



## CNLA Update - June 27, 2014

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### **REGISTER TODAY-SUMMER FIELD DAY**

**Wednesday, July 16, 2014**

**8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**REGISTER TODAY  
BY**

**Phone: 800-562-0610**

Email [ConnNrsry@aol.com](mailto:ConnNrsry@aol.com)

Online [www.cnla.biz](http://www.cnla.biz)

<http://cnla.biz/publications/cnla-news/events/summer-field-day/>

*Pesticides credits, panel discussions, tours, plant ID contest, CNF auction, pizza truck, UCONN dairy bar ice cream, cupcake truck*

*Click on the links to register and for more information: [Summer Field Day 2014 Brochure with Schedule of Events](#)*

**[Participant Registration Form](#)  
[Online Registration Link](#)**

*Exhibitors-Click on the links:*

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## Quick Links

[www.cnla.biz](http://www.cnla.biz)

[New England Grows](#)

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Get Official CNLA Embroidered Gear at  
Our New Company Store!

## [Exhibitor Brochure](#) [Exhibitor Online Registration Link](#)

**DIRECTIONS TO** Van Wilgen's Garden Center,  
51 Valley Road (off Route 139), North Branford,  
Connecticut

203-488-2110

From I-95: take exit 55.

Northbound: right at end of ramp onto Rt. 1

Southbound: left at end of ramp onto Rt. 1

From Rt. 1, take the first left on Rt. 139

Travel 1 mile and turn right onto Valley Road

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## Renew Your Membership in CNLA Today!



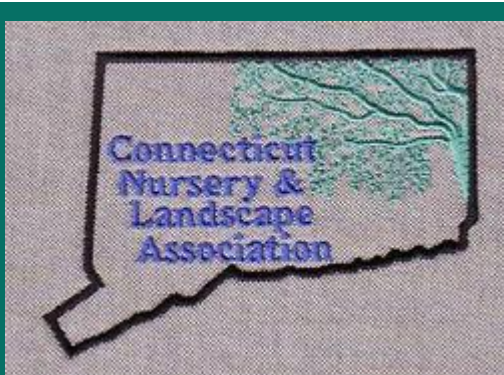
You should have received a CNLA dues Invoice in the mail recently. If you have not renewed your CNLA membership 2014-2015, click on the link below and take a minute to complete the attached Invoice and send in your form to pay your dues. CNLA is working for you and the new website highlights some of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

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

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## Request for Producer Input from the Governor's Council for Ag Development

Over the past two and a half years, the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development has reached out to hundreds of farmers and other agricultural stakeholders throughout Connecticut to develop recommendations on how to increase consumer spending on Connecticut Grown farm products and how to better develop, diversify, and promote



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agriculture.

One of the issues these stakeholders have raised repeatedly is the need for additional practical, hands-on training in agricultural production.

Please take a few minutes to answer the eight questions at the link below and provide the council with information vital to developing these needed courses in various aspects of farming in Connecticut. The entire survey should take no more than five minutes to complete. The survey will close July 6th.

Thank you for your time and thoughts on this subject. Please be sure to give your email address at the end of the survey if you would like to receive updates on new course offerings as they are made available.

Sincerely,

Steven K. Reviczky

Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
Chairman, Governor's Council for Agricultural Development

Take the survey:

[http://surveymonkey.com/optout.aspx?sm=3QpbG5LHwaCU7koJvrF\\_2bxw\\_3d\\_3d](http://surveymonkey.com/optout.aspx?sm=3QpbG5LHwaCU7koJvrF_2bxw_3d_3d)

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## Registration in now open: Tuesday, Oct 7, 2014 - CIPWG Symposium

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 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 soon [www.cipwg.uconn.edu](http://www.cipwg.uconn.edu).

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## Governor Malloy Signs Bills Into Law:

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## Aquatic Invasive Species, Increase to grant for Ag-Science Centers, Seed Law

The Governor signed the Budget Implementation Bill, Public Act 14-217, H.B. 5597.

Section 248 of this public act concerns Aquatic Invasive Species; it

establishes an aquatic invasive species management grant and prevention and education program that shall be administered by DEEP. DEEP may provide grants to municipalities for aquatic invasive species management efforts. Further, the DEEP may conduct a rapid response to an aquatic invasive species population identified in an inland water body after July 1, 2014. This section is effective on July 1, 2014.



Section 118 & 119 of H.B. 5597, P.A. 14-217, concerns the Per Student Grant and Tuition for Regional Ag-Science Centers. The bill increases the per student state grant for regional agricultural science and technology centers from \$2,750 to \$3,200. For FY 15, as in FY 14, it allows a board of education that operates a center to spend the increased state grant even if it exceeds the total amount budgeted for education. By law, the additional funds cannot be used to supplant local funding.

The bill also lowers, from 62.47% to 59.2%, the maximum amount of tuition that can be charged to the districts sending students to a center from \$7,199.67 to \$6,822.80.

*(OLR Bill Analysis, HB 5597)*

***A link to Public Act 14-217 follows. The bill has various effective dates refer to the text of the bill:***

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2014/ACT/pa/pdf/2014PA-00217-R00HB-05597-PA.pdf>

The Governor also signed Public Act 14-223, H.B. 5310, An Act Concerning Connecticut's

Seed Law. This bill shall take effect on October 1, 2014.

*A link to Public Act 14-223 follows:*

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2014/ACT/pa/pdf/2014PA-00223-R00HB-05310-PA.pdf>

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## **2014 Christmas Tree Insect Survey Project - Your Help is Needed**

UConn scientists, in collaboration with The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and the USDA, are conducting a survey project during the 2014 summer to determine whether these exotic longhorned beetles are present at Christmas tree farms in western Connecticut. They are looking for 25 Christmas tree growers in the four western counties (Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, and New Haven Counties) to participate in a detection survey for the brown spruce longhorned beetle and the black spruce beetle. Traps will be placed and monitored during the survey period from June through August (Figures 3 and 4). In 2013, UCONN conducted a similar survey for the longhorned beetles in the four eastern Connecticut counties (Middlesex, New London, Tolland, and Windham). All results were negative, as the two exotic species of longhorned beetles were not found during the 2013 survey.

If you are interested in participating in this important survey, the project sponsors will place one insect pheromone trap at each of 25 Christmas tree farms and monitor the traps every two weeks between June 1 and August 31. Please contact Jude Hsiang (email [judith.hsiang@uconn.edu](mailto:judith.hsiang@uconn.edu); phone 203-407-3167) or Donna Ellis (email [donna.ellis@uconn.edu](mailto:donna.ellis@uconn.edu); phone 860-486-6448) to sign up or if you would like more information.

[Click on this link for more information and for the complete article.](#)

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**Question: What do July 24, August 7 and August 21 have in**

common???

Answer: They are the dates of the upcoming "Sustainability Twilight Series"

**SAVE THE DATES....**

The UConn "Sustainability Twilight Series" program is being finalized. CT UConn Extension in partnership and the Risk Management Agency/USDA has funded the sponsorship of these meetings. Last season through this same sponsorship opportunity, we were able to bring Dr. Charlie Hall, from Texas A&M, up to CT for his presentation at Prides Corner Farms, Inc. This season, we wanted to try to offer three different topics at three locations throughout the state. Dates for the three twilight meetings are set and will be July 24, at Northern Nurseries, Inc. in West Suffield; August 7 at Soundview Landscape in West Haven; and August 21 at Kogut Nursery, in Meriden. Stay tuned for details!

Thank you,  
Vickie Wallace,  
Extension Educator, UConn Extension

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## Bee-Friendly Plants?

Controversy has erupted over labeling of plants that are "bee friendly".

According to *The Hartford Courant*, some big box stores and major garden centers across the U.S. and Canada have been selling consumers plants labeled "bee-friendly" that have actually been treated with pesticides known to be toxic for bees, according to a report released earlier this week.

The report, entitled "Gardeners Beware 2014," was written by the environmental consulting firm Pesticide Research Institute along with Friends of the Earth, a network of environmental advocates, and the Toxic Action Center, an organization focused on creating healthy communities.

[Click here for the June 25, 2014, article by Gregory B. Hladky, The Hartford Courant](#)

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## Medical Cannabis Symposium Held

## in Southington

About 180 individuals attend the first annual Medical Cannabis Symposium sponsored by the Connecticut Pharmacists' Association this week at the Aqua Turf in Southington. The event was held to update stakeholders on the implementation of the state's medical marijuana program for persons who have debilitating diseases. According to several presenters the program is likely to be in full swing this Fall when the product is cultivated and sent to dispensaries located through the state.

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## Comments Accepted on Proposed Rule

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has announced that it will continue to accept comments on the proposed rule to adjust Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (AQI) program user fees. The AQI program is jointly administered by APHIS and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to keep foreign agricultural pests that could affect U.S. agriculture, trade and commerce out of the United States.

***APHIS will continue to accept comments for an additional 30 days through July 24, 2014, and will soon publish a Federal Register notice regarding this change.***

This opportunity is provided in response to stakeholder requests to allow additional time for comments. Comments may be submitted electronically to the USDA docket on

<http://www.regulations.gov>

use docket number Docket No. APHIS-2013-0021.

The AQI program is a critical component in USDA's efforts to protect U.S. agriculture and natural resources from invasive plant and animal pests and diseases.

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## Agricultural Experiment Fact Sheets Available

The Agricultural Experiment Station has established a new site where all of their Fact Sheets on pests, plants and other issues are readily available. Click here to review them:

<http://www.ct.gov/caes/cwp/view.asp?Q=378162&A=2826>

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## Connecticut Political Update

Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton has withdrawn from the Republican race for Governor, leaving the field to 2010 nominee Tom Foley and Senate Republican leader John McKinney. The nominee will be selected in an August 12 primary. Meanwhile, three candidates are likely to vie for the Lieutenant Governor's spot: State Rep. Penny Bacchioni, former Groton Mayor Heather Bond Somers and David Walker, former U.S. Comptroller General.

There could be a credible third-party candidate for Governor in the form of former State Rep. Jonathan Pelto. He will be running with Lt. Gov. candidate Ebony Murphy, a Hartford teacher. They will need to obtain 7,500 signatures of registered voters in order to be placed on the ballot. The general election is November 4.



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