Farming never interested me. In my head, it conjured images of old men, overalls, and tractors in rural America. But then, I lived on Rio Muchacho Organic Permaculture farm in Ecuador. There, I worked on and ate from gardens which contained a staggering amount of diversity and nutritional value. I learned about the way in which agriculture can be restorative, rather than destructive as we rehabilitated the depleted and deforested soil of the community I was living in. Overall, though, I am so grateful for the generosity of the farmworkers in sharing their immense knowledge of the land with me in my brief time there and I wish I could have stayed longer to learn more.

Every Friday was a highlight. Not only were volunteer farmers off on Saturday and Sunday, but Friday was dedicated to working on tree planting. I was fortunate enough to visit right before rainy season, so preparations were being made to get seedlings in the ground so they could soak up two months of rainfall before the rest of the semi-arid year. We would start at the seed nursery, selecting a variety of local seedlings, but also fruit producing seedlings before hiking up the mountain with water jugs. Doing this work by hand was hard, but I felt like I was giving part of myself to the land. We dug trenches, guaranteeing the trees would capture some water and constructed this assorted edible forest full of local diversity as well. I would trade any Friday event at Wofford to be back on the farm planting and listening to music in preparation for our weekend. For those who haven’t, go plant some trees! Find a farm and get to work! You’ll be surprised at just how rewarding it is.
Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**First Aid/CPR Training**: GOLS & Boy Scouts of America Palmetto Council are offering an 8-hour course, covering basics of first aid, CPR, and AED use. Cost is $30. [More information and registration](#).

**Northside LLC Application for 2022-2023**: Rising sophomores are eligible to [apply for the Northside Living-Learning Community in community sustainability work](#). This includes enrollment in two linked courses in Sociology/Anthropology and Environmental Studies in fall and spring respectively as well as programming focused on service and learning with partners in the Northside community. As part of the Northside LLC, you will reside in Milliken House at Northside Station located just a 5-minute walk from campus at 501 Howard Street.

**14th Annual Hazardous Household Waste Collection & Rain Barrel Sale**: Rain or shine, all Spartanburg County residents can bring their hazardous household waste to be disposed (excluding electronics). Rain barrels will be available for purchase. [See the list of acceptable and unacceptable items](#).

Ongoing: [Job Opportunities at Teton Science School](#)

**PROFILE OF THE WEEK:**

**Clemson University – Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences**

Clemson's graduate program in Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences (EEES) offers three degrees in Environmental Engineering & Science, Biosystems Engineering, and Hydrogeology.

All three offer a MS degree, and a PhD degree can be earned in Environmental Engineering & Science or Biosystems Engineering. Areas of focus include biosystems engineering, environmental chemistry, environmental fate and transport, hydrogeology, nuclear environmental engineering and science, process engineering, and sustainable systems and environmental assessment.

Unique to the department is the nuclear environmental engineering and science program and the hydrogeology program. Clemson is one of only a handful of universities in the country that offer these programs.

The program is consistently ranked in the top 25 by *US News and World Report* and today has more than 1000 graduates in the US and around the world.

[Clemson – Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences](#)