The Alcona Soil Conservation District and the Harrisville Institute for Cultural Learning will be hosting two fruit tree grafting workshops this spring.

The first workshop will be Thursday, April 10 from 12:00 to 4:00pm. The second session will be Saturday, April 12 from 10:00 to 2:00pm. Both will be held at the Harrisville Branch of the Alcona Public Library, 312 West Main, Harrisville.

Grafting is a centuries-old method of plant cloning in which a branch or bud from a parent tree or shrub is placed on the rootstock base or trunk of a similar species. The grafted branch or bud when mature then carries forward the same characteristics, such as fruit variety, as the parent tree.

The workshop includes a lecture, demonstration, and hands on experience using different grafting and budding techniques. Each participant will graft three dwarf apple trees to keep, and will be given guidance on post grafting care.

Weather permitting, a field grafting demonstration will be held afterward's on the grounds of the Harrisville Institute for Cultural Learning.

The cost of the workshop is $25.00 per person which includes three dwarf apple rootstocks and related grafting supplies. Participants are welcome to bring their own apple wood for grafting, Otherwise, a selection of apple wood will be provided.

Space is very limited. Only fully paid reservation will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. Please contact District Forester Andrew Beebe or visit alconaconservation.org for more details.