



**July 9  
5:30 - 8:30 PM  
Tree Fruit Twilight  
Meeting for  
Commercial  
Fruit Growers**



Held at Apple Hill Farm, 580 Mountain Road, Concord. This meeting is hosted by Chuck & Diane Souther and is sponsored by UNHCE & NH Fruit Growers Association. **For more information call George Hamilton at 603-641-6060.**



**LSPA**  
63 Main Street, P.O. Box 683  
Sunapee, NH 03782

**July 15, 17, 22  
5:45 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Landscaping at the Water's  
Edge: An Ecological  
Approach to Landscaping  
Shoreland Property**  
The Knowlton House  
Lake Sunapee Protective  
Association, Sunapee Harbor

**Please register on line at:  
[www.events.unh.edu/register.shtml?event\\_id=4493](http://www.events.unh.edu/register.shtml?event_id=4493).**

Cost: \$99 (on or before July 8) or \$125 (after July 8). \$49 each for second or third person in any family/organization. **For more information call 225-5505.**

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone enjoying the longer days of summer. Here is a list of current programs being organized by your local agriculture educators. For more information about these programs, call 225-5505 or visit our web page at: <http://extension.unh.edu/Counties/Merrimack/Merrimack.htm>. All of these programs will have informational fliers on our web page at least 3 weeks prior to the event.

**FREE Workshops for Home  
Gardeners & Commercial  
Growers, Hopkinton Library**

**July 23 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
How to Diagnose Problems  
In the Garden**  
*Presented by Sadie Puglisi of  
Merrimack County Extension*

This workshop will put you on your way to being a plant problem detective.

**July 29 6:00 - 7:30 PM  
Pesticide Safety Around  
the Home & Garden**  
*Presented by Amy Ouellette of  
Belknap County Extension*

This presentation will discuss the proper precautions to take to keep you, your family, and your pets safe.

**For more information or to  
RSVP, call (603) 225-5505.**

**August 4 6:00 PM  
Vegetable Twilight Farm Tour  
with UNHCE**

Larry Pletcher, owner and farmer of The Vegetable Ranch in Warner, NH, will open the Concord fields of his farm for an educational tour. Larry will be joined by UNHCE specialists Becky Grube, Alan Eaton, and Cheryl Smith to cover topics such as new and popular crop varieties, season extension, crop rotation and planning, insect identification and organic control, and much more. Some of the crops to be covered are lettuce, cabbage, potatoes, winter squash and corn. This event is co-sponsored by UNHCE and NOFA-NH. We'll be outside walking the fields, so dress appropriately. ***This event is rain or shine.*** **For more info or directions, call Elizabeth at 224-5022 or Sadie at 225-5505, ext 323.**



GOLD STAR

**August 16 9AM - 3 PM**  
**SUMMER FEST at**  
**Gold Star Tree & Turf Farm,**  
**250 West Road, Canterbury**

**Mark your Calendars** for the NHLA's Summer Fest at Gold Star Tree and Turf Farm. The day starts out with registration from 8:45 - 9:15 am, and is followed by workshops and demonstrations that end at 3pm. The \$16.00 per person fee pays for a Chicken BBQ with all the fixin's made and served by your local Agriculture Extension Educators and the proceeds go to the NH Chapter of the National Association of the County Agriculture Agents (NACAA).

Enjoy entertainment while you dine by Benjammin' (Leslie Van Berkum's trio). Pesticide credits applied for.



**Benjammin'**

**For directions, schedule, and the registration form and payment information, go to:**  
[www.extension.unh.edu/Counties/Merrimack/Docs/Summer-Fest08Flyer.pdf](http://www.extension.unh.edu/Counties/Merrimack/Docs/Summer-Fest08Flyer.pdf)



## Workshops Available for Municipalities and Horticulture Employees

This summer Sadie Puglisi from Merrimack County Extension and Margaret Hagen from Hillsborough County are offering a program to municipalities to train their employees in basic horticulture science.

The workshops are 2.5 hours long and are held once a week for 5 weeks. All workshops are held outdoors with a very "hands on" approach to learning. The topics include:

- Week 1: Tree Biology and Hazard Trees
- Week 2: Planting and Maintaining Trees and Shrubs
- Week 3: Woody Plant ID and Common Woody Plant Pests
- Week 4: Pruning Trees and Shrubs
- Week 5: Weeds, Invasive and Poisonous Plants

Although this program was developed in response to a need from municipalities, it is also suitable for the seasonal employees of landscaping companies. If any of you are interested in working with me to design a program that would fit the needs of your seasonal help, we can bring this program to your business. I'm asking for a minimum of 15 people for each session so consider joining together with another company. This offer will continue into next spring.

**For more information, call Sadie Puglisi  
 at (603) 225-5505, ext. 323**

### Be sure to go to:

**<http://extension.unh.edu/Counties/Merrimack/AgResearch.htm> for updates on the Cover Crop Research Project and Lawn Care Trials.**

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## Dairy News

### *Dates to Remember*



- August 1 State Guernsey and Jersey Breed shows at the Cheshire Fair
- August 5 4-H Dairy Qualifying Fitting and Showing Contest, evening at the Lancaster Fairgrounds
- August 6 State Brown Swiss, Holstein and Milking Shorthorn Breed shows at the Lancaster Fairgrounds
- August 12 Farm Bureau Picnic and Candidates' Forum  
Oak Ledge Farm - Belmont
- August 16 State Ayrshire Show, Cornish Fair
- Sept. 12 New England Green Pastures 60th Anniversary Banquet, West Springfield, MA

## NH Natural Resources Volunteer Program - *Core Training for Tree Stewards, Wonders of Wildlife and Earth Team Volunteers*

This program will start in September. For more information, contact Mary Tebo at:

603-629-9494, ext 140



## 3 FREE Workshops on Canning and Preserving Garden Fresh Produce

Marilyn Sullivan, our educator for Family and Consumer Resources, is offering three free workshops on home canning and preserving garden fresh produce. Topics will include:

- Basic home food safety practices
- Use of proper canning equipment
- Techniques for canning fruits and vegetables safely
- Using up-to-date recipes

To learn more about the programs or to print flyers to offer to your farm stand customers, call Marilyn at 225-5505, ext. 319 or visit the Merrimack County website at: <http://extension.unh.edu/Counties/Merrimack/Merrimack.htm>.



## Creating a Home for Beneficial Insects (excerpt)

Dot Perkins, Merrimack County

“Good” insects prey on many common garden insect pests and can offer the gardener a natural alternative to pesticides.

Garden insectaries are small groupings of flowering plants designed to attract and harbor beneficial insects, providing habitat, shelter, and alternative food sources. Your insectaries do not have to be large; just big enough to hold six or seven varieties of plants that attract insects. They can be planted in large containers and placed in strategic locations around the garden.

Once the garden has matured, you can watch your personal security force of beneficial insects do the work for you. Some other ways to attract beneficial insects if containers aren't for you are:

- Intersperse vegetable beds with blocks of insectary annuals.
- Allow some of your salad and cabbage crops to bloom.
- Include plants of different heights.
- Tiny flowers produced in large quantity are much more valuable than a single, large bloom. Members of the Umbelliferae family are excellent to include in your insectaries.
- Flowers in the Aster family and mints will attract predatory wasps, hover flies, and robber flies.



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**UNH Cooperative Extension**

*Merrimack County Office*

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