



Healthy Soil, Healthy Lee: Building Soil Health

When: Every fourth Monday, January through May 2016

Time: 7:00-8:30pm, with “soil” related desserts

Where: Jeremiah Smith Grange, Lee Hook Road, Lee, NH.

January 25 In the beginning: the genesis of soils – Chuck Cox, Tuckaway Farm; Steve Jones, Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment, UNH

Look at Lee soil types. What is it made of? Where does it come from? What is under our feet, gets under our fingernails, and contributes to every aspect of our life on Earth?

February 22 Soil Fertility: the birds and bees – Eric Sideman, Organic Crop Specialist, MOGFA

What makes soil fertile? Learn about soil structure and the chemical and microbial makeup of healthy soil. How to monitor and test soil conditions.



March 28 Causes of soil degradation – Kim McCracken, State Soil Scientist, NRCS, USDA

How does erosion, soil compaction, the decline of organic matter, heavy metals, climate change and human impact cause problems in our soil? Is there such a thing as “bad” soil? Learn about the history of soil conservation.

April 25 Repairing soil – Dorn Cox, Director of Green Start; Daimon Meeh, Field Specialist, UNH

Can crop rotation, cover and companion crops, using mixed agriculture help to repair our soil? What about no-till, strip-till or sub-soiling? Do soil amendments help?



May 23 Healthy Soil, Healthy Lee – Steve Haendler, Drumlin Farm; John Hutton, Coppal House Farm

What can Lee do to improve our soil? A hands on demonstration of local soils and what we are growing in them. Finding alternatives to herbicides and pesticides.



Series moderated by Paul Gasowski. Filmed by Cindy and Scott Jones. Sponsored by the Backyard Farming Initiative of the Lee Agricultural Commission and the Lee Public Library. For further information contact the Lee Public Library at leelibrary@comcast.net or 603-659-2626.