Hello Northeast Ohio Counties!

We had some crazy weather here in Cortland today! A tornado came right through town and caused some damage to trees and a few buildings, but fortunately nobody was injured. It missed our office by a couple hundred yards.

Programming doesn’t stop for tornadoes though! We had a great turnout for our Trumbull Farmer Lunch Series today where Haley Shoemaker certified 35 people in Beef Quality Assurance.

Mark your calendars for our Northeast Ohio Agronomy School on February 20 in Bristolville, OH!

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USDA Delays Deadline for Tariff Relief Applications

USDA has delayed the deadline for applications for the Market Facilitation Program (MFP) payments. Farmers had until Jan. 15 to apply for the tariff relief payments, but applications were stopped by the partial government shutdown when Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices closed December 28.

USDA will resume taking applications for MFP when the government shutdown ends. The deadline will extend for as many days as FSA offices are closed by the ongoing shutdown. The May 1 deadline for submitting 2018 production has not been changed according to a USDA spokesman.

Farmers who applied for the program and had certified 2018 production before FSA offices closed on Dec. 28 will receive payments as scheduled despite the shutdown, according to USDA Under Secretary Bill Northey.

USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue issued the following statement regarding the MFP deadline extension:

“President Trump instructed me, as Secretary of Agriculture, to craft a program that would protect farmers from unjustified retaliatory tariffs from foreign nations. As part of that package, the Market Facilitation Program has been making payments directly to farmers who have suffered trade damage. Using existing funds, we were able to keep FSA offices open as long as possible, but unfortunately had to close them when funding ran out. We will therefore extend the application deadline for a period of time equal to the number of business days FSA offices were closed, once the government shutdown ends. Farmers who have already applied for the program and certified their 2018 production have continued to receive payments. Meanwhile, I continue to urge members of Congress to redouble their efforts to pass an appropriations bill that President Trump will sign and end the lapse in funding so that we may again provide full services to our farmers and ranchers.”

Winter Application of Manure

By Glen Arnold

This past fall was particularly tough on livestock producers and commercial manure applicators trying to land apply livestock manure. Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal with the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC)
station at South Charleston recording 32 days with measurable rainfall totaling 9.91 inches in November and December. In these same two months the OARDC station at Hoytville recorded 24 days with measurable rainfall totaling 6.04 inches. The wet weather prevented many acres of cover crops being planted and has severely limited the number of days that field conditions were dry enough or frozen enough for manure application equipment to operate.

A substantial number of livestock producers across the state will be looking to apply manure as soon as farm fields are frozen enough to support application equipment. Permitted farms are not allowed to apply manure in the winter unless it is an extreme emergency, and then movement to other suitable storage is usually the selected alternative. This article is for non-permitted livestock operations.

In the Grand Lake St Marys watershed, the winter manure application ban from December 15th to March 1st is still in effect. Thus, no manure application would normally be allowed in January and February. In the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) watershed, the application of manure to frozen and snow-covered soils require there to be a growing crop in the field. This could be a pasture, alfalfa, clover, ryegrass or a rape crop. There must be enough vegetation visible to provide 90% cover of residue and growing vegetation, Radishes and oats would not qualify as a growing crop as both are typically winter killed. Manure can be applied to fields without growing crops if the manure is incorporated at the time of application or incorporated within 24 hours of application.

The rainfall rule for surface manure application in the WLEB is a weather forecast saying “not greater than a 50% chance of a half inch or more of rain in the next 24 hours”. It is advisable to print out the weather forecast when you start applying manure so you have the needed proof if an unexpected storm drenches the area. Weather.gov is the most commonly accepted website for this forecast.
Although not required by law, winter manure application should follow the NRCS 590 standards, which limit solid manure application amounts to five tons per acre and liquid manure application amounts to 5,000 gallons per acre. These have 200 foot setback distances from ditches, streams and creeks and must be on slopes of less than 6% and less than 20 acre areas in size without additional buffers. For liquid manure applicators, examine fields for tile blowouts, monitor tile outlets before, during, and after manure application and any other situations that might allow manure to reach surface waters.

**Long term agriculture change impacts stream water quality**

By: Adityarup “Rup” Chakravorty

In the early 1990s, Acton Lake in southwestern Ohio had a muddy problem. Large amounts of sediment from nearby farms were entering the lake’s watershed. These sediments traveled through streams draining the landscape and were filling up the lake.

So, the USDA gave local farmers incentives to change some of their farming practices. One of these practices was conservation tillage, in which the soil is plowed less often. That can reduce sediment runoff.

A new study examines how the switch to conservation tillage has impacted Acton Lake over the past decades. From 1994 to 2014, the researchers measured concentrations of suspended sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus in streams draining into Acton Lake.

“We find that short-term trends in water quality may not reflect long-term changes,” says study co-author Michael Vanni.

Tracking changes in water quality over the long term is vital, says Vanni, a biologist at Miami University, Ohio. “We don’t have a lot of long-term information on how water quality in a stream or lake responds to agricultural change,” he says.

That might be surprising since many ecologists study agricultural watersheds. But according to Vanni, studies on a given ecosystem are usually short term. “Long-term studies, like ours, can...
reveal important shifts in water quality,” says Vanni. “Many of the changes we observed can only be seen after studying the streams for 20 plus years.”

Vanni and his colleagues found that water quality responses were different during the first decade of the study (1994-2003) compared to the next (2004-2014). They also discovered that concentrations of suspended sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus each reacted differently.

Levels of suspended sediment declined throughout the entire study period. However, the decline was much sharper in the first ten years.

Phosphorus and nitrogen levels had contrasting outcomes. “The concentration of dissolved phosphorus in the streams declined sharply during the first ten years,” says Vanni. “But then, phosphorus levels increased over the next ten years.”

In contrast, nitrogen levels didn’t change much in the first ten years. After that, they fell sharply.

The study focused on the watershed of the Upper Four Mile Creek, which drains into Acton Lake. Most of the surrounding area is made up of corn and soybean farms. The researchers have monitored farming practices in the area since 1989 and water quality since 1994.

The long-term changes seen in this study indicate that there might be tradeoffs in managing different aspects of water quality. “The main reason to encourage conservation tillage was to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation in Acton Lake,” says Vanni. “That has clearly been successful. Sediment inputs to the lake have declined.”

Nitrogen levels are also declining. “That’s great for local freshwater ecosystems,” says Vanni. “It’s also beneficial to the Gulf of Mexico, where some of our runoff eventually travels.”

On the other hand, rising phosphorus levels are a cause for concern. “They could promote algal blooms downstream,” says Vanni. “We might need to consider the tradeoffs involved in managing for sediments, nitrogen, or phosphorus.”
It’s not completely clear how the study findings would apply to other areas. However, the changes in water quality observed in this study are similar to those seen in some of the rivers that drain into Lake Erie.

High phosphorus levels are a problem in those watersheds as well. In fact, “high levels of phosphorus are implicated in causing increased blooms of harmful algae in Lake Erie,” says Vanni.

Vanni and colleagues hope to continue measuring changes in suspended sediments, nitrogen, and phosphorus in the Acton Lake watershed.

“We are also looking at the response of the Acton Lake ecosystem to these changes,” says Vanni. “It will be really interesting to observe these changes over the next ten years, both from a scientific perspective as well as for water quality management.”

New Beekeeper Class in Ashtabula County

Beginning Beekeeping Class sponsored by the Ashtabula County Beekeepers Association, will be held on Saturday, March 16th from 10 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. at Giddings Hall, located at 104 East Jefferson Street, Jefferson, OH 44047 behind the police station. Topics include knowing your equipment, installing your bees, hive management and much more. Light lunch and course book provided. To register call Sharon at 440-576-8818 or e-mail at sjriccio@yahoo.com. Cost is $15 per person. For more information visit: https://www.facebook.com/AshtabulaCountyBeekeepersAssoc/

Farm Bill could help farms battling low prices


Dairy farmers have a stronger safety net against low milk prices and high feed costs under the new federal farm bill, and more federal dollars will be spent to spur international trade of American agricultural products.
Both changes could help farmers at a time when revenues from selling milk, corn and soybeans have dipped and markets have shrunk.

Under the new farm bill, dairy farmers will pay lower premiums for a federal program that provides them payments when the margin between milk prices and feed costs dips below a certain level set by the government. The top level of coverage was raised from $8 to $9.50 per hundred pounds of milk, which will increase payments to dairy farmers.

“This is not a trivial change,” said Carl Zulauf, an agricultural economist and professor emeritus with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University.

“It could mean a lot to dairy farmers.”

Ohio’s dairy farmers have recently been leaving the business at a higher than usual rate as a result of a drop in the price they’ve gotten for their milk for several years. Many of Ohio’s 2,130 dairy farmers have struggled with reduced revenue because the supply of dairy products has outstripped the demand.

The new federal farm bill signed by President Donald Trump on Dec. 20 is expected to cost $867 billion over the next decade. It is a massive piece of legislation that funds a host of programs from crop insurance to food assistance. The House of Representatives and the Senate each passed separate versions of the bill in June.

“Given the large voting margins, I think there was something in this bill that appealed to everybody, whether you’re living in a rural area or an urban area,” said Ben Brown, manager of the farm management program in CFAES.

Missing from the final bill is a controversial provision to increase work requirements for those receiving foods stamps, also known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The farm bill’s allocation of additional money to open up new foreign markets for agricultural products amounts to an additional $235 million over the next five years. This comes at a time when the U.S. share of world markets for many of its agricultural exports is continuing to decline, as it has for decades, Zulauf said.

Soybeans are Ohio’s top agricultural export, but sizeable international tariffs imposed this year on U.S. soybeans as well as on corn and other commodities have driven down the international demand for those crops.
“Farmers want someone to help market their products, which leads to higher demand,” Brown said.

The debate has been over whether the government should partner with farm organizations to help pay for marketing agricultural goods, he said.

Since March, when the Trump Administration announced a 25% tariff on foreign steel and 10 percent on foreign aluminum bought in the United States, countries including China, the world’s top soybean consumer, have countered with tariffs on U.S. products, including soybeans, corn, pork and other agricultural products.

Even before the recent tariff war, the United States had been claiming a smaller share in the world export market of many agricultural goods, Zulauf said.

“This is Congress’s reaction to that,” he said.

Other changes in the new farm bill include:

Farmers who participate in the Conservation Reserve Program, by agreeing not to plant crops on a portion of their land, could receive less compensation per acre compared to what they received under the previous farm bill. Even so, farmers will have the option of enrolling more acres in that program.

Starting with the crop harvested in 2021, farmers, including corn and soybean farmers, will be able to choose annually between one of two commodity subsidy programs: Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC). Previously, farmers could choose only once and had to stick with that choice through the end of whatever farm bill was in place, typically a five-year period. Which program is more profitable for a farmer can change from year to year. More relatives associated with a farm, specifically first cousins, nieces and nephews, could now be eligible to receive federal payments made to farms when commodity prices or a farm’s revenues from the sale of those commodities go below a certain level. The relatives have to meet certain criteria to qualify for the payments.

**Dairy Cattle Genomics Webinar**

By: Gustavo M. Schuenemann, DVM, MS, Ph.D.

Genetic selection of dairy cattle has been the major method to improve productivity for an individual animal. However, selection has been focused primarily on key economical production traits, and more recently, reproduction and health traits. Genomic technology now allows for the identification of multiple other traits without neglecting productivity. This will be the first webinar in a series regarding dairy cattle genomics with emphasis on selection of production, health, and...
reproduction traits. This webinar will provide information about traits related to fertility of replacement heifers and lactating cows. Live webinars are free of charge, but you must register.

Who should attend?
• Dairy producers/managers, veterinarians, consultants, industry, undergraduate/graduate students, and Extension/academia.

Topics: Two presentations of ~30 min in length each followed by Qs/As.
• Novel fertility markers in heifers and lactating cows – Dr. Joseph Dalton, University of Idaho.
• Dairy cattle genomics with emphasis on resumption of post-partum cyclicity and pregnancy – Dr. Gustavo Schuenemann, The Ohio State University.

Date: January 28, 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

REGISTER HERE:
https://osu-cfaes.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HZ9vgfNwQsamIFWDbqNWAQ

This webinar series represent phenotypic and genomic information from about 12,000 lactating dairy cows from across the US (Geographical regions: Northwest, Midwest, Southeast, and Southwest). This webinar series is supported by USDA-NIFA-AFRI grant No. 2013-68004-20361.

Grower, Gardener, Educator, and Researcher – All can Gain from Vegetable Grafting
Source: https://u.osu.edu/vegnetnews/

Grafting is an ancient technology currently coming of age, helping vegetable growers and gardeners and educators and researchers in Ohio and the U.S. address some of today’s most significant challenges. Find out more at two upcoming programs.

The Muck Crops School on January 10 in Willard, OH will include a presentation by grafting expert Dr. Richard Hassell of Clemson University. He will outline progress made in developing rootstock (RS) varieties resistant to Phytophthora capsici, a devastating disease of pepper, tomato, melon, and other major vegetable crops. In grafting, root systems of RS varieties are spliced to the shoots of scion varieties, creating physical hybrids that often out-perform ungrafted versions of the scion variety, especially under stressful conditions. Indeed, creating physical hybrids opens key opportunities in production, research, and education. Contact OSUE-Huron County (https://huron.osu.edu/home) about attending the Muck Crops School on Jan 10, 2019.
The Ohio Produce Network program on January 16-17 in Dublin, OH will include two sessions on grafting, both occurring on January 16. Session 1 will feature presentations and discussion led by six additional experts: Dr. Chris Gunter (NCSU), Dr. Matt Kleinhenz (The OSU), Dr. Sally Miller (The OSU), Cameron Way (Way Farms), Chuck Mohler (Sweet Corn Charlie Farms), and Ed Kerlikowske (http://lifegivingfruit.com/). A representative of TriHishtil (http://www.trihishtil.com/), a major supplier of grafted plants, may also participate. Together, the six presenters and discussion leaders will provide a comprehensive, up-to-date, and stakeholder-focused summary of grafted plants as sources of income and production tools. Session 2, later on Jan 16, will deliver individualized training in making grafted plants, a straightforward process that can be completed in many settings. See http://www.opgma.org/ohio-produce-network/ about attending the OPN on Jan 16-17, 2019.

Contact Matt Kleinhenz (330.263.3810, kleinhenz.1@osu.edu) for additional information about these programs and see http://www.vegetablegrafting.org/ and http://u.osu.edu/vegprolab/research-areas/grafting-2/ for more information about vegetable grafting.

**Trumbull County Farmer Lunch Series**

OSU Extension Trumbull County, Trumbull County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the NRCS have combined efforts to offer a farmer lunch seminar series that will cover a variety of topics relevant to NE Ohio. Each program will start with lunch at 11:30 A.M. sponsored by the Trumbull County Holstein Club followed by a 1-hour presentation. Cost for individual programs is $10/person. If you would like to register for all four programs, the cost is $35/person.

*Wednesday, February 20, 2019 – NE Ohio Agronomy School in Bristolville, OH*

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 – Climate Impacts for Ohio Agriculture
- Aaron Wilson, OSU Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center
- Our changing climate has already influenced how Ohio farmers operate. Learn how predicted climate changes will continue to drive changes in Ohio agriculture. CCA credits available.

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 – Tillage Affects on Soil Health
- Steve Culman, Assistant Professor, State Specialist in Soil Fertility
- New tillage technologies are arriving each year, but are they hurting your soil health? Learn how tillage, and other practices can improve or hurt your soils health. CCA credits available.
Upcoming Events

Trumbull County Farmer Lunch
March 5, 2019 – Climate Impacts for Ohio Agriculture
April 4, 2019 – Tillage and Soil Health

Northeast Ohio Agronomy School
February 20, 2019 – Bristolville Community Center

Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet
March 26, 2019

Pesticide Applicator Training Dates
Trumbull County – January 16, 2019
Geauga County – February 1, 2019
Ashtabula County – February 28, 2019
Geauga County “Last Chance” – March 28, 2019

New Pesticide Applicator Training
Geauga County – February 12, 2019
Trumbull County – March 12, 2019

New Fertilizer Certification Training
Trumbull County – February 23, 2019  9A.M. to 12P.M

Central Ohio Precision Ag Symposium
January 16, 2019 - All Occasions Catering 6986 Waldo-Delaware Rd., Waldo
Ohio 9 a.m. to 4 p.m
Private and Commercial Pesticide Applicator Licensing

Farmers and agricultural industry personnel can obtain either a “Private” or “Commercial” pesticide applicator license through the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA). OSU Extension helps in the licensing process by providing study material, practice exams, and local test preparation classes.

Private Pesticide Applicator’s Licenses are for farmers who apply restricted-use pesticides on his/her own land (or rented land) and produce an agricultural commodity. Each private applicator is required to take & pass the CORE test (general safety for the applicator and the environment) and any category(ies) that correspond to the crops he/she grows. There are 7 categories which certification can be received: Grain and Cereal Crops (category 1), Forage Crops and Livestock (category 2), Fruit and Vegetable Crops (category 3), Nursery and Forest Crops (category 4), Greenhouse Crops (category 5), Fumigation (category 6), and Specialty Uses (category 7). Complete details on the licensing process for private pesticide applicators and study materials can be found at: http://pested.osu.edu/home/privateapplicator/licensing

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Licenses are for farmers or industry personnel who apply pesticides for a business or on land owned by someone else, and usually receive payment for their services. In agriculture this includes agricultural businesses who custom spray crops, as well as farmers who are hired to custom spray for fellow farmers. The commercial license area also includes applicators who work for a government or public agency such as a K-12 schools, colleges, universities, villages, townships, and park districts, in addition to applicators who apply to sites accessible to the public.

Each commercial applicator will need to take and pass the CORE test (general safety for the applicator and the environment) and the category(ies) that correspond to their commercial spray operation. These categories include: Aerial Pest Control (category 1), Agricultural Pest Control (category 2 with 6 sub-categories); Aquatic Pest Control (category 3 with 3 sub-categories), Forest Pest Control (category 4 with 2 sub-categories), Industrial Vegetation (category 5), Ornamental Plant & Shade Tree Pest Control (category 6 with 4 sub-categories), Vertebrate (category 7), Turf (category 8), Animal Pest Control (category 9), Domestic, Institutional, Structural & Health Related Pest Control (category 10 with 4 sub-categories), Livestock Predator Control (Category 11 for USDA employees only), and Wood Destroying Insect Diagnostic Inspection (category 12). Complete details on the commercial categories, licensing process, and their sub-categories can be found at: http://pested.osu.edu/commercialrecert

2019 Test Preparation Classes for Northeast Ohio

OSU Extension in Northeast Ohio will be providing two training sessions to help farmers prepare for the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Private Pesticide Applicator’s Exam. Attendance at one of these classes is not required but is a great opportunity for applicators to learn what they will need to study for the test. This first class will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Geauga County Extension office. Call the Geauga County Extension office at 440-834-4656 to register. The second class will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Trumbull County Extension office. Call the Trumbull County Extension office at 330-638-6783 to register. The registration fee for each class is $35/person which includes CORE study materials.

See back page for Testing Sessions
2019 ODA Testing Sessions

Are you looking to take obtain your private or commercial pesticide license or wish to add an additional category to your existing license? The Ohio Department of Agriculture will be holding testing sessions during the winter/spring of 2019 in Northeast Ohio. These tests are administered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture and are held in northeast Ohio as a courtesy to producers. Pre-registration is required for each location and can be made by calling the ODA at 614-728-6987 or 1-800-282-1955 (press 3 then 1). For a full list of all locations and dates, visit: http://go.osu.edu/pestexam

Austabula County
Location: OSU Extension Office, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, Ohio 44047
Date: March 6, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 440-576-9008

Geauga County
Location: Geauga County Extension Office, 14269 Claridon-Troy Road, Burton, Ohio 44021
Dates: February 20, March 20, April 17, May 22, & June 19, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 440-834-4656

Lake County
Location: Lake County Utilities Learning & Business Center, 1981 Blasé Nemeth Rd, Painesville Twp, Ohio 44077
Dates: February 11 & April 8, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 9:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 440-350-2582

Mahoning County
Location: Mahoning County Extension Office, 490 S. Broad Street, Canfield, Ohio 44406
Dates: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, & December 2, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 12:00 p.m.
Directions: Call 330-533-5538

Portage County
Location: Portage County Extension Office, 705 Oakwood Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
Dates: January 17, March 21, May 16, July 18, September 19, & November 21, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 330-296-6432

Trumbull County
Location: Trumbull County Extension Office, 520 West Main Street, Cortland, Ohio 44410
Dates: January 22, February 13, March 13, April 10 & May 8, 2019
Time: Testing Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Directions: Call 330-638-6783
Meet the Speakers

Mr. Tom McCrumm, Tom and his wife Judy operate South Face Farm, a 2,000 tap operation in Ashfield MA, plus buying sap from another 3,000 taps. For 30 years, they served over 3,000 meals annually at their sugarhouse restaurant open 6 weekends during the maple season. They market their syrup locally and globally. Tom is also an avid collector of antique sap spouts and syrup tins.

Mr. Dan Milo, is a Food Safety Supervisor with the Ohio Department of Agriculture Division of Food Safety and a hobby maple producer in Northeast Ohio. Dan has been working for the benefit of Ohio maple producers at ODA for many years.

Mr. David Apsley, Dave is a Natural Resource Specialist for OSU Extension. He has more than 30 years of professional experience in forestry and natural resources education, management, and research.

Dr. Gary Graham, State Maple Syrup Specialist for Ohio State University Extension and County Educator in Agriculture and Natural Resources in Holmes County.

Questions For Speakers

Due to the complex and important topics to be discussed at the meetings, we are asking participants to pre-submit questions. There will be time for questions at the meetings, too. Pre-submitting questions will make sure that the speakers cover the information on the questions you have.

(Be specific and give details in your questions.)

1. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
4. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

You can submit more details or questions on separate paper if needed.
To: All Interested Maple Producers & Enthusiasts

It’s time once again to make plans and you are cordially invited to participate in the Winter 2018 Ohio Maple Days Workshops in Morrow County January 18, or Holmes County January 19, or Geauga County January 20.

As is our custom, essentially the same program will be offered at all three locations.

Pre-registration is required to ensure enough materials are made for the meetings

Topics To Be Covered:

Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and Ohio Department of Ag Updates: The Food Safety Modernization Act contains a mandatory requirement for many food manufacturers, which includes maple syrup producers, to register their operation. There have been many changes in the past few years and there are even more changes to take place in the next year or two. Every maple producer, no matter operation size, needs to hear what is happening, as their future as maple producers depends on it.

Maple Marketing is More Than Filling a Jug: If you want to achieve the highest return for your maple syrup then just putting your syrup in a jug is not enough. Once in the jug you have to market it, by making the connection from the syrup within the jug to you the producer. Building the story of how it’s made and who is making it are all critical for consumers to become invested in you and your products.

Tubing Help for Any Size Operation: Tubing has done more to revolutionize the maple industry and create growth more than any other piece of equipment. Tubing has made the collection process easier on the maple producer and on the sugarbush due to less time spent in the woods with heavy equipment. Tubing systems are easily adapted to any size maple operation. Looking back and forward to the newest technology, helpful hints will be presented to aid any size operation.

Sugarbush/Woodland Management Tips that Pay: Your woodlands are a valuable resource. Learn how a professional forester can help you develop a woodland management plan to increase the benefits that you receive from your woodland. This session will focus on using crown touching release and other crop tree management concepts to improve the health and productivity of your sugarbush.

Maple Nuggets: Every year there are lots of important happenings, things, and news to share with maple producers. These items will be addressed during this session as well as any questions submitted with the registration forms and not already answered by the speakers.

**** To Help Us Prepare we are asking that you pre submit your questions/concerns/comments regarding any of the topics to be presented at the meetings (see back of the registration form). The meeting forum will allow for questions from the floor. Pre-submitting questions will direct the program to emphasize what questions you, the producers, have. Handouts will be made available to participants at the meetings in regards to the topics being covered. Pre-registration is required to ensure we have enough materials and meals.

Testing of Hydrometers: Hydrometers are vital in every sugaring operation, so be sure they remain accurate. The papers can shift and readings will be off if too much density and syrup could mold or ferment. If finished with too high of density, the syrup will crystallize. Bring your hydrometers with you to the meetings for testing; that way you know going into the 2018 season you will be finishing your syrup at the proper density and proper color grade. Refractometers will also be tested, so bring them to the meeting.

Sincerely, Dr. Gary W. Graham, Ohio State University Extension Specialist, Natural Resources

Notice: After 11 years at the same price, the registration fee is being increased to cover the rising costs of food, rental space, and materials.

Registration Form

Please return before January 12th

*Please checkmark the meeting attending*

- Morrow County Meeting
  Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
  Lutheran Memorial Camp
  2790 State Route 61, Fulton, Ohio 43321

- Wayne/Holmes County Meeting
  Friday, January 19, 2018 - 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
  Mennonite Christian Assembly Church
  10664 Fryburg Road, Fredericksburg Ohio 44627

- Geauga County Meeting NEW LOCATION
  Saturday, January 20, 2018 - 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
  Huntsburg Community Center
  12396 Madison Road
  Middlefield, Ohio 44062

Pre-registration is required (Please list all who are attending)

Name (s) 1: ______________________________
2. ______________________________
3. ______________________________
4. ______________________________

Address ________________________________
City ______________________ Zip _________
Telephone ______________________________
Number Attending: X $35 = $ __________________
Pay at the door fee $40

Please make checks payable to: OSU Extension

Registration Payment Deadline is January 12th

MAIL REGISTRATION TO: OSU Extension
75 East Clinton Street, Suite 109,
Milford, OH 44654
- NO REFUNDS AFTER JANUARY 12th -
Contact: Ashley Gerber—330-674-3015