

# AGNEWS



## Agriculture & Food Operations

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture

May 2014

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*(custom pages)*

### Small Farm Expo 2014

Start Small, Think Big.  
at the  
Gaelic College in St. Ann's  
on Monday, July 28

*See page 5*

## Environmental Stewardship Award Open for Applications

The Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) team is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Environmental Farm Stewardship Award. Have you or a farmer in your area implemented projects to protect water, soil quality or wildlife habitat? Maybe you use improved soil management practices, have installed energy efficient technologies, or demonstrated water conservation. Farmers are doing a lot of environmentally sustainable activities every day. This award is an opportunity to give them recognition for their work. Other projects or areas that would support the application are innovative waste handling and storage; proper fuel storage; nutrient management activities; and biodiversity. You can nominate your neighbour, a friend, a CSA Farm, or submit an application for your own farm.

So what's the prize? The award winner will receive a framed painting of their farm by a local artist as well as a cash prize of \$2000. For more information and to get your application visit: <http://nsfa-fane.ca/efp> or call 902-893-2293.

Need some help with the application? Contact someone on the EFP team at 902-893-2293. You can submit pictures or other supporting documents with your application. The deadline to receive nominations is July 4, 2014.



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## Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission

### AgrilInsurance

#### Wildlife Compensation for Blueberry Growers and Bee Keepers

The Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission administers the Wildlife Compensation Program for the province. This program provides compensation to growers who lose their crop as a result of uncontrollable wildlife. This also applies to honey bees and bumble bees or leaf cutter bees. To be eligible you must:

- Be a registered farmer under the *Farm Registration Act*.
- Report the damage to the Commission within 72 hours.
- Experience damage to crops affecting at least two (2) acres or experience a loss of at least \$250.
- Follow industry production and protection standards (e.g. fencing or caging of bee hives).
- Have damage that is readily identifiable, recent and measurable.

#### Policy for Bumble Bee Quads

Last year, the Commission implemented the following policy for settling compensation claims for bumble bee quads. Provided all other requirements for compensation are met, damage to bumble bee quads will be covered according to the following.

1. Full compensation (80%) will be paid where no more than 50% of bloom in a field has expired at the time of the damage.
2. 50% compensation will be paid where between 50-80% of bloom in a field has expired at the time of damage.
3. No compensation will be paid where 80% or more of the bloom in a field has expired at the time of damage.

As an exception to 1, 2 or 3, compensation may be paid in the event the quads were intended for another use after the blueberry bloom if:

1. The producer can provide a contract for the sale of the quads; or
2. A statement by another party about the intended sale; or
3. The producer is able to show Commission staff the new destination field requiring pollination.

Quads intended for another field must be removed from the original fields immediately after bloom. Where quads that have been used on a second crop field experience wildlife damage, compensation will be limited to 50% or less and will be determined on a case by case basis by the Commission's field agent.

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### Forage Establishment Plan

The forage establishment plan protects against establishment failure in the first year of growth for grasses, alfalfa and other legumes. This plan covers losses from such things as winter injury, drought, insects, diseases, floods, excess moisture, frost and wind. The plan covers your new forage crop from the time of seeding up until May 31 of the following year. Seeding must be completed by July 1 for legumes and legume/grass mixes and by September 2 for grasses. The deadline date to apply for this insurance is October 15, but you can apply as soon as your crop is seeded. When you apply at seeding time, your coverage can begin immediately. If you apply at some point after your seeding date, an inspection is required before coverage will be offered. This plan offers two levels of coverage which are \$200/acre (producer premium = \$5.00/acre) and \$100/acre coverage (producer premium = \$2.50/acre).

### Crop Insurance Reporting Reminders

Crop Insurance clients are reminded of the following reporting requirements:

- File a seeding report no later than 10 days after planting.
- **Report damage when it occurs and within five (5) days of any potential loss or damage. File this report regardless of whether you believe you may have a claim. If damage is not apparent until harvest you must provide a Notice of Damage either while harvesting or within five (5) days of harvest. You can mail, fax, or phone in these reports.**

*Continued on next page...*

- File accurate yield information within 30 days of harvest.
- If you believe you have an insurance claim, apply using a Proof of Loss within 30 days of the harvest or the end of the crop year (whichever is earlier).

## New Probable Yield Methodology in 2014

The Commission is required to have its methodology for estimating the yield potential of its clients certified by an actuary at least every five (5) years. The latest certification was completed in March 2014 and will be implemented for all Spring seeded crops for the 2014 crop year and the remainder of crops in 2015.

The new methodology includes:

- Moving all crop averaging period (AIY) from 15 years to 10 years (except blueberries which remains at seven (7) years for both odd or even year fields).
- Tree fruit AIY's are currently already at a 10-year averaging period and will remain.
- The Commission will use a new method for creating proxy yields for producers in all plans (except blueberries and tree fruit) that do not have full historical yield records. This method will now be a 10-year acre weighted average provincial yield.

For information on any of our insurance plans, contact the Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission 1-800-565-6371 Truro, or 902-679-6015 Kentville, or visit our website <http://novascotia.ca/agri/programs-and-services/financial-funding/crop-livestock-insurance/>

## SCIANS Advance Payment Program

Once again, the Soil and Crop Improvement Association of Nova Scotia (SCIANS) has been asked by the federal government to administer the Advance Payment Program for 2014-15. The purpose of the program is to improve marketing opportunities for agricultural products by extending an advance to the producers as a means of improving cash-flow.

Any individual or farm business can receive an advance of up to \$100,000 interest free. Producers repay the advance by December 31, 2014 for the spring portion of the program. If crops are in storage, an individual or farm business may participate in the fall portion of the program with repayment of advances by September 30, 2015. Crops usually covered are barley, corn, oats, rye, hay, soybeans, and spring and winter wheat.

Producers must have crop insurance to be eligible for the spring portion of the program. Also, producers must allow SCIANS to conduct a credit check, done by a third party. Producers must provide SCIANS with an assignment on the crop insurance policy. An administration fee of 1.5 per cent of the total advance is charged to producers to cover the cost of administering the program. To learn more about the program, contact Carol Versteeg at [carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca) or 1-902-758-3530.

## Select Nova Scotia Local Food Connections – Cape Breton



A networking meeting was held on March 19 in Mabou, Cape Breton to help connect primary producers in the region with restaurant owners and chefs. This was an opportunity for chefs to find out what local foods are available in their region, and to encourage them to use the local foods in their menus.

It was the second time a meeting like this has been held in Cape Breton, and both times attendees left with new contacts that have helped them develop their businesses. Offering local food in a menu is a great way for a restaurant to provide the freshest ingredients and add something special to the food experience, especially if paired with a local wine or craft beer!

Producers also had the opportunity to get input from chefs about the types of products the chefs were looking for, so they could begin to plan their season.

Nine producers and seven chefs or restaurant owners discussed the types of foods that are being produced, how to transport the products to the restaurants, and when they would be available. According to producers, over the past two years these meetings have provided them with the opportunity to make connections within the restaurant industry, having resulted in significant economic returns.

Visit [www.selectnovascotia.ca](http://www.selectnovascotia.ca) for information on local products, where to buy local, recipes for seasonal foods, events and attractions featuring local products, and the benefits of eating and buying local.

### **Perennia Food Safety Course:**

HACCP III: Train the Trainer

Date: June 26 and 27, 2014

Fee: \$930.00 + HST

Location: Truro

Registration Deadline: **June 18, 2014**

### **New Extension Material Added To Our Perennia Website** ([www.perennia.ca](http://www.perennia.ca)):

- Apple Scab and Powdery Mildew Fungicide Groups in Nova Scotia
- Mink Waste Management Newsletter
- Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea
- A Grass-fed Beef Initiative Extension series of factsheets has recently been added to our livestock production page. These factsheets were funded under the Canada-Nova Scotia AgriFlexibility Agreement – Collaborate to Compete Initiative.
- Proceedings of the Strawberry Virus Workshop held in early April are now available online.
- Proceedings of the Managing Fungicide Resistance in Apple Diseases workshop (held March 13, 2014) can be found on the following page: <http://www.perennia.ca/fruit.php>
- The latest CropLinks Newsletter, a timely resource for corn, cereal, soybean and forage producers has been published for April.
- Orchard Outlook has started up again for the season. Weekly meetings will likely resume at the end of the month. The Orchard Outlook is published weekly during the spring and early summer and available online.

**Stay tuned....** our pest management guides are currently being updated and will be posted on our website in early May.



### **Check out our New Videos on the Perennia YouTube Channel:**

These videos are a series of Q & As with retired professor, Dr. E. Ann Clark from the University of Guelph. Ann has been a guest speaker of ours at various grass-fed events. As well, she has performed some one-on-one audits with Nova Scotia producers looking to transition to grass-fed operations.

- What is grass-fed beef?
- Why raise grass-fed beef?
- What is the biggest advantage to becoming a grass-fed producer?
- What breeds are ideal candidates?
- What quality of forage do you need to finish?
- What is best way to store forage for winter feeding?
- What is best time for calving and weaning?
- Is there an optimum time for slaughter?

To find the channel you can search NS Perennia - You Tube or use the link  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSfgJQBrAvx2wURxlX499Cw?feature=mhee>

Please note my new email and our new website, Facebook and twitter addresses.

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Outreach Extension Specialist  
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Phone: 902-896-0277 ext 231  
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[www.perennia.ca](http://www.perennia.ca)

# EXHIBITIONS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

## 2014 Exhibition and Community Fair Dates

Exhibition Name	2014
South Shore Exhibition Bridgewater	July 22 - 27
Western Nova Scotia Exhibition Yarmouth	July 29 - August 2
Shelburne County Exhibition Shelburne	August 5 - 9
Annapolis Valley Exhibition Lawrencetown	August 11 - 16
Cape Breton County Exhibition North Sydney	August 11 - 16
Halifax County Exhibition Middle Musquodoboit	August 13 - 16
Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Truro/Bible Hill	August 19 - 23
Digby County Exhibition Bear River	August 20 - 23
Cumberland County Exhibition Oxford	August 26 - 30
Eastern Nova Scotia Exhibition Antigonish	August 27 - 31
Pictou/North Colchester Exhibition Pictou	September 3 - 7
Hants County Exhibition Windsor	September 12 - 14 September 19 - 21
Queens County Exhibition Caledonia	September 16 - 20
Nova Scotia 4-H Show Bible Hill	September 26 - 28
Maritime Fall Fair Halifax	October 9 - 13
COMMUNITY FAIRS	Date
New Ross Community Fair Lunenburg County	August 15 - 16
Barrington Municipal Exhibition Shelburne County	August 14 - 17
Dalhousie Community Fair Kings County	August 23
West Kings Community Fair Tremont, Kings County	August 30
Victoria County Fair Cape Breton County	September 6
Christmas Island Fair Cape Breton County	September 6
Mira Ferry Community Fair Cape Breton County	September 13
Port Morien Fair Cape Breton County	September 13



ThinkFARM has a new online look! Our website has been reformatted to make it easier to find the information you're looking for. We've also added new content on the farm purchase process, including two video case studies of Misty Hills Farm, a dairy farm in Antigonish County, and Broadfork Farm, a market garden in Cumberland County.

Please let us know what you think of the new site. Your feedback is always welcome. Find us online at the usual spot: [www.novascotia.ca/thinkfarm](http://www.novascotia.ca/thinkfarm).

### HOLD THE DATE!

The NSDA Cape Breton regional team has the pleasure of hosting the annual **SMALL FARM EXPO 2014** *START SMALL, THINK BIG.* at the **Gaelic College in St. Ann's on Monday, July 28.**

This event is formerly known as Celebration of Small Scale Farming and has been held in different areas of the province for the last four years. The workshop emphasizes the idea that modern small-scale farmers are building on a strong foundation of traditional agricultural knowledge and practices. They also employ the best of current science-based practices, farm business management methods and marketing models.

There has been a resurgence of interest in Nova Scotia agriculture among people who have no farming background. Most of these new farmers are interested in smaller scale farming which, when combined with direct marketing, has the potential to fill profitable niches in the market. Small-scale farms, whether full or part-time, can help strengthen rural communities in many ways and, in sufficient numbers can contribute to the revitalization of Cape Breton.

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The workshop will:

- Celebrate small-scale farming in Cape Breton and showcase the achievements of experienced farmers;
- Promote agri-business models that are diversified, sustainable, market-focused and profitable;
- Celebrate agriculture as a driver of rural economic development;
- Facilitate farmer-to-farmer networking and knowledge exchange on topics of interest to beginning farmers and potential farmers;
- Raise awareness of current NSDA programs and services with beginning farmers.

Check the ThinkFARM website for more information on the speakers and topics as it becomes available.

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## **ABOUT EXTENDED LEARNING**

### **Learning That Fits Your Life**

Extended Learning offers non-credit workshops, courses and certificate programs to meet the training and development needs of agriculture and aquaculture in Atlantic Canada. Our offerings target the production and management issues that new and existing businesses face, and focus on how participants can improve performance when they return to their farms and workplaces. Professional development offerings help keep agriculture and aquaculture professionals current on the latest requirements and developments in these industries.

#### **Summer Offerings**

- Composting on the Farm - June 25-26, Bible Hill
- Master Gardener Summer School - July 7-11, Bible Hill
- Undergraduate Credit and Prep Courses - May-August, Bible Hill

#### **In Development for Fall/Winter 2014**

- Wild Pollinator workshop
- Continuing Education for Veterinary Technicians
- Training for the Regional Aquaculture Industry
- Business Management Training for Producers

Our focus is on flexibility and innovation in reaching learners, so our website is your most up-to-date source of information about our current offerings. You can also give us a call to see how we can help with your individual or organizational training needs.

#### **Extended Learning**

Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture  
23 Sheep Hill Lane Box 550  
Truro NS B2N 5E3

Phone: 902-893-6666

[extended.learning@dal.ca](mailto:extended.learning@dal.ca)



*Faculty of Agriculture*

## 4-H Provincial News



### EastGen Showcase Held for 24<sup>th</sup> Year

EastGen Showcase will be held July 11 - 13 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill. For 24 years Atlantic 4-H members have learned the finer points of dairy and beef showmanship, management and judging.

On behalf of the Atlantic 4-H Committee, Agriculture Leadership Coordinators with the Department of Agriculture help make the showcase possible. In partnership with EastGen staff, Agriculture Leadership Coordinators teach approximately 90 4-H members the latest techniques in show preparation for beef and dairy cattle, health of the show calf, livestock judging, showmanship, clipping, display design, and herd management.

Atlantic 4-H beef and dairy members who are 13 - 21 years of age are eligible to attend EastGen. Those selected to attend will be expected to bring the information back to their 4-H club.

After two full days of training, 4-H members show their own calves at the beef and dairy show on Sunday, July 13 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Bible Hill.

Awards will be presented to the winners in showmanship and confirmation, as well as those who excelled in session work over the two days of instruction. The show is open to the public.

### Camp Rankin to Open for 42<sup>nd</sup> Year

Camp Rankin, the provincial 4-H camp, will welcome 200 4-H members, aged 9 - 15, to five one-week summer camps. From June 29 to August 1 campers will learn training, leadership, and healthy living skills while building lasting friendships in a scenic setting at Cape George, near St. Peter's in Cape Breton.

"4-H members who attend Camp Rankin often come back for a second year," said Ruth Grant, Senior Agriculture Leadership Coordinator. "For the 42<sup>nd</sup> year we are pleased once again to offer this unique leadership development program to 4-H members and their friends in partnership with the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and the Camp Rankin 4-H Association in Richmond County."

Camp Rankin offers 4-H members opportunities to socialize with youth with similar interests and learn canoeing, crafts, drama, nature and outdoors, exploring 4-H, and recreation and healthy living. Many 4-H members have had a great camping experiences and come back each year as campers or as camp staff.

In addition to providing a positive experience for campers, Camp Rankin provides employment for seven camp counsellors aged 16 or older, a Camp Director and an Assistant Director. Trained camp counsellors lead 4-H members through all traditional camp activities and educational sessions, ensuring 4-H members carry out the motto "Learn to do by Doing"

### 4-H Clubs Participating in Buzz-Worthy National Campaign: *Proud to Bee a 4-H'er*

4-H members across the country are participating in a campaign to encourage more pollinators in their garden by planting bee - friendly seeds.

*Proud to Bee a 4-H'er* is a national campaign that is both fun and meaningful, and has been developed in support of 4-H Canada's objective to nurture and encourage skilled, engaged, and responsible youth leaders. 4-H also fosters an environment for young people to have fun with others, enjoy outdoor activities and make healthy choices.

Through this initiative every 4-H member in Canada will receive seed packets containing a bee pollinator mix and be encouraged to plant and grow a pollinator-friendly garden at home or in their community. Not only will *Proud to Bee a 4-H'er* stimulate active outdoor activities, it will allow youth to learn about the essential role pollinators play in creating a healthy ecosystem and a sustainable food supply.

*Proud to Bee a 4-H'er* is a partnership between 4-H Canada and Syngenta's, Operation Pollinator. Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies dedicated to bringing plant potential to life. Operation Pollinator provides support for research and other initiatives that contribute to enhanced biodiversity and habitat in support of healthy pollinator populations.

“At least one third of the human food supply from crops and plants depends on insect pollination, most of which is done by bees. At the same time, it is widely recognized that bee health is affected by a variety of interdependent factors including biodiversity and habitat,” says Dr. Paul Hoekstra, Regulatory and Science Stewardship Manager with Syngenta Canada. “That fact, together with our longstanding relationship with 4-H Canada, makes support for **Proud to Bee a 4-H'er** an excellent fit with our Operation Pollinator program,” Hoekstra adds.

Additionally, the campaign features a fund raising component, giving 4-H'ers the opportunity to sell **Proud to Bee a 4-H'er** seed packets. *Check with local 4-H clubs in your area to see if they are participating in this fund raiser.*



“With the funds they raise, 4-H'ers will be empowered to invest in their community and support 4-H at the grassroots level,” said 4-H Canada CEO, Shannon Benner. “We are very fortunate that Syngenta understands the importance of investing in the development of responsible, caring, and strong young leaders.

For additional information and resources on the **Proud to Bee a 4-H'er** campaign, visit [www.4-h-canada.ca/core/events/proud-to-bee](http://www.4-h-canada.ca/core/events/proud-to-bee).

## Scholarship Announcement

4-H Canada will have two national scholarship opportunities: More information can be found at <http://apply.4-h-canada.ca>.

- **John Deere Canada** is providing 15 scholarships valued at \$1,000 each to members who are attending a post-secondary school this fall. **The application deadline is June 15.**

- Details on CIBC scholarships will be announced shortly.

## Box Back Program

Merial Canada Inc. is still participating in the Box Back Program for their IMOVEC and EPRINEX products. They are donating \$10 per box label to local 4-H clubs across Canada. Further details about the program can be found at: [www.eprinex-4h.com/en/boxback](http://www.eprinex-4h.com/en/boxback).

## Calling All 4-H Families!

4-H Canada is creating a database of 4-H **families who are interested in volunteering to host 4-H'ers** in their homes during in the summer months. 4-H Canada will be offering a wide range of national programs and opportunities in the upcoming months, including **international exchanges, mentorship placements, and community service projects**. And these opportunities require 4-H'ers to stay with families both within Canada and abroad. **A stipend will be provided to each host family** in recognition of their time and contribution to the 4-H movement.

In order to ensure a safe and comfortable experience for 4-H members and host families, 4-H Canada is in the process of developing a **comprehensive host family screening process** that will include:

- A police record check for every adult living in the family home.
- An online screening form to ensure basic criteria and requirements (including uploading of photos and references) are met.
- An orientation webinar for approved host families that will provide clarification on guidelines, roles and expectations.

**If you are interested in finding out more** about being a host family please contact Sue Wood by phone at 1-855-234-4448, extension 24 or by email at [swood@4-h-canada.ca](mailto:swood@4-h-canada.ca).

For more information on 4-H please contact your local agriculture office or –visit: <http://novascotia.ca/agri/programs-and-services/educational-resources/4h>



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## What's New in Agricultural Awareness?

### Canadian Agriculture Literacy Week



Just as spring is a busy season on most farms, the Agricultural Awareness office has been hopping lately. March started off with **Canadian Agriculture Literacy Week**. The farm community really stepped up this year with 85 readers visiting 120 classrooms in 65 schools across the province. This means about 3,000 students got to meet a farmer and make that personal connection with Nova Scotia agriculture. This year we were pleased to share our new book – *Explore Farming in Nova Scotia*. Filled with lots of information and images from local farms, we hope it will be a useful resource in the classroom. Contact our office if you are interested in reading for CALW next year.

Through the **Herald in Education program**, our office partnered on a comic book style insert in the Chronicle Herald in early April. In the story, the young characters Drew and Taylor visit a roadside market and end up touring the farm with the owners. In the process, they learn about ways farm practices can promote biodiversity and protect the environment. The insert reached an estimated 120,000 Nova Scotians as well as close to 8,000 Grade 4 students. You can see it at <http://thechronicleherald.ca/spotlights/FarmHabitat>

### School Garden Workshop

Spring is when food gardens get going, and April is an excellent time for a **School Garden Workshop**. On April 8, 60 teachers from across the province gathered in Halifax to learn from experts on topics ranging from soil types to novel ways to make curriculum connections in a school garden. Our office offers the School Garden Program as a way to build teaching connections to production agriculture. We have provided developmental garden grants since 2011, and schools in every board have received funding. Our school garden guide can be found at [http://novascotia.ca/agri/documents/education/program\\_schoolgarden-guide.pdf](http://novascotia.ca/agri/documents/education/program_schoolgarden-guide.pdf)



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## AgZone

On a cold morning in mid-April school busses rolled into the Strathlorne Forest Tree Nursery near Mabou, Cape Breton. About 130 grade 8 students and their teachers were spending the day at **AgZone** - a series of mini-workshops on agricultural and forestry topics. At each session, they learned something unexpected and hopefully widened their understanding of agricultural career opportunities. The **AgZone** program continues on May 21-23, when over 350 students will visit the Dalhousie Agricultural campus in Truro. Here the topics will range from *Food Labelling, Consumer Choice and Marketing* in the Business and Social Sciences department to *Sheep and Wool Products* in the Animal Science department. Our event guides include members of the farm community – so if you want to get involved, contact our office at 902-893-6585.

Our summer season of working with agricultural exhibitions begins soon. If you are involved in planning for your local fair, don't hesitate to contact our summer assistant at 902-896-4498 to see how we can help out with educational resources. Happy Spring!



# Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board

## Interest Rates

As of January 1, 2014 (applicable to loans approved on or after this date while these rates remain in effect)

Length (years)	Full Term	*10 Yr Term	*5 Yr Term	*3 Yr Term
1 – 5	2.95%	--	2.95%	2.65%
6 – 10	3.95%	3.95%	3.40%	2.65%
11 – 15	4.75%	4.45%	3.55%	2.95%
16 – 20	5.20%	4.95%	3.65%	2.95%
21 – 25	5.70%	5.00%	3.70%	3.00%
26 – 30	5.65%	5.05%	3.75%	3.00%

\* 3, 5 and 10 year term rates available to clients meeting risk, cashflow, and collateral requirements.

The Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board supports agricultural development such as: property purchase / improvements, construction, machinery / quota / stock purchase, financial restructure, and farm transition. The Board is committed to helping you with your individual financial needs.

A Loan Officer will also have information concerning programs and other services offered by Nova Scotia Agriculture.

Call or visit a Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board office:

### Truro 893-6506

Dalhousie University Agricultural College Campus, 137 College Road

### Kentville 679-6009

Kentville Agricultural Centre, 32 Main Street

[novascotia.ca/farmloan](http://novascotia.ca/farmloan)



## Your Regional Agricultural Offices

### Extension and Outreach

Marion MacAulay, Manager

#### Truro Office

#### East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax Counties:

Tel: 893-6575 Fax: 893-2757  
hartme@gov.ns.ca

Mary Hart, Admin. Assistant

Michael Kittilsen, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coordinator

Jacqueline Hoyt, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator

Claire Hanlon Smith, Business Development Officer

Rebecca Sooksom, Agricultural Transition Officer

#### Antigonish Office

#### Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough Counties:

Tel: 863-4705 Fax: 863-7342  
boydll@gov.ns.ca

Laureen Boyd, Admin. Assistant

Dawn Barrington-Hodgson, Acting Ag. Resource Coordinator / Agriculture Leadership Coordinator

Adam Wile, Agricultural Transition Officer

#### Sydney Office

#### Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond Counties:

Tel: 563-2000 Fax: 563-3435  
plumricl@gov.ns.ca

Catherine Plumridge, Admin. Assistant

Gary Koziel, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coordinator  
Rhonda MacDougall (Mabou) and Marina Gillis (Sydney), Agriculture

Leadership Coordinators

Jeff Hennessey, Business Development Officer

#### Kentville Office

#### West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens Counties:

Tel: 679-6021 Fax: 679-6062  
ctheriau@gov.ns.ca

Cheryl Theriau, Admin. Assistant

Brian MacCulloch, P.Ag., Ag. Resource Coordinator

Angie Garnett, Ag. Leadership Coordinator (South Shore)

Valorie Skinner, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, Valley

Ronald Young, Agricultural Transition Officer, Kentville

#### Cornwallis Office

#### Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties:

Tel: 638-2395 Fax: 638-2389  
saulnigl@gov.ns.ca

Gina Saulnier, Admin. Assistant

Jeff Wentzell, P.Ag., Business Development Officer

Jean Ward, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator  
Terry McKay, Acting Agricultural Transition

Officer / Acting Ag. Resource Coordinator (Western Region)

# **Regional News Cape Breton:** Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond Counties

## **HOLD THE DATE!**

The NSDA Cape Breton regional team has the pleasure of hosting the annual **SMALL FARM EXPO 2014 *START SMALL, THINK BIG.*** at The Gaelic College in St. Ann's, N.S. on Monday, July 28.

This event is formerly known as Celebration of Small Scale Farming and has been held in different areas of the province for the last four years. The workshop emphasizes the idea that modern small-scale farmers are building on a strong foundation of traditional agricultural knowledge and practices. They also employ the best of current science-based practices, farm business management methods and marketing models.

There has been a resurgence of interest in Nova Scotia agriculture among people who have no farming background. Most of these new farmers are interested in smaller scale farming which, when combined with direct marketing, has the potential to fill profitable niches in the market. Small-scale farms, whether full or part-time, can help strengthen rural communities in many ways and, in sufficient numbers can contribute to the revitalization of Cape Breton.

The workshop will:

- Celebrate small-scale farming in Cape Breton and showcase the achievements of experienced farmers;
- Promote agri-business models that are diversified, sustainable, market-focused and profitable;
- Celebrate agriculture as a driver of rural economic development;
- Facilitate farmer-to-farmer networking and knowledge exchange on topics of interest to beginning farmers and potential farmers;
- Raise awareness of current NSDA programs and services with beginning farmers.

Check the THINKFARM website for more information on the speakers and topics as it becomes available: [www.novascotia.ca/thinkfarm](http://www.novascotia.ca/thinkfarm)

## **The Sydney Office Has Moved!**

As of May 1, the Sydney Regional Office of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture has moved to a new location. We have moved to the Sydney Provincial Building on Prince St. Here is our new address:

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture  
Suite 32-360 Prince Street  
Provincial Building, 3rd Floor  
SYDNEY NS  
B1P 5L1

All other staff emails, telephone and fax numbers have remained the same. Be sure to drop by and visit our new office!



## **Cape Breton 4-H News**

### **Realize Your 4-H Dream in 2014**

The Cape Breton Regional 4-H program is well underway with club project work, judging day preparation, Achievement Days taking place in the next few of months. We would like to welcome our new 4-H members, volunteer leaders and parents to the 2014 program this year. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new summer assistant Erin Graves from Yarmouth County. Please feel free to call Erin at the Mabou office, 945- 2901 over the next few weeks to introduce yourself.

### **2014 Regional Communications Winners**

4-H Weekend is an annual provincial 4-H event that is held in Truro each May. The focus of this event is the provincial public speaking and demonstration competitions. Also included is a provincial poster and woodsman competition, a showcase of regional entertainment and the selection of the provincial host and hostess.

Congratulations to all the Cape Breton Region competitors who participated in the events.

### **Cloverbud Computer Poster Competition**

1<sup>st</sup> - Daria Maclean, County Line, Richmond County

### **Junior Computer Poster Competition**

2<sup>nd</sup> - Brennah Stairs, Northside 4-H club, Cape Breton County

3<sup>rd</sup> - Nicole Curtis, County Line 4-H club, Richmond County

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### **Junior Freehand Poster Competition**

1<sup>st</sup> - Julianna Lawrence, Northside 4-H Club, Cape Breton County  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Mitchel MacKinnon, Baddeck Valley 4-H club, Victoria County

### **Senior Computer Poster Competition**

2<sup>nd</sup> - Amber Lovell, Northside 4-H club, Cape Breton County  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Bryan Berk, Baddeck Valley 4-H club, Victoria County

### **Host Competition**

3<sup>rd</sup> - Bryan Berk, Baddeck Valley 4-H club, Victoria County

### **Hostess Competition**

3<sup>rd</sup> - Amy Boone, Grand Mira 4-H club, Cape Breton County

### **2014 Shout out for Agriculture Video Awards Provincial Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> - Grand Mira 4-H Club

### **2014 Shout out for Agriculture Video Awards Club Winners**

2<sup>nd</sup> - Margaree Riverside 4-H club

### **Canadian Ag Venture Scholarship**

Bridget Wilson, Brook Village 4-H club, Inverness County

### **Nova Scotia 4-H Council Scholarship**

Emma Simpson, Northside 4-H club, Cape Breton County

### **Attending National 4-H Members Conference in Toronto, early November:**

Emma MacLean, Northside 4-H club, Cape Breton County  
Bryan Berk, Baddeck Valley 4-H club, Victoria County

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### **Attended National 4-H Citizenship Seminiar in Prince Edward Island, mid-April:**

Genevieve Andrea, Northside 4-H club, Cape Breton County  
Breagh Hyde, Grand Mira 4-H club, Cape Breton County  
Ceilidh McSavaney, Grand Mira 4-H club, Cape Breton County

### **Participated in the Kevin Grant Rural Leadership Tour in the Valley Region:**

Callie MacDonald, Grand Mira 4-H club, Cape Breton County

## **Together We Make a Difference**

Leaders, parents and community volunteers learned skills to help effectively manage their organizations while sharing ideas and networking at the “**Together We Make A Difference**” workshop on April 6, 2014, in Port Hawkesbury. This event was a partnership between the Cape Breton Regional Team and Inverness County 4-H, with funding assistance from Growing Forward. Participants came from Cape Breton Island, Antigonish County, and included representation from a variety of organizations, including 4-H, Federation of Agriculture, InRich Community Business Development Centre, government, and the Nova Scotia Volunteer Council.

The day-long session included:

- Motivational speaker, Debbie Lawrence, who discussed **Generational Differences** of volunteers, parent and members and the challenges faced as these four generations work together toward a common goal.
- **Volunteer Recruitment, Retention and Recognition.** Max Chauvin provided the group with tips on how to get people involved, including how to recruit new volunteers and utilize most effectively the volunteers that the organization currently has.
- **The Effective Use of Social Media**, possible pitfalls and opportunities was the focus of a presentation by Brittany White, Dalhousie University.
- Debbie Bauld, with Recreation Nova Scotia, joined the group to get participants thinking about the **Role of Competition** in the organization. She challenged participants to understand the role of mentors, leaders and parents in enforcing the learning aspects of the program and to use competition as a way to push for personal bests, while maintaining good sportsmanlike behavior.
- Recreation and “get active” ideas were integrated between each speaker. This provided participants with the opportunity to try “hands on” activities that they can take back to their organizations to use as ice breakers before meetings to help get everyone feeling involved and to teach skills that promote team building and communications.



St. John Ambulance Canada

## Emergency First Aid - St. John Ambulance Course

Senior 4-H members and leaders are invited to participate in a St. John Ambulance -sponsored Emergency First Aid CPR Level A course to be held at the Knox Church, Baddeck on Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for introductory training, updating your current first aid certification and/or for our rural youth starting new employment. Participants will be learning about current standards needed to sustain life and managing the scene of an injury. This is open to all 4-H leaders and senior members at no charge.

Parents are welcome to participate but they will be charged a discounted fee of \$52.50 which will need to be paid in advance by money order. Money orders will have to be made out to "St. John Ambulance". All applications must be returned to the 4-H office for processing. Please bring a bagged lunch. For more information, please contact Marina at 563-2001, or Rhonda at 945-2901.

## Camp Rankin Family Day

Mark your calendars. For the first time a Camp Rankin Family Day is planned for June 14. This will be an opportunity for members and parents to learn and have fun. Sessions will include recreation, outdoor activities, special sessions for parents, and the opportunity for 4-H members to meet others. It will also be a chance for Exploring 4-H and Cloverbud members to complete some projects. We plan to have separate sessions for parents, adults and members, as well as some joint team sessions. Come see what Camp Rankin is all about and make it a family event. Watch for registration information by mail and email in the coming weeks.

## 4-H Dates to Remember:

- Richmond County Judging Day hosted by County Line, May 22
- Inverness Council Mtg- May 26, 7:00 p.m.
- Lakeside 4-H Achievement Day - May 28, Lakeside Community Hall
- First Aid Training- May 31, Knox Church
- Victoria County Judging - June 2, Baddeck Forks Hall
- Richmond County 4-H Days at Camp Rankin - June 4 - 5
- Craft Co-op Sewing Workshop - June 7, Mira Stitch N' Post
- Strait Achievement Day - June 11
- Camp Rankin Family Day open to 4-H families - June 14
- Grand Mira Achievement Day - July 4
- Cape Breton County Miss / Master Competition - July 8, 4-H office Sydney
- EASTGEN 4-H Show Case - July 11 - 13, Bible Hill
- Margaree Achievement Day/ Inverness County Horse Day - July 15
- Celebration of Small Scale Farming - July 28, Gaelic College
- Richmond County Livestock Show - August 5, Adrienne Smith's
- 4-H Day - August 11, Cape Breton County Exhibition
- Inverness County 4-H Show - August 21 - 23, Brook Village Hall

Feel free to contact your regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator if you have any questions about these events.

Contact info: 945-2901 (Mabou office) Rhonda MacDougall  
macdourm@gov.ns.ca or 563-2001 (Sydney office) Marina Gillis  
gillisma@gov.ns.ca



# Regional News Eastern: Antigonish, Guysborough and Pictou Counties

The Antigonish Farmers' Market will be operating from their regular location at the 4-H building on the exhibition grounds, 30 James Street, behind the arena every Saturday from May 3 - December 20, 2014 .



Hours 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For information on becoming a vendor contact:  
Mobile/ Text: 902-867-7479  
Email: [manager@antigonishfarmersmarket.org](mailto:manager@antigonishfarmersmarket.org)

Visit us on line:

Website: [www.antigonishfarmersmarket.org](http://www.antigonishfarmersmarket.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/antigonishfarmersmarketassociation](http://www.facebook.com/antigonishfarmersmarketassociation)

## Eastern Region 4-H News

Welcome to Jane Stevenson, the eastern region summer assistant for 2014. Jane is in her tenth year in the Scotsburn 4-H Club in Pictou County. Over the years, she has participated in various projects including rabbit, scrapbooking, cake decorating, crafts, first aid, photography, poultry and junior leader. Jane has been involved with her club's executive holding positions as president, vice president, secretary and treasurer and she's been the Eastern Region Hostess.

On a provincial level Jane has been to 4-H weekend four times for public speaking and the Nova Scotia 4-H Show for cake decorating and scrapbooking judging and rabbit showmanship. She has finished the first year of a science degree at ST F.X. and is looking forward to a 4-H filled summer! "I look forward to working with 4-H members and leaders, and giving back to a program that has given so much to me, said Jane." You'll see Jane at many achievement days, fundraisers, and events. She can be reached by email at or by phone at 485-7161.

## 4-H Weekend Winners

4-H members from the eastern region attended the annual 4-H Weekend at the Dal AC campus on May 2 - 3 in Bible Hill. Besides the communications competitions, several national and provincial travel awards and scholarships were presented to 4-H members and leaders.

### Posters

#### Cloverbud Freehand Poster:

3<sup>rd</sup> - Nora Porter, Eastern

#### Junior Freehand Poster:

2<sup>nd</sup> - Jade Butler, Eastern

#### Senior Computer Generated Poster:

1<sup>st</sup> - Fiona Mackenzie, Eastern

#### Senior Freehand:

3<sup>rd</sup> - Savannah Lees, Eastern

### Communication Awards

#### Junior Introducer

2<sup>nd</sup> - Rebecca VanDeWiel, Eastern

#### Junior Public Speaker:

2<sup>nd</sup> - Ella Gunn, Eastern, "Born to Sniff"

#### Intermediate Public Speaker:

3<sup>rd</sup> - Julia Vosman, Eastern, "Farm Kid Proud"

#### Senior Public Speaker:

3<sup>rd</sup> - Hannah Chisholm, Eastern, "Options"

#### Senior Team Demonstration:

2<sup>nd</sup> - Brianne Sutherland & Andrew Greene, Eastern, "Chicken Cosmotology"

#### Provincial 4-H Hostess:

1<sup>st</sup> - Julia Vosman, Eastern

#### Woodsmen Skills:

1<sup>st</sup> - Antigonish

#### Senior Woodsmen:

3<sup>rd</sup> - Antigonish

#### Chrysler Canada Scholarship Awards:

- Shelby MacLennan, Pictou County
- Emery van de Wiel, Antigonish County

#### Nova Scotia 4-H Council Scholarships:

- Areta Boone, Eastern

### National Awards

#### United States National Dairy Conference:

- Kyle Corsten, Antigonish County

#### National 4-H Members Conference:

- Brianne Sutherland, Pictou County
- Courtney George, Pictou County

#### Citizenship Seminar:

- Brandon Nelson, Pictou County

#### Kevin Grant Tour:

- Emma Dwyer, Pictou County

#### National Leadership Conference:

- Ruby Mackenzie, Pictou County

## Upcoming 4-H Dates

- Hopewell Achievement Day - June 16
- St. Josephs Achievement Day - July 3
- Heatherton Achievement Day - July 7
- Scotsburn Achievement Day - July 8
- Havre Boucher Achievement Day - July 9
- Sunrise Trail Achievement Day - July 21
- St. Andrews Achievement Day - July 23
- River John Achievement Day - July 28
- Saltsprings Achievement Day - July 29
- Middle River Achievement Day - July 30
- Sutherlands River Achievement Day - July 31
- West River Achievement Day - August 5
- Landing Achievement Day - August 6



# **Regional News Central:** East Hants, Cumberland, Colchester and Halifax Counties

The Department of Agriculture central region office is a one-stop shop for services and information relating to agriculture. If you have an agricultural question or opportunity you'd like to discuss feel free to contact us.

We have a great group of people working here as a team. The central region includes the counties of Colchester, Cumberland, Halifax and East Hants. We are located at Perennia Innovation Park. Our contacts are below.

## **Agriculture and Food Advisory Services**

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture  
90 Research Drive (*First Floor*)  
Truro NS B6L 2R2

- Michael Kittilsen, Agriculture Resource Coordinator, 893-3645  
kittilma@gov.ns.ca
- Jacqueline Hoyt, Agriculture Leadership Coordinator, 893-6586  
hoytjm@gov.ns.ca
- Mary Hart, Administrative Assistant, 893-6575  
hartme@gov.ns.ca
- Jacob Works, Summer Assistant, 896-4471  
worksjb@gov.ns.ca
- Rebecca Sooksom, Agriculture Transition Officer, 896-1288  
sooksord@gov.ns.ca
- Claire Hanlon Smith, Business Transition Officer, 893-4491,  
hanlonca@gov.ns.ca

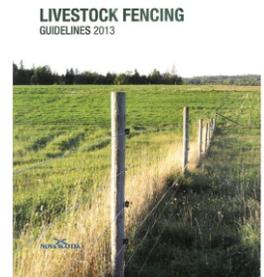
## **Mail Address Changes**

Has your address changed? Has Canada Post requested that you include your civic number in your mailing address? If so, we need to know so that we may continue to keep our mailing list up to date. If you have an address change, please call Mary at 902-893-6575 or contact her by email at hartme@gov.ns.ca with your changes. Also, if you would rather receive an electronic copy of the newsletter rather than the paper copy, please email Mary with your request.

## **Fencing Resource**

The Livestock Fencing Guidelines are available by download on the Department of Agriculture website at <http://novascotia.ca/thinkfarm/documents/fencing-guidelines-2013.pdf> or you can obtain a hard copy by contacting your nearest regional office.

This resource gives a great overview of fencing for all types of livestock. The guidelines then go into more detail about four main types of fencing used in Nova Scotia which are electric, barbed and page wire fences. This beneficial resource was created in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, NSFA, Perennia, and Colchester Municipality.



## **Central Region 4-H News**

### **Hello 4-H Enthusiasts!**

Spring is finally here and so begins 4-H judging, clinics and achievement days! 4-H in the central region is gearing up for an eventful and fun spring/summer. As well I am happy to announce that Jacob Works is the summer assistant this year.

### **Upcoming 4-H Meetings and Events**

- Colchester County 4-H Council Meetings - May 26 and June 23, 7:00 p.m., Agri-dome

### **4-H County Judging dates**

- Cumberland County - May 28 and 29, Nappan Experimental Farm

For further information on any of these events or the 4-H program, please contact:

Jacqueline Hoyt at: (902)-893-6586 or hoytjm@gov.ns.ca Agriculture Leadership Coordinator for the central region.

# **Regional News** Valley: West Hants, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens Counties

## **Think Safety**

Spring is a busy time on many farms. With the many tasks that have to be done, the opportunity for accidents increases. In addition to the many spring jobs that have to be done, be sure to make time to ensure your farm is safe for you and your family.

Now is a good time to:

- Check fencing around ponds and manure storages.
- Ensure PTO guards are in place.
- Take extra precautions to guard against manure gas in liquid manure storages.
- Check your farm first aid kit(s) to ensure they are fully stocked and ready for use.
- Make sure your fire extinguishers are full and in place on machinery and in buildings.
- Make sure your slow moving vehicle signs are on equipment and can be seen.

## **Update of Mailing List and E-Mailing Newsletter**

If you receive this newsletter and do not wish to receive it any longer, or if your address is incorrect, please notify Cheryl by phone, 679-6021, or email, [ctheriau@gov.ns.ca](mailto:ctheriau@gov.ns.ca).

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, please notify Cheryl and it will be sent out to you that way.

## **Valley Region 4-H News**

### **4-H Judging Workshop for New 4-H Members**

A judging workshop designed for new 4-H members in Hants County will be held on Monday, May 26, at a location to be announced. The workshop will focus on introducing 4-H judging (why do we judge, the format, filling out the judging card and practice in giving reasons) to new members with no or very little experience in judging. It will be followed with some fun activities. Registration information for this workshop will be circulated to general leaders to distribute to 4-H members.

### **Rug Hooking Workshop**

A training and skill development workshop focusing on rug hooking will take place on Saturday, May 24, at the Windsor Elms Village in Falmouth. This workshop is open to 4-H leaders, and WINS members.

### **County 4-H Judging Days**

- Lunenburg Co 4-H Judging Day - May 28, South Shore Exhibition Grounds
- Hants County Small Livestock/Horse and Life Skills Judging Day - June 4, Hants County Exhibition Grounds
- Lunenburg Co 4-H Makeup Judging Day – June 24, Lunenburg

### **4-H Achievement Days**

- Lockeport 4-H Club Achievement Day - June 11, Lockeport
- Roseway River 4-H Club Achievement Day- June 25, Ohio
- 4 Leaf Clover 4-H Club Achievement Day - July 2, Westfield Hall
- Branch LaHave 4-H Club Achievement Day - July 3 - 4, Branch LaHave
- Border Riders Achievement Day - July 4
- 2 Bays 4-H Club Achievement Day - July 9, Hubbards
- Hill n Dale 4-H Club Achievement Day July 10 - 11, Wileville
- BBHH 4-H Club Achievement Day - July 12, Bridgewater
- Cobequid Achievement Day - July 18
- Avon Achievement Day - July 21
- Burlington Workers Achievement Day - July 24
- Newport Achievement Day - July 25
- Kings County Joint Achievement Day - July 30 - August 1, Apple Dome, Berwick
- Handy Hands 4-H Club Achievement Day - August 15, New Ross

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## Exhibitions/Fairs

- Lunenburg County 4-H Days - July 22 - 23, South Shore Exhibition
- Shelburne County 4-H Days - August 4 - 5, Shelburne County Exhibition
- Queens County 4-H Days - September 15 - 16, Queens County Fair



## Other Upcoming 4-H Events

- Kings JAD & Council Meetings - June 2, Scotian Gold, Coldbrook
- Western Judging 101 Clinic - June 3, Cornwallis
- Lunenburg County 4-H Exhibition Set-up Day - June 5
- Lunenburg County 4-H Exhibition Painting Day - June 7
- Hants County Exhibition and Council Meetings - June 9, Brooklyn School
- Kings JAD & Council Meetings - July 7, Scotian Gold, Coldbrook
- Hants County Light Horse Camp - July 13 - 19, Hants County Exhibition Grounds
- Hants County Exhibition and Council Meetings - July 14, Hants Exhibition Grounds
- Lunenburg County 4-H Awards Night - August 21



## **Regional News** Western: Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties

### **Cornwallis Staff Updates**

Terry McKay will be the acting Agriculture Resource Coordinator until the position is filled. Terry most recently filled in for Nicole Burkhard who is on maternity leave. He can be reached at 902-638-2396 or email at [mckaytw@gov.ns.ca](mailto:mckaytw@gov.ns.ca).

### **Fur Industry Regulations**

We are approaching the half-way point between the approval of the Fur Industry Regulations on January 11, 2013 and the deadline for compliance on January 11, 2016. If you have any questions regarding the regulations or would like to discuss where you are in the process, please contact us at 902-638-2396 or email at [mckaytw@gov.ns.ca](mailto:mckaytw@gov.ns.ca).

### **Cattle Sales**

The cattle sales are held at the exhibition grounds in Lawrencetown. Tentative fall dates are October 4 and 25, 2014.

### **Update of Mailing List**

We are continuing to update our mailing list. If your address is incorrect, you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or if you'd like to receive an email version in the future, please notify Gina either by phone at 638-2395 or by email at [saulnigl@gov.ns.ca](mailto:saulnigl@gov.ns.ca).

Please note that a civic address is required on all mail. If your civic address is not on the envelope, please notify Gina.

### **Upcoming Food Safety Courses**

The Department of Agriculture is offering the Food Handler Course for foodservice facility owners, operators, managers and staff.

The following course dates have seats available:

- June 10: Digby
- June 18: Yarmouth
- June 18: Kentville
- June 19: Bridgewater

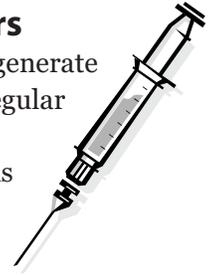
Courses begin again in September. Our new schedule will be posted to the website in late August.

Course seat availability is filled on a first-come, first-served basis, upon receipt of registration and payment. Register well in advance for upcoming courses, as they fill quickly. Confirmation letters are sent out one week before the course date.

Our website listing all dates and times of courses as well as a registration form is located here: <http://novascotia.ca/agri/programs-and-services/food-protection/food-hygiene-course/scheduled-courses>. For more information, contact the Food Safety office at 638-2395.

### **Sharp Containers**

Livestock producers generate medical waste on a regular basis. These wastes include sharps such as syringes, needles, broken glass tubes, lancets and scalpel blades. If not disposed of properly they can injure livestock and family members; increase risk of infection spread; pollute the environment; and put waste handlers at risk. Sharps must not be discarded in regular household garbage. Sharp containers have been specifically designed for disposing of sharps. When the container is full of sharps, the contents should still be considered potentially infectious to humans and animals but the risk is low. For disposal in any municipality, you must first check with your local disposal site to see what they have in place to accept sharps.



These containers can be picked up at the NS Department of Agriculture office in Cornwallis Park. Call 638-2395 for hours and information.

### **Land Asset Management**

In May 2013, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) completed a Land Asset Management (LAM) Pilot Project to investigate ways to improve decisions made about the use of Crown land. As part of the pilot project DNR issued a public tender for the development and operation of sugar maple harvesting facilities on four Crown land areas in Cumberland and Colchester Counties.

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Since finishing the project review, DNR has decided to use the tools and processes that were developed during the pilot project to continue proactive planning of land asset management. DNR will soon issue a tender for agricultural production operations on approximately 187 hectares of Crown lands at Belleisle Marsh, Annapolis County.

DNR is working with the Department of Agriculture and Ducks Unlimited Canada to develop the Request for Proposal (RFP) to attract qualified operators who will enter into agreement with DNR to use Crown land at Belleisle Marsh for the purpose of developing and maintaining agricultural production operations within a wildlife management area.

The RFP is expected to be issued in the summer of 2014 and the tender notice will be available on the Nova Scotia Procurement Services Web Site (<http://novascotia.ca/tenders/tenders/ns-tenders.aspx>)

If you have any further questions, please contact Terry McKay, Agricultural Resource Coordinator at (902) 638-2396 or by email: [mckaytw@gov.ns.ca](mailto:mckaytw@gov.ns.ca).

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## Western Region 4-H News

### Welcome Jillian Bent:

Jillian Bent is the 2014 summer assistant for the western region. Jillian comes from Middleton and is a student at Dalhousie Agricultural Campus in Truro. She will be working out of the Cornwallis office and will be attending achievement days, exhibitions, judging days and program days in the area.

### Travel Award Winners:

Congratulations to Allyson Evans of the Mountain Ridge 4-H club in Annapolis County and Danica McCormack of the Prince Charles 4-H Club in Yarmouth County who have been chosen to attend the national members conference in Toronto in November.

### 4-H Dates to Remember:

- Judging Day for Life Skills Projects in Annapolis County - May 27
- Judging 101 - June 3, at the Cornwallis office.
- Annapolis County 4-H leaders Council meeting - June 11, (place to be announced)
- Digby County 4-H Judging Day - June 12, Digby County Fish and Game Association, Haines Lake
- Yarmouth 4-H Leaders Council meeting - June 18, 7:00 p.m. , 3 Lovett St
- Digby 4-H leaders Council meeting - June 19, 7:30 p.m., Digby library
- Digby 4-H Camp - June 20-22
- Light Horse Walk Trot Show - June 22, Lawrencetown
- Annapolis County Advanced Achievement Day and Make Up Judging - June 30, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Exhibition Grounds Lawrencetown
- Light Horse Book Camp - June 30 - July 3, Lawrencetown
- Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council - July 9
- EastGen Truro - July 11-13
- Annapolis County 4-H Light Horse Achievement Day - July 12, Lawrencetown
- Bear River Trail Blazers 4-H Achievement Day - July 14
- Maple Nuts 4-H Achievement Day - July 15
- Yarmouth County 4-H Leaders Council - July 16, 7:00 p.m.
- Digby County 4-H leaders Council - July 17, 7:30 p.m., Digby Library
- Lucky Stars 4-H Achievement Day - July 17, Melvern Square
- Yarmouth County 4-H Days - July 18 - 20, Pembroke
- Sun Valley Riders 4-H Achievement Day - July 22, Granville Center
- Sunset View 4-H Achievement Day - July 23, Lawrencetown
- Sissiboo Landers 4-H Club Achievement Day - July 23, Tusket
- Les Etoiles de Acadienne 4-H Achievement Day - July 26, Saulnierville
- Clarence 4-H Achievement Day - July 28, Clarence
- Islands Seabreeze 4-H Club Achievement Day - July 30, Freeport
- Annapolis County 4-H Leaders Council meeting - July 30
- Mountain Ridge 4-H Club Achievement Day - August 1, Spa Springs
- Work Night - August 6, Annapolis County Exhibition Grounds
- Annapolis Valley Exhibition 4-H Days - August 18 - 20
- Digby County Exhibition 4-H Days - August 18 - 20
- Annapolis County 4-H Show meeting - September 3