



Interior Alaska Farm Forum Schedule

Pike's Waterfront Lodge, Friday Jan. 31st and Saturday Feb. 1st, 2025

Friday Jan. 31 st , 2025		
8 – 9 am	Registration Table Open - Coffee and Tea Available	
9 am	Opening and Welcome	Grier Hopkins, <i>FNSB Mayor</i> Brian Scoresby, <i>AK Division of Ag</i> Jodie Anderson, <i>UAF IANRE</i>
10 am – noon	Bus Leaves for Tour of Offbeet Farm (pre-registration required)	
	Binkley Room	Upstairs Meeting Room
10 – 11 am	AFFECT Food Security – Farmer Training, Land Access, and Shared Infrastructure – Callen Christensen, <i>Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District</i> Golden Heart Grown – Killian Felt, <i>FEDC</i> IAFN & the \$5.00 Challenge –Cindee Karns, <i>Interior Alaska Food Network</i> and Mel Sikes, <i>Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District</i>	Foraker Grant Writing Workshop – Laurie Evans Dinneen – <i>The Foraker Group</i>
11 am – noon	Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Presentation – Heather Branfold-Faber, <i>Alaska State Vets Office</i>	
Noon–1:30 pm	Lunch and Topic Table Discussions	
1:30 – 1:45 pm	Break	
1:45 – 2:15 pm	Farmers Market Association Update – Brad St. Pierre, <i>Alaska Famer’s Market Association</i>	Flower Growers Meet and Greet
2:15 – 2:45 pm	Applying for AgWest’s New Producer Grant – Abby Lutmer, <i>Heartspace Community Farm</i> and Clay Venetis, <i>Fairbanks Farm Access</i>	Using Ozone in the Chiller for Season Extension – Ron Illingworth, <i>North Pole Peonies</i>
2:45 – 3 pm	Break	
3 – 4 pm	5-minute Lightning Round Presentations – Farmers Update on their Farms	
4 – 4:30 pm	Improving Soil Quality & Productivity – Mingchu Zhang, <i>UAF Agricultural & Forestry Station</i>	Farm Service Agency Programs – Deb White, <i>Farm Service Agency</i>
4:30 – 5 pm	Our High Tunnel Story: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly – April Smurda, <i>Growing Roots Farm</i>	Foraker Grant Writing Workshop Follow-up



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Saturday Feb. 1 st , 2025		
9 am	Opening and Welcome Coffee and Tea	Fritz Wozniak, <i>Fairbanks Farm Bureau</i>
	Binkley Room	Upstairs Meeting Room
9:30 – 10 am	USDA Programs - Braden Pitcher, <i>Natural Resources Conservation Service</i>	New Growers School – Marji Illingworth, <i>North Pole Peonies</i>
10 – 10:30 am	Buyer’s Panel – Erica Moeller from <i>Roaming Root</i> , Christopher Hutchquist from <i>Coop Market and Deli</i> , Brad Spitz from <i>Walmart</i> , Steve Davilla from <i>Alaska Feed</i> , Chris Beks from <i>North Pole Peonies</i>	
10:30 –10:45 am	Break	
10:45 –11:45 am	5-minute Lightning Round Presentations – Farmers Update on their Farms	
Noon – 1:30 pm	Lunch and Topic Table Discussions	
1:30 – 1:45 pm	Break	
1:45 – 2:15 pm	5-minute Lightning Round Presentations – Farmers Update on their Farms	
2:15 – 2:45 pm	Planning and Starting a Farm in the Nenana Totchaket Ag Lands - Tarn and Adrianna Coffey, <i>Coffey Farm</i>	Flower Growers Meet and Greet
2:45 – 3:15 pm	Farm Labor Panel Discussion: John Dart from <i>Dart-AM Farms</i> , Cindee Karns from <i>IAFN</i> , Marji Illingworth from <i>North Pole Peonies</i>	Farm Tax Breaks – Clay Venetis <i>Fairbanks Farm Access</i>
3:15 – 3:30 pm	Break	
3:30 – 4 pm	Small Diversified Farming in Alaska – Megan Schulze, <i>Frontieress Farm</i>	Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA): Produce Safety Presentation – Heather Branvold-Faber <i>AK State Vets Office</i>
4 – 4:30 pm	The Cost of the Last Mile: Lessons Learned at Manley – John Dart, <i>Dart-AM Farms</i>	Cultivating a Forest Garden: Turning Challenges into Opportunities – Zach Yates, <i>Arctic Eden Farm</i>
4:30 – 5 pm	Wetland Regulations for Farmers – Irene Wood, <i>Golden Heart Gardens</i>	Becoming a Producer in Alaska – Kasha Ostbloom, <i>Moosetard</i>
5 – 7 pm	After Forum Mixer with Appetizers and Drinks – Sponsored by AG West and Ursa Major Distilling	