

Presenter Tips for Giving Great WNC CRAFT Tours

#1. Please be sure to cover these basic topics in your general tour:

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| <p>If you are a vegetable grower:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Field preparation and Planting ● Pest management (weed control, disease, insect control) ● Irrigation ● Planning and Record keeping ● Season extension and Greenhouse management ● Harvest and Post-harvest Handling ● Soils, Nutrient cycling, Cover cropping, Composting ● Marketing, Processing, Value-added products ● Equipment, Maintenance, Tools | <p>If you're raising livestock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feed needs, feed sources, equipment ● Breeds & specific needs ● Water needs & systems ● Field prep, fencing, shelters ● Animal safety ● Disease & predator control ● Planning and recordkeeping ● Marketing, Processing, value-added products ● Equipment, maintenance, tools |
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#2. Gear your talk to apprentices and beginning farmers:

- Go slowly and explain in good detail
- Share your story of how you got into farming: this is invaluable for folks on the brink of farming and those in their first few years. When did you make big decisions and why about your farm growth, enterprises, scale, markets, personal goals, etc? How did you raise capital? I
- CRAFT members LOVE to have a handout from your tour: it helps them remember the key points after the tour is done.
- Your “lessons learned” and “recommended do’s and don’ts” are invaluable for folks starting out. Members want to hear about your mistakes as much as your successes.
- Encourage questions.
- Don’t gloss over subjects assuming that folks already know what you’re talking about.

#3. Plan your time well:

- You have about 2 – 2.5 hours for your tour: **tour participants want to learn about your whole farm enterprise as well as about your particular tour topic.** Plan about 1.5 hours for the full farm tour and then 1 hour for your specific topic.
- You are welcome (and encouraged!) to organize a work project just know that it may not all get done in that time period. We can also invite participants to come early to do a work project prior to the farm tour if that feels more manageable/doable for you.

#4. Handouts are great!

- We like to provide a handout written by you with more specific details, further reading and resources about your topic to pass out at the tour, and that we can include in next year's handbook.
- E-mail us the handouts you create and we’ll print copies and bring them to your tour.