



Spring 2010

Sholan Farms is owned by the City of Leominster and operated by the Friends of Sholan Farms. The Friends of Sholan Farms is a community-supported, non-profit organization.

Visit the last working apple orchard in Leominster, the birthplace of Johnny Appleseed (John Chapman). Your visit will be a memorable one! Situated on a hilltop with panoramic views of surrounding hills and even of Boston on a clear day, the farm provides cross-country skiing, walking trails, bird watching, picnic area and a variety of cultural and folk events throughout the year. In season, pick from a large variety of spectacular native apples as they ripen.

Sholan Farms is located at 1125 Pleasant Street, Leominster, MA 01453; Mailing address: P.O. Box 632, Leominster, Mass 01453 978-840-FARM; Web: www.sholanfarms.com. The friends meetings take place on the fourth Wednesday of every month (unless noted) beginning in February: Feb 24, March 24, April 21, May 26, June 23, July 21, August 21 – Open House, November 13 – Appreciation Dinner – Veteran’s Center, West Street, Leominster. (No meetings Aug-Jan)

February 24, 2010 – 6PM

Friends Meeting - *Come and bring a friend!*
Location: Fidelity Bank - Connector

March 24 – 6PM

Location: Library

April 21 – 6PM

Location: Library

May 26 – 6PM

Location: Library

June 23 – 6PM

Friends Annual Meeting & Elections *Come and bring a friend!*
Location: Apple Hill Farm, 143 Joslin Street, Leominster

July 21 – 6PM

Location: Library

August 21 (Rain Date August 22) - 2PM

Friends Annual Open House and Picnic @ Sholan Farms

August 28-29 10AM – 5PM daily Opening Weekend

For additional opportunities, please check the website or call for more information.

Twilight Hikes (weather permitting) January 9 at 8PM.

Join us for our twilight hike series, which takes place on the second Friday of each month beginning on January 9, 2010. Winter hikes include (weather permitting) snowshoe, cross-country skiing and a campfire. Gathering time is at 8PM at the Farm Stand area - 1 hour hike with a 1 hour campfire (as conditions allow). Bring a friend or family members (pets on leashes are welcome) to enjoy the hike. Comfortable winter hiking attire is recommended, as well as a flashlight, and water. For after the hike bring your favorite treat (hotdogs, marshmallows, etc) to share. Hot chocolate and tea will be provided by the FOSF.

We are also looking for volunteers (hiking leads, trail blazers, campfire monitors, etc.) to be part of our FOSF Hiking team. If interested contact Neal Wynne.

Check our website for more information. For more information: info@sholanfarms.com or 978-840-3276 or Neal Wynne at 978-870-8560 or email neal_wynne@comcast.net

Special Attractions and Events:

Apple Tree Pruning & Grafting Exercises – Saturdays Jan 16 - April 10AM-1PM weather permitting. Come learn the art of pruning and grafting while enjoying the fresh air.

Pruning Location: 1125 Pleasant Street, Leominster, Ma. **How to dress...** dress warm, wear tall, insulated boots and several layers of socks. Recommend chap stick and dry skin protection. **Tools to bring:** Choose one of the following: By-pass hand shears, By-pass loppers. Wheeler saw, Pruning “pull” saw: A nine-inch, crescent shaped blade attached to a horizontal handle. A VERY sharp three edged blade, which cuts on the draw.

For questions, please contact Joanne DiNardo at 978-870-5555. Also, check the Sholan Farms Website: www.sholanfarms.com, 978-840-FARM.

Worcester County Conservation Tree Seedling Sale – May 1, 2010, 10AM.

New this year we have collaborated with the Worcester County Conservation District 2010 Seedling Sale. Orders can be placed by visiting their website. They will be accepting orders through March 26, 2010. The pickup date is May 1, 2010. To receive the 2010 seedling brochure, please fill out your name and address on the “contact us and feedback page on website www.seedlingsale.org. If you have ordered before and are a current customer, you will receive a brochure automatically in the mail by mid February 2010. You may view and print the current brochure after February 1, 2010 by clicking on the link below. Thank you for your support! <http://seedlingsale.org/sshome.htm>. Contact number: **Worcester County -Conservation District**, 52 Boyden Road, Room 100, Holden, MA 01520, 508-829-4477 Ext. 5, www.seedlingsale.org

9th Annual Apple Blossom Festival
May 8, 2010
(Rain Date May 15, 2010 – 10AM-4PM.)
Sholan Farms
1125 Pleasant Street, Leominster, Ma 01453

- **Attention Crafters -- Deadline for application is April 30, 2010 – Contact Leon Christoforo at 978-534-4810 or email : leonchristoforo@comcast.net**
- **Butterfly Purchase -- may be done on line at www.sholanfarms.com or by calling 978-840-3276. Please make your Butterfly Reservations by April 30, 2010.**

The **Sholan Farms Apple Blossom Festival** celebrates the advent of spring in the Central Massachusetts region as evidenced by the blooming of the apple trees. The Festival is a civic celebration organized and operated by the Friends of Sholan Farms.

Sholan Farms is grateful to our many local, regional and national business sponsors for helping to partially fund this event. **Entertainment scheduled to appear: Leominster High Marching Band, Ragged Hero's, Leominster Jazz Band, Bagpipe Procession and Butterfly Release at 2:30, and Crafters.**

The Festival is an event the whole family can enjoy with children's activities, crafters, pony rides, music and food. The astounding success of the Sholan Farms Apple Blossom Festival is a direct product of the committed energy of many members of our community. Without their dedication, support and participation, producing this event would not be possible. Since 2002, the Apple Blossom Festival has grown and become a community event almost synonymous with spring to both local residents and visitors alike. For more information contact the event chairs: Event Co-Chair Peggy Christoforo at 978-534-4810 or email: peggychristoforo@comcast.net - or Event Co-Chair Neal Wynne at 978-870-8560 or email: neal_wynne@comcast.net Website www.sholanfarms.com or call 978-840-FARM.

Sholan Farms Community Garden

Calling All Gardeners- This year, Sholan Farms will be hosting a 30-plot community garden that will be open to community members. The plots will be awarded on a first come basis. This community garden is being planned, coordinated, developed, and managed by The Friends of Sholan Farms. For more information about the Sholan Farms Community Garden contact: Chairperson Nilah Gerhard 978-840-0785, Cell 978-407-4343 or Sholan Farms 978-840-3276. Planting planned for May 22 & 23 – weather permitting.

Sholan Farms Farmers & Crafters Market – new in 2010

Calling all growers and crafters – sign up for the season. We plan on starting the Sholan Farms Farmer's Market. In other communities, markets are an integral part of the urban/farm linkage and have continued to rise in popularity, mostly due to the growing consumer interest in obtaining fresh products directly from the farm. Farmers markets allow consumers to have access to locally grown, farm fresh produce, enables farmers the opportunity to develop a personal relationship with their customers, and cultivate consumer loyalty with the farmers who grows the produce. For more information, please contact us at info@sholanfarms.com or 978-840-3276 or at Neal Wynne at 978-870-8560. http://www.mass.gov/agr/markets/farmersmarkets/resources_managers.htm

10th Annual Opening Week – August 28– August 29, 2010, 10 AM to 5:30 PM Live Entertainment, Apple Picking, hayrides, hiking, and good old-fashioned fun at Sholan Farms.

Pick-Your-Own Apples and Raspberries: The Season runs from Late August through October: Daily 10AM – 5:30PM. For information call 978-840-FARM or visit us online at www.sholanfarms.com for information about events, volunteer opportunities, and membership. All events are subject to change. This year Sholan Farms has a stunning crop of apples waiting to be picked. Our varieties include: Marshall McIntosh, Macoun, Empire, Honeycrisp, McIntosh, Cortland, Paula Reds, Crabapples, Red and Golden Delicious and more (check our website for varieties).

Our store shelves will be stocked with fresh picked apples, candles, homemade jelly, honey from our own hives, cider and when in season; gourds, mums, squash, pumpkins, and more. The bakers will be busy again making apple deserts and other treats. Our concession stand will be open on weekends serving hot dogs, apple crisp, cider, coffee, cookies and other special delights.

Classic Auto's the last Sunday Afternoon beginning in August and running through the Harvest Season - With the help of our friends, Mid-State Antique Auto Club (www.midstateaac.org) we welcome owners of Classic and Antique vehicles to participate the last Sunday afternoon of each month. We will have a special area for these cars to park for your review. Check our website for more information. For more information: info@sholanfarms.com or 978-840-3276 or Neal Wynne at 978-870-8560 or email neal_wynne@comcast.net

Tours, Outings, Family Celebrations, and Hayrides:

Sholan Farms offers tours of our seasonal operations to schools and other groups on a first-come first-served basis. Tour hours are 9 AM to 5 PM Monday-Friday. A small per-person fee is charged. For reservations, please call 978-840-FARM. On a tour you can expect to see the 169-plus acres of farmland which includes orchard, meadows, and forests. The tours last about 30 minutes. All children receive complementary ¼ peck of apples, cider, and snack.

We also offer the perfect location for birthday and family celebrations. For more information please call 978-840-FARM.

Cream of the Crop Weekend – Sept 23 – Sept 26, 2010

Join us as we unveil the finest eating apple in the region – The cream of the crop celebration begins Thursday, September 23 with open house and continues throughout the weekend. Want a perfect no-fat dessert that will satisfy your sweet tooth? **Macoun may just be your apple, but, hurry, these special apples are only available in the fall.** Macoun was developed at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva in 1932. It is named for a famous Canadian fruit breeder.

9th Annual Scarecrow Festival - October 9, 2010 (rain date Oct 10) Festival Hours: Saturday 10AM- 5:00PM.

Come build your own scarecrow or view and vote on your favorite. Enjoy free entertainment on Saturday and Sunday, great food, numerous free, interactive children's events and so much more at this fun family festival! For information call 978-840-FARM or visit us online at www.sholanfarms.com for information about events, volunteer, and membership opportunities. All events are subject to change.