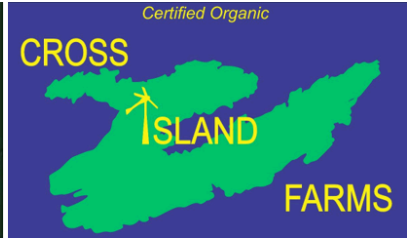


APRIL GREETINGS FROM CROSS ISLAND FARMS



WHAT IS A CHICKEN TRACTOR



Now that the chickens have become acclimated to the outside weather they have been permanently placed in a "chicken tractor," a four by sixteen foot enclosure wrapped in wire to protect the birds from predators and to keep them inside, and moved daily so the birds can feast on fresh grass and insects.

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE TV SHOW



The first six episodes of The Home-Scale Forest Garden TV show aired on WPBS, Watertown on Mondays in March and the first two Mondays in April, The final two will air Mondays April 20 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. If you missed the shows or live outside of the area, you can stream them on demand at <https://watch.wpbstv.org/show/the-home-scale-forest-garden/> If you live outside the area and would like your local PBS station to air it, please call them and request that they schedule it at no cost to them.

WHO DID THIS



Telltale tooth marks on this severed trunk discovered in the Edible Forest indicate that some critter feasted on this native basswood tree planted ten years ago by yours truly. But what critter? Likely a beaver.

WHO'S VOLUNTEERING



This past weekend Cross Island Farms hosted a “Willow Forage Planting” Field Day in the farm’s pasture. Above, from left, Christine Georgakakos (SUNY-ESF), Chris Kemnah (NOFA-NY), David Belding (Cross Island Farms), Cody Holubeck (American Farmland Trust) and Shalyn Tilley listen to Ben Roosa (American Farmland Trust) (far right) explain how the willow cuttings will be planted. Below, Cody, Ben, Chris and Christine plant the stems. Within a year, the trees will have grown enough to be browsed by the farm’s beef cows, a supplemental source of food especially during times of drought.



WHERE IS DANI SCHEDULED TO SPEAK OR TABLE



In Person: Talk at Colgate University

Thursday, April 16 at noon

What is a Forest Garden and

What Can You Plant in It

13 Oak Drive, Hamilton, NY 13346

In Person: Talk in the

Clark Room, James C. Colgate Hall,

Thursday, April 16, 5:30 p.m.,

Native Perennial Food Plants for Your Edible Landscape

13 Oak Drive, Hamilton, NY 13346

Zoom Talk: California Horticultural Society

Monday, May 18 7:00 p.m. Pacific Time

What is a Forest Garden and How Can You Create One

(Tailored to Mediterranean climate)



NOTICE THE SIGNS OF LIFE ALL AROUND

Dani Baker

Owner [Cross Island Farms](#) | Creator [The Enchanted Edible Forest](#) | Author [The Home-Scale Forest Garden: How to Plan, Plant and Tend a Resilient Edible Landscape](#)

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