

FOR LAND'S SAKE

Volume 6, Issue 3

October 15, 2015

TREE ORDERS COMING IN OCTOBER

The LCD Tree Order forms will be available in late October, and will be due back the end of November. We will send them out to this e-mail list and also to our mailing list (previous orders & requests).

If you know someone who would like to be added to the list, please have them contact our office at (608) 776-3836 or e-mail nikkilarson96@yahoo.com



In late October, order forms will be posted on the Lafayette County website:

www.lafayettecountywi.org

or e-mailed to the Conservation office at: lafayettelcd@yahoo.com

- Delivery will be in late April or Early May
- Please Do Not send payment with your orders. Payment will be at the time of delivery

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IMPORTANT REMINDER: FPP/WLI TAX CREDIT



Oh my, how time flies. It's almost December 31, 2015.

Landowners wishing to claim their 2015 Farmland Preservation tax credit need a "Certificate of Compliance" which is issued by your local Land Conservation Department.

General program requirements and a current, updated Nutrient Management Plan must be on file with us at the Land Conservation Department.

If you have questions, please call Roger Lange at (608) 776-3836 ext. 124

Special points of interest:

- Tree Order Information
- FPP Information
- Conservation Award Winners
- Family Fun
- Harvest Safety
- Who We Are & How To Reach Us

"A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people."

– Franklin D. Roosevelt

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS):



This summer we have been extremely busy in our efforts to Deal with aquatic invasive species. For most of the summer we have been involved in stream sampling which has us looking for AIS (plants and animals), doing CBCW (Clean Boats Clean Waters) work at Yellowstone, contacting bait dealers at their retail stores and of course working on plant management projects such as the Japanese Knotweed and Japanese Hops that was found in Lafayette and several other counties last year. Through the course of the summer we employed an intern that gained valuable applied science experience toward her biology degree which she is currently working on at UW-Platteville. This year was also the first year we have divided the nine county area into two regions (only for the AIS grants), a northern region and a southern region. I currently work in the southern region which encompasses Iowa, Lafayette, Green, Grant and western Dane Counties while Ben (our new northern counties coordinator) works in Crawford, Vernon, Lacrosse, Richland and Sauk Counties. Thus far it has been very productive and we have been able to accomplish double the work in an area previously served by one individual. Ben and I also collaborate on many AIS issues affecting both counties. But the summer is winding down and we still have a ton of work left to do. First and fore most I am writing a rapid response grant for Lafayette and Iowa Counties to tackle the Japanese Knotweed problem. Once completed the grant will allow us to focus on small populations of this invasive plant so that it cannot gain a stronghold in this area. Once established it is very difficult to eradicate. Second we discovered Phragmites in Green County and the WDNR has made control and eventual elimination of this plant in the southwest one of their top priorities. Both plants require many hours of survey work and project setup including physical labor in the initial stages of removal. Which brings me to our final update. We are always looking for volunteers to assist us in the removal and control of these invasive plants. If any readers out there would like to learn more about invasive plants and or projects that they can assist in we would welcome their help. I can be contacted via email (don.barrette@swbadger.org) and phone 608-219-7842. Attached are images of Japanese Knotweed and Phragmites. If you see any of these plants please contact me. Thank you I look forward to the next newsletter. 1st and 2nd pic is Phragmites. 3rd and 4th pic is Japanese Knotweed

Don Barrette

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Kamps Promoted as WFBF's Ag in the Classroom Coordinator

Article from: Wisconsin Ag Connection - 09/22/2015



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Agriculture in the Classroom program has a new coordinator. Gretchen Kamps of Belmont has been chosen to succeed Wendy Kannel, who was recently promoted as the organization's leadership development director.

As part of her new role, Kamps will provide Wisconsin teachers, volunteers and students with resources about how food travels from the farm to the fork. She will also serve as the director of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

"I am excited to find ways to help our volunteers get into more classrooms, build relationships with K-12 teachers and develop additional resources for volunteers to use at dairy breakfasts, county fairs and other local events," Kamps said.

Gretchen first joined the Farm Bureau in 2012 as a district coordinator serving southwest Wisconsin. She grew up on a farm near Clinton in Rock County and earned a bachelor of science degree in agricultural education from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and a master of education degree in educational leadership from National Louis University in Illinois. She later worked as an agriculture instructor at Lake Geneva Badger High School, in addition to being an adjunct instructor at Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, and as a research coordinator at the UW-Platteville Pioneer Farm.

Kamps is a member of the Lafayette County Farm Bureau. She and her husband, Josh, operate a beef farm with his family near Belmont.

CHANGES WITH LAND RECORDS/LAND INFORMATION OFFICE

Some changes have taken place in our office. Mary Jean Ritchie, Land Records Coordinator, has taken a job with the Department of Transportation, in Madison. She started the new position on August 10. Since that time, the office title has been changed to Land Information Office. Job descriptions have been updated and Lauree Aulik, property tax lister, has posted into the GIS Coordinator position. The Real Property Lister/GIS position will be filled soon. Both positions will be under the supervision of the County Treasurer and housed at the Courthouse.

Survey maps are currently at the Land Conservation Department, but will be moved very soon to the Treasurer's Office.



Lafayette County - The Point of Beginning

The Family Corner *A-maze-ing Fall Fun!*

From <http://happyhooligans.ca/leaf-maze/>

Looking for a fun way for your kids to play in the leaves? **Rake up a Leaf Maze**...

This is one of our favourite Fall traditions around here. A leaf maze is so much for the hooligans to play in, and I really enjoy making one. It's not often that you get the chance to be *excited* about raking up a yard full of leaves, but this really does make the task fun.

Obviously I don't need to provide you with any instructions here. The photos pretty much tell all.

Isn't this fun?

Kids will develop problem-solving and critical-thinking skills as they encounter road-blocks and dead-ends.

Staying between the lines helps them develop spacial sense, and they'll learn to look and think ahead, and plan their steps as they navigate the maze from start to finish.



Don't worry about it if your child accidentally walks through a "wall".

That's a part of the learning process as well, and as they get older, that will happen less. Just keep the rake handy for quick repairs if it happens.

What's most important thing here is that you and your child are enjoying some exercise in the fresh, Fall air.

Don't think the maze has to be made up of straight lines and corners; here's a shot of the Fall labyrinth I made for the hooligans a few years ago.

Looking for more fun outdoor fall activities? Check out [these 10 terrific backyard activities for fall!](#)

Holiday Fun for Kids



Thanksgiving: Mini Pumpkin Hunt

Another fun group activity

that's perfect for toddlers on up is a mini pumpkin hunt. It's one of our favorite **pumpkin-themed activities**. You can hide one or more mini pumpkins, indoors or outside, and let the family loose — like an Easter egg hunt with an autumn twist. One other idea is to play "Fill the Cornucopia," asking kids to find all sorts of hidden items — such as apples, Indian corn, and small gourds — to fill a cornucopia or basket on the Thanksgiving table.

See more ideas at <http://fun.familyeducation.com>

Halloween - Spider Ring Fishing: Put a bunch of spider rings into a pumpkin container, and we fish them out with straws. **This is fantastic for fine motor skills** – and keeps kids happily entertained for a long time!



Halloween Map: This is a new one my son developed today, and I love it! He spent a long time **creating his map**, using stamps, and markers. He had spooky areas marked on the map, as well as pumpkin patch in "Squigglehood" and an area where spiders live called "Riggly Jiggle." He got out a toy sword, and then went around the yard, on **his quest**. <http://www.pleasantestthing.com>

Thanks to:

[October 5, 2015](#) by [Progressive Ag Foundation](#)

4 Tips To Help Keep Safety In Mind During Harvest Season

By: Jana L. Davidson, Education Content Specialist for the Progressive Agriculture Foundation

Cutting corners and rushing to accomplish many tasks in a short amount of time during harvest season tends to cause more incidents and damage than a more patient approach. Nationwide®, a sponsor of the Progressive Agriculture safety Day® program, offers some great tips to help keep farmers safe during harvest.

Keeping in mind these 4 practices can lead to both a healthy and happy harvest:

1. **Be Organized** – Maintain equipment and have all owner and operator manuals on-hand. Have an electric check of facility including wiring and electrical boxes. Provide safety proper training for employees & family. Before each task, do a safety walk-through making sure any potential hazards are taken care of and procedures are in place in case an incident occurs such as first aid kits and fire extinguishers on-hand, as well as warning signs on display.
2. **Focus on Efficiency** – Be sure grain-receiving equipment, bin aeration, and the grain dryers are clean and in good working order.
3. **Know your Crop** – Keep in mind both quantity and quality, stay in touch with local grain elevators for grain-marketing opportunities, and be smart when drying your corn & entering a grain bins. Properly care for combines and be aware of other farm equipment around you. Know your field and alert others of any potential hazards, such as erosion or washouts.
4. **Use Caution with Farm Vehicles on Public Roads** – Display the Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem on all off-road vehicles, use proper vehicle lighting & flashers when on public roads, and inspect hitches. Be sure to understand and comply with the laws for your state or province regarding headlights, taillights, and reflectors.

For additional harvest safety tips from Nationwide®, visit <http://www.nationwide.com/pre-harvest-safety.jsp>



PROGRAM REMINDERS

Snap Plus Classes:

December 2 – Nutrient Crediting - UW Platteville Farm

December 16 & December 18 – Snap Plus (Must have soil test results in-hand.)

March 15, 2016 – Taking Soil Samples

March 22, 2016 – Snap+ Update Class

Call Roger Lange (608) 776-3836 ext. 124 to reserve a seat.



**REMINDER:
3-YEAR SEPTIC MAINTENANCE
FORMS WERE DUE
ON SEPTEMBER 30**

**FINES AND
FINAL NOTICES
FOR 2015 WILL BE
MAILED OCT. 30**



Available for

Conservation Services & Rentals:

- Hydroseeder
- Tree Spuds
- Mulcher
- Back Pack Sprayer
- Tree Planter
- Whirly Bird Seeder

Weigh Scales

Call Lafayette County LCD at (608) 776-3836
for prices & scheduling.

If you live in an Agriculture Enterprise Area (AEA), and your current farming operation generates at least \$6K in annual income, you may be eligible for an additional WLI tax credit.

Lafayette County AEA's include

- Pecatonica AEA (townships of Blanchard, Argyle, and Lamont)
- Southwest Lead Mine Region AEA (townships of Gratiot, Monticello, Shullsburg, and Wiota)

Give Roger a call for further details and a free consultation. 608-776-3836 ext. 124

Annual Self Certification Letters for landowners participating in the Working Lands Tax Credit Program (former Farmland Preservation)

The letters should be mailed around the first week of November, and are to be returned by November 30, 2015.

The annual fee remains at \$30.00

FOR LAND'S SAKE

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Phone: (608) 776-3836

E-Mail
lafayettelcd@yahoo.com

To
 Subscribe:



Conservation & Zoning and Land Records Staff
 Left to Right: Roger Lange, Mary Jean Ritchie, Terry Loeffelholz, Nikki Larson, and Al Brandt

Lafayette County

Conservation & Zoning

Department



What's Cookin'

Roasted Squash & Apple Soup

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Butternut Squash | Honey |
| 1 Apple | Salt & pepper to taste |
| Oil for roasting | Soup Stock |
| Chili Sauce | Yogurt or sour cream for garnish |

DIRECTIONS:

1. Roast squash & apple on a baking tray with a little oil, chili, and honey. Will caramelize & be sticky and gooey.
2. Put roasted squash & apple in a pan with enough stock to cover. Cover & cook 15 minutes
3. Process, add seasoning and more stock or water to the consistency you want.
4. Garnish with the yogurt or sour cream. Serve



DEADLINES

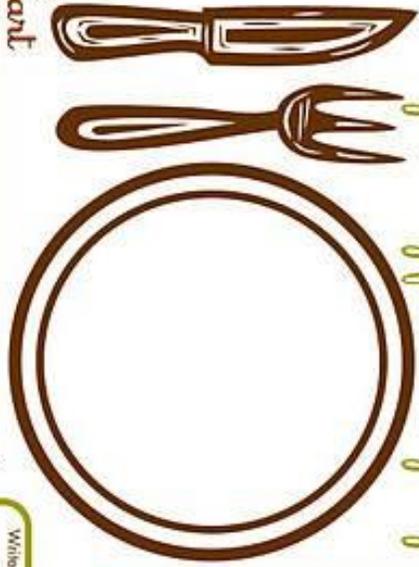
- October 30 – Mailing of Septic Maintenance forms with penalties.
- November 1 – Time change
- November 1 – FSA 2015 ELAP Application Deadline
- November 3 – Election Day - VOTE
- November 3 – Next LCC Meeting
- November 11 – USDA Service Center Closed for Veteran's Day
- November 12 – FSA Deadline for removing hay bales from CRP fields
- November 16 – FSA 2016 Fall Acreage Reporting Deadline for PRF



- November 16 – FSA Deadline for NAP production Reports
- November 20 – FSA Extended last day for MPP Dairy Registration/Coverage Election
- November 26 – USDA Closed for Thanksgiving
- November 27 – Conservation & Zoning closed-County Holiday
- November 28 - Dairy Marginal Protection Program Deadline

- Dec. 1 –CRP General Sign-up begins
- December 7 - COC Election Ballots due
- December 2 – Nutrient Crediting Class Noon – 3:00 p.m.
- Dec. 15 – LWRM Cost Share contracts must be signed by the County
- Dec. 16 & 18 – Snap+ Class 10:00 a.m.- 3:00p.m.
- Dec. 24 – LCD Closed, County Holiday
- Dec. 25 – USDA Service Center Closed
- Dec. 31 – LCD Closed, County Holiday

What are you eating for Thanksgiving?



Start



I am THANKFUL for...

Write a fall or Thanksgiving word that starts with each letter below

T H A N K S I V I N G

