

Hello out there!

Long time no talk... Happy new year to you!!

Here's hoping you caught the same sense of relief that I did over the holidays. After end of the year reporting, reporting, reporting it was just the thing!!

We are back on the horse by now and here's what's cookin'.

Guess what?

**Registration for the 2009 Tree and Landscape Short Course is now open. February 20 at the Florida State Fairgrounds**

What's on the agenda? Lots of hot topics and in demand speakers!!

Are you interested in:

Fertilizer ordinances, marketing your business, green roofs, palm diseases.....?

5 ISA CEUs, 4 FNGLA, don't know DACS CEUs yet...

\$40 Event includes CEUs, lunch and entrance to Spring Expo trade show.

Click here for more information

<http://prohort.ifas.ufl.edu/events/tree-landscape-short-course.shtml>

This is always a hoping event with a large turnout.

Hope to see you there!!

### **Call for Walk-In CEU Suggestions**

Have you been watching a lot of T.V. over the past few weeks?

Are you neurotically drawn to informational shows?

Have you seen any programs lately I might be able to get approved for CEUs?

I would like to refresh our collection of walk in videos for CEUs. I have seen shows like those explaining how things like fertilizer are made, or maybe NOVA programs that I might be able to get approved for CEUs.

If you have seen any lately that you think might fit the bill, let me know. It would be great if you could email the site and title to me or if you just have half of a memory of it I might be able to use that to find what the program is.

Anything you have would be appreciated!! I don't know if it will be approved but it would be nice to try...

### **On another Big note:**

I have something important to tell you that you probably do not want to hear... (Who knows maybe you will jump for joy...).

I am taking a position in Polk County probably beginning on Feb 2. I will be doing pesticide licensing and some small farms programming on the side. As you might

know I live really close to that office. In fact, if I become ambitious enough I could ride my bike to it.

I have absolutely no reason to leave Hillsborough, except that this opportunity in Polk is so close to home and kids schools (3 different ones, thank you!). I will also be doing some small farms programming on the side there, although they primarily want pesticide licensing and exam preps.

If you remember a small farm is where I come from. It's also where I see myself going and where I have always wanted to be. I'm sure you can imagine the elation at being given an opportunity to get better at what you love right down the street from your house...

I will be coming back here to finish out some events so do not panic about the short course. Things are coming along well and I will be following through with what has to be done between here and there and then coming back for that and other youth events I inherited when the Ornamental Production Agent position became vacant in March.

In the future I will likely be helping out with pesticide testing once a month until the position is filled. You might know that filling the position can take a long time. I will still have access to this list and will see what I can do about sending notices out to you. A lot of the events will still be the same, and once the position is filled I will likely come over to do programs with the new Agent here and there. The details of the extent to which I will still be helping in Hillsborough County are yet to be worked out.

I have had a great time here and learned so much! You have all been very welcoming and gracious in overlooking my inexperience in a lot of ways. I could not have had a better place to start and I really appreciate it! I got to know a few of you pretty well and I will miss the mutual respect and trust we have shared. Call me in Polk if you get desperate!

I will be in touch over the coming weeks to let you know how things develop. I do not yet have the exact date, but February 2 is the target and I should know the final date soon.

Hope to shake your hand at the Short Course!

### **Mary Beth Henry**

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