



Southern Aroostook Soil & Water Conservation District WINTER AG SCHOOL: February – April, 2022

Ag School classes are online and in-person this year. Please note class type under each listing. Many classes require pre-registration at angela.wotton@me.nacdnet.net or 254-4126

1. CONSERVATION LANDSCAPE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR LANDOWNERS

Thursday, February 17, 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Rebecca Jacobs, Program Mgr, Knox-Lincoln SWCD and Aleta McKeage, Conservation Biologist, Waldo County SWCD

Online via Zoom – Pre-registration required

- “Scientist Doug Tallamy proposes a “Homegrown National Park” where we can all help to create part of the vast landscape of ecosystems needed to keep our water & air clean, farms and forests producing, & help our birds, insects and wildlife come back from steep declines.”
- Rebecca and Aleta will discuss how their program is helping landowners implement different healthy landscapes and how Southern Aroostook landowners can do the same

2. PHENOLOGY – A STUDY OF SEASONS’ BIOLOGICAL RHYTHMS & RELATION TO CLIMATE CHANGES

Tuesday, March 1, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Dr. Abe Miller-Rushing, Science Coordinator, Acadia Nat’l Park and Caitlin McDonough MacKenzie, visiting professor, Colby College

Online via Zoom – Pre-registration required

- Records of Maine’s historical observations such as flowering times, leaf out, and bird migrations that help us plan for future changes
- How timing of seasonal events is changing in New England and Northern Maine
- The role people can play in phenology research through seasonal observations and data collection

3. GROWING SMALL FRUITS & BERRIES

Thursday, March 10, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Dr. David Handley, Veg & Small Fruit Specialist, UMaine Cooperative Ext

Online via Zoom – Pre-registration required

- Basic care of growing small fruits such as raspberries and blueberries. If time allows, strawberry growing resources will be provided.

Credits: 1 Pesticide

4. PRESERVING GARDEN BOUNTY

Thursday, March 17, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Lisa Fishman, UMaine Cooperative Ext

Online via Zoom – Pre-registration required

- Learn how to expand beyond freezing vegetables from the garden
- Demonstration on canning, processing and other options

5. VIEWING YOUR WOODLOT FROM A WILDLIFE PERSPECTIVE

Tuesday, March 29, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Joseph Roy, Private Lands Wildlife Biologist, IF&W Woodlot on Burnt Brow Rd @ Twin Brooks Rd, Hammond

- Trail walk in mixed forest stand looking at habitats and food sources for all wildlife
- Learn about wildlife habitat principles
- Q&A with wildlife biologist
- Depending on the weather, snowshoes may be necessary – please come prepared to be outside

6. FORESTRY NIGHT

Tuesday, April 5, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Steve Tatko, Forester, Appalachian Mtn Club; Brian Souers, Treeline Inc; Ben Naumann & Heidi Bunn, NRCS; Phil Quint, DC, NRCS

Meduxnekeag Ramblers Club, Wiley Rd, Littleton

- Management of AMC forests & improving trout habitat
- Streamsmart Program and crossings for fish passage
- Types and cost estimates of permanent crossing structures

Credits: ½ day recert CLP; 3 QLP; 2 Cat 1 SAF/LFP

• Pre-registration is requested

7. FRUIT TREE GRAFTING

Saturday, April 9, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Mitch Lansky and Sue Szwed, Seek No Further Fruit Tree Nursery

Cup Café, Unitarian Church, Military St, Houlton

- Learn to graft and practice with materials
- Class size limited to 12 – masks required
- SASWCD will provide 2 rootstocks per person (participants will need a grafting knife)
- Pre-registration is required – add’l information provided at registration