

At Sanborn Mills Farm, preserving the past and planning for the future never stops!

## Sanborn Mills Farm



## February 2016 eNews

[www.sanbornmills.org](http://www.sanbornmills.org)

### Why does maple sap run this time of year?

"Frosting nights and sunny days, make the maple pulses play!" as the traditional song "Maple Sweet" says. Nights below freezing and days above signal maple trees to send life giving sap up to the limbs in preparation for the spring. This year, winter temperatures have confused everyone including maple trees, but we are all hoping for a productive season. Last year, the Boisvert's of Journey's End Maple Farm began tapping the trees at Sanborn Mills Farm and they are a welcome partner.



[Learn more . . .](#)

### Getting itchy for planting??

If you saved seeds from your most productive and disease resistant plants last season or you are wondering about a packet of seeds you bought a few years ago, this is the perfect time of year to do some germination testing.



[Learn more . . .](#)

### Farm facts . . .

Now that the days are getting longer, our chickens are laying eggs again. How many hours of daylight do chickens need to lay? Typically, they need 14 hours. Opinions vary on the practice of using artificial light in the winter to keep them laying. What do you think?



[Learn more . . .](#)



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## History facts . . .

Six generations of Sanborns lived and worked on this farm from 1773 to 1996. It all started when John Sanborn, who grew up on the seacoast, purchased land that included the site of a working water-powered up-and-down sawmill on what was then called Gilmanton Pond. Built by John's father Elisha in partnership with Abraham Bachilor in the 1760s, the sawmill stood where the gristmill is today.



[Learn more . . . .](#)

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## 2016 Workshop series at the farm . . .

Working in gardens and in the woods with animals is satisfying and reduces dependence on fossil fuels. We've got some of the most experienced and knowledgeable instructors right here at the farm.

This year our draft animal workshops are concentrated on training oxen teamsters. We will be expanding into workshops with draft horses in 2017.



[Learn more . . .](#)

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## Looking for ideas on restoring your historic home or barn?

Please join us March 12 & 13 for the Old House and Barn Expo at the Radison, Center of NH Armory in Manchester.

In addition to a wide range of contractors, the expo features lectures, special demonstrations, and live music.

The expo is only held once every two years, so don't miss out!

[Learn more](#) . . . .

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## Position Announcement . . .

Sanborn Mills Farm announces an opening for Farm Educator with a projected hire date of **spring 2017**. This start date allows for both the farm staff and prospective applicants to plan carefully for the next phase of the farm's agricultural program.

[Learn more](#) . . .

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A traditional New Hampshire farm and nonprofit organization dedicated to sustainability, creativity, and preserving folklife and traditional agricultural knowledge so that the best of the past can help shape our future.