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May 27, 2022

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## Get the Dirt Urban and Small Farm Soil Health Conference

Lori Hoagland will be one of the presenters at the Get the Dirt – Urban & Small Farm Soil Health Conference on Thursday, June 2, 2022. For more information, view the [flyer](#). Register at <https://bit.ly/get-the-dirt>.



**Urban and Small Farm Soil Health Conference for Growers and Ag Professionals**

**DIG IN and GET THE DIRT** on soils and soil health! This is a full-day conference training for conservation and agricultural professionals working with urban and small farms, vegetable growers, and diversified farms. Growers are also welcome to attend. Learn about microbiology, soil contamination, farmer projects, new NRCS programs for small farms, and more.

Thursday, June 2, 2022  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM EST

Register: <https://bit.ly/get-the-dirt>

**AGENDA**

**9:00-9:30 – WELCOME**

9:30 - 9:45 - Dr. Lori Hoagland - Professor of Soil Microbial Ecology, Purdue University – Intro to soils and their importance for crop, human and environmental health

*Soil contamination*

9:45-10:30 - Dr. Anna Paltseva – Endowed Assistant Professor of Urban Soil Science at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) – Testing soils for contaminants and methods to address them.

10:30-10:45 - BREAK

10:45-11:45 - Dr. Candis Hunter - Environmental Health Specialist – Exploring behaviors and interventions to reduce soil contaminant exposures among community gardeners and farmers.

11:45-12:00 - Steve Yoder - Community Development Regional Educator, Purdue Extension - Setting the stage to audience discussion

12:00-1:00 - LUNCH (free, must register for the event)

*Soil and crop management in urban environments*

1:00-1:45 - Dr. John Taylor - Associate Professor of Agroecology at the University of Rhode Island. – Design and management strategies for regenerating healthy soils through urban agriculture

*Soil health tests*

1:45-2:30 - Dr. Roland Wilhelm - Assistant Professor of Soil Microbiology, Purdue University – Understanding laboratory soil health tests: where are we now and where are we going.

2:30-2:45 - BREAK

2:45-3:45 - Steve Yoder - Community Development Regional Educator, Purdue Extension - Audience discussion

3:45-4:00 - NRCS and SWCDs – New resources to manage soil health in urban and small farms

4:00-4:45 - SARE Farmer/Rancher Project Reports

- o Ann Carnes - Leveraging biodiversity to improve profitability on a small-scale vegetable farm.
- o Caydee Terrell - Examining the utility of black soldier fly larvae composting on urban farms.

4:45-5:00 - CLOSING

Event organizers & sponsors:

- Purdue University
- Purdue Extension
- Urban Soil Health Program
- USDA-NRCS
- ISDA (Specialty Crop Block Grant Program)
- North Central SARE
- Hoosier Young Farmers Coalition
- Partners IN Food and Farming



## Vicki Stirm to Introduce Latinx 8th Graders to Horticulture

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, in conjunction with the College of Ag. Office of Multicultural Programming (OMP), C-PASA (Cargill - Purdue Agribusiness and Science Academy), and Indiana’s Juntos 4-H program, Vicki Stirm will be presenting a short program focusing on minorities in Horticulture. The students are Latinx and in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She will introduce them to what our department has to offer, then do a short horticulture-related activity with the students. There will be a total of approximately 50 students (and 13 leaders) and will be divided into 4 groups.

## Thiti Suttiyut Received Bayer Travel Grant Award

Thiti Suttiyut (Ph.D., Widhalm Lab) received the College of Ag Bayer AG and Bayer Crop Science Plant Breeding Travel Award. This \$500 award will help defray the cost to travel to Botany 2022 in Anchorage, Alaska on July 24-27th.

Congratulations Thiti!

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## Thiti Suttiyut Receives Best Paper Award at the Purdue Center for Plant Biology Retreat

Congratulations to Thiti Suttiyut (Widhalm Lab) for receiving the Best Paper Award at the Purdue Center for Plant Biology Retreat earlier this week!

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## Upcoming Field Days

More detailed information later when these start to come together:

- June 23<sup>rd</sup> Mint Field Day
  - July 21<sup>st</sup> Purdue Fruit, Veg & Hemp Field Day
  - July 29<sup>th</sup> Small Farm Education Field Day
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### Newsletters:

Facts for Fancy Fruits: <https://fff.hort.purdue.edu>

Vegetable Crops Hotline: <https://vegcropshotline.org/>

Purdue Landscape

Report: <https://www.purduelandscapereport.org>