

# OMAFRA CONNECTS

*Your Link to Ontario Agriculture*

For the Region of Huron County and Beyond

For the Region of Lambton County and Beyond

October 2011

**Editor/Contact :**

Jane Muegge, Agriculture Economic Development Advisor,  
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs  
100 Don Street, Clinton, ON N0M 1L0  
**Telephone:** 519.482.5129 **Fax:** 519.482.5031  
**E-mail:** [jane.muegge@ontario.ca](mailto:jane.muegge@ontario.ca)

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**EVENTS:** *Please contact me with details of your next event to insert in to the dateline.*

**Oct 27 – Ontario's Harvest Gala** - Delta Guelph Ballroom, Stone Road, Guelph 6:30 p.m. Cocktail reception, doors open, 7:00 p.m. Gourmet Tasting Stations begin (The best of Ontario Food, Wine and Beer!), 8:00 p.m. A Tribute to Harvest and the People Who Make it Happen *Special Features: Launch of the 2012 Faces of Farming Calendar*  
<http://www.ofac.org/gala/gala.php>

**Oct 27 – 29 “Bring Food Home” Conference** - is Ontario's biennial conference connecting food and farming leaders working towards a sustainable food system held at Trent University in Peterborough  
Details at [www.bringfoodhome.com](http://www.bringfoodhome.com)

**November 1 – 5 – 2011 International Goat Symposium**, will be held in conjunction with the 2011 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Watch for details at <http://www.ogba.ca>

**Nov 2 – Time to get your Green on** – Show your 4-H pride and kick off National 4-H Month

**November 2 - Ruminant Feed Industry Day**, Maryhill Heritage Park Community Centre, 58 St. Charles Street, East, Maryhill. Objective - to present feed industry personnel including sales staff, nutritionists and other interested professionals with timely information and tools to help their ruminant livestock clients. To register call the OMAFRA Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300. Cost: \$89 (plus HST) registered by October 27; \$119 (plus HST) registration after October 27

**Nov. 3 – Huron Information Day** – REACH Huron, Clinton - an opportunity to learn about resources available to help your clients meet their employment and training goals - \$20 (includes Lunch) 9:30 – 3 pm RSVP Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> to [janejill@fc.amdsb.ca](mailto:janejill@fc.amdsb.ca) 519.235.0471 x25

**Nov. 3 – Huron Tourism Association Fall Dinner** – Indulge in what fall has to offer at the annual HTA dinner – [www.ontarioswestcoast.ca](http://www.ontarioswestcoast.ca) Blyth Inn, social: 6pm, dinner 6:30 Theme : Celebrating County Colours, \$50.00 3 course fall dinner with Ont. Wine pairings RSVP Oct 27 to Marie Maguire 1-888-524-8394 ext 3

**November 4 – 13 – Royal Agricultural Winter Fair**, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Visit <http://www.royalfair.org/> for all the details.

**Nov 5 – Huron Cultural Symposium** – Blyth Memorial hall – 10 – 4 pm.  
For more info Rick Sickinger 519-482-5457 ext 8

**Nov 9 – Locally Lambton Dinner** - doors open at 5:30 with Reception; Dinner at 7:00 fundraiser for the Sarnia-Lambton United Way For more information <http://www.theunitedway.on.ca/>

**Nov 10 – Better Farmer Health workshop** – Lamplighter Inn, London, Why is it important?  
We tend to think of workplace health and safety as only being about injuries/trauma suffered at work. This program is unique because it recognizes the health problems associated with rural life and the impact on the bottom line when a farmer/producer is not 100% fit. The program looks at how farm life affects diet, obesity, exercise, cancer, lifestyle, smoking, drinking, issues with access to healthcare, untreated chronic injury etc. and how all of these things negatively affect the farm - sponsored by Poultry Industry Council - you can register on line at [www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca](http://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca) and click on the Better Farmer Health, Better Farm Business link

**Nov 15 – Sustainable Food Systems Conversations** – Brodhagen - For more info see page 5

**Nov 16 – Christian Farmers Convention** - St. George Banquet Hall in Waterloo, contact offices at 519-837-1620, or check out the CFFO's website at [www.christianfarmers.org](http://www.christianfarmers.org)

**Nov 15/Nov 22 - Growing Your Farm Profits - Clinton OMAFRA Boardroom** - No cost to register, Lois Sinclair Huron County OSCIA Workshop Leader/Program Representative (519)-357-3146

**November 15 OMAFRA Sheep Seminars “Improve Conception to Increase Consumption”; Improving Conception Rates and Prospects for Profit**, Atwood, Elma Memorial Community Centre, 8:45 am to 4:00 pm. To register / For more information: Toll Free: 1-877-424-1300; Local: (519) 826-4047; E-mail: [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca). Check details at: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/sheep/20091110.htm>

**November 16 - Direct Farm Marketing Workshop**, Lucan Community Centre, 8:30 – 11:30 am. For information and to register contact Sabrina Langill, County of Middlesex, Economic Development & Planning Coordinator, 519-434-7321, 2251, [info@investinmiddlesex.ca](mailto:info@investinmiddlesex.ca)

**Nov. 18 – Huron Manufacturing Excellence Awards** - South Huron Community Centre in Exeter for more info <http://www.huronmanufacturing.ca>

**Nov 18– Lambton Federation of Agriculture Annual** – Wyoming - <http://www.lfawebsite.ca/>

**Nov 19 Huron Junior Farmer Alumni Ball Formal Dinner and Dance** at the Blyth Community Centre - Tickets \$30.00. For more details please call 519 522-0011 or email [emmajordan88@hotmail.com](mailto:emmajordan88@hotmail.com).

**Nov 19 – Ecological Farmers of Ontario Annual General Meeting.** For details, contact EFAO <http://www.efao.ca/>

**Nov 20 & 21 Ont. Young Farmers' Forum – From Farm to Fork – Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Toronto Airport** [www.oymm.ca](http://www.oymm.ca) or contact JFAO at 519-780-5326

**Nov 24 – 26 – National Farmers Union Convention** - Four Points Sheraton, London [www.nfuontario.ca](http://www.nfuontario.ca)

**November 29 & 30 - Sheep Infrastructure Workshops – 2011**, Mount Forest. The Program is targeted toward people in the planning cycle for building large commercial-scale infrastructure as part of an expansion plan in their sheep enterprise. The workshop is intended to give ideas, show latest concepts, test out participants' ideas and examine relative costs, but not a financial recipe or exact expenses list as that is dependant on their personal situation. The group will look at what regulations need to be addressed, although these should not be big ticket items on any sheep farm. Participants will be sent home with some good ideas and the need to examine more options before committing themselves on any capital project. To register / for more information: Toll Free: 1-877-424-1300; Local: (519) 826-4047; E-mail: [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca)

**Nov 30 – Forage Focus 2011 Conference**, Shakespeare Optimist Centre, Shakespeare, ON. Check for details at <http://www.ontarioforagecouncil.com/>

**December 1 - Eastern Ontario Local Food Conference: Scaling Up Our Regional Food System**, University of Guelph, Kemptville Campus. Designed to facilitate stronger relationships among local food groups and provide technical information on key topics. Keynote speaker, Tom Stearns, President of Centre for an Agricultural Economy and High Mowing Seeds in Vermont will discuss key elements of success that Vermont has built upon to foster agricultural initiatives.

**Dec 1/Dec 8 - Growing Your Farm Profits - Clinton OMAFRA Boardroom** - No cost to register, Lois Sinclair Huron County OSCIA Workshop Leader/Program Representative (519)-357-3146

**Dec 6– Poultry Producer Update**, Brodhagen. OMAFRA, in conjunction with the Poultry Industry Council, are running Producer Updates for the Poultry Industry. Details available soon at <http://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca/events/producerupdates.php>

**Dec. 8 – Lambton Young Agriculturalists** - Debate and discussion 1) Owning vs renting land 2) Alternate energy vs fossil fuels - from 8 to 10 p.m. Wyoming Legion, 493 Erie Street

**Dec 8 & 9 – Podolinsky Equipment Ltd., John Deere Days** – 6057 Petrolia Line, Petrolia More details at [www.podolinsky.com](http://www.podolinsky.com) or call 519.844.2360

**Dec 12 – Lambton Farm Management Seminar** - Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre, 3310 Walnut Street, Alvinston 9am – 3pm – More details to follow

**January 4 & 5, 2012 – Southwest Agricultural Conference**, University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus. Watch for details at <http://www.southwestagconference.ca/>

**January 4 – 10, 2012 – Grey-Bruce Farmer's Week.** For 2012, Grey Bruce Farmers' Week will expand to a 7 day event. Daily events and registration information is available on-line at <http://www.greyagservices.ca/grey-bruce-farmers-week/introduction.html>

**January 21, 2012 – Farm\$mart Agricultural Conference**, Rozanski Hall, University of Guelph. Mark your calendar and watch for details at <http://www.uoguelph.ca/farmsmart/>

**January 21, 2012 – 2012 Beef Symposium** in conjunction with Farm\$mart. Mark your calendar and check <http://www.uoguelph.ca/farmsmart/> for details.

**January 25, 2012 – 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Centralia Swine Research Update**, Kirkton-Woodham Community Centre, Kirkton. Watch for details at <http://www.centraliaswinereseach.ca/>

**Feb 22/23 – Ont. Cattlemen’s Convention - Celebrating 50 Years of Strength, Commitment and Determination**, Plaza AB, Doubletree Hotel, Toronto

**March 7 – 9, 2012 – Western Fair Farm Show**, Western Fair Entertainment Centre, London, ON. Watch for details at <http://www.westernfair.com/shows/farm.html>

**Mar 23 – 25 – 4-H Conference and Annual Meeting**

**April 11 & 12, 2012 – Poultry Industry Show**, Western Fair Entertainment Centre, London, ON. Check for details at <http://www.westernfair.com/shows/poultry.html>

#### **MORE HAPPENINGS:**

**Farm Start Events:** For a complete list and details visit the website at <http://www.farmstart.ca>

**REACH (Regional Equine Agricultural Centre of Huron)** [www.reachhuron.ca](http://www.reachhuron.ca)

**What’s happening in Huron?** – check out – [www.ontarioswestcoast.ca](http://www.ontarioswestcoast.ca)

**What’s happening in Sarnia-Lambton** – check out – [www.tourismsarnialambton.com](http://www.tourismsarnialambton.com)

#### **PROGRAMS, SERVICES & HAPPENINGS:**

##### **TIS THE SEASON .... GET YOUR FLU SHOT!**

Check with your health unit to find a clinic near you

Huron County – [www.huroncounty.ca/health](http://www.huroncounty.ca/health)

Lambton County - [www.lambtonhealth.on.ca](http://www.lambtonhealth.on.ca)

Grey Bruce County – [www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

Perth County – [www.pdhu.on.ca](http://www.pdhu.on.ca)

##### **THE PREMIER’S AWARD FOR AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**

*Now Accepting Applications*

Have you developed and implemented an innovative product or process within your agriculture or food business? If so, you could be eligible to receive one of the following awards from the Premier’s Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Program:

- Premier’s Award (one award valued at \$75,000)
- Minister’s Award (one award valued at \$50,000)
- Leaders in Innovation Awards (three awards valued at \$25,000 each)
- Provincial Awards (45 awards valued at \$5,000 each)

Eligible applicants include primary producers / farmers, processors and agri-food organizations. Unlike previous years, applications will be accepted direct from processors and agri-food organizations.

A copy of the Program Guidebook and Application Form, as well as information on previous award recipients is available at [www.ontario.ca/agrifoodinnovation](http://www.ontario.ca/agrifoodinnovation) or by calling 1-877-424-1300

##### **APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE CHANGED - Goderich and Area Disaster Relief**

The Goderich and Area Disaster Relief Committee announced today that the deadline date for submission of applications for financial assistance has been changed to **November 25, 2011 @ 4:00 p.m.**

Duncan Jewell, Chairperson of the Goderich and Area Disaster Relief Committee said that “the Committee is responding to the concerns of residents and businesses about their inability to complete the required information on the Application Form for Financial Assistance because of the lack of information from their insurance companies. Many residents and businesses are still waiting for information on asbestos abatement, demolition, replacement costs, property clean-up and business inventory.”

Jewell said, “applicants are encouraged to speak with their insurance broker, insurance company, adjuster and contractor to obtain the necessary supporting documentation in order to complete the Application Form for Financial Assistance. Only fully completed forms can be reviewed and considered by the Goderich and Area Disaster Relief Committee. No claims can be paid until all applications are reviewed by the Committee.”

"The Committee understands the frustration that many potential applicants are feeling and felt that by extending the deadline, it will allow the residents and businesses more time to provide the supporting documentation on their application," said Duncan Jewell.

Jewell said that, "the Committee has set up a series of evening meeting times where applicants will have an opportunity to meet a Programme Administrator to receive assistance and have any questions answered. Meetings can be arranged by calling Lisa Crossey at 519.524.4441."

All applications for assistance must be received by the Goderich & Area Disaster Relief Committee at 57 West Street, Goderich, Ontario by 4:00 pm on Friday November 25, 2011 to be eligible for consideration.

Chairperson Jewell said that "applicants may add additional information to their files after November 25 but no new files will be opened after the deadline."

### **INVITATION TO AN INTERACTIVE CONVERSATION ON A SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM – NOV 15**

The Huron Perth Farm to Table Network is partnering with the "Sustainable Food Systems" Research Team to host a series of conversations on what it takes to develop a sustainable local food system. Farmers, operators of food businesses, municipal leaders and interested community members are all invited to participate and to offer their insight and expertise.

The Sustainable Food Systems Team has invited renown playwright Dan Needles to set the tone and jump start discussion. They have also enlisted the talents of facilitator Ricardo Ramirez and graphic recorder, John Roshon.

Updates on the HPFTT Buy Local Buy Fresh Map and other programming will also be part of the day.

Join us from 9:30 until 3:30 on **November 15** and we will provide you with a delicious local lunch. Call the Huron Business Centre at (519)-527-0305 or [infohbc@smallbusinesshuron.ca](mailto:infohbc@smallbusinesshuron.ca) to register. Please accept our apologies if you have already received this invitation from another source. For more information or answers to your questions, please feel free to contact me – 1-888-537-3163 or [jbrady@smallbusinesshuron.ca](mailto:jbrady@smallbusinesshuron.ca)

### **DIRECT FARM MARKETING WORKSHOP**

November 16 - Lucan Community Centre - 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Looking to start, expand or enhance farm marketing? This workshop is for you!! Direct farm marketing requires being much more involved in the marketing and sale of a product to the end user – the consumer- than conventional primary production agriculture. Unlike traditional methods of selling products, such as wholesale into the marketplace, direct farm marketing allows for greater control by the producer in the production and selling of a product, including the ability to be a price maker – not a price taker.

Carl Fletcher from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) will review many forms of on-farm marketing including farm gate, farm store and pick your own operations and the off-farm marketing including markets, restaurant delivery and internet ordering.

Participants will get an introduction to the regulations and other considerations for farmers. Will Heeman, Heeman's Greenhouses and Strawberry Farm will explain their experiences with direct farm marketing and how they incorporate it into their overall business model.

For more information / To register contact Sabrina Langill, County of Middlesex, Economic Development & Planning Coordinator, 519-434-7321, 2251, [info@investinmiddlesex.ca](mailto:info@investinmiddlesex.ca)

### **MINISTRY OF LABOUR – ALERT!**

For everyone's information... the MOL have issued an alert regarding "Oxygen-Limiting Silos".

Silos on farming operations continue to be a major source of serious injuries and fatalities in the workplaces covered by the Industrial program.

A recent farming fatality investigation and a recommendation for an alert from the lead inspector, a new hazard alert dealing with the atmospheric hazards associated with oxygen-limiting structures. This alert expands on the existing information that is currently set out in the farming guidelines.

The attached hazard alert outlines some of the precautions in the farming sector for workers may potentially be entering oxygen-deficient atmospheres in silos. Some other associated hazards include flammable and explosive atmospheres, falls and engulfment. The WSPS have further information on their web-site on the hazards associated with silos under formerly Farm safety Association.



133E Oxygen Limited  
Structures on Farms.1

## ONTARIO GOAT INTRODUCES A NEW INDUSTRY AWARD

Ontario Goat is delighted to introduce an award to recognize the hard working farmers in the goat industry - "Goat Farmer of the Year" award. An independent panel of judges will review all nominations and the winner will be announced at the Ontario Goat Industry Celebration banquet as part of the International Goat Symposium. To recommend a deserving farmer for this award, please see [www.goatsymposium.com](http://www.goatsymposium.com) for a nomination form. This prestigious award will be bestowed upon the goat farmer who best exemplifies the spirit for which this award was created. The criteria for this award will be based on, but not limited to, the farmer who typifies the following:

- A demonstrated passion for the goat industry
- Excellent management skills (animal husbandry, record-keeping, etc.)
- An innovator in the industry through adoption of new techniques, practices and approaches
- Involvement with the goat industry youth
- A goat industry advocate and ambassador who participates in various goat industry events
- Breeds and raises quality goats (meat, milk or fibre)
- Is a member in good standing with Ontario Goat

All nomination forms must be received by Ontario Goat no later than **October 24, 2011**.

The 2011 International Goat Symposium will be held at the Orangeville Fairgrounds in Orangeville, Ontario from November 2-3 and in Toronto at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair from November 4-6. For more details on the full program and registration information please visit [www.goatsymposium.com](http://www.goatsymposium.com)

## GROWING YOUR FARM PROFITS WORKSHOPS

<b>Bruce</b>	Jan 20 & 27, 2012	Walkerton, lunch provided	Jayne Dietrich 519-367-5930	<a href="mailto:bruce@ontariosoilcrop.org">bruce@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
	Mar 9 & 16, 2012	Tara, lunch provided	Jayne Dietrich 519-367-5930	<a href="mailto:bruce@ontariosoilcrop.org">bruce@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
	Mar 21 & 28, 2012	Kincardine, lunch provided	Jayne Dietrich 519-367-5930	<a href="mailto:bruce@ontariosoilcrop.org">bruce@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
<b>Lambton</b>	Call to inquire		Joanne Sanderson 519-695-3980	<a href="mailto:joanne.sanderson@ontariosoilcrop.org">joanne.sanderson@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
<b>Middlesex</b>	Call to inquire		Margaret May 519-287-5334	<a href="mailto:Middlesex@ontariosoilcrop.org">Middlesex@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
<b>Huron</b>	Oct 18 & 25, 2011	Clinton	Lois Sinclair 519-357-3146	<a href="mailto:huron@ontariosoilcrop.org">huron@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
	Nov 15 & 22, 2011	Clinton	Lois Sinclair 519-357-3146	<a href="mailto:huron@ontariosoilcrop.org">huron@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
	Dec 1 & 8, 2011	Clinton	Lois Sinclair 519-357-3146	<a href="mailto:huron@ontariosoilcrop.org">huron@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
<b>Perth</b>	Nov 3 & 10, 2011	Perth East Recreation Complex	Kate Procter 519-887-8951	<a href="mailto:perthGYFP@ontariosoilcrop.org">perthGYFP@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>
	Nov 25 & Dec 2, 2011	Perth East Recreation Complex	Kate Procter 519-887-8951	<a href="mailto:perthGYFP@ontariosoilcrop.org">perthGYFP@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>

## MIDWESTERN ONTARIO REGIONAL GREEN JOBS STRATEGY - [WorkGreen.ca](http://WorkGreen.ca)

The Midwestern Ontario Regional Green Jobs Strategy was a labour market research project that conducted research about the emerging green economy from 2009 to 2011. The various members of the Green Jobs Strategy Steering Committee came together collectively with the major aim to ensure that the communities of Midwestern Ontario reap the full benefit of this transition to a green economy - meaning businesses, communities, and the workforce become prepared to create and capitalize on economic opportunities that stem from the emerging green economy.

[www.WorkGreen.ca](http://www.WorkGreen.ca) was created to host the reports and act as a resource to businesses, educational institutions, communities and the workforce.

The Green Jobs Profile book highlights opportunities in the Green Economy including industry overviews for Biogas, Biomass, Geothermal, Green Building and Construction, Green Infrastructure, Solar Photovoltaic, Sustainable Forestry and Wind.

There are 70 Green Jobs Profiles for each area listed in the report. The four localized reports include:

- Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford (Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning and Development Board)

- Bruce, Grey, Huron and Perth (Four County Labour Market Planning Board)
- Waterloo, Wellington and Dufferin (Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo Wellington Dufferin)
- Sarnia and Lambton (Sarnia Lambton Workforce Development Board)

For more information: <http://workgreen.ca/content/green-jobs-profile-working-green-economy-september-2011>

Ontario farming has been undergoing some dramatic changes. Those changes are creating employment and labour force challenges for farms and agri-businesses. Until now, there's been little study of those changes and what they mean. But three new, detailed studies now fill that information gap. A separate Agriculture and Labour Force Analysis Study has been published for the three counties of Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford.

For more information: <http://workforcedevelopment.ca/whats-happening-ontario-farms>

## LOCAL FOOD ACROSS SW ONTARIO

Local food is a hot topic across the province of Ontario. Many counties have created their own programs to promote farms and food businesses in their communities.

Many of these initiatives are supported by a collaborative of interested organizations which often include a county Federation of Agriculture (or other farm organization like the National Farmer's Union), local public health units, community futures development corporations, farmers' markets, tourism offices or regional governments.

These initiatives often start with a mapping project or web directory of local producers. Some have branched out and created regional brands. Others focus on culinary events and "agri-tainment".

The following list connects to various initiatives throughout South Western Ontario. Find a local food program near you and don't forget to Buy Local! Buy Fresh! all year round.

Bountiful Brant

<http://www.bountifulbrant.ca/>

Buy Local Buy Fresh, Chatham-Kent

<http://buylocalbuyfreshchathamkent.com/>

Elgin County Eat Fresh, Buy Local

<http://www.progressivebynature.com/ElginCounty/EDT/eatfresh.aspx>

Essex Bounty of the County

<http://www.bountyofthecounty.ca/>

Essex County Buy Local

<http://www.ecfa.ca/main/index.php?page=buylocal.php>

Guelph Wellington Local Food Initiative

<http://guelphwellingtonlocalfood.ca/>

Huron Perth Farm to Table

<http://huronperthfarmtotable.ca/consumers/programs/huron-perth-buy-local-buy-fresh-map>

Locally Lambton

<http://locallylambton.com/>

Middlesex London Local Food Guide

<http://www.middlesextourism.ca/Links.html>

Oxfordlicious

<http://www.oxfordfresh.com/>

## ONTARIO BEEF CATTLE FINANCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Ontario Beef Cattle Financial Protection Program protects cattle sellers when a licensed dealer defaults on payment. Effective July 1, 2011, important changes have been made in the program to: enhance the protection for sellers and licensed dealers, and reflect modern banking practices. For information on changes, how the program works, making a claim and a licensed dealer list visit:

[www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/food/inspection/index\\_fpu\\_page.htm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/food/inspection/index_fpu_page.htm) or call Jim Wideman, OMAFRA at 1-888-466-2372, ext 63886

## NEW AGRI-TOURISM TOOLKIT

There are many different things that need to be considered when changing your focus from being solely a farm operator to becoming a tourism operator and welcoming visitors onto your farm. For more information, go to [www.osw-agritourismtoolkit.com](http://www.osw-agritourismtoolkit.com)

## 2011 FARM TAX AND BUSINESS SEMINAR

As in the past, this is an excellent opportunity to update your knowledge of tax, business and legal matters related to agriculture and farm business activities. We are again this year offering the seminar as a Webinar, for those interested in attending the seminar via the web. You can register either by mail, fax or by phone as outlined in the brochure. The registration fee is \$175.15 per person (includes HST) on or before October 18th, 2011 and \$209.05 (includes HST) per person after October 18th, 2011. Please note that cheques are payable to the "Minister of Finance". Register early, save, and guarantee a seat at the seminar.

Date	Location	Directions
Thurs, Nov 3	<b>Chatham</b> Country View Golf Club, Oungah 12 km North on Hwy. 40	<a href="#">Country View Golf Club, Oungah</a> (Google Map)
Fri, Nov 4	<b>Ingersoll/Woodstock</b> Craigcowan Golf Course 595838 Hwy. 59 N, RR 6	<a href="#">Craigcowan Golf Course, Ingersoll/Woodstock</a> (Google Map)
Mon, Nov 7	<b>Hanover</b> Hanover Legion 493 Eighth Ave	<a href="#">Hanover Legion, Hanover</a> (Google Map)
Wed, Nov 9	<b>London</b> Hellenic Community Centre 133 Southdale Road West	<a href="#">Hellenic Community Centre, London</a> (Google Map)
Thurs, Nov 10	<b>Stratford</b> Army Navy Air Force Veterans Hall 151 Lorne Avenue East	<a href="#">Army Navy Air Force Veterans Hall, Stratford</a> (Google Map)

## STEP UP MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Canadian Farm Business Management Council, Canadian 4-H Council, Canadian Young Farmers' Forum, and Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers' Program, have joined forces to unveil the all new STEP UP mentorship program.

STEP UP is an on-farm learning placement that matches those planning or considering a farming career with an experienced farm manager so that they can learn critical aspects of farm business management in a hands-on setting. We are accepting applications for Mentors and Mentees now! [Click here to learn more.](#) Farmers are looking to connect with a Mentee, the sooner you apply the better!

## PASTURE COMPETITION

Mapleseed Canada is pleased to partner with the Ontario Forage Council and the Ontario Cattleman's Association in sponsoring the "Mapleseed Pasture Award 2012". This is an excellent opportunity to recognize individual producers who are doing an outstanding job of pasture management. The winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Cattleman's Association in Toronto which will take place in Feb. 2012. To submit a nomination for this award, complete the application form found at the link:

[Pasture award 2011 revised application form](#) and submit to the Ontario Forage Council by Nov. 25, 2011 at P.O. Box 463, Markdale, ON, N0C 1H0.

## DID YOU KNOW?

FCC offers quite a variety of FREE business learning opportunities that may be of interest to you. Follow the link for goal setting and action planning, among a longer list of financial management workshops:

[http://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/LearningCentre/workshops\\_e.asp#level-connection-13](http://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/LearningCentre/workshops_e.asp#level-connection-13)

## RURAL ONTARIO INSTITUTE WORKSHOPS

The *Rural Ontario Institute*, collaborating with a variety of organizations and trainers, is pleased to offer and promote a number of personal leadership and organizational development workshops over the remaining months of 2011. These workshops are open to individuals and organizations across rural Ontario. Workshop/ course information is available on our website at [www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca](http://www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca) under the 'Leadership Training' tab.

## JUNIOR FARMER NEWS

Saturday, November 19th, 2011 at the Blyth Community Centre, Huron Junior Farmer Alumni Ball Formal Dinner and Dance. Tickets \$30.00. For more details please call 519 522-0011 or email [emmajordan88@hotmail.com](mailto:emmajordan88@hotmail.com). Are you a Junior Farmer Alumni? Help us update our alumni contact list, please email Rachel Haney at [cip@jfao.on.ca](mailto:cip@jfao.on.ca) to make sure you are on the list.

The Ontario Century Farm Sign (CFS) was initiated in 1967 as a Canadian Centennial project of the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario (JFAO). The project continues today because of the popular demand for these centennial celebrant signs. The fee for each sign supports the cost of the program and leadership development within JFAO. Interested in a Century Farm Sign? Please email [huronjf@jfao.on.ca](mailto:huronjf@jfao.on.ca) or check out <http://www.jfao.on.ca/what-we-offer/century-farm-signs/> for more details.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTION

### HAVE YOU DONE A FALL CHECK ON YOUR PROPERTY?

- Have you checked the batteries in your smoke detectors?
- Do you have a fire route established with your family?
- Are all entrances/exits to your home and barns accessible with nothing piled in front of them?
- Are the lint traps on dryers regularly cleaned?
- Have you cleaned your chimney flue? Cleaned the furnace?
- Have you checked that you don't have any "octopus" connections of plugs and any outlet?
- Are your fire extinguishers up-to-date and full?
- Have you back-up power and/or flashlights in case of outages?
- Have you checked the workings of your generator recently?
- Do you have a 48 hour supply of medications, food, water and supplies in case of an emergency?
- Do you have any cash on hand in case of an emergency? (Bank machines don't seem to work well in an outage ☺)

### LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!

Vehicle thefts are on the rise in this area! Whether you're parked at home, at the side of the road to combine, log or hunt, be sure to lock it up and hide all valuables you may have in your vehicle. Take your keys with you! You want to find your own belongings when you return! Be sure to lock your home and sheds. Many sets of keys that have been stolen with the vehicle contain keys that make it easy for the thief to come back and take more. **Don't make it easy!**

## OMAFRA PROGRAMS, SERVICES and RESOURCES

Les programmes, les services et les ressources du ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales de l'Ontario sont également disponibles en français.

- OMAFRA Website: [www.ontario.ca/omafra](http://www.ontario.ca/omafra)
- Agricultural Information Contact Centre: 1-877-424-1300 or e-mail [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca)
- Nutrient Management Information Line: 1-866-242-4460 or e-mail [nman.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:nman.omafra@ontario.ca)
- Growing Forward Information Line: 1-888-479-3931 or e-mail [growingforward@ontario.ca](mailto:growingforward@ontario.ca)
- The Farm Line: 1-888-451-2903 – a confidential, emotional support and referral service

**OMAFRA'S NEW [ONTARIO.CA/URBANAGRICULTURE](http://Ontario.ca/UrbanAgriculture) WEBSITE.** OMAFRA's urban agriculture site was created with the urban agriculturist and the municipal policy-maker in mind. While both groups may look at backyard agriculture from different perspectives, there is a synergy between them. Many of the links at [Ontario.ca/UrbanAgriculture](http://Ontario.ca/UrbanAgriculture) connect website visitors to OMAFRA resources and those of other organizations to make the urban agriculture collection a comprehensive resource.

### 2011 RURAL ORGANIZATION CONTACTS

Each year we compile a comprehensive list of Huron Agr & Rural organizations with two key contacts for each organization. This is a great resource for anyone who wants contact information for grassroots representatives. You are welcome to pick one up at the Clinton OMAFRA office or find it on-line.

**Huron County - A Guide to Your Farm & Rural Community, 2011** is posted on the County of Huron website at [www.huroncounty.ca/econdev/agriculture.php](http://www.huroncounty.ca/econdev/agriculture.php)

**Lambton County Agr & Rural Contacts** can be found on the County of Lambton website at: [http://www.lambtononline.com/rural\\_organizations](http://www.lambtononline.com/rural_organizations)

### To order OMAFRA publications:

Visit any OMAFRA Resource Centre / Northern Ontario Regional Office or ServiceOntario location  
Visit the ServiceOntario website at [www.serviceontario.ca/publications](http://www.serviceontario.ca/publications) or call 1-800-668-9938

Visit the OMAFRA website at [www.ontario.ca/omafra](http://www.ontario.ca/omafra) or contact the Agricultural Information Contact Centre by calling 1-877-424-1300

**New “Business Information Bundles” (BIB’s) available on the OMAFRA website:**

- A BIB on how to “**Construct Or Renovate Farm Structures**” is located at [www.ontario.ca/farmstructure](http://www.ontario.ca/farmstructure), is a quick and easy resource to use when considering the construction or renovation of barns, sheds and manure storages.
- A new BIB on “**Beyond Production Agriculture**” can be found at [www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/valueadd-bib/index.htm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/valueadd-bib/index.htm) - your one-stop resource centre for information on establishing and managing a value-added business.
- This “**Urban Agriculture**” BIB serves as a central website for information about urban agriculture for you, whether you're a city-dweller who wants to produce fruit or vegetables or raise livestock, or you're a municipal policy maker exploring the topic. <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/urbanagbib/welcome.htm>

**MARKETVIEW AVAILABLE DAILY**

MarketView is a brief daily email commentary of financial news that impacts Ontario’s agriculture sector. It provides a recap of commodity prices and trends, interest rate information and energy prices from a layman’s point of view. The intent is to deliver a brief summary of news from global financial sources which influences agricultural markets. The commentary is different from most economic information because it is taken from an investor’s perspective, and looks at how financial information may influence their investment decisions, which ultimately lead to movement in commodity market prices. Email Jennifer Stevenson at [jennifer.stevenson@ontario.ca](mailto:jennifer.stevenson@ontario.ca) to subscribe.

**Electronic newsletters available from OMAFRA**

Ag Business Update

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/news/index.html>

Crop Pest Newsletter

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/croppest/>

Horse News and Views

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/news.html>

Animal Health Newsletter

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/ceptor/news.html>

Vegetable Newsletter

[www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/news\\_vegview.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/news_vegview.html)

Ontario Berry Grower

[http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/news\\_berrygrower.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/news_berrygrower.html)

Pork News and Views Newsletter

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/swine/news.html>

Hort Matters Newsletter

[http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/news\\_hortmatt.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/news_hortmatt.html)

On Organic

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/organic/news/news-organic.html>

Foodland Ontario

<http://www.foodland.gov.on.ca/> for some great recipes using Ontario’s fresh fruits and vegetables

**HURON SMALL BUSINESS SEMINARS**

- ☑ Call **519-527-0305** or email us, [infohbc@smallbusinesshuron.ca](mailto:infohbc@smallbusinesshuron.ca). **Pre-registration is required!**
- ☑ Location: **REACH** – Regional Equine and Agricultural Centre of Huron, 169 Beech Street, Clinton.

<b>Motivating Employees, Bill Gilbert</b>	Nov 10
<b>Ten Business Icebergs, Michael Lewis</b>	Nov 23
<b>Getting Ready for Year End (Income Tax!), Alison Lobb</b>	Dec 1