



# ECFA

# 17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL - ESSEX COUNTY FARM HIKER TOUR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## SITES

1. Arrow Farms Produce and Animal Farm  
988 Lakeshore Road 101, Maidstone
2. Wagner Orchards and Estate Winery  
1222 Lakeshore Road 103, Maidstone
3. Maidstone Bicentennial Museum  
1093 Puce Road, Essex
4. Tracey Farms  
2155 Myers Road, Woodslee
5. Cottam Rotary 48th Annual Horse Show  
Ridgeview Park, Fox Street, Cottam  
(Next to Cottam Public Library)

### Message from the ECFA

Welcome to the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Essex County Farm Hiker Tour. New innovation, specialization and persistence have helped Essex County farmers proudly produce top quality, abundant, safe and well-priced products. These products are available from the farm, at local markets and, if you ask, even at your grocery store. When looking for local products, make sure you read the label. It is important to know where your food comes from. The Essex County Federation of Agriculture (ECFA), along with community partners, have developed a “BUY LOCAL” map to help you support Essex County producers. This pamphlet features locally grown products, when they are available, the contact information for the farmers who produced them and an easy to use map to locate these agri-businesses. Supporting your county farmer supports your local economy. Nothing tastes better than locally-grown, fresh produce.

The Farm Hiker Tour is your opportunity to explore the agri-food industry in Essex County and to learn more about these farmers and their commitment. There are lots of new things for families and friends of all ages to see. All you **need** is a **car**, your **hiker map**, sturdy footwear and an **open mind** to truly enjoy the day.

We wish to thank the farm families and agri-business hosts for opening their gates and sharing their knowledge.

*Enjoy the 2010 tour!*

*Farm Credit Canada will be collecting canned goods at **WAGNER ORCHARDS AND ESTATE WINERY** in support of their “Drive Away Hunger” program. This is a nation wide campaign with a goal of gathering over 500,000 pounds of food for local food banks. Alternatively, a cash donation of \$10 will buy a bag of groceries for your local food bank. The need for food never stops. Please consider supporting your local food bank all year long.*

***Together we can drive away hunger!!!***

Thank you to the Essex-Kent Junior Farmers for their assistance!



***Brought to you by the dedicated farmers of Essex County.  
Your Neighbours!***

## Scramble

1. SCHTRALIOI \_\_\_\_\_
2. REEKLN \_\_\_\_\_
3. TCSHMAO \_\_\_\_\_
4. MENREFDET \_\_\_\_\_
5. LOARS \_\_\_\_\_
6. LLOAC \_\_\_\_\_
7. SRRSEEPV \_\_\_\_\_
8. OOERSHESH \_\_\_\_\_
9. QATIUEN \_\_\_\_\_
10. OFOH \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers: 1. HISTORICAL 2. KERNEL 3. STOMACH  
4. FERMENTED 5. SOLAR 6. LOCAL 7. PRESERVES  
8. HORSESHOE 9. ANTIQUE 10. HOOB*

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Dress for comfort. Good walking shoes and a hat are recommended because most of the activities will be outside.
- Plan ahead. Please review the map and site descriptions. You can start at any site. Watch for signs along the route for additional directions.
- Consider all the sounds, sights and smells you are exposed to on the tour. You will experience pleasure at some sensations and possibly irritation at others.
- Please no food or drink inside any buildings.
- Please do not bring pets or animals on the tour.
- Keep in mind the safety of the animals. Avoid any sudden noises or movements and please ask for permission from the farmer before physically interacting with the animals.
- **DON'T FORGET TO WASH YOUR HANDS.**
- Stay within the area of the site that has been designated for the tour.
- Ask questions! The farmers and volunteers will be happy to try and answer any questions you have about the sites.

### DID YOU KNOW? .....

- Apples are a member of the rose family and there are more than 7,000 varieties grown in the world.
- Squash is not a vegetable but a fruit. There are two types of squash - summer and winter. Winter squash, like acorn, butternut and hubbard develops more beta carotene after being stored that is has immediately after picking. The smallest squash are usually the tastiest.
- Museums collect and care for objects of scientific, artistic or historical importance and make them available for public viewing through exhibits that may be permanent or temporary. The first public museum was the Louvre Museum, established in Paris, France, in 1793.
- Essex County has 1740 total farms - approximately 3% of the 2006 Ontario total. Over 1000 of these farms are primarily grain and oilseed crops like corn and soybeans.
- Corn, also called maize, is grown on every continent except Antarctica. Corn is a staple food that is produced in greater volume than any other grain in the world. Corn is a type of grass and the number of rows of kernels is always even. The average ear of corn has sixteen rows and a total of 800 kernels.
- About 85 percent of the world's soybean crop is processed into meal and vegetable oil, and virtually all the meal is used in animal feed. Only approximately six percent of soybeans are used directly as human food.
- A horse is a member of the "equus" family. This word comes from the ancient Greece and means quickness. More than 350 breeds of ponies and horses can be found. A hoof of a horse is like a fingernail; it keeps growing and needs to be clipped for the horses's comfort.
- Female sheep are called ewes, baby sheep are called lambs and male sheep are called rams. A group of sheep is called a flock. Sheep are ruminants which mean they have more than one stomach. One pound of wool can make about ten miles of spun yarn.
- Solar energy is a term for describing a range of methods for obtaining energy from the sun. It takes 8 minutes and 17 seconds for light to travel from the sun's surface to the earth. In the late 15th century, Leonardo Da Vinci conceived of an industrial use of solar power by using concave mirrors to heat water.



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This is a self-guided tour that allows you to pick and choose which farms you would like to visit. Signs will help guide you along the route.

#### **1 Arrow Farms and Animal Farm, 988 Lakeshore Road 101, Maidstone**

The Eyraud family welcomes you to Arrow's Farm Produce and Animal Farm. This third generation family farm offers you the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in an agricultural learning experience for all ages. Visitors will be able to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, preserves as well as hormone and anti-biotic free meats raised on the farm. Visitors young and old can see the animals and even take a wagon ride tour of the fields. The Essex County 4-H Dairy Club will be present to answer questions about their organization as well as to offer you refreshments. We are a proud supporter of the Essex County "BUY LOCAL" campaign. We look forward to seeing and talking to you as you experience Essex County Agriculture.

#### **2 Wagner Orchards and Estate Winery, 1222 Lakeshore Road 103, Maidstone**

The Wagner Family operates this family farm which includes Pick-Your-Own apples and pumpkins, an on-site farm bakery, a banquet facility and winery. While touring the farm, you might enjoy a wagon ride, see the various animals, pick some apples or let the children enjoy the play area. The bakery will have fresh fruit pies and their specialty, strudels, available to purchase. The winery has a variety of fruit wines that have been made on-site for tasting and to purchase by the glass or bottle. Come out and enjoy some of the wonderful products of Essex County.

#### **3 Maidstone Bicentennial Museum, 1093 Puce Road, Essex**

The former Maidstone Town Hall, constructed in 1914, has housed the Maidstone Bicentennial Museum since 1984. Most of the artifacts found in this unique location have been obtained from the community. It showcases the history of the area with a distinctive flare. There are antique farm implements as well as memorabilia from various military events. Live country music and a BBQ with a bake sale will be on-going. There will also be demonstrations which will include weaving, rope-making and much more. Stroll through the heritage garden and see the 4-H Spice Club Herb display. Tour the selection of antique tractors to glimpse a piece of agricultural history. See where we came from so we can know where we are going.

**4 Tracey Farms, 2155 Myers Road, Woodslee**  
Tracey Farms is a second generation "Cash Crop" farming operation. The farm was originated by Raymond and Ursula Tracey and is currently operated by their son, Ray, his wife Debbie and their children. True to the words on the implement shed - the farm is located in Woodslee - "a little bit of God's country". The cash crop operation consists mainly of growing corn, soybeans and wheat using the most modern planting and harvesting technology such as no-till techniques, GPS field plotting and mapping. This farm is also home to 4-H family members involved in the 4-H Sheep Club led by their mother. Tracey Farms is also very proud to display their first MICROFIT ground mount Solar PV 10 kW generation system, which is providing green and clean power to Ontarians through a local grid connection. This is a new opportunity for the agricultural community. Learn about this new technology and its benefits. The Tracey family looks forward to seeing you on the tour.

#### **5 Cottam Rotary 48th Annual Horseshow, Ridgeview Park, Fox Street, Cottam**

The Cottam Rotary is delighted to be part of the Farm Hiker Tour for 2010. They welcome their guests to the 48th Annual Horseshow. Here you will be able to see horses in various competitions of showmanship, watch the driving skills in the Tractor Rodeo and maybe even learn how to play horseshoes. There will be a chili cook-off with local politicians and fire departments. Taste wines from local wineries and maybe even have lunch at the concession stands. A parade will wind through town around noon and there will be crafts and fresh fruits/vegetables on display to purchase. They hope you join them, enjoy your time in Cottam, meet new friends and be part of the Rotary.

The Essex County Farm Hiker Tour is presented by: Essex County Federation of Agriculture,  
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Telephone: 519-776-5159 • Fax: 519-776-4671 • Hours: Tue., Wed., Thur., 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
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