



Maple Producer's Winter Conference

Verona, New York

Dear maple enthusiast:

October 15, 2009

On behalf of the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill FFA, I cordially invite you to the 15th Annual Maple Producer's Winter Conference. The conference is scheduled for **January 8th and 9th, 2010** at the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill (V.V.S.) High School, Verona, New York.

11th Year at V.V.S.! -- Can you believe it?! For the past ten years, we've worked very hard to create the best Maple Conference in the Northeast. Here's the statistics from last year -- nearly 600 people attend the show; 37 of the top maple presenters in North America, 36 workshops, and 27 of the industry's best vendors with 50 tables of maple supplies and equipment!

Great time to be a Maple Producer! -- With a growing maple industry and emphasis on maple production, many producers are experiencing increased sales of maple syrup. What better place to learn about this industry than one of the largest maple conferences dedicated exclusively to maple??!

Friday Night format awesome! -- More than 200 people attended again last year at the Friday Night Trade Show and guest speaker; this year's presentation will be at 7:00 PM with the **Maple Trade Show open from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM.** **New This Year – Friday Night Maple Auction!**

That's right! Coming for the first time, we'll be hosting a Friday Night Maple equipment and supplies auction. We plan to start the auction at 8:00 PM or right after the Friday night speaker. Bring your used or even new maple equipment and place it in Friday night's auction. To register maple items for the auction, write out a description of the equipment and return to us by December 18th. Information on auction items will be made available via email request after December 28th. Auction service fee will be 10% of auction price paid by seller. Please consider selling a piece of equipment in this year's auction.

For individuals requiring lodging, reservations for overnight accommodations may be made at Hotel at Vernon Downs, Route 31, Vernon (315) 829-3400. **(WHEN REGISTERING AT THE HOTEL, PLEASE MENTION THE MAPLE CONFERENCE TO RECEIVE A SPECIAL CONFERENCE RATE OF ONLY \$69!)** The V.V.S. High School is located between Utica and Syracuse on State Route 31. From State Route 5 in Vernon, take State Route 31 West. From Oneida or Rome, take State Route 365 to State Route 31 East. Just two minutes from NYS Thruway Exit 33, the ideal central location of the school is easily accessible.

Plan Now to Attend –Pre-registration deadline is December 15th

Advanced registration is \$13 for Friday night only, \$25 for Saturday only, or \$34 for both Friday and Saturday. Registration includes admittance to trade show and all workshops and light meal Friday evening and Saturday continental breakfast, and all-you-can-eat luncheon buffet. No confirmation will be mailed and no refunds or pre-registrations. Receipts are available at conference registration. Please make checks payable to: "V.V.S. FFA". We look forward to another great maple conference.

Sincerely,

Keith Schiebel
Conference Trade Show Coordinator