



## **Welcome to the 90th Eastern Plant Board Meeting!**

You are cordially invited to attend the 2015 Eastern Plant Board meeting will be held April 7—9 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey and the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society will once again be joining us in hosting concurrent meetings with their members.

### **About Portsmouth**

Settled in 1623, Portsmouth served as a focal point on the eastern seaboard until the late 1800's when the shipping industry declined with the rise of the railroads. Portsmouth sits near the mouth of the Piscataqua (Pis·cat·a·qua) River which divides New Hampshire and Maine. Today, Portsmouth is a city of roughly 21,000 people and is home to the country's first naval ship yard, which sits at the mouth of the Piscataqua and employs more than 4,600 workers.

The city is known for its beauty, walking trails, historic buildings, sidewalk cafes, culinary delights, live music and shopping. There are museums, a waterfront park, deep sea fishing, whale watching, and the Isles of Shoals Steamship Co.

The COAST Trolley service makes frequent stops throughout the city and the surrounding areas for \$1.50.

### **Getting to Portsmouth**

- Logan International Airport (BOS) in Boston, MA is 60 miles south of Portsmouth Sheraton Harborside Hotel.
- Portland International Jetport (PWM) in Portland, ME is 50 miles from the Portsmouth Portsmouth Sheraton Harborside Hotel.
- Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT) in Manchester, NH is 50 miles from the Portsmouth Sheraton Harborside Hotel.

Driving Directions to Portsmouth Sheraton Harborside Hotel:

- From Logan International Airport (BOS) - Take Interstate 95 N to Exit 7. Turn right off the exit and proceed for approximately 1.2 mile. Bear right at the blinking light and the hotel entrance is approximately 50 yards on the left.
- From Manchester Airport (MHT) - Take route 101 East to Interstate 95 North to Exit 7. Turn right off the exit and proceed for approximately 1.2 mile. Bear right at the blinking light and the hotel entrance is approximately 50 yards on the left.

## **Parking in Portsmouth**

Parking is available at the hotel as valet (\$21/day) and self (\$18/day). There are additional lots and parking garages within walking distance to the hotel. Prices and allowable durations of stay vary. Additional information can be found at [parkportsmouth.com/](http://parkportsmouth.com/).

## **Meeting Registration**

Please complete the registration form and return it no later than March 7, 2015. Registration is \$310 per person if received by March 7th or \$360 after March 7th. Single day registration for April 7 and 9th is \$115 per person and the registration for the tour day of April 8th is \$150 per person.

## **Meeting Agenda**

The meeting agenda is located at: [http://nationalplantboard.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/epb\\_agenda\\_2015\\_draft.pdf](http://nationalplantboard.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/epb_agenda_2015_draft.pdf)

## **Accommodations**

A block of rooms is available at the [Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel](#). The hotel is located at 250 Market Street and is an easy walking distance from a variety of eating establishments and parks. The cost of the room is \$106/night without taxes (9%). The meeting will be held in the hotel from Tuesday to Thursday and the block of rooms is available Monday night through Wednesday night. Should you wish to extend your stay, please contact us so that we can assist with the reservation. To reserve a room, please copy and paste the following url into your browser:

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1405306284&key=212CFB8>

## **Exhibit Displays**

Participants are invited to bring displays, posters, or distribution items to share with the group. Please notify Piera Siegert (email: [piera.siegert@agr.nh.gov](mailto:piera.siegert@agr.nh.gov)) in advance.

## **Speaker Presentation Requirements**

Speakers are asked to provide a copy of your presentation prior to your assigned time. Each presentation should be provided to Piera Siegert prior to your arrival. At the very latest, presentation should be provided to the monitor assigned to your speaker room on the morning of your presentation. Should you require any equipment other than the laptop and projector assigned to each room, please notify Piera Siegert one week prior to your arrival.

## **Weather and Attire**

Weather in New Hampshire in early April is very unpredictable! Conditions can vary from winter caps to sunhats. Average temperatures in Portsmouth for the week of the meeting have daily lows in the mid 30s and highs in the mid 50s. Because Portsmouth is on the water, ocean breezes can make the air feel even cooler. It is generally cloudy that time of the year, with about a 45% chance of precipitation on any given day—there is a 10% chance that the precipitation will be as light snowfall. When there is snow remaining on the ground, there is an average depth of about 3 inches. Be prepared with layers and a warm exterior layer. For the tour, expect similar weather. Because the tour will be in the farther from the coast, there may be increased probability of snow and snow remaining on the ground.

## **Tour**

Participants are invited to either walk to the [Strawbery Banke Museum](#) for a guided tour with a horticultural theme or to carpool to the [Seacoast Science Center](#) for a guided tour of the facility inside and out, with information on invasive plant efforts conducted in the area.

Stay tuned for more information and to select a tour.

## **Guests**

If you are travelling with a guest and they will be joining us for meals and the tour, please complete a registration for each guest.

## **Door Prizes**

If you would like to donate a door prize representing your state or agency or a fun item to share, we will be collecting door prizes at the registration desk.

## **Contact Information**

For further information, contact Piera Siegert (603) 271-2561 or email [piera.siegert@agr.nh.gov](mailto:piera.siegert@agr.nh.gov).