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• Meeting Registrations
• Tree Fruit School (see link)
• MAEAP Phase I Meeting
• Mailing list updated form

EXTENSION CALENDAR
WINTER 2015

February 3, 2015  Non-Insured Assistance Program Meeting
Hart United Methodist Church
9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

February 6, 2015  Cover Crop Educational Meeting —CANCELLED
9 a.m.—12 noon
Fremont Area District Library
Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP)
Fremont Area District Library
1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

February 6, 2015  MAEAP Phase I Meeting (see insert)
Scottville Optimist Club
8 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
Registration deadline Monday, February 2nd.

February 12, 2015  West Michigan Ag Employer Meeting
Hart United Methodist Church
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

February 18-20, 2015  Tree Fruit School (see insert for more details)
Eberhard Center, Grand Rapids

February 18, 2015  Pesticide Recertification Exam
Ludington Airport, Ludington, 1:00 p.m.

March 12, 2015  Oceana Asparagus Day
New Era Reformed Church
9 a.m.—3:45 p.m.

March 14, 2015  Oceana Agricultural Banquet/Oceana Soil Conservation District Annual Meeting
New Era Reformed Church
6 p.m.—9 p.m.

March 31, 2015  West Michigan Spring Horticulture Meeting
Hart United Methodist Church
8 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Ben Werling
West MI Vegetable Educator

Curtis Talley Jr.
Farm Management Educator
NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP (Non-insured Assistance Program) has been expanded to include buy-up protection, similar to buy-up provisions offered under the federal crop insurance program. Everything that cannot be insured with RMA (Risk Management Agency) is eligible for NAP buy-up, on crops such as tart cherries and sweet cherries that are in pilot insurance programs. Producers may elect coverage for each individual crop between 50 and 65 percent, in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price. Producers also pay a fixed premium equal to 5.25 percent of the liability.

MAILING LIST UPDATE

It is that time again, to update our mailing list. We have enclosed the mailing list update form and would ask that you please take a few minutes to provide us with your mailing information, areas of interest and indicate if you would like your name protected from Freedom of Information requests. If you could return the mailing list form either via mail, fax (231-873-3710) or email to walicki@anr.msu.edu, before April 1st, we would appreciate it. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call. We are required to show that we have requested updates to our mailing list to keep our bulk mailing permit, which keeps mailing costs down.

This year we will be forced to remove anyone’s name that has not updated. So, if it has been a while since you provided an update, but you are still interested in receiving our newsletters, please return the enclosed update form. We will begin sending newsletters via email in February 2015.

2015 West Michigan Agricultural Employer Meeting
Thursday, March 12, 2015
Hart United Methodist Church

The 2015 West Michigan Agricultural Employer meeting will assist you, the employer, in understanding changes that are occurring in the labor workforce with new legislation, and regulations that impact employers. We have expanded this program to reflect the needs of area growers and employers representing the local West Michigan area.

See the enclosed flyer for more information and registration form.
OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY
MARCH 12, 2015
New Era Reformed Church, New Era, MI

Agenda

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Refreshments

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. “Update on Asparagus Variety Availability” – John Bakker, Research Director, Michigan Asparagus Research Committee, Inc.

9:30 – 9:45 a.m. “MAEAP Update” – Dan Bushy, MDARD MAEAP Verifier & Lynda Herremans, Oceana Conservation District MAEAP Technician

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. “Asparagus Marketing Update” – Ken Nye, Executive Director, Michigan Agricultural Commodities Marketing Association (MACMA)

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 11:00 a.m. “Post-harvest handling of fresh-market asparagus” – Dr. Randy Beaudry, MSU Dept. of Horticulture

11:00 – 12:00 noon. “H2A panel” – Sarah Pion and Craig Anderson, Michigan Farm Bureau

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch and View Exhibits

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. “Asparagus Irrigation Research Update” – Dr. Zack Hayden, MSU Department of Horticulture

2:00—2:30 p.m. “Asparagus Purple Spot Update and New Research on Cover Crops” – Charlie Krasnow and Mary Hausbeck, MSU Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

2:30—3:00 p.m. “Asparagus Insect Update” – Dr. Zsofia Szendrei and Adam Ingrao, MSU Department of Entomology

3:00—3:30 p.m. “Powell amaranth control” – Dr. Bernie Zandstra, MSU Dept. of Horticulture

3:30—3:45 p.m. Evaluation and adjourn

*** NOTE ***

Following Oceana Asparagus Day -
MACMA is planning to hold their Annual Meeting beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Pesticide applicator credits will be requested for this meeting.
West Central Spring Horticultural Meeting
March 31, 2015
Hart United Methodist Church, Hart

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.  Registration - coffee and refreshments

8:00-8:30 a.m.  Introduction to the MAEAP  
Dan Busby and Lynda Herremans, MAEAP Program

8:30-9:00 a.m.  Short and long-term weather forecasts: What is in store for 2015?  
Dr. Jeff Andresen, Dept. of Geography, MSU

9:00-9:40 a.m.  Understanding Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs): A Key Ingredient in Michigan Cherry Growers' Survival  
Dr. Mark Whalon, Dept. of Entomology, MSU

9:40-10:10 a.m.  Best Management Practices for Pollinators in Michigan Orchards  
Dr. Julianna Wilson, Dept. of Entomology, MSU

10:10-10:30 a.m.  BREAK

10:30-11:00 a.m.  Mating Disruption Using Aerosol Emitters in Michigan Apples  
Dr. Larry Gut, Dept. of Entomology, MSU

11:00-11:30 a.m.  Using Pyrethroid Sprays to Control SWD and their Impacts on Spider Mite Populations  
Emily Pochubay, NWMHRC, MSUE

11:30-12:10 a.m.  Gaining a Better Understanding of Insecticide Efficacy against SWD  
Dr. Nikki Rothwell, NWMHRC and MSUE

12:10-1:00 p.m.  LUNCH

1:00-1:30 p.m.  Using Copper and other Compounds to Control Cherry Leaf Spot  
Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences

1:30-2:15 p.m.  Using Precision Orchard Management Techniques to Grow the Best Apples  
Phil Schwallier, MSUE

2:15-2:30 p.m.  Recognizing and Avoiding Spray Injury in Apple  
Amy Irish-Brown, MSUE

2:30-3:00 p.m.  Apple Disease Management Update for 2015  
Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences

3:00-3:30 p.m.  Thinning Strategies for an Optimal Crop in 2015  
Phil Schwallier, MSUE

3:30-3:45 p.m.  BREAK

3:45-4:30 p.m.  FSMA Update and New Strategies for Successful Record Keeping in Orchard Systems  
Phil Tocco, MSUE

Pesticide applicator credits will be requested for this meeting.
PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION TEST DATES

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) will be giving the Pesticide Certification Test in Oceana County and surrounding counties during the 2015 winter and spring season. Pesticide certification is necessary for anyone who wants to buy pesticides that are listed as Restricted Use (RUP) by the Environmental Protection Agency. Certification may also be necessary if you plan to apply general use pesticides commercially.

The final date for Oceana County is Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the same location. The MDA reserves the right to cancel any test that does not have at least 20 people enrolled, so it is important that you pre-register at least one week prior to the test date. Registration is online at the MDA website www.michigan.gov/pestexam.

People who are planning to take a renewal test should bring the paperwork sent to them by MDA to the testing site. The testing fees are $50 for private certification and $75 for commercial certification. Payment must be made by check or money order at the testing site. NO CASH! You are also encouraged to bring a calculator on the day of the test.

Study manuals maybe obtained at your local MSU Extension Office at a cost of $30 or ordered online through the MSU Stores at http://shop.msu.edu. There is one manual for private applicators and one for commercial applicators. If you will be renewing a special category, please allow time in case these manuals need to be ordered.

If the Oceana County date and time is not convenient for you, below is a table of the testing dates, times and locations in the surrounding area. By visiting the MDA website you can find a complete listing of all tests being offered this winter/spring season throughout the state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/18/15</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Ludington Airport 5300 W. US 10, Ludington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/19/15</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>Ottawa Co. Admin. Bldg., 12220 Fillmore Street Main Conference Room, West Olive, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27/15</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Montcalm</td>
<td>Sidney Township Hall, 3019 S. Grow Road, Sidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/19/15</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Oceana</td>
<td>West Shore ESD 844 Griswold Street, Hart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/20/15</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Newaygo</td>
<td>Newaygo MSU Extension 817 S. Stewart, Fremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/27/15</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Montcalm</td>
<td>Sidney Township Hall 3019 S. Grow Rd, Sidney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAP TO HART UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

From North: Take U.S. 31 south to Hart. Exit at the Polk Road/Hart Exit. Turn left (east) off exit. Go to first 4-way stop (approx. 1 1/2 miles). Turn left (north) onto State St. Approximately 6 blocks on right will be the County Annex Bldg. (MSU Extension) directly after will be the Hart United Methodist Church.

From South: Take U.S. 31 north to Hart. Exit at the Polk Road/Hart Exit. Turn right (east) off exit. Approx. 1 mile turn left (north) at 4-way stop – State St. Travel six blocks north. County Annex Building will be on the right with the church directly after.

Questions, please call 231-873-2129

10TH ANNUAL OCEANA AGRICULTURAL BANQUET & OCEANA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015
NEW ERA REFORMED CHURCH, NEW ERA

Come enjoy an evening of fine dining, entertainment and wonderful recognition of outstanding agricultural producers in Oceana County. The Oceana Soil Conservation District will provide a brief update of their activities and hold a short business meeting. Door prizes will be handed out. The Taste of Oceana Reception begins at 6:00 p.m. with the Banquet beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $15 per person and can be purchased at the MSU Extension Office or the Oceana Soil Conservation District Office.
2015 OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY REGISTRATION
Thursday, March 12, 2015
New Era Reformed Church

Name: ____________________________________________

Company Name: ____________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________________________

Phone Number: _____________________________________

Number attending: _______ Amount Enclosed: __________

Names of those attending: ___________________________,
____________________________________________________

Those requiring special accommodations are asked to contact the MSU
Extension at 231-873-2129 ten days prior to the event.

Registration Fees:

Early Registration: $20.00 ea.
(before or on March 1st)

Late Registration: $35.00 ea.
(after March 1st)

Please make checks payable to: Michigan State University

Return registration and fees to:
MSU Extension
210 Johnson St.
Hart, MI 49420

Questions, please call 231-873-2129

2015 West Central Spring Horticulture Meeting
Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Name: ____________________________________________

Company Name: ____________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________________________

Phone Number: _____________________________________

Number attending: _______ Amount Enclosed: __________

Names of those attending: ___________________________,
____________________________________________________

Those requiring special accommodations are asked to contact the MSU
Extension at 231-873-2129 ten days prior to the event.

Registration Fees:

Early Registration: $25.00 ea.
(before or on March 20th)

Late Registration: $40.00 ea.
(after March 20th)

Please make checks payable to: Michigan State University

Return registration and fees to:
MSU Extension
210 Johnson St.
Hart, MI 49420

Questions, please call 231-873-2129
Understanding and complying with Labor Laws have become increasingly more difficult due to the changes in the laws and the numbers of issues facing employers.

The 2015 West Michigan Agricultural Employer meeting will assist you, the employer, in understanding changes that are occurring in the labor workforce with new legislation and regulations that impact employers. We have expanded this program to reflect the needs of area growers and employers representing the local West Michigan area.

The Planning Committee

Table Top Displays/Information
Organizations may have literature describing the services they provide. Please visit them during the break.

Parking
Hart United Methodist Church
308 S. State St.
Hart, MI 49420

Directions to

The 2015 West Michigan Agricultural Employer Meeting
Thursday, February 12, 2015
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Agenda

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Registration

8:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Employer/Employee Services
Provided by Telamon and Michigan Works
Margaret Ewing, Telamon Corp
Sonya Barrett, Michigan Works

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Update on MLH Program: construction plans, H2A and new inspection forms
Steven Wagstaff, MDARD

9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Foreign Labor/H2A Program
Information
Marcie Alling, Workforce Development Agency

10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Break

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Smaller Employer Plans Under the Affordable Health Care Act
Dr. Adam Kantrovich, MSU Extension

11:15 a.m. - 12 noon
Agriculture Recruiting System - the State Workforce Program for recruiting Domestic Labor
Gerry Aranda, Workforce Development Agency

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Using Farm Labor Contractors to Provide Your Workers
Tom Thornburg, Farmworker Legal Service

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
DOL Compliance Issues on Farms and How You Can Be Prepared for Audits
Craig Anderson, Michigan Farm Bureau

2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Grower Experiences with H2A Farm Bureau pilot

2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

* A detailed agenda will be distributed at the event *

February 12, 2015
WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
Agricultural Employers
Local Agency Partners
Service Providers
MEETING DATE & TIME:
Thursday, February 12, 2015
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION:
Hart United Methodist Church
308 S. State St
Hart, MI  49420

COST:
$15.00 per person, which includes morning refreshments and lunch.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Email: walicki@anr.msu.edu
Phone: (231) 873-2129

Questions: Oceana MSU Extension, (231) 873-2129 or Workforce Development Agency, Ag staff at Michigan State University and mail to:

Oceana MSU Extension
210 Johnson St.
Hart, MI  49420

Participants:
Business Name & Address:
Phone:
E-mail:

Please make check payable to: “Michigan State University” and mail to:

Oceana MSU Extension
210 Johnson St.
Hart, MI  49420

Registration Deadline: February 06, 2015
Cost: $15.00

Mailing Returns Shipments and Lunch:

Michigan State University
Oceana MSU Extension
210 Johnson St.
Hart, MI  49420

Questions: Oceana MSU Extension, (231) 873-2129 or Workforce Development Agency, Ag staff at Michigan State University
2015 MSU Tree Fruit School

The 2015 MSU Tree Fruit IPM School, which will take place February 18-20, 2015 at the Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids. Below is a link for more information and the on-line registration if you choose to use it.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/2015_tree_fruit_ipm_school_registration_is_now_open

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MAEAP PHASE 1 MEETING

OCEANA, MASON-LAKE & MANISTEE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Agenda

8:00 Sign-in & refreshments

8:30 Welcome & Introduction to the Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program
- Murray Stall, Jordan DeVries, MAEAP Technician, Manistee/Mason-Lake CD's
- Lynda Herreman, MAEAP Technician, Oceana Conservation District
- Dan Busby, MAEAP Verifier, Michigan Dept of Agriculture & Rural Dev.
- Liz Reimink, Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee

8:45 On-Farm Emergency Planning, MAEAP Farm A*system
- Scott King, Michigan Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development
- Seth Earl & Scott Hughey, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Lynda Herreman, MAEAP Technician, Oceana Conservation District

9:30 Cover Crops & Fertilizer Crediting, MAEAP Livestock A*system
- Jerry Lindquist, Extension Educator, Michigan State University
- Murray Stall, MAEAP Technician, Mason-Lake Conservation District
- Laura Wilson, FSA: Mason-Oceana-Lake-Manistee Service Center

10:15 Break

10:30 Integrated Pest Management, MAEAP Fruit A*system
- Emily Pochmoyer, MSU Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station
- Jordan DeVries, MAEAP Technician, Mason-Lake Conservation District

11:15 Insecticide applications near pollinator habitat: Q &A panel
- Prof. Francis Burns, Ferris State University
- Erin Lizotte, Extension Educator, Michigan State University

12:00 Lunch provided by G & M Burgers, Scottville
Variable Rate Fertilizer applications and Grid Sampling
Presented by Wilbur Ellis Agribusiness, Hart, MI
- Gerrit Heynderiks, Nathan Wittkamp & Matt Williams, Wilbur Ellis Agribusiness

12:45 The Forestry Assistance Program, MAEAP Forest, Wetland & Habitat A*system, Invasive Species Identification & Treatment
- Josh Shields, Outreach Forester: Manistee & Mason-Lake Conservation Districts
- Dan McGarry Conservation Technician (CTA) Oceana Conservation District

2:30 Close

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Promoting Stewardship
Protecting the Environment

4 Pesticide Recertification Credits have been approved for attendees.

FRI. FEB. 6TH
8:00 AM–2:30 PM
Scottville Optimist Hall, 105 W. State Street, Scottville, MI 49454

Please register by noon on February 2nd so we can get a count for handouts & food by calling:

Oceana Conservation District - 231-361-5600 x5 or
Mason-Lake Conservation District - 231-757-3707 x5, or
Manistee Conservation District - 231-889-9666 x5
MAILING LIST UPDATE!

In order to keep our records up-to-date, we are asking you to complete the form below and return it to the MSU Extension Office. We have added the Freedom of Information Act Statement for anyone who would like their name and address protected from being distributed to anyone requesting our mailing list under the Freedom of Information Act. By re-folding the form and affixing the proper postage you can simply drop it in the mail. We have provided the return address on the outside. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Name _______________________________________   Phone number (         ) ___________________
Company Name _______________________________   County ________________________
Complete Mailing Address _______________________________________________________
City ________________________________ State ___________________ Zip _____________
Email address ________________________________

Please mark one of the following: _____ YES, please keep my name on the mailing list to received the Extension News
_____ NO, please remove my name

Please indicate your agriculture connection:    Grower _____    Ag Support Person ______
Please indicate any agriculture related businesses:  ____ Farm Market   ____ Packing Shed
_____ Food Processor   _____ Consultant

Areas of Interest: Please mark all areas of interest:

Fruit:
___ Apples
___ Apricots
___ Blackberries
___ Blueberries
___ Cherries
___ Cranberries
___ Grapes
___ Peaches
___ Plums
___ Raspberries
___ Strawberries

Vegetable:
___ Asparagus
___ Asparagus Crowns
___ Carrots
___ Cole Crops
___ Melons
___ Peppers
___ Pickles
___ Potatoes
___ Root Crops
___ Snap Beans
___ Sweet Corn
___ Zucchini

Field Crops:
___ Corn – Grain
___ Corn
___ Dry Beans
___ Hay/Pasture
___ No-Till
___ Oats
___ Rye
___ Sugar Beets
___ Soybeans
___ Wheat

Animal:
___ Beef (cow-calf)
___ Beef (feed-lot)
___ Dairy
___ Goats
___ Horses
___ Poultry
___ Sheep
___ Swine

Forestry:
___ Forestry
___ Christmas Trees

Nursery:
___ Greenhouse
___ Landscaping
___ Nursery

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WAIVER

I am providing you with my mailing address so that I may receive Oceana County MSU Extension mailings only. I do not want my address released to any other party.

I understand that I may cancel this restriction at any time by writing the Oceana County MSU Extension.

Signature _______________________________________ Date ______________________________
Signature of Parent (if 4-Her) ______________________________________ Date ______________________________

Return to: Oceana MSU Extension * 210 Johnson St. * Hart, MI 49420
or fax: 231-873-3710