

March was show month for OFA. April is too!

Winter means shows and OFA staff meet a lot of members that way.

A lot of interaction early in March at the London Farm Show <https://twitter.com/i/status/1103682126858334208>. Also at the Ottawa Farm Show. <https://twitter.com/i/status/1105543907679584257>. Both shows draw crowds from a wide area.

Other more local shows in March:

- ✓ March 5—Haliburton Food & Ag Development Forum, Danielle Collins
- ✓ March 6—East Central Farm Show, Lindsay, Mark Torrey
- ✓ March 27—Muck Show, Bradford, Leah Emms
- ✓ March 27,28—Drayton Farm Show, Gord Grant & select WFA directors



Early April:

- ✓ April 3,4—Canadian Dairy XPO, Stratford, Western MSR Team
- ✓ April 3, 4—National Poultry Show, London, Western MSR Team

Quick Updates

April 1st and gas prices are up due to the federal **Fossil Fuel Carbon Charges**. Farm fuels are exempt if used exclusively for farm purposes and [CRA Form L402](#) is completed and given to your fuel supplier before delivery. No retroactive rebates. On-going lobbying happening right now for farmers using card locks and to extend exemption to heating livestock and drying grain. See OFA's factsheet for more info > [Fossil Fuel Charges](#).



OSPCA—April 1st, and no fooling, this organization is no longer responding to farm animal cases. OSPCA continues talks with the province. Farmer's can still rely on the Farm & Food Care Hotline, 519 837 1326.



Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Ontario AgriCentre 1-800-668-3276
100 Stone Rd W, Suite 206 519-821-8810 fax
Guelph, ON N1G 5L3



Gord Grant

Member Service Rep.
1-877-343-5444
gord.grant@ofa.on.ca

Wellington

Pizza Perfect 2019

WFA directors did their part involving Grade 3 students from Waterloo and Wellington in the process of grinding grain into flour. Students watched grain being ground, had a chance to sift whole wheat flour and took their turn at hand grinding grain. The event is held over two days and up to 400 students and 50-60 teachers and parents participate each day. This year’s attendance pushed the maximum and some schools had to be turned away. A good position for an event in its 22nd year.

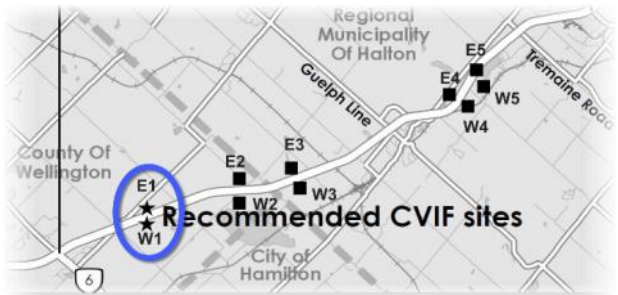


Drayton Farm Show

WFA has a premium position at the Drayton Farm Show—right across from the pie counter. This year Gord Grant and WFA directors had a good number of good chats with members. The crowds were in line with previous years. Featured at the booth were the NEW Fossil Fuels Charge with OFA Factsheet and a chance to fill out a ballot to win the OFA/Honda draw.

MTO weigh scales heading to prime Puslinch land?

MTO is focusing in on properties between Victoria Rd and Watson Rd on the 401 as the best option for new Commercial Vehicle Inspection Facilities to replace those at Milton near Trafalgar Rd. The addition of more lanes including collector lanes through Milton is forcing the weigh scales out of their current location. Barclay Nap, WFA Puslinch director has taken concerns of members impacted by the move to Puslinch Council. Barclay also presented the issue to OFA’s PAC.



Waterloo

Region of Waterloo Climate Change Action

Ken Hunsberger, WFA President and Gord Grant, OFA MSR continue to participate with the Region on planning for extreme weather events. Expanding funding to RWQ program to expand the list of BMPs covered is one of the suggestions to make Waterloo farms more resilient.

Climate Change and Extreme Weather

Home / Living Here / Environmental Sustainability / Climate Change and Extreme Weather



Dufferin

Cows Don't Skate in Dufferin

DFA was successful in having the Farm Tax Property Ratio reduced from 0.25 to 0.23 which will keep the tax burden on farmland the same in 2019 as it was in the previous year.

Key Elements to a Successful Lobby:

- ✓ Maintain regular communications with townships
- ✓ Amaranth Township requested a report from the County Treasurer supportive of a reduced farm ratio.
- ✓ DFA and OFA (Bill McCutcheon, Ben Lefort, Gord Grant) met with the County Treasurer to assess the County position on reducing ratio. Followed-up with General Government Services to make sure the resolution to reduce ratio would go to the County Council
- ✓ DFA lobbied the rural township plus targeted key councilors in Orangeville and Shelburne
- ✓ Strong farm lobby on deck for budget discussions prior to vote by County Council

