

Fellow Farm Bureau members,

I hope this letter finds everyone safe and healthy; this seems to be the new normal on greeting and good-byes. Though, what is the new normal? I would have argued heavily with everyone three months ago that our world could not change this much and this rapidly. The situation agriculture finds itself in is truly a dire one: from dumping milk, euthanizing hogs, gassing poultry, and not being able to sell beef when these products are all in high demand – though it seems no aspect of agricultural is exempt. On the green side, extremely low prices, the loss of ethanol, and no demand does not have many farmers jumping out of bed in the morning. With all of this being said, and the rest of the country being locked down, we still have to go to work in the morning: crops need planted, livestock needs tended to, cows need milk... this is nothing that we are not used to and cannot handle. For these reasons, being a Farm Bureau member is more important now than ever! When someone asks why they should be a Farm Bureau member when they feel they “don’t get anything out of the membership,” you can reply that Farm Bureau is the best voice for agricultural they have! Farm Bureau has been working diligently since the pandemic started; working to have processing plants open, finding a home for milk, and trying to keep trade deals alive, while trying to find a way to work with our legislators to help ease the financial burdens that agricultural is in. As a member, you have had three different opportunities to listen in on conference calls with PFB President Rick Ebert, Congressman GT Thompson, PA Secretary of Agriculture Russell Reading and staff from PFB and AFBF. These leaders are all working together to address the needs of agriculture and trying to find solutions in these uncertain times. We have been contacted by, and made contact with, many members who have had issues, and most cases we were able to help them resolve their issues. If you have problems or needs please let us know. We are here to help. Without Farm Bureau, you are a voice of one; with Farm Bureau, you are a voice of 50,000. One positive that I can see coming out of the situation is that consumers really seem to care where their food comes from. Unfortunately, it has taken empty grocery store shelves and higher prices to realize this. Our local farmers are stepping up to meet those needs. It is up to us to keep local agriculture in the forefront and educate consumers where their food comes from.

Thank you for being faithful Farm Bureau members, and cheers to a safe and productive summer! Again, thanks for being a Blair County Farm Bureau Member. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Sincerely yours,
Gary Long
President, Blair County Farm Bureau

All Blair County Farm Bureau Members are invited to attend:

Blair County Farm Bureau
Annual Summer Picnic
Friday, July 31, 2020
6:30 pm
Canoe Creek State Park
Pavilion 2

Reservation deadline:
July 24, 2020

The Blair County Farm Bureau will be having the picnic catered. The meal will include: Barbecued chicken (prepared by Alvin Nolt), baked beans, and other side dishes, drinks, ice cream and paper products.

Members do not need to bring anything.

Members are encouraged to social distance and wear a mask.

Please contact any Blair County Farm Bureau Board Member for Tickets. The price is \$4.00 per person.



Blair County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

President

-Gary Long 814-931-2692

Vice President

- Mark Heeter 814-934-3053

- Laverne Nolt 814-793-4028

Secretary

- Ed Kreider 814-793-4302

Treasurer

-Dotty Stahl 814-793-3182

Directors

-Andrew Bechtel 814-793-2635

-Louie Brenneman 814-931-3287

-Daren Brubaker 814-832-9594

-Ken Diebold 814-201-2820

-Brad England 814-932-6709

-Tom Gearhart 814-215-9530

-Wade Harclerode 814-505-4473

-Anthony Rice 814-832-3755

Governmental Relations Director

-Ken Brenneman 814-330-5494

Member Services Director

-Chris Creek 814-934-5777

Membership Chairman

-Dorothy Ross 814-793-2492

Newsletter Editor

- Volunteer needed

District 11 Board Member

-Larry Cogan 814-483-0627

MSC Account Supervisor

-Kelly Ritchey 814-696-6982

Regional Organization Director

-Joseph Diamond 814-934-0330

If you are interested in getting involved with any of our county or state Farm Bureau programs or if you have a project, program or issue that farm bureau should be involved in please give any of the board members a call. We look forward to hearing from you. Thanks for being a farm bureau member.

Blair County Farm Bureau Newsletter is published by Blair County Farm Bureau four times per year.

June 2020

Volume 5, Issue 2

Blair County Farm Bureau
PO Box 366
Martinsburg, Pa 16662-0366

Advertisement Opportunity

Interest in reach over 775 Blair County Farm Bureau Members. The Blair County Farm Bureau Board is making this opportunity available to members. The Blair County Farm Bureau Board of Directors updated it rates on August 28, 2018, Meeting the following Advertising rates:

- Business Card - \$50/per issue
- ¼ Page - \$100/per issue
- ½ Page - \$175/per issue
- Full Page - \$325/per issue

The goal of the Blair County Farm Bureau is to produce and print 4 newsletters in fiscal year. If you buy an advertisement in 3 consecutive newsletters you will get an advertisement in the next newsletter for free.

Newsletter are normally printed in September, November, February, and June.

To have an advertisement placed in the newsletter the advertiser must be a member of the Blair County Farm Bureau.

The Blair County Farm Bureau Board of Directors has the right to accept or reject advertisements or advertisers.

If interested in advertising please contact
Joseph Diamond at 814-934-0330 or
jmdiamond@pfb.com

Your Voice Needed to Secure Additional Help for Agriculture

The COVID-19 pandemic has dealt an enormous blow to farmers across the country. In nearly every sector. Producers have seen their markets shrink overnight or even disappear, while supply chains have been stretched to the limit in response to this emergency. The federal response to COVID-19 will require ongoing action to adequately address the needs of millions of Americans in crisis. Farmers must not be left out.

Right now, Congress is working on emergency legislation that is needed to help America's farmers and ranchers. This bill has the potential to provide a lifeline to farm families in their time of need. The drop in commodity prices and other serious disruptions to the food chain are affecting life on the farm. Farm Bureau is committed to doing all we can to preserve the economic health of farm families as the nation fights this pandemic. Please add your voice to this effort by visiting www.pfb.com/ActNow to contact your members of Congress.

Confused by healthcare options?

Farm Bureau's experienced and trained staff are ready to help. At no cost to you, we can:

- Answer your questions
- Customize and compare your options
- Work within your budget
- Help you make informed decisions

Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.



For plan and rate information,

Call 800.522.2375

www.pfb.com/healthservices



Affiliated with Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Focused on Agricultural
and Small Businesses

717.731.3517

www.msmbusiness.net

Help Us Connect You with Customers Who Buy Local

Now more than ever, consumers want to buy their food locally. Consumer preferences were changing before the COVID-19 pandemic, but uncertainty surrounding many aspects of our daily lives has also changed shopping habits. That has included consumers seeking local sources of agricultural products. This situation presents new opportunities for farmers to showcase their products.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is working to compile the most comprehensive database possible of members in Pennsylvania who are selling their products directly to customers. The goal is to create an online tool to help connect consumers who want to buy local with Farm Bureau members in their communities who can supply local items.

We are asking for your help in creating this database. If you sell agricultural products to the public, please visit

pfb.com/LocalFoodListing to submit your information.



Brubaker Tires

2537 William Penn Highway

Williamsburg, PA 16693

Call or Text

814-515-7722



*New Tires *Tubes *Baler Twine

*Net Wrap, and Silage Wrap

*Wiese Tillage Parts

Certified **SAFEMARK** Dealer

Put Firestone Farm Tires to Work for You!



Call for your nearest Safemark Dealer

717.944.1466

Visit us on the web at www.pafbsafemark.net/

Blair County Conservation District

Working to Preserve and Conserve
Blair County's Natural Resources
for over 50 years!

Farms should consider contingency planning for mortality disposal. Mortality Composting can be a viable and legal option. To learn more - visit <https://extension.psu.edu/proper-animal-mortality-disposal>

Or call the District at 814-696-0877 ext 5.

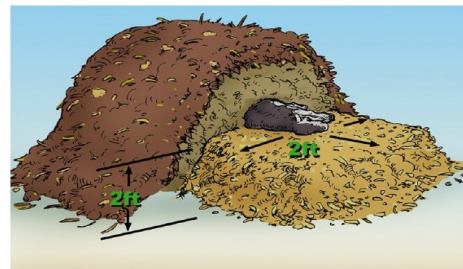


Photo source <https://datep.wi.gov/Documents/cornellcompostguide.pdf>

Milk Giveaways



We would like to thank everyone who helped make our first 2 milk giveaways successful. We gave away over 8100 gallons of milk. We had giveaway events at: DelGrosso's Amusement Park and Martinsburg Pizza on May 9 and First Church of Christ, Altoona and Morrison Cove Memorial Park on June 6. We also gave milk to: The Altoona Food Bank, Altoona School District Backpack Program, Altoona Senior Services, American Rescue Workers Mission, The Crossroads, First Baptist Church, Grace Brethren Church, Kensinger Food Outreach, Martinsburg Food Bank, New Life Church, Nehemiah Project, St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. Michaels Church, Tyrone Food Bank, Wehnwood United Methodist, Williamsburg Area Improvement Development

Organization, Williamsburg Food Bank and Williamsburg Senior Center. Special thank you to Imler's Poultry for warehousing the milk and the use of the refrigerated trailers for the events at DelGrosso's and FCC. Also, thanks to DelGrosso's Amusement Park, Martinsburg Pizza, FCC and Morrison Cove Memorial Park for allowing us to use their facilities for the giveaway events.



Resources Available for Farms, Businesses

Assistance and resources are available for farms and businesses that have been financially affected by steps to control the spread of COVID-19.

- Visit **www.pfb.com/coronavirus** and select Help/Resources for the latest information on federal loan programs available.
- Penn State University has created a new online network to connect producers, suppliers, processors and workers throughout the food supply chain to minimize bottlenecks. The Pennsylvania Agriculture Resilience Network allows users to post offers to help, make connections throughout the supply chain to help farmers find a market for their products and match farmers with agricultural workers. Visit **parn.psu.edu** to learn more.
- Food processors and retailers can obtain free personal protective equipment for employees through the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. Equipment comes in boxes of 500. Request protective equipment at **https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSGb1U2bbEf8Wpob3ped6g6V4uxBkHM0bKx_a79UODIzWUFCMVFNUIY3T1QxSDZIQg2SjBBWi4u**.
- The Center for Dairy Excellence has grants available to reimburse costs associated with COVID-19 personal protection equipment and social distancing measures. The grants are available on a first-come, first-serve basis to Pennsylvania dairy processors, milk hauling companies, and dairy farms. Applications must be submitted online by June 15, 2020. Reimbursements are available for personal protective equipment, sanitizing supplies, bilingual training materials and signage, and thermometers for temperate checks. Learn more and apply at **<http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/covid-grants/>**.
- PennAg Industries Association's Center for Poultry & Livestock Excellence has funding available to reimburse processors or businesses providing support services for poultry, swine, lamb, goats and sheep for investments made to improve employee safety during the pandemic. Reimbursements are available for personal protective equipment, sanitizing supplies, bilingual training materials and signage, and thermometers for temperate checks. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis or until the application deadline of **June 12**. Learn more and download the reimbursement application form at **pfb.com/images/PennAg-PPE.pdf**.
- USDA is in the process of launching a program that will offer loan guarantees to rural businesses and agricultural producers that are not eligible for USDA Farm Service Agency loans. Learn more at **<https://bit.ly/2WSX0dv>**.
- USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is offering financial and technical assistance to swine and poultry producers for animal mortality disposal, resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic through the Emergency Animal Mortality Management program. Visit **www.farmers.gov/coronavirus** to learn more.
- Learn more about state financial resources for affected businesses at **dced.pa.gov/funding-programs**.
- USDA Rural Development has created a resources page for customers affected by COVID-19. Learn more at **rd.usda.gov/coronavirus**.
- The state Office of Unemployment Compensation has important resources available for affected employers. Learn more at **<https://bit.ly/2UMmg2O>**.
- DCED has created a directory for businesses and organizations in need to personal protective equipment to connect with manufacturers and suppliers. Learn more at **<https://bit.ly/2x4mF8W>**.
- American Farm Bureau's farm stress training program is now available to all Farm Bureau members for free. The Rural Resilience training provides value to anyone who is under stress and is designed for individuals who interact with farmers and ranchers to understand the sources of stress, identify effective communication strategies, reduce stigma related to mental health, and learn the warning signs of stress and suicide. Visit **<https://bit.ly/3bD6uP8>** to learn more.
- Penn State Extension has created a one-stop shop for COVID-19 resources on its website **extension.psu.edu/coronavirus**.

*NOTE: This information is accurate as of the end of May. As the situation has been changing rapidly, we encourage you to visit **www.pfb.com/coronavirus** for the most up-to-date information.*

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau continues to work hard for you

Did you know, there is more to membership than meets the eye? Cost savings of membership goes far beyond just State and Local benefits, how is that you might ask, let's explore.

Having a large united voice when it comes to legislation brought to the floor helps our staff guide our Representatives and Senators on the wants and needs of our members. The grassroots policy development work that we do as an organization directly impacts where we stand as an organization on legislation put forward in Harrisburg and D.C. and helps to save you hundreds to thousands of dollars each year. Examples of legislation our organization has supported that holds benefits for our members;

- **Pennsylvania Clean and Green Act**- through which farmers and qualifying landowners are able to obtain a lower tax assessment value of their property, and a lower property tax obligation
- **Sales tax exemption for purchases of farm trucks to be operated under the biennial certificate of registration exemption (Farm Sticker)**- Farm Trucks that fall under these guidelines are exempt from the states 6% Sales Tax
- **Lower Registration Fees for Trucks with Biennial Certificates (Farm Sticker)**-On top of the sales tax exemption farm trucks with the biennial certificates only pay registration fees every two years rather than annually
- **Exemption from liquid fuels tax in trucks with biennial certificates of exemption and implements of husbandry**- Farm Trucks, Tractors, and other implements of husbandry may be powered by fuel that is exempt from Pennsylvania's fuel taxes. Farmers who purchase taxed fuel may apply for and obtain each year a refund of the total amount of fuel tax they paid.
- **CDL Exemptions**-Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau were instrumental in attaining for drivers of larger farm vehicles numerous exemptions from requirements imposed on commercial vehicle drivers under federal and state regulations. Farmers and their employees save in the costs of obtaining a CDL, medical certifications, and costs of equipment for electronic recording of driving.
- **Farming exemption from state sales tax for farm use of electricity and natural gas**-Electricity and natural gas used directly in farming is exempt from state sales tax, direct use includes powering equipment used in production as well as energy used to help product growth, (Sustaining a climate conducive to growing or sustaining plants and animals) or product preservation (refrigeration of product).
- **Farming exemption from state sales tax in purchases of other farm inputs**-Purchases of seed, fertilizer, chemicals, and other inputs for production of seasonal agricultural products, purchases of feed and supplements for consumption of farm animals and equipment to transport and supply feed, water and other materials, disinfectants and similar materials used in maintaining the health of farm animals, plants and products are exempt from the state's 6% sales tax.
- **Agricultural building exemption from requirements of Statewide Building Code**- Farm Bureau played a significant role in attaining provisions in Pennsylvania's Statewide Building Code and amendments to the code that exclude agricultural buildings from having to meet the codes rigid requirements and standards for construction or any alteration of commercial and residential buildings. Farm Bureau also sought and obtained a favorable interpretation from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry that prohibited municipalities from imposing "permit application" fees in construction of agricultural buildings saving several hundred to thousands of dollars in permit fees alone.
- **Farm family exemption from realty transfer tax**- Pennsylvania's farm families are exempt from having to pay state and local realty transfer tax in performing transfers of the family's farm to other family members. The current realty transfer tax rate is 2% of the value of property being transferred saving thousands.

- **Farm family and small business exemptions from state inheritance tax**- Exempts farm families from the 4.5% tax rate for transfers to direct descendants and 12% on transfers to siblings. Includes transfers ownership of shares to a family farm trust.
- **REAP tax credit program**- Through the state Resource Enhancement and Protection Program, farmers and sponsors who incur costs in design, construction or implementation of farm best management practices may receive between 50 and 75 percent of those costs in state income tax credits, up to a maximum total tax credit of \$250,000 per farm operation within a 7-year timeframe. Credits awarded to a person may be used to offset taxable income for 15 years.
- **Significant reduction in CAFO and water quality permit fees from fees originally proposed**- Because of efforts by Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and other agricultural groups, fees originally proposed by DEP for permitting of farms subject to regulation as CAFO and for state water quality permits of new manure storage facilities were substantially reduced. CAFO permit fees required every 5 years were reduced by \$2,500, administrative fees paid annually by CAFO's by \$1,000 and water quality permit fees for construction of new manure storage facilities by \$1,500 per permit from DEP's original proposal.

This just a small list of the many cost saving opportunities our organization has fought for on behalf and alongside of our membership. Having a strong membership base and a strong organization ensures we have a strong united voice to continue to fight for our agricultural industry and our farm families. Your continued support enables us to remain a strong guiding force in Harrisburg and D.C.

SUMMER SAVINGS ON PLANTER UPDATES

vDrive >
Electric drive



DeltaForce >
Automated downforce control



SpeedTube >
High-speed planting



No matter what you choose, you save.

\$50

per row rebate

When you purchase 1: vDrive, DeltaForce, or SpeedTube

\$150

per row rebate

When you purchase 2: vDrive, DeltaForce, or SpeedTube

\$200

per row rebate

When you purchase all 3: vDrive, DeltaForce, and SpeedTube



\$1,000 per unit rebate

when you purchase a new Gen 3 20|20 monitor

Special financing options available with the best rates earlier in the summer.



BRUBAKER PRECISION SERVICES
114 Hemlock Road
Williamsburg, PA 16693
(814) 934-6076

Precision Planting®

State Adopts Short-Term Budget, Relief for Dairy

Pennsylvania lawmakers passed a stop-gap state budget that continues current funding levels through November while they determine how to address budgetary challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The General Assembly approved and Gov. Tom Wolf signed a short-term funding plan in May, which continues level funding for state programs as well as state-related universities, including Penn State and its extension programs. In addition, the General Assembly appropriated federal COVID-19 relief dollars to state programs, including \$20 million to help the state's dairy industry.

Lawmakers will be facing tough decisions when they return for a "lame-duck" session following the November general election. The pandemic hit just about every state revenue source—including income and sales taxes—resulting in what's currently estimated to be a nearly \$5 billion shortfall.

In May, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau sent legislators suggestions on what to prioritize for agriculture, including:

- Maintaining at least level funding for Penn State Extension.
- Keeping adequate funding for the core services of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, including food safety, animal health and market development.
- Supporting the Pennsylvania Agriculture Surplus System, which helps connect the charitable food system with excess farm products that would otherwise go to waste, at \$5 million.
- Continuing support for programs that help farmers diversify and engage in direct-to-consumer sales, such as the Very Small Meat Processing Grants and Dairy Development Grants.

"Pennsylvania Farm Bureau recognizes the General Assembly is facing difficult budget decisions ahead and that some agriculture programs may face reductions or elimination," PFB President Rick Ebert said in a letter to lawmakers. "Our encouragement is to focus on the core needs of the agriculture community such as market development, plant and animal health and research and education. These are the programs that protect the health of the agriculture industry and guide farmers in making business decisions."



Foundation to Host Virtual Educator's Ag Institute

The Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation is preparing for a virtual education program in July. Educator's Ag Institute Virtual is targeted to showcase wide range educational experiences for teachers as an alternative to the in-person Educator's Ag Institute that was canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

The event series dates are in the process of being finalized. Plans are to include virtual farm tours, highlighting educational resources available to teachers and showing educators how to incorporate agriculture into their classrooms.

Updates will be posted to the Educator's Ag Institute website, www.pfb.com/events/educator-s-ag-institute and the foundation's social media platforms.

Reminder: Leopold Award Nominations Open

Pennsylvania farmers who have gone above and beyond in caring for natural resources are encouraged to apply for the prestigious Leopold Conservation Award. The nomination period for the 2020 award is open now through Aug. 1.

Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the \$10,000 award recognizes landowners who inspire others with their dedication to land, water and wildlife habitat management on private, working land.

Sand County Foundation, the nation's leading voice for conservation of private land, presents the award to private landowners in 20 states for extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation. This is the third year the award has been offered in Pennsylvania, where it is presented in partnership with Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and Heinz Endowments.

Nominations for the 2020 award—which will be presented at the 2021 Pennsylvania Farm Show in January—may be submitted on behalf of a landowner, or landowners may nominate themselves. The application can be found at: sandcountyfoundation.org/uploads/PA-2020-CFN-1.24.2020.pdf.

Applications may also be mailed to: Pennsylvania Farm Bureau; c/o Joel Rotz; PO Box 8736; Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736



GROWMARK FS

*Serving the agricultural
community for over 100 years!*

-
- Fertilizer • Seed • Crop Protection**
- Custom Dry & Liquid Application
 - Soil Testing • Grid Sampling
 - Meter Testing • Precision Planting
-

Let us help get more out of each acre.

Give us a call today!



- Bedford 814.623.9061
- Curryville 814.793.3664



**Powered by:
GROWMARK FS
AGRONOMY**

New COVID-19 Relief Program for Pennsylvania Dairy Producers Announced

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has released details of a new state program that will provide payments to dairy producers who have faced financial losses due to having to dump milk or pay additional marketing costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Along with adopting a temporary state budget last month, the General Assembly set aside \$20 million in federal stimulus funding to be used for relief for dairy farmers. Of that total, \$5 million will be used to reimburse dairy farmers who participate in the [Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System](#) by donating excess dairy products to the charitable food system. The remaining \$15 million is set aside for direct payments to eligible producers. Producers are eligible to apply for the payments if they suffered losses due to having to discard milk themselves and/or if they were assessed a fee by their cooperative to share in the cost of milk dumped by other cooperative members. Each eligible farm will receive a minimum payment of \$1,500. Once each eligible farm receives the minimum payment, farms that suffered losses or were assessed fees greater than \$1,500 will receive an additional pro-rata share of the remaining funds, not to exceed the actual amount of the loss. Producers can fill out and print an application online that must be mailed in to PDA by Sept. 30. Instructions, including the mailing address, are on the form.

Bill Clarifying Sales Tax Exemption for Multipurpose Agricultural Vehicles Advances

A Pennsylvania Farm Bureau-supported bill that would clarify when off-road vehicles used in farming are exempt from sales tax has cleared its first hurdle in the General Assembly. The Senate Finance Committee voted in May to advance Senate Bill 1041, sending it to the full chamber for consideration. PFB worked with Sen. Kim Ward of Westmoreland County to introduce to measure. Pennsylvania law exempts farmers from paying sales tax on ATVs or other multipurpose agriculture vehicles, provided that they are being used primarily for farming purposes. However, the state Department of Revenue has a narrow definition of what constitutes a farming activity. For example, repair of fencing is not considered a farming activity, because it is not directly part of the raising of crops or animals; however, as any farmer knows, care of fences is critical for managing animals. The bill would broaden the definition of a farming activity to include common farm-related tasks. The aim is to ensure that farmers are able to claim the sales tax exemption for off-road vehicles they use as part of their farming operations.

Is there a Pennsylvania liquid fuels tax exemption for farm use?

Yes. Farmers must pay the appropriate tax when they purchase gasoline or undyed diesel fuel. They then may petition the Pennsylvania Treasury, Board of Finance and Revenue (BF&R) yearly for a refund of any fuel taxes paid on fuel consumed in the production and harvesting of agricultural crops. The refund filing period is based on a fiscal year of July 1st through June 30th and must be received by September 30th.

Liquid Fuels and Fuels Tax Rates

The following rates are effective Jan. 1, 2020, and apply to tax periods through calendar year 2020. The tax rates will be indicated on future Motor Fuel Tax Reports issued by the department.

Motor Gasoline and Gasohol	\$0.576/gallon
Undyed Diesel and Kerosene	\$0.741/gallon

The following rates are effective July 1, 2019 and apply to tax periods through calendar year 2019.

Motor Gasoline and Gasohol	\$0.576/gallon
Undyed Diesel and Kerosene	\$0.741/gallon

Claim forms are mailed to all persons registered by June 15th of every year. To become registered for the BF&R Liquid Fuels refunds you will need to furnish your name, address, the name of the county in which the farm is located, your telephone number and type of farming you do. When listing your name, please print your full name, including any initials.

How to contact the Pennsylvania Treasury, Board of Finance and Revenue:

- Send an email to BFR@ptreasury.gov
- Call them at (717) 787-2974
- Write a letter to the following address:
Liquid Fuels, Riverfront Office Center
1101 South Front Street, Suite 400
Harrisburg, PA 17104-2539

If you are an active farmer and have not participated in this refund program, please contact Kelly Ritchey at 814-696-6982 to learn more information on how MSC Business Services can complete your PA Liquid Fuels tax return and other accounting services that we offer.

Nationwide is on Your Side

Nationwide Insurance began in 1925 as the Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance Company with the goal of providing quality auto insurance at low rates for Farm Bureau members in Ohio. Nine state Farm Bureaus promote Nationwide and provide discounts to members. Other than Ohio, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau has had the longest relationship with Nationwide than the other eight state Farm Bureaus.

The Nationwide agents in Blair County are:

Chad Boyer

735 S Logan Blvd
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-3031
814.946.9486 chad@theboyeragency.com

Todd Good & Associates

343 Bedford St
Claysburg, PA 16625-8231
814.239.2205

Jonathan T May

Kyle Miller & Associates
41 South Market St, Ste 201
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
703.855.0397 mayj18@nationwide.com

Darin Meck

908 Spruce St
Roaring Spring, PA 16673-1535
814.224.2166 meckd1@nationwide.com

Gary Shetter

305 Union Ave
Altoona, PA 16602
814.944.4651 shetteg1@nationwide.com

John Carr

APA Insurance
1654 E. Pleasant Valley Blvd.
Altoona, PA 16602
814-569-2473



For your always growing side.

We help protect your farm, family, finances and future. As a Farm Bureau member, you may be eligible for a discount on your farm insurance from the #1 farm insurer.¹

Learn more at nationwide.com/pfb.

¹SNL Financial, 2017 (National) Market Share Report. Products underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies. Home Office: Columbus, OH 43215. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review, and approval. Products and discounts not available to all persons in all states. Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle and Nationwide is on your side are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. The Farm Bureau and the letters FB are registered service marks of American Farm Bureau and used under license by Nationwide. © 2019 Nationwide AFC-0315A0.2 (05/19) 11091933

Spotted Lanternfly

Spotted lanternfly (SLF) is an invasive insect that has spread throughout Pennsylvania since its discovery in Berks County in 2014. SLF feeds on the plant sap of many different plants including grapevines, maples, black walnut, and other important plants in PA. If you see SLF, help us stop it in its tracks! To **report a sighting**, call PSU hotline at 1-888-422-3359.

Why You Should Care

SLF is a serious invasive pest with a healthy appetite for our plants and it can be a significant nuisance, affecting the quality of life and enjoyment of the outdoors. If not contained, spotted lanternfly potentially could drain Pennsylvania's economy of at least \$324 million annually, according to a study carried out by economists at Penn State. The spotted lanternfly uses its piercing-sucking mouthpart to feed on sap from over 70 different plant species. It has a strong preference for economically important plants including grapevines, maple trees, black walnut, birch, willow, and other trees. The feeding damage significantly stresses the plants which can lead to decreased health and potentially death.

As SLF feeds, the insect excretes honeydew (a sugary substance) which can attract bees, wasps, and other insects. The honeydew also builds up and promotes the growth for sooty mold (fungi), which can cover the plant, forest understories, patio furniture, cars, and anything else found below SLF feeding.



E. Swackhamer



PA Department of Agriculture



PA Department of Agriculture



PA Department of Agriculture



PA Department of Agriculture

- A. Egg masses
- B. Early nymph
- C. Late nymph
- D. Adult, wings closed
- E. Adult, wings open



Blair County Farm Bureau
PO Box 366
Martinsburg, Pa 16662-0366
Address Service Requested

**Blair County Farm
Bureau**

**Annual Summer Picnic
Friday, July 31
6:30 pm**

**Canoe Creek State Park
Pavilion 2**

Upcoming Events:

July 28

Summer Legislative Update

July 31

Annual County Farm Bureau Picnic

August 21

Legislative Farm Tour