

Currant Affairs

January 22, 2021

Compiled once or twice a month by Nick Riordan on behalf of Yarducopia, Alaska Community Action on Toxics and the Alaska Food Policy Council

****Marks new and updated items in this issue**

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES, & SPECIAL EVENTS

January 26

UAF's Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center's online **Certified Food Protection Manager Training** from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. \$200 fee. [Learn more here/](#)[Register here.](#)

January 26

UAF's Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center hosts **Planning Your New Greenhouse** from 12:00 – 1:00 PM with Professor and Extension agriculture and horticultural agent Steve Brown as the instructor. 'For Alaskans, greenhouses are often the key to gardening success. This presentation will explore the pros and cons of different greenhouse designs, glazing (greenhouse transparent coverings) choices and more.' Free. [Learn more/](#)[Register here.](#)

January 28

Alaska Common Ground's **Climate Action Plan Series** begins with **Buildings and Energy**. Virtual. 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Free, donations encouraged. [Learn more/](#)[Register here.](#)

January 28

Alaska Botanical Garden is hosting an online workshop **Houseplants 101** from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. 'Whether your house is a jungle, or you just have a sickly-looking poinsettia left over from the holidays, you'll find something useful in this online workshop by **Education Specialist Patrick Ryan**. Learn about insect pests, trimming plants for multiplying your collection, watering, fertilizing, grooming and more.' Small fee. [Learn more/](#)[Register here.](#)

January 29, Feb

Good Earth Garden School, led by **Ellen Vande Visse**, and Mat-Su College is offering an in-person **Organic Gardening – The Comprehensive Growers Course** running from 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM over six Friday afternoon sessions. There is also an evening class option (6-8:30 PM). [Learn more/](#)[Register here.](#)

February 4

The Alaska Botanical Garden is holding an online workshop - **Fall in Love with Dahlias!** from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. 'Learn about 'everything dahlias' in this online workshop with **Greta Lewanski of Turnstone Farm**. She'll discuss sources for tubers and techniques for growing them successfully in your garden or in planters using organic growing methods. You'll learn how to

dig, divide, and save tubers for the next growing season. Once you start growing these beauties you will fall in love!' Small fee. [Learn more/Register here.](#)

February 11

The Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association presents **Steve Masterman** from Fairbanks to share insight on **Growing Fruit Trees in Alaska** from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. Masterman maintains the info-rich website [Alaska Fruit Trees](#). This is one of APFGA's monthly membership meetings that occurs every 3rd Thursday of the month during the winter. Free. [Learn more about APFGA and their news and events here.](#)

February 15

The Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage hosts a monthly membership meeting on the 2nd Monday of each winter month from 6:30-8 PM. The topic for this meeting is TBA. [Learn more about AMGA and their news and events here.](#)

February 18

Alaska Botanical Garden hosts an online workshop, **Making a Garden Journal**, from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. ' Winter is a great time to think about gardens. The seed catalogs are arriving earlier each year, tempting us with new varieties and old favorites. Creating a garden journal is a great way to plan. In this online workshop, join **Education Specialist Patrick Ryan** in preparing your own garden journal for the new season ahead.' Small fee. [Learn more/Register here.](#)

****February 23**

The Alaska Food Policy Council, Alaska Farm Bureau, and Alaska Farmers' Market Association are hosting a webinar for **Alaska Cottage Food Producers**. 'Alaska Food Code allows the sale of non-potentially hazardous foods sold directly to the consumer without a permit as long as certain conditions are met. Presenters from the Alaska DEC and MUNI of Anchorage Food Safety and Sanitation programs will provide an overview of cottage food regulations and requirements and answer questions.' [Learn more/Register here.](#)

February 25

Alaska Common Ground's **Climate Action Plan Series** continues with **Land Use and Transportation**. Free. 7:00 - 8:30 PM [Learn more about this series and register here.](#)

March 1

Good Earth Garden School, led by **Ellen Vande Visse**, offers **What's What with Potting Media?** an online, hour-long discussion to 'pool our knowledge and experience' on the subject. 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM. [Learn more/Register here.](#)

March 5 & 6th

Save the date! The annual **Spring Garden Conference** put on by the Alaska Botanical Garden will be virtual this year. Details to come.

March 11

Join **Sarah Lewis** and the Cooperative Extension Service, as part of their Reset, Refocus, and Recharge series, is hosting an hour-long cooking class - **Veggie Slam: A Week of Vegetables in One Hour**. [Learn more/Register here](#).

March 11

AK Pioneer Fruit Growers Association monthly membership meeting 6:30 – 7:30 PM – topic TBA

March 15

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage monthly membership meeting 7:00 – 8:00 PM – topic TBA

****March 20**

Alaska Farmland Trust, Alaska Farm Bureau, Homer Soil & Water Conservation District, Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center & UAF CES Anchorage are bringing you a VIRTUAL **Alaska Women in Ag Conference** in March. Registration opens on February 1st. Save the date & stay tuned for more details.

March 25

Alaska Common Ground's **Climate Action Plan Series** continues with **Food Systems**. The Muni Climate Action Plan goal is to 'support local, sustainable food systems', and the event will consist of 10+ speakers giving short presentations on this topic. 7-8:30 PM [Learn more/Register here](#).

April 3

Good Earth Garden School's **Ellen Vande Visse**, and Alaska Mill & Feed are hosting an online class **Beyond Compost – Other Ways to Build Your Soil**. 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Registration details to come.

****April 8**

Cook Inletkeeper is putting on an **Alaska Salmon-Safe Agriculture Workshop**.

****April 9**

Alaska Farmers Market Association Annual Summit. [More info here](#).

April 30

Good Earth Garden School's **Ellen Vande Visse**, and Alaska Mill & Feed are hosting an online class **Slugs, Bugs, and other Thugs – Non-Toxic Pest Management**. 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Registration details to come.

FOOD BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arctic Harvest – Winter orders ongoing; Summer subscriptions start back up in April. [More info](#)

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Alaska Division of Agriculture 2021 Mini Grants, \$1.8 Million to distribute state-wide –
Recent [press release](#) and link to their grants page: http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag_grants.htm

POSITIONS, INTERNSHIPS, & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

****Local Foods Coordinator for the Alaska Food Hub - Cook Inlet Keeper** - [Read more about the position here.](#)

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