



Northeast Organic Farming Association of Rhode Island
Serving Farmers, Gardeners and Consumers with Education & Outreach

Winter Conference

Healthy Soils, Healthy Plants, Healthy Farm Business

Sunday, March 5, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
with Pot Luck Lunch

Hope & Main
691 Main Street, Warren, RI

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of RI (N O F A / R I) Winter Conference will feature a full day of workshops with nationally recognized speakers in organic and sustainable agriculture as well as influential speakers from across Rhode Island and southeast New England. We welcome proposals for workshops on topics like Soil Carbon Restoration, Composting, using Cover Crops, Seed Saving, Nutrient Dense Growing, Raising Backyard Chickens, Macrobiotics, and Farm Business Planning. This Winter Conference will offer something for farmers, gardeners and fans of great organic food.

About the Conference

The Winter Conference is N O F A / R I's largest educational and fundraising event. Proceeds will support educational programs for farmers, landscapers, designers, gardeners and consumers all year long. These constituents will be joined by agricultural professionals, university educators and extension specialists for a full day of workshops, networking sessions, our annual meeting and a delicious potluck meal. Thank you to our generous sponsor, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM) Division of Agriculture.

Workshops

Sessions will be 60 - 75 minutes long. Presenters should expect between 10 and 50 attendees. We encourage workshops with interactive discussions and/or hands on participation. Focus should be on how to implement a system or practice, without needing to hire a consultant. Be sure to leave 10 – 15 minutes for questions.

Presenters should print and bring any handouts needed or offer a link to on-line handouts.

Compensation

Presenters will receive free registration to the Winter Conference and an invitation to share in the potluck lunch. Presenters may choose a \$50 honorarium or a 1-year membership in NOFA/RI. If one-way travel by car exceeds 4 hours, overnight accommodations provided.

Panels

Panels of 2 – 3 presenters are permitted. We can offer free registration and lunch to panelists. We cannot offer honorariums or complementary accommodations to panelists.

Venue

The Winter Conference venue will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. Unless otherwise requested, rooms will be set up classroom style.

All workshop proposals are due by October 15, 2016. Submission of a proposal is NOT a guarantee of its acceptance. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee and notifications will be made by November 19, 2016.

Conference Goals

The goal of this conference is to facilitate learning and sharing of information on organic growing practices with an emphasis on soil, plant and human health and creating viable farm businesses.

N O F A / R I is dedicated to supporting organic and sustainable food, farming, and gardening in Rhode Island through education, technical assistance and policy advocacy. N O F A / R I is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. For more information, visit www.nofari.org.

I look forward to seeing you at the Winter Conference.

Ben Torpey

NOFA/RI Winter Conference Education Coordinator

[Scratch Farm](#)

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