Oregon Legislature Races to the Finish

The Oregon Legislature is racing towards its July 10 end date with a flurry of activity. Lawmakers have not yet determined how to fill major budget shortfalls, which has meant proposed cuts to programs like Farm-to-School. The Legislature is planning to meet through much of the July 4 weekend, so your last minute calls and emails can still make a difference. At this point in the session things can literally change by the hour. In the midst of this, a few key issues remain on the table:

- Funding levels for Farm-to-School - the latest proposal would cut Farm to School by nearly half

- A bill to add new protections for farmers whose crops are contaminated by genetically engineered material is stalled .... but still in play

- Setting a cap on or eliminating the controversial manure digester tax credit, which gives millions of public dollars to the state’s largest factory-scale dairy operation

You can read more about these and other end-of-session issues at our latest Muckboots in the Capitol blog and take action from there

The Oregon State Capitol, June 2017

Donate Today!

Calendar of Events!

June 30 - Deadline to sign up for the USDA Census of Agriculture - Make Sure You Are Counted!
Are you still looking for a summer job? If so, Oregon Farm Link has got you covered. Not only does Oregon Farm Link provide a platform to connect land holders with land seekers, it also features job postings at existing farms and agricultural businesses.

Recent job listings on Oregon Farm Link in both Oregon and Washington include: Livestock Husbandry Assistant (Dungeness, WA), Farm Crew (Portland, OR), Seasonal Farm Work and Apprenticeships (Lebanon, OR). This is just a sampling of current jobs posted on the site, which is updated with new jobs frequently.

Be sure to check out the job postings on Oregon Farm Link here. If you are a farmer or agricultural business owner with a position open, you can add your listing to our site here.

Oregon Pasture Network Update

After a long, wet spring we have been spending a busy month traveling all over Oregon to visit farms and ranches that have applied to be members of our Oregon Pasture Network (OPN). The adventure has taken FoFF staff and members from our OPN advisory committee up, down, and across the I-5 corridor, stretching from the Portland region down to Ashland. We look forward to making our way east of the Cascades in the coming weeks to visit a number of farms and ranches in central Oregon that have applied for OPN membership. Lindsay Trant, our OPN Program Coordinator, has been documenting her trips and working hard to provide more marketing and networking support for our OPN Partners. We’ve got a number of plans in the works for our OPN members this year. You can read more about it in her blog post here.

We are also ready for more producers to join OPN. If you are a pasture-based livestock or poultry producer in Oregon and are interested in joining OPN, we encourage you to apply today! Our application can be found here.

July 12 - Women's Adult Tractor Safety Class - Aurora

July 18 - Risk Assessment on Current and Potential Organic Operations - Webinar

August 15 - Dry Farming Field Day - Applegate

December 3 - Portland Fill Your Pantry - Save the Date!

Meet Our Staff:
Rebecca Fredlund

Rebecca Fredlund came on board as our Office Manager earlier this year. Rebecca found a love for animals and gardening during childhood as her family raised livestock and grew produce. She received a degree in Veterinary Medicine and worked as a veterinary technician for nearly a decade. She later
On June 16, we held a square dance in Scio to benefit the Oregon Pasture Network! Thanks to all the local community members, farmers and ranchers who came out for the fun, and to the Slippery Slope String Band and our caller Woody Lane for making the event so lively.

discovered a calling in food culture and sustainability that led to a second degree in Anthropology, focusing on food in culture and social justice. Rebecca, her husband, and their young son work towards self-sufficiency in raising and growing more and more of their food each season. Rebecca feels connected to, and advocates for, family farmers and our community’s food wellness. This led her to first volunteer for, and then take a job with, Friends of Family Farmers.

Contact Us

Friends of Family Farmers
249 Liberty St NE, Suite 212
Salem, 97301
503-581-7124
info@friendsoffamilyfarmers.org
www.friendsoffamilyfarmers.org

We bring together farmers and citizens to shape and support socially and environmentally responsible family-scale agriculture in Oregon.