



STONEWALL FARM

LAND HERE. GROW ROOTS. CULTIVATE COMMUNITY.

May 2009

News from the Farm

Introducing Our New C.I.T. Program

Do you know a mature, responsible 14 or 15 year old who has completed grade 8 and has a desire to work with and mentor young children?

They might be interested in our Counselor in Training (C.I.T.) Program.

C.I.T.s gain leadership & activity-planning skills, have fun working with children and get valuable work experience. They can also explore future career possibilities and get the opportunity for future employment at camp as a paid counselor.

C.I.T.'s are not paid employees. Their program is a combination of team building and leadership activities, training in the variety of activities that take place at the farm during camp, and discussion sessions to help the C.I.T. understand their role as a mentor to young children. After completing the 3-week program at Stonewall Farm, C.I.T.s can choose to attend additional 'Experience Weeks' where they will be assigned to a group of campers for the week and assist the counselors with all aspects of the camp program.



Dates for the Three-Week 2009 C.I.T. Program:

July 13th through 31st, 2009 / 9a.m. to 3p.m. /

Monday – Friday

Members: \$500/ 3 week session, Non-members: \$530/
3 week session

Experience Weeks

August 3rd through 7th and/or August 10th through 14th, 2009 / 9a.m. to 3p.m. / Monday – Friday

Experience Weeks: \$100/ week

Call Marci Birkes at 603-357-7278, ext. 104 for more information.

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Educational Offerings

Summer Camp is filling fast, but we still have some room for Peepers & Tadpoles!

(ages 4 & 5)

Peepers and Tadpoles delight in getting to know the farm animals, exploring the gardens and surrounding forests, and making new friends. Structured activity and well-supervised free exploration are carefully balanced to provide a fun and welcoming early experience on the farm. Campers must be able to use a bathroom independently.

\$210/ child; \$195/ child for members.

Call Rebecca at 603-357-7278 to register.

April Vacation Camp

April Vacation Camp brought 20 campers each day to the farm where they experienced shearing the sheep (thank you to Bruce Clement for volunteering his time and expertise), dying wool using koolaid, and felting. The campers also worked with Amanda in the greenhouse, and on Earth Day they celebrated with a 'farm feast' in which they ate salad, fresh bread, eggs, and cheese which they were responsible for producing here at the Farm.



Self-Guided Exploration Backpacks

Come over to the farm and check out our five self-guided exploration backpacks - free to use and fun for all ages. Explore our forest with the Woodland pack, containing binoculars, field guides and more. Use our Garden pack to learn about the herbs and veggies that we grow. Be animal detectives with our Animal Evidence pack, containing maps, guides and games. "Dive" into our pond and stream with the Wetlands pack - it contains nets and containers so you can take a closer look at wetland critters you find. Finally, use our Nature Art backpack to find inspiration in creating fairy houses and Andy Goldsworthy-like natural art.

Come try out one or all of the backpacks! They are hanging on the wall to your left as you come in the main entrance to the Learning Center. Just remember to put them back on their hooks when you are done for the next visitor to enjoy.

Rich, Organic Compost

\$20/bucket-load (approximately a half-yard).

Special pick-up times: Every Saturday in May from 2:30 to 5:30 pm, and every Sunday in May from 9 am to 1 pm. Drive past the Learning Center to the greenhouses.

News from the Garden

Our four fields (on Chesterfield and Bradford Roads) are opened and ready to plant. Both of the greenhouses are full of transplants, with greens in the dome and tomatoes in the hoop house. The first Keene Farmer's Market was Saturday, May 2 where we had greens, herbs, syrup, and beef. In addition, this year, Stonewall Farm will be hosting children's activities at the market the first Saturday of every month from 9 to 12. **We will be using tried and true Stonewall programming following themes such as chickens, bees, apples, and compost.** Keep an eye on our calendar of events at stonewallfarm.org for details.



You may notice a change in our garden!

We are allowing the cows to pasture on the shaded portion of the field and will be taking advantage of the open, sunny section to grow our produce. An added benefit is all the fertilizer with which the cows have enriched the front pasture!

Farm Stand & Farmers' Market

Stonewall Farm's Farm Stand Opens May 23

Hours: Monday through Friday: 2pm to 7pm

Saturday and Sunday: 10am to 7pm

Looking for Local Food?

Be sure to Check Out the Farmers' Market of Keene

May through October, 9am to 2pm, Tuesday and Saturday in the commercial parking lot off Gilbo Ave. Rain or shine.

Numerous vendors will be bringing fruits, vegetables, herbs, plants, flowers, maple syrup, honey, baked goods, bread, jams, jellies, eggs, soap, wool products, lamb, pork and juried crafts. Call 446-9474 for more information or [click here](#) to download a pdf of markets throughout our state.



Moo-ternity Ward

Come to the dairy barn on the dates below and you may see the miracle of birth!

Due Dates:

Amelia, May 25

Hermione, May 29

Quinn, May 30

Tiffany, June 4

Cassidy, June 16

Mandy, June 24

Volunteer Spotlight

Below are a few questions we asked our Keene High School horticulture student volunteers Kyle Juniper and Kevin Wirth. They have been coming daily to the Farm, since the school year started, and have worked on a wide variety of projects. We can't thank them enough for their hard work and dedication!

Q: What part of your work at Stonewall Farm do you find most interesting?

A: The new greenhouse, helping build it.

Q: What have you learned from being at the Farm?

A: How to herd cattle, about cows and about ice harvesting.

Q: What do you hope to do when you graduate?

A: Kyle: Become a cop.

A: Kevin: Become a farrier.

Q: What are you looking forward to doing at the farm, as we head into Spring?

A: Working with the calves and cows.



We have quite a bit of grounds work and winter clean-up to tackle

If you have an interest in light landscaping, and/or raking, we would love your help! We are looking for volunteers who are able to make a two-hour commitment.

The garden volunteering schedule is starting to fill up

Call Kate O'Connor at 603-357-7278, ext 108 if you are available for early-season weeding and soil prep or for harvesting, weeding and stocking the farm stand later in the season. A reliable volunteer who is able to put in at least 3 hours/week on a consistent schedule is very much wanted and needed during our growing season.

This year's maple season we produced 200 gallons of syrup! Swweeeeet!



Stonewall Farm has Received Our New Batch of 12 Heritage Breed Chicks

Heritage breed refers to the original breed that may have been used in the development of a different breed through crossbreeding. In addition, it is also a term used to describe a breed that is capable of reproducing on their own, requiring no human intervention. **The breeds we chose were all developed in America: Silver-laced Wyandottes, New Hampshire Red, Dominique (the oldest breed in America!), Barred Plymouth Rock, and Delaware.**

Learn more about these special chickens by visiting our coop this summer! Our grounds are open daily, dawn to dusk.



Taffy is Coming Back for the Summer!

Our beloved summer guest, Taffy the pot-bellied pig, is spending another summer with us. She will be arriving late May and we hope you will visit her in the small animal pen outside our Learning Center.

Fun on the Farm Days

Saturday June 13 Big Trucks Day

10am - 2pm: Antique tractor display

From 11am - 2pm:

Climb up on our farm equipment, see what it's like!

Refreshments • Scooped ice cream • Hayrides

The Farm Stand will be open 10-7

Sunday July 19

National Ice Cream Day 11-2

Scooped ice cream • Small Animal Tours • Refreshments • Hayrides

The Farm Stand will be open 10-7

Aug 15 Fairy Houses 11-2

There will be marked hiking trails for gathering materials and building fairy houses; see the fairy houses along the trail.

Story time • Small animal tours • Refreshments • Hayrides

The Farm Stand will be open 10-7

Admission Prices Vary • www.stonewallfarm.org

Does your company offer a matching gifts program?

Stonewall Farm has been the recipient of a number of donations from area businesses, as they 'match' donations made by their employees. Thank you to the following corporations, and their employees, for their significant efforts in support of Stonewall Farm and our educational programming: Markem-Image, W.S. Badger Company, and Millipore, Inc.

Check with your employer to see if they offer a matching gifts program!