



Hello friends of the Deerfield Fair,

At this time of uncertainty, we want to assure our community that New Hampshire agriculture is continuing to provide the essential services that we all depend on. Farms and a number of agricultural services have been deemed essential businesses by Governor Sununu. This means that many farm stands and agricultural businesses are still offering their products to customers across the state.

We hope to encourage you to support local agricultural businesses by providing you with information on how to do so. The Deerfield Fair will be publishing a biweekly column on our website and Facebook page that will detail local businesses, products and agricultural stories from across our beautiful state. We hope to provide our community with more opportunities to get the products they need while also supporting local small businesses. It is also our goal to bring light to positive news in a time where the negative can be overwhelming.

Be on the lookout for our biweekly post in the future!

Thank you.

Farmer Spotlight

[Dunks Mushrooms Products and Foraging LLC](#) – Brentwood, NH – (617) 240-9650
Mushrooms: Shiitake – Chestnuts – Lions Mane – Wide Oyster Variety – Chaga Tea
Instagram – @dunksmushrooms
<https://www.facebook.com/Dunksmushrooms/>
<https://www.dunksmushrooms.com>

[Riverslea Farm](#) – Epping, NH – (603) 679-2629
Lamb and Goat, Wool, Yarn and Washable Lambskins
Email: info@riversleafarm.com
<http://www.riversleafarm.com>
https://www.facebook.com/pg/riversleafarmnh/posts/?ref=page_internal

[Sugarmomma's Maple Farm](#) – Northwood, NH – (603) 942-7005
New Hampshire Maple syrup: all 4 grades, candy cream, nuts, maple ice cream in pints. Shipping Available!
Email info@sugarmommasmapple.com
<https://www.facebook.com/sugarmommasmapplefarm/>

[Top of the Hill Farm](#) – Wolfeboro, NH – (603) 569-3137
Naturally Raised Beef, Lamb and Pork, Eggs, and Locally Sourced Milk.
Email: topofthehillfarm@metrocast.net
https://www.facebook.com/pg/topofthehillfarmbeef/about/?ref=page_internal

[Wotton Farm](#) – Ossipee, NH – (603) 539-8134
Raw Milk, Cream, Plain and Flavored Yogurt, Greens and Whole Chicken
Email: wottonfarm@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/pg/Wotton-Farm-248429739255/about/?ref=page_internal

We want to promote our agricultural businesses by spotlighting them and their products. If you would like to be featured in our newsletter, please email swilson.dfs@gmail.com.



Things to Consider When Shopping Locally

Many farms are operating differently to keep themselves and customers safe. When visiting a farm store, it is important to remember to continue adequate social distancing and hygiene practices.

We recommend calling or emailing before you visit as there may be new hours or policies such as curbside pickup.

Keep yourself and your local farms safe by keeping these tips in mind.

Story of the Week

Many farms are having to make changes to adapt to the current circumstances across the country and within our state. Right here in New Hampshire, Top of the Hill Farm in Wolfeboro is continuing to be operated by the Fredrickson family.

Top of the Hill provides a diverse assortment of meat cuts for beef, lamb and pork. The farm store also carries chicken, eggs, seasonal vegetables and locally sourced milk. All produced right here in New Hampshire. The farm sits on top of a mountain with a picturesque view of Lake Wentworth that makes the view alone worth the drive.

The temporary closing of restaurants and farmer's markets is taking a toll on many family's bottom lines, but New Hampshire agriculture is resilient and continues to press on. Alan Fredrickson and his family are doing their best to make the most of this time and continue supporting their customers by keeping their farm store open and well stocked. Fredrickson explains that the farm is "doing well and the farm store has been extremely busy."

At this time the farm store is making up for sales that would normally take place at winter farmers markets. A story echoed by many farms and small agricultural businesses across the state.

To maximize safety for customers and the family, the farm store tries to have one or two customers inside at a time and sanitation takes place regularly. Fredrickson feels that "because we are an open-air store, I am finding that a lot of people are more comfortable coming to us."

Customers of the farm can help keep everyone safe when they visit by "waiting outside or in their car while other customers are in the store. People are also calling to place pre orders so we can put it together and let them know when it is ready, so we allow for quick pick-ups."

As food supplies in local stores fluctuate, there are no better places to source nutrition than local farms. Often times farms stores have stock in items that are no longer consistently on supermarket shelves such as; meat, eggs, milk and vegetables. The increase in customers has Fredrickson feeling thankful for small victories. "We were fortunate that we were already stocking our walk-in freezer for our summer markets and have a supply of product available." Fredrickson's son Erik has been making trips to the farm's chosen processor to pick up meat two times a week to keep customers well stocked.

Even in these trying times Fredrickson is still optimistic and hopes that there will be benefits in the future for New Hampshire farms. “I have had a lot of people say that they weren’t aware of us but are now. I am hoping that when this whole crisis is over with, all of the farms are going to benefit, not just us. Hopefully it will show people that there are a lot of local food that is produced right here in New Hampshire.” Top of the Hill is staying connected with their new and reoccurring customers through email and Facebook updates.

Many farms will require continued support to recover and remain successful during and after the effects of this pandemic have ended. Please consider purchasing from your local farmers.

In the words of Alan Fredrickson: “We hope for us and all the other farms that people continue to come out, one good thing might come out of this in the end.”



Top of the Hill farm’s stand at the Wentworth Winter Farmers Market inside the Wentworth Greenhouses.

Event News

NEAR Fest – May 1 & 2 - Cancelled

New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival – May 8, 9 & 10 - Cancelled

Additional Resources

New Hampshire Farm Bureau

<https://www.nhfarmbureau.org/covid-19/>

University of New Hampshire Extension:

<https://extension.unh.edu/tags/agricultural-resources-covid-19>

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture:

<https://www.agriculture.nh.gov/divisions/commissioner/covid-19-and-agriculture.htm>