Ag Expo
Looking to the Future

December 5-7, 2019

515 Nutt Street, Wilmington NC  28401

Presented By
North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association
North Carolina Agribusiness Council
Thursday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions - 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Session 1 – Farm Labor Requirements - Amy Wolfe, AgSafe President, CEO
1:30 – 2:30
What is the difference between a farm labor supervisor, crew leader and contractor? Who needs to be a registered farm labor contractor and who doesn’t? Are farm labor services more valuable if provided by a registered farm labor contractor? In this session, an overview of the federal and state requirements will be reviewed – including a discussion about proper registration and completion of appropriate forms to help ensure compliance with applicable rules and regulations – and why this is important to growers.

Session 2 – Season Extension with High Tunnels - Dr. Sanjun Gun, NC A&T State University, Extension Specialist, Horticulture
1:30 – 2:30
High tunnels are proven low-cost tools that help small farms make more profits by extending the growing and harvesting seasons. This workshop will cover high tunnel basics. Topics include high tunnel structure and construction, microclimate and its management, crop choices, economics, and key practices for vegetable production.

Session 3 – Marketing - Kevin Hardison, NCDA&CS
1:30 – 2:00
Where Do We Go From Here, Kevin Hardison, NCDA&CS
2:00 – 2:30
Business Sources for the Farm (Panel Discussion), Kevin Hardison, Moderating
2:30 – 3:00
NCDA&CS Resources You Might Not Know

Session 4 – Grower and Supervisor Relations - Angelina Ceja, AgSafe, Director of Education
2:30 – 3:30
What should a grower look for in a good supervisor? What should a supervisor expect from a good grower? Are contracts a good idea – and what should they include? And what are the responsibilities of both growers and supervisors when it comes to the workers? These are just a few of the topics that will be covered.

Session 5 – Managing Auxin Drift with BMPs - Dr. Charlie Cahoon, NCSU, Cooperative Extension Weed Specialist
2:30 – 3:30
Spray drift of Auxin herbicides away from the target is an important and costly problem facing both commercial and private applicators. This session focuses mainly on conditions that cause drift and best management practices to reduce the potential of drift. This session will count for 2020 training requirement.

Session 5A – Financial Workshop: Measuring Success - Dave Morris and Scott Jackson, Farm Credit Associations of NC
2:30 – 3:30
A successful farming operation is dependent upon many factors including the ability to make sound financial decisions and understand the impact of those decisions. Financial records are often the most overlooked part of any small business, but without them it is impossible to tell where your business stands today or where it is headed. This workshop will help attendees better understand key financial statement components and understand the need for accurate and timely financial statements in order to become even more effective business managers.

3:45 – 4:00
Break

Session 6 – Workshop Behavior, Complaints and Investigations - Rosie Cano, AgSafe, Director of Development
4:00 – 5:00
In this session, you will learn to identify signs of harassment, discrimination, retaliation and abusive conduct –as well as develop a workplace policy that includes an effective grievance/compliant program for your workers and other prevention strategies, including best practices for workplace investigations.

Session 7 – Become GAP Ready - Dr. Jimo Ibrahim, NC A&T State University, Farm Safety and Health Specialist
4:00 – 5:00
This training will prepare farmers for basic USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification. Farmers will learn about the Food Safety Modernization Act, (FSMA), and be able to differentiate between Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and the Food Safety Modernization Act, (FSMA).

Please visit our Trade Show, which will be open continuously throughout the AgExpo!
Class are being submitted for approval for Pesticide and Crop Advisor continuing education credits.
Session 8 – Food Safety Resources - Natalie Gupton, AgSafe, Director of Business Services and Industry Relations

4:00 – 4:30
The passage of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) has brought increased requirements for fresh produce growers. Come learn about food safety resources available including free videos to train your employees and keep your produce safe.

5:00 – 5:30
NC Agribusiness Council Membership Meeting

5:00 – 5:30
NC Vegetable Growers Association Membership Meeting

5:30 – 7:30
Reception

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019**
**BREAKFAST - 7:30 AM TO 8:30 AM**
**FRIDAY MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS - 8:30 AM TO 12:00 PM**
**LUNCH - 12:00 PM TO 1:30 PM**

7:30 - 8:30
Presidents’ Welcome

**Breakfast**

**Keynote Address: Today’s AgLabor Challenge, Andrew Jackson, Andrew Jackson Law, Legal Ag Workers**

**Session 9 – Agricultural Heath and Safety - Rosie Cana, AgSafe Director of Development**

8:30 – 9:30
Keeping workers safe and healthy is a top priority for any good supervisor. Learn how to develop injury and illness prevention and safety programs - including heat illness prevention, pesticide safety, field sanitation, proper handheld tool use, ladder safety, machine guarding, lockout/tag out, electrical hazards, slip & fall prevention, personal protective equipment, and operation of ag equipment.

**Session 10 – Heirloom Tomatoes & Baby Ginger: Customer Preference & Value-Added Opportunities Dr. Janine Parker, NC A&T State University, Marketing and Agribusiness Specialist**

8:30 – 9:30
This training will focus on heirloom varieties that have more customer and restaurant appeal; and it will focus on value-added opportunities for baby ginger.

8:30 – 9:30
Session 11 – African Swine Fever Update - Dr. Doug Meckes, NCDA&CS, State Veterinarian, Veterinary Division

Since the introduction of ASF in China in August 2018, this disease of swine has spread unchecked across China and surrounding countries. Is North America next? What is the U.S. doing to prepare for and respond to the introduction of this virus?

9:30 – 10:30
**Session 12 – Child Labor Prevention & Youth Employment Laws - Amy Wolfe, AgSafe, President, CEO**

The youth are the future – both for the family, the farm, the community and the nation. In this session you will learn the difference between child labor (illegal) and youth employment (legal). Also covered will be a review of appropriate age/task that youth can legally perform on the farm; as well as additional restriction and safety precautions that are different than what is needed for adult (over 18) workers.

9:30 – 10:30
**Session 13 – Working with Farmers with Disabilities, and using Technology on Farms - Dr. Crystal Kyle, AgrAbility Director/Agromedicine Coordinator**

Farmers who are ill or physically impaired can often keep farming, with help from AgrAbility. NC is a leader in Agriculture which lends to the need for farmers to have access to resources on how to remain safe and productive on farms across NC. This workshop will cover critical areas every farmer will need in order to remain sustainable.

9:30 – 10:30
**Session 14 – Post-Harvest Research: Developing Innovative Solutions - Dr. Leonard Williams, NC A&T State University, Director of the Center for Excellence n Post-Harvest Technologies**

North Carolina Agriculture provides tremendous economic impact to our economy so ensuring food safety and quality helps to provide a competitive advantage. Researchers at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University are conducting food safety research that is adding value to NC agriculture commodities. In this session, a brief update of several food safety related research projects will be shared.

10:30 – 11:00
Break

Please visit our Trade Show, which will be open continuously throughout the AgExpo!
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### Sessions 15 – Pickling Cucumber - Jonathan Schultheis, NCSU

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>NC Pickle Producers Association Meeting, Bob Quinn, Mt. Olive Pickle</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Recent Advances in Management of Cucurbit Downy Mildew in Picking Cucumber and Cucurbit Crops.</td>
<td>Kim D’Arcangelo, Mike Adams and Lina Quesada-Ocampo, NCSU</td>
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<td>11:00</td>
<td>Potential Herbicide Injury Considerations, Katie Jennings, NCSU</td>
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<td>11:20</td>
<td>Strategies for Improving Yield and Quality of Parthenocarpic Cucumbers, Robert Grohs, Rijk Zwaan</td>
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### Sessions 16 – Vegetable Diseases 1 - Lina Quesada-Ocampo, Inga Meadows, Adrienne Gorny and Lisa Rayburn, NCSU

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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Grafted Tomatoes with Late Blight Resistance for the Organic Market, Inga Meadows, Amanda Strayer-Scherer and Suzetter Sharpe, NCSU</td>
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<td>10:50</td>
<td>South Carolina Cantaloupe Disease Survey—2019 Results, Anthony Keinath, Clemson University</td>
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<td>11:10</td>
<td>Integrated Strategies for Management of Phytophthora Blight of Pepper, Camilo Parada, Mike Adam and Lina Quesada-Ocampo, NCSU</td>
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### Sessions 17 – Cole Crops - Zach Snipes, Clemson University

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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>East Coast Broccoli Project Update (Variety Releases, Grower Trials, and Industry Outlook), Brian Ward, Clemson University</td>
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<td>11:00</td>
<td>Weed Management for Direct Seeded and Transplanted Cole Crops, Matt Cutulle, Clemson University</td>
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<td>11:30</td>
<td>Carolina Broadleaf Mustard and other USDA Processing Releases, Brian Ward, Clemson University</td>
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### Session 18 - Integrated Marketing: Building Your Market - Dr. Janine Parker, NC A&T State University, Marketing and Agribusiness Specialist

11:00 – 12:00 This training will focus on a multi-method marketing approach to increase market access and build customers.

### Session 19 – Top 10 Pesticide Violations - Natalie Gupton, AgSafe, Director of Business Services and Industry Relations

11:00 - 12:00 Join the discussion about the top 10 pesticide violations in North Carolina. This session will help you navigate the regulation requirements while offering suggestions for compliance solutions.

### Session 20 – Respiratory Protection - Robin Marcum Tutor, NC Agro Medicine Institute

11:00 - 12:00 Respiratory exposures and prevention of respiratory illness is an important aspect of Agricultural Health and Safety. Learn more about medical clearance, respirator fit test; selection, use and care of respirators.

12:00 – 1:30 **Presidents' Welcome**

### Lunch  - Rural Broadband Panel

**Moderated By: Nelle Hotchkiss, Senior Vice-President of Association Services for the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation.**

### Friday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions - 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM

#### Session 21 – Sweet Potato - Brandon Parker, NCSU

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>Control Options for Sweet Potato Black Rot, Madison Stahr, Hunter Collins, Lina Quesada-Ocampo, NCSU</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Insect Management in Sweet Potato - Now and In The Future, Anders Huseth, NCSU</td>
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<td>2:30</td>
<td>Guava Root Knot Nematode Concerns - How will this Pest Affect Your Farm or Packing Operation?, Brandon Parker, NCSU</td>
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#### Session 22 – Vegetable Diseases 2 - Lina Quesada-Ocampo, Inga Meadows, Adrienne Gorny and Erin Eure, NCSU

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<tr>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>Which Fungicides Reduce Spread of Gummy Stem Blight on Watermelon?, Anthony Keinath, Clemson University</td>
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<td>1:50</td>
<td>Management Strategies for Sclerotinia Drop of Lettuce, Kim D’Arcangelo, Mike Adams and Lina Quesada-Ocampo NCSU</td>
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<td>2:10</td>
<td>New Options for Management of Powdery Mildew on Cucurbit Crops, Kim D’Arcangelo, NCSU</td>
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<td>2:30</td>
<td>Cultural and Chemical Control of Watermelon Fusarium Wilt, Hunter Collins, Mike Adams and Lina Quesada-Ocampo NCSU</td>
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Session 23 – Tomato & Pepper - Tommy Batts, NCSU
1:30 – 2:00 Management of Foliar and Bacterial Diseases of Tomato in NC, Inga Meadows, NCSU
2:00 – 2:30 Insect Pest Management Recommendations for Fruiting Vegetables, Jim Walgenbach & Tom Bilbo, NCSU
2:30 – 3:00 Weed Management in Tomato and Pepper, Katie Jennings, NCSU

Session 24 – Housing and Transportation - Amy Wolfe, AgSafe, President, CEO
1:30 – 2:00 Is it provided? What are the requirements to be in compliance? Who is required to provide housing & transportation? Who is responsible for following the rules and keeping appropriate records? These are just a few of the questions that will be covered in this session to ensure better compliance.

Session 25 – Food Traceability with Blockchain - Andrew Kennedy, FoodLogiQ, Co-Founder
1:30 – 2:30 Food Safety Experts are talking about blockchain and food traceability, and how it could transform the entire food industry, by increasing efficiency, transparency and collaboration throughout the food system … but how can this new technology help NC growers be more profitable?

Session 26 – Diversification - Small Farmers Stay Relevant - Ms. Alyssa McKim, NC A&T State University, Community Garden Coordinator
1:30 – 2:30 Diversification of crops, growing techniques and markets are necessary for today's small farmers to compete in today’s market. In this workshop we will discuss examples of small farm operations in N.C that are implementing diversification and thriving as a result.

Session 27 – Workers’ Compensation - Angelina Ceja, AgSafe, Director of Education
2:00 – 2:30 Is it required? What does it cover? Does the grower need to provide it? What if there is an injury or illness on the farm – what are the responsibilities of the worker, the supervisor, the grower? This session will discuss workers’ compensation and related laws.

Session 28 – Urban Agriculture - Ms. Alyssa McKim, NC A&T State University, Community Garden Coordinator
2:45 – 3:45 Often Urban Agriculture is overlooked as a viable economic development tool. This workshop will introduce the key benefits and challenges that urban agricultural producers face.

Session 29 – Managing Animal Mortality thru Composting - Joe Hudyncia, Environmental Programs, NCDA&CS
2:45 – 3:45 Temporary surges in on-farm animal mortalities associated with disease or disaster events have always presented challenges for proper disposal of animal carcasses. Over the past 20 years, increasing focus on sound environmental management has driven the adoption of animal mortality composting as a viable disposal alternative at any scale.

Session 30 – Hiring, Complaints, Discipline & Firing - Natalie Gupton, AgSafe, Director of Business Services and Industry Relations
2:45 – 3:45 Who is the human resources department on the farm? In this session, the hiring process will be discussed to include effective processes for hiring the best workers as well as a review of all necessary paperwork that needs to be completed, filed and retained to be in compliance with laws. But hiring a good worker is just the first step. You don’t want to waste the time and effort spent on hiring a good worker, just to have problems arise that require you to hire a replacement worker. Learn how a reliable complaint program can help solve problems. And what is a progressive discipline program – can it help turn a problem into a positive for the worker, supervisor and farmer?

Session 31 – Dealing with Farm Stress - Robin Marcum Tutor, NC Agro Medicine Institute
3:00 - 4:00 There are many pressures in agriculture today which means that stress is a harsh reality. Recognizing signs/symptoms of depression, anxiety, suicide issues and how stress affects health and wellness is crucial. Come to this season to learn about farm-related stresses and tools available to address it.

3:45 - 4:00 Break

Session 32 Preparing for FSMA thru On-Farm Readiness Review - Christopher Harris, Food & Drug Protection Division, NCDA&CS
4:00 - 5:00 An NCDA&CS, Produce Safety Program presentation on the Produce Safety Rule and how produce farmers can take advantage of the On-Farm Readiness Review program to prepare for Produce Safety Inspections.
Session 33 – Leadership Tools for Successful Supervisors - Rosie Cano, AgSafe Director of Development
4:00 - 5:00
Everybody wants to make more money! The leadership tools discussed in this session will help supervisors become more valuable to growers. Topics to be reviewed include identifying qualities of a successful supervisor, including improvement of communication skills; effective employee motivation skills; and progressive discipline strategies.

Session 34 – Best Management Practices for Growing Industrial Hemp in North Carolina - Dr. Arnab Bhowmik, NC A&T State University, Assistant Professor
4:00 - 5:00
Industrial hemp is an emerging crop with multiple benefits including oilseeds, fiber and CBD oil. This session will provide the opportunity to exchange knowledge, experience, views and ideas on the management practices involved in industrial hemp production in a sustainable and profitable manner. Dr. Arnab Bhowmik, NC A&T State University, Assistant Professor

5:00 - 6:00
Reception

6:00 - 9:00
Presidents’ Welcome
Ag Leaders Dinner
Invited Elected Officials
- NC Representative David Lewis
- NC Senator Brent Jackson
- US Representative David Rouzer
- US Senator Thom Tillis
- US Senator Richard Burr
- NC Governor Roy Cooper

Presentation of Lifetime Service to Agriculture Award

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019
Breakfast - 7:30 am to 8:30 am
Concurrent Sessions - 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
Lunch - 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

7:30 - 8:30
Presidents’ Welcome
Breakfast

Keynote Address: Mechanization, Robotics & Artificial Intelligence for Labor Intensive Ag
Co-Moderated by Dr. Roy Beckford, Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leader for Cooperative Extension and Dr. Misty Blue Terry, 4-H STEM Specialist, NC A&T State University

8:30 - 9:30
Session 35 – Worker Protection Standard Compliance - Natalie Gupton, AgSafe, Director of Business Services and Industry Relations
Are you in compliance and correctly implementing all Worker Protection Standards (WPS)? This session will breakdown WPS requirements to help navigate WPS compliance.

8:30 - 9:30
Session 36 – Ag Under Attack: Stand Up - Jay Boyette, NC Farm Bureau, Andy Curliss, NC Pork Council, Crop Life America
Everyone gets their food from Ag, yet it seems like Ag is always under attack. Learn the latest update and what various organizations are doing to combat the misinformation and false perspectives in the public domain and how you can Stand Up for your industry.

8:30 - 9:30
Session 37 – Livestock Breeding and Selection - Dr. Emily Cope, NC A&T State University, Animal Science
During this workshop, producers will have the opportunity to learn strategies to utilize when making breeding and selection decisions for livestock. The primary focus of the workshop will be geared towards small ruminants; however, strategies discussed will be applicable to other livestock. Areas of focus will be breed selection, reproduction, selection criteria, and management decisions. Producers will be able to evaluate animals based on performance data and records. Additionally, producers will be encouraged to share their experiences with breeding
Session 38 – Cucurbit Crops - Allan Thornton, NCSU
9:00 - 9:30 Production and Irrigation Management of Watermelon in Georgia, Tim Coolong, University of Georgia
9:30 - 9:50 Review of the Newest Summer Squash Cultivars, Jonathan Schultheis & Keith Starke, NCSU
9:50 - 10:10 Shelf Life in Cantaloupe and Yellow Squash, Tim Coolong, University of Georgia
10:10 - 10:40 Postharvest Handling of Winter Squash and Pumpkins, Penny Perkins-Veazie, NCSU

Session 39 – Alternative Crop - Hemp Production - Nettie Baugher, NCSU
9:00 - 9:25 Variety Selection, Cultural Practices, and Production Systems in Industrial Hemp, Angela Post, NCSU
9:25 - 9:50 Hemp Diseases in North Carolina, Lindsey Thiessen, NCSU
10:00 - 10:30 Managing Fertility in Industrial Hemp, Michelle McGinnis, NCDA&CS
10:30 - 11:00 Contracts and Legal Issues in Hemp Production, Marne Coit, NCSU

Session 40 – Wage and Hour Overview - Angelina Ceja, AgSafe, Director of Education
9:30 - 10:30 Make sure you understand federal and state requirements – whether or not you directly pay workers, you need to understand wage & hour rules. This session will cover pay stub requirements; recordkeeping and retention rules; providing appropriate meal and rest breaks; wage rate, overtime and piece rate calculations; and workplace condition rules.

Session 41 – Livestock Nutrition - Dr. Emily Cope, NC A&T State University, Animal Science
9:30 - 10:30 During this workshop, producers will walk through a yearly production cycle. Basic nutrition as well as nutrition for stage of production will be discussed. Producers will have an opportunity to simulate ration formation for their livestock.

Session 42 – H2A Labor: Cost Calculator - Amy Wolfe, AgSafe, President, CEO
11:00 - 12:00 In previous sessions, we reviewed regulatory requirements associated with AgLabor - in this session you will learn how to estimate the costs associated with that labor - including not just wage calculations, but also costs associated with sanitation, housing, transportation, etc.

Session 43 – Benefits of Plasticulture - Randy Fulk, NC A&T State University, Extension Specialist, Horticulture
11:00 – 12:00 Discussion of the ways growing crops on plastic mulch has been proven to increase yield, reduce chemical weed control inputs, and increase profitability of small farms.

Session 44 – Actions Speak Volumes: Advocacy Starts with You - Jay Boyette, NC Farm Bureau
11:00 - 11:30 This session will focus on the importance of Ag becoming involved and how you can become involved in the regulatory and lawmakers process...as the saying goes - if you aren't at the table, you are on the menu.

Session 45 – Pesticide Applicators & Bees: Living in Harmony - Patrick Jones, NCDA&CS, Deputy Director of Pesticide Programs
11:30- 12:00 Join us to learn about easy-to-use, reliable, accurate and secure on-line mapping tools intended to enhance communications that promote awareness and stewardship activities between producers of specialty crops, beekeepers and pesticide applicators.

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch with Regulators
Beth Rodman, NCDOL – Agricultural Safety & Health, Bureau Chief
Patrick Jones, NCDA&CS – Structural Pest Control & Pesticide Division, Deputy Director
Richard Blaylock, USDOL – Wage & Hour, District Director
Francisca Rios, NCDOC – Workforce Solutions Division, Agricultural Services, Program Manager

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Hotels Contact Information

Listed below are hotels that are nearby to the Convention Center. If you have any questions, please contact the NC Vegetable Office at 919-413-9544/ cathy@seasag.com or NC Agribusiness Office at 919-782-4063/ epeterson@ncagribusiness.com

Best Western Plus
503 Nutt Street, Wilmington NC  28401
Phone: 910-763-2800  Toll Free: 800-617-7732

Courtyard by Marriott Wilmington Downtown
229 North 2nd Street, Wilmington, NC 28401
Phone: 910-632-2900 Fax: 910-632-2831

Embassy Suites by Hilton Wilmington Riverfront
9 Estell Lee Place, Wilmington, NC  28401
Phone: 910-765-1131 Fax: 910-726-9204

Hampton Inn Wilmington Downtown
225 Grace Street, Wilmington, NC 28401
Phone: 910-251-3930 Fax: 910-763-5922

Hotel Ballast Wilmington
Tapestry Collection by Hilton
301 North Water Street, Wilmington NC  28401
Phone: 910-763-5900