

Rhode Island State Office

60 Quaker Lane, Suite 46 Warwick, Rhode Island 02886 401-822-8816, fax 401-828-0433 www.ri.nrcs.usda.gov

United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

Outreach Calendar

Media Contact: Walter Marshall, Public Affairs Specialist 401-822-8816 walter.marshall@ri.usda.gov

The following information lists planned outreach events in Rhode Island where the Natural Resources Conservation Service plans to provide information on technical and financial assistance available. In addition, information is also provided on recruitment efforts.

Upcoming Events:

<u>Local Food Forum</u>: Wednesday, February 6, 2013, 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM, Brown University, Providence, RI. More information is available at: http://www.farmfreshri.org/about/localfoodforum.php

NRCS and Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District Office Open House: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM. NRCS Eastern RI Conservation District Office, 2490 Main Road, Tiverton, RI 02878. Attend an open house at the new NRCS and Eastern RI Conservation District joint office to meet staff and board members. This will be a great opportunity to learn about technical and financial assistance available to farmers and forest land owners. In addition, learn about the Eastern RI Conservation District and its board members. Light refreshments will be served. To RSVP, please call (401) 816-5667. More information on the Eastern RI Conservation District is available at: http://www.easternriconservation.org

Rhode Island Flower Show: Thursday, February 21 (10:00 AM – 8:00 PM) to Sunday, February 24, (10:00 AM – 6:00 PM) 2013, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI. More information is available at: http://www.flowershow.com/

<u>URI Green Industry Day</u>: Friday, February 22, 2013, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, URI Memorial Union, Kingston, RI, Kingston, RI. The event is a networking event (9am-11am) and job fair (11am-1pm) that provides the opportunity to speak to URI undergraduates and graduate students, alumni, and staff.

Forestry Workshop Series for Small Acreage: Forest History and Stewardship:

Do you own 5 or more acres of forested land? Woodscaping, Forest Practices & Your Land

March 2nd 10:15AM-12:30PM

Glocester Manton Library, 1137 Putnam Pike, Glocester, RI

This workshop series is designed to provide landowners with 5 or more acres some planning, guidance and basic technical information needed to manage their woods.

Please call to register for this free workshop open to the public. (401) 934-0840

<u>URI 2013 Summer and Internship Job Fair</u>: Wednesday, March 6, 2013 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM, URI Memorial Union, Kingston, RI. The Summer and Internship Job Fair provides the opportunity to speak with NRCS representatives about employment opportunities with the agency and the Federal government. The event will also include representatives from other governmental and private organizations.

<u>Ponagansett Regional Career Fair</u>: Thursday, March 7, 2013, 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM, Ponagansett High School, 137 Anan Wade Road, North Scituate, RI 02857. The event provides high-school students with insight on careers in conservation and the Federal government.

10th Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit: Saturday, March 9, 2013 from 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM, URI Memorial Union, Kingston, RI. NRCS is a sponsor and will also have an exhibit booth. There are dedicated timeframes for attendees to visit the exhibits but the entire event is geared towards extensive networking and workshops which provide valuable educational information on conservation and

environmental related issues. For more information, please visit the following Web site: http://www.landandwaterpartnership.org/summit.php

Forestry Workshop Series for Small Acreage: Understanding Forest Resources:

Do you own 5 or more acres of forested land? Forest Health, Wildlife & Sustainable Wood Harvesting March 9th 10:15AM-12:30PM

Scituate Senior Center, 1315 Chopmist Hill Road, N. Scituate

This workshop series is designed to provide landowners with 5 or more acres some planning, guidance and basic technical information needed to manage their woods.

Please call to register for this free workshop open to the public. (401) 934-0840

Forestry Workshop Series for Small Acreage: Working for a Healthy Forest

Do you own 5 or more acres of forested land? Clean Water, Recreation & Renewable Forestry Practices

March 16th 10:15AM-12:30PM

Harrisville Library, 100 Tinkham Lane, Harrisville

This workshop series is designed to provide landowners with 5 or more acres some planning, guidance and basic technical information needed to manage their woods.

Please call to register for this free workshop open to the public. (401) 934-0840

Forestry Workshop Series for Small Acreage: A Well-Kept Forest is a Legacy

Do you own 5 or more acres of forested land?

Biodiversity, Alternative Forest Products & Working with Neighbors

March 23rd 10:15AM -12:30PM

The Woody Lowden Recreation Center, Howard Hill Road, Foster

This workshop series is designed to provide landowners with 5 or more acres some planning, guidance and basic technical information needed to manage their woods.

Please call to register for this free workshop open to the public. (401) 934-0840

North Kingstown Post High School Planning Night: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, North Kingstown High School, North Kingstown, RI The event provides high-school students with insight on careers in conservation and the Federal government.

<u>URI Spring Career and Job Fair</u>: Wednesday, April 3, 2013 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, URI Ryan Center Kingston, RI. The event provides the opportunity to speak with NRCS representatives about employment opportunities with the agency and the Federal government. The event will also include representatives from other governmental and private organizations.

<u>Earth Day - Roger Williams Park Zoo Party for the Planet</u>: Friday, April 19, 2013 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence, RI. More information is available at: http://www.rwpzoo.org/calendar-event/party-planet

6th Annual RI Coverts Cooperator Class: Friday, April 19 – Sunday, April 21, 2012 URI W. Alton Jones Whispering Pine Conference Center, West Greenwich, RI, More information is available at www.rircd.org.

Completed 2012-13 Outreach Events:

Local Food Forum: Tuesday, February 7, 2012, Brown University, Providence, RI

Rhode Island Flower Show: Thursday, February 23 to Sunday, February 26, 2012, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI

<u>2012 URI Green Industry Day</u>: Network, Jobs, and State of the Industry: Friday, February 24, 2012, from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, URI Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences Building, Kingston, RI

<u>URI Summer and Internship Job Fair</u>: Wednesday, March 7, 2012 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM, URI Memorial Union, Kingston, RI

9th Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit: Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 7:45 AM – 4:00 PM, URI Memorial Union, Kingston, RI. More information is available at www.landandwaterpartnership.org.

Farmers, Woodland Owners, and Agricultural Producers - Join NRCS and the Conservation Districts at an Open House/Information Session, Monday, March 12, 2012 from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM, Heritage Hall, 101 Greene Street, Slatersville, RI, More information is available at http://www.ri.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/egip/NRCS Workshop District Invitation 02 12.pdf.

<u>Women in Agriculture Conference</u>: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, URI Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences Building, Kingston, RI, More information is available at www.rhodyag.com.

<u>URI Spring Career and Job Fair</u>: Wednesday, April 4, 2012 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, URI Ryan Center Kingston, RI

Rhode Island Raised Livestock Annual Meeting and Ag Exhibitor Trade Show: Monday, March 19, 2012 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM, West Greenwich Elks Hall, West Greenwich, RI, More information is available at www.rirla.org.

North Kingstown Post High School Planning Night: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, North Kingstown High School, North Kingstown, RI

<u>Earth Day - Roger Williams Park Zoo Party for the Planet</u>: Friday, April 20, 2012 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence, RI, More information is available at <u>www.rwpzoo.org/58/planyour-visit/calendar-events</u>.

5th Annual RI Coverts Cooperator Class: Friday, April 20 – Sunday, April 22, 2012 URI W. Alton Jones Whispering Pine Conference Center, West Greenwich, RI, More information is available at www.rircd.org.

Agriculture Day at RI State House: Thursday, April 26, 2012, 12:00 PM-5:00 PM, Ag producers and conservation partners will showcase their products and services with samples of local food. A legislative speaking program will be held at 2:00 PM in the Governor's State Room.

<u>Farm Tour Open House-Breene Hollow Farm</u>: Saturday, May 5, 2012, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM, 21 D Victory Highway, West Greenwich RI, Take a tour of dairy farm which features a variety of conservation practices. The tour will assist you in understanding and applying for funding. To register, call (401) 934-0841.

Farm Tour Open House-Confreda Farm: Saturday, May 19, 2012, 10:00 AM, 2150 Scituate Ave., Hope, RI, Join us for a tractor drawn hayride at Confreda Farm to show conservation practices being employed. The tour will assist you in understanding and applying for funding. To register, call (401) 934-0840.

Attention Soil Survey Users! 2012 Work Planning Conference Soil Survey: Thursday, June 28, 2012, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM, URI Coastal Institute, 1 Greenhouse Road, Kingston, RI 02881. Learn about the latest version of the Soil Survey of RI, provide input for future updates, learn about the site specific mapping, the latest research in soil science, and how to use and access soils data from a variety of sources. For more information and to register, visit http://nesoil.com/Rlconference.htm.

<u>Farm Tour Open House-Watson Farm</u>: Wednesday, July 18, 2012, 5:30 PM, 4455 North Road, Jamestown, RI, Don Minto will lead a walking tour that showcases Watson Farm's NRCS practices. The tour will assist you in understanding and applying for funding. To register, call (401) 816-5667.

Green Market Festival – Celebrating RI's Green Economy and the Environment!: Sunday, August 12, 2012, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, The Farmer's Daughter / Landscape Creations of RI, 715 and 716 Mooresfield Road (Rte. 138), South Kingstown, RI. This inaugural Green Market Festival sponsored by the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association will offer everything from display gardens and native plants to freshly cut flowers, fruit and vegetables, and interactive displays. Vendors will offer a full range of horticultural and agricultural products along with demonstrations and educational exhibits. Learn how to install backyard native plant habitat and clean and plant native seeds; play golf on a putting green; and learn what it feels like to be an arborist by being hoisted up a tree or in a bucket truck!

RIFCO's Summer Twilight Woods Walk at the Hidden Meadow Farm: Tuesday, August 14, 2012, Starting 6:30 PM, 120 Breakneck Hill Road, West Greenwich, RI. The RI Conservator's Organization is conducting it annual summer twilight woods walk with the highlight of the evening to include a demonstration of the installation of geo-textile products for the stabilization and improvement to a wooded trail road on the farm. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide information on the availability of NRCS technical and financial assistance programs for the use of these products by woodland and farm owners. The event will also include a demonstration of a recently installed vacuum collection system for maple syrup and insight on the newly formed RI Maple Syrup Producer's Association. The program is free and does not require a reservation. Directions to the site are available at www.rifco.org or by calling (401) 568-3421.

URI NRCS Workshop: Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012 at URI East Farm Bldg. 75 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (livestock manure management)—4:00 to 6:30 PM

URI NRCS Workshop: Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2012 at URI Peckham Farm

Field session—manure storage & livestock yard assessment; URI Peckham Farm Aerated Bay Compost System--4:00 to 6:30 PM

URI NRCS Workshop: Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2012 at URI East Farm Bldg. 75 Grazing Management Plan—4:00 to 6:30 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 at URI East Farm Bldg. 75

Integrated Pest Management Plan—4:00 to 6:30 PM (2 pesticide recertification credits available)

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012 at URI Peckham Farm

Livestock Fencing Workshop—9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Presented by David Kennard, Wellscroft Farm, NH

Government Career Fair: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 from 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM, University of Rhode Island, Ryan Center, Kingston, RI; The Government Career Fair is a collaboration of colleges and universities in Rhode Island (Brown University, Bryant University, Johnson and Wales University, Providence College, Salve Regina University, Rhode Island College, University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University). Over 45 governmental agencies will have representatives to discuss career opportunities in government.

<u>URI Fall Internship and Job Fair</u>: Wednesday, November 7, 2012 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM, University of Rhode Island, Memorial Union Ballroom, Kingston, RI, The Fall Internship and Job Fair provides the opportunity to speak with NRCS representatives about employment opportunities with the agency and the Federal Government. The event will also include representatives from other governmental and private organizations.

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2012 at URI East Farm Bldg. 75

Nutrient Management Plan—4:00 to 6:30 PM (1 pesticide recertification credit available)

<u>Open House-Workshop</u>: Monday, November 26, 2012, 5:30 to 8:00 PM, Middletown Public Library, 700 West Main Road, Middletown, RI 02842. Join us for an open house to learn about funding through NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Separate stations will be set up (Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife, and Easements) to allow for specialized focus on programs and practices. Stop by at your convenience any time between 5:30 and 8:00 to speak to a representative about your needs and concerns. Call the Eastern Conservation District at (401) 816-5667 to register.

Open House-Workshop: Tuesday, November 27, 2012, 5:30 to 8:00 PM, North Scituate Public Library, 606 West Greenville Road, North Scituate, RI 02857. Join us for an open house to learn about funding through NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Separate stations will be set up (Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife, and Easements) to allow for specialized focus on programs and practices. Stop by at your convenience any time between 5:30 and 8:00 to speak to a representative about your needs and concerns. Call the Northern Conservation District at (401) 934-0840 to register.

<u>Open House-Workshop</u>: Thursday, November 29, 2012, 5:30 to 8:00 PM, Richmond Grange, 680 Usquepaugh Road, West Kingston, RI 02892. Join us for an open house to learn about funding through NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Separate stations will be set up (Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife, and Easements) to allow for specialized focus on programs and practices. Stop by at your convenience any time between 5:30 and 8:00 to speak to a representative about your needs and concerns. Call the Southern Conservation District at (401) 500-0422 to register.

RI Nursery and Landscaping Association Annual Winter Meeting and Expo: Wednesday, January 16 to Thursday, January 17, 2013, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, URI Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences Building, Kingston, RI.