farm products.

The purpose of this survey is to gauge interest among local farmers in participating in a Leland-based food distribution hub and assess the needs and capacity of local growers to provide ample product to local markets.

**Note:** This is a preliminary survey, not a commitment for either party to buy, sell or distribute product at this time. Please provide contact information at the end of this survey so we may keep you informed on the progress of the project

Thank you for participating.

\* Required

**Are you interested in participating in a Leland-based food hub? \***

Yes

No





RG



# Lessons Learned

- Make connections with people
- Maintain relationships
- Use available human resources
- Do research



# The Future

- Career Path
- 5-year plan
  - Personal Farm
  - Farmers Market
  - Food security and local food/food justice advocate
  - Cooperative Extension Agent



A grayscale photograph of a building's exterior. The building has a gabled roof and vertical siding. A sign with the word "BURGAW" in white capital letters is mounted on the wall. A light fixture is visible above the sign. The foreground shows the interior of a covered walkway with a series of support columns and recessed ceiling lights.

BURGAW

**Thank you!**