



VTeen 4-H Science Pathways Café



TEEN SCIENCE CAFÉ
NETWORK

AgroTek Innovation

Saturday, January 21, 2023, 5:00-7:00 pm
University of Vermont, Davis Center, Mansfield Dining Room
FREE pizza and drinks; Open to all youth in grades 7-12
Register@ www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/announcements
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What do you get when you cross agriculture with technology? AgroTek! This café will introduce you to different ways that technology is applied in agricultural settings to create new products or improve our environment as a teaser to get you interested in 4-H's summer AgroTek Academy. Hear from two different UVM faculty in their research, one focused on converting agricultural waste into value added products like paper or hempcrete and the other, focused on how experimental planting of perennial grains can be used to examine microbial diversity and soil health. This café will also feature how high school students in last summer's AgroTek Academy would apply this type of research in real world settings.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

Dr Eric Bishop von Wettberg is an Associate Professor in UVM's Department of Plant and Soil Science with research focusing on the evolutionary ecology and population genetics of wild relatives of crops, ultimately to build resilience to climate change in agricultural systems. **Steven Kostell** is an Assistant Professor in UVM's Department of Community Development and Applied Economics, with research focusing on circular design concepts, among which include looking at the regional hemp fibershed; linking production, processing and manufacturing through regenerative materials and sustainable practices. **Laura Sullivan** is a fiber artist and farmer currently working with the UVM Extension Northwest Crops & Soils team to research hemp fiber at the Borderview Research Farm in Alburgh, Vermont. With a goal of reviving local fibersheds in the northeast, Laura is deeply interested in disrupting our runaway carbon emissions trajectory through a closed loop textile market where farmers are paid a premium for their raw materials grown with environmental integrity. **Student presenters** include the winning pitch teams from the 2022 AgroTek Innovation Slam: Isabella Wilbur, Benji Kaplan-Block, Charlie Levine, Jordan King, Mia Cannizzaro, Rose Hsue, and Sydney Feltz.

What is a Teen Science Café? It is a free, fun way for teens to explore science, engineering and technology with local scientists, engineers and technology experts. Teens participate in informal discussions and hands-on activities to learn about different topics. And, there is always free food! Planned and run by teens for teens.

Questions? Contact lauren.traister@uvm.edu

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the 4-H Office at 802-888-4972 or lauren.traister@uvm.edu no later than December 20, 2022 so that we may assist you.



www.uvm.edu/extension/youth