



You are invited to attend a

Question/Answer Session and Discussion with Dr. Tim Perkins, Director  
University of Vermont Proctor Maple Research Center



**FRIDAY NIGHT PRE-MEETING**  
of the  
**NORTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA MAPLE PRODUCERS**

Friday, January 20, 2012 6 pm – 9 pm

Cost: \$5 Includes pizza, salad, soft drinks, beer

Edinboro Fire Social Hall 125 Meadville St. Edinboro, PA 16412

Directions: Route 99 smack IN the middle of the town – watch for signs

Open to ALL Producers and Hobbyists Interested in Pure Maple Syrup

Also Friday Night and Saturday: Sale, Swap or Wanted to Buy Table Bring your maple equipment or post a picture

Dr. Timothy Perkins Telephone: (802) 899-9926 Email: [Timothy.Perkins@uvm.edu](mailto:Timothy.Perkins@uvm.edu)

Tim Perkins grew up in the northern Vermont, sugaring with his grandfather, father, and uncle. He received two Undergraduate degrees, in Environmental Sciences and in Geology, before completing his M.S. (1988) and Ph.D. (2001) in Forest Ecology at the University of Vermont. Dr. Perkins was appointed Director of the UVM Proctor Maple Research Center in 1996, and has worked on a wide variety of topics, including lead contamination of sap and syrup, how fertilization affects maple tree health and production, adulteration of maple syrup, and most recently, factors affecting sap yields in vacuum tubing systems. He has written dozens of scientific and maple industry papers, was co-editor of the 2006 edition of the North American Maple Producers Manual, and has given hundreds of presentations on a variety of maple topics. He was VT "Maple Person of the Year" in 2004, received the IMSI Golden Maple Leaf Award in 2008, was given the NAMSC Distinguished Service Award in 2009, and received the VT Maple Presidents Cup in 2011.

**Dr. Perkins invented the Check Valve Spout Adapter – here's how it happened.**

Yes, there was a Eureka moment," says plant biologist Tim Perkins, Director of UVM's Proctor Maple Research Center. He was at the 2007 North American Maple Syrup Council meeting in Ohio, preparing a talk on how to increase sap flow, when the idea just, well, poured in.

"We knew that sap was moving backwards, creating problems," he says, "so why not stop it with some type of valve?" He stood up from his desk and began sketching.

Over the next two years, UVM's Office of Technology Transfer worked "tirelessly," Perkins says, to help him secure a patent, Leader Evaporator Company of Swanton, Vt. licensed the technology and Progressive Plastics in Williamstown, Vt., began manufacturing.

Tim Perkins's doodle has become a commercial product. Thousands of sugar maples have been tapped with his invention. This small bit of plastic has brought big changes to maple syrup production.

Come meet Dr. Perkins Friday night and Saturday – Bring your questions!!