



USDA Northeast Climate Hub Update

- The Northeast Hub completed and USDA published on June 23rd the “Northeast Regional Climate Hub Assessment of Climate Change Vulnerability, Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies”. This study was a collaboration between USDA and various university partners, especially Dan Tobin at Penn State.
- The Northeast Hub Land Grant University Partners carried out a survey of over 6,000 Northeast LGU Researchers and Extension personnel to determine Climate Adaptation knowledge, strategies, and limitations. Rama Radhakrishna presented preliminary results to participants at the Climate Science Learning Network (CS-LN) Advisory Board meeting (this group is developing content for the Hubs) and to the NE Climate Hub. Results will be used to inform the next stages of the NE Hub outreach strategy.
- The Hub advertised for a full-time NE Hub Specialist (Forest Service permanent employee) with anticipation of the new hire in place by end of July.
- The Hub coordinated and submitted a collaborative NIFA proposal that would create an undergraduate corps of Climate Adaptation Interns across the NE states.
- The Hub set up new partnership agreements with the University of District Columbia, and the three 1890’s LGUs in the Northeast.
- USDA staff visited with most Northeast State LGU Experiment Station and Extension Staffs to learn more about programs and capabilities and to develop further Hub collaborations.
- The USDA has institutionalized the Hubs, bringing staffing up to at least 4 FTEs per region.
- The University of Maryland and others from the Hub will be hosting a Greenhouse gas mitigation meeting for the Northeast next winter in Beltsville, MD.
- The Hub is working with additional groups including State Climatologists and NRCS state representatives to develop materials and deliver content.
- Hub summer interns Isabelle Gorham (NH) and Luke Blair (PA) have started projects interviewing farmers and forest land owners about climate resilience.
- The Hub focus for the upcoming year will be synthesizing adaptation material and linking better with Extension and other outreach components. We anticipate holding an “NE Adaptation Forum” for LGU partners and others early next year.

11/15

Rotation of summer NERA/NEED/CARET Meetings

- 2016 Pennsylvania
- 2015 New Hampshire
- 2014 Wisconsin-joint with NC
- 2013 New York
- 2012 Vermont
- 2011 Connecticut
- 2010 Baltimore
- 2009 Maine
- 2008 Maryland
- 2007 Rhode Island
- 2006 New York Geneva
- 2005 Massachusetts
- 2004 Connecticut
- 2003 New Jersey
- 2002 West Virginia
- 2001 Pennsylvania

*According to 11/24/15
 email from Paula -
 at director for a
 volunteer first*

With Extension Directors *Rhode Island and New York exchanged host years - Rhode Island Centennial in 1992.

**Vermont hosted (NY-Ithaca was originally scheduled to host) the 2012 NC/NE Joint Summer Meeting in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the passage of the Morrill Act on July 2, 1862.

About the NERA Meetings

The NERA Directors have been rotating their meetings among member states and have in recent years settled on the week following the 4th of July holiday, and the Northeast Directors of Extension have arranged their times and locations to meet with us. Thus, it is proposed that NERA continue rotating among states in the established order and continue meeting on the schedule followed during the past few years. Locations can be changed if a state wishes to issue an invitation for a special occasion and the scheduled host institution agrees to delay their obligation for one year. This proposal would result in the

following schedule of host institutions and dates. The host institution will be responsible for choosing the specific site for the meetings.