Join us for a two day conference on renewable energy for the farm!

The Lake Morey Resort is located in Fairlee, Vermont. Hotel rooms are available at the resort for $80 per night. Call Lake Morey Resort to book a room for the conference @ (802) 333-4311

Directions to the Lake Morey Resort

PO Box 326 Fairlee, VT 05045
802-333-4311

From Boston: Take I-93 North to I-89 North (in Concord, NH) to I-91 North (in White River Jct, VT). Take Exit 15. Turn left off exit ramp. Take first right (granite Lake Morey Resort sign on corner). Follow the golf course (on left) and take your first left onto Clubhouse Rd. Resort is on the right.

From Hartford and points South: Take I-91 North to Exit 15 in Vermont. Turn left off exit ramp. Take first right (granite Lake Morey Resort sign on corner). Follow the golf course (on left) and take your first left onto Clubhouse Rd. Resort is on the right.

From Burlington: Take I-89 South to Exit 7 (Berlin/Barre). Take Route 302 East through Barre to Orange. Take Route 25 South to Bradford. Take I-91 South to Exit 15 - Turn right off exit ramp. Take next right (granite Lake Morey Resort sign on corner). Follow the golf course (on left) and take your first left onto Clubhouse Rd. Resort is on the right.

This conference is sponsored in part by:

Northeast SARE
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

NEW ENGLAND RMA
Regional Water Program

February 17 and 18, 2009
Lake Morey Inn: Fairlee, VT
Registration fee $25.00
Renewable Energy for the Farm

February 17, 2009: Vegetable Oil Production and Use on Farm
9:00am to 5:00pm

Energy Analysis of the Farm — What are the opportunities for energy efficiency and renewable energy on your farm? Greg Strong, Spring Hill Solutions, LCC, will talk about cost and benefits of energy work, what other farmers are up to, where to find support, and how the make the best energy decisions for your farm.

Canola and Sunflower Crop Production — Derek Crompton, University of Minnesota, will discuss sunflower and canola production, and their research with feeding meal to dairy cows. He will also discuss the ongoing research on use in tractors as a fuel.

The Cost of Producing Your Own Fuel — Seth Fong, Univ. of Minnesota, has worked extensively with the cost analysis of producing oilseed crops, and using as both biodiesel and SVO. He will also present on the net energy balance of small-scale production and how that compares to that of large-scale facilities.

So You Want to Make Biodiesel — Many farmers have found that they can improve farm sustainability by producing biofuel. Matt Steiman, Dickinson College, will discuss the basics of biodiesel production, as well as important safety practices and environmental considerations applicable to small producers.

Growing Your Own Fuel — Local Farmers, Roger Rainville, John Williamson, and Dorn Cox have been working towards development of on-farm fuel facilities. The farmers will share experiences growing oilseed crops, equipment needs, and even potential for mobile processing units.

Running/Adapting equipment on Biodiesel and/or Straight Vegetable Oil — This workshop focuses on converting standard Beckett oil burners to run on Straight Vegetable Oil. Paul Schmidt (Burlington) will include principles of a siphon burner, conversion, troubleshooting and maintenance and touch on issues with running B100 in an unmodified burner.

February 18, 2009: Biomass and the Rest
9:00am to 5:00pm

Biomass Fuel Systems for Heating Greenhouses (or Buildings) — Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension, will describe some of the pros, cons, and costs of using corn, coal, waste vegetable oil, biodiesel, wood pellets or cord wood, based on farmer experience.

Producing and Packaging Corn for Corn Stoves — Bill Llywelyn, Five Point Farm, grows and markets about 2,000 tons of shell corn for fuel. Bill will describe the equipment they use to do this and what they have learned about the crop and the customers. Paul Boivin, Vermont Golden Harvest Biofuels will provide an overview on what is involved with processing corn for heating and will touch on capital start-up costs for developing a corn fuel business.

Potential for Energy Production from Cropland in New England: John Jemison, Peter Sexton (Univ. ME) and Sid Bosworth (UVM) will review the potential for energy crops in our environment: grass hay, canola, soybean, sunflower, barley, oats, and corn.

Small Scale Solar Hot Water and PV at Sunrise Farm: Chuck Wooster will discuss the 3.4 kW, grid-connected solar array that provides 60% of the farm's (and farmhouse's)' annual electricity needs, as well as a solar hot water system that supplies the house.

Wind Power on the Farm — Jack Lazor, Butterworks Farm will share his story of constructing and operating a windmill on a dairy farm. He will describe the benefits as well as the perils and pitfalls of wind energy on the farm.

20 kW Wind and Solar PV on the Farm: Glenn Cook, Cider Hill Farm, has 3 Benegy 10kW wind turbines, a 10kW Evergreen solar panel array, and 3 outdoor Central Boiler hydronic wood furnaces producing up to 2.5 million btu to heat 3 homes and 10 greenhouses.

How to Secure Funds for On-Farm Renewable Energy: A panel of local organizations will discuss availability of funding from local and federal sources to develop and integrate renewable energy on your farm.