

WINTER AG SCHOOL

March - April, 2023

1. BAT CONSERVATION & BAT HOUSE CONSTRUCTION: Tuesday, March 7, 6-8pm

Jeremy Markuson, Wildlife Biologist, NRCS
Houlton Higher Education Ctr, 18 Military St, Rm 123

- Learn about bat species found in Maine and how White Nose Syndrome is affecting populations around the U.S.
- Ways for landowners to improve bat habitat
- Class is free but those wanting to build a bat house (materials provided), construction is limited to 8 participants and include a materials cost of \$15

Pre-registration required only for those wanting to construct a bat house.

Bat house materials generously sponsored by:
SW Collins and Hines Construction



2. MANAGING & LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT FOR THE RIGHT MARKET:

Tuesday, March 21, 6-8pm

Colt Knight, Livestock Specialist, UMaine Cooperative Ext. Houlton High School, Rm 34

- Understanding the different market segments for livestock
- Matching cattle to market
- Improvement through quality grades, animal performance, and land management

Credits: 1 Nutrient Management

3. GROWING CROPS IN A HIGH TUNNEL:

Thursday, March 23, 6-7:30pm

Nathaniel Gorlin-Crenshaw and Daniel Yoder, Vegetable Product Technicians, Johnny's Selected Seeds
Online via Zoom - register at bit.ly/3jV2nay

- Learn what summer crops & varieties are best suited for growing in a high tunnel
- Preventative measures for increased plant health & vigor
- Tips for maximizing space for healthy crops & yield

4. TREE GROWTH AND LAND USE TAX PROGRAMS FOR YOUR WOODLOT:

Wednesday, March 29, 6-8pm

Lauren Ouellette, District Forester, MFS; Philip Quint, Jr, District Conservationist, NRCS: & Marc Russell, Principal Property Appraiser, Maine Revenue Services
Houlton Higher Education Center, 18 Military St, Rm 123

- Tree Growth Program - program overview, how it works, and landowner responsibilities
- Open Space Program - overview, including value determination and how it compares to other land use programs
- Understanding differences between Tree Growth plans vs USDA-NRCS forest management plans and how to decide what is right for you based on your woodlot priorities

Credits: 2 QLP; 2 CLP; 2 Cat 1 SAF/LPF

5. MUSHROOM GROWING 101

Saturday, April 22, 10-11:30am

Louis Geller, Mycology Education, North Spore
Online via Zoom - Register at bit.ly/3RXL0IW

- Getting started with mushrooms
- Types of growing: indoor vs outdoor
- Learn how to begin your own mushroom growing journey

Classes will be held in-person or online so please note class type under each listing as well as locations for in-person classes (to be held at Houlton Higher Education Center or Houlton High School.) All classes are FREE (excluding bat house construction materials fee) and open to the public.

2023 Winter Ag School is presented by SASWCD with assistance from partners like Maine Forest Service & Houlton/Hodgdon Adult & Community Education.

The Southern Aroostook SWCD is an equal opportunity provider

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