**Holiday Office Hours**
The Berrien County MSU Extension office on Hillandale Rd. will be closed Dec. 25, 26, and Jan. 1, 2. The office will be open Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve.

**Revised Bulletins Available**
Updated versions of the Tree Fruit Management Guide, Vegetable management guides, and Field Crops Management Guide are available. These publications and other helpful bulletins and reference materials for agriculture, wildlife, and many other subjects can be obtained by calling or stopping by the Berrien County Office at 269-944-4126, or directly through the MSU Extension Book Store at shop.msu.edu, (517) 432-1859.

**2015 Cooperative Executive Manager and Director Conference**
This year’s Cooperative Executive Manager / Director Conference topics include effective recruitment and training of young members for leadership roles in cooperatives, legal topics for boards, and training on policy governance for board members. The conference is scheduled for January 27-28, 2015 at the MSU Henry Center for Executive Development. Register: [http://macc.coop/](http://macc.coop/).

**Tree Fruit IPM School**
Tree Fruit Integrated Pest Management School, a two-day program for growers, farm managers, and field scouts, will take place February 18-20, 2015 at the Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids. The focus for the 2015 School will be on how to develop and implement season-long horticultural and IPM strategies - from establishment, dormancy, bloom through harvest, and post-harvest - to support a healthy and productive orchard over the course of its lifetime. Early registration (before Jan. 14) is $175/person. Regular registration is $225.00. Online registration at the following URL: [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/2015_tree_fruit_ipm_school_registration_is_now_open](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/2015_tree_fruit_ipm_school_registration_is_now_open)

**4-H Tractor Operator Program begins January 27**
The Michigan State University Tractor Operator Program for 14- and 15-year-old youth will run Jan 27 - Mar 24, 2015. Classes will meet Tuesday evenings at the Old Baroda Township Hall, 9081 First Street, Baroda. The 4-H Tractor Operator Program is a major investment of time, but one of the most valuable experiences we offer that teaches young people safety, confidence and job skills to last a lifetime. Cost is $45/person. Contact Deb Barrett for more information, 269-944-4126.

**Farm Bill Educational Program offered January 15**
Michigan State University Extension Farm Management Team will be providing Farm Bill Title 1 programming throughout the state. In Benton Harbor, the session will be held January 15. Please see the Farm Bill Program webpage for Farm Bill related information at: [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/farm_bill](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/farm_bill) and watch for Farm Bill Programs in your local area on our website at: [http://events.anr.msu.edu/FarmBill1415/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/FarmBill1415/)

**Ag Action Day, January 30**
Ag Action Day 2015 will be held Jan 30, 8am-4pm, at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. There will be numerous educational sessions from Michigan State University experts on agriculture and home horticulture, and exhibitors from equipment vendors and ag-related organizations. A series of hops production sessions will be included as part of the education program this year. Registration is $25, and includes lunch. Register online at: [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/ag_action_2015](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/ag_action_2015).

**Southwest MI Hort Days, February 4-5, 2015**
Southwest Michigan Horticultural Days will be held Feb. 4-5, 8:00am to 4:00pm, at Lake Michigan College’s Mendel Center in Benton Harbor, hosted by Michigan State University, Lake Michigan College, and the Michigan Grape Society. There will be a trade show, plus educational sessions by MSU Extension educators on issues related to vegetable production, tree fruit, grape, and blueberry. Registration is by mail; forms will be sent to previous attendees and others who have indicated interest. Call Diane Miner at 269-944-1477, x201, for registration packet, if you don’t receive one the first week of January. Pre-registration is $25, on-site registration is $30.
Pesticide Applicator Review and Exam Sessions
Berrien County MSU Extension is hosting Pesticide Applicator testing and review sessions again this winter. Exam sessions will be on Jan 14, Feb 12, Mar 11, Apr 16, and May 20; the next review session, on Mar 11, begins at 8:30am at the Berrien County MSU-E office, and is $25.00 per person. To sign up for the review session, please call the Berrien MSU Extension office at 269-944-4126. Sign up for the exam sessions and view schedules at [https://secure1.state.mi.us/opes/](https://secure1.state.mi.us/opes/) Cost of Exam is $50 for private applicators and $75 for commercial applicators.

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