



# July 2018 Young Farmer & Ranchers Happenings

## Upcoming Events - July 2018

Please consider joining us and bringing a friend to the tour of Tougas Farm in Northborough that we have planned in July 2018. All young farmers are welcome to attend and may bring their children too! We are kid friendly!

### July 19, 2018 - Tour of Tougas Farm in Northborough

Tougas Family Farm has been a family owned and operated farm for the past 37 years, and offers pick your own berries, peaches, apples, pumpkins and more.

Location:  
234 Ball St,  
Northborough, MA 01532

Time:  
2 - 4 p.m.

To learn more about their operation, please visit: <http://tougasfamilyfarm.com/>.



## Harvest For All Food Drive

The Harvest for All campaign is a partnership between Farm Bureau and Feeding America which provides food to help those in need. Each year, every state Farm Bureau YF&R committee is challenged to donate more time, money and food to fight hunger.



This year, MFBF's YF&R is going to host a drive where every young farmers goes to a local farm stand



for one day and collects food to be donated to a local food pantry. Just like Stop and Shop does, the young farmers will have a box outside of the farm stand. They will ask customers before entering the farm stand to purchase one additional

item to donate to a food shelter. At the end of the day, the young farmer will arrange for the food to be donated to a local, pre-arranged food pantry for donation. We're excited to do this as it benefits the farm with a little extra money coming in for purchases as well as, most importantly, the local food pantry with fresh food being made available to them. If you know a farm that would like to participate in this program with us, please let us know!

### **Help Wanted**

Barstow's Longview Farm in Hadley, MA, has agreed to host us on Aug. 19 from 9 am until 4 pm for a drive. All food donations and proceeds will go The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. In addition to donations, volunteer help would be appreciated. Please reach out to Heidi Cooper, YF&R Chair, at [cooper.heidi.jo@gmail.com](mailto:cooper.heidi.jo@gmail.com) if you would be able to help man a table at this event. Any and all help is appreciated!



### DID YOU KNOW...

... 1 in 10 people struggle with hunger.

... 1 in 8 children struggle with hunger.

To help battle these daunting statistics, Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation's (MFBF's) Young Farmer and Rancher (YF&R) committee is hosting a 'Harvest For All' drive.



**Date:** Aug. 19

**Location:** Barstow's Dairy Store and Bakery at Longview Farm

**Time:** 8 am - 6 pm

**How Can You Help:** Stop by Barstow's on Aug. 19 and pick up an extra item – or two – to donate at MFBF's YF&R table in the store. You can also donate via cash or check.

**All donations (food and monetary) will go to The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts located in Hatfield.**

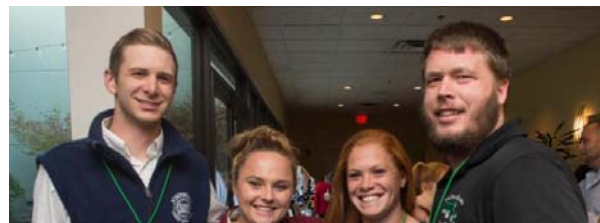
**FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
TINYURL.COM/BARSTOWFOODDRIVE**

#### Other Donations

If your farm already donates product to local food pantries, please be sure to fill out this donation form: <http://www.farmbureau.co/harvest-for-all-donations/> so we can track your contribution as part of our total.

#### American Farm Bureau Competitive Events

If you are interested in participating in any of the below competitions, please email Katelyn at [katelyn@mfbf.net](mailto:katelyn@mfbf.net). She will let you know when applications become



available for these competition.

#### American Farm Bureau Federation's Achievement Award

The Achievement Award recognizes Young Farmers & Ranchers who have excelled in their farm or ranch and have honed their leadership abilities to superiority. Participants are involved in production agriculture with a majority of their income subject to normal production risks. Judges evaluate competitor's excellence in management, growth and scope of their enterprise and self-initiative that have been displayed throughout the farm or ranch.



#### American Farm Bureau Federation's Excellence in Agriculture Award

The Excellence in Agriculture Award spotlights young Farm Bureau members who are agricultural enthusiasts but have not earned a majority of their income from an owned production agriculture enterprise in the past three years. Competitors are evaluated on their understanding of agricultural issues, leadership experiences and achievement, and their ability to communicate their agricultural story.

#### American Farm Bureau Federation's Discussion Meet Competition

The American Farm Bureau Federation Discussion Meet competitive event simulates a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each participant. This competition is evaluated on an exchange of ideas and information on a pre-determined topic. Participants build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems.

To view the questions for this year's Discussion Meet, please visit:  
<http://www.farmbureau.co/yfr-discussion-meet/>.

## Future Events and Meetings



Below is a list of tentative future tours and meeting dates for our group. If you have any questions, please feel free to respond back to this email.

#### July

July 19 at 2 pm - Tour of Tougas Farm in Northborough

#### August

Aug. 2 - MA Ag Club Tour of Valley (\$50) - if you would like to attend this, please email Katelyn Parsons,

our staff coordinator, at [katelyn@mfbf.net](mailto:katelyn@mfbf.net) to reserve your spot.  
Aug. 19 - Harvest for All Food Drive at Barstow's Farm in Hadley  
Aug. 21 at 3 pm - Tour of Darrin Mendes' farm in Dartmouth

#### September

Sept. 6 at 4 pm - Tour of Sauchuk Farm in Plympton  
Sept. 23 - Booth at Norfolk Aggie  
Sept. 29 - Tour of Ioka Valley Farm in Hancock

#### October

Tour of Howden Farm in Sheffield  
Tour of Mayflower Cranberries in Plympton

#### November

Nov. 29 & 30 - MFBF Annual Meeting in Framingham

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To learn more about MFBF's YF&R programs and upcoming events visit [mfbf.net](http://mfbf.net)

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