SFA News

Minnesota Garlic Festival!

It's almost here! The 6th Annual SFA Garlic Festival! August 13th in Hutchinson. As usual, the Crazy Kids from Crow River have a cool event planned with food, fun and lots of people. The weather, according to Chris Kudrna, Garlic Festival Weather Guru, is going to be PERFECT for an outdoor, aroma-filled, final fling of summer event. This is becoming one of Minnesota's Premier summer events. You won't want to miss it, and as a Connect subscriber, you are entitled to a 2 for 1 coupon for admissions savings. This flyer, and the website: mnagarlicfest.com have all the information you need for the day. We'll see you there.

If you want to see the official program of the Garlic Festival, click here.

Check out this an more events on our online calendar.

Executive Director's Note

The Minnesota State Fair is coming up, and its time to start making plans... Here are a couple of opportunities to help you get in the gate and a parking spot! Renewing the Countryside is a great partner of ours and their efforts at the State Fair are unprecedented. Please consider joining them!

Hello farmers and food lovers - Once again, Renewing the Countryside is spreading the word about Community Supported Agriculture at the Minnesota State Fair, and we need your help! We are working to showcase one or two CSA farms each day of the fair - and give fairgoers the opportunity to meet their farmers. If you are looking for a great opportunity to attract new members, get the word out about your farm, and give thousands of Minnesotans the opportunity to learn about our rich local foods landscape, this free opportunity is for you.

We will provide:
• one free ticket to the fair
• parking during your time slot
• a 3x3 cocktail table in the Healthy Local Foods Exhibit of the Eco Experience and

Check out our Event Calendar on our Website!
either half-day (8:30a-12:30p) or full-day shifts (8:30a-5:30p) to engage fair-goers, and show them what an early fall CSA-box from your farm looks like

This year the fair runs from Thursday, August 25 – Monday, September 5, and we have plenty of times still open.

Please call or email Marjorie Hegstrom at 612-239-5290 or marjorie@rtcinfo.org if you have any questions, or would like to sign up for an open time.

Eco Experience

We are still looking for a few more volunteers to staff the exhibit in the Eco Experience too! Volunteers will greet visitors as they enter the exhibit, help prepare food, pass out food samples and more! Invite your friends, family, co-workers and sign up! We will send you a volunteer orientation packet with more details when you sign up.

Available times are:
Friday, 9.2, 4-7pm
Saturday, 9.3, 1-4pm (2 available)
Saturday, 9.3, 4-7pm (2 available)
Sunday 9.4, 4-7pm
Monday, 9.5, 9am-1pm (2 available)
Monday, 9.5, 1-4pm
Monday, 9.5, 4-7pm (2 available)

Volunteers receive one admittance ticket to the State Fair for the day you volunteer, a t-shirt and the opportunity to spread the word about a strong, local food system. If you’re interested in joining us for this great experience please contact Marjorie Hegstrom at 612-239-5290 or marjorie@rtcinfo.org

Healthy Local Food (HLF) is an exhibit within the Eco Experience, a collaborative effort of many organizations to promote a healthy, green, organic lifestyle. Visitors learn about and taste the best fare at the fair - from organic chocolate milk to MN grown apples; artisan cheeses to locally farmed trout. Every day there will be local farmers sampling and talking about the food they grow. In addition to samples from local farmers, visitors enjoy five daily cooking demos featuring local chefs creating amazing dishes using local and seasonal ingredients.

Thanks a bunch, see you at the fair!

Out and About

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities? Land O’ Lakes offers short-term opportunities to work in developing agriculture around the world. Check it out.

Remember Woody Tasch from Slow Money at our 2011 Annual Conference? Well you can see what is happening in the world of Slow Money as they seek to expand the vision. Take a moment to click on over and tell us about your favorite Slow Money business.

Former SFA Executive Director Mary Jo Forbord shared this link recently to a new report on public investment in local foods. Its not a short read, but interesting!

The University of Minnesota’s MISA (Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture) is seeking to fill some soon to be vacant board slots. This program is a supportive partner with SFA. Please consider giving input into the development of this board.

The purpose of MISA is to bring together the diverse interests of the agricultural
community with interests from across the University community in a cooperative effort to develop and promote sustainable agriculture in Minnesota and beyond. A term on the MISA Board is three years. You may nominate yourself or someone else to serve on the Board.

---

SFA Connect is your bi-weekly link to the Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota

The Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota is a chapter-based, statewide non-profit organization that supports the development and enhancement of sustainable farming systems through innovation, demonstration, education, and farmer-to-farmer networking. If you, your farm or organization has any upcoming events that you would like posted on the SFA Community Calendar, email info@sfa-mn.org.

Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota (SFA)
Box 192, Princeton, MN 55371
763-260-0209 • info@sfa-mn.org

Unsubscribe | Privacy Policy