

## \* ROTH SUGARBUSH NEWS



### **NOVEMBER** IS HERE!



### **WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?**

We're kicking off November with our new monthly newsletter! You'll find industry and store updates, featured products and recommendations, seasonal advice for our experts, and an inside look at what goes on here!

We want this to be a tool for you to ask questions, share about your seasons/stories, and read our advice!

### **HOBBY BOTTLER**

Last year we introduced our new hobby bottler! We started out with a small amount to see how you would like them and we sold out in the first few months! If you were interested last year, we encourage you to order sooner rather than later in case they sell out before the season! If you purchased one last year, we'd love your feedback on how they did!

HOBBY **BOTTLERS ARE BACK!** 

TIP: For those who purchased the bottlers, it will only heat to its full capacity if the lid is on!

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE SUGARBUSH?

#### **NOVEMBER**

This month we'll be diligently washing the membranes we've gotten in as quickly as possible! It's a great time to get those in before winter comes (pg. 4)! We'll also be in our and some of your woods (pg. 5) getting lines set up! Our guys have been working on our drop lines for the last month in preparation for the woods work we have!

We have lots of tubing, mainline, and bottles in (16 oz flat are now back in stock)! Now is a great time to get those to be prepared before January! Last year threw everyone for a loop so it doesn't hurt to be ready earlier!

#### **CHECK IN WITH PETE: TRIP TO MAINE**

Hello Everyone, as you can see we've started a newsletter that will be sent out once a month. I will talk a little about The North American show in Maine this month. The show was held in Portland, ME. The coast had a busy harbor and I tried Lobster rolls among the many restaurants believe it or not. I would vote Red's Eats as the best one!

NAMSC holds its business meetings and seminars covering different topics in Maine. One I found interesting was Maine's Maple Sunday. It's held on the 4th Sunday of March each year and can only be held at Sugarhouses that are Maine Maple Producer's Association members. I talked with some of the Sugarmakers who participate and they get crowds of 5 - 7,000! On that weekend some even sell their whole crop! Good job Maine Maple Producers!



### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR WOODS?

Our First Woods are Complete:

We removed vacuum boosters and retral fitted it with a two-line wet and dry system connected to all the lateral mainlines.

Our Second Woods are 80% Done:

We took out a section of mature trees (except maples) and ground/mulched the defective trees as a test to see if it would be easier to get around (check out our YouTube video on it)! We added new tubing and we're almost finished. It will be completed in a week or two!

The Third Woods We're Starting Soon:

We did some heavy logging there and cut mature trees, even defective maples, and removed the all tops from them down to four inches for less debris in the woods. We'll start in the next few weeks and keep you updated!

3 AWESOME TOOLS USED BY OUR EXPERTS

### JIM'S FAVORITE TOOL: MAINLINE ADJUSTING TOOL

This tool makes quick work of adjusting mainlines that are under tension. The hook will grab the side tie wire or the plastic pipe that is protecting the tree for ease of adjustment.



CHECK OUT OUR YOUTUBE VIDEO ON IT!

### KELLEN'S FAVORITE TOOL: MAINLINE LEVEL HOOKS/LEVEL

It's great for making sure your lines have grade, especially when working on flat land!



### GREGG'S FAVORITE TOOL: NIKON 550 FORESTRY PRO

It makes mapping in the woods so much easier, by showing distance and elevation!







### **MEMBRANE CLEANING**

#### WHY SHOULD I GET THEM CLEANED?

Professional cleaning should be done when you feel your efficiency is going down. For example, if your membrane does 600 Gal per hour and it's running 400 gallons per hour, it's plugging up.

Other signs to have your membrane checked?

If you don't regularly check the PH when cleaning the membrane. Test to see if it's passing sugar.

If you don't test the pH you can raise it too high and it will expand the membrane/pass sugar .01% which may not sound like a lot but it can add up if you're doing 20-30 thousand gallons a day. Make sure as you clean the membranes that you test the pH and stay at the correct number during the whole process of cleaning. You may check it at the beginning of cleaning and it might be ok, but 10 minutes in it may have changed. As soap contacts the sugar in a membrane, it lowers the pH, so if it needs to be at 12 for example you should be at 12 at the beginning, middle, and the end of cleaning. If it goes down before you're done the soap isn't helping to clean it.

Most of the time we can fix them when they're brought in, but if they're passing sugar it cannot be fixed. So it's important to stay up to date on cleaning. Membranes must be cleaned every time they are used, at the correct pH, and make sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for your membrane.

#### **OUR MEMBRANE CLEANING SERVICES**

8 IN 4 IN \$200

\$100

### **HOW OFTEN SHOULD I GET MY MEMBRANES CLEANED?**

If your machine is not plugging up and is taken care of, we still recommend getting your membranes cleaned professionally every 2 years for performance testing. Membranes can last up to 10+ years if taken care of and cleaned professionally!

### **WOODS INSTALLATION TEAM**

**GIVE US A CALL AT** 715-289-3820

**AVAILABLE FOR ALL YOUR TUBING REPAIR** 8 **INSTALLATION NEEDS!** 

#### WHY CHOOSE US?

While everyone is gearing up for the maple season, get ahead with our installation crew designed to cut your hassle! We offer a wide range of installation services and will tailor the job to your needs! Our team has years of experience and is committed to getting the job done well!

#### WHAT WE OFFER?

- MAINLINE INSTALLATION
- LATERAL & DROPLINE INSTALLATION
   MAPPING OUT YOUR WOODS!
- RELEASER AND PUMP INSTALLATION
   AND MORE!
- NEW MONITORING SYSTEM
- UNDERGROUND TUBING
- HELPING SET UP YOUR SUGARBUSH
- WIRE COMPLETE INSTALLS

