

Draft Horse Track

2014 NOFA Summer Conference

These workshops provide hands-on experience working with draft horses, as well as presentations on the economics and techniques of farming with horses. See listing below.



What else is going this year?

- *** [Check out this 3 minute video to learn what this conference is all about!](#)
- **150+ WORKSHOPS for adults:** Find complete listings of for this year's workshop on organic farming, gardening and land care, homesteading, nutrition, food politics, food politics, and more [organized by CATEGORY here](#) OR [organized by TIME SLOT here](#).
- **FOUR PRE-CONFERENCE INTENSIVE SEMINARS:** On Friday, August 8, there will be [five simultaneous seminars](#) on these topics: 1) From Dirt to Soil with Dr. Elaine Ingham 2) Herbal Medicine with Jade Alicandro Mace 3) Urban Ecosystems with Scott Kellogg 4) Auto-immunity and Nutrition with Dr. Chris Decker.
- **OTHER EVENTS:** 100+ [exhibitors](#) from all over the Northeast, workshops and activities for teens and children, an afternoon fair with farm animals, [live music and dances](#), and an ALL-LOCAL dinner. Stay on campus in the dorms or camp in a tent under the stars.
- **KEYNOTE PROGRAMS:** Saturday, August 9, 7:30pm – [Keynote Address by Dr. Elaine Ingham](#).

Register Now!

*** Registrations received before July 11, 2014 get a \$20 discount.

67) Work Horses 101- Care and Handling **BF & DH Tracks** *Beginner*

Outside: Meet at the horses in the Northeast Residential Area.

Saturday, August 9, 1:00-2:30PM

Kim Mastrianni: Works with people and horses, ideally, to both their benefit.

Dale Perkins: Works with people and horses on a small family farm.

For those with limited experience and lots of interest. Get hands on time, up close and personal with these amazing animals. Learn handling, care, keeping, and the basics of how draft horses think, how to work safely around them, and how they can benefit your farming operation. We'll have handouts.

92) Work Horses 102- Harnessing and Driving **BF & DH Tracks** *Beginner*

Outside: Meet at the horses in the Northeast Residential Area.

Saturday, August 9, 3:00-4:30PM

Dale Perkins: Works with people and horses on a small family farm.

Kim Mastrianni: Works with people and horses, ideally, to both their benefit.

Understand what horses can do for your farm. Learn harness varieties, proper fit, other equipment, hitching and safety concerns. Participants will have an opportunity to harness and drive a single or a team of horses.

116) TOUR: Natural Roots Farm: Horse Powered CSA, part I ***DH Track*** *Intermediate*
TOUR

Sunday, August 10, 8:00-9:30AM

David Fisher: Runs 200 member horsepowered CSA. Farming for 18 years.

In the first part of this two-part tour of Natural Roots farm, we'll demonstrate how we run our CSA, and harvest hay and timber, relying exclusively on horsepower. We'll use live horsepower demonstrations on a variety of traditional and innovative implements to illustrate our vegetable production systems. Opportunity for lots of discussion. **DIRECTIONS** (by car): Leave the UMass campus and get on Rt. 116N. Follow 116 through Sunderland, and Deerfield, to Conway. Pass the Conway Inn, then fork right towards Shelburne Falls. Take the immediate right onto Shelburne Falls Rd. Drive 1.7 miles and see Natural Roots on the right hand side. Park in the parking lot (enter at the "enter" sign), and proceed on foot down the hill and over the suspension bridge over the river. Hang a left and follow signs through the field, briefly into the woods, and into the meadow on the left with the big new barn. This workshop will be in the barn. **TOTAL DRIVING TIME FROM UMass - 30 MINUTES. PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY! ADDRESS: 888 Shelburne Falls Rd, Conway, MA 01341.** (For part II, see #140). Link to google map directions here.

140) TOUR: Natural Roots Farm: Horse Powered CSA, part II ***DH Track*** *Intermediate*
TOUR

Sunday, August 10, 10:00-11:30AM

David Fisher: Runs 200 member horsepowered CSA. Farming for 18 years.

In the final part of this two-part tour of Natural Roots farm, which begins Sunday at 8:00 AM (See #116), we continue to demonstrate traditional and innovated horse drawn equipment in our produce operation. We will also continue to discuss all aspects of running our farm with horse power. **DIRECTIONS** (by car): **SAME AS WORKSHOP #116)**

164) Weed Management for the Horse-Powered Farm ***DH Track*** *Intermediate*
Campus Center 803

Sunday, August 10, 1:00-2:30PM

Stephen Leslie: Farms at Cedar Mountain Farm in Hartland, VT. Author, The New Horse-Powered Farm. I'll present how we manage weed pressure in our horse-powered market garden using cultivation implements, crop rotation, and bio-extensive cover cropping. I'll also cover weed control practices at other contemporary horse-powered farms. Participants will gain an understanding of the tools and systems required for successful weed management with draft horses.

176) Is Draft Power Right for My Farm? ***DH Track*** *Beginner*
Campus Center 803

Sunday, August 10, 3:00-4:30PM

Lincoln Fishman: Runs a whole-diet, year-round, horse-powered CSA with his wife, Hilary Costa.

We're in our third season growing 5 acres of vegetables with 100% horse traction. I'll talk about how we got started, basic equipment, and finances, and help participants do a cost-benefit analysis of farming with horses. We'll focus on the big decisions to be made before and during start-up.