

## Natural Products and Agriculture Working Group

### 2022 Activities and Accomplishments Summary

- Continued development of a story map to highlight agriculture and forestry activities in Auburn. More than 150 points have been logged with photos of cropland, pasture, orchards, community gardens etc. This project will continue in 2023.
- Hosted Karen Scammon for presentation and discussion of State tax programs: Farmland, Tree Growth and Open Space.
- Hosted Matt Manson (Blackie's) and Chris Peircy (Auburn Schools Nutrition Director) for discussion of work being done to get more local produce into school lunch programs.
- Hosted Paul Peters, Ag Consultant, for discussion of PFAS issues
- Hosted DACF representatives Flanagan and Pfaeler for update on State research and evaluation of PFAS contamination.
- Hosted Lynn Holland for presentation and discussion concerning invasive Amythas "Crazy" worms in Maine, including Auburn.
- Hosted Julia Harper, Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn for discussion of model city ordinances to support farm stands, farmers markets, animals etc. as well as a GFC survey conducted in L-A showing interest in composting, canning, hoop greenhouses, fruit trees and honey bees.
- Provided information on USDA Urban Agriculture grant programs. Much of Auburn is located in areas which are eligible for these grants.
- Provided input to SNRB concerning possible changes to the income requirement and strip zones within the AGRP.