

Northwest Station 30th Annual Open House

The Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station Open House will be held Thursday, August 20th. The equipment show and grounds open at 1 p.m. Educational sessions will begin at 3:00 p.m. and will conclude with a wine tasting event at 5:15 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m.

We will kick off the educational session with a look at the new irrigation system installed at the NWMHRS. Curtis Talley, our new farm management Educator will be in attendance and provide information about how he can help growers in our region. In addition, featured speakers during the event will be Dr. George Sundin presenting information about tree fruit diseases; Dr. Mark Whalon, Dr. Nikki Rothwell, and Erin Lizotte will discuss the latest results from the tart cherry RAMP project. Dr. Greg Lang will talk about his research on high tunnels. Beth Bishop, the new coordinator of Enviroweather, will be on hand to talk about the newest happenings on the MSU weather system.

In a concurrent grape session, we are fortunate to have two visiting scientists from Russia. Drs. Krasokhina and Khisamutdinov will present their work on grape breeding, vineyard establishment, refurbishing old vineyards, and grafting. These speakers offer a tremendous opportunity for our winegrape growers and vineyard managers.

This year, the Leelanau Horticultural Society is hosting an equipment show. Many local and regional equipment and supply vendors will be set up at the NWMHRS and will be available throughout the event.

The Northwest Station Open House is hosted by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, Michigan State University Extension, the Leelanau Horticultural Society, and the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Foundation. The education sessions are free and open to all who would like to attend. Tickets for the wine tasting and dinner are available by calling the Leelanau County Extension office at 231-256-9888. This year, dinner will be provided by Epicure Catering, featuring local produce.

We hope you can join us!

Following is the day's tentative schedule

1:00-3:00 p.m. Equipment Show

3:00 All groups meet in NWMHRS conference room

3:00-3:20 Introduction to new irrigation system at NWMHRS, Dr. Nikki Rothwell, NWMHRS

3:20-3:30 Meet the new NW Farm Management Educator, Curtis Talley, MSU-E

Tree Fruit Session

3:30 Board wagons for sweet cherry pathology trials

3:35-4:05 Latest updates for tree fruit diseases, Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of Plant Pathology

4:05-4:30 Sweet cherry tunnel research update, Dr. Greg Lang, Dept. of Horticulture

4:30-4:35 Board wagon for entomology block

4:35-4:50 What's new on Enviroweather for fruit growers?, Beth Bishop, Enviroweather Coordinator

4:50-5:15 Tart cherry RAMP update, Dr. Mark Whalon, Dept. of Entomology, Dr. Nikki Rothwell and Erin Lizotte, NWMHRS

Winegrape Session

3:30-5:00 Winegrape breeding, vineyard establishment, refurbishing old vineyards, and grafting, Dr. Krasokhina and Dr. Khisamutdinov, Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences

5:15-6:00 Social hour with wine tasting

6:00- Dinner and Leelanau Horticultural Society annual meeting