



2024 MAAE Summer PDI Agenda


Monday, June 17 - Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Treetops Resort - Gaylord, Michigan



DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY - DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
MONDAY, JUNE 17		
8:00 – 8:30 AM	MAAE Conference Registration & Continental Breakfast	Convention Center Lobby
8:30 - 9:30 AM	CTE/FFA/MSU/Alumni	Huron Room
9:30 - 10:00 AM	National FFA Update - Kimberly Bellah	Huron Room
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Break	Convention Center Lobby
10:15 - 11:00 AM	<p>Two sessions run concurrently. Pick 1 option.</p> <p><u>Option 1: (Ontario Room)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michigan Farm Bureau FARM Crates - Michelle Blodgett; MFB Educator <p><u>Option 2: (Erie Room)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HPAI in Poultry & Cattle - Katie Ockert MSU; Extension Educator Community Food & Environment Institute 	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	Networking Lunch/Foundation Update Alex Schnablrauch	Huron Room
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Travel Time to Sklarczyk Seed Farm	
1:30 - 3:30 PM	<p>Sklarczyk Seed Farm (seed potatoes) Tour (need to confirm with Ben & Alison)</p> <p>SSF currently produces 5.5-6 million mini tubers hydroponically each year within 3 poly-top greenhouses and two 5-bay gutter-connected 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.</p>	8710 M-32E Johannesburg, MI 49751
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Travel Back to Treetops	—
4:15 - 5:00 PM	<p>Two sessions run concurrently. Pick 1 option.</p> <p><u>Option 1: (Ontario Room)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critter Barn: What can it do for your program - Tony McCaul; Executive Director <p><u>Option 2: (Erie Room)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife Disease: CWD/bTB update - Katie Ockert; MSU Extension Educator Community Food & Environment Institute 	Ontario & Erie Rooms
5:00 - 6:30 PM	Evening Activity - Road Rally Scavenger Hunt (prizes & dinner to follow)	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 the bus to win)	Convention Center Entrance
8:30 - 9:00 AM	Travel time (via charter bus)	
9:00 - 12:00 PM	<p>Kitchen Farms - Potato Production (Elmira) - 9 am - 10:30 am Kitchen Farms has been a family-owned and operated potato farm since 1910. Kitchen Farms employs 40 people and grows 1,200 acres of potatoes each year. Kitchen Farms washes and packages many varieties of potatoes to ship them across the country.</p> <p>King Orchards (Central Lake) - 11 am - 1:00 pm Brothers John and Jim King, along with their wives, Betsy and Rose, and their children, have been growing fruit in Northern Michigan for over 30 years. They are a first-generation farm family, growing into the second. Their 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 the next location	
1:30 - 3:00 PM	<p>Matchett Sheep Farm (Charlevoix) Matchett Sheep Farm is a 4th generation family farm that is home to 1800 commercial Polypay ewes. Ewes give birth in May and September utilizing an intensively managed pasture lambing system. Matchett Sheep Farm focuses on high-health status sheep, proper nutrition, & prolific genetics to keep their business productive and moving forward.</p>	
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Travel to the next location	
4:00 - 5:30 PM	<p>Shooks Farms & Cellar 1914 (Central Lake) The farm was founded in 1914 (hence the name, Cellar 1914) by a gentleman named Vet Shooks. He drove by this property weekly on his way to church and noticed a cherry tree growing on the southwest side of the road. The cherries were producing quality fruit due to the proximity to Lake Michigan. Vet commented 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. The rest is history. Now in the fourth generation, the farm has a dramatically different look and focus - fewer field crops and livestock and more cherries and grapes. The newest direction of the farm helps to bring the new (grapes/wine) in with the old (history). The tasting room was designed with the history of the farm in mind, placed at the heart of the farm, with views of Lake MI.</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	Field Day (teachers rotate through stations - 30 minutes each) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Well Monitoring & Data Collection w/ Todd Feenstra 2. Forestry CDE with Mike Smalligan, DNR forester Invasive Species 3. Invasive Species Network - Huron Pines; Shelby Bauer (TBD) 	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	Field Day (teachers rotate through stations - 30 minutes each) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Well Monitoring & Data Collection w/ Todd Feenstra 2. Environmental Skills CDE training (Willett TBD) 3. Student Stream Science - Melanie Block 	Field Site (TBD)



Thank You to Our Sponsors!

