



Fauquier Education Farm

2018 Workshop Series

The Fauquier Education Farm Workshop Series is a learning resource for farmers and home gardeners of all experience levels. You can pick and choose any workshops that may interest you with no expectation that you need to attend them all. The first workshop on Jan. 20th will be held at Lord Fairfax Community College, in Warrenton. The rest of the workshops are held at the Fauquier Education Farm. These workshops are free and open to everyone. These will be held rain or shine and children are always welcome.

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Jan. 20th, 2:30 to 4:30...It's Time to Start Planning... Join us as we go through a full calendar year in the garden, with tips on what should be planted when and how to maximize your gardening success. We will also roll out all the upcoming workshops and learning opportunities at the Education Farm and let you know how you can become an important part of it all. We'll also have free catalogues from our favorite vendors for you to take home.

Held at...Lord Fairfax Community College, 6480 College St. Warrenton, Va. 20187 (The class will be held in The Barn, same address, you can't miss it)

The following workshops will at be held at

Fauquier Education Farm, 8428 Meetze Rd. Warrenton, Va

March 17th, 2 to 4 Pm, Totally Taters Part I: This year we will be holding a field variety trial of 8 different varieties of potatoes. From Russet Burbank to several types of fingerlings, we will explore your options with this hardworking but humble vegetable. In Part I we will talk about everything you need to know to plant potatoes, with a hands-on demonstration on how to cut seed chunks as well as a demonstration of our potato plow and hilling disk. We will show you each of our varieties before they get planted, and even show you how to create a Lazy Bed.

May 16th 6 to 8 PM, No-Till Vegetable Production Part I: We will once again partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District to showcase our on-going

Conservation Tillage demonstrations. We will discuss using cover crops to enhance your soil health and add nutrients for your vegetable crops. We will also demonstrate the equipment and techniques we are using to grow vegetables with minimum soil disturbance.

May 25th 6 to 8 PM, Crops Under Cover: Our demonstrations in previous years have shown that using row covers and low tunnels will dramatically boost plant vigor and size while also provide protection from adverse weather and insect pest. Each year we are raising more and more of our crops using these protective cultivation techniques. Come join us to see how we are doing it.

July 11th 6 to 8 PM, Totally Taters Part II: It will be time to take a look at how our potato varieties have produced in the field, so we will be taking our potato plow out to dig up a row of each. We will talk about post-harvest handling and share the details of everything we've learned with this demonstration.

July 18th 6 to 8 PM, Summer High Tunnel Production: Farmers often speak of the advantages of high tunnel production to extend the growing season in spring and fall, but certain crops perform extremely well during the summer months inside a high tunnel. We will talk about what crops do well in this environment and how to maximize your summer production.

July 26th 6 to 8 PM, Farmscaping: Join us to learn how you can create the best environment in your garden to support a host of beneficial insects. Nature can destroy them, but only if you are willing to give the good bugs what they need. Learn a few simple steps to creating a healthy, balanced insect population while making your garden more beautiful along the way. Sunflowers!

August 1st 6 to 8 PM, No-Till Vegetable Production Part II: We will revisit our No-Till demonstrations to see for ourselves how well these techniques have worked. We will discuss mid-summer cover crops and preparations for planting fall cover crops.

August 9th 6 to 8 pm, Watermelon vs. Watermelon: We will have 10 varieties of summer time sweetness planted side by side to see how each will perform in the field. We'll have seedless and seeded varieties and will talk about the advantages and pitfalls of each. There will be taste testing too!

August 25th 6 to 8 PM, Winter Squash Variety Trial: We will have a variety trial of 10 types of winter squash. Join us to see how well they have produced and discuss what goes into growing this popular fall crop.