



Coös County Updates

December 2018

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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Maple Producers

State Regulations & Food Safety:
A Check-in with Maple Producers

December 1, Lancaster
December 15, Boscawen

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) came fully into effect in September. FSMA is a new federal food safety regulation that will impact some, but not all maple producers in NH.

UNH Cooperative Extension has received a USDA-NIFA grant to provide education to maple producers to help you determine if your operation is covered under the regulation and if so what you need to do to comply. As part of this project we will be hosting a two day workshop series in two locations in Northern NH and Central NH.



December 1 - Lancaster
More Information & How to Register

December 15 - Boscawen
More Information & How to Register

If you haven't done so already, we would appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete this [online survey](#). It is anonymous and should take 5 minutes or less to respond.

We have also begun creating some web based information for maple producers related to FSMA, please look under "resources" on the web site.

We hope to see you at one of our events!

Contact: Heather.Bryant@unh.edu

Additional Resources





Expand Your Tunnel Vision: High Tunnel Production Conference

December 3 & 4
Manchester

This conference is for high tunnel growers and agricultural service providers of all experience levels. There will be plenty of opportunities to share expertise and learn from one another.

[See the flyer for more information.](#)

[More Info & How To Register](#)



ServSafe Training

December 7, Friday
8:00am-5:30pm
Littleton

ServSafe® is a nationally recognized food safety certification program of the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF). This one-day course provides the latest science-based information on food safety and best practices in the industry.

Participants will learn how foodborne bacteria contaminate food and the safest way to receive, store, prepare, cook and serve food for their customers.

Participants are expected to study the ServSafe Manager coursebook prior to class. At the end of the course, the national ServSafe® certification exam will be administered. Participants passing the exam with a grade of 75% or higher will receive ServSafe® Food Safety Certification from NRAEF. Certification is valid for five years.

Contact: Mary.Choate@unh.edu

[More Info & How To Register](#)





Estate Planning: Wills, Trusts, & Long-term Healthcare

January 8, Tuesday
12:00pm - 1:00pm

Webinar (from the comfort of your home)

The Future of the Farm: Estate & Succession Planning. This webinar is the first in a series of webinars on estate and succession planning topics.

Estate Planning often involves setting up a will and/or trust. Learn the pros and cons of each to decide what's best for your family and farm situation.

Long-term healthcare is a common concern especially as folks get older. People with significant assets worry about needing to sell their property to cover the costs of nursing home and elder care. Learn more about what you can do to plan for this stage of life and protect the farm.

Featured Speaker: Kathryn Williams, KSW Law

A significant portion of this webinar will be devoted to answering questions.

Email your questions to -

Kelly.McAdam@unh.edu ahead of time to ensure they are covered in the time allotted.

Register Here -

A link to join the webinar will be emailed at least one week prior to the event.



Basics of Farm Transfer Planning: Getting the Conversation Started

January 11, Friday

9:00-3:30pm

AMC Highland Center, Bretton Woods

This full-day workshop will focus on covering topics that farm families are thinking about as they consider the future of the farm. Extension specialists and practitioners in the areas of estate and succession planning will present topics on legal considerations, business planning, estate planning, and methods of transferring business ownership.

Attendance from both the farm owner and the next generation is highly encouraged.

The cost of this workshop is free. Lunch is available for purchase at the lodge, or you can bring your own. Coffee and light refreshments will be available.

More Information email or call -
Kelly.McAdam@unh.edu 603-527-5475

[Register Here](#)



[Contact your local Field Office](#)

NRCS, EQIP 2019 Batching Dates

January 18
February 15
March 15
April 19
May 17

Agriculture or Forest landowners in New Hampshire

If you are interested in protecting, conserving, or restoring the natural resources on your property through technical or financial assistance, contact your local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field office to begin the conservation planning process.

Once an NRCS Conservation Plan is developed and you are interested in competing for financial assistance to implement practices from your Conservation Plan, work with NRCS to determine which program best suits your conservation needs. Applications for the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), EQIP-RCPP and the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) program may be submitted at any time year-round; however, the next ranking batching date is January 18, 2019. All applications determined to be eligible by 4:30 p.m. on January 18, 2019 will be considered in this funding cycle.

[Read More - Press Release](#)

In The News





Woodlot Wisdom - The Business End of Selling Timber

Landowners can expect to receive a range of bids when preparing for a timber sale. Brendan Prusik explains the variation, and how a forester can help a landowner find the best fit to meet their needs.

[Learn More](#)



Memories and Traditions.... Selecting The Tree

A guest article.... from many years ago

Christmas Trees I Have Known *by Steve Turaj*

Tangy fragrance of balsam fir as truckloads pass by on their way to more southerly destinations; spare lots encircled with multi-colored lights being transformed into miniature forests. The North Country's final harvest of the 2006 growing season is underway. Perhaps un-appreciated, Christmas trees and wreaths are crops that keep open and productive many acres of Coös County's harder to farm -wet, steep, boney- land. They also provide a fair return to those willing to take the time to grow and market this northern forest crop.

We tagged our tree last week. It was a pleasant walk through the farm's balsam and fraser fir plantation overlooking Lancaster's Israel River valley. Funny thing, as a kid my Dad and I often got our tree at a farm just off Israel Hill Road in a then rural part of Connecticut. That family farm is still in operation today, now advertising on the internet. Besides trees they also operate a winery, sell pumpkins, berries, and a taste of country life to people in what is an increasingly urbanized locale. It was once a dairy farm.

Residing for a few years, thanks to Uncle Sam, in the land where Christmas trees originated introduced me to a new -Olde World- marketing concept, the town center marketplace. That's where we purchased our tree each year, of some type of spruce as I recall. Trees tended to be fairly pricey even considering the exchange rate at the time.

But the purchase price included the season's festive atmosphere. A usually mundane Market Platz had been transformed into a Christmas Mart of bright lights, colorful floral selections (cyclamen especially), glass, handmade wooden and bees-wax ornaments. "Sell the sizzle not the steak" is a phrase known to most astute marketeers. In West Germany they also added to it the aroma of fresh-baked bread,

spiced wine, anise flavored treats, and grilled wurst. The combined effect is a sales technique worth borrowing. All the major cities had thriving markets, Frankfurt, Munich, Nuremburg (my favorite) despite other "shopping" alternatives.

Back state-side and in West Virginia we found a selection of trees different from those of more northerly climates. Some variety of red pine seemed popular there, although to me hanging ornaments seemed akin to decorating a porcupine... pretty lethal needles. Passed on them for the rarer, soft-needled white pine. Not thought of as a Christmas tree up here they did make for a remarkably good balsam substitute. Needle retention was excellent, their piney scent long lasting. Sheared up they may be worth growing on our drier soil types. Northern New Hampshire called and it was out to a friend's woodlot to cut our own tree for a change. This while hunting for (then) elusive moosetracks.

There just didn't seem to be much in the six to eight foot size that seemed worth harvesting. Overtopped, shaded by larger conifers they all looked like the proverbial 'Charlie Brown Christmas Tree'. "Over there" was my friend's advice. "Where?" seeing nothing but standing timber. "Look up!" he replied. A short time later and with the help of his chain saw we were dragging a perfect six foot tree home thru the snow. The top of a much larger specimen. Thus was my first practical introduction to the forest management concept called "weeding and thinning"

Our small, often family-owned woodlots are a resource that benefit many of us in New Hampshire. Europeans I think would be amazed at the open access to the land farmers and others allow. In Germany for instance, hunting rights were only available to a select few on what seemed a nearly hereditary basis.

So, enjoy your natural, New Hampshire grown Christmas Tree this year. No matter where you buy it, it's certain to be memorable.

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

Soil Health Rental Equipment



More Information

Wood Ash Spreader
& Rental Terms

Coös County



More Information

Hi-Tunnel Tool
Loan Program,
List of Tools &
Loan Process

Coös County



More Information

No-Til Seeder
& Rental Terms



More Information

Aerway



The KED-72 is 6' wide and capable of planting 9 rows, with 8" spacing. KASCO recommends a 35hp+ tractor, with sufficient lift capacity to handle approximately 1600 lbs. on back.

Grafton County



AWMP-075-AG-4 Salford AerWay: 45-75HP Tractor with hydraulics recommended. Cultivation width 7.5'. Weight 2150 lbs.

& Rental Terms

Grafton County

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](#).



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



[Soil Tests](#)

[Insect ID](#)

[Plant Diagnostic Lab](#)

Additional Links

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of this newsletter

UNH Extension Agriculture

UNH Extension Natural Resources

Coös County Conservation District

USDA / NRCS in NH

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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