



North Country Updates - Agriculture, Conservation, Forestry

This newsletter comes to you from UNH Cooperative Extension, Coös County Conservation District & USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Services, Lancaster, NH

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or

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Events



Randolph Town Forest Field Day

Saturday, August 4, 2018

Theme for the Day - Managing Habitat for Pollinators

Kelly Eggleston, District Conservationist with the USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), along with Kelly Boland, State Biologist for NRCS, will share ideas that will help landowners improve pollinator habitat on their own lands.

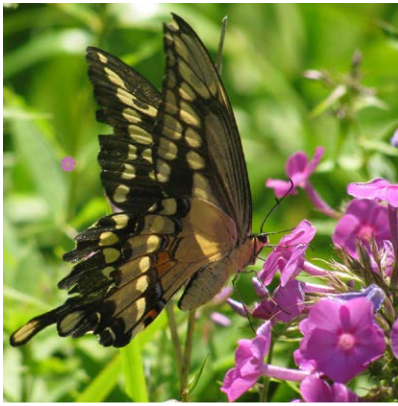
The day will begin, in the Randolph Town Hall at 9 am. Members of the Forest Commission and the Forestry Team will report on new activities which have been carried out on the Forest during the last year.

David DeGruttola, Town Forester, will report on logging activity.

Brendan Prusik, UNH Extension Forester, and/or John Lanier will bring us up to date on the Dirt To Trees To Wildlife (DTW) project which the Town has been supporting.

Tour to follow: Farrah site and Rolo Falls

For more information on the Randolph Community Forest, view their [website](#), or email the [Randolph Community Forest Commission](#)



email: info@randolphforest.org

More information on this event

VETERANS IN AGRICULTURE INFORMATION EVENT

Open to All Veterans

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

12:30pm - 2:30pm



J + F FARMS

124 CHESTER ROAD, DERRY, NH

Join us for a discussion on agriculture in NH and opportunities for Veterans in agriculture with

NH Farm Service Agency
District Director
Keith Farrell

UNH Extension Agents
Steve Turaj
Mike Lunak

NH Farm Bureau Members
Specializing in
Red Deer
Organic Dairy
Fruit & Berry Growing
Diversified Ag

Call the NHFB Office at 603-224-1934 for more information
Registration not required

Farmer - Veterans In Agriculture Event

Tuesday, August 7
12:30-2:30pm

Here's a statewide event some may want to consider.

We continue to encourage current or potential Farmer-Veterans who want to sponsor smaller, satellite-type, field workshops at their NH operations to contact us.

Happy to help with planning and getting the word out.

Location: J&F Farms
124 Chester Road, Derry NH

More Information - Contact -
Steve - Steven.Turaj@unh.edu
Mike - Michal.Lunak@unh.edu
Dot - Dorothy.Perkins@unh.edu



High Tunnel Twilight Meeting

Wednesday, August 15
3:00-5:00pm

2 Pesticide re-certification credits available!

Location: Grafton Country Farm
(We'll meet at the greenhouse behind the farm stand).

Contact: Heather.Bryant@unh.edu

More information and How to Register



Weeks State Park Summer Programs

Lancaster NH

Every Thursday Evening Start at 7:00pm

Aug 2 - Earth Heroes, A Peregrine Falcon & friends come to visit.

Aug 9 - Black Bear Behavior, a 1st hand experience raising cubs.

Aug 16 - Hiking the Appalachian Trail, through the eyes of one hiker.

Aug 23 - Weeks Assoc. Annual Meeting, followed by music by Comfort Country. Mtg at 6:00pm, music at 7:00pm.

Sundays, 1:00-4:00pm

Sept 9 - Autumn Wildflower Walk

Sept 16 - Mushroom Walk

Find the complete [2018 schedule](#) on Weeks State Park Association's facebook page.

Thank you NH Division of Parks & Recreation and UNH Cooperative Extension, long with our local business supporters who make our programs possible!

Weeks State Park



In The News



Unwanted Weeds in Meadows?

Steve Turaj

Perhaps, because of our mid-Summer dry spell, I'm receiving a lot of calls regarding weed problems in pastures/hayfields. They seem to do well, no matter what.

I've always believed the first line of defense against undesirable, sometimes toxic weeds in hay or pasture systems is keeping soils at an optimum level of fertility; pH and the essential nutrients. Grasses can be very competitive given the right conditions:

Nitrogen (N) Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K), as seen on a fertilizer bag, also Magnesium (Mg) (which has an important role in photosynthesis.) It's important to remember that these nutrients are most available to plants when the soil is maintained at about a 6.5 pH level thru either Lime or Woodash applications... Which also supplies the Calcium (Ca) necessary for plant cell walls and new tissue

growth. Soil testing routinely beats guesswork anytime.

Attention to Mowing and/or Grazing height follows as another, no cost management tool, for more productive meadows. Grasses evolved over eons to grazing animal pressure by developing re-growth tissue at the nodes (swollen part) on the stem above ground level. These -intercalary meristems- give grasses their quick recovery ability. Cut too low and you delay that response, giving weeds an open invitation.

Both fertility needs and optimum cutting heights will vary depending on the grass or clover species you have, or wish to have. Being able to recognize them and understand their particular management requirements is worthwhile, as is weed identification.

A couple go-to references I've found useful in the past is Cornell's *Weeds of the Northeast* and *Poisonous Plants of Pennsylvania*. We keep a small stock on hand at our Lancaster office for sale at cost if interested 788-4961.

*Pictured is a field of what I consider a bane of hay producers, Yellow Rattle. I've written of it in detail. There's also a fact-sheet regarding it on our web-site, so won't go into detail here. However do want to record an observation now seen on several occasions.

An undesirable "survivor grass" that is often found associated with or following Yellow Rattle infestation is one called *Sweet Vernal Grass*, it has vanilla-like scent....because it contains Coumarin, a substance which inhibits blood clotting. It's not something you want in your livestock feed. I'm supposing the coumarin content may be why it is less affected by -the parasitic to grasses Yellow Rattle- certainly worthy of more investigation.

[Read more on Yellow Rattle](#)



Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD)

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) have been found in traps in southern parts of NH and ME. If you haven't started trapping yet this season in your blueberries and raspberries we encourage you to start now.

More information on SWD and its management can be found on the UNH Cooperative Extension Website

[Read More - on SWD here](#)

Two Invasive Plants to Look Out For

The NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food is asking people to be on the lookout for two invasive plants.

Tree of Heaven and Giant Hogweed



One found in NH, One not yet in NH.

[Read More - UNH Extension Article](#)

[NH Guide to Upland Invasive Species - NHDA](#)

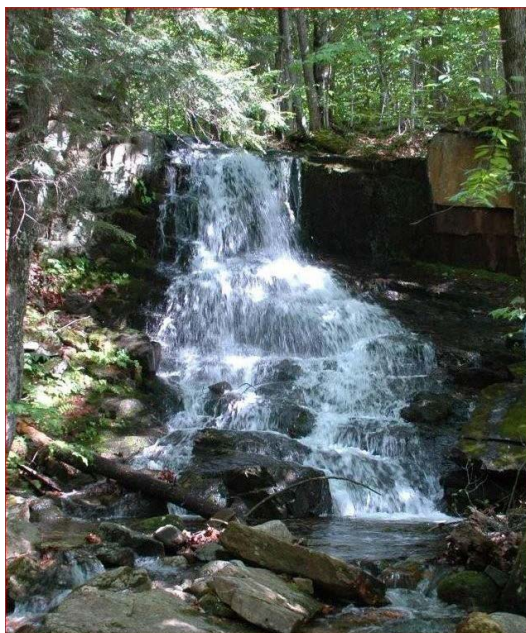


Five New Hi-Tunnels recently installed in Coös County with the help of USDA/NRCS

A High Tunnel System, commonly called a *hoop house*, is an increasingly popular conservation practice for farmers, and is available with financial assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

High tunnels protect plants from severe weather and allow farmers to extend their growing seasons – growing earlier into the spring, later into the fall, and sometimes, year-round.

[Learn More - at USDA/NRCS](#)



Randolph Community Forest

Trail to Rollo Fall Has Been Completed!
by John Scarinza

The past couple of weeks have seen a flurry of activity on the Community Forest with the construction of a new accessible trail to Rollo Fall.....

Contact: [Randolph Community Forest](#)

[Read More
Randolph Community Forest](#)



NE Galloway Group Meeting

A great turn out for the recent NE Galloway Group meeting hosted by Kris & Bert vonDohrmann, Coös County Conservation District Supervisors, at Otokahe Farm.

To learn more about Belties or the Otokahe Farm visit their websites or contact Kris at the Farm otokahe2016@gmail.com

Otokahe Farm

Belted Galloway Society

Leave firewood at home ...



**BUY IT WHERE YOU
BURN IT**

Protect New Hampshire's Forests -

Firewood for Campers -

Transporting firewood threatens our forests by potentially giving a free ride to insects and diseases. Help protect New Hampshire's wild and scenic beauty and leave your firewood at home when you travel. Don't transport pests - when it comes to firewood, buy it where you burn it.

[Click here to Read More](#)

NHbugs.org



When in doubt..
UNH Cooperative Extension ID
services may help.

[Soil Tests](#)

[Insect ID](#)

[Plant Diagnostic Lab](#)



Upcoming Commercial Pesticide Applicator Classes

September, 2018

Core - 9/26 or 9/28 - Concord, NH



Turf (G2) - 9/27 - Goffstown, NH

Ornamental (G1) - 10/2 - Concord, NH

Right of Way (B) - 10/3 - Concord, NH

Fee: \$155 per class.

Study materials must also be purchased.

[More Information and How to Register](#)

Coös County Conservation District (CCCD)



Coös County Conservation District

4 Mayberry Lane
Lancaster NH 03584
603-788-4651 ext 102

Visit our website - cooscountyconservation.org

email - da.cccd@gmail.com

Our office is located in the USDA Service Center,
Route 3, Lancaster, NH



[More Information](#)
[Wood Ash
Spreader
& Rental Terms](#)



[More Information](#)
[Hi-Tunnel Tool
Loan Program](#)
[List of Tools &
Loan Process](#)

Long Island Sound Watershed - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (LISW-RCPP)

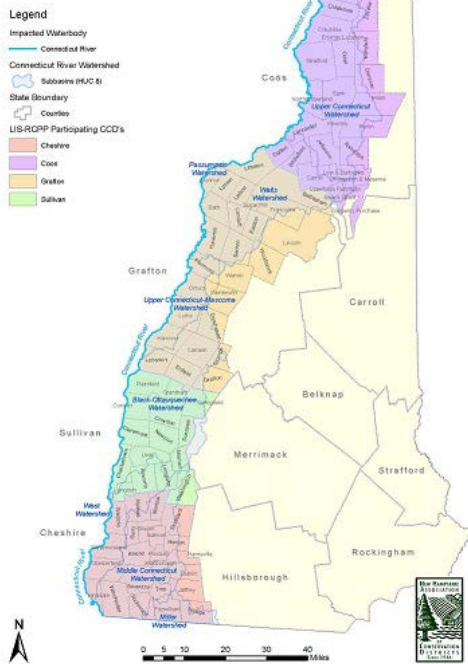
Reducing Nitrogen and sediment delivery to the CT River and its tributaries is the focus of our participation in this project.

Farmers in the NH Connecticut River Watershed can work with Bill Fosher, Project Agronomist for NH Association of Conservation Districts, on resource assessments, farm conservation plans and/or comprehensive nutrient management plans.

To learn more, contact Bill Fosher, NHACD Project Agronomist.
email - BillFosher@gmail.com
call or text - 413-335-5275

Long Island Sound - RCPP New Hampshire Project Area

New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts



Home or Garden Question?



Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. highly trained master gardeners are available to answer your questions about gardening, lawns, pests, fruits and vegetables, food safety and more. For research-based information you can trust, pick up the phone, send an email or stop by today!

Education Center & Info Line

Soil Testing Services

Insect Identification Services

The [Education Center](#) at UNH Cooperative Extension offers a number of services including:

- Answers to gardening questions from Cooperative Extension Master Gardener residents via email and the Hotline 877-398-4769 or walk-in assistance.
- Master Gardener Volunteer Training Educational Programs for the general public.
- Public presentations by Master Gardener Volunteers on topics such as seed starting, composting, container gardening, and seed saving.

For more information on a variety of horticulture topics visit the UNH Cooperative Extension [website](#).

Additional Links

Subscribe to this and other
UNH Extension newsletters

Archives
of this newsletter

UNH Extension Agriculture

UNH Extension Natural Resources

Coös County UNH Cooperative Extension
629 Main Street
Lancaster, NH 03584

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For more information
[visit our website](#), [email us](#), or call 603-788-4961



About UNH Cooperative Extension

Extension is at work in every New Hampshire county, making the state's key industries stronger, developing vibrant communities and municipal leaders, fostering healthy families and an informed and engaged citizenry, and keeping the state's natural resources healthy and productive.

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
UNH, USDA, and NH Counties cooperating.

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