Building Community through the York County Farmers' Network

Frank S. Wertheim, Extension Educator
University of Maine Cooperative Extension
York County
21 Bradeen Street, Suite 302
Springvale, ME 04083
frankw@umext.maine.edu
1-800-287-1535 or 207-324-2814
York County Maine
- Population: 201,686
- State: 1,316,456
- 29 towns
- 991 square miles
- 600 working farms
Why the York County Farmers’ Network?

• Agriculture in York County is very diverse
• Farmers can feel isolated
  – Brings the diverse farming community together
• Access to high population areas
  – Market opportunities
• Land pressures/farmland preservation
Our Mission

“be a community of farmers that promotes, supports and strengthens local agriculture through informal gatherings, demonstrations, and information and resource sharing”.
York County Farmers’ Network

Goals

• Strengthen farm financial viability
• Provide Interaction between farmers to build community.
• Be inclusive of all types of farms: large, small, part-time, organic, non-organic, crops, livestock, etc.
• Collectively market/promote York County farms
• Encourage growth of York County farm-based businesses
• Stay up to date with best agriculture practices
York County Farmers’ Network

• Established in 2004
• General Activity Schedule
  – Later Fall/Winter Indoor Meetings
    • Potluck dinners a mainstay
  – Annual Meeting (February/March)
  – On-Farm Meetings in April – October
    • Potluck dinners a mainstay
  – Monthly Winter Breakfast Meetings
• Current Membership – over 100 Farms
Examples of On-Farm Meetings

• demonstration of cultivation equipment
• new orchard trellising techniques
• crop production practices
• bio diesel production
• weed identification hands-on training
• farm tourism (corn maize)
• direct marketing techniques.
Examples of Fall/Winter Indoor Meetings

- round robin discussions
- farmland preservation opportunities
  - land trust and easements
- farm transfer and estate planning
- enhancing soil health
- marketing farm products
- SARE farmer grant opportunities
Web Site and Promotional Materials

- www.ycfn.org
- Poster Board Advertising Next Meeting
- Bumper Stickers
- Refrigerator Magnets
Marketing via CSA

1. Please sign in at board
2. Grab your herbs + veggies!
3. Check out the Pick your own herb, MINT OREGANO SARDEN!

MOFGA certified ORGANIC CHIVES SAGE
www.wolfpinefarm.com
Solar Powered Intern Cabin
New Trellising System for Dwarf Apple Trees
Human Powered Cultivator
Thank You!

FMI Contact:
Frank S. Wertheim
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