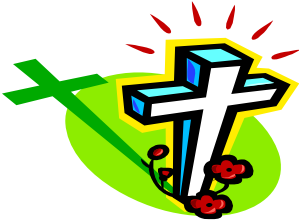


**HURON BRUCE**  
**Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs**  
**E-BULLETIN**  
**November 2008**

If you know someone who is interested in receiving this bulletin or if this has been forwarded to you and you would like to receive a copy directly, please contact me. I would be happy to add you to our e-mail distribution group. Just email me at [jane.muegge@ontario.ca](mailto:jane.muegge@ontario.ca)



*We will remember!*

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**COMING EVENTS AND DATES OF INTEREST**

**(Input always welcome – pop me an e-mail or give me a call if you would like your next event included)**

- **October 31 – November 2, 2008 – North American Beef Congress, Western Fair, London. Watch for details on the 2008 show at <http://www.northamericanbeefcongress.com/>**
- **Nov. 3 – North American Beef Congress, Western Fair, London, [www.northamericanbeefcongress.com](http://www.northamericanbeefcongress.com)**

- **November 5<sup>th</sup> – Huron Manufacturers Association Annual and Manufacturing Excellence Awards** – Knights of Columbus Centre, Goderich, More info at [www.huronmanufacturing.on.ca](http://www.huronmanufacturing.on.ca) or 519.524.8394 ext.3
- **November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 - Eastern Ontario Poultry Conference** at the St-Isidore Recreation Centre in St-Isidore, Ontario. The conference is held in both French and English with simultaneous translation.
- **Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> – Join the crowd and wear Green - Show your 4-H Colours Day! Go Green, Go 4-H!**
- **Nov. 7 – 10<sup>th</sup> – Inaugural Conference of FoodNet Ontario – “Reclaiming our Food System: A Call to Action”** – Travelodge Conference Centre, Ottawa [www.foodsecurecanada.org](http://www.foodsecurecanada.org)
- **November 7 – 16, 2008 – Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.** Visit <http://www.royalfair.org/> for further information.
- **Nov. 10 – Ontario Culinary Tourism Summit – Royal Agricultural Fair, Registration \$75 – [www.ontarioculinarytourism.com/summit](http://www.ontarioculinarytourism.com/summit)**
- **November 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day** 
- **Nov. 11 – Annual Sheep Seminar**, Elma Memorial community Centre, Atwood, 8:45 – 4 pm, [www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/sheep/20081111.htm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/sheep/20081111.htm)
- **Nov. 13 – Outlook Conference 2008** – Royal Agricultural Fair, Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto [www.outlook2008.ca/en/index.php](http://www.outlook2008.ca/en/index.php)
- **Nov. 14 – 16 –Go Green at Blue - Environmental conference**, Blue Mountain Conference Centre, Collingwood, Roberta Brignell, Community Foundation Grey Bruce 519-371-7203 e-mail [cfgreybruce@brucetelecom.com](mailto:cfgreybruce@brucetelecom.com)
- **November 18, 2008 – Shakespeare Swine Seminar, “Getting Ready for the Good Times to Come”**, Shakespeare Optimist Hall. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Mary Van den Borre, Fergus OMAFRA, 519-846-3392 for full details.
- **November 19, 2008 – Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario Annual Convention**, “Putting the Family First in Family Farming”, St. George Banquet Hall, Waterloo, Ontario. Full details available at <http://www.christianfarmers.org/>
- **Nov. 20 – 22 – Clean out your sharps and unused livestock medicines –** Farmers can dispose of sharps & unused livestock medicines in a safe and

environmentally responsible manner. Brussels Agri-Service, Brussels, business hours, Outdoor Farm Show site, Woodstock  
Other collection sites may be added. Visit [www.ofac.org](http://www.ofac.org) for the most current info

- **Nov. 23 & 24 – 2008 Ontario Young Farmers' Forum "Finding Stable Ground in Turbulent Times"**, Doubletree by Hilton, Toronto, [www.oyff.ca](http://www.oyff.ca)
- **Nov. 24 & 25 - Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting**
- **Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> – Occupational Health & Safety Act for Producers** – Find out what you need to have in place for farm help, Workshop put on by Farm Safety, 9 – 12 pm, Clinton OMAFRA Boardroom, \$21.50 per person, To register please call 519-482-3333 or email [jane.muegge@ontario.ca](mailto:jane.muegge@ontario.ca)
- **November 27 - Local Food for Local Tables – Growing Food Security For Southwestern Ontario**, Brescia University College, 1285 Western Road, London, ON. \$40 (lunch included) Organizations, individuals, farmers, retailers, and distributors will discuss ways to bring locally grown food to the local community. [www.lcrc.on.ca/](http://www.lcrc.on.ca/)
- **Nov. 27 – E-Agriculture Workshop – Agri-net or Cyber-culture** – 7:30 – 9:30, OMAFRA Boardroom Clinton, \$20/person – more info later in E-Bulletin under Huron Business Centre
- **November 27, 2008 – Huron-Perth Women for the Support of Agriculture November Meeting: *Victorian Order of Nurses***. Learn more about this organization and the valuable services they provide. Please contact Shirley Hosper, 519-233-3240 for more details.
- **December 1, 2008 – Application deadline for Premier's Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Award program**. Details below or by visiting [http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier\\_award/index.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier_award/index.html)
- **December 2 & 3, 2008 – 2008 Forage Focus**. The Ontario Forage Council presents their annual forage conference – December 2<sup>nd</sup> in Winchester at the Community Centre and December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Shakespeare Optimist Hall in Shakespeare. The programs runs from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm and will feature keynote speaker Limin Kung from the University of Delaware, with presentations from Ian MacDonald of OMAFRA and Fritz Trauttmansdorff. Cost is \$35 and includes a hot meal and proceedings. Pre-registration is required. Please call 1-877-892-8663 to register or obtain further details.
- **Dec. 3 – Big Bug Day – 6<sup>th</sup> Annual** – Arden Park, Stratford, Producers free, Registration 9:30, Program 10 – 3 pm, Pre-register with Linda Dillon, OMAFRA, Clinton 519-482-3333 or [linda.dillon@ontario.ca](mailto:linda.dillon@ontario.ca) by Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>

- **Dec. 11 – Huron Plowmen’s Association Annual – 7:30** - Start with a potluck dessert with meeting to follow, Clinton OMAFRA Boardroom, For more info contact Steve Corbett 519-236-4514
- **January 6 & 7, 2009 – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Agricultural Conference**, Ridgetown College, University of Guelph. Mark your calendar and watch for program details at <http://www.southwestagconference.ca/>
- **January 8, 2009 – Huron Corn, Wheat and Soy Annual Meeting –** Holmesville Community Centre
- **January 8 – 13 – Grey Bruce 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Farmers Week – Elmwood Community Centre – Thurs – Dairy, Fri – Goat, Sat Sheep & Ecological, Sun – Horse, Mon – Beef, Tues – Crops** For more info email [info@greyagrservices.ca](mailto:info@greyagrservices.ca), call 519-986-3756 or [www.greyagservices.ca](http://www.greyagservices.ca)
- **January 14 & 15, 2009 - 6th Annual CCA Conference and Annual Meeting**, Holiday Inn, Cambridge.
- **Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – Farm\$mart Agricultural conference –** University of Guelph, [www.uoguelph.ca/farmsmart/](http://www.uoguelph.ca/farmsmart/)
- **January 22, 2009 – Huron-Perth Women for the Support of Agriculture January Meeting: *Museum Stratford***. Learn more about the agricultural history of Huron and Perth. Please contact Shirley Hosper, 519-233-3240 for more details.
- **Jan. 22 – 25 – 28<sup>th</sup> Guelph Organic conference, “O is for Opportunity”,** Guelph University Centre, [www.guelphorganicconf.ca/](http://www.guelphorganicconf.ca/)
- **January 28, 2009 – 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Centralia Swine Research Update.** Mark your calendar and watch for program details at <http://www.centraliaswinereseach.ca/>
- **January 28 – Ag Day in Canada** [www.AgDayinCanada.ca](http://www.AgDayinCanada.ca) for nearest events
- **February 3 & 4, 2009 – Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association 2009 Annual Meeting**, Sheraton Fallsview, Niagara Falls. Watch for details at [www.ontariosoilcrop.org](http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org)
- **February 26, 2009 – Huron-Perth Women for the Support of Agriculture February Meeting: *Salvation Family Service***. Learn more about the programs and services this organization provides to the community. Please contact Shirley Hosper, 519-233-3240 for more details.
- **Feb. 27, 28, Mar 1<sup>st</sup> – 4-H Ontario Volunteers Conference and Annual Meeting –** Waterloo Inn & Conference Centre, [www.4-hontario.ca](http://www.4-hontario.ca)
- **Mar. 10 – 13<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Growing the Margins Conference –** London Convention Centre, This conference will be held in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup>

Annual Canadian Farm and Food Biogas Conference and Exhibition.  
[www.gtmconference.ca/](http://www.gtmconference.ca/) or [www.gtmconference.ca/splashbiogas/](http://www.gtmconference.ca/splashbiogas/)

- **March 11 – 13, 2009 – Western Fair Farm Show**, Western Fair, London, Ontario. Mark your calendar and watch for details at <http://www.westernfair.com/shows/farm.html>
- **March 20 – 22, 2009 – Can-Am All Breed Equine Show**, Western Fair, London Ontario. Details available at <http://www.canamequine.ca/>
- **March 25 – 26, 2009 – Ontario Spring Dairy Discovery Show**, Western Fair Agri-plex, London, Ontario. Details on the 2009 available soon at <http://www.ontario.holstein.ca/osd.htm>
- **March 26, 2009 – Huron-Perth Women for the Support of Agriculture March Meeting: *Day Workshop***. The morning session will feature a presentation on the Thames Conservation Area, followed by a potluck lunch at 12:00 noon. The afternoon will be a hands on workshop with Westland Greenhouse, making a spring decoration. Please contact Shirley Hosper, 519-233-3240 for more details.
- **March 30 & 31, 2009 - Farm Safety Association's Annual Conference and AGM**, Hilton Fallsview, Niagara Falls. Watch for details at <http://www.farmsafety.ca/>
- **March 31, 2009 – Ontario Pork Annual Meeting**, London Convention Centre. Details available at <http://www.ontariopork.on.ca/>
- **April 1 & 2, 2009 – London Swine Conference**, London Convention Centre, London, ON. Mark your calendar and watch for details at <http://www.londonswineconference.ca/>
- **April 7, 8 & 9, 2009 – Huron Perth Agriculture and Water Festival**, Seaforth Arena and Agriplex. The Huron Perth Agriculture and Water Festival (formerly Slice of Huron) is a fun and educational event that provides grade four students hands-on learning opportunities about agriculture and water; their importance in our local environment and role in our everyday lives. Watch for details at <http://hpawf.huronstewardship.on.ca/> or contact Steve Bowers, 519-482-3661 or Erin Dolmage, 519-335-3557.
- **April 23, 2009 – Huron-Perth Women for the Support of Agriculture Annual Meeting**. Please contact Shirley Hosper, 519-233-3240 for more details.

## **AREA NEWS & INFORMATION**

### **Farm Tax & Business Seminar – 2008 Program for Professional Advisors:**

The 2008 program for OMAFRA's annual Farm Tax & Business Seminars has been announced. Sessions in this part of the province are scheduled as follows:

Hanover	Thurs October 30
Alliston	Tue November 4
Stratford	Wed November 5
London	Thurs November 6
Hamilton	Wed November 12

Topics this year include Updates on Farm Taxes, Legal Remedies for Financially Stressed Farm Businesses, Business Risk Management Programs and Transfer Techniques. Brochures, with seminar agenda and registration forms are available at OMAFRA Resource Centres, or by calling the Agricultural Information Contact Centre, 1-877-424-1300.

### **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ACT FOR PRODUCERS –**

Find out what you need to have in place for farm help, Workshop put on by Farm Safety, 9 – 12 pm, Clinton OMAFRA Boardroom, \$21.50 per person, To register please call 519-482-3333 or email [jane.muegge@ontario.ca](mailto:jane.muegge@ontario.ca)

### **LOCAL FOOD FOR LOCAL TABLES CONFERENCE**

Brescia University College, 1285 Western Road, London, Ontario

Thursday, November 27, 2008 8:30 am — 4:00 pm

Goal: To bring together organizations, individuals, farmers, retailers and distributors to discuss ways to bring locally grown food to consumers.

Objectives: To encourage and facilitate local buying and growing of food

To promote activities that will lead to the development of a food system plan for our region.

Registration (\$40...including lunch) no later than

November 14, 2008 to: Brescia University College, 1285 Western Road, London, ON N6F 1H2 Fax: 519-858-5116 Phone: 519-432-8353 ext 28152

### **STARTING NOV. 2<sup>ND</sup> – “THE PRESSURE COOKER” – 10 PM ON SUN TV**

showcases the depth and breadth of Ontario Foods paired with Ontario VQA wines. Nine one-hour episodes match 16 chefs in a culinary battle. Each challenge begins with a mystery food bag containing all Ontario-grown food. With little direction and tight deadlines, the chefs create dishes critiqued by three of Ontario's top and highly discriminating chefs. As part of the series, watch for “Flavours of Ontario” vignettes during each episode, highlighting a range of Ontario food products, producers, chefs and retailers from across the province.

## **PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR MORE AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION, PREMIER'S INNOVATION AWARDS PROGRAM INVITES NEW APPLICATIONS**

**There is still time to apply!**

Innovators in the province's agriculture and food industry are encouraged to apply for awards under the Premier's Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Award program, now accepting applications **until December 1, 2008**. The \$2.5-million, five-year program (currently in its third year) was established to recognize innovators who contribute to the success of Ontario's agri-food sector. The awards program includes the Premier's Award (up to \$100,000), the Minister's Award (up to \$50,000) and up to 55 regional awards of \$5,000 each.

Program applications must be received by December 1, 2008, and will be reviewed by two independent panels made up of representatives from across Ontario's agri-food industry. Additional information and application forms are available on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs website, [http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier\\_award/index.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier_award/index.html)

### ***About the Program***

New innovations and ideas developed on the farm are contributing to local economies, boosting the agri-food industry and offering more choices for the consumer. In 2006, the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence was established to recognize and foster innovation in the agri-food industry. The five-year, \$2.5 million program (now in its third year) encourages the development of prosperity in Ontario's rural communities and on farms by recognizing innovations that add value to existing products, create jobs and drive economic growth. As many as 55 regional awards, valued at \$5,000 each, are presented each year. The recipients of the Premier's Award, of up to \$100,000, and the Minister's Award, of up to \$50,000, are selected from the regional winners.

*Who Can Apply?* Individuals and/or groups representing agri-food businesses and organizations can submit applications. To be eligible, at least one of the applicants must be a farmer (eligible to obtain an Ontario Farm Business Registration number.) The innovation must have been developed and have been in use on an Ontario farm, or be in the planning stages of development with a business plan towards implementation. The innovation must also have the potential for use on a broader basis and demonstrate a positive effect on the agricultural industry.

### ***Eligible Innovations***

Examples of types of innovation include but are not limited to:

- improved farm practices
- responding to consumer demands
- environmental stewardship
- health and safety on the farm
- energy innovations
- education and marketing of agriculture to society, and
- local food.

### ***Deadline***

This year's applications must be received by 5 p.m. on December 1, 2008 and will be reviewed by two independent panels comprised of a cross-section of Ontario's agri-food industry. Additional information, guidelines and applications forms are available on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs website or by calling the **Clinton Resource Centre**.

## BETTER BUSINESS SEMINAR SERIES

Check out the next "Better Business" Seminar Series – join us and learn! For complete details on our seminar series – including topics, locations, and costs - visit [www.smallbusinesshuron.ca](http://www.smallbusinesshuron.ca) or 519.527.0305 Check for upcoming seminars on resume writing, interview skills, starting a small business, banking, and lots more.

### e-Agriculture Workshop

~ **Agri-net or Cyber-culture?** Either way it's a new agrarian world order! Don't be left behind.

**WHY:** For greater productivity and profit in YOUR agriculture BUSINESS.  
Featuring: Agriculture business presentations  
on crops/ livestock/ business and the internet.

**WHEN:** **Thursday, Nov 27, 2008**  
**7:30 PM -9:30 PM**

**WHERE:** Ontario Ministry Building, (OMAFRA)  
100 Don Street, Clinton

**COST: \$20 / person**

To reserve your spot, please call the Huron Business Centre at 519-527-0305 or e-mail [infohbc@smallbusinesshuron.ca](mailto:infohbc@smallbusinesshuron.ca) Space is limited!

## HAZARDOUS GASES WARNING!

Hazardous gases on farms are found in silos, manure storages, grain bins, and barns. These structures provide a confined space in which certain gases may accumulate to dangerous levels. Never assume that the environment inside a silo or manure storage is adequate. Do not enter a liquid manure tank or recently filled silo, under any circumstances, without a pressure-demand remote breathing apparatus. These confined spaces often contain lethal concentrations of hazardous gases. Always have a lifeline attached, with a responsible safety person in view of your work. Post clearly visible warning signs to warn others to stay away.

As part of the ensiling process, living plant material quickly uses up available oxygen and dies. During this respiration process, oxygen is converted to water and CO<sub>2</sub>. Carbon dioxide displaces the oxygen in a sealed silo, making this environment unsuitable for humans without an external air supply. Carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>, is colourless and odourless. . It is heavier than air and will tend to accumulate just above the animal pen floor, surface of manure in a manure tank, or silage surface in a silo. The main danger with carbon dioxide is that it can create an oxygen deficiency and can result in asphyxiation or suffocation.

Nitrogen dioxide is a dangerous chemical asphyxiant and is produced as a result of chemical reactions that take place almost immediately after plant material is placed into a silo. Even short-term exposure can result in sudden death. It has a characteristic bleach-like odour and may be visible as a reddish-brown haze. It is heavier than air; therefore, it will tend to be located just above the silage surface. It may also flow down silo chutes and into feed rooms.

Oxygen-limiting silos are a special case and should never be entered. If it becomes absolutely necessary to enter such a silo, it is essential that an external air supply be worn and back-up emergency safety measures are in place.

A top unloader can ventilate a silo. In the event that someone collapses inside a silo, begin ventilating with the forage blower immediately and contact your local fire department. A fresh air supply is critical for both the victim and rescuers.

Excerpts taken from: Factsheet # 721 Hazardous Gases Written by: Luc Brunet - Rural Environment Engineer/OMAFRA

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/facts/04-087.htm>

### **CONNECTING EMPLOYERS AND TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE.**

The Agriculture Sector employs a wide range of employees. Farmers are important employers in our region. High school students are the best renewable resource we have. Our future depends on an adequately trained labour pool from which employers can draw their employees. We face an aging workforce, out-migration of youth, and a shortage of adequately skilled workers. To partner with the schools and sharing your needs, we have a solution for you... it is easy quick, and free.

All employers are invited to join in response to our need to keep young people in the area. Together we can **replenish an aging workforce**. We can **retain and expand** our businesses in Bruce, Grey, and the Georgian Triangle. We can help workers **develop adequate skills** for a highly competitive global society. We can **link to education** and training to help young people, our partners, and ourselves. We can help to keep our young people in the region and see them raise families, prosper, and contribute to our business and community retention and expansion. **Our young people are the best renewable resource we have.**

A new and exciting provincial strategy is now available to help business enterprises and communities replenish the shrinking labour pool. This Fall, 2008, you can build your regional database to encourage young people to train, work and stay in the region. You can help to make the region stronger. You can help to build a local labour pool of employees designed to meet your staffing needs.

**All that employers need to do is go "on line" and register** at [www.employerregistry.ca](http://www.employerregistry.ca). It only takes a minute.

Marshall Draper Passport to Prosperity Campaign (519) 323-9963  
[marshalldraper@wightman.ca](mailto:marshalldraper@wightman.ca)

### **UNWANTED CALLS - GET TELEMARETERS OFF YOUR PHONE LINE AND ENJOY DINNER TIME UNINTERRUPTED BY REGISTERING YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER ON CANADA'S NATIONAL DO-NOT-CALL LIST.**

Being called incessantly by anyone is annoying. The irritation factor doubles when you're tele-hounded by organizations pushing you to buy whatever they have to sell. If you can't stomach the pestering of unsolicited calls anymore, help is around the corner. On Sept. 30, the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) launches its national Do Not Call List (DNCL), which promises to reduce the telemarketing calls you get.

If your number is on the list, telemarketers aren't allowed to contact you. What's more, the service is free and available for any personal Canadian phone (landline and cellular) or fax numbers. (Businesses aren't permitted on the national DNCL.) This doesn't mean you'll be shielded from every unsolicited call -- some organizations are exempt from the

list. Keep reading for the ins and outs of the national DNCL, including pointers on registration and what to expect when you enrol.

### **How to put your number on the do-not-call list**

You can add your number to the DNCL either online at [www.LNNT-EDNCL.gc.ca](http://www.LNNT-EDNCL.gc.ca) or by calling 1-866-580-DNCL (3625). The only personal info you need to provide is your telephone number, which is kept discreet, according to Nancy Webster Cole, senior manager, telemarketing regulations at the CRTC.

As operator of the list, Bell Canada can view your digits, as may the CRTC.

"Telemarketers also have access because they'll download the numbers regularly to ensure they aren't called," says Webster Cole.

After three years, numbers are automatically deleted from the list without sending you notice, and it's up to you to re-register. Since the list only contains numbers and doesn't include your name, you also have to sign up again if your telephone number changes, says Webster Cole.

You can stop some -- but not all -- unsolicited calls

Once you've enrolled, don't expect the calls to suddenly stop. It can take about a month before the pestering subsides, as telemarketers are given a 31-day grace period (from the time you register) to get the most updated version of the national DNCL, according to the CRTC.

Meanwhile, you may still receive unsolicited calls from the likes of companies you've done business with during the past 18 months, charities, political parties, newspapers (selling subscriptions) and pollsters, because they're exempt from the list. Wondering why?

Part of the rationale is that, in many cases, these exempt parties and their calls are deemed beneficial to society. "It was recognized that charities are calling for a social good," explains Webster Cole. "And as we live in a free and democratic society, we have elections and they're partially paid for by donations from citizens." Newspapers, she says, contribute to free speech and help keep the public in the know.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GREY BRUCE AGRICULTURE & CULINARY ASSOCIATION**

At the recent Grey Bruce Tourism Conference, the Regional Tourism Marketing Partnership presented an award to Grey Bruce ACA for the "Best website" :

[www.foodlinkgreybruce.com](http://www.foodlinkgreybruce.com)

## **OXFORD & LAMBTON GREEN ENERGY WORKSHOPS**

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** (Goff Hall, Woodstock) & **November 19<sup>th</sup>** (Legion, Wyoming)

Objective/Purpose:

1. To explore the technological, operating, policy, regulatory, financial and other challenges and opportunities facing farms as they strive to improve their energy efficiency, better utilize byproducts - - and ultimately improve their bottom lines. This will be accomplished through a speaker panel of producers currently operating these systems in Ontario – solar, heat pumps, wind and digesters to name a few.
2. To learn from Zurich's attempt of transitioning 50% of its power from renewable sources over the next 5 years by installing solar panels, a biogas system, small hydro and wood biomass heating systems.

3. To discuss other challenges associated with installing these systems including signing contracts, hooking to the grid and rules changes, planning, building and local zoning, funding and insurance.

**Program: Moderated Panel “The Good, the Challenges and Recommendations for The Future”**

FEASIBILITY STUDIES: Leroy Van Ryswyck (Woodstock) with Greg Simpson (Woodstock/Wyoming) WIND: Jim Butt(Woodstock/Wyoming) and Steve Veldman (Woodstock) HEAT PUMPS: TBA SOLAR: Rolf Maurer (Woodstock/Wyoming) DIGESTERS: Bill Van Logtenstein (Woodstock/Wyoming) QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Thanks to the Agricultural Adaptation Council’s CanAdvance Speaker Investment Initiative our speaker to start the afternoon is **Thomas Boehni**. Thomas is the owner of Boehni Energy and the Environment, a Swiss firm specializing in renewable energy.

Boehni is currently undertaking a project to convert a conventional rural town into a Green Energy Village. The Village of Hohentannen, 50 km east of Zurich will transition to 50% of its power being produced from renewable sources over the next 5 years.

Boehni is installing solar panels, a biogas system, small hydro, and wood biomass heating systems. Residents will be switching to biodiesel or electric cars, and improving the efficiency of their homes with improved insulation and appliances. Boehni maintains strong links to Canada, having designed Ontario’s currently longest operating biogas system (at the Klaesi Farm in Cobden Ontario), and is a strong advocate for agriculturally-based renewable energy projects.

**Understanding Other Challenges**

Ontario Federation of Agriculture - Ted Cowan (Woodstock/Wyoming) — *“Signing Contracts”* “Hooking to the Grid” - County of Oxford (Woodstock) - Paul Michiels— *“Planning, Building and Local Zoning”* County of Lambton (Wyoming) - Will Nywening— *“Planning, Building and Local Zoning”* Insurance— TBA (Woodstock); Lambton Mutual Insurance (Wyoming) Jake DeBruyn (Woodstock) & Don Hilborn (Wyoming) - *“The Balanced Perspective - is it all Worth it?”*

**Cost and Registration Information:**

Cost is \$20.00 (payable to the Oxford County Fed. of Agriculture) & includes lunch A brochure listing the speakers with the registration form is attached. To register by phone, please call the Woodstock OMAFRA Resource Centre at 519-537-6621 or the Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300.

**GETTING READY FOR PEAK OIL: A GUIDE TO EVERYDAY ENERGY CONSERVATION**

**Classes will be held  
Thursday nights, from 7 – 9 pm,  
Victoria Public School  
Instructor: John Thompson  
Tuition: \$65**

**Who Should Take This Course?**  
*People who are concerned about the economy and the environment, and who want to begin learning how to live in a world where energy is no longer cheap.*

**Oct.30 : Oil is the Miracle Ingredient in OurLives**

**Nov 6: The Theory and Practice of Living Within Limits**

**Nov 13: Energy Accounting for Your Home and Office**

**Nov 20: Tips and Techniques for Reducing Energy Use**

**Nov 27: How to Keep Learning about Our Energy Future**

**Registration is required.**

**To register or learn more, contact Anna at the Learning Collaborative office.  
(519) 524-4154 lakehuronlearning @ hurontel.on.ca**

## **MCGUINITY GOVERNMENT EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES TO KEEP ONTARIANS WORKING** October 24, 2008

Ontario is expanding access to Second Career so more laid-off workers can get skills training for high-demand jobs in their communities.

Second Career was launched in June 2008 to help laid-off Ontarians identify and train for new careers in growing sectors. These new enhancements allow more laid-off workers to participate and take advantage of the training opportunities available, and build new skills for the careers of the future.

As of November 10, 2008, the guidelines for Second Career will be expanded to include:

- o Workers laid off as far back as January 1, 2005
- o Laid-off workers who have taken an interim job to make ends meet
- o Short term training options (less than six months) for laid-off workers who are not eligible for Employment Insurance
- o Potential additional financial assistance to cover expenses for the cost of academic upgrading, living away from home while participating in training, and dependent care.

## **PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT USING MICROSOFT OUTLOOK® WORKSHOP IS BEING OFFERED AGAIN TO RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS ONTARIO IN NOVEMBER 2008.**

*The Centre for Rural Leadership*, in partnership with **Andy Sherwood** and **PROGRESSIVE TRAINING.CA**, is offering the day long workshop on productivity training and time management solutions, integrating communications, tasks, activities and planning using Microsoft Outlook®. This workshop will show you how to reconfigure your task pad enabling you to focus on your priorities, how to communicate more effectively and how to fulfill and coordinate your commitments, all of which will contribute to a measurable increase in productivity at work and at home.

Past participants have indicated the workshop has fundamentally changed the way they do business, use Outlook, deal with email, day to day tasks and time management issues. They note that this 'change' is immediate and ongoing and easy to implement and keep using in both your work and personal environments.

This workshop will be held on **Thursday, November 27, 2008, in the ACC Farmers' Financial Boardroom, 100 Stone Road West in Guelph.** Cost is \$545.00 with refreshments and lunch included. Don't delay... register today!  
For more information and to register for this workshop please contact *The Centre for Rural Leadership* at 519-826-4204.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLANS FOR HURON AND BRUCE COUNTIES**

**Bruce** Jayne Dietrich, 519-367-5930, [Email for details](#) Nov. 7 & 14

**Huron** Lois Sinclair, 519-357-3146, [Email for details](#) Nov. 10 & 17, Dec. 1 & 8

### **OMAFRA INFORMATION, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES:**

**CLINTON OMAFRA RESOURCE CENTRE,  
100 DON STREET, BOX 159, CLINTON, N0M 1L0  
519-482-3333**

**Agricultural Information Contact Centre (AICC):** 1-877-424-1300

Email: [ag.info@omafra.gov.on.ca](mailto:ag.info@omafra.gov.on.ca)

**OMAFRA Web site:** [www.ontario.ca/omafra](http://www.ontario.ca/omafra)

### **New/Revised Publications and Factsheets:**

**2008 Supplement, Growing Greenhouse Vegetables**, Publication 371S, order #0371SE. This 12-page, b/w supplement contains updates to pesticides registered as of September 2008.

**Production Recommendations for Greenhouse Floriculture**, Publication 370, order #0370E. The cost for this 2008 publication is \$20 + GST.

**Best Management Practices: Managing Crop Nutrients**, Publication BMP 20, Order #BMP20E.

**Canada Pension Plan**, Agdex 051/800, Order #08-045; this revised factsheet replaces 06-065

**Taxation on the Sale of Farm Business Assets**, Agdex 837, Order #08-047; this revised factsheet replaces 03-02

### **Resource Kits: *"Information and Resources Available for Farm Families"***

A farm business can experience financial pressures when market prices decline, a market ceases to exist, a disease reduces production, unexpected cost increases, or business arrangements fall apart. Dealing with these pressures is a challenge! In response to these conditions, OMAFRA staff has put together a package of resources to assist people to assess a farm business, examine alternatives, deal with issues and make

decisions. Please contact the Clinton OMAFRA Resource Centre [519-482-3333] if you or someone you know would benefit from this information. All materials are available from the Clinton OMAFRA Resource Centre.

### **Pork News and Views Newsletter**

This newsletter is produced bimonthly by the OMAFRA Swine Advisory Team. It provides swine enterprise budgets, monthly market hog facts, and current research, production, management, and marketing articles. Readers are encouraged to contact the writers with any questions or follow-up information requests contacts provided within the publication. Now posted on the OMAFRA website at <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/swine/news.html>

### **Hort Matters Newsletter**

A new issue of Hort Matters newsletter can now be found on the OMAFRA website at: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/hortmatt/2007/18hrt07.htm>

### **Virtual Beef E-newsletter**

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/beef/news/vbn0707.htm>

### **Podcasts**

OMAFRA now offers a variety of resources in podcast. Podcasting is a method of accessing audio files, usually in MP3 format, without requiring you to revisit a site to see if something new is available. By subscribing to an OMAFRA podcast, new audio episodes that are added to our site will be automatically sent to you as soon as they become available. You can then listen to them whenever you want from your computer or portable MP3 player. For further details or to subscribe to an OMAFRA podcast, please visit <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/subscribe/podcast.htm>

**Foodland Ontario:** <http://www.foodland.gov.on.ca/> for some great recipes using Ontario's fresh fruits and vegetables.

**London Service Ontario Centre – 519-873-4000**

**Stratford Service Ontario Centre – 519-271-9995.**

**Owen Sound Service Ontario Centre – 519-519-371-6226**

**Goderich Service Ontario Centre – 1-800-267-8097**

**Website [www.ServiceOntario.ca](http://www.ServiceOntario.ca)**

Service Ontario is a one-stop shopping centre for a variety of government services ..... register your business name; purchase hunting and fishing licenses; replace lost or stolen ID; pick up a free Power of Attorney kit or passport application. For a complete list of services call or visit today.

### **LAST WORDS**

**“DON'T JUDGE EACH DAY BY THE HARVEST YOU REAP  
BUT BY THE SEEDS YOU PLANT”**

**ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON**

Please note the disclaimer regarding external links:

<http://www.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA/english/webdisclaimer.html>