

Northwest Michigan Value-added Farm Tour

Join the Michigan Chapter SWCS for a day of farms, fun and fellowship. Visit a dairy operation and drink some fresh milk, learn about how Oriental mustard is being used as a natural biofumigant, tour a vineyard and sample local Michigan wines, or just come to spend time with old friends and make some new ones.



Michigan Chapter Soil and
Water Conservation Society

Dan Kesselring
Michigan Chapter SWCS
113 North Dr. E
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Michigan Chapter
Soil and Water
Conservation
Society



August 25, 2006



Value-added Farm Tour Agenda

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9:30 Meet at carpool lot near Dunham's Sporting Goods and Tom's Grocery Store in Traverse City

10:00-11:30 Shetler Dairy - Kalkaska County

George and Sally Shetler and their family have taken their 40 cow dairy herd to a new level. Back in the early '90s they were told by farm financial advisors to "get big or get out." They instead sold their corn planting equipment and changed their operation to grass-fed, leading the cow to the food, instead of the food to the cow. Through a series of family meetings, they decided the next step was to bottle and sell their own milk. Attendees will be able to tour the bottling facility, taste some of that great grass-fed milk, and check out the rotational grazing system.

12:00-1:00 Pearl's New Orleans Kitchen (price of lunch included in registration fee) - Elk Rapids

Want a taste of "Nahlin's?" Then Pearl's is the place to be. Award winning meals in a fun atmosphere brings New Orleans to Northern Michigan. *Contact us if you require a vegetarian meal.

1:30-2:30 "Oriental Mustard as a Biofumigant"

Dave White's fruit farm, Antrim County

Learn how local NRCS/MSU/fruit and potato producers have used "Pacific Gold Oriental Mustard" as a natural biofumigant to replace soil fumigation for the control of herbivore nematodes.

3:30-5:00 Shady Lane Cellars: vineyard and winery tour with wine tasting - Leelanau County

This 40 acre vineyard produces high value wine, while cooperating with USDA under an EQIP contract. A conservation easement ensures that this farm will not be developed in the future. The elegant wine tasting room was converted from an 100 year old fieldstone chicken coop. The tour will conclude with a visit to the site of the movie "Red Barn" starring Ernest Borgnine. This film was a moving expose of the tragic and often forgotten plight of the American family farm in the emotional social drama of an elderly farmer in danger of losing his generation old family homestead to greedy land developers.

6:00-? SWCS business meeting and dinner: LaSenorita Mexican Restaurant, Garfield Ave, Traverse City

Dinner will be ordered from the menu and is not included in the registration cost.

Pre-registration is Required

Please fill out the adjacent registration form completely and return with your full payment by **August 11**, 2006. Late registrations will not be taken and payment must be submitted in advance.

Questions?

Contact the following committee members:

Pepper Bromelmeier: 231-533-8542 x3
Jim Robinson: 231-941-0951 x117

For overnight accommodations:

Becky Otto: 906-226-9460

Directions (to carpool lot)

From the north (Gaylord): Take M-32 west out of Gaylord. Left on Alba Rd/CR-C42 and follow CR-C42. Left on US-131 (north). Right on MI-72/W Mile Rd and then left on US-31/MI-72. Parking lot is near Dunham's, about 4.5 miles.

From the south (Lansing): Take US-127 north out of Lansing. West on US-10 to M-115. Right on M-115 and then north on US-131. Left on Fife Lake Rd/CR-605 and follow CR-605. Left on Supply Rd/CR-660 and follow CR-660. Right on 4 Mile Rd then left on US-31/MI-72/Munson Rd. The parking lot is near Dunham's.



Value-added Farm Tour Registration

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Tour Registration

For SWCS members:

_____ X \$40 = _____
Number attending

For non-members:

_____ X \$45 = _____
Number attending

Total enclosed (members + non-members): _____

Business Meeting and Dinner Registration

The cost of the dinner is *not* included in the tour registration fee, but we need to know how many will be attending the dinner to make adequate reservations.

Number attending: _____

Make checks payable to "Michigan Chapter SWCS"

Please mail your completed registration and full payment by **August 11** to:

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