



### New This Year at the True Nature Fair!

#### **Winter Squash & Pumpkin Display & Judging**

Is the most amazing, award-winning, sustainably grown winter squash or pumpkin growing in your garden right now? This year, True Nature will feature a winter squash and pumpkin display and judging. In addition, our Country Store will have hundreds of beautiful local vegetables for sale. If you would like to enter a veggie in the competition or wholesale product to the store, please contact Program Manager Karen Vizzina (see contact info below). Not growing any winter squash? Then come stock up for great winter eats!

#### **Camping**

The True Nature Fair venue is a pristine old homestead with woodlands for exploring and a pond for swimming, in addition to the fair activities. Come spend the weekend with us. Rustic camping will be available Friday and Saturday nights, for a fee of \$10 per campsite each night. Reservations are not required.

#### **Volunteers Needed!**

Are you interested in volunteering at the fair? We are looking for responsible folks to help out with set up, parking, main gate and camping gate, class moderators, kids program, and the Country Store. A four hour volunteer shift will earn you a fair ticket, a free Tshirt, a spork, and one class pass. To get on the list, contact Volunteer Coordinator Meredith McKissick at [meredith@organicgrowersschool.org](mailto:meredith@organicgrowersschool.org) or 828.450.2026

The second annual **True Nature Country Fair** celebration of life lived in connection with the Earth, will be held **September 26-28, 2008** at Deerfields in Mills River, North Carolina. The farmers, homebuilders, craftspeople, restauranteurs, social and political activists and alternative health care 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.

The focus on local, organic, and sustainable will mean that everything

### Your Ideas

Thanks to everyone who sent us their ideas for education days after our June 2008 issue. We still want to hear from you! Send us your ideas for classes and farm educational days to [info@organicgrowersschool.org](mailto:info@organicgrowersschool.org). Anytime!

featured at this Fair will be from the Southern Appalachian region and will produced from resources that are at least 50% organic and/or sustainable. The exhibit areas will include a farmer's market, energy and shelter, health and healing, low impact forestry, social and political action, and crafts. The education component will include workshops on farming, gardening, homesteading, and forestry, plus nature walks, a children's program, and small livestock displays.

A weekend-long event, the daily entrance fees are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3-12, and free for children ages 2 and younger.

The True Nature Country Fair is currently seeking interested food vendors, exhibitors, sponsors, and volunteers. Businesses and organizations interested in participating in the Fair should contact Program Manager Karen Vizzina at [karen@organicgrowersschool.org](mailto:karen@organicgrowersschool.org) or 828.342.1849.

## 2008 Farmer Education Series

Join us for our September Workshop, just down the road from the True Nature Country Fair!

### **Chemical-Free Weed Control Methods**

An ON-FARM DEMONSTRATION

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Jafasa Farm  
Mills River, NC  
3pm-5pm

Looking for efficient, organic solutions to your weed problems? Rocco and Mike of Jafasa Farm will show you the results they have had using flame weeding and shallow cultivation for stale-bedding and controlling weeds with direct sown vegetable crops. Timing, tools, technique, and safety will be discussed. Other tools and techniques for managing weeds with minimal soil disturbance will also be presented.

\$20 per person, educational materials provided

To register, contact Meredith McKissick at 828.450.2026 or [meredith@organicgrowersschool.org](mailto:meredith@organicgrowersschool.org)

**HURRY! AUGUST IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!**

You still have time to register for the August Farmer Education Workshop! Contact Meredith McKissick at 828.450.2026 or [meredith@organicgrowersschool.org](mailto:meredith@organicgrowersschool.org) to reserve your spot in

**The Up & Coming Organic Landscape & Lawncare Industry**

with Cliff Ruth, Extension Agent

August 26, 3pm-5pm


NC Arboretum Auditorium

\$20 per person

There is an increasing demand for organic nursery stock, organic lawncare, 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 as conventional approaches. These materials may have added benefits such as helping with 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 some organic concepts may allow you to offer a product that sets you apart from you competitors.

DOOR PRIZES will be handed out at this event, thanks to Bradfield Organic Fertilizer and other donors.

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