

March 27, 2020 Daily Maine Farmer Zoom Chat Notes

Note: starting Monday, March 30 we will be going to 7 pm evening time for this group. There is a new Zoom address.

<https://maine.zoom.us/j/704929403>

Or Telephone:

US: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 704 929 403

<https://extension.umaine.edu/piscataquis/agriculture/zoom/> To view the link, chat notes and plan for the next call.

From Donna Coffin : New Farmer Relief Fund from American Farmland Trust.

<https://farmland.org/farmer-relief-fund/>

From Donna Coffin : DACF has a COVID-19 resource page that is updated frequently. Yesterday, interim guidance on essential services related to Governor Mills' recent executive order was added. <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/covid19/>

From Donna Coffin : Encourage farmers and consumers to use this directory

<https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/farm-product-and-pickup-directory/>

From Donna Coffin : BFRN Farmer Resources for COVID19

<https://extension.umaine.edu/beginning-farmer-resource-network/covid-19/>

From Rhiannon Hampson w/ Congresswoman Pingree : <https://www.cbpp.org/research/how-much-each-state-will-receive-from-the-coronavirus-relief-fund-in-the-cares-act>

From Jonathan Malacarne : Jonathan Malacarne, Agricultural Economist,

jonathan.malacarne@maine.edu

From Julia Jones, Maine Harvest FCU : Bo - thanks for all your work on the farmer survey. Will the results of that survey be publicly available? If so, where and when?

From Rhiannon Hampson w/ Congresswoman Pingree :

<file:///C:/Users/rhampson/Downloads/FAME%20loans.pdf>

From Bo Dennis : Hi Julia- The survey data will be shared out with the Beginning Farmer Resource Network with identifying aspects of the farms removed. We are working on a synthesis of the data that will be done by the end of the day and I will share that out as well. If you send me your email I can share it to you directly as well.

From Julia Jones, Maine Harvest FCU : Thank you! Julia@maineharvestfcu.coop

From Patty Duffy : Hello Patty Duffy from Maine Harvest Federal Credit Union.

From Kim Kuusela : Hi everyone, Kim Kuusela from Hannaford Local program here.

From Patty Duffy : While Maine Harvest, as a start-up our selves isn't in the position to offer emergency loans, we do have our regular Equipment loans and RE loans available. Julia Jones and I are also available to assist with business advising and technical assistance to help our farmers and food producers manage the changing conditions.

From Patty Duffy : Please see maineharvestfcu.coop for Julia's and Patty's contact information.

From Frank Wertheim : I keep getting booted out

From Frank Wertheim : has that happened to others?

From Jonathan Malacarne : Hey Kim, I'd love to take a look at any survey you have.

From Jonathan Malacarne : And I'm happy to help put results in a shareable form, for you.

From Rhiannon Hampson w/ Congresswoman Pingree :
https://www.maine.gov/decd/sites/maine.gov.decd/files/inline-files/85926_Assistance_V6.pdf

From Ali Zipparo, Maine Dept of Ag : <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/covid19/>

From Kim Kuusela : Here is a link to the survey. Also happy to email to anyone that needs it.
kimkuusela@hannaford.com . Hannaford Vendor Supplier Information Gather

From Kim Kuusela :
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8WmxpitZKUOPM424kDADx1wUCOP6fJGrbTczxhxre5UQTVPN1FGV0JRUTJMN1FUOFZQOUVMWVVIS4u>

From Patty Duffy : per FSA website emergency loan interest rate is 2.25%

From Julia Jones, Maine Harvest FCU : Thank you, Rhiannon!

From Julia Jones, Maine Harvest FCU : Seeing two different rates - Emergency Loan - Amount of Actual Loss 3.625%

From Julia Jones, Maine Harvest FCU : <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index>

From anne.lichtenwalner : Evening is ok with me

From Rhiannon Hampson w/ Congresswoman Pingree : Rhiannon.hampson@mail.house.gov
Please feel free to reach out with specific questions and I will keep digging through this new package. We are working on getting an FAQ together by the end of the day. I am on a Leg team call this afternoon with AG committee staff and will be sharing our concerns from Maine then to find out what matches!

From anne.lichtenwalner : A fabric product producer let me know that her mill connections are not working; another need!

From Jason Lilley : 7 works for me. Maybe just M.W.Th?

From Bo Dennis :
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcWWU7YZcWkEc8mahncJdY3NiERTfZ6SN7IaTjKT1m0/edit>

From rachel.schattman@maine.edu : Bo, please do add me to your list:
Rachel.schattman@maine.edu , thanks!

From Rebecca Long : I agree with Jason that a more limited number of days would be helpful if it's moving to 7

From Julia Jones, Maine Harvest FCU : Rhiannon - thank you for making time for this update - very helpful!

From Kim Kuusela : Hi all, I have to run to another meeting. I appreciate being invited. Applaud the great support you offer our local vendors all the time but especially now. I would also offer to have vendors reach out to our Hannaford Independants (typically Shop N Save locations) as potential outlets. They operate separately than Hannaford and can make independent decisions that are not tied as tightly to Hannaford requirements as it is their choice. It could be faster avenues for several vendors. If folks need help getting in touch with them, email me at kimkuusela@hannaford.com . Have a great day!

From Jonathan Malacarne : I have to run. Thanks, Donna!

From rachel.schattman@maine.edu : Thanks!