



CNLA Update - July 25, 2014

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Summer Field Day: A Real Success!

Dicey weather and on-and-off again rain showers failed to dampen the enthusiasm for this year's Summer Field Day held at Van Wilgen's Garden Center in North Branford on July 16. By late morning the skies were clearing nicely.

This marks the second time the event has been held at Van Wilgen's, a family-owned and operated company that has been in business since 1936. CNLA extends our sincere thanks to Bill Van Wilgen, his family and staff for being outstanding hosts of the event.



Linda Kowalski, Jason Scire and Bill Van Wilgen

The numbers from the day tell a good story: 348 individuals/participants registered for the event along with 60 exhibitor spots. The day's events were spread out

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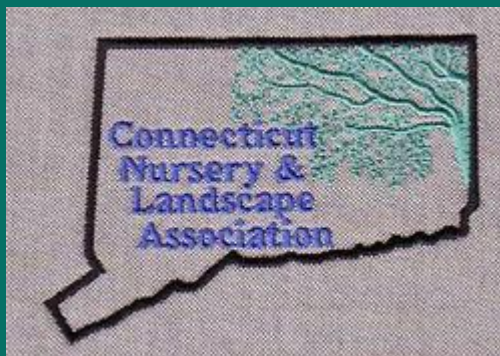
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over four acres of one of Van Wilgen's fields. "I want to thank everyone who attended CNLA Summer Field Day, with a special thanks to vendors who exhibited in the big white tent," CNLA president Kevin Sullivan said.

The New Haven Register covered the event and ran a good story the following day.

Click on the link to view it:

<http://www.nhregister.com/business/2014/07/16/farms-nurseries-at-north-branford-field-day-have-common-goal-green>

The paper also had a montage of photos they posted from the event on their web site.

Click here on the link to view them:

<http://photos.newhavenregister.com/2014/07/16/photos-of-the-cnla-2014-summer-field-day-at-van-wilgens-north-branford/#1>

Some attendees also heard presentations on proper planting for soil management, pesticide applications, current diseases in Connecticut and ways the grower/distributor community can work more closely with retail garden centers. We want to thank the following presenters: Dr. Neil Hendrickson, Mark Sellew, Chris Valley, Jason Scire, Rich Baker, Henry Eggert and Jim Lamondia. Continuing education credits (CEUs) were available from the presentations.

Highlights of the day included a tour of the full Van Wilgen's facility along with a bus tour of their satellite Guilford Garden Mart at Bishop's Orchard. Many participated in the "Identify the Plant Contest" and helped themselves to the great wood-fired pizza from the Big Green Pizza Truck, and treats courtesy of the UCONN Dairy Bar Ice Cream and the Sugar Bakery Cupcake Truck.

The event was a cooperative effort by CNLA, UCONN Extension, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, the Risk Management Agency/USDA and Van Wilgen's.

Van Wilgen's notes with pride that their

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"products are grown right here on our farm, in our greenhouses and growing fields. It doesn't get any more local than that."

Again, special thanks to Bill and Ryan Van Wilgen and Jason Scire, Summer Field Day Chair, and the entire team at Van Wilgen's for all of their hard work in making the day a real success!

Message from Linda Kowalski

When Bob Heffernan retired last December, CNLA's Board of Directors asked if I could step in on a temporary basis to serve as



Interim Executive Director and to have my firm, The Kowalski Group, provide "team management services". As your long time government relations consultants, we were happy to assist CNLA during this transition period. There has been an amazing amount of activity including two trade shows, most recently the Summer Field Day, finalizing the July issue of the *CNLA Magazine*, as well as writing and producing the bi-weekly *CNLA Update*. We are now at the point where the CNLA Board has agreed on a plan for the future daily management of the organization (Details to be forthcoming from CNLA soon!). This will now permit me to relinquish the position of Interim Executive Director and my firm to relinquish their team management services and simply concentrate on our lobbying efforts for CNLA. It has been a challenging and fast-paced experience! I want to thank the following for their consistent support and assistance: CNLA Board Members: Kevin Sullivan, Dave Taddei, Darryl Newman, Jason Scire, Brian Kogut, Vickie Wallace, Bob St. Jacques, Bob Blundon, CNLA staff, Judy Falcon, The Kowalski Group, Karen Weeks, Dave Boomer and Brad Weeks, and many other

CNLA members who pitched in to help when needed,

Although I will not be serving as Interim Executive Director, my firm members and I will continue to work on your behalf. My firm will continue to provide government relations services to CNLA and advocate for you in Hartford every day! We have the highest respect for the work that CNLA members do; we have enjoyed the opportunity to work in this capacity, and we look forward to continuing to work with you, and CNLA's new management team, in the days, weeks, months and years ahead!

Renew Your Membership in CNLA Today!

You should have received a CNLA dues Invoice in the mail recently. If you have not renewed your CNLA membership 2014-2015, click on the link below and take a minute to complete the attached Invoice and send in your form to pay your dues. CNLA is working for you and the new website highlights some of the many benefits of CNLA membership.

Click on the link to print the dues Invoice [CNLA Dues Statement](#)

Plant Science Day-Century Farm Award Presentation to Holdridge Farm Nursery!

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station will be sponsoring the Annual Plant Science Day on Wednesday, August 6 at CT Ag Experiment Station Lockwood Farm from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The day will feature reports on research, tours and topics by the CAES scientists and staff. Governor Malloy will be speaking in the Main Tent at 11:50 a.m. Click on the link for the flyer and more information: [Plant Science Day](#)

The Century Farm Award will be presented to CNLA member Holdridge Farm Nursery! The Holdridge Farm is run by Shari Hewes, fourth-generation of the Holdridge family. Congratulations Holdridge Farm for this prestigious honor! Shari was recently recognized at the Summer Field Day by the CNLA.

CANP REGISTRATIONS NOW BEING TAKEN-CLASSES BEGIN IN AUGUST 19TH!

CANP is CNLA's annual 13 week certification program that will teach you the basics of botany, plant identification, and professional horticultural information. Click here for the CANP Education Program August 19-November 18, 2014 Information Classes begin on August 19 - Exam on November 18, 2014. [Click on the link below to register and enroll in CANP.](#) Also posted online at www.cnla.biz

<https://cnla.wufoo.com/forms/connecticut-accredited-nursery-professional-2014/>

Or Call the CNLA Office to register: 1-800-562-0610.

Send in your Classified Ads

Are you looking for Summer or Fall help? Send us your classified ads. We can post them to the new CNLA website!

www.cnla.biz

What's ahead for 2015?



Just this week Governor Malloy announced that Connecticut ended the Fiscal Year

2014 with an estimated \$121.3 million

dollar surplus. However, If you are following the news, you've probably seen reports that the state budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2015, could be in the red to the tune of \$1 billion.

If this is the case, administration officials and legislators will probably be looking for new revenue. That could be a problem. Recently, UCONN issued a report that talked about various ways to "reform" property taxes. One idea is a statewide uniform mill rate. Obviously, there will be winner and loser towns under this scenario. What is troubling is that opening this discussion then raises the issue of what should be considered property within the tax. We don't want to see any increases in such taxes on agricultural properties. If legislators need new revenue, this proposal could be put on the table. We need to be ready for this possible action.

A 15-member panel has been created as a result of Section 137 of House Bill 5597, the budget implementation bill, to study the state's entire revenue structure. They are charged with reporting back to the Finance, Revenue and Boding Committee no later than January 2016 with recommendations concerning how the state taxes personal income, business income, property and consumer purchases. Everything will be on the table, in other words.

Upcoming elections
are a good
opportunity for
CNLA advocacy



In addition to possible fiscal issues, the Governor and General Assembly are expected to tackle a myriad of matters next year that are important to the business community in Connecticut, including issues relating to healthcare coverage, unemployment compensation and many different government regulations. What happens up in the corridors of the State Capitol starting January 2015 can have a direct effect on your ability to run your businesses efficiently and profitably.

There's an old saying that if you are not at the table, you'll be on the menu. That is why you may wish to engage as political campaigns ramp up this summer and Fall.

Governor's Race

To recap, Governor Dan Malloy is up for re-election this November as are the state constitutional officers. All 187 seats in the Connecticut General Assembly will be on the ballot; 151 members in the Connecticut House and 36 members in the Connecticut Senate.

Things can change quickly in politics, but right now most observers feel the Governor's race could be very close and heatedly contested. Gov. Dan Malloy and Lt. Gov. Nancy Wyman are aggressively running for a second term.

The Republican nominee for Governor and Lieutenant Governor will be selected in an August 12 primary. The contest is between 2010 Republican nominee Tom Foley and Senate Republican Leader John McKinney. Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton had been a candidate for some time, but he withdrew largely due to his campaign's inability to qualify for public financing. Three candidates will contest the race for Lieutenant Governor: State Rep. Penny Bacchioni, former Groton Mayor Heather Somers and former Comptroller General David Walker.

Once the smoke clears from the primary, we'll know who will take on Governor Malloy. But one other candidate, Jonathan Pelto, is already working to petition himself onto the ballot under a new party. Pelto is a former long-time Democratic State Representative from Mansfield, and many observers think he will take votes away from Malloy.

Legislative and Congressional Races

These same political observers see continued control of both the Connecticut House and Senate by the Democratic party. The five incumbent Members of Congress, Reps. John Larson, Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes and

Elizabeth Esty, are also favored in their individuals races.

As you can see, there are quite a few candidates out there. You may wish to get to know the local candidates in your area for the General Assembly seats-the Connecticut House and Senate. After all, they will be the ones who vote on many of the important issues.

CNLA to Co-Sponsor CIPWG Invasive Plant Symposium!
Register Now: Tuesday, Oct 7, 2014

The 2014 Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) Symposium will be held on Tuesday, October 7th at the UConn Storrs campus. The theme of the 7th biennial conference is "Invasive Plants 2014: Where Are We Now?" The CNLA will co-sponsor this symposia from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.. The event will be held in a new location: the UConn Student Union on Hillside Road, Storrs, CT. On-line registration and the full symposium program is now available on the CIPWG website: www.cipwg.uconn.edu

Below is a link to the CIPWG Symposium web page, where you will find a button on the right of the screen for Co-sponsors and the link to the CNLA website:
<http://cipwg.uconn.edu/2014-symposium/>.
Pesticide Recertification and Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) available.

Sustainably Speaking.....Summer Twilight Series for Nursery & Landscape Professionals

Thursday, August 7, 2014

Topic: Carbon Footprint of Landscape Trees During Production, Distribution and Useful Life as the Basis for Climate Change Remediation,

Plant Health and Market
Differentiation

Who: *Dr. Dewayne Ingram, University
of Kentucky*

Where: Soundview Landscape, 50
Industry Dr., West Haven, CT

When: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 21, 2014

Topic: Cover Crops: A Valuable IPM
Tool for Nursery and Landscape
Operations

Who: *Jesse Rodrigues, The Rhode
Island Nurseries, Middletown, RI*

Where: Kogut Nursery, 65 Yale Ave.
Meriden, CT

When: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

There will be a Risk Management &
Crop Insurance update at the start of
all 3 programs. Refreshments will be
provided by the location host at each
gathering.

Attend 1, 2 or all 3 gatherings. Take
the opportunity to network with
friends and customers, and learn
about sustainable practices for the
nursery & landscape professional.

[Click here for directions to the host
sites](#)

Registration is requested to cover
expenses and appropriately plan for
set up. Registration fee is \$10.00 per
event, or \$25.00 if attending all three
events.

Advance registration is required.

Check should be payable to: The
University of Connecticut.

Please RSVP to Vickie Wallace, UConn
Extension, 562 New London Turnpike,
Norwich, CT 06360. For questions
email Victoria.wallace@uconn.edu or
call at (860)-885-2826.

Pesticide Credits Awarded for Each
Program*

This program is a cooperative effort of
CNLA, UConn Extension and the Risk
Management Agency/USDA

[Click here to see the letter detailing](#)

[more information about the programs in the series.](#)

Any questions?

Visit with Vickie Wallace at the CNLA Summer Field Day at the RMA Booth!

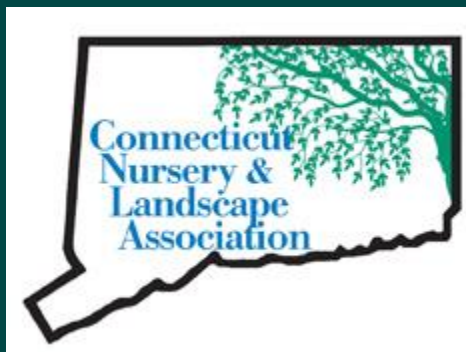
Thank you,
Vickie Wallace,
Extension Educator, UConn Extension



Other exciting Programs Sponsored by UConn College of Agriculture and Natural Resources are linked below: Click on the links to for more information:

[Biological Controls-Putting it all Together for Success-July 31](#)

[School and Municipal Turf/Grounds Workshop-August 13](#)



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