NOFA-VT 2005 Apprentice and Beginning Farmer Education Workshop Schedule

Join fellow apprentices and willing workers for tours and discussions at four organic farms this summer. Each event will include a farm tour and discussion.

1. Tuesday, June 14th 10AM -4PM
The Farm Between, Jeffersonville, VT
Apprentice Training
The Farm Between is a diversified small farm that produces organic chicken, pork, small fruits, herbs and vegetables. They also sell certified organic black currants and piglets and use draft horses in their farming practices. This all day training will focus on introducing apprentices to organic agriculture in general and specifically in Vermont. Potluck lunch, please bring a dish that feeds at least four people.

2. Thursday, June 30th 4PM-7PM
Anjali Farms, S. Londonderry
Pros & Cons of Local Markets
Anjali Farms grows certified organic mixed vegetables and herbs for direct market outlets (farm stand, farmers' market, and CSA). They also have a small flock of layer chickens that help work the land. They host students of all ages in both the field and barn classroom and in addition, produce value-added products from produce and herbs. The workshop will explore the pros and cons of different markets and help aspiring farmers explore different retail possibilities. Potluck dinner, please bring a dish that feeds at least four people.

3. Wednesday, July 13th 11AM-2PM
Maple Wind Farm, Huntington, VT
Who's out on pasture?
Maple Wind Farm produces grass-fed and finished beef and lamb, and pastured, organic pork and poultry. The workshop will explore methods and ideas around intensive grazing of multiple species over the same ground. Emphasis will be placed on hog production on pasture, and their new winter grazing pilot project, but will also look at the operation as a whole. After the workshop, former apprentices now experienced farm managers Megan Wedding & Ben Canonica will answer questions and talk about how they’ve gained their farm knowledge and experience.

4. Tuesday, July 26th 6PM-8PM
New Leaf CSA at Scott Farm, Dummerston, VT
Alternatives to Purchasing Land
Join Liz Wood of New Leaf CSA and Vern Grubinger, Vegetable and Berry Specialist for UVM Extension, as they collaborate on this twilight tour and information session for new growers and apprentices. Liz started New Leaf CSA in 2001 on the historic, scenic Scott Farm and now grows vegetables, flowers, herbs and produces goat cheese for her CSA members. Come and hear Liz’s story of how she acquired her farmland and started a successful farm business and then take a tour of her fields with Vern as they talk about growing practices and systems.

5. Thursday, August 18th 4PM-7PM
New Leaf Organics, Monkton
Successful New Farmers Share Their Secrets
Come pick the brains of new, successful farmers as they discuss the obstacles they faced during their first year farming. Christine Bourque & Adam Farns of Blue Heron Farm, Liz Knapp of Dea Dia Farm, Jill Kopel of New Leaf Organics, and Tyler Webb of Stony Pond Farm will participate in a panel discussion and answer questions about their operations. This workshop will also include a tour of New Leaf Farm, a small but diverse market farm in its 5th season. They sell bedding plants, vegetables, and flowers through a CSA, a farmstand, florist outlets. Potluck dinner, please bring a dish that feeds at least four people.

Designated gatherings are potluck meals. Please bring main dish to share. NOFA-VT will provide salad and beverages.

Cost: Free to apprentices and workers placed through the NOFA-VT Apprentice program. Others please pay $20 to enroll. Enrollment entitles you to attend at no additional cost apprentice trainings & gatherings and summer workshops coordinated by NOFA-VT as well as discounts for reference books the day of the training. Otherwise apprentices pay $5 per apprentice workshop and $12 per NOFA-VT summer workshop.
Directions to Workshops:

1) The Farm Between in Jeffersonville: The Farm Between is located halfway between Cambridge and Jeffersonville on Rte 15. Brick house on curve with two silos. Park around back. Phone: 644-8332

2) Anjali Farms in South Londonderry: From Springfield take Route 11 West. In Londonderry take ( left on Middletown Rd. Go 2.1 miles to “Hidden Drive” sign. It’s the 2nd driveway on right. White house green shutters, red barn and silo. From 100 NORTH take Middletown Rd. 3/10 mile in South Londonderry on left up the hill. Phone: 824-4658

3) Maple Wind Farm in Huntington: From Addison county, Bristol and points west, follow VT Rte. 17/116 east out of Bristol for approx.1 mile where Rte 17 and 116 will split. Turn right to follow Rte. 17 (signs to Waitsfield) and drive for approx. 5 miles to a left turn onto Gore Rd. (signs for Huntington Ctr. & Hanksville). Follow Gore Road for approx. 2.5 miles and turn right onto Carse Rd. Follow directions below*. From town of Richmond, at the traffic light (Cumberland Farms gas station), turn south on Main Rd. Follow Main Rd. (approx. 7 miles) all the way to Huntington (a small town with 2 stores/gas stations). Drive through town, and in 5 miles from the village, turn left up Moody Rd. (dirt road just beyond a "Roaring Valley Farm” sign on the right). Follow Moody Road 1 mile over a 1-lane bridge and turn left up Carse Rd. *Maple Wind Farm is at the end of the road at the Red Barn. Please park in the area to the right between the office/house and telephone pole. Phone: 434-7732

4) New Leaf CSA at Scott Farm in Dummerston: From Dummerston Center Take Middle Road South to Dutton Farm Rd. Make a right on Dutton Farm Rd. Farm is on right, over a mile up, right past a huge white house. Look for a gate with New Leaf sign and some goats. Phone: 254-2531

5) New Leaf Organics in Monkton: Coming from the NORTH: Take 116 into Bristol, 116 veers left but go straight on Silver Street. Stay straight as Silver Street turns into Monkton Rd and then Bristol Rd. Farm is on the left, look for sign. Farm is a little over 9 miles from Good Times Café on 116 in Hinesburg. Phone: 453-6160

Please call the NOFA-VT Office if you have questions. 802-434-4122

Sketches by Scout Proft