

## 2019 instructors

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### **Daron Barnes**

*(Wildlife Rehabilitation - Permits & Reg Changes)*

Daron graduated from NC State University in 1996 with a Bachelor's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences. He has been an employee of the NC Wildlife Commission for 17 years, and is currently the Section Manager over Regulated Activity Permits (RAPS) and the Human Wildlife Interactions (HWI) call center. He is responsible for endangered species permits, wildlife and fish collection licenses, captivity licenses for rehabilitation and holding, falconry licenses, controlled hunting preserves, wildlife damage control agents, special hunt opportunities, non-farmed cervid facilities, gamebird propagation licenses, taxidermy licenses and special permits. He also supervises a human wildlife interaction hotline providing assistance and technical guidance to callers regarding wildlife observations, injured wildlife, and wildlife damage.

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### **Jeffrey Beane**

*(Turtles of North Carolina: An Overview)*

Jeff Beane is Herpetology Collections Manager for the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh, where he has been employed since 1985. A native of Asheboro, Jeff holds a B.S. in Zoology from North Carolina State University (1982) and a Taxidermy Diploma from Montgomery Community College (1983). He is active in many scientific societies, conservation groups, and initiatives, including the North Carolina Herpetological Society, North Carolina Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, Wake Audubon, Sandhills Natural History Society, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, The Nature Conservancy, and Sierra Club. He serves on the North Carolina Amphibian and Reptile Scientific Council and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission's Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee. He has authored many popular and scientific publications, including *Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carolinas and Virginia, 2nd Edition* (UNC Press, 2010), and is a frequent contributor to *Wildlife in North Carolina* magazine and *North Carolina Wildlife Federation Journal*. Jeff received the NC Wildlife Resources Commission's Thomas L. Quay Wildlife Diversity Award (2015) and the NC Wildlife Federation's Governor's Conservation Achievement Award (Wildlife Conservationist of the Year, 2012). His interests include virtually anything pertaining to natural history or conservation, especially sandhills and longleaf pine ecosystem ecology and the natural history, zoogeography, and conservation of amphibians and reptiles in North Carolina and the Southeast.

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### **Linda Bergman**

*(Anything and Everything Squirrel)*

Linda began volunteering at the Outer Banks Wildlife Shelter (OWLS) in Morehead City, pursuing her passion in wildlife conservation and rehabilitation twenty-five years ago. She achieved her certification as a state wildlife rehabilitator and continues to actively volunteer at OWLS, working clinic in rehabilitation, coordinating and accomplishing field rescues and mentoring new volunteers. Linda has been presenting wildlife classes on issues and topics relative to the field of wildlife rehabilitation such as "Squirrel Ailments," "Anything & Everything Squirrel," "Alternate Habitat for Chimney Swifts,"

“Professionalism,” “Hazards of Wildlife Rehabilitation” and “Treating the Human Animal” for many years as requested by coordinators for wildlife symposiums and conferences held in our eastern region. Linda is proactively concerned with the loss of wildlife habitat due to progressive development in Onslow and its surrounding counties and regularly attends community and civic meetings to voice those concerns through education, as well as, rally support. Linda holds a Master of Science degree in educational psychology and is currently contracted by the Department of Labor to facilitate transition workshops for exiting military members aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Stations New River & Cherry Point and Army Posts Fort Bragg, NC & Fort Hood, TX.

Linda grew up in rural Macon County, Illinois with many chickens, cats and dogs, but after 27 years of residency calls North Carolina home. She is Eastern Illinois University Alumna, an author, a retired U.S. Marine, College Psychology Instructor, Industry Training Developer & Line Build Designer, Wildlife Rescuer and Rehabilitator, current board member and Vice President of Wildlife Rehabilitators of North Carolina, Inc. (WRNC) and staunch advocate for animal rights and conservation of our natural resources. Linda resides in Onslow County, North Carolina with her retired Marine & Professional Photographer husband, John, and three (indoor only) cats; Seven, Shadow and Frizbee.

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**Susan Campbell**

*(Hummingbirds Wintering in NC)*

Susan Campbell, a resident of the Sandhills region of North Carolina, has been conducting hummingbird research across the state since 1999. She not only bands hummingbirds year round in North Carolina but amasses photographs and significant observations relating to hummingbirds from the mountains to the coast. Susan is an affiliate of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences (Raleigh). She receives information, questions, etc. directly by mail, phone or email.

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**Alison Castillo**

*(Training & Operant Conditioning Lecture and lab)*

Alison Castillo serves as President on the Board of Directors for Possumwood Acres Wildlife Sanctuary. Alison formally taught Zoo Technology classes at Davidson County Community College and has worked with wild species in Europe, America, South America, Malaysia, and Africa. Alison was a primate/lion keeper with the North Carolina Zoo, and specializes in animal behavior and community-based conservation project management. Alison has degrees in Zoo Science (AAS -2010), Physical Anthropology (BA - 2015), and is a graduate of Project Dragonfly’s Global Field Program (MA - 2017). Alison holds professional certifications in Service-based Project Management and Corporate Governance.

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**Jean Chamberlain**

*(Is it a Bird, Mammal, or Reptile I Hear?)*

Jean has been a rehabilitator for about 25 years, specializing in raptors for 20 years. Jean presents many wildlife education programs each year for Wildlife Rehab, Inc in the Forsyth county area. She organizes and helps teach the wildlife rehabilitation course at her local community college. She designed and teaches WRNC's Basic Course and chairs the committee that organizes the symposium each year. Jean is past president for WRNC, is on WRNC's Board and is the treasurer and web administrator for

WRNC. She created Raptor ID on IWRC's website and is on the Curriculum Development Committee for IWRC's courses.

Jean is active in the Forsyth Audubon Chapter, participates in several area bird counts, the Climate Watch nuthatch survey, and coordinate the Pilot Mountain Hawk Watch each September.

Jean is an advocate for exposing orphaned songbirds to their song while they are in rehab. She is currently recording birdsong, studying the song of our resident songbirds and creating a website for the recordings.

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**KTChildress**

*(Cage Building Lab, Tree Nest Box Building Lab)*

KT is originally from east Tennessee and has been building things most of her life. Growing up with six brothers and male cousins along with countless uncles, she kind of had to learn how to use any type of tool!

She's been working with animals and wildlife for almost 20 years, building anything from a small travel cage to an 8x8x8 foot release cage.

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**Dr. Ernesto Dominquez**

*(Starvation and Nutritional Support, Critical and Intensive Care)*

Dr. Ernesto Dominguez grew up in Mexico City. After two years of studies in medical school (2003-2005), he quit med school to follow his dream of becoming a veterinarian. Dr. Ernesto graduated from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) School of Veterinary Medicine in 2013. During his last year of veterinary school, Dr. Ernesto spent some time doing his graduation project in avian orthopedics at the Wildlife Center of Virginia. After getting his degree, he completed different postgraduate training in wildlife centers and zoos around the world, including the Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic, Arcas Wildlife Center in Guatemala, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, Africam Safari Zoo in Mexico, and the Johannesburg Zoo in South Africa. From September 2015 to June 2016 he completed an internship in Raptor Medicine and Surgery at the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Ernesto is currently the Hospital Director of the Wildlife Center of Virginia; he is a Certified Wildlife Rehabilitator, and he oversees the medical treatment and rehabilitation of more than 2,600 patients per year.

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**Maureen Eiger**

*(Release Criteria for Birds, Baby Songbird ID)*

Maureen Eiger is the founder and Director of Help Wild Birds; Roanoke's only nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation organization that exclusively rehabs migratory birds. She is a State and Federally Permitted Bird Rehabber and has been rehabbing various species of birds for over 11 years. She has been a contributing writer to the North American Bluebird Society Journal, The Roanoke Star Newspaper, various Audubon and bird club newsletters and the blog 10,000 Birds. She receives hundreds of calls a year from people from all over the country asking for advice to solve their "bird problems" or answer bird related questions.

Maureen is an avid birder, a Virginia Bluebird Society Board Member and previous Vice President of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club. She enjoys teaching bird rehab and non-rehab bird programs to various groups and networking with other bird rehabbers across North America. You can say her life is very “birdy.”

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**Mathias Engelmann**

*(Band Returns at CRC)*

Mathias is a biologist and the Senior Rehabilitation Coordinator at Carolina Raptor Center where he has worked for 36 years. Under the guidance of staff veterinarian Dr. Scott, Mathias, along with several other staff members and many volunteers and interns, provides day-to-day care for 800-1000 new raptor admission every year. Mathias specializes in cage construction and raptor banding.

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**Nina Fischesser**

*(Working with Vets, Basic Medical Terminology for Beginners)*

Nina Fischesser has been a licensed rehabilitator since 1991, was the founding WRNC president, and works with Avian, small mammalian, and reptilian native NC species. She holds a MA in Environmental Education and Communication from Royal Roads University in Victoria, BC Canada, and a BA in Therapeutic Recreation from Southern Illinois University. Nina has been employed for 15 years at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, NC, as Director of the May Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, teaching wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife education through experientially based program as a BS in Wildlife Biology: Concentration Wildlife Rehabilitation.

Nina was employed by the North Carolina Outward Bound School as a field instructor for 11 years, and is a strong believer in experiential education through wildlife rehabilitation and wilderness adventure.

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**Dr. James Flowers**

*(Wildlife Parasitology Fecal Lab)*

Dr. Flowers graduated with a Ph.D. in Parasitology from the Zoology Department of North Carolina State University in 1994. He has been a member of the Parasitology Group at the College of Veterinary Medicine since 1997. His main research and interest is in Wildlife Helminth Parasites, their identification, distribution, taxonomy, evolution and ecology.

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**Nicole Himebaugh**

*(Mammal Physical Exam Lab)*

Nicole Himebaugh is a third-year veterinary student at NC State College of Veterinary Medicine with interests in wildlife, ophthalmology, and small animal medicine. She was a previous student liaison between the veterinary school and WRNC. Prior to attending veterinary school, Nicole worked as a veterinary assistant at two small animal clinics, interned at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine’s Wildlife Clinic, and volunteered at the Center for Birds of Prey in Awendaw, SC. She also enjoys teaching and held teaching assistant positions in parasitology, biology camps for children, and animal shelter programs.

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**Melisse Hopping**

*(Rehabilitating Opossums, Zoonosis/Sanitation/keeping it clean)*

Melisse has been a licensed wildlife rehabber for about fifteen years.

She teaches parts of the wildlife rehab course at Forsyth Technical Community College, mentors new rehabbers, and is an active member of Wildlife Rehab Inc., a nonprofit local organization of rehabbers and wildlife educators.

She lives on about 10 acres in Pfafftown, North Carolina with her husband Jerry (fellow rehabber and cage builder extraordinaire), two dogs, one cat, and 13 chickens.

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**Carla Johnson**

*(Handling Wildlife Calls)*

Carla has been rehabbing for over 25 years and is on the board of WRNC. She has coordinated wildlife rehabilitation classes through the local community college in Winston-Salem, NC and presented countless environmental education programs to the surrounding community. Carla is WRNC's current President, is on the symposium committee and helped put together and teach the refresher course taught by WRNC.

In her spare time, she rescues dogs from puppy mills and natural disaster situations, is the Southeastern Region coordinator, treasurer as well as one of the board of directors for Chihuahua Rescue & Transport, a national 501(c)3 organization and enjoys working to place unwanted hairless dogs.

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**Susan Jones**

*(Fluid therapy Lecture and Lab)*

Susie Jones is a second-year veterinary student at NC State College of Veterinary Medicine with interests in wildlife, anesthesiology, pharmacology, and small animal internal medicine. She currently serves as a student liaison between the WRNC and the veterinary school. Prior to veterinary school, Susie interned at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota, and she has completed two externships at the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife in Sanibel, Florida.

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**Kara Kroshl**

*(Rehabilitating Wild Rabbits)*

Kara Kroshl is a North Carolina wildlife rehab facilitator. Currently, she is an undergraduate of University of North Carolina Wilmington working on her biology degree. She currently employed at Coastal Carolina Community College as the Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory Technician. In her spare time, she volunteers at local wildlife rehabilitation organizations. She has rehabilitated over 100 Cottontail Rabbits in her own home.

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**Dr. Gregory Lewbart**

*(Turtle Shell Repair)*

Greg has degrees from Gettysburg College, Northeastern University, and the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. He worked for a large wholesaler of ornamental fishes before joining the faculty at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993, where he is Professor of Aquatic Animal Medicine. He is a diplomate of both the American College of Zoological Medicine and the European College of Zoological Medicine, is an author on over 125 popular and scientific articles about invertebrates, fishes, amphibians and reptiles, and speaks locally, nationally and internationally on these subjects. He’s also authored or co-authored 25 book chapters and edited or co-edited four veterinary textbooks.

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**Kathy Lillard**

*(Introduction to Rehabilitation)*

Kathy has been a member of WRNC since it was formed, and has been helping behind the scenes for several years, especially during the Symposiums and Raffles. She has also been a member of NWRA and IWRC. “I have always loved animals and living in the country I rehabbed animals before I knew what rehabbing was. Now she is an independent rehabber and have been rehabbing for 20 years. Mainly, she rehabs small mammals (but not bunnies – I scare them to death ) She prefer to work with neo-nates, as she has the time to take them on! Kathy has served on the WRNC Board for 8 years and has also chaired the symposium raffle committee.

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**Mary Ann McBride (USDA)**

*(What’s New with USDA Animal Care? A Regulatory Update)*

Mary Ann McBride, DVM works with USDA APHIS Animal Care. Her territory is North Carolina and includes exhibitors, breeders, brokers and research facilities. She is a North Carolina native and has served as the Assistant State Veterinarian for NC Department of Agriculture and Staff Veterinarian for USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Professional Development Staff. She has also been in private practice for over 20 years. Her rehab passion is bobcats.

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**Dr. Amber McNamara**

*(Fracture Assessment, Mammal Necropsy Lab)*

Dr. Amber McNamara is a graduate of Purdue University’s College of Veterinary Medicine (2003) and the Chi Institute of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (2010). Before moving to Banner Elk, North Carolina, she worked at the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) in Sanibel, Florida for over 8 years. Since 2013, she has served as an Assistant Professor of Biology at Lees-McRae College, as well as the veterinarian for the college’s May Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Courses taught include Environmental Biology, Advanced Clinical Wildlife Rehabilitation, Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy, and Zoonotic Diseases. She enjoys teaching students from a One Health perspective, recognizing that the well-being of humans, animals, and the environment are all connected. In addition, she incorporates complementary modalities such as acupuncture and laser therapy with traditional methods to provide the optimum healing environment for patients. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Wildlife Rehabilitators of North Carolina.

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**Lea Murray, RVT**

*(Opossum Medication Dosing chart, Parasitology in Opossums)*

Lea was born and raised in Massena, New York and obtained her A.A.S. in Veterinary Technology at SUNY Canton in 1995. She is the Research/Medical Director of The Opossum Pouch Sanctuary, Rescue and Rehabilitation non-profit organization based out of Greenville, SC. Lea lives and manages a veterinary practice in Bradenton, Florida.

She has been managing, training and consulting for veterinary practices for over 23 years and has received multiple awards for outstanding achievements in her field.

In 2014, Lea co-authored her first book entitled, “Barley, A Opossum’s Own Story” and is currently working on an opossum veterinary manual which she hopes to be released by the end of this year.

Lea is very passionate about opossums and devoted to helping improve the quality of care which they can receive. She is continually doing research, creating tools and working with rehabilitators, veterinarians, pharmaceutical companies, veterinary laboratories, board certified specialists and universities in efforts to bridge the gap between the rehabilitation and veterinary worlds.

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**Betty O'Leary**

*(Avian Physical Exam Lab)*

Betty has 25 years of raptor experience at Carolina Raptor Center. She worked with birds in rehabilitation and permanent resident birds used for education. She operated a hawk watch and raptor banding station during fall migration at Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge for four years, and assisted with two other stations for 10 years. She enjoys teaching others on raptor rehabilitation and care, and performing necropsies.

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**Toni O'Neil**

*(The Importance of Conspecifics when Raising Songbirds)*

Toni O'Neil has been rehabilitating since 1991 and specializes in songbirds, shorebirds, raptors, and waterfowl. Currently she teaches the Wildlife Rehabilitation courses through Coastal Carolina Community College in Jacksonville, NC and the online courses through the Animal Behavior Institute.

Since 2003 she has been the Founder and Executive Director of Possumwood Acres Wildlife Sanctuary in Hubert, NC.

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**Dr. Olivia Petritz**

*(Updates on Avian and Small Mammal Analgesia)*

Dr. Olivia Petritz is a native of Indiana, and graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University. She then completed several internships and a three-year exotics, zoo, and wildlife residency at University of California, Davis. She is a boarded diplomate of the American College of Zoological Medicine, and has worked with a large variety of North American wildlife in Indiana, Texas,

and California. Dr. Petritz recently joined the faculty at NCSU in their exotics and zoo service, and she looks forward to working with all species in her new state of North Carolina.

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**MaryEllen Rogers**

*(Wading Birds, How to deal with Human-Caused Problems)*

Mary Ellen is an environmental activist. She bought the Sea Biscuit beach cottage on Oak Island as a rental investment in 2003. Then she moved in 2 years later. She had retired from real estate and signed up as a volunteer at Ft Fishers Aquarium. She found no local facility for injured birds and decided to start one. She drove to the Morehead City area every week for over a year in order to gain shorebird experience. State and federal permits were received in March of 2007. Veterinary assistance is donated by local doctors. A team of transporters bring injured birds to the clinic. She returned to part time employment in order to support her new career in wildlife care. Donations finance the shelters day to day expenses and grants take care of capital improvements.

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**Dr. Stephanie Schuttler (North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences)**

*(Keynote address: Tales of a Fancy Scientist: My Unexpected Journey into Science)*

Dr. Stephanie Schuttler studies the behavior and distribution of mammals in human-modified landscapes. She creates lesson plans with teachers to implement eMammal, a citizen science camera-trapping program, into K-12 classrooms, where students contribute data to scientific research. She also studies the genetics and sociality of African forest elephants.

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**David Scott, DVM**

*(Large Bird Bandaging Lab, Raptor Case Studies)*

David Scott earned a BS in Electrical Engineering from the Univ. of Illinois in 1988 and his DVM in 1997. He is currently the staff veterinarian at the Carolina Raptor Center where he oversees the medical care of close to a 1000 injured birds of prey each year.

His specialties include orthopedic surgery and bioinformatics and he has developed the RaptorMed medical management software system in use at many major rehabilitation facilities worldwide. He regularly speaks at avian conference both nationally and internationally and teaches veterinary students in an intense, hands-on RaptorVet externship program. In addition to the 2nd addition of his book, "Raptor Medicine, Surgery and Rehabilitation" , he just recently published "The red-tailed hawk: A surgical dissection", a detailed, layer-by-layer dissection of a common wildlife species.

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**Dr. Greg Scott (NC Zoo)**

*(Reptile Care)*

Dr. Scott is a graduate of the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine class of 2012, and a past president of the NC State Turtle Rescue Team. After veterinary school, he completed two internships, one in exotic animal medicine and another in aquatics and marine mammal medicine. He has worked as veterinarian in private practice, public aquaria, and with the US Navy Marine Mammal Program. He is currently in his second year of a zoological medicine residency at NC State.

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**Dr. Joni Shimp**

(Creance-raptor on a Leash Lecture, Creance Lab)

Dr. Joni Shimp went to the University of Minnesota for her undergraduate degree and North Carolina State University for her Veterinary Degree. She works full time in her mixed animal veterinary hospital in Rocky Point, and she operates a small, but thriving Raptor Rehabilitation Center out of the veterinary hospital. The Cape Fear Raptor Center provides surgical and medical care to raptors that benefit from specific treatments that are limited to a veterinary setting. Her vision for the future is to be a resource to local rehabilitators who have raptors that have extensive injuries with the goal to treat and repair, and then return them to the original rehabilitator

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**Scott Shimp**

*(Making Ed Bird Equipment)* The Director of Rehabilitation at Cape Fear Raptor Center, Scott brings to CFRC an extensive background in animal behavior and training which is utilized daily when working both with patients and education birds. He also heads up the Creance Flight Team which reconditions and evaluates all patients prior to release. Scott manages the business and personnel of a very busy mixed animal veterinary practice. In his free time, Scott enjoys fly fishing, spending time with his family, and drag racing.

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**Dr. Carl Williams**

*(Understanding Rabies in NC; Prevention, Control and Epidemiology)*

Dr. Carl Williams is the State Public Health Veterinarian for the North Carolina Division of Public Health, where he has worked since 2004. In this capacity he serves as the supervisor of the foodborne, vectorborne and zoonotic disease surveillance and response programs.

He received his veterinary medical degree and master's degree in microbiology from NCSU in 1997 and his bachelor's degree in biology from UNC-Charlotte in 1991. Prior to working for the state of NC, Dr. Williams worked as a small animal practitioner in Carrboro NC, served as a Public Health Officer in the United States Air Force, and worked as the Vectorborne disease epidemiologist for the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services.

Dr. Williams is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in North Carolina and Wisconsin and is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

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