



Maple Syrup Digest

October 13, 2021

NAMSC annual meeting to be held virtually

The North American Maple Syrup Council will hold its annual meeting online via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. eastern time on Wednesday, October 27. To attend, [please register here](#) and you'll be sent a Zoom link.

Consider getting your supplies now

Supply chain issues continue to plague every industry, maple sugaring included. Along with the substantial lead times needed for jugs, we've heard about shortages of other supplies. Keep this in mind and order now - you don't want to run out of filter paper in mid-March!

COVID relief funds available for farmers

In the US, the USDA has launched the Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant Program, making available \$650 million to food processors, distributors, farmers markets, and producers to help cover costs incurred to allow your businesses to continue operating during the pandemic. Did you build out an online sales platform, offer delivery, buy a lot of plexiglass for your farm store? If so, those costs may be eligible for support from this program. Deadline is November 22, and lots more [details are available here](#). In Canada, similar programs are available, including loans from the [Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program](#) and the [EDC Business Credit Availability Program \(BCAP\) Guarantee](#).

Sugarbush Management Notebook

As you walk the woods before the snow comes, planning for next season, the [Sugarbush Management Notebook](#) from Cornell University is an invaluable resource, with information on everything from thinning and logging, to invasives and wildlife.

NAMSC Webinar: "Why Do You Tap Maple Trees, and Who Really Cares?"

In late September Future Generation's maple commodity specialist Mike Rechlin treated NAMSC participants to a presentation titled: "Why do you make maple syrup and who really cares?" The webinar followed the community engagement of Family Roots Farm and the importance of buying local to rural communities. In answering the two questions posed by the presentation title, the discussion emphasized the importance of placing syrup making in the larger contexts of community development, health and the environment. It's available to view [online here](#).

KY Maple School

The University of Kentucky has moved their November 6 maple school online. Watch [this site](#) for more details as they become available.

Online library of maple resources

The North American Maple Syrup Council maintains [mapleresearch.org](#), a curated library of research, practical skills guides, and other resources to help you make the highest quality maple products using the most sustainable management and processing practices. New items are added regularly.



A publication of the [North American Maple Syrup Council](#).

Wait. What is this that I'm reading?

You get the [Maple Syrup Digest](#) in the mail quarterly. But sometimes there are things that are worth letting you know about in between issues. So from time to time we'll use this list to share stuff with you. Don't worry, we're not going to clog up your inbox with too many emails. And we're not going to sell or share your email address with anyone else.

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