

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



WELLS RESERVE TO HOST PANEL ON FOOD AND CLIMATE

WELLS, Maine, August 13, 2013 — How will climate change affect what you eat and where your food is grown? Will Maine lose the ability to grow some food crops while gaining others? What will be necessary for farms to be resilient in the face of climate change? Explore the connections between food choice and climate change at the Wells Reserve at Laudholm on August 27 at 6 pm through a moderated panel discussion with Maine Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, Maine Farmland Trust director John Piotti, and conservationist, gardener, and writer Mort Mather.

A \$5 suggested donation includes site admission. Support for the program comes from the NOAA Climate Stewards Education Project. Visit wellsreserve.org or call 207-646-1555 for more information.

“The Wells Reserve at Laudholm is honored to bring together three experts on farm policy, land use, and organic farming,” said Nik Charov, president of Laudholm Trust, who will moderate the discussion. “We will ask our guests the simple question: What does the future hold for farming and what does farming hold for our future?”

Rep. Pingree has pushed Congress to reform policies in ways that will support local food movements that improve community health. She will discuss federal legislation meant to support farmers, increase consumer access to healthy foods, and provide stable funding for local agriculture.

Piotti works daily to save farmland, advocate for farming, and secure a future for Maine farmers. He has been focused on agriculture for 18 years as a researcher, farm program manager, and state legislator.

Mather will talk about the connection between choosing to eat local foods and reducing our carbon footprint. As past president of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, and current supplier of fresh produce to the well regarded Joshua’s Restaurant in Wells, he has long “walked the talk” of local sustainable farming.

The Wells Reserve at Laudholm expands knowledge about coasts and estuaries, engages people in environmental learning, involves communities in conserving natural resources, and makes connections between science and the arts. The work of the Wells Reserve and the care of its historic site are made possible by the non-profit Laudholm Trust. The Wells Reserve at Laudholm is located at 342 Laudholm Farm Road, just off U.S. Route 1 near the Wells-Kennebunk line.

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