

Land Protection and Farming Seminar: Protecting Our Communities and Farm Futures



Tuesday, March 18, 2008
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Christians Creek Holsteins
195 Milky Way Lane, Staunton



Are you worried about the future of farming in the Valley?

Come hear from two Lancaster County (PA) farmers about the nation's most successful farmland preservation program. Also find out about land conservation in the Shenandoah Valley, how conservation easements work, and talk with local farmers who have used them.

Schedule:

6:30 p.m. Welcome and Dinner – Hot dogs, salad, chips, and drinks
6:45 p.m. Introduction to Lancaster County (PA) Farmland Preservation Program

Lifelong farmers, Gene Garber and Luke Brubaker, share how Lancaster County their experience with Lancaster County's local purchase of development rights (PDR) and growth management programs. Both were raised on farms, have protected their farms through conservation easements, and now farm in partnership with the next generation.

Gene Garber farms 400 acres and raises laying hens. He's been a professional baseball pitcher, served on the board of supervisors, and currently chairs the local Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) board. Luke Brubaker manages a 700-cow dairy operation and is Milk Marketing Commissioner for Pennsylvania. He is past chairman of the township board of supervisors and is active on community boards and in his Mennonite Church.

7:30 p.m. Local Perspective and Status of Conservation Easements in the Valley
Local examples of Valley farmers who have worked with conservation easements
8:15 p.m. Discussion, Refreshments, and Wrap Up

Directions to Christians Creek Holsteins: From I-81, Take Exit 213A at Greenville. Go south on Rte. 11 about 0.15 mile. Turn left on Rte. 340. Go north on Rte. 340 approximately 2.8 miles. Turn right on Milky Way Lane and proceed to farm and parking area.

Program sponsored by Valley Conservation Council (VCC), Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE), and Augusta County Farm Bureau. For more information and to register, call Sara Hollberg (VCC) (540) 886-3541, sara@valleyconservation.org; Eric Bendfeldt (VCE), 432-6029, ebendfel@vt.edu; or Tom Stanley (VCE – Augusta County Office), 245-5750, stanleyt@vt.edu. If you are a person with disabilities and need assistive services, please contact us at least five days prior to event.



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