



## 2024 MAAE Summer PDI Agenda

Monday, June 17 - Wednesday, June 19, 2024

*Treetops Resort* - Gaylord, Michigan



DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY - DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
<b>MONDAY, JUNE 17</b>		
8:00 – 9:00 AM	MAAE Conference Registration & Continental Breakfast	Convention Center Lobby
8:45 - 9:30 AM	CTE/FFA/MSU/Foundation Updates Alumni/Foundation	Huron Room
9:30 - 10:00 AM	National FFA Update - Karen Hutchinson	Huron Room
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Break	Convention Center Lobby
10:15 - 11:00 AM	<b>Two sessions run concurrently. Pick 1 option.</b>  Option 1: (Ontario Room) Michigan Farm Bureau FARM Crates - Michelle Blodgett  Option 2: (Erie Room)	Ontario & Erie Rooms
11:00 - 11:30 AM	MAAE Business Session	Huron Room
11:30 - 12:00 PM	MAAE Committee Work	Huron Room
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch	Huron Room
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Travel Time to <b>Sklarczyk Seed Farm</b>	—
1:30 - 3:30 PM	<b>Sklarczyk Seed Farm (seed potatoes) Tour (need to confirm with Ben &amp; Alison)</b> SSF currently produces 5.5-6 million mini tubers hydroponically each year within 3 poly-top greenhouses and two 5 bay gutter connect glasshouses. All plant needs are propagated onsite in a laboratory devoted entirely to seed potato tissue culture production. SSF mini tubers are shipped throughout the U.S., Canada, Chile, Thailand, Brazil, and the Middle East. While field potatoes are no longer grown, SSF still farms about 1,110 acres of corn, wheat, soybeans and oats to supply markets throughout Michigan.	Johannesburg (Confirm address w/ Ben & Alison)
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Travel Back to Treetops	—
4:15 - 5:00 PM	<b>Two sessions run concurrently. Pick 1 option.</b>  Option 1: (Ontario Room)  Option 2: (Erie Room)	Ontario & Erie Rooms
5:00 - 6:30 PM	<b>Evening Activity - Scavenger Hunt/Poker Run</b> **Teams of teacher identified prior to conference	Gaylord Area
6:30 - 7:30 PM	Dinner (BJ's Catering & Event Center - 990 N. Center Ave, Gaylord, MI 49735)	BJ's Event Center
8:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open (pool table, couches, card tables)	The Lodge at Treetops (Aspen Room)

TUESDAY, JUNE 18		
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Networking Continental Breakfast	Huron Room
8:15 - 8:30 AM	Load Charter Bus (Treetops Overnight Stay Drawing - MUST be on bus to win)	Convention Center Entrance
8:30 - 9:00 AM	Travel time (via charter bus)	
9:00 - 12:00 PM	<p><b>Kitchen Farms - Potato Production (Elmira) - 9 am - 10:30 am</b>  Kitchen Farms have been a family owned and operated potato farm since 1910. Kitchen Farms now employs 40 people and grows 1,200 acres of potatoes each year. Kitchen Farms wash and package potatoes of many different varieties and ship them out across the country.</p> <p><b>King Orchards (Central Lake) - 11 am - 1:00 pm</b>  Brothers John and Jim King, along with their wives Betsy and Rose and their children, have been growing fruit in Northern Michigan for more than 30 years. We are a first-generation farming family, growing into the second.  We love the farming life and work hard to grow quality fruit. Our orchards are located on the northern edge of Michigan's famed cherry growing region, atop glacier-formed ridges, and rolling hills near Torch Lake and Lake Michigan's Grand Traverse Bay.</p>	
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch - (King Orchards)	
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Travel to next location	
1:30 - 3:00 PM	<p><b>Matchett Sheep Farm (Charlevoix)</b>  <b>Get Farm BIO from Isaac</b></p>	
3:00 - 3:30 PM	Travel to next location	
3:30 - 5:30 PM	<p><b>Shooks Farm (Central Lake)</b>  The farm started in 1914 (hence the name, Cellar 1914) by a gentleman named Vet Shooks. He drove by this property on a weekly basis on the way to church and noticed a cherry tree growing on the southwest side of the road. Up on the hill with Lake Michigan close by, the cherries were producing quality fruit due to the close proximity of the lake. Vet made the comment to his family that one day he would like to buy that property because of how well it had produced those wild cherries, so that is exactly what he did and the rest is history.  Flash forward into the fourth generation, the farm has a very different look and focus- less field crops and livestock and more fruit- cherries and grapes. Grapes, like cherries, benefit from the lake. The newest direction of the farm helps to bring the new (grapes/wine) in with the old (history). Our tasting room was designed with the history of the farm in mind. Placed at the heart of the farm, with views of Lake Michigan, the tasting room and production facility made sense.</p>	
5:30 - 6:00 PM	Travel back to Treetops	
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Dinner – On your own	Gaylord
8:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open (pool table, couches, card tables)	The Lodge at Treetops (Aspen Room)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19		
7:00 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast & MAAE Years of Service Recognition (Starting at 8 AM)	Huron Room
8:30 - 9:15 AM	MAAE Business Meeting (Elections, NAAE Update)	Huron Room
9:15 - 10:00 AM	Introduction to Groundwater Monitoring for Agriculture (Todd Feenstra)	Huron Room
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Travel to Field Day site (location TBD)	
10:30 - 12:00 AM	<b>Field Day (teachers rotate through stations - 30 minutes each)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Well Monitoring &amp; Data Collection w/ Todd Feenstra</li> <li>2. Ag Skills Contest Training - Forestry with DNR foresters</li> <li>3. Ag Skills Contest Training</li> </ol> <p><i>**Melanie - can you line up 2 Ag Skills Contest sessions here?</i></p>	Field Site (TBD)
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch ( <i>Sponsored by the Michigan Potato Commission</i> )	Field Site (TBD)
1:00 – 2:30 PM	<b>Field Day (teachers rotate through stations - 30 minutes each)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Well Monitoring &amp; Data Collection w/ Todd Feenstra</li> <li>2. Ag Skills Contest Training</li> <li>3. Ag Skills Contest Training</li> </ol> <p><i>**Melanie - can you line up 2 Ag Skills Contest sessions here?</i></p>	Field Site (TBD)



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