



supporting Sustainable Agriculture
in the southern Appalachians
through Educational programs and Outreach



Upcoming Event!

Join us for the first workshop in our 2008 Farmer Education Series:

The Up and Coming Landscape & Lawn Care Industry

with *Cliff Rutledge* Extension Area Agent for the green industry in Henderson & Transylvania Counties.

August 26, 2008 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM
NC Arboretum Auditorium
\$20 per person
DOOR PRIZES!

There is an increasing demand for organic nursery stock, organic lawn care, and landscaping that can be maintained organically. Attend this workshop to learn about opportunities this might present for your business. In many cases there are organic fertilizers and sprays that accomplish similar objectives to conventional approaches. These materials may have added benefits, such as increasing drought hardiness. In other cases sprays may be applied with fewer applicator protections than needed for chemical pesticides. While you may not want to switch your whole practice to organic, understanding organic concepts may allow you to offer a product that sets you apart from your competitors.

To register, contact Meredith McKissick at 828 450 2026

Cliff Rutledge provides leadership for education programs for the commercial and ornamental horticulture industries in Henderson and Transylvania Counties. He also leads regional team efforts including planning and implementing certification training for several green industry certifications. Cliff has managed landscapes and turf areas using Integrated Pest Management and organic products for several years.

Thanks to the NC Arboretum, Bradfield Organic Fertilizer, and other supporters for their donations to this event!



Growing Organic

Organic No-Till

The Organic Growers School is exploring the idea of doing a field day or classroom session on organic no-till in WNC. We are looking for growers with experience on this topic at the field scale, or garden-size approaches that could be scaled up to acres. What cover crops work? How do you suppress the cover? How do you transplant or sow into the cover crop residue? How is the weed suppression? How is the crop nutrient supply during the season?

Send word of your experiences to
info@organicgrowersschool.org



Other Ideas?

Do you have other ideas for field days or classroom



True Nature Country Fair: 2008
Artist

sessions? We are always open to your suggestions. Send your thoughts to info@organicgrowersschool.org

Thanks to everyone who submitted entries for the True Nature Country Fair Poster Art Contest!

Congratulations to our winner, Doris Carstens!

Doris' work will be used to represent this year's fair, and will be used on the fair poster, in advertising, and on our merchandise.

The True Nature Country Fair is September 26-28, 2008 at Deerfields in Mills River, NC.


The farmers, homebuilders, craftspeople, restaurateurs, social and political activists, and alternative healthcare practitioners of the Southern Appalachians are invited to join their neighbors for a celebration of life lived in connection and harmony with the earth.

The True Nature Country Fair will feature vendors of local, organic, and sustainable products and resources from throughout the Southeast, workshops on all facets of sustainable living, a children's program, and live music, all in a pristine mountain setting.

Businesses and organizations interested in participating in the 2008 fair should contact Program Manager Karen Vizzina at karen@organicgrowersschool.org or call (828) 342-1849.

Want to volunteer? Contact Meredith McKissick at meredith@organicgrowersschool.org

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