



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

In the two weeks between this and our last newsletter, our world has changed dramatically. Consider for a moment: two weeks ago, we were discussing how the pandemic might affect the NERA Spring meeting. Today, our world has contracted. Travel is limited, meeting face-to-face has been effectively prohibited, and we have all adopted social distancing strategies. Now more than ever, it's critical that we maintain and utilize the social and professional network that is NERA. And to that end, we look forward to you all joining the NERA Spring Meeting Zoom teleconference on March 24th at 10:00 AM EDT. Check out the first action item.

“...caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be...” – Martin Luther King, 1963, in *Letter from the Birmingham Jail*.

Action items:

- The NERA Spring meeting will be held via Zoom teleconference on March 24th from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. To connect: <https://zoom.us/j/5717743008>. The [agenda \(V5\)](#) and [supplementary agenda briefs](#) are posted on the website. Bring your energy, intellect and ideas!

Reminders/Updates:

- We mailed out guidance from OMB describing the administrative relief for recipients of federal financial assistance impacted by COVID19. That document ([OMB M-20-17](#)) is posted on the NERA website.

Informational items:

- We have asked you to hold dates and mark your calendar: The NEED/NERA Summer meeting will be held in Portland, Maine on June 7-9, 2020. The theme for the meeting is “Innovation.” We will be discussing the disposition of the meeting during our teleconference.



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