

AGRiVIEW

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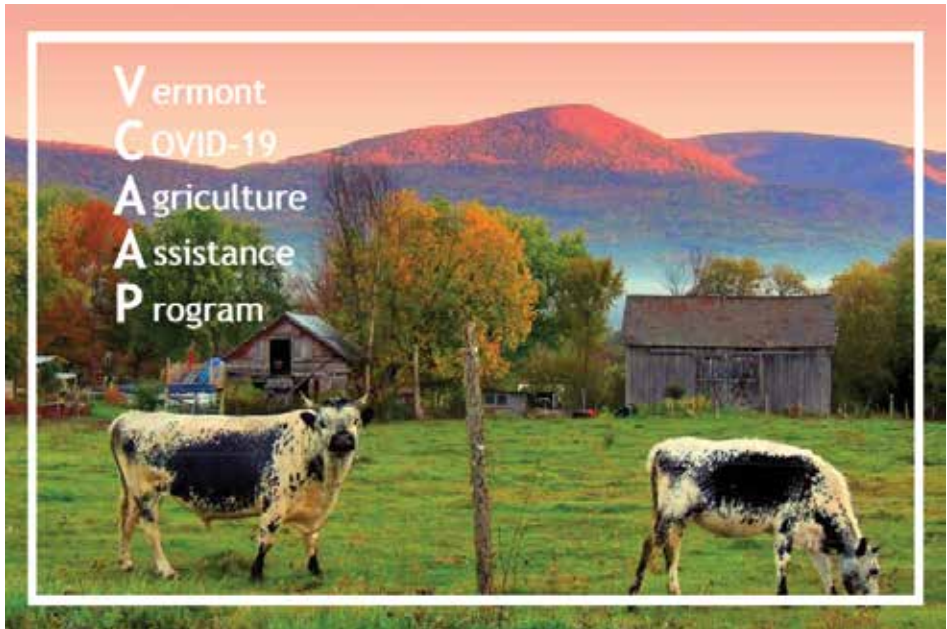
Vermont COVID-19 Agricultural Assistance Program Deadline Extended to Nov. 15

The deadline for the Vermont COVID-19 Agricultural Assistance Program (VCAAP) Dairy Assistance Application and Agriculture & Working Lands Application has been extended to November 15, 2020. This extension and some important changes to the program were included in new legislation, H.969, which Governor Scott signed on October 2, 2020.

VCAAP funding is available to agricultural businesses and organizations that have lost revenues and expenses related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Key changes to the program include the following:

- Eligible applicants with a net business profit between March 1 and August 1, 2020 are not dis-



- qualified from the Agriculture & Working Lands Application.
- Eligible sole proprietors are no longer disqualified from the

Agriculture & Working Lands Application because they did not file a W-2 form for themselves or an employee in the 2018 or 2019

taxable year.

- A business may now apply for more than one state grant funded by Coronavirus Relief Funds, but not for the same purpose as another grant or to cover the same losses or costs.
- The Vermont Agency of Agriculture will establish a VCAAP Farm to School Assistance Application. The maximum Farm to School Assistance award will be \$10,000.
- The Vermont Agency of Agriculture expects to establish a VCAAP Farmers' Market Assistance Application for farmers' markets with annual gross sales of less than \$10,000. The maximum Farmer's Market

continued on page 7

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**Vermont Agency of
Agriculture, Food & Markets**
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Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2901

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THE VIEW FROM 116 STATE STREET

The harvest is nearly complete. Many of you are finishing the final fall chores preparing for winter before it arrives in force. We thank all our farmers and producers for their commitment during the pandemic. You have fed us during these uncertain times while caring for the land, animals, and their families. The pandemic has also put additional financial strains on our farmers and producers which is why Governor Scott and the legislature created pandemic relief programs for those who are earning a living off the land.

The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets is managing these grants. The Agency has already distributed millions to those who have applied but there is more money available. We are sympathetic to the issue the applications can

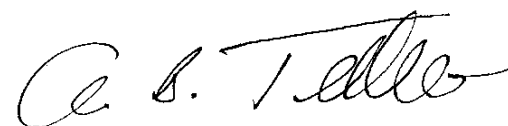
be complicated, but we believe it is well worth taking a look at these grants. There are some federal requirements, but many have received thousands of dollars because they have sustained huge losses from the pandemic. The deadline to apply for grants is November 15th but we encourage you all not to wait to the last minute. If you have questions, please reach out to us. We stand ready to help you with the application.

The pandemic began just as sugaring season was gearing up. It forced many sugar makers to close their operations and that hurt sales for many producers. Sugar makers are eligible for state and federal grants. We also decided to help the maple industry with a fall promotional campaign. We called it Vermont Maple 100. There are hundreds of ways to celebrate maple. We teamed up various partners including DiginVT and the Vermont Department of

Tourism highlighting maple is more than pancakes. It can be celebrated in products infused with maple, Vermont created a maple creemee tour and we encouraged all to visit farms and farmsteads that are focused on maple. This campaign was highly successful and more will come in 2021.

On a sad note, Vermont lost one its maple kings. Bruce Martell passed away in October after a long battle with cancer. Bruce was a long-time employee of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. I had the honor working with Bruce when I was the Deputy several years ago. Bruce was all about maple and all about promoting and protecting Vermont. As an inspector he traveled the

country protecting Vermont maple under the consumer protection laws. Bruce also promoted maple at the end of his career. He would go any place and do anything to support maple. There were cooking shows, carting the mobile sugar house up and down the state, judging contests, tapping trees with several governors, and of course making sure maple was front and center at the Big E in West Springfield Massachusetts. His legacy is strong here in the Green Mountains and across the country for his commitment to pure Vermont maple. We send our love to Bruce's family and friends and we will do our best to carry on his mission of protecting and preserving Vermont maple today and every day.



Anson Tebbetts, Secretary
Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

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This Month's Recipe

Thanksgiving Leftover Lasagna

Ingredients

Butter, for greasing pan
2 tbsp. breadcrumbs
3 c. prepared mashed potatoes
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 c. shredded Gruyère cheese
(or your favorite – Cheddar, Swiss, etc)
1 c. chopped cooked green beans
(or other leftover vegetables)
1 c. leftover shredded turkey
1/2 c. cranberry sauce
1/2 c. gravy
Leftover stuffing as
topmost layer – to taste
and if available

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease an 8"-x-8" baking pan with butter then coat with breadcrumbs.

2. Mix together mashed potatoes and eggs until smooth. Spread about one third of the mashed potato mixture into the bottom of the pan. Sprinkle with cheese then drizzle with gravy. Top with green beans/veggies, turkey, more gravy and cranberry sauce. Spread more mashed potatoes on top and sprinkle with more cheese. Top with stuffing then drizzle with gravy. Bake for 30-40 minutes,

until the lasagna is warmed through.

3. Let sit for at least 15 minutes before serving. Serve with more gravy, if desired.

More leftover ideas

- Mix your cranberry sauce with your favorite salsa for a sweet/hot dip combo
- Bubble & Squeak – mashed potato & egg dish
- Sweet potato hummus
- Stuffin' Muffins
- Cranberry Nut Turkey Salad
- Thanksgiving Leftover Poppers
- Sandwich of leftovers – stuffing, cranberry sauce, turkey, mayo. Preferably with turkey and stuffing but not the cranberry sauce warmed up.



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W I T H U S



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Thanksgiving is Right Around the Corner – Get Your Local Bird!

By Scott Waterman, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

As the Thanksgiving holiday season approaches, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, and the Vermont Fresh Network wish to remind those planning for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner that Vermont's local turkey farms are ready to help. The time to order your local bird is now!

Vermont is home to more than a dozen turkey farms across the state, raising and producing local turkeys ready just in time for Thanksgiving and the holiday season. According to the National Turkey Federation, nearly 88 percent of Americans eat turkey at Thanksgiving. The average weight of turkeys purchased for Thanksgiving is 16 pounds, meaning that approximately 736 million pounds of turkey were consumed in the United States during



Thanksgiving in 2016. In Vermont, nearly 48,000 turkeys and chickens were produced in 2016.

"A local turkey brings great joy to family and friends. Vermont is lucky to have so many producers that

provide a fresh bird each fall for the dinner table," said Agency Secretary Anson Tebbetts. "We are thankful for all the farmers who feed us."

The Vermont Fresh Network can help connect you to a local

farm and farmer near you, for a fresh Thanksgiving feast for your family. Visit their website at www.diginVT.com to locate your dream bird! Check out the Vermont Fresh Network's Local Turkey Finder.

"Thanksgiving is a time for us to celebrate with our family, our friends and our farmers. A locally grown turkey and locally sourced Thanksgiving dinner offers the freshest ingredients for a truly delicious meal," said Tara Pereira, Executive Director of the Vermont Fresh Network, "And food grown in Vermont pairs perfectly with our local wine and cider."

Along with local turkey and produce, the Vermont Fresh Network can connect you with a local wine and cider pairing guide and a list of Vermont Thanksgiving-week farmers markets by visiting DigInVT.com - an interactive website for agricultural and culinary events and experiences in Vermont.

Vermont NRCS Announces November 20 Deadline for Farmers to Apply for Conservation Program Assistance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Vermont announced that November 20, 2020, is the next cut-off date to apply for fiscal year 2021 conservation program assistance through the Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). "These NRCS conservation programs provide tremendous support to Vermont farmers and landowners interested in protecting and improving soil and water quality," State Conservationist

Vicky Drew said. While both conservation programs are offered through a continuous signup, NRCS makes periodic funding selections throughout the year. The first established deadline for requesting conservation program assistance is November 20.

NRCS conservation programs support farmers, ranchers, forestland managers and landowners by helping them conserve natural resources through both technical and financial assistance for a variety of conservation activities, including cover crops, rotational grazing systems, field buffers, animal waste

management systems, and restoration and management of wildlife habitat.

Learn more by visiting the Vermont NRCS EQIP website

(<https://bit.ly/36XqVH5>) or contact your local NRCS office (<http://bit.ly/32b21z8>).





VERMONT FOOD SYSTEM PLAN PRODUCT BRIEF:

Produce

Editor's note: This brief was part of the Vermont Agriculture & Food System Plan: 2020 which was presented to the legislature in January of this year.

Lead Author: Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension
Contributors: Mark Cannella and Becky Maden, UVM Extension, Jen Miller, NOFA-VT, Will Stevens, Golden Russet Farm

What's at Stake?

Significant challenges are on the horizon for more than 1,000 produce farms that add diversity and innovation to the Vermont's agricultural economy, which is otherwise largely dependent on the commodity dairy industry. Though small in proportion to dairy, produce farms (excluding apple farms) generate over \$50 million in annual sales, employ thousands of (mostly seasonal) workers, and supply key components of a healthy diet.

Current Conditions

Recent growth in Vermont's produce industry has been fueled by demand for healthy local food and sustained by innovative growers that produce high-quality crops. This diverse industry is comprised of farms growing various combinations of vegetables, berries, and ornamental crops, both in the field and in greenhouses (apples are considered produce but are included in another brief;

see Apples brief). Many of these farms also produce tree fruit or livestock, and some produce hemp, mushrooms, and an array of value-added products. Farms range in size from a few acres to a few hundred acres, they sell primarily to retail and wholesale markets in-state. Growth in this sector appears to be leveling off due to competition for markets, high production costs, regulatory obstacles, and lack of affordable labor. The future of many of the larger farms in this sector is threatened by their lack of a farm succession plan.

The 2017 Census of Agriculture found 716 Vermont farms selling vegetables, about 400 farms selling berries, 199 farms selling greenhouse tomatoes, and 181 farms selling bedding plants. These farms had aggregate sales of \$44 million out of the \$52 million in total annual produce sales. In 2019, the Vermont Vegetable and Berry Growers Association had 360 member farms, up from 213 in 2010. USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service has funded over 400 high tunnel greenhouses in Vermont totaling 1 million sq. ft. since 2010. In recent decades many new farmers' markets, CSAs, and roadside stands have been established. New farmers continue to arrive, both young people and people changing careers. Many come from out-of-state, or return here after working elsewhere, attracted to Vermont's innovative

Number of Farms Selling	2017	2012	2007	2002
Vegetables	709	789	494	413
Highbush Blueberries	289	330	213	114
Grapes	97	127	45	26
Raspberries	158	228	142	80
Strawberries	136	145	122	90
Greenhouse Vegetables	220	294	111	98
Floriculture Crops	220	274	226	255

Number of Farm Acres	2017	2012	2007	2002
Vegetables	3,453	3,897	2,927	2,893
Highbush Blueberries	317	327	362	--
Grapes	97	127	167	33
Raspberries	81	135	--	88
Strawberries	172	192	185	188
Greenhouse Veg. 1,000 ft2	962	--	425	477
Floriculture Crops 1,000 ft2	1,770	1,464	1,493	1,710

Farm Gate Sales (Millions)	2017	2012	2007	2002
Vegetables	\$23.9	\$21.3	\$13.2	\$10.1
Fruits, Tree Nuts, Berries	\$19.4	\$13.5	\$15.9	\$9.2
Greenhouse Vegetables	\$5.3	\$5.8	\$4.0	--
Floriculture Crops	\$15.4	\$15.4	\$14.9	--

Direct-to-Consumer*	2017	2012	2007	2002
Total Sales (Million)	\$50.0	\$27.4	\$22.9	\$9.6
Number of Farms	1,883	2,071	1,474	1,163
Gross Sales per Farm	\$27,262	\$13,245	\$15,511	\$8,226

* all types of farm products, not just produce

grower and marketer community, and its passion for local food and farms. Vermont has about 70 summer farmers' markets, 17 winter farmers' markets, 65 CSA farms, 91 Pick-Your-Own farms, and hundreds of farm stands. Although total direct-to-consumer sales continue to grow, anecdotal consensus is that direct markets for fresh produce are becoming saturated, so when new enterprises get established, they take customers from existing markets. Although unsaturated

niches exist, the potential for a lot more growth among direct markets seems low. Smaller farms could sell to wholesale markets, but in general those prices are not high enough to sustain farms that are used to getting retail prices from direct sales. A relatively small number of farms are selling to out-of-state retail customers through CSA delivery (e.g., Muddy Boots Farm collaborative), value-driven aggregators (e.g., Farmers To You), and specialty distributors (e.g., Meyers Produce). Those

markets have potential for growth given larger urban populations in nearby states, and the capacity of Vermont growers to deliver high-quality, organic, and ecological products for much of the year as well as the widespread adoption of improved food safety, cold storage, and winter greenhouse production techniques.

Direct-to-store wholesale (not through a distributor) is a profitable and reliable market for many mid-sized produce farms, but sales may no longer be growing. This market, and other larger wholesale markets for fresh produce, are very competitive with prices strongly influenced by low-cost, out-of-state producers. Unless per capita consumption of produce increases, new sales to retailers and distributors must come at the expense of existing and often well-established market relationships.

Supermarkets buy and sell a lot of produce (though specific data is lacking) but logistical barriers to entry are high and prices paid to producers are typically lower than those offered by health food stores, food co-ops, and some independent markets, which tend to buy in smaller volumes. Our larger vegetable farms are best suited to consistently supplying supermarkets, though a few smaller growers have developed strong market relationships with a nearby supermarket.

According to grower testimonials, not many institutions (e.g., schools and hospitals) buy enough volume of produce, nor consistently enough, at fair prices to make that market viable. The few that do have organizational and cultural commitments to local food tend to go beyond economic motivations.

Broadly, value-added opportunities exist for berries in the beverage market, but Vermont has only a handful of growers devoted exclusively to berry production, and most produce at a scale better suited for PYO or niche seasonal sales to craft beverage makers.

Data from U.S. Census of Agriculture: From 2002-2012 the number of farms selling horticultural products increased in all categories; from 2012-2017 that number declined in all categories. A similar pattern of leveling off is seen in production and farm gate sales. (Data were not available for all farm categories in every Census, and accurate data can be difficult to collect from diversified produce farms).

Bottlenecks & Gaps:

- Labor needs and costs are high, and retention of the seasonal workforce is a challenge. Reliability of local labor is low and as a result wholesale farms are very dependent on H2-A workers.
- In-state direct markets are nearing saturation and wholesale markets are competitive. Wholesaling profitably requires greater production efficiency and volume than most small farms are capable of.
- Many successful produce farmers are nearing

retirement without a succession plan. There is a sizable pool of beginning farmers, but few are able to buy, or ready to manage, these larger-scale operations.

- The time, expense, and knowledge required to comply with food safety, labor, water quality, and other regulations have increased.

Opportunities:

- A changing climate, declining dairy industry, proximity to populous states, and an innovative farm culture may combine to increase the competitive advantage of our produce industry. Our growing season is getting longer, more farmland may be available, millions of potential customers for healthy food are just a few hours away, and there is a creative, connected community of growers and service providers to help with adaptation to an increase in extreme weather events, new pests, and regulations (see Climate Change, Technical Assistance, and Succession briefs).
- Vermont's skill and reputation for quality organic and "ecological" produce is aligned with consumer preferences and could lead to a growth in sales to out-of-state markets, whether to retail aggregators, distributors, or supermarket chains. There is some evidence that younger customers (e.g., Millennials) are especially keen to purchase this type of produce (see Consumer Demand brief).
- On-farm value-added processing could improve farm profitability and labor retention by adding

non-perishable, artisan products that are easily shipped and serve year-round, high-end markets.

On-farm operation and ownership allows farmers to retain control of the enterprises should they prove successful.

- Strengthening the network of technical service providers by establishing regular communication through video conference calls and annual in-person meetings would help clarify organizational roles, improve efficiency of service to the grower community, and should lead to program synergies.

Recommendations:

- Offer grants to support farm infrastructure for marketing, processing, storage, and cooperative distribution. Build on the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFM) Produce Safety Improvement Grant program approach that requires and facilitates engaging technical service providers for project design, implementation, and documentation of results of on-farm projects. \$200,000 annually, up to \$20,000 per farm.
- Provide funding to hire a highly skilled farm transfer service provider to focus on produce farms, offering intensive, frequent, one-on-one assistance to develop and implement farm succession plans, working with funders to facilitate farm purchases. This position must collaborate closely with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board's Farm & Forest Viability program, which is already facilitating this work.

\$100,000 annually for five years to cover salary, fringe, overhead, and travel costs.

- Develop a regional training program to provide one-on-one business assistance and cohort-based educational programs which recruit, prepare, and place the next generation of wholesale produce growers and farm managers. Plan and implement the program through a consortium of Cooperative Extension and agencies of agriculture and economic development in several New England states along with nonprofits such as the Carrot Project and the New England Vegetable and Berry Growers Association.
- Collect ideas from small produce farmers on ways to make regulatory compliance easier and

more efficient, through listening sessions, focus groups, and surveys. Examine policies in other states worthy of consideration. This should be a collaborative effort between VAAFM, UVM Extension, UVM College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and NOFA-VT.

- Provide ongoing grant funds for capacity development for grower organizations (Vermont Vegetable and Berry Growers Association, Vermont Association of Professional Horticulturists) so they can improve communication, education, marketing, and applied research in collaboration with UVM Extension. Suggested funding: \$10,000 annually available to each organization, to be matched 50:50.

Upcoming Water Quality Grant Program Deadlines

It is the end of the year and some deadlines are coming right up for Water Quality Grants!

November 2: 2021 Capital Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP) applications are due: 90% cost-share, grants up to \$60,000 (depending on equipment category) for innovative equipment that will improve water quality. Contact Nina Gage at Nina.Gage@vermont.gov or (802) 622-4098.

November/December: Farm Agronomic Practice (FAP) grant recipients submit claim forms for summer/fall practices (within 30 days of implementation).

December 4: VHCB Water Quality Grant applications are due: 50% match, grants up to \$40,000 for water quality infrastructure and equipment improvements. Contact Aaron Guman at Aaron@vhcb.org or 828-5587.

December 15: CEAP grant recipients from previous years are required to report annual equipment usage for the first three years of their agreements. You should have a report page included in your grant to complete and submit. Contact Nina Gage at Nina.Gage@vermont.gov or (802) 622-4098.

For more information about water quality grant programs visit agriculture.vermont.gov/grants

\$7 Million USDA NRCS Grant for New Vermont 'Pay-For-Performance' Agricultural Phosphorus Reduction Program

Agency of Agriculture announces USDA grant to fund five-year innovative program that will compensate exemplary farm stewardship and build off ongoing clean water programs

By Scott Waterman, VT
Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets is proud to announce the receipt of a \$7 million grant award from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that will enable the Agency to launch a statewide Vermont Pay-for-Phosphorus (VPFP) Program to further expand and support agriculture's role in delivering clean water results for Vermont.

The VPFP Program will use an innovative 'pay-for-performance' approach to compensate farmers for voluntary and verified phosphorus load reductions in agricultural crop fields that exceed phosphorus reductions set by state and federal standards on a farm-by-farm basis. The program will build on the existing agricultural water quality

clean-up framework and will accelerate the pace of implementation and clean water work occurring with farmers, partners, and the state.

Senator Patrick Leahy, former chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee and its most senior member, said: "Vermonters are good stewards, and many Vermont farmers go well beyond what is required of them in managing their land to protect water quality, often at considerable cost. I congratulate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture for creating this program that will reward those farmers and encourage them to do even better. I thank NRCS for awarding this grant, which reflects exactly the innovation that we hoped to see when we included the RCPP program in the 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills."

The grant was awarded through NRCS' Regional

Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Alternative Funding Arrangement (RCPP-AFA), a new initiative enabling partnered projects that propose innovative use of federal assistance to achieve conservation benefits. This project will build on the success of the current state and partner clean water implementation efforts and Vermont's engaged farmers. Agriculture was responsible for 97% of the reported phosphorus reductions in the Lake Champlain Basin in State Fiscal Year 2019 – and achieved these reductions with the most cost-effective rate of implementation in any sector. This new program will accelerate agricultural water quality improvements with new funding and a new strategy for incentivizing and valuing farmer's agricultural land stewardship efforts.

"This innovative program is great news and will help us build upon our

comprehensive approach to improving water quality and protecting our environment. I thank my team at the Agency of Agriculture and our federal partners, as well as Sen. Leahy, for their work on this initiative," said Vermont Governor Phil Scott. "Vermont's farmers play a critical in meeting our clean water goals. This incentive will improve water quality while also helping the bottom line on farms,

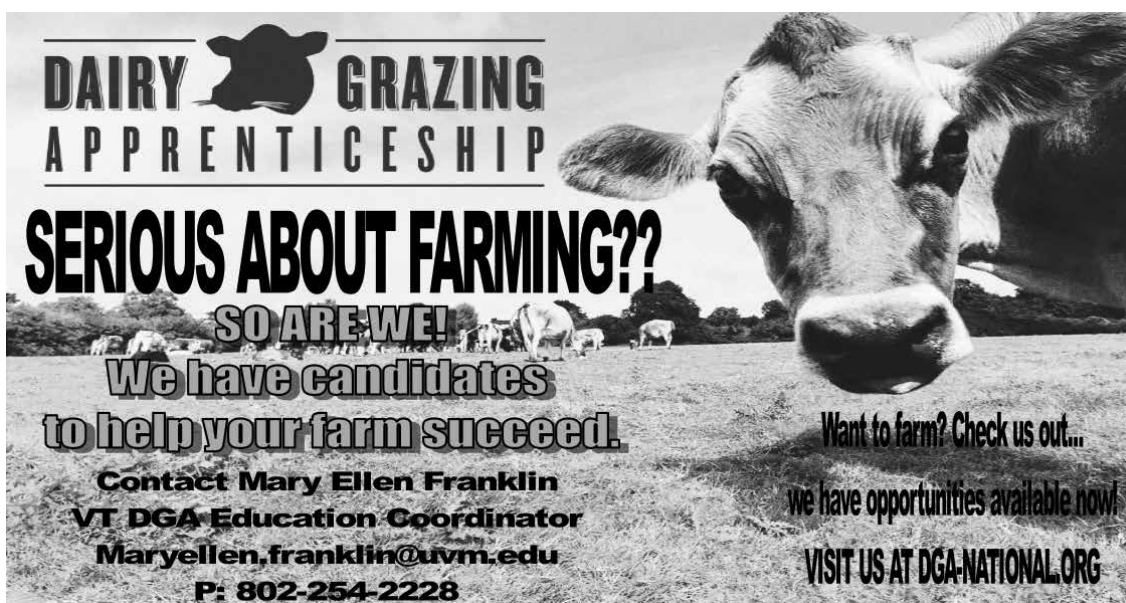
which is a great example of how we move forward on our environmental and economic goals."

The award of this grant to Vermont represents the culmination of more than seven years of work by AAFM to engage stakeholders, research new technologies, and model and test innovative conservation systems. This program will compensate farmers directly for the value of water quality

For Agricultural Events and Resources Visit:

- The VT Agency of Agriculture Events Calendar: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/events/month>
- UVM Extension Events Calendars: http://www.uvm.edu/extension/extension_event_calendars
- Vermont Farm to Plate Events Calendar: <http://www.vtfarmtoplate.com/events>
- Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont Events Calendar: <http://nofavt.org/events>
- DigIn Vermont Events Calendar: <https://www.diginvt.com/events/>
- Required Agricultural Resources (RAPs) Resources: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality/regulations/rap>
- Agency of Ag's Tile Drain Report now available here: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/tile-drainage>
- VAAFM annual report available here: http://agriculture.vermont.gov/about_us/budgets_reports
- Farm First: Confidential help with personal or work-related issues. More info call: 1-877-493-6216 any-time day or night, or visit: www.farmfirst.org
- Vermont AgrAbility: Free service promoting success in agriculture for people with disabilities and their families. More info call 1-800-639-1522, email: info@vcil.org or visit: www.vcil.org.

For more agricultural events visit our Funding Opportunities & Resources for Businesses webpage at: http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer_partner_resources/funding_opportunities



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improvements implemented on their farms above baseline requirements. The VPFP is also designed to be equitable between geographic areas, farm types, and farm sizes, and will provide farmers flexibility and autonomy over their farm's agronomic management.

"Innovation will play a critical role in improving our environment," said Vermont Agriculture Secretary Anson Tebbetts. "This new program creates a path to reward Vermont farmers for their efforts to improve water quality. We encourage all

farmers to take a close look at this new program."

The VPFP Program will compensate farmers for quantifiable and field-verifiable performance voluntarily reported and evaluated through the Farm Phosphorus Reduction Planner (FarmPREP)*. FarmPREP will estimate the number of pounds of phosphorus running off each farm field each year under current management and will compare these runoff values to the estimated pounds of phosphorus runoff that would occur

under baseline historical management assumptions and above program threshold requirements. Enrolled farms will then receive payment per pound of phosphorus runoff they reduce across their whole farm above and beyond state and federal standards - \$4.9 million in payments for pounds of phosphorus reduced are planned over this 5-year project. To encourage participation in the VPFP Program, farmers who successfully enroll in the program will be eligible for an incentive payment of up

to \$4,000 per farm.

For more information about the Vermont Pay-For-Performance Agricultural Phosphorus Reduction Program visit: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/VPFP> or contact Ryan Patch, 802-

272-0323 or via email ryan.patch@vermont.gov

*(FarmPREP is a web-based application developed by Stone Environmental, a Montpelier VT based company.)

Petitions Available For Conservation District Board Of Supervisors

The State Natural Resources Conservation Council (NRCC) Chair, Rick Hopkins of East Montpelier, today announced the availability of nominating petitions for the statewide elections of District Supervisors in each of Vermont's fourteen Natural Resource Conservation Districts.



Natural Resources Conservation Districts are local subdivisions of state government established under the state's Soil Conservation Act to cooperate with landowners and municipalities in applying conservation practices to the land. Conservation Districts sponsor and coordinate educational, technical and financial assistance to address water quality and the conservation of natural resources. Conservation Districts offer a unique and powerful vehicle for citizens to become involved with local conservation work and establish programs that protect the environment.

Getting involved in Conservation Districts is an excellent way to stay connected to and influence water quality and natural resource conservation activities in your area. Anyone residing within a District may run for office as a Conservation District Supervisor and anyone owning land and residing within a District may sign a nominating petition. Reach out to your local Conservation District manager to discuss how you can become involved! Visit www.vacd.org for more information about your local Conservation District.

Nominating petitions are due November 10th and additional information may be obtained by contacting your local Conservation District office or by contacting the NRCC Administrator at 802-424-3149 or kerry.obrien@vt.nacdnet.net

Vermont Farm Show Trustees Cancel 2021 Event Due to COVID-19

By Scott Waterman, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

It's been a rough year for event cancellations and changes due to the coronavirus pandemic, and now 2021 has been impacted as well. We are sorry to relay the sad news that the Vermont Farm Show for 2021 has been cancelled. Below is an excerpt from the trustees and the Executive Director, Marissa Watson:

"The Vermont Farm Show Board of Trustees has had active discussions over the past several months about holding the Farm Show in January of 2021. We first made the painful, but necessary, decision not to hold a live event in January 2021. We also

examined the possibility of holding a virtual event. We have decided that, although it was exciting to consider the possibility of holding a virtual event, we did not have the capacity to arrange and hold a successful virtual event to accomplish what we expect everyone wanted: high participant attendance, excellent audio/visual effects and vendor/exhibitor satisfaction at a cost-effective

level for all. However, we will be back in 2022 for the Vermont Farm Show at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Jct., Vermont. We will stay in touch as we work to make the Vermont Farm Show a successful event in 2022 for everyone."

We hope the winter months treat you well, and that you "Stay Safe" in these challenging times.



Ag Assistance Program continued from page 1

Assistance award will be \$2,000.

Apply today! Visit agriculture.vermont.gov/covid-19

for more information.

Contact the Vermont Agency of Agriculture with questions at AGRCovidResponse@vermont.gov or (802) 828-2430, option 9.

Vermont Barn Painting Program Finishes Two Barns

By Scott Waterman, VT
Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

With the glorious colors of fall slowly appearing across the Vermont landscape this September, the Vermont Barn Painting program celebrated two newly painted barns this year, adding to the picturesque countryside settings in Greensboro and Peacham.

Found amongst the hills, dirt roads, ponds and brooks of our state, a Vermont Barn is a beacon of Vermont's character and history. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, the Vermont Department of Labor, ReSOURCE YouthBuild, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps and Vermont Works for Women have teamed up with the Pizzagalli Foundation to help preserve Vermont barns for future generations.

At the Turning Point Farm in Greensboro, fresh trim paint and a preserving coat of stain have preserved the beautiful hillside barn for the next generation of Vermonters and tourists who want to experience Vermont's historic architecture and working landscape. At the Village Farm in



Above: Turning Point Farm, Greensboro. Left: Village Farm, Peacham

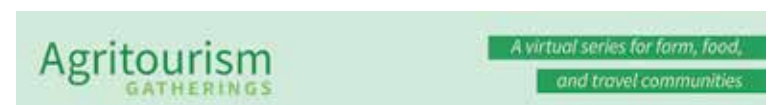
Peacham, a beautiful coat of fresh red barn paint has complimented the nearby bright white Peacham Congregational Church.

If you're interested in this program and would like to apply for future years of this program, please visit the Vermont Agency of Agriculture website at: <https://vermontworkinglands.wufoo.com/forms/vermont-barn-painting-project-application/> or email Faith.Raymond@vermont.gov to explore this idea.

Monthly Series Features Virtual Gatherings On Agritourism

By Lisa Chase, UVM Extension

The Vermont Farm to Plate Agritourism Task force and University of Vermont Extension are collaborating with the International Workshop on Agritourism to present an online agritourism series featuring experts from around the globe. Agritourism Gatherings: A virtual series for farm, food and travel communities will address issues of interest to producers, agricultural service providers, tourism



specialists, researchers and others working with agritourism broadly defined. The one-hour gatherings are free to attend, but advance registration is required for each session.

For program details or to register, visit <http://go.uvm.edu/agtourism-gatherings>. To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, contact Becky Bartlett at (802) 257-7967, ext. 301, or rebecca.bartlett@uvm.edu.

Access to video and audio recordings and other resources will be available following each completed session on the program website.

The first gathering in the series, Welcoming Guests Back on Our Farms and Ranches During COVID-19, took place on Sept. 22. Farm stay owners from India, Italy and the United States shared what they are doing

continued on page 13

Tactical Basin Planning – To Empower People and Focus on Clean Water Actions

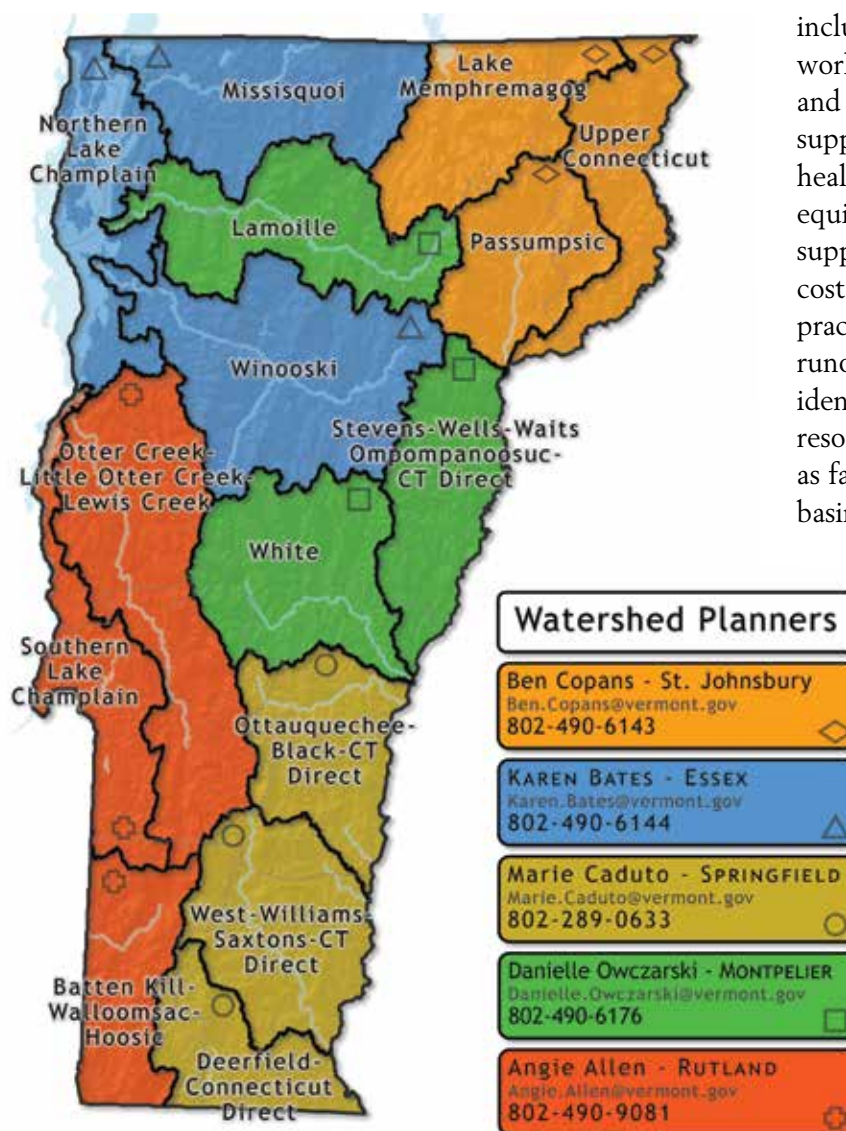
(Information from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Watershed Planning Program, with contributions from Mary Montour, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets and Ben Copans, DEC)

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC) is responsible for developing and implementing Tactical Basin Plans in coordination with other state agencies and watershed partners. The Vermont Water Quality Standards as well as Vermont's Clean Water Act (2015) require the development of Tactical Basin Plans for each of Vermont's 15 river basins to be adopted on a five-year recurring cycle. Tactical basin plans serve as a strategic guidebook designed to empower people with information and tools and provide focus for activities to "protect the best and restore the rest" of Vermont's surface waters.

Tactical Basin Plans summarize existing water quality conditions to identify priorities for surface water protection and the restoration of degraded waters. These plans integrate watershed modeling, water quality monitoring, sector-specific pollution source assessments, and stakeholder input to document geographically-explicit actions by land use sector. The planning

process engages local organizations working on water quality issues to identify targeted strategies to address pollution sources from developed lands, roads, farms, wastewater facilities, and to support the restoration of wetlands, rivers and wetlands and forestlands which are then prioritized for several funding sources.

Currently, the Upper Connecticut Tactical Basin Plan is in the process of being updated. The Upper Connecticut River Tactical Basin Plan covers the Vermont portions of the Connecticut River watershed north of the Passumpsic River. The agricultural section of this plan was developed through collaborative effort between the VT DEC, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Natural Resources Conservation Districts, and agricultural partners. In the basin, the agricultural land use, number and extent of farms, and the relationship to water quality issues including elevated E. coli levels on the Connecticut River and nitrogen loading



to Long Island Sound were identified. The agricultural workgroup looked at these characteristics of the basin combined with the extent of best management practice

implementation by local farmers and tracked as part of federal and state programs to identify focus areas for targeted strategies.

The strategies identified

include providing workshops, outreach and technical assistance, supporting local trials, soil health assessments and equipment necessary to support innovative and cost effective agricultural practices to reduce nutrient runoff. Strategies were also identified to support natural resource restoration projects as farms transition in the basin at a high rate and

which may provide additional funding for new farmers and to support diversified farms including Christmas tree and maple sugaring operations.

The final step of the process is getting public input on the draft plan where public engagement is strongly encouraged and welcomed. The Upper Connecticut River Tactical

Basin Plan will be released for public comment in November of 2020 while tactical planning efforts are also occurring through 2021 on the Battenkill Hoosic, Walloomsac basin, the West, Williams, Saxtons basin, the Lamoille basin and the Missisquoi basin.

To learn more about your Basin and the TBP process, visit <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/watershed-planning> or use the map below to identify your area and watershed coordinator.



VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS



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[http://www.uvm.edu/
vtvegandberry/](http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/)

2020 Vermont Vegetable And Berry Grower Webinars

Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 p.m. For details of upcoming topics and links to past webinar slides and video recordings see: <http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/Webinars2020.html>

November 4 Creature

Comforts that Make Farm Life a Bit Easier

November 11 Business

Planning Support for the Clean Water Initiative – Zach Smith and Tony Kitsos

November 18 TBD

December 2 Bags, Liners,

Containers - So Many Options – Chris Callahan

December 9 Adding Tree

Fruit to a Diversified Farm – Terry Bradshaw

Reports From The Field

(Marlboro) All field vegetables are slowing down or done, blueberries had a great year without too much SWD due to weather and better luck with organic sprays, summer raspberries were decent but suffered from drought toward the end. Fall raspberries are just

now coming on strong after the cold snap but seem to be setting plenty of new fruit. We have drip irrigation in them which is probably making the difference between this decent crop and nothing whatsoever. Fall raspberries, hoop house greens and tomatoes will probably continue until it gets colder. All in all, as good a season as we could expect and actually a bit better- We are thankful that people seem to want local produce more than ever.

(Charlotte) Getting ready for next season is underway. Draining the irrigation lines and cutting back this year's black raspberries. Thinking forward and wondering if the primocane black raspberries maybe a good option to extend our season along with thinking about installing proper drainage in the current black raspberry field, and considering fall raspberries in the field that has been in the works for a couple of years. Welcoming the rain that we will be receiving in the next few days and enjoying the fall colors and then blueberry pruning will be happening soon after that!

(Westminster) All of our fall root crops are doing quite well, and harvest is well underway for many of them, including storage cabbage and parsnips. We finished harvesting our winter squash just in time for the mid-September frost – the earliest frost in at least 20 years. It certainly didn't help our paste tomatoes and the last two plantings of sweet corn didn't make it.

But we're very happy with the two inches of rain, long-awaited, we got last

week, which have given a big boost to crops still in the ground.

(S. Royalton) Worst squash, pumpkin harvest in 25 years. Heat and vine borer, and lots of rotting fruit on the ground. On the upside onions, shallots were great. Four crazy hard early frosts: 25, 20, 25 and 25, yup 20 degrees. Sales still crazy strong, wish I had more product.

(Greensboro) Elderberries 2020 - about 8% of a crop, massive pressure on the fruit due to the drought and insects (Japanese beetles, SWD, slugs, etc.)

(Guildhall) We finished harvesting squash just ahead of the four overnights of 25 degrees. Yields were down but varied by variety. Delicata was down by 40% but most others only 20%. A fair number of Butternut had to be left in the field because they weren't fully ripe. Jack O Lanterns did well and sold well. The upside to the cold was our potato vines got killed, saving us the time rotobating them (we don't use herbicide). So having given the skins 10 days to set, we start digging in earnest tomorrow, 10/2.

(Huntington) I know all seasons are kind of weird, but this one has me scratching my head. We transplanted out our winter squash the last week of May, like usual. We had way more GDD than usual from that point on, and good irrigation all summer. Those plants were at least 2 weeks late maturing, and while we twiddled our thumbs waiting for things to ripen

up, we had to deploy row cover for the first time ever on squash to stave off the mid-September cold snap. I've never left so much green fruit in the field before, especially considering we harvested later than usual. Yields were very good, but not where I would have expected.

Happy to have gotten 2 inches of rain this week — that kept us from smashing our previous record for driest-ever calendar moth. Snow on March 14th, 90 degrees 2 weeks later (and plenty of heat all summer), little rain, then 5 hard frosts in mid-September. Sheesh.

Your Input Sought For Cover Cropping Research On Field Peas

UVM is looking for farmers to fill out a brief field pea cover cropping survey. The information collected from this survey will help shape cover cropping research conducted

by UVM.

Your participation is essential to ensure our research is applicable to all farmers in the Northeast. The survey is only 17 questions and should take a few minutes to complete. <https://forms.gle/6Aj4bfiBuQaTPb2C7>

Northeast Greenhouse Conference Webinars

Though the in-person conference is postponed, there will be a webinar series this fall, beginning Nov. 4 sponsored by New England Floriculture Inc.

The content will address greenhouse pests, diseases, biocontrols, PGRs, and sanitation. Pesticide recertification credit will be offered for New England states and New York.

For dates/topics and registration information visit <https://www.negreenhouse.org/virtual-series-schedule.html>.

Note from Weights & Measures

The Weights and Measures team was part of the October moose hunt. Dwight Brunette captured this photo at a weighing station. Part of the mission of the weights and measures team is to make sure all scales in Vermont are accurate. It is an important component for all commerce in Vermont.



CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale:**BEES AND QUEENS****McFarline Apiaries**
Untreated bee breeding

VT 5 frame Nucs and deep singles
\$200-\$300, Available May-June
MCF Queens \$30: June to end of July
tmcfarline2@yahoo.com

www.mcfarlineapiaries.com

802-537-3294

Call or email now for details

**Cattle**

In Westford, VT...2 Jersey Heifers. One due end of June. One due 1st of July. \$750 each. 802-338-0684.

350+ cow and 200+ young stock barn/farm facility available for rent. Complete dairy farm with modern double 10 Boumatic parlor. No livestock included. All buildings have slatted floor, no alley scraping needed. Headlocks in all livestock barns, mattresses, curtains, 2 bulk milk tanks. 700 acres of feed for purchase. Rent, buy or will consider raising young stock for other farmers. Let's discuss the possibilities. 802-533-2984

3 breeding age bulls- one Hereford, 2 angus for breeding or beef. Asking \$850 each or will consider trading for Hereford heifers. 802-586-2857

Purebred Polled Hereford yearling heifers. Lull Brook Farm call: Alden Dana 802-436-2068 or email adana77@comcast.net

2 Registered Guernsey cows: Certified A2A2, milking 75-80lbs, both sired by Welcome JT - \$1200 each. 1 registered Guernsey bred heifer due late August A2A2 certified, sired by Latimer; dam is EX90 \$1500. 802-222-4047.

Yearling beef steers and heifers \$500 to \$600 each. Beef going up and with good pasture possible to double money by fall, also beef cow

calf combination \$1000. 802-728-3760

22 Jersey cows 2 bred heifers. 4 fresh Jan, 2 Feb, 3 due Mar, 4 Apr, 1 May, 2 Jun. Can be reg. Feed grain hay pasture. 802-775-3846

Angus Bulls for sale good genetics, calving ease bulls. Please call 802 533 9804. Greensboro, VT 05841

Registered Angus Cow calf pairs, bred cows Starting \$1500 18 years of Select Sire Artificial Breeding. Call Richard Dickinson, 802-782-9970 or drdickinson@dbdentalcarevt.com

Scotch Highland/Belted Galloway crosses for sale. 2 year old bulls, yearling bulls, cow calf pairs, heifers. call for prices. 802-353-7313

Cattle- Hereford, Angus, Holstein bulls for sale. All ages. They're respectful of electric fence. Call 802-735-4725 or email louise.resendes@uvmhealth.org

Black Angus heifers and bulls for sale. Good genetics call for more info 802-558-8196

Employment

Dairy Farmer Needed: North Williston Cattle Company, a 240-cow family farm milking with 4 Lely robots, is seeking a reliable, detail-oriented team player for approximately 40 hr.s per week. Hours are M-F noon until 6 p.m. and alternating weekends and holidays. Must be primarily

interested in working with cattle and calves and have the ability to be trained for a variety of jobs: servicing robots, hoof trimming, operating equipment, A.I., etc. Ag. education and/or experience preferred. Attitude most important quality. Competitive salary based on skill sets. Housing is not provided. For more information, email us at NWCC11@gmail.com or call 802-238-5781 after 6 pm.

Larson Farm and Creamery, 30-cow organic grass-fed Jersey dairy farm and creamery seeks dairy herd manager who is passionate about sustainable dairy production. Responsibilities include milking, feeding, pasture management, herd health, calf and barn chores. Must be able to handle animals calmly, have basic tractor skills. Cleanliness and good organizational skills a must. 802-645-0865

Equipment

3 pt hitch wood splitter, Farming wench, Empyre Pro Outdoor Wood Furnace, two 550 gal fuel tanks and two 275 gal fuel tanks. 802-746-8979

375 gal full tank \$100. CMT bale wrapper \$250. 2 bottom plow \$75. 802-426-3339

3000 gallon mueller bulk tank with 2-5 horsepower compressor. 802-487-4467

Mueller 500 gallon bulk tank with compressor in good condition \$800 OBO. Pequea model 250 3 pt hitch tractor saw with 30" blade - like new- \$1000 OBO. 3 pt hitch - 4 ft hydraulic log splitter \$1800 OBO 802-893-2262

Red cedar posts. 7ft \$5.00. Sharp \$5.50. 8ft \$6.00. Haylage 35/ton. 802-265-4566

2955 John Deere Tractor 4WD, platform with 740 loader, bucket, forks, bale grabber and rock bucket. 4450 John Deere Tractor 4WD, cab, 925 Mower conditioner with impellers. 802-236-4716

Used farm equipment, harrows, rakes, Tedder, all over

20 years old \$20 each. 1 Kaufman trailer 2001 \$150. Call 802-457-2613.

Gestation tabulator by Willard Bates & Son with 100 pins. Make an offer. Snap test kit used twice. Make an offer. Dari Kool 150 gallon bulk tank, \$500. Acorn 17 foot conveyor, \$450. Call 802-933-4159. Leave message, will return your call.

Irrigation pipe. Tico aluminum pipe. 2"x30'. approx 100 pieces available. \$15 each. 5"x30' 30 pieces available. \$30 each. Fittings and sprinklers available. Email for photos or questions. chris@lincolnpeakvineyard.com Lincoln Peak Vineyard, New Haven. 802-388-7368

Grain equipment for sale - 2 gravity box wagons in good condition, one with auger, \$1500 each, Beidler Family Farm, Randolph Center, 802-431-8530.

Loftness snow blower 7 foot. Double auger. Three point mounting. Hydraulic operated shoot. Great condition. Ready to use. Cat 2 or Cat 3 hitch. 100 hp or more to run. \$3,000. New these are \$8,500. Looking to move it. It's a terrific deal. Shaftsbury, VT. 781-307-6801.

Reel Auggie Mixer on F-450 with scales; IH 843 Combine cornhead; IH 8817 Windrow head; Gehl 350 Spreader; Case 580 backhoe; 850 Dozer for parts. Call 802-770-0959

IH 1486 tractor new tires good AC \$11,9000. IH 1086 tractor rice & cane tires runs good \$7800. JD 3 point hitch 6ft finish mower \$200. Full set of 10 weights and weight bar for IH magnum 1st generation tractors \$700. Pair of 20.8-38 duals with snap on rims \$800. IH 2350 loader \$200. 802-537-2435

8'x17' tandem trailer, all new wood. Great for moving round bales, \$850. 802-586-2857

Master-Bilt 34.5 cubic foot 2-section ice cream hardening and holding

cabinet. \$4,500. Please call 802-436-2948 or e-mail Cobbhillfrozenyogurt@gmail.com

Gehl haylage head Model HA1110 very good running shape \$1100.00 Fits most all Gehls 333-4840

Krone EC400 13' disc mower, 540 pto. New, never used. Stored under cover. \$13,500. Craftsbury Common. 802-586-2516 or rshold@gmail.com

2015 Houle manure spreader 5350 gallons 2005 NH FP230 chopper 4 steel wagons 20 feet 2016 Gehl skid steer 165 1 round baie wagon all steel 20 feet tandem krone rake and tedder everything is in excellent shape have sell cows for health reasons. Phone 802-895-2945.

Case International 8340 mower conditioner, stored inside, in good condition. Running, was used last year during first cut. \$2500 or best offer. 802-518-2155.

15-ton brock grain bin 5 years old. 6.9 ton brock grain bin - excellent shape. 90ft hay elevator - good shape. John Deere baler. 11.5 wide MoGoo John Deere Disc Mower. 9ft 535 Disc mower - like new. 802-624-0143/802-895-4683

N.H. T4030F cab 4wd narrow model 2200 hrs \$25500. Kubota L4400 4wd 2000hrs \$9500. Case IH 685 narrow model \$7500. Call 802-897-5771

For sale FMC pto air blast sprayer High pressure pump 300 gal tank 36" fan, works good got new sprayer \$2,100 obo 802-344-013

New holland 479 hay combine runs good 500.bucks. Tel. 430-4378.

Caretree 501B tree spade. New in 2001, I am the second owner. Digs a 28" ball, truncated blades. Despite its age, the unit has been used very little. Always under cover, no hydraulic leaks. Original owner's manual. Currently configured to SSQA with valve body on

CLASSIFIEDS

roof of machine. Comes with bracket to attach valves for use by assistant standing on the ground, and three legs to allow digging smaller balls. Also included is a small supply of wire baskets and burlap socks. \$3,000.00 obo. Call Russell @ 802-492-3323. I return all messages. Prefer email russreay@vermontel.net

DS Livestock steel feeders 8' long #F1330 list price \$590 (220lbs) plus shipping and 4' long #F1310 list price \$390 (110lbs) plus shipping. 8' price \$200 - 4' price \$100. bearmountainfarmVT@gmail.com 802-394-7852

FP 230 New Holland chopper. 3 steel 20 feet hay wagons. krone 10 feet 802 323 811080 disc mower mimt . 4 feeder steel wagons excellent 20 feet. Gehl skid steer with 2000 hrs. brock grain bin 20 tons. cattle trailer. Andre Morin 802-895-2945. Cell 802-323-8110

NDE sawdust/shavings spreader. Can be mounted on three point hitch or skid steer. Benson. Pictures on request. Best offer. 770-8060.

Vacuum pump and replacement motor: 1hp, 115v Lisson vacuum pump and never used replacement motor. The vacuum pump has been used to run a milking machine. In good to excellent condition. \$500. for both Pioneer Forecart: Rubber tires, fenders, in excellent condition. \$ 800. Contact Lynn at: 802-563-2999 or email at: juneiris@fairpoint.net

Farm & Farmland

For Lease: 10 acres of organic meadow in Brandon, currently in alfalfa. Producing roughly 12-15 tons per year in dry hay. Three-year lease available, price negotiable, but approximately \$600/yr 802-247-8459

Private Horse Farm. 17+ acres. Covered small arena. Large sand ring. Insulated stable with 3 oversize stalls, attached paddocks, feed/tack room, hay storage, grass pastures with board

fencing. Vermont country open concept farmhouse. 3 bedrooms, office, sun room. Solar, cell phone reception, internet. Workshop, chicken house, orchard, stream trails, woods, views. Close to Dartmouth College and DH Medical Center. Equipment and supplies extra. \$549,999. Call 802-785-4410.

Former flower farm in Andover for sale this Fall. Off-grid wood-heated house, composting toilet. 3 poly greenhouses. 802-875-2758 or andfar@vermontel.net.

General

High Tunnel Greenhouse Assembly & Maintenance: Ledgewood, Harnois, Rimol and more. Complete Assembly, End Wall Construction, Poly Installation, Renovation, and Repairs. Experienced and Professional. Plan Ahead! Get in touch now to get on the 2020 schedule. Contact Mike Feiner at feinervt@gmail.com, www.vineripe.net, (802) 498-8031.

250 Five gallon pails with handles. \$1.75 each. 802-999-4644

Boumatic pipeline - \$2500. +/-230ft / 2inch / 46 Stalls stainless steel milk line including vacuum line, wash sink, 3 units, control box, and receiver jar is \$2500. \$4000 with vacuum pump. Call (802) 446-2791 Wallingford. Ask for Jerry.

Hay, Feed & Forage

Short on feed? Board your heifers with us and we will feed and care for them! We are retired dairy farmers that have excellent facilities available including headlocks, slatted floors and more. Don't buy feed and pay for trucking...Send those heifers here. References available upon request. Call 802-533-2984 and let's talk about your options.

Good quality certified organic Haylage stored in Ag Bags and large round bales 1st,2nd, and 3rd cut. Delivery available. 802-988-2959 or 802-274-2832



Quality Canadian hay for sale, big/small squares wrapped, or unwrapped, round bales wrapped or unwrapped, 1st, 2nd, 3rd cuts available. Switch grass and straw available, call Richard at 802-323-3275

2019 1st cut Timothy and clover hay \$ 5.00 a bale plus delivery fee. Call 603-256-8422

1000 tons corn silage, processed in Colchester. 50 @ ton 802-272-3478 or 802-223-1370 or email sethgardner@hotmail.com

Excellent quality first cut wrapped round bales; baleage. Shelburne VT Call Andy 802-598-6060. Analysis available upon request.

2019 1st cut 4x4 wrapped round bales for sale \$40/bale, 2019 2nd cut 4x4 wrapped round bales for sale \$45/bale, South Pomfret, call Tom at 802-457-5834

Organic haylage 12% protein \$45 per ton, 15% protein \$55 per ton. 802-537-2435

4x4 round balage mixed grains cut late June. \$30 802-325-3707

1st cut 4x5 round bales. Don Pettis, 802-265-4566.

1st, 2nd & 3rd cut haylage and corn silage for sale at the bunk. Call Peter Gebbie 802-533-2984, leave a message.

June 15th cut mixed Hay, great quality, Will Load, 4'

X 4' Round Bales, \$40/bale, quantity discount/cash prices available. Westford, 802-355-2930

2020 Organic certified 4x4 wrapped hay bales. 1st cut early June 45.00 2nd and 3rd 50.00. 802-793-7526 or 802-433-6127

Certified Organic First Cut Wrapped Round Bales for sale. Clover, Timothy and mixed grasses. Test samples and delivery available. Call Matt 802-558-3879.

80 4x5 dry 1st cut bales available on Hollow Rd Brandon Vt in Rutland County. Assistance in loading. Please call end leave a message at 802-247-6076 or 802-236-0144.

Vetch & rye seeds for sale, mixed in 50 lb. bags, \$1/lb. certified by Vermont Organic Farmers. Thornhill Farm, 198 Taylor Road, Greensboro Bend, VT 05842, todd@thornhillfarmvermont.com, 802-441-3176

ADDISON COUNTY

Large squares available in Addison, Vt. Hay is stored under cover. Looks like a long winter ahead of us. Call now and make sure you have enough. Contact S.L. Moore at 802-463-3875.

1st cut 4x5 round bales never wet. Good horse & cow hay. 802-948-2627 or 802-558-0166

Certified organic, small square bales always stacked and

stored under cover, 35-40lbs/bale. \$4/bale, discounts available for large quantities. 802-989-0781 for inquiries.

Hay for Sale in Addison, VT. Large square bales and small squares. \$50-60 for Large, \$3.50-4.50 for Small. Delivery Available. Call Jack 802-989-8968

Hay for sale. \$3.25 bale. 802-377-5455

73 1st cut 5ft diameter round bales. \$30-\$35Orwell 802-948-2211

Straw for sale - \$7/bale for 50 or more. \$8/bale for less than 50, \$6/bale for all in the barn, approx. 350. from our winter rye harvest in August. certified organic. Thornhill Farm, Greensboro Bend, 05842, todd@thornhillfarmvermont.com, 802.441.3176

BENNINGTON COUNTY

Corn Silage 1000 ton plus. Haylage 500 ton plus. Round bales 4x4. Square bales small. 802-394-2976

CALEDONIA COUNTY

Square baled hay- Top quality, VOF certified organic, generous sized. 1st cut \$4.50/bale, 2nd cut \$5.50/bale at the barn in Barnet. 802-592-3088

CHITTENDEN COUNTY

Round bales for horses. Clean first cut timothy mixed grass, quality net wrapped 4' X 5' bales. Never wet. \$45. each. 802- 879-0391 Westford.

15 large 5x5 round bales mixed grass w/some timothy + clover 800+lbs \$50 ea. call 899-4126 or e-mail

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Good Quality Hay 1c & 2c from western US & Canada. Alfalfa orchard & orchard sweet grass 18 to 20% plus protein large bales & organic by trailer loads. Large or small square bales of straw whole or processed at farm we load on direct delivery by trailer load. Mountain View Dairy Farm 802-849-6266

LAMOILLE COUNTY

Organic baled straw. \$5.50/bale. Certified organic. Valley

Dream Farm, Cambridge, Vt. 802-644-6598 or valleydream@myfairpoint.net.

ORANGE COUNTY

2019 first cut square hay bales for sale. \$4.00 per bale. Delivery available. Bonnie Kennedy, Chelsea, VT. 802-685-2292.

Approximately 375 ton of high quality grass and clover first and second cut, cut extremely early in 2018. First finished May 22, second finished July 2nd. Tests high in energy and protein. 45% harvested "hay in a day" \$50 per ton. Chris 802-522-9485

ORLEANS COUNTY

Pure alfalfa for sale and also 1st, 2nd and 3rd cut big/small squares, round bales, wrapped or unwrapped, straw and switch grass. Call Richard at 802-323-3275.

Organic Certified Silage for Sale: We will deliver from our farm or you can come and pick up. Call for prices and delivery charge. 1-802-744-2444 or 802-274-4934 or 802-744-6553.

RUTLAND COUNTY

Good quality 1st and 2nd round bales available, wrapped and dried. Please call 802-446-2435.

4 x 4 wrapped bales for sale. Please call either 802-247-6076 or 802-236-0144

WASHINGTON COUNTY

200 – 4x4 round wrapped bales 1st \$45. 802-229-9871

WINDHAM COUNTY

2020 4X4 wrapped baleage. June cut. Certified organic, never wet. 802-254-6982

1st cut hay. Good horse hay. \$4.50 bale 802-254-5069

WINDSOR COUNTY

Hay for sale-400 square bales, Reading, Windsor County Vt. \$3.50 per bale at the barn. Call 802-484-7240

4x5 dry round bales \$45.00 delivery available. 802-457-1376

Rolling Meadows Farm: square bales in the field or barn \$4.00. Delivery can be arranged at \$5.50. Very nice

hay from fertilized fields in the South Woodstock and Reading area. Call 802-484-5540 or goodfarmvt@gmail.com. Ask for David.

1st. cut dry round bales for sale. Never been rained on, stored under cover. \$50. @ 1st. cut haylage bales for sale. \$45. Rte. 5 Weathersfield Bow 802 -546-4340.

Dry Round Horse Hay, \$50/ Bale. 200 Bales left. Call 802-356-5030.

Sheep

Buying Lambs- 40 lb and up & 1.75/ lb live weight. Call 802-674-2417. Pick up available

Sheep Feeders - DS Livestock: 8' long, 4' long and two

hexagonal. 20 years old - all steel frames. Cost new without shipping \$1,420. Package price \$475. bearmountainfarmVT@gmail.com (802)-394-7852

A pure bred (w/papers) Romney Ram 3 years old, 1 pure bred (w/papers) Shetland ram for sale. 4 icelandic/romney ewes for

sale various ages/colors (certified organic) 422 4704 leave message

Wanted

Looking for several 4 spoked 4 ft. diameter pin wheels for an old Farmhand rake. The 90 degree rod hole holding the pin wheel on is 2 1/4 inches in diameter. Call 802-457-2218

Agritourism

continued from page 8

to prepare for overnight guests to offer them a safe experience during the pandemic. The gathering attracted 224 registered participants representing 29 countries. The second session, "Regenerative Tourism and Agriculture" took place on Oct. 8 and focused on the global regenerative tourism movement and how regenerative agricultural practices have helped shape this movement. Speakers joined from a Costa Rican sustainable rainforest ecolodge, a California meat company, a New York farm-based hospitality business and Vancouver Island University.

The next session in the series, "Indigenous and Tribal Perspectives on Agritourism" is scheduled for Nov. 19th from noon-1pm. Presenters from the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, La Paz on Foot (Bolivia), the Mesoamerican Permaculture Institute (Guatemala) and the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin will discuss indigenous-led agritourism initiatives, best practices for integrating agrobiodiversity conservation in tribal communities and how ancient culture and history can apply to contemporary travel company design and marketing.

Future programs in the

series are Virtual Farm and Food Experiences (December), Experiential Education and the Experience Economy (January), Social Justice in Agriculture and Tourism (February), African Perspectives on Agri/Eco Tourism (March), Culinary Lens on Agritourism (April) and the Future of Nature-Based Tourism (May).

These virtual gatherings are strengthening the international agritourism network



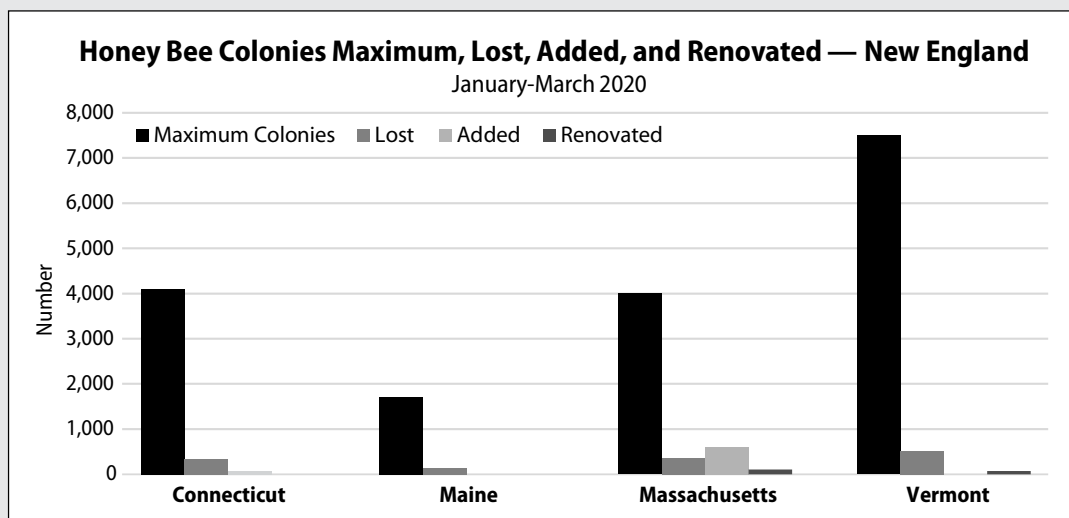
Brushing Paco the donkey, courtesy of Leaping Lamb Farm.

that has formed in anticipation of the International Workshop on Agritourism, which will take place in Burlington August 31 -

September 2, 2021. More information at <https://www.agritourismworkshop.com/>

Annual Bulletin Available Now

This chart and other statistical data can be found on USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service website https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_England/ Look for the 2019 Agricultural Statistics Annual Bulletin for New England.



Vector Surveillance 2020 Wrap-Up

By Patti Casey, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Well, 2020 has certainly been one for the record books! Our tick and mosquito surveillance programs were no different – this year stands out as the odd duck from our historical averages. But happily, this year we have been given a break and our numbers are lower than they've been in recent history.

Our 2020 spring tick surveillance saw numbers about 30% lower than last year's, although they represent a return to more "normal" averages. That is to say, last year's numbers were rather high, and this year's numbers more closely match historic averages.

We start our fall tick surveillance efforts in mid-October when we have finished our mosquito surveillance. You may see a pair of our intrepid field



Above: Former VT State Entomologist Alan Graham vacuums out a resting box trap for mosquitoes. At right, a seasonal field technician dragging for ticks in leaf litter.



agents along a roadside or at the edge of the woods, brandishing a 1-meter-square white flannel flag and a clipboard. You have our promise we will not return any of the ticks we find.

Speaking of mosquitoes, you are not imagining things – there really weren't a lot of mosquitoes this year! For only the second time ever, our program received an email from someone concerned they were not

seeing a lot of mosquitoes (a welcome break from the other, more prevalent kind of mosquito call).

Overall mosquito numbers are down about 40% over historic averages, and as of this writing, none of our mosquito samples have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus.

We made some changes to our trapping regimen this year, but we are still a bit

surprised and grateful for not finding these diseases, especially after last year's high number of EEE cases in neighboring states. All of our surveillance data can be accessed on the VT Agency of Agriculture website, at www.agriculture.vermont.gov.

Remember to cover up with long sleeves and pants, use an EPA-approved insect repellent, avoid dawn and dusk activities as best you can, and do a tick check

every day. When you come in from the field, throw your clothes in the dryer on high for 15 minutes and take a shower to wash off any ticks. Promptly remove any ticks that are attached. The VT Dept of Health has great Public Health tick information at BeTickSmart.gov

And remember to vaccinate your horses for WNV and EEE – it can save lives!

Course Explores Options for Starting an Ag Business

By UVM Extension

If you have ever thought about agriculture for a living, University of Vermont (UVM) Extension's Growing Places course can help you learn the nuts and bolts for a successful start-up.

This online course is designed to help aspiring farmers better understand what it takes to start and operate an agricultural

enterprise from setting goals to developing a viable marketing plan. The next session will be offered this winter (Jan. 11-Feb. 7).

The early registration fee is \$100, if received by Dec. 22 for the winter session. After that date, the fee increases to \$150. Financial assistance is available for qualified applicants.

To register, go to <http://go.uvm.edu/growingplaces>. To request a disability-

related accommodation, please contact UVM Student Accessibility Services at access@uvm.edu or call (802) 656-7753.

Participants will learn about goal setting, decision-making, resource evaluation, financial planning and the basics of marketing agricultural products with an end goal of outlining the next steps to advance their planning for their farm business. Throughout the

course, information will be provided on additional resources including state and federal agricultural programs and organizations that assist and support farmers.

The instructor-led course is self-paced with weekly assignments that combine presentations, readings, and exercises. Live weekly webinars via Zoom will provide opportunities for interaction with the instructor and other

participants. Sessions will be recorded to enable individuals unable to attend the live sessions to view at their convenience.

Growing Places is co-sponsored by the UVM Extension New Farmer Project and the Women's Agricultural Network.

For more information, please email the New Farmer Project at newfarmer@uvm.edu



Working Lands Enterprise Initiative Success Story:

Rebop Farm

By Lynn Ellen Schimoler, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Rebop Farm of Brattleboro received \$25,000 in Working Lands funding for the infrastructure of a new farm store. This new store is also used as a community events space.

Rebop Farm sought a grant from the Working Lands Enterprise Initiative to cover commercial septic, well, and associated excavation costs; the farm store construction began in May 2019, with trenching in of electric lines, excavation and foundation pouring.

The well, septic, and electric were completed in late August. The entire construction project was completed in late October and the building opened for retail and events in early November 2019.

The project has had immediate positive impacts on Rebop Farm’s business. This project increased product sales by 200% — in its first three months— by increasing their store capacity, improving their retail space, and increasing traffic.

It also added to their agrotourism program by allowing Rebop to expand their workshops, farm dinners, concerts, and community events as a whole; the space has already exceeded their initial projections for community usage.

Rebop Farm is currently working with eleven other producers to fill out the farm store’s offerings, which they hope will increase potential markets for these producers, as well as providing a relatively stable income stream in product resale for the farm. A wide

selection of retail cuts are available for sale in the farm store, and eaters can contact the farm directly to inquire about availability of specific or specialty items. Wholesale meat is also available to restaurants and commercial accounts.

The farm itself is a highly diversified, grass-based, and organic practice. Rebop’s ethos is centered around the stewardship of their soils and watershed, the health of their animals, and ultimately, the wellbeing of their consumers and the community they feed.

Rebop grazes their animals in an intensive rotational system that is designed to keep animals healthy, soil covered with vegetation at all times, and pasture plants diverse and robust. For example, when selling their livestock, Rebop makes sure to use the whole animal in their offerings.

According to their philosophy, “Eating whole animals, if we’re going to eat meat, keep us in sync with the reality of eating animals as food.”

Even further, Rebop sells their milk in reusable glass jars that they wash upon return, minimizing waste for their dairy, and their cows move their own manure

during the grazing season, rather than needing to have it scraped and spread through mechanical (and fossil-fuel-burning) means. This farm is a great example of a successful paradigm market shift from the traditional farm stands we think of: open air market to a ‘brick and mortar’ market.

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Woodlawn Holsteins, of Pawlett, Vermont to transport milk within the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by November 30, 2020.

At that time the Agency will make a determination as to whether a hearing will be held. If we determine that a hearing is necessary and you wish to attend please write to the above address attention Dairy Section.

Teens Wanted to Teach About Environment

By UVM Extension

Teens interested in teaching younger kids about environmental topics may apply to be a TRY for the Environment teacher.

TRY, short for Teens Reaching Youth, provides an opportunity for Grade 7-12 students, working in teams, to enhance their leadership and communications skills by helping younger students

understand real-world environmental issues and how they can contribute to real-life solutions.

Teens may elect to receive online training in either climate change through waste solutions to teach Grades 1-3 or watershed science for Grades 3-4. Although offered through the University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H Teen and Leadership Program, enrollment in 4-H is not

required. Neither is previous teaching experience.

Two teaching sessions will be held. The first is Jan. 1-March 31 with training in December and a Nov. 2 deadline to apply. Session 2 runs from March 1-May 31 with training in February. Applications must be received by Jan. 15 for the latter session.

To download the application packet, go to [www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/](http://www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/announcements)

[announcements](#).

Once trained, each two- or three-member team will be required to teach two different groups virtually. All teaching materials will be provided along with a TRY T-shirt to wear while conducting lessons.

The waste solutions option will focus on recycling and reuse, waste reduction and Vermont’s Universal Recycling law and composting. The watershed science

curriculum will cover the water cycle, exploring water use and conservation and the stewardship and protection of waterways.

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, call Lauren Traister, UVM Extension 4-H Teen and Leadership Program coordinator at (802) 888-4972, ext. 402, by Nov. 2 for Session 1 or Jan. 15 for Session 2.

Spread Manure While the Ground Is Still Soft

By Sonia Howlett, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

Spread manure while it can still infiltrate” is not nearly as catchy as the old adage “make hay while the sun shines,” but, like many farm tasks, manure spreading is time sensitive. As you make plans to finish your tasks before winter, remember to prioritize manure spreading on warmer days when the ground can absorb the nutrients you are putting on it. The earlier you get manure on your fields this fall, the better chance it will have to soak into the ground, which could give your crops or pasture a head start on the growing season next spring.

If winter comes early, as it has many recent years, you will be glad for any manure spreading you got done now. The manure spreading ban is right around the corner, starting December 15th. Past that date you will be prohibited from spreading until April 1 (107 days). The Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) also prohibit the spreading of manure or other agricultural waste on frozen ground or snow-covered ground, even before the complete spreading ban December 15th.

These regulations exist because under winter conditions manure has a hard time infiltrating into the soil. Manure spread on a layer of snow or onto frozen ground is likely to thaw before the ground does and run off your field, losing you those nutrients and potentially



affecting adjacent waterways.

It is up to you to evaluate whether manure will be able to infiltrate the soil. When you are looking to spread and aren't sure if your field is frozen or snow-covered, think “is it likely that this manure will be able to soak into the ground today?” If the answer is yes, go ahead and get some spreading done. If no, hold off.

If you anticipate having an issue meeting the winter manure spreading ban restrictions, contact the Agency for assistance with planning winter manure management. If you have any questions about frozen or snow-covered ground, the manure spreading ban, or appropriate manure stacking sites, call the Agency at (802) 828-2431.

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