GROWING GREENS FOR MARKET IN COLD CLIMATES WITH UNHEATED GREENHOUSES
FEBRUARY 16-17, 2015 | 9 AM-4 PM
Randolph Center Campus/Enterprise Center | $200

This course looks at innovative, cutting edge practices being used to grow year-round in cold climates like Vermont and is perfect for commercial growers, gardeners, and those interested in starting to grow greens during the winter months. There are four key principles the course will focus on: growing the right crops, planting them at the right time, proper plant management, and harvesting the crops for maximum yield. The course will dive into production, covering crop plants to soil fertility management. Greenhouse structures and management will be discussed, from site location to row covers and venting. Students will look at the financials of growing greens in the winter. Annual use and crop planning for your greenhouse will give participants a big picture view on growing in greenhouses in cold climates year round. Students will spend one day in the classroom and the following day at Bread and Butter Farm to observe winter growing in action. The course will be taught by Corie Pierce of Bread and Butter Farm.

SOILS IN A DAY
FEBRUARY 18, 2015 | 9 AM-4 PM
Randolph Center Campus/Enterprise Center | $100

This course is designed to help farmers, gardeners, and landowners understand the science and importance of soil function. Participants will learn how to best manage soils for long-term health and optimum production. Vermont Tech instructors will teach about soil’s physical, chemical and biological properties; plus management and enhancement of soil organic matter. Soil testing and nutrient management will also be covered. Topics covered throughout this one-day course will include: plant nutrients, soil physical properties, soil chemical properties, soil sampling and testing, and fertilizers/amendments. This course would benefit anyone growing crops or managing farm or forest land.

GREENHOUSE MANAGEMENT & TECHNICAL SKILLS
MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2015 | 9 AM-4 PM
Randolph Center Campus/Enterprise Center | $100

This course is designed to help farmers and gardeners understand best practices around production, protection, and propagation. Students will spend the first day learning about integrated pest management in a greenhouse. Topics covered include sanitation, pest identification, disease diagnostics, and disease control strategies. The second day will focus on greenhouse production of starter plants. Students will explore new frontiers in vegetable production by spending time in Vermont Tech’s tomato grafting lab and with a field trip to Cate Farm in East Montpelier.

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