



9:00 am — 10:00 am

Keynote - Fred Kirschenmann

**SMALL FARMS: Vestige of the Past or Hope for the Future?**

Dr. Kirschenmann will examine the role small farms will play in our nation's food system future with an eye to how consumers and public policy might empower a new generation of small farmers.

- A. **Youth Session 1 - Be Your Own Boss** - description on front of brochure.

**Concurrent Session I  
10:30 a.m.—11:45 a.m.**

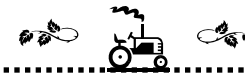
- B. **Honey Production** - *Tim Bennett* - Come learn from *Aphis mellifera* (honey bee) how local community supported agriculture can really work.
- C. **CSA Farmer/Consumer Panel** - *Marty Heller, Bernie Ware, Jenny Tutlis and Jon Watts, Nic and Jen Welty* - Community Supported Agricultural (CSA) farms are on the rise nationwide. Whether you are currently a CSA farmer/ shareholder or on the fence about becoming one, this session offers testimony from a diverse panel of northern Michigan CSA farmers and their shareholders who have embraced this unique and expanding form of direct market agriculture. Learn what has and hasn't worked, and how each has tailored their programs for success.
- D. **Selecting and Using Backpack Sprayers** - *Roberta Dow, Jill O'Donnell* - Not all sprayers are created equal. See sprayers, modifications, nozzle selections & accessories. Get information on calibration. Program is for anyone who uses a backpack sprayer for small area spraying.
- E. **Starting Your Specialty Food Product Business at a Kitchen Incubator** - *Ron Steiner* - A review of the entrepreneurial mindset and discipline required to start and grow a specialty food product business. This will emphasize the equal importance of marketing and finances, as well as the actual production, and the supportive role of a licensed kitchen incubator.
- F. **Opportunities for Small Farmers in the New Bioeconomy** - *Dennis Pennington* - Energy consumption and demand has increased steadily since the 1940's. Investment in renewable energy sources is at all time highs. Learn why agriculture is positioned to be a key player in the bioenergy and bioproducts industry.
- G. **Youth Keynote—Mom...Dad...I Want to Farm** - *Daniel Salatin* - description on front of brochure.

**Concurrent Session II  
1:30 p.m. — 2:45 p.m.**

- H. **Ag Tourism, Value Added Agriculture and Local Zoning** - *Don Coe* - Everyone is talking about the growth of agricultural tourism and value added agriculture. Locavore is the hot issue, but in a state that values home rule, are township governments ready to embrace the fact that for many small farms to be successful they have to be able to grow, process, retail and market their products from the farm?
- I. **Root Cellars on the Small Farm** - *John Biernbaum* - From construction to use see how this traditional preservation method is gaining new popularity for it's ability to extend and diversify your small farm, contribute to year-round local food availability, and minimizing energy costs.
- J. **Drip Irrigations for Gardeners in Northern Michigan** - *Jack Middleton* - The objective of this program will be to give you confidence in selecting and using drip irrigation for food production. Water needs; characteristics of drip irrigation; applications of drip for vegetable, fruit and hoophouse; materials available and other options will be discussed. Drip irrigations materials will be available to see and handle.
- K. **Finding Local Food Funding** - *Jim Sluyter* - A strong movement is growing in northern Michigan to increase economic development through sustainable agriculture. Many growers and producers need funding to expand current operations, find ways to grow year-a-round, and to establish new businesses.
- L. **Liability, Food Safety and the Small Farm** - *Chris Bedford* - Melamine in milk from China, *E. coli* on spinach and peppers and huge ground beef recalls! Global industrial food system safety and quality problems have spawned new initiatives on food safety and farm liability that, potentially, will have a large impact on the operations of Michigan's small farms. This session will consider the nature of this challenge and what we can do about it.
- M. **Youth Session 2—Let's Start Our Own Business** - description on front of brochure.

**Concurrent Session III  
3:15 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.**

- N. **Maple Syrup and Sugar Production** – *Mark Majszak* - Mark brings us his extensive experience in sugaring in both lower and upper Michigan. He's been involved in large and small commercial production and provides insight into running these operations. He'll show some equipment and talk about techniques.
- O. **Growing Opportunities with Hoophouses - Panel Discussion** - *Craig Schaff, Nic and Jen Welty, Adam Montri, Jenny Tutlis and Jon Watts* - Hoophouses have long been valuable assets in northern climates for propagating transplants in early spring and producing cold hardy greens and root crops throughout winter. More than just season extenders, they have been used to produce specialty crops for niche markets and aid in the successful production of heat loving crops in the summer. Learn current techniques and production methods for a wide variety of crops while discovering ways your operation may integrate hoophouse production with your current operations.
- P. **Grain Grinding for the Small Farm** - *Lee Purdy* - Processing grains can add value and opportunities for the small farm. Learn how to put together the systems, what regulations apply, and how this opportunity may fit within your farm.
- Q. **Growing Pasture Poultry on a Small Scale and Now Taking the Next Step** – *Tom and Waneta Cook, Rick and Sue Duerksen* - Two local families share how they began raising pasture chickens and turkeys. They will take you down the road to where they are today. How did they start? How did they grow their business? Marketing differences? Where are they headed?
- R. **Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories - The Emissions That Greatly Contribute to Climate Change** - *Michael Powers*, SEEDS Project Manager. Featuring information specific to farms and small businesses, Mike will talk through the process of doing a baseline assessment, setting reduction targets, analyzing reduction measures and evaluating progress over the long-term. One important method for reducing emissions is increased usage of biofuels, including methane digesters. There will be time for Q&A and discussion on the development of regional biofuel collaborations between growers and consumers - including municipalities.
- S. **Youth Session 3—Everything You've Ever Wanted to Ask About...** - description on front of brochure.



**Northern Michigan Small Farm Conference**  
(Use one form for all registrations from your farm/family)

1st Person @ \$45.00 = \$45.00

Additional \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \_\_\_\_\_

Youth\* \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
\*youth age 8-18 scholarships available. Please call 231-533-8818 for details

**Please mail registration to:**

Antrim County MSUE  
P.O. Box 427  
Bellaire, MI 49615

Method of Payment

- Check (payable to MSUE)
- Credit (Visa or MasterCard only)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the number of people from your farm attending each break-out session.

A.	_____	J.	_____
B.	_____	K.	_____
C.	_____	L.	_____
D.	_____	M.	_____
E.	_____	N.	_____
F.	_____	O.	_____
G.	_____	P.	_____
H.	_____	Q.	_____
I.	_____	R.	_____
		S.	_____

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional individual names attending from your farm: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please do not release my contact information for use by anyone other than conference sponsors.**

**The registration deadline is January 23, 2009—Registration includes lunch and breaks**

**Sorry NO REFUNDS**

**Late Registration or On-Site Registration will be charged additional \$15 per person and does not guarantee lunch availability.**

***On-Site Registration Cash or Check ONLY***

NON PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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MSU Extension  
Antrim County  
Permit #4

# 10th Annual NORTHERN MICHIGAN SMALL FARM CONFERENCE



## BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM

Saturday, January 31, 2009  
8:00 to 5:00 pm

Grayling High School  
1135 N. Old 27, Grayling, MI

**FROM I-75:** Take Exit 259 toward downtown Grayling. Turn West onto I-75 BL/Hartwick Pines Road/M-93. Turn right onto Grayling Highway/Old US-27. The school is on the left.

For more directions please see the Grayling High School website at: [www.casdk12.net/GHS04](http://www.casdk12.net/GHS04)

A "100 Mile Lunch" using locally grown foods will be prepared by the Grayling High School Food Service Department

### SPONSORED BY:

USDA Farm Service Agency  
GreenStone Farm Credit Services  
WCMU Public TV and Radio  
North Region MSUE County Offices  
Michigan State University— Project GREEN  
C.S. Mott Professor of Sustainable Agriculture  
Northern Lakes Economic Alliance—NLEA



Your invitation to the  
Northern Michigan  
Small Farm Conference  
January 31, 2009  
(registration deadline January 23rd)  
P.O. Box 427 Bellaire, MI 49615



## Keynote Speaker

**Fred L. Kirschenmann**, *The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture*



Frederick L. Kirschenmann, long time leader in national and international sustainable agriculture, former Executive Director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture (2000-2005), and currently Leopold Center Distinguished Fellow.

Dr. Kirschenmann is also President of the Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, NY, where he holds a half-time appointment to explore ways rural and urban communities can work together to build a more resilient sustainable agriculture and food system.

He oversees management of his family's 3,500 acre certified organic and biodynamic farm in North Dakota. The farm operates as a natural prairie livestock grazing system. It combines a nine-crop rotation of cereal grains, forages, and green manure.

Fred convened *Agriculture of the Middle*, a multi-state taskforce that researches and develops markets for midsize American farms. In 1978, he helped organize North Dakota Natural Farmers that became the Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture Society.

He serves as a review editor for the *Renewable Agriculture and Systems Journal* and on the editorial board of the *Journal of Sustainable Agriculture*. He is recipient of the Seventh Generation Research Award (2002) for his leadership in the development of sustainable food and farming systems. Fred holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Chicago.

Additional information on the conference can be found on our website: [www.msue.msu.edu/antrim](http://www.msue.msu.edu/antrim) or by calling 231-533-8818

### TRADE SHOW

Exhibitors have lots of ideas to share to help your small farm stay successful. When you're not eating lunch, visit the many exhibit/vendor booths and see what they have to offer.

### EXHIBITORS

Contact Presque Isle County MSU Extension at 989-734-2168 to reserve your spot!

## Youth Sessions

We are pleased to offer in 2009, sessions specific to our next generation of small farmers and a special keynote message from Daniel Salatin.

### Youth Session 1\*

9:00 am—10:00 am

**Be Your Own Boss - Youth Panel** - A panel of youth who have developed their own businesses will discuss how they accomplished it and what their challenges were to becoming successful.

### Youth Keynote\*

10:30 am—11:45 am

"Mom...Dad...I Want to Farm" - *Daniel Salatin*

### Youth Session 2\*

1:30 pm—2:45 pm

**Let's Start Our Own Business - Youth Panel and Daniel Salatin** - Daniel and the youth panel members will help participants learn how to create, manage and market an agricultural business.

### Youth Session 3\*

3:15 pm—4:30 pm

**Everything You've Ever Wanted to Ask About... - Youth Panel and Daniel Salatin** - The youth panel and Daniel will answer questions that youth may have about developing a successful business.

\*Youth Sessions are focused toward attendees 18 and under but adults are welcome to attend.

## Daniel Salatin, Polyface Farm



Daniel is the son of Joel Salatin, innovative farmer, writer and speaker. As the third generation on Polyface Farm in Swoope Virginia, he has grown up in the family business.

Daniel has gone from carrying freshly processed chickens while in diapers, to running and overseeing the day-to-day workings of Polyface. As a seven year old he started a pastured rabbit enterprise. Starting the rabbit business gave him firsthand experience with marketing, processing, research and development, as well as the costs of a new business.

Today Daniel is fully employed by the farm and spends his time orchestrating animal movement, scheduling daily tasks and apprentice training. At twenty-seven, Daniel is married and has two sons and one daughter.