Weekly Pile for Week of January 31 2011

Hey Everybody (Horse Emailler’s),

Included is the Weekly Pile of Information for the Week of January 31, 2011, Extension’s Equine related educational information & announcements for Rockingham & Guilford Counties. To have something included in the Weekly Pile, please follow these simple guidelines.

- Information included needs to be educational in nature &/or directly related to Rockingham or Guilford Counties.
- Please E-mail information to me by Wednesday each Week.
- Please keep ads or events as short as possible - with NO FORMATTING with NO unnecessary Capitalization’s, and NO ATTACHED DOCUMENTS. (If sent in that way, it may not be included)
- Please include contact information - Phone, Email and a like.
- PLEASE PUT WEEKLY PILE IN SUBJECT LINE when you send in to me.
- THERE ARE NO CONTINUAL RUNNING SPOTS - Ads must be sent in each week
- The Weekly Pile is not for listings for Commercial type properties or products.

If I forgot to include anything in this email it was a probably an oversight on my part. BUT PLEASE, LET ME KNOW!

If you have a question or ideas that you would like covered in the Weekly Pile, please let me know and I will try to include. As Always - I would like to hear your comments about the Weekly Pile or the Extension Horse Program in Rockingham or Guilford Counties!

Included in This Weeks Pile:
1. Monday Night - 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Course
2. Winter Horse Health Seminar - February 5 Northern Elementary School
3. February 10 – Winter Feeding with Stockpiled Fescue & Demo
4. Coyotes & Feral Dogs In Our Future? Part II March 10th
5. Fecal Egg Count Tests Improve Deworming Programs
6. Manure and Water Don’t Mix
7. How do I effectively manage neighbor relations to minimize nuisance complaints?
8. You Asked:
9. Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Educational Center Looking To Lease Horses
10. Yellow Flower in Pastures
11. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital - Bring In Your Magazines!
12. Hay Directory
13. Get Your Grazing Sticks
14. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available
15. Take A Load Off

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1. Monday Night - 2011 Extension Horse Management Short Course

2011 Extension Horse Management Short Courses
Location: Guilford County Agricultural Center, 3309 Burlington Road, Greensboro, NC 27405
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Each Evening
Monday, February 7 - Horse Psychology  
Dr Mike Yoder, NCSU Extension Equine Specialist  

Monday, February 14 - Dressage Equitation & Hunt Seat Equitation  
Cindy Sydnor, Braeburn Farms, Snow Camp NC  

Monday, February 21 - Barefoot Hoof Health - Sandy Judy, Gibsonville NC  

Monday, February 28 -  
Saddle Seat Equitation -Mary Orr, High Caliber Stables, Kernersville, NC  
Western Equitation - Kim & Dee Joyce Destiny Hill Farm, Greensboro NC  

Monday, March 7 - Trail Riding & Safety  
Shannon Hoffman, St.Clair Red Mule Farm, Zebulon NC  

Monday, March 14 - Therapeutic Riding  
Jan Clifford, Horsepower/ Piedmont Saddle Club, Colfax NC  

Monday, March 21 - Natural Horsemanship  
James & Kate Cooler, Cooler Horsemanship, Summerfield NC  

Horse Management Committee - Randy Boles, David Dick, Sara Jo Durham, Steva Allgood, Rita Nott, and Georgianne Sims  

- Registration Fee: $30 for entire series or $5.00 per session.  
- Registration Fee will be waived for 4-H members presenting an official current 4-H Program Membership ID Card.  

For additional information,  
Call Ben Chase, Rockingham & Guilford County Extension Livestock Agent, North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at 1-800-666-3625, 342-8235 or email - ben_chase@ncsu.edu.  

In case of inclement weather, please call 1-800-666-3625 or 342-8235 for a recorded message.  

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2. Winter Horse Health Seminar - February 5 Northern Elementary School  

Carolina Equine Hospital is holding the Winter Horse Health Seminar on February 5, 2011 at Northern Elementary School. Registration starts at 8:30am and the program is from 9am to noon. There will be free breakfast, exhibits, door prizes and great information!  

Speakers and topics are: Dr. Cali Fogle from NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine on Colic and Dr. Mark Crisman from Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine on the Geriatric Horse. Please RSVP by calling 349-4080.  

We hope that lots of our horse youth and adults can join us that day! This is a great opportunity for youth and adults to gain some horse knowledge from the experts!  

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3. February 10 – Winter Feeding with Stockpiled Fescue & Demo

This event will run from 10 am to 4 pm on February 10th starting out at the Rockingham County Agricultural Center, (525 Highway 65 in Reidsville) and will include Dr. Matt Poore and others presenting information have lunch (Provided) and will then go tour the farms.

The Farm tour will consist of visiting Bernie & Cheryl Pryor’s and Zizzy Osborne’s Cattle operations in Rockingham County. Both of these farms are participating in the stockpiled fescue study and will be able to share and show some valuable lesions learned while grazing stockpiled fescue. We will view the fencing system and learn the benefits of stockpiled fescue.

- Feeding Management & lessons Learned, Dr. Matt Poore
- Grazing Stockpiled Fescue – Farm Tours
- Winter Feeding Supply Planning
- Estimating Hay Bale Weights

The workshop is geared for Cattle but these grazing principles will applicable to management of all grazing livestock. Will see good management of pastureland and examples of what properly managed pastures look like and compare to what pastures now look like that were grazed to the ground last July. Please plan to come and support these valuable demonstrations that has been done locally.

Registration Fee: $5.25 per person (cost for Lunch)

PLEASE CALL BY TUESDAY TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING.

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4. Coyotes & Feral Dogs In Our Future? Part II March 10th

Part II of the two-Part Educational Program aimed for the Northern Piedmont of North Carolina and Neighboring Counties in Virginia called “COYOTES AND FERAL DOGS IN OUR FUTURE?” will take place on March 10th for the purpose educating all that are interested about this growing concern.

On Thursday, March 10th - 7pm - Managing Coyotes and Feral Dogs.
To be held at the Rockingham County Agricultural Center, 525 HWY 65, Wentworth, NC

This program will cover - Introduction and Laws affecting Coyotes and Feral Dogs, Presented by Barry Joyce, Master Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Rockingham County, also to be covered will be the History of Coyotes in the Northern Piedmont presented by Perry Sumner, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Wildlife Management Division, Section Manager Surveys/Research & Wildlife Diversity. Dr. Chris DePerno, Associate Professor of Wildlife Science and Wildlife Extension Specialist, North Carolina State University, will cover The Ecology and Management of Coyotes and Feral Dogs on the Landscape with a Wrap-up. & Q&A session to follow.

The Sponsors for these programs are:North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service - Rockingham & Guilford Counties
USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services, North Carolina Office
North Carolina Trappers Association
Hunting Advisory Committee, Rockingham County Board of Commissioners
Dumaine Farm Trust, Wentworth, NC
Area Cattlemans Associations, Area Sheep and Goat Producers, Area
Poultry Producers, Area Horse Owners

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5. Fecal Egg Count Tests Improve Deworming Programs
Dr. Patricia A. Evans, Extension Equine Specialist, Utah State University Dr. Kerry Rood, Extension Veterinary Specialist, Utah State University

Introduction
Management of internal parasites is an important aspect of horse health care, as parasites can harm the horse. These parasites include Ascarids, Strongyles, tape worms and bots. To learn more about internal parasites and deworming programs see “Internal Parasites and Your Horse: A Cause for Concern” at extension.usu.edu/equine/publications.

Typically a deworming product is given every 8 to 12 weeks depending on what part of the country the horse is housed, age, number of other horses to which it is exposed and its environment. The objective of parasite control is to maintain the parasite burden at a low level, rather than to eliminate parasites entirely. This avoids over-treatment, limits the cost of parasite control, and helps horses maintain partial immunity to overwhelming infection. In other words, it is a good idea to allow a very low level of parasites so the horse’s immune system can learn to deal with these invaders, should they occur in larger numbers. Research has indicated, in some instances, horses may be over dewormed, which can lead to parasite resistance to deworming products (Young et al., 1999).

A fecal egg count test is a microscopic examination for parasite eggs in fresh manure. This simple test can indicate which parasites are present and in what numbers. Adult parasites lay eggs or portions of their bodies (containing eggs) called progottids that pass out of the intestinal tract in the feces. Internal parasite eggs can be detected in the feces by performing a fecal egg count test.

Fecal testing benefits both individually housed and group housed horses. When several horses are housed together in a pen or pasture, collect fresh manure samples from two or three horses. This will give an indication of parasite levels within the group. A fecal egg count, if used before deworming, aids in choice of deworming paste. If also used after deworming (10 to 14 days after deworming), it can help evaluate the effectiveness of the deworming product. Some parasite stages are not found in the feces (such as bots) so the fecal test is not always a complete assessment of parasite load.

A fecal egg count test establishes the number of parasite eggs present in each gram of manure tested (EPG). Traditionally a horse with an EPG value of 200 to 500 would be considered a candidate for treatment. In a herd, an average EPG value between all horses of 100 to 300 has long been considered the threshold between normal and unusual levels of parasite infestation.

To make fecal testing a part of your deworming schedule, visit with your veterinarian. Once a schedule is developed, the owner can be a part of this testing by providing the veterinarian with fresh manure samples. Running the fecal test requires only one or two fecal balls per horse, gathered in a plastic bag. The veterinarian will mix the manure with a solution that will cause the parasite eggs to float to the top. These collect on a microscope cover slip, which is viewed under a microscope at the 10x power.

A fecal test performed prior to deworming allows for deworming to be performed at a more knowledgeable level. Most programs call for deworming on a regular schedule without any information about which parasites are present. Some research has indicated that horses maintained in stalls cleaned daily, or in low numbers on adequate land, and located in arid areas may need less deworming (Young et al., 1999; Craig, 1999), as these factors modify the exposure to the infected stages of the worms. Performing fecal tests on your horses may help to identify the relative internal parasite burden and help to identify the presence of parasite resistance on your farm. Horses with a very low parasite burden may not need to be dewormed as frequently as those with much larger burdens. Furthermore, horses that
maintain a significant parasite burden despite recent deworming may indicate a developing resistance problem.

Owners can make use of fecal egg count tests to help manage internal parasites more effectively. Using the appropriate dewormer, as needed, can be cost effective and can help lessen the chance of parasite resistance to deworming products. Working with your local veterinarian and including fecal tests in an internal parasite control program will give owners valuable information for creating a successful deworming program.

Commonly Seen Parasite Eggs Three common types of parasite eggs can be seen on microscopic examination. The ascarid, or large round worm, has a very thick shell and can be very dense or look dark under the microscope. These eggs are also uniformly round. The small round worms (strongyles) are smaller worms and often go unnoticed in feces. Strongyles have a very thin wall and are not quite as dense. These thin walled eggs are oblong in shape. The third type of eggs commonly seen on fecal flotation is tape worm eggs. These eggs can be differentiated from the others by a thick cell wall, a more translucent center, and one flat side.

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References
Thomas M. Craig, Considerations for the control of equine cyanthostomes in arid areas, Veterinary Parasitology, Volume 85, Issues 2-3, 31 August 1999, Pages 181-188.

This can be found at: http://extension.usu.edu/files/publications/publication/AG_Equine_2009-01pr.pdf

6. Manure and Water Don't Mix
What's the big deal about horse manure? Why are our neighbors so concerned about the manure from our horses getting into surface waters and groundwater? There are several reasons why manure and water don’t mix.

Because they spend so much time around it, horse owners may not consider that horse manure contains pollutants and, under the right circumstances, can pose a threat to humans and the environment. A source of nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, horse manure may also contain pathogens (including E. coli) that can be hazardous to human health. When manure is not managed properly, these contaminants can make their way into our water and cause problems.

Groundwater: Most rural Michiganders get their drinking water from groundwater wells. Light-textured soils make these drinking water supplies vulnerable to contaminant leaching. Excess nitrogen (nitrogen not used by plants) enters groundwater as nitrates, which have been linked to health problems in infants and the elderly.

Horse manure that is piled up and left indefinitely or spread too heavily can leach nitrates to drinking water. Additionally, manure that washes overland and comes into contact with drinking water wells can leach down around well casings, transporting both nitrates and pathogens to groundwater.

Surface water: The flip side of the groundwater issue is manure entering surface waterways, including lakes, streams, ponds, drains, ditches and wetlands. Horse access to waterways should be controlled to prevent damage to stream banks and shorelines. Hoof traffic compacts the soil, disturbs vegetation, and increases erosion and runoff. Restricting access also reduces the opportunity for “direct deposit events”.  

The primary concerns about manure runoff are phosphorus loading, dissolved oxygen (DO) levels and increases in biochemical oxygen demand (BOD). We’ll explore these one at a time.

- Phosphorus — This naturally occurring element is the limiting factor for aquatic plant growth. That means that, in healthy aquatic ecosystems, this natural plant food is present in very small amounts, limiting plant and algae growth. When excess phosphorus enters the system, it can quickly cause overgrowth. This can lead to nuisance plant communities that reduce the recreational and aesthetic value of the waterway and put stress on aquatic ecosystems. The main sources of phosphorus loading from horse operations are manure runoff and soil erosion. Phosphorus chemically binds to soil particles — when soil moves, so does phosphorus.

- Dissolved oxygen — Fish and other aquatic critters need certain levels of dissolved oxygen (DO) in the water to breathe. Some fish, such as trout and salmon, require higher DO levels than others, such as carp and catfish. During the day, aquatic plants and algae undergo photosynthesis and generate dissolved oxygen. Problems start at night, when these same plants undergo respiration and take up oxygen, lowering DO levels. Nuisance plant and algae overgrowth can create major fluctuations in DO, stressing and even killing fish.

Biochemical oxygen demand — Naturally occurring aerobic bacteria act as waterway scavengers, constantly breaking down waste and organic matter in the water. But when a large and sudden amount of organic matter enters surface water, it can cause sharp increases in biochemical oxygen demand. This means that when manure, bedding and/or horse feed enter a pond, lake or stream, these scavenger bacteria multiply very rapidly to clean up the mess. Their need, or demand, for oxygen also increases rapidly, and suddenly the bacteria are competing with fish for oxygen. If the bacteria win, the result can be a quick and extensive fish kill.

The point is to manage the Waste that is produced on your farm to protect the Environment, your water supply and keep your neighbors happy!

7. How do I effectively manage neighbor relations to minimize nuisance complaints?

Many farms are located in close proximity to residential areas. Many of these neighbors may know little about farm operations and have often moved out to these suburban areas with high expectations for their quality of life. As a result, conflicts may result from odors, noise, flies, traffic, or manure/pesticide spills. In anticipation of such situations, it is important for horse farms & farmers to understand their rights and obligations. It is also important for the individual farmer or local farm groups to be a visible presence in community affairs.

Meeting your regulatory obligations is a first, important step. However, good neighbor relations will often require that you go above and beyond those requirements. It is easy for someone to act impulsively or deal harshly with people they do not know if they perceive that an action is impacting their quality of life or property value. Making an effort to maintain a community presence, taking the time to greet new neighbors, and notifying neighbors of activities that they may find annoying, such as manure spreading or pesticide applications, will reduce the neighbor conflicts that can be very disruptive to your operation and personally upsetting. When a complaint is received, it is important to deal with the situation as quickly and professionally as possible.

Many states have Right to Farm legislation that establishes as state policy the protection of commercial farm operations from nuisance action, where recognized methods and techniques of agricultural production are applied, while at the same time acknowledging the need to provide a proper balance among the varied and sometimes conflicting interests of all lawful activities. These laws provide
procedures for farmer protection in response to complaints arising from the application of these recognized agricultural methods and techniques. Environmental and related regulations affecting farming operations can be promulgated at the federal, state, and local levels of government. It is the obligation of farmers to become knowledgeable about the specific regulations relevant to their operations.

8. You Asked:

- I have been told that horses should not eat red maple leaves-especially if the leaves are wilted and acorns from some oaks. Is that true?
  A: That is correct, wilted leaves are highly toxic. Horses should be denied further access to them. Prevention is best accomplished by maintaining a good feeding program and removing fallen branches, or leaves. In some cases you could temporarily fence out areas of the pasture that contain red maples. Try to avoid putting any trees or ornamentals in or near the pasture or fence lines.

- How do I keep the horses from grazing one spot to the bare ground?
  A: Horses are spot grazers by nature and they would rather continually graze immature plants instead of eating the mature plants. As a result spot grazing occurs. If you let pastures recover, they will be better. Horses love the luscious short, immature plants...and they won't choose more mature stuff. That's why they always go back to the new growth and graze it to the ground. Spot grazing can be limited by reducing the acreage accessible to the horse at any one given time by rotating to fresh pasture area. The overgrazed area will have a chance to recover and an opportunity to regrow. A rotation grazing system will reduce and hopefully eliminate spot grazing.

- If I want to rotate horses on my pastures, what is the easiest way to do that without having to more build fence?
  A: There is no way around it, use temporary electric fence. It is cheap and easy to move.

- Do you recommend feeding round bales over square bales?
  A: It depends if the hay bales have been stored properly and were put up at the right moisture level. Sometimes in the "curing" process the inside center can be of a higher moisture content than the surrounding outside hay. You need heavy equipment to move those large round bales, as opposed to smaller, easily moved square bales.

- If we were to fence off an area and got good grass at some point, is there a point at which we NEED to mow, in other words, do we only let the grass get so high?
  A: By clipping them, it keeps the grass in a growing phase...otherwise it will stop growing and you have defeated the rest... by cutting the pasture, it keeps it in the vegetative stage, a stage that is more easily consumed. It really does not stop growing, it just grows more slowly.

- I have a creek that runs through my small acreage farm, are there any issues I need to be aware of with regard to my horses having access to the creek?
  A: Sometimes there are specific regulations as to whether you can allow your horses to drink from or travel through that creek. In NC there is no specific regulation unless it runs directly into a major tributary of a stream. However, best management practices recommend a 50 ft buffer zone on each side of the stream to filter nutrients from waste reaching the water. Most producers are fencing off streams in anticipation of future regulation.

- This question may not be limited to just small acreage, but any ideas or suggestions on how you can prevent horses from destroying the ground around an automatic field waterer?
  A: Build an elevated pad with concrete or crush and run covered with screenings. Include at least an 8 foot area around the waterer, which will eliminate mud and solve the forage growth problem. If there is low land around the waterer, you may need to use high tech absorptive fiber product prior to laying down the stone.
9. Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Educational Center Looking To Lease Horses -

Keith Russell, Director of Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Educational Center is looking to know folks who may be interested in leasing horses. They are looking for 15 horses, tack is not required as the camp provides this. The horses need to be shod and be delivered with the necessary vaccines, coggins test. The dates needed are roughly June 3 through August 12. Once the horses are on site the camp will pay for any vet bills, ferrier bills, etc. Keep in mind that these horses should be of good temperament and that they will be working with kids.

If you or someone you know of that may be interested please contact Keith Russell
Director, Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Educational Center 336/349-9445 or www.bjpenn4H.org You will need to send your contact info and you will be sent a bid form. This form would have all the details and help you decide if you wanted to bid or not.
They are willing to work with multiple sources to get up to 15 horses for camp.

Please contact Keith about this if you are interested.

10. Yellow Flower in Pastures

Do you remember last spring when your pasture was a sea of yellow flowers? It was pretty as a picture, wasn’t it? NO, then have you done something about it? The flower (weed) is buttercup, and spraying with an herbicide is the best way for control but it is too late to spray if you are seeing the flowers. Late February-early March is a good time to spray, since this is a winter weed.

You will need 3-4 consecutive days above 50-55° F, so do not go out and spray when it is 35 degrees outside then call me because you do not get good control. SPRAY ON A WARM DAY. You will have to spray 2-3 years to control the buttercup. REMEMBER: READ ALL LABELS BEFORE YOU USE ANY CHEMICAL – KNOW THE RESTRICTIONS.

11. Help the Veterans at the VA Hospital - Bring In Your Magazines!

We are collecting magazines for Veterans in the VA Hospital. If you have any magazines that you have read and need to dispose of, please drop them off at the Farm Service Agency located in the Rockingham County Agricultural Center. (or at either one of my offices) There are women as well as men located in this hospital and all variety of magazines is appreciated. This is an excellent way to 1) RECYCLE and save our environment and 2) boost the morale of the Veterans that have served our Country and protected our rights as Americans.

Thanks in advance for your contribution.

12. HAY DIRECTORY - A Hay Directory is maintained by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service for the Rockingham County and Guilford County area. This directory is intended as a service to both hay producers and buyers in the area. If you are in need of hay or would like to be added (or removed) from this list please call me at 1-800-666-3625 or 942-8235 and let me know your name, address & phone #, type of hay, number of bales, (square or round bales) and weight per bale.
13. Get Your Grazing Sticks
Grazing sticks are handy tools that simplify the tasks of when to rotate animals on and off a pasture to graze, measuring pasture yield, and tracking changes in productivity. These are all critical aspects of good pasture management. Grazing sticks are a simple and useful tool for making immediate pasture management decisions, but also good records of pasture yield, grazing days, and other data will provide a means to evaluate past efforts to improve the system.

The grazing stick is a quick guide, so carry the stick with you whenever you check animals or move fences, you can quickly assess pasture regrowth and readiness for grazing. You will see the suggested starting height for grass species on the stick for height when to graze which ensures that forage is in a high-quality vegetative stage, and when to stop grazing height that ensures that some leaf tissue is available for grass regrowth. Removal of basal leaves will slow grass regrowth and limit yield. If pastures are growing quickly in the spring, you may need to harvest or clip them to keep them productive and in a high-quality condition.

If you wish to have one of these grazing sticks – please call or E-mail me for details! These are Great Management Tools!

14. Swap Shop - For Sale/Wanted - Equestrian Facilities Available -

15 Take A Load Off – Paradrosdokian (Thanks for this send In)

A "paraprosdokian" (from the Greek meaning 'beyond expectation') is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is unexpected in a way that causes the reader or listener to reframe or reinterpret the first part.

A few good ones.....

* Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.

* The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.

* Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

* If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

* We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

* War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

* Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

* Evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening,' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

* To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
* A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

* I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted paychecks.

* Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, 'In case of emergency, notify:' I put 'DOCTOR.'

* I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

* A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.

* You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

* Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

* There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.

* I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

* You're never too old to learn something stupid.

* To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

* Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

* Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

* Hospitality is making your guests feel at home even when you wish they were.

* When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.

* If we are supposed to learn from our mistakes, why do some people have more than one child?

* Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

I always want to know what you think of the Weekly Pile, good or bad, especially if it has had ANY IMPACT on you. Let me hear from you!

*****I NEED YOUR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES In FUTURE WEEKLY PILES!*****

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

*Please remember our Troops who are serving our Country (and there families) those who have come home with wounds and the families that paid the ultimate sacrifice. We owe everything to those who are and have served! Thank You!

I hope that you all have a Great & Safe GREAT Weekend!

Ben
North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability. Moreover, North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of black students. North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University regards discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to be inconsistent with its goal of providing a welcoming environment in which all its students, faculty, and staff may learn and work up to their full potential. The Universities values the benefits of cultural diversity and pluralism in the academic community and welcomes all men and women of good will without regard to sexual orientation.

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**Ben Chase**

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http://rockingham.ces.ncsu.edu/index.php?page=animalagriculture