



PLYMOUTH COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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CALENDAR OF EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

JULY - AUGUST 2010

4-H SUMMER PROGRAMS

Plymouth County Extension is pleased to announce we will again be offering the following 4-H Summer Programs to be held at the Marshfield Fairgrounds for children age 8 and older. All 4-H programs are taught by experienced 4-H volunteers who are considered professionals in their industry. 4-H Dog Agility and 4-H Dog Obedience programs are \$110 for the week, 4-H Down on the Farm program is \$130 for the week. For more info on **4-H Summer Programs** call the Plymouth County Extension Office at **781-293-3541** or email: plyctyext@mindspring.com

4-H Dog Obedience Program- July 19-23 - 6:30pm-8:30pm - Learn the basics of Dog Obedience. Take your dog through training, learning basic skills (sit, down, stay, heel and others), and valuable skills about the care and management of your dog. The week finishes on Saturday July 11th with a 4-H Dog Obedience Show to show off the techniques you learned with your dog.

4-H Dog Agility Program- July 26-30 - 6:30pm-8:30pm - Dog Agility is an entertaining way to train your dog and get exercise. Handlers and dogs will learn the basics of Dog Agility and incorporate clicker training in their classes as well as go through the tire jump, weave polls, see-saw and more. Dogs should have basic obedience training to participate in 4-H Dog Agility.

4-H Down on the Farm Program – August 2-6 - 9:00am-12:00pm - 4-H Down on the Farm week offers children a chance to get up close and personal with a variety of livestock animals. Learn to shear a sheep, groom a cow, raise chickens and show rabbits. There is also a session on Veterinary Science where participants will have an opportunity to participate in a mock surgery.

FAIR SEASON IS HERE!!!

For a complete list of all Mass. Fair dates contact the Mass. Dept. of Food & Agriculture, Bureau of Fairs, 617-626-1700 or www.mass.gov/dfa

July 17 - 24 **Barnstable County Fair**, East Falmouth, Info: 508-563-3200, bcas@cape.com
www.Barnstablecountyfair.org

Aug. 20-29 **Marshfield Fair, includes Plymouth County Extension 4-H Fair.** Info: Plymouth County Ext. Office 781-293-3541 or Marshfield Fair 781-834-6629
www.Marshfieldfair.org **Thursday, August 26th is 4-H Day at the fair.**

PLYMOUTH COUNTY 4-H **PROGRAMS**

Plymouth County 4-H Sunflower Plant Science Project The Plymouth County Extension 4-H program is sponsoring a **free** 4-H Sunflower Plant Science Project to Plymouth County children ages 5-18. Youth participants will receive free sunflower seeds, planting instructions, and the opportunity to participate in the 2010 4-H Sunflower Contest at the Marshfield Fair, Marshfield, MA. For more information on the Plymouth County Extension 4-H program, please call or email the Plymouth County Extension office at **781-293-3541** or plyctyext@mindspring.com

Plymouth County 4-H

Scholarships: The Plymouth County 4-H Advisory Council would like to remind all 4-H graduating seniors that the 4-H Gilbert P. Robery Scholarship is available for those pursuing a degree in Animal or Veterinary Sciences. The 4-H Advisory Council awards a \$1000 scholarship to one male and one female 4-H'er looking to further their education in animal studies each year.

Plymouth County 4-H at the Marshfield Fair: Friday, August 20th through Sunday August 29th.

Thursday, August 26th is 4-H Day at the Fair. Anyone wearing the 4-H emblem receives free entrance into the Fair. Come and join the 4-H'ers, see the animals, make a craft, and watch the show events scheduled for that day. For a complete listing of daily 4-H events go to www.Marshfieldfair.org.

Join 4-H Now!!! Plymouth County 4-H has many diversified 4-H clubs. To learn more about the 4-H program, to enroll your child in a 4-H Club, or to become a 4-H volunteer leader call 781-293-3541, or email plyctyext@mindspring.com

4-H Volunteers Needed: We are always looking for volunteer leaders to start new or help run existing 4-H clubs. We have opportunities for volunteer leaders in arts & crafts, cooking, sewing, woodworking, as well as dog, horse, & livestock clubs. Almost any topic can be made into a 4-H club. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge & expertise with the 4-H youth of Plymouth County call 781-293-3541, or email plyctyext@mindspring.com

4-H Operation Military Kids: For info or to get involved go to www.mass4h.org, email: gmay@umext.umass.edu **Scholarships:** Commissaries offer scholarships to children of active, guard, reserve and retired military members. Go to: www.militaryscholar.org

4-H Babysitting Courses: Interested in teaching a 4-H Babysitting Course? Plymouth County 4-H is looking for volunteers to be trained to teach this program at locations throughout the Plymouth County area. If you know anyone interested in teaching a 4-H Babysitting Course or know of an area to host a class please contact M. Vollmer at 781-293-3541. Local Libraries may also host a 4-H Babysitting Course, materials will be provided to any library interested in offering this course to young teens.

4-H After-School Programs: 4-H offers curricula (Arts & Crafts, Babysitting, Nutrition, Public Speaking, Science, etc) and training for after-school programs throughout the county. If you are interested in teaching a program at your local school, library, or other community setting, contact the Plymouth County 4-H office at 781-293-3541 or email plyctyext@mindspring.com

4-H Clover Country CD: This CD is a compilation of 11 country songs by famous 4-H alumni. Cost: \$10. To receive a copy contact the Plymouth County Extension office at 781-293-3541.

Mass 4-H Foundation COMPASS

Newsletter: If you are interested in receiving the Mass 4-H Foundation COMPASS Newsletter, e-mail info@mass4hfoundation.org

UMASS EXTENSION **LANDSCAPE, NURSERY, &** **URBAN FORESTRY** **PROGRAM:**

UMass Extension Workshops: For **Green Industry Professionals** – for info or registration visit www.umass.edu/agland

The Great Ideas Summer

Conference: **July 21, 2010**, Bigelow Nurseries' Charlton Farm, Charlton, MA
Sponsored by: Mass. Flower Growers' Assoc. (MFGA), Mass. Nursery Landscape Assoc. (MNLA) and UMass Extension.

Join Mass. largest green industry associations for their 7th annual collaborative event, **the 2010 Great Ideas Summer**

Conference and Trade Show on

Wednesday, July 21, 2010 for a full day of education, trade show and a mixed planters competition. Featured speakers are:

* Dr. Kristin Getter, Michigan State Univ. on "Marketing to the Post-Recession and Eco-Consumer"

* T. DiGiovanni, Exec. Dir., Landscape, Ontario Horticultural Trades Assoc. on "Pesticide Bans in Canada-Is the US Next?"

* Dr T. Bilderbeck, North Carolina State Univ on "Pot in Pot Cultural Methods for Nursery Production"

* J. Mangus, USDA on Risk Management

* and a panel of grower/retailers from Cauley Garden Center, Lakeview Nurseries, Nunan Florist & Greenhouses and Russell's Garden Center discussing challenges, changes and outlooks for the future.

* Plus: demonstrations on calibrating pesticide sprayers, pruning trees/shrubs, scouting for pests on trees/shrubs and talks

on Asian Longhorn Beetle and Lyme Disease by UMass experts.

Registration: go to www.progrownews.com/

Turfgrass Selection & Identification

Workshop: **August 4, 2010 - Amherst, MA.** The ultimate performance of a stand of turf depends on matching turfgrass species/varieties with site characteristics, intended use and maintenance level, and knowing what you have is the key to knowing how to manage it. In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn to identify and recognize the principal cool season turfgrasses and how to select cultivars for specific characteristics such as disease resistance, drought tolerance, wear tolerance, and vigor. Pre-registration is required due to limited enrollment; registration deadline is July 30, 2010. Registration includes lunch and parking permit. Five pesticide recertification contact hours have been requested for all New England states in category 37, Turf and category 00, Licensed Applicator. 1 additional contact hour has been requested for those participating in a free optional NTEP session at the Joseph Troll Turf Research Center in South Deerfield, MA. For online registration or to download materials to register by mail, visit: http://www.umassturf.org/upcoming_events.html

NOFA/Mass Summer Conference:

August 13th – 15th, 2010, UMass Campus, Amherst MA NOFA/Mass is the Mass. chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association. Learn from 200 workshops on organic farming, gardening and land care, homesteading, sustainability, nutrition, spirituality, food politics, activism, and much, much more. Special workshops designed for kids and teens. An educational/fun opportunity for your children to bond with others from the Northeast while you attend workshops and events. Register online today: www.nofasummerconference.org

2010 GREEN SCHOOL: Now accepting registrations - classes start November 1. A comprehensive 11-day certificate short course for Green Industry professionals taught by UMass Ext. Specialists and Univ. of Mass. faculty, begins November 1, 2010 in Milford, Mass. This popular course is designed for landscape professionals, lawn care specialists, arborists and other horticultural practitioners wishing to gain an understanding of horticultural fundamentals and strategies, as well as their relationship to environmental quality, but who can't fit a full academic course into their schedules. Green School students come away with the knowledge needed to make environmentally appropriate decisions related to turf and plant selection, arboriculture, plant maintenance, and pest and nutrient management.

Green School runs November 1 - December 10, 2010, twice a week from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Inn, 11 Beaver St., Milford, MA.

Green School's curriculum is based on research and information emphasizing environmental stewardship and integrated pest management (IPM). Participants develop an understanding of how proper management practices impact natural resources such as soil and water.

Students choose a "specialty track" when registering. **Three specialty tracks are offered:**

- * **Landscape Management**

- * **Turf Management**

- * **Arboriculture**, specifically geared toward professional arborists.

The full schedule is online at http://umassgreeninfo.org/programs/green_school.html

In addition, Green School is also helpful for people preparing to take the following professional certification exams:

- * Massachusetts Certified Arborist (MCA) offered by the Mass. Arborist Association

- * Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist (MCH) offered by the Mass Nursery and

Landscape Association

- * Massachusetts Certified Landscape Professional (MCLP) offered by the Associated Landscape Contractors of Massachusetts. To register online or to print out a registration form, go to http://umassgreeninfo.org/programs/green_school.html For more info or to have a registration form mailed, call UMass Ext at 413-545-0895.

2010 Vegetable Twilight Meetings:

During the growing season, UMass Ext. Vegetable team collaborates with other organizations to offer educational programs and farm tours in various locations in MA. There will be a special focus on farms using renewable energy, especially shelled corn for greenhouse heat. For details visit the website at www.umassvegetable.org

UMASS Team Looking for Curcubit Fields for Soil Samples

We are looking for organic and conventional fields where pumpkins or winter or summer squash are being grown this year. We appreciate those who responded to our previous inquiry (May 27) and we are looking for additional fields. If you are growing one of these crops in a field that has been under either conventional or organic management for the previous 3 years and are interested in participating in this study, please contact R. Hazzard 413-545-3696, or email

rhazzard@umext.umass.edu. A soil sample will be taken in the field in late July or early August. The goal of the project is to identify practices that help maintain a healthy community of beneficial mycorrhizal fungi. The team working on this project is led by L. Adler, Plant-Insect Ecologist in the Dept. of Plant Soil & Insect Science. It also includes N. Barber, Postdoctoral Research Assoc.; T. Kiers, a specialist in mycorrhizal fungi from the Institute of Ecological Science in Amsterdam, Netherlands; and R. Hazzard, UMass Extension vegetable specialist.

UMass Extensions' Landscape

Message for Green Industry

Professionals: Info gathered by Extension Educators monitoring landscape sites statewide. Contains current, local info useful to landscapers, arborists, turf managers, & nursery growers. Access online: www.umassgreeninfo.org

Home Garden Fact Sheets from UMass Extension go to

www.umassgreeninfo.org

Click for a selection of fact sheets that introduce the basic concepts of starting a garden as well as cover a host of other techniques and landscape problems.

Preventing Late Blight in Gardens

Late Blight caused by *Phytophthora infestans* – a very destructive and very infectious disease killed tomato and potato plants in gardens and on commercial farms throughout the eastern U.S. during 2009. The following file features some answers to frequently asked questions about this disease and what home gardeners can do to prevent problems this year. To read the full factsheet click on the following link:

[Preventing Late Blight in Gardens](#)

Center for Agriculture - The Center for Agriculture brings together agricultural programs from UMass Ext., the College of Natural Resources and the Environment, and the Mass. Agricultural Experiment Station. The purpose of the Center for Agriculture is to serve as a portal through which individuals, industries, and agencies can connect with scientists and educators. Simply put, the Center for Agriculture provides access to all of the expertise within the agricultural programs of the university. For info, visit www.masscenterforag.org

Turf Management Updates/

TurfTalk E-mail List - Turf managers: Keep current with the latest Northeast regional turf management info by logging

onto the UMass Ext. Turf Program web site, www.umassturf.org. During the growing season, UMass Ext. Turf Specialists post Management Updates on a regular basis. These messages cover disease outbreaks, insect population status, cultural strategies for managing turf, and other timely info. Subscribe to the UMass TurfTalk e-mail list, and you will be immediately notified when a new Management Update is posted to the website. You will also be notified of upcoming events & educ. opportunities. Visit www.umassturf.org, click on "Mailing List."

Greenhouse Updates/E-mail List :

Greenhouse managers: Receive timely reports about what's happening with pests, nutrition, marketing and other issues that affect your greenhouse business. UMA Ext. Specialists post updates to our website based on site visits and conversations with growers. As new info is added, an e-mail sends reminders & provides a direct link to the website www.negreenhouseupdate.info. To be added to the e-mail or fax list contact: tsmith@umext.umass.edu or call 413-545-5306.

2010 UMass Extension Green

Directory: The 2010 UMass Extension Green Directory is a comprehensive guide to educational resources for Mass Agriculture industry professionals. This free 40-page guide can be used as a reference all year long! Avail. online at

<http://www.umass.edu/agland/>

Click on 'Green Directory' For a hard copy, call Ply Cty Ext. at 781-293-3541, fax to (781)293-3916 or email eweeks@umext.umass.edu

UMass Ext Soil Testing - An aid in the diagnosis of plant problems, and in quality plant production. Testing is done at: Soil Testing Lab, West Experiment Station, UMass, Amherst. For a brochure call Ply Cty Ext at 781-293-3541. www.umass.edu/plsoils/soiltest/

UMass Ext. Lyme Disease

Diagnostics: UMass Ext., in cooperation with researchers at UMass Amherst, will assess black legged ticks (deer ticks) for Lyme disease - \$40 per sample. Test can detect the Lyme disease pathogen from a single tick, up to 10 ticks may be submitted per sample. For more info or to request a Sample Submission Form call Plymouth County Extension @ 781-293-3541 or visit: www.umass.edu/tick

UMass Extension Garden Clippings

Newsletter: Plymouth County Ext. has provided each Plymouth County Library with a subscription to this newsletter since 2002 for use by their patrons. To receive a subs. for \$10.00/yr, call Ply. Cnty Ext. @781-293-3541 or email plyctyext@mindspring.com

UMass Extension “Hort Notes”: bi-weekly commercial horticultural newsletter, March–Oct. Highlights new technology in IPM & plant maintenance, advises on current pest outbreaks in MA, pesticide applicator training dates, & lists of ongoing educational programs for commercial horticulture - 18 issues/\$20. Call 781-293-3541, e-mail plyctyext@mindspring.com for a subscription form.

www.umassextension.org -Bookmark this website on the four major Extension Programs: Agriculture & Landscape; Communities, 4-H Program; Nutrition Education; Natural Resources. Site includes upcoming events, educational newsletters, fact sheets, and much more.

Mass Agriculture in the Classroom: has put together a schedule of 12 Educational Summer Workshops on the Farm. For more info go to www.aginclassroom.org

UMASS EXTENSION **NUTRITION EDUCATION** **PROGRAMS:**

Summer Success: Brockton Schools UMass Ext. Nutrition Education Program staff will be presenting nutrition education workshops in partnership with the Brockton Schools Summer Success Program. The workshop will be offered to all enrolled students as one of their classroom activities. This year’s Summer Success theme is **“Let’s Move Under the Sun.”** Students will learn about making healthy food, hydration and physical activity choices and how those choices can have a positive effect on their academic achievement and health. The workshops will be interactive, fun and energizing! Nutrition Educators, V. Murray and W. Kemp will be presenting these lessons which will be held weekday mornings at the Baker School. The program runs through the month of July. For more info contact: A. Gulezian, Project Leader/ Extension Educator at 508-513-3475.

Farmers Market-Brockton City Hall Plaza: UMass Ext. Nutrition Education Program staff will be at the Brockton City Hall Plaza Farmers Markets on **Fridays beginning July 9th through September 10th** from 10:00- Noon. We will be displaying/ distributing info on fruits and vegetables and preparing some recipes using fresh fruits and vegetables available from the Farmers Market. Visitors will receive free recipes, materials and sample tasty, healthy foods. For more info contact: A. Gulezian, Ext. Educator at 508-513-3475.

Boys and Girls Club Camp and Playground Program: **During the months of July and August,** the UMass Ext. Nutrition Education Program staff in collaboration with the Boys and Girls Club will be presenting a series of three lively and fun nutrition workshops at the Boys and

Girls Club, and the Nelson and Puffer Playgrounds in Brockton. Workshops will be fun, interactive and include info and activities on “My Pyramid”, Healthy Breakfasts, Choosing Healthy Snacks and Let’s Move! For more info on location and dates contact A. Gulezian, Extension Educator at 508-513-3475.

Career Works, Brockton: Energize with Fruits and Vegetables! This workshop presented by the UMass Ext. Nutrition Education Program staff will take place on **Wednesday, July 7th** from 1:00-3:00pm at the Career Works, Minuteman Room, 34 School Street, Brockton. The workshop will cover info on ways to select, purchase, prepare and enjoy fruits and vegetables as well as a discussion of the importance of fruits and vegetable for good health. Recipe ideas will be distributed, prepared and sampled. For more info contact A. Gulezian, Extension Educator at 508-513-3475.

Plymouth County Farmers Markets: Whether you live in the city or suburbs, a MA farmers' market is not too far from you. From spring until late fall, you can find local growers with their canopies and colorful displays of freshly-harvested fruits and vegetables in town squares, parks, and other public spaces. At many farmers' markets you will also find an array of other farm products, including baked goods, jams and jellies, maple products, honey, cheeses, flowers, turkey products and eggs. The festive atmosphere and fresh foods will certainly please all your senses.

2010 America’s Favorite Farmers Markets Contest: To vote for your favorite Farmer’s Market go to www.farmland.org

Find a Local Farm: Farmer’s Markets, Pick-Your-Own Farm, or Agrotourism Site by visiting www.mass.gov/agr/massgrow

Farm-to-School Project: MA Dept. of Ag Resources matches schools with local farmers and farm products. Info call 413-253-3844 or Kelerwin@localnet.com

'Buy Fresh, Buy Local': Southeastern Mass Ag Partnerships' (SEMAP) mission is to help local farmers achieve economic success through marketing and technical assistance. SEMAP's '**Buy Fresh, Buy Local**' Campaign makes it easy for you to find the best quality products from local farms & food businesses--look for our new label and taste the difference! Be sure to check the website at www.semaponline.org.

2010 Massachusetts Fairs Brochure - Now Available! May marks the opening of the MA fair season in the Commonwealth. Whether you are visiting your local agricultural destinations or simply looking for a good time to enjoy memories with community, family and friends, do not forget to mark your calendars for this years' MA Agricultural Fairs! With over 40 fairs in the Commonwealth, MA farmers are bringing their best and brightest to their local fairs to promote and showcase what MA agriculture is all about. If you would like a copy of the 2010 Fairs Brochure or more info on MA Agricultural Fairs, please call 617-626-1742 or ellen.hart@state.ma.us

USDA GAPs Online Class
The GAPs Project team at UMass is excited to announce the next USDA GAPs online class, scheduled to start on **Wednesday, July 7, 2010**. This online program is offered in collaboration with UMass, The MA Dept of Ag Resources, and the Cornell University National GAPs Program. Preventing the contamination of fresh farm produce is the key to producing wholesome, healthy products. This web-based educational program is designed to help you develop and implement farm food safety plans, and prepare you for USDA GAPs certification. As a result, you can market your products with greater confidence. The

course includes online readings, online discussions with the instructors, interactive questions and feedback and activities to complete.

Online education offers great flexibility with respect to your location and schedule. You are able to move through the course according to your own calendar over a three week period. At the same time, you will be able to interact with other growers and the instructors. The online instructors include D. Nyachuba, Ph.D., UMass; R. Bonanno, Ph.D., UMass; and J. Brandenburg, M.S.F.S., The JSB Group. Cost: \$50. To sign up: <http://www.umassone.net/gaps/>. For questions: dgn@nutrition.umass.edu or (413) 545-0552.

USDA Launches 'Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food' Initiative:

a new initiative aimed at beginning a national conversation to help develop local/regional food systems and spur economic opportunity for local farmers. The initiative, is the focus of a task force with reps from agencies across USDA who will help better align the Dept's efforts to build stronger local/regional food systems. The website is a great resource for farmers and consumers working to build local food systems. It has info on community food programs, available grants, loans and marketing assistance for established farms to new growers. <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/knowyourfarmer?navid=KNOWYOURFARMER>

MDAR's Animal Health Division Develops Guidelines for Backyard Poultry Enthusiasts:

MDAR has developed a Best Management Practices Guide for poultry keepers outlining the proper caring and handling of poultry. For more info contact MDAR's poultry inspectors:

E. Hageman 617-626-1796
M. McGrath 617-626-1798
A. MacDonald 617-872-9961

Best Management Practice Guides

Available: BMP's for Orchard, Small Fruit, Livestock & Poultry, and Nursery are available for free online at www.mfbf.net These guides are a valuable resource to your local ag commission and other town boards and staff.

The Massachusetts Wine and Cheese Trails:

produced by DAR and Mass. Farm Wineries Assoc. is available at www.masswinery.com . The Mass Wine and Cheese Trails include 18 MA cheese makers that make more than 75 varieties of artisan and farmstead cheeses, 11 of them give public tours by appointment. There are 34 licensed wineries across MA and at least 21 are open for tours/tasting of wines.

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

"Wildlife" section of the web site includes information about nuisance wildlife and a listing of licensed control agents.
e-mail: mass.wildlife@state.ma.us

Plymouth County Mosquito

Control: To request spraying call 781-585-5450 or fax: 781-582-1276 or email www.plymouthmosquito.com/request

Commercial Pesticide License: Mass. pesticide law requires that all persons who apply pesticides in public/private areas used for human occupation and habitation must be in possession of a valid license or certification issued by the Dept. of Food & Ag (DFA). For info on how to obtain a commercial pesticide license call 617-626-1785 or www.umass.edu/pested

On behalf of the Plymouth County/UMass
Extension Staff,
Debra L. Corrow
Executive Assistant