Welcome to the UVM Horticulture Research Center
Management Structure

- Terry Bradshaw, Manager / Asst Director
  - 802 922-2591
- Josie Davis, Director VT AES
- Dairy Farm Support
  - 802 862-2151
- PSS HRC Committee
- Greenhouse 656-0465
Supported Projects at HRC:

- VT Agriculture Experiment Funding, some general fund
  - Research
  - Teaching
  - Extension/Outreach
  - Service
- Projects must be faculty-sponsored and approved by HRC committee
Facility

• Closed-gate
  – Open for events, during many workdays
  – Combo not to be given freely
  – You open, You Shut

• Building
  – Keyed Lock
    • Combo box
    • Equipment keys same, box in shop
Work Hours

• Manager on site Mon, Weds, Thurs, Fri
  – 7 AM – 5 PM

• Off-hour work permitted
  – ANY equipment operation requires second person unless expressly exempted
  – Always lock the building if you’re last to leave
Staff Support

- Overall welfare of workers, plots, equipment
- Equipment training and scheduling
- Research support
- Plot access and prep
HRC Users

• Soil/Plot planning and preparation
• Labor in individual plots
• Irrigation setup
• Maintenance of plots
  – Must maintain aesthetic and horticulturally acceptable conditions
HRC Users

CAUTION

AREA IN FRONT OF THIS ELECTRICAL PANEL MUST BE KEPT CLEAR FOR 36 INCHES OSHA - NEC REGULATIONS

08.26.2009
HRC Users

• General Respect
  – Plot and facility cleanliness
  – Consider neighbors, public, other users
  – Flush the toilet
  – No camping
  – No dogs
  – No alcohol, etc
HRC Users

• Shared spaces
  – Lunch space:
    • Fridge, microwave in main classroom
    • CLEAN UP
  – Front Office:
    • Main reception area, please treat it as such
  – Classroom:
    • Used for org farm practicum / farm app program/ Apple Team & other meetings
  – Field lab:
    • Used for multiple purposes, *pick up when you’re done*
Computer Support

• ‘Mid-speed’ Wireless connection
  – Password- blasberg
  – Bandwidth-limited, no big downloads

• Front office computer
  – General use
    • Email
    • Hours
    • Info lookup
HRC Policies

• Online at: http://www.uvm.edu/~hortfarm/Documents/HRCpolicies.pdf

• Posted at doors, available from TB, faculty PIs/advisors
Safety
First Aid

• First Report of Incident forms next to phone in shop
  – Fill out, submit to TB within 72 hrs of injury
  – Employee vs Student Worker Forms

• Basic first aid kit in shop
  – Band-aids, etc
  – ANYTHING worse than a band-aid seek medical attention
  – Grab anyone for a ride, or 911 for emergency
Cuts

• Many opportunities for cuts at HRC
  – Procedures:
    • Wash immediately with soap and water
    • Bandage immediately after
    • Keep clean (don’t put your Band-Aid in the dirt!)
  – ANYTHING worse than a Band-Aid, seek medical attention
Field sharps

- Many tools used at the HRC can cut you:
  - Pruners, hoes, tools, edges on equipment
- Flying debris from mowers/weed wackers
- Sharp sticks

3 reported incidents in past 8 months!
Field sharps

• Keep up your tetanus shots!!!
• Use PPE:
  – Gloves
  – Closed-toe shoes
  – Face protection
• USE COMMON SENSE!!!!!
• Cuts worse than a band aid, go to ER
No bare feet or open toe shoes in and around Blasberg building.

Wear only closed shoes (no sandals) when working around tools and chemicals.
General PPE

• Long pants (weed wackers, mowing, other flying debris)

• Hearing protection
  – Plugs, muffs: USE THEM

• Eye protection
  – Safety glasses in shop
  – Any flying debris (drills, weed wackers, saws, etc)
Poison Ivy

• The sap oil, called urushiol, causes the skin rash.
• Poison ivy is not contagious.
• Washing the oily sap from the skin with water and soap immediately can help prevent the rash.
• Avoiding direct contact with the plants can prevent the rash.
Heat exhaustion / stroke

• Symptoms:
  – Physical/mental fatigue
  – Cramping
  – Hyperventilation
  – Numbness, tingling, muscle spasms
  – Cramping
Heat exhaustion / stroke

• Prevention:
  – Avoid overheating:
  – Light, loose-fitting clothing
  – Sun hats
  – Take breaks out of sun
  – hydrate
Ticks

- Ticks are on the rise in VT and at HRC
- ALL ticks are blood-feeders
- Major concern: Lyme disease
- Bacterial disease spread by several species, mainly deer ticks
Lyme Disease

• Early/localized symptoms:
  – Bullseye rash
  – Headaches, muscle soreness, fever, malaise
  – Treatable at this stage

• Later symptoms
  – Migrating pain in muscles, joints, and tendons, and heart palpitations and dizziness
  – Nervous system damage in later, persistent infections
Lyme Disease: Prevention

• Be tick-safe:
  – Especially in tall grass/brushy areas:
    • Use repellent
    • Tuck pants into socks
  – Check yourself regularly
    • Removal within 36 hours greatly reduces transmission
    • Antibiotics within 72 hours of high-risk exposure can prevent disease
Tick Removal

• Pull the tick out with tweezers as close to the skin as possible, without twisting
• Avoid crushing the body of the tick or removing the head from the tick's body
• The risk of infection increases with the time the tick is attached, and if a tick is attached for less than 24 hours, infection is unlikely
Tick Removal
Wildlife

- HRC is a ‘suburban oasis’
  - Raccoons, rabbits, woodchucks, skunks, deer, snakes, birds, mice, coyotes, bobcat
- Do not approach wildlife for any reason
  - Terry or Andy can trap nuisance critters in some cases
  - Talk to us before doing ANYTHING with wildlife
Goats

- Goats kept on farm for brush control
- Specific MOU with CALS and UVM Vet for their care and management
- NOT a petting zoo!
Goats

- Goat fencing is electric (7000 volts)
- Escaped goats can destroy crops, plantings, and wreak general havoc
- Food safety issues with loose goats in food-crop areas
Traffic Flow

• One-Way (counter clockwise) around building

• Blind corners:
  – North of Kiosk in front
  – South of main building in back
    • Do not drive
    • Do not walk in road