

From the President's Desk

Kate Menges, York County Farm Bureau President

Annual Meeting Date Set

The annual meeting of York County Farm Bureau will be held on Wednesday, September 8 at 6 PM. This event will be held at Stewartstown Fire Hall with dinner served, followed by a quick meeting. We will be showing the movie Silo after for your family to stay and watch as well!

YCFB Ice Cream Social & Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the Ice Cream Social and meeting held on June 14 at Lake Redman! Perrydell Ice Cream was present with ice cream for everyone in attendance! State Representative Kristin Phillips-Hill was present and spoke to the group regarding the push for broadband and answering any questions from members. There were about 60 in attendance with adults and children! While it may have sprinkled a bit, we were under a pavilion for time to socialize, hold a meeting to vote on by-law changes, and eat ice cream!

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What is Glyphosate?

Glyphosate is a common herbicide (“weed-killer”) also known as Roundup, used in crop and non-crop lands, including residential areas such as home lawns and gardens. Glyphosate was first registered in the US in 1974 as the active ingredient in Roundup but is now available in many commercial herbicide products. There is currently increased concern about glyphosate impacts on human health, including risks of cancer.

All chemicals, including herbicides, are potentially hazardous to human health. However, a basic principle of toxicology is that “the dose makes the poison”. Therefore, the risk of a hazardous effect to human health is a function of the toxicity of the chemical and the likelihood of exposure to a biologically relevant dose. A chemical can be toxic at very low doses (ex. Dioxin) but present a low risk of hazardous effects if there is minimal likelihood of exposure to a biologically relevant dose. Glyphosate has a lower chronic toxicity than 90% of all herbicides.

Glyphosate use has increased seven times in the past 20 years due to its frequent use in Roundup Ready crops (corn, soybeans, cotton). Consequently, the likelihood of glyphosate exposure has increased for pesticide applicators. However, the EPA has concluded that there is low potential for the general public or non-applicators to be exposed to a recurring biologically relevant dose of glyphosate based on models of glyphosate persistence in the environment and dietary exposure.

Several organizations have evaluated cancer risks associated with glyphosate in recent years. These assessments consider epidemiological, toxicology and genotoxicity studies. In 2015, the World Health Organization’s International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded that “Glyphosate is probably carcinogenic to humans.” The IARC’s study aimed to identify hazards that can result in cancer outcomes but did not consider the risk of exposure to doses that are likely to occur in the environment. Put another way, the IARC asked “Can glyphosate cause cancer under any circumstance?” Based on this criteria, other probably human carcinogens included red meat, late-night work shifts and indoor emissions from burning wood. In 2016, the EPA evaluated the carcinogenic potential of glyphosate and concluded that glyphosate was “not likely to be carcinogenic to humans at doses relevant to human health risk assessments.” Glyphosate has the same probable carcinogen as in same hazard category as red meat and coffee. Based on the review of epidemiological studies, the EPA found no evidence of association between glyphosate exposure and numerous cancer outcomes but indicated more data was needed to determine association between glyphosate exposure and Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma.

So to stay safe, remember to use proper PPE and wash your vegetables!

Source: PennState Extension

Sunday Hunting Expansion Advances

A push to further expand Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania and remove the limits imposed by the 2019 law that allowed hunting on three Sundays has taken its first step in the General Assembly. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau opposes the measure and believes it would result in a significant expansion of Sunday hunting while removing the ability of farmers and other rural landowners to have their concerns heard and addressed through the legislative process. [Senate Bill 607](#), sponsored by Sen. Dan Laughlin of Erie County, cleared the Senate Game and Fisheries Committee with [a 7-4 vote](#). The measure now heads to the full chamber for consideration.

The bill would grant the Pennsylvania Game Commission full authority to set Sunday hunting rules, taking those decisions away from the General Assembly. While Sunday hunting was previously limited to foxes, crows and coyotes, a 2019 law allowed expanded hunting to occur on three Sundays only and, if on private land, only with written permission from the landowner. The legislation would remove both of those limits.

While PFB has historically opposed Sunday hunting, grassroots members voted in November 2018 to shift PFB policy so that the organization could take a neutral stance on a Sunday hunting bill that met certain criteria. That paved the way for a compromise bill in 2019 that met those objectives: Limiting hunting to three Sundays, requiring written permission, and strengthening trespass laws. PFB believes that Senate Bill 607 would essentially renege on that compromise by allowing Sunday hunting to be greatly expanded without farmers and other rural landowners having that same opportunity to see their concerns addressed through their elected legislators.

Source: PFB

Citizens Fire Co. Receives Safety Equip.

Grain bin entrapments can occur very quickly and are a serious threat to farmers. Fawn Grove's Citizens Volunteer Fire Department just got a new tool to help out. The department is one of 48 across the country that will receive a rescue tube and training in its use thanks to insurance company Nationwide's Grain Bin Safety campaign.

Chief James Williams said the department covers approximately 32 square miles, primarily farmland. After applying last year, they were recently notified of the decision to grant them the device and classes in its use. Training will be completed by October 2021.

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Annual Dues

Reminder that your annual dues renewal begin July 1. The annual membership did increase to \$100 per the by-law changes that were voted on in June. Remember to get your dues paid in order to keep your benefits!

Tax Plans Would Threaten Family Farms

Members of Congress need to hear from the farmers they represent how taxing unrealized capital gains at death and eliminating the stepped-up basis on those capital gains would be devastating to the future of Pennsylvania's family farms.

Farm Bureau is opposing plans in Congress that would make those tax changes, warning the move could force many farms out of business. Enacting those changes would result in a significant and disproportionate tax burden for family farms, which depend on being able to transfer assets between generations.

Stepped-up basis enables farms to reduce the burden of capital gains taxes by resetting the value of an asset when it is transferred between generations. It's especially important in agriculture because assets, such as land, are often held for decades and passed on from generation to generation. Currently, the capital gains taxes on the stepped-up value of an inherited asset are deferred until that asset is sold. So if capital gains are taxed at death and the stepped-up basis is removed, the next generation inheriting the farm could be forced to pay taxes on the increase in value over generations.

In Pennsylvania, the average cropland value has increased 168 percent since 1997, resulting in an estimated capital gains tax of \$890 per acre. In that scenario, the capital gains tax would be close to 10 times the average cash rental rate.

Make your voice heard by responding to PFB's Action Alert at www.pfb.com/ActNow.

Source: PFB

Broadband Survey for York County

York County is currently holding an online survey to understand the needs of broadband service in the area. Please consider participating in this survey at:

<https://yocofiber.servicezones.net/YorkCounty>

This is a short survey to submit to let York County Commissioners know where you stand with service. If you want to speak to someone directly about your internet needs in York County, please contact Stan Saylor's office or your local State Representative!

Nominate Candidates for PFB Awards

County Farm Bureaus are beginning the process of considering candidates to nominate for two Pennsylvania Farm Bureau honors: Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award and Distinguished Local Affairs Leader Award. The recipients of each will be recognized as part of PFB Annual Meeting in November.

The Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award recognizes an individual whose dedicated work and service has significantly contributed to the advancement of Pennsylvania agriculture. The Distinguished Local Affairs Leader Award recognizes an individual whose local affairs efforts and activities have helped solve problems and improve rural living for county Farm Bureau members.

Only county Farm Bureau boards can nominate candidates for the awards but other PFB members may suggest candidates to their county boards for consideration. The nominating period ends **Sept. 7**. Contact one of your local board members now to nominate someone in York County!

Ag Progress Days Returns!

Penn State's Ag Progress Days, held annually during three days in August (10-12), is Pennsylvania's largest outdoor agricultural exposition. With over 400 exhibitors from the United States and Canada, there is something for everyone to enjoy at no cost as parking and admission are free. The show is hosted by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences and showcases educational programs, current research, and the latest innovations in agricultural equipment and technology.

For more information, visit their website at:

<https://agsci.psu.edu/apd>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Young Ag Professionals Summer Picnic

July 18, 2021 11 AM - 9 PM

Knoebels Amusement Resort
RSVP by 7/3, families welcome

Penn State's Ag Progress Days

August 10-12, 2021 9 AM -4PM
2710 W. Pine Grove Rd. Pennsylvania Furnace



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Apply Now for 2021 Leopold Conservation Award

Nominations are open for the 2021 Pennsylvania Leopold Conservation Award, which recognizes farmers and forest landowners who inspire others with their dedication to land, water and wildlife habitat management on private, working land.

Sand County Foundation and national sponsor American Farmland Trust present the Leopold Conservation Award to private landowners in 22 states for extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation. In Pennsylvania, the \$10,000 award is presented in partnership with The Heinz Endowments and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

Nominations may be submitted on behalf of a landowner, or landowners may nominate themselves. The application can be found at www.sandcountyfoundation.org/ApplyLCA.

The application deadline date is August 5, 2021. Applications can be emailed to award@sandcountyfoundation.org. If mailed, applications must be postmarked by Aug. 5, and mailed to:

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
c/o Joel Rotz
PO Box 8736
Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736

The award will be presented at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in January 2022.

Apply for YAP Awards

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau will be accepting applications throughout the summer for four Young Ag Professionals contests: Achievement Award, Excellence in Agriculture Award, Discussion Meet and Social Media Video Contest.

The Achievement Award recognizes an individual or couple who has made significant achievements in production agriculture and leadership and who has the majority of their income subject to normal production risks. The Excellence in Agriculture Award has a similar focus but recognizes an individual or couple who does not have the majority of their income subject to normal production risk. The Social Media Video Contest invites participants to make a fun, educational video about a farm or agricultural facility that helps promote modern agricultural practices to consumers.

Applications for the Achievement, Excellence in Agriculture and Social Media awards are due by **Sept. 30**. As a special incentive this year, any applicant who submits a complete application for the Achievement or Excellence in Agriculture awards will receive \$100.

Young ag professionals can also apply now to compete in the Discussion Meet competition at PFB's Annual Meeting. Applications for Discussion Meet are due **Oct. 15**. The contest gives young Farm Bureau members a chance to discuss issues facing agriculture in a competitive but also cooperative setting. Participants will be judged in areas such as communication and problem-solving skills.

All four contests are open to Pennsylvania Farm Bureau members ages 18 to 35.

The winners of all contests will receive great prizes and will be recognized as part of PFB's Annual Meeting. Winners of the Achievement and Excellence in Agriculture awards and Discussion Meet will receive all-expenses-paid trips to compete against other states' winners at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 2022 convention in Atlanta as long as it can be held. The winner of the Social Media contest will win an all-expenses-paid trip to the 2022 national Young Farmers & Ranchers Leadership Conference in Louisville.

Application forms and additional information are available at pfb.com/yap.

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For the past few years, Nationwide has worked with the team at SILO to use their incredible film to help spread awareness about farm safety. To date, through unique community events across North America, we have helped impact over 250 communities and 50,000 audience members.

This film follows a traumatic day in a farming community where a teenager becomes engulfed in a grain bin and the frantic race to save him. It creates an opportunity for your members to emotionally connect to the dangers of entering grain bins without following safety protocols. The audience sees first-hand how terrifying the situation can be to the individual entrapped.

As a valued partner, you and your members will be receiving a 10% discount on Virtual Cinema Rentals, Blu-ray/DVD purchases and Hosted Community Screenings of SILO by visiting silo-thefilm.com and entering the code "SILONATIONWIDE" at checkout.

Pricing details are noted below *without* the discount applied:

- **Silo Virtual Cinema = \$15 per ticket**
- **DVD = \$27.99**
- **Blu-ray = \$32.99**
- **Educational Blu-ray Package (Blu-ray + curriculum for a screening of no more than 50 people) = \$295.00**

Community Screenings = Rates vary and are negotiable

With planting season almost complete and how years seem to fly by; harvest season will be just around the corner, so it is more crucial now than ever to raise awareness around the stresses of modern-day agriculture and the dangers that lie within this essential industry.

USDA Details Addt'l Ag Pandemic Relief

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced plans to establish programs within the next 60 days to deliver additional financial relief to farmers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new assistance is part of the Pandemic Assistance for Producers Program the agency announced in March to fill gaps not addressed through previous rounds of assistance and direct additional relief to agriculture.

Within the next two months, USDA plans to implement programs that include:

- Additional support for dairy farmers and processors including a \$400 million Dairy Donation, additional pandemic payments targeted to dairy farmers that have demonstrated losses that have not been covered by previous pandemic assistance, and about \$580 million in supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage for small and medium farms.
- \$200 million for small, family-owned timber harvesting and hauling businesses.
- \$700 million for biofuels producers.
- Assistance for poultry and livestock producers left out of previous rounds, including contract growers of poultry and livestock and poultry producers who were forced to euthanize animals during the pandemic.
- \$700 million in Pandemic Response and Safety Grants to reimburse producers, processors, distributors, and farmers markets for personal protective equipment and other worker protection measures.
- Up to \$20 million in additional organic cost share assistance, including for producers who are transitioning to organic.

Source: PFB

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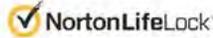
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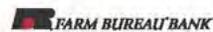
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A portion of annual dues covers a one-year subscription to a PFB publication. Farmer members receive 11 issues of the Country Focus newspaper and "friend of Farm Bureau" members receive 4 issues of the quarterly Positively Pennsylvania magazine. Applicants selecting "farmer", "part-time farmer" or "agribusiness" on the membership application are classified as "farmer" members. Should no box be checked and a farm name not be listed, member will be classified as "friend of farmer". Please contact your county Farm Bureau with questions regarding membership classification.



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