

ACFB

Adams County Farm Bureau Newsletter

July, August, September

Volume 9, Number 3

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717-377-0297

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717-552-0071

Local News First!

Adams County Activity

Local farmers working together

Welcome New Members: Wendy Fink

Mark Your Calendar for August 16!!!

The Adams County Farm Bureau will be holding their Annual Meeting/Picnic on Sunday, August 16, 2026 at the York Springs Lion's Pavilion, starting at 1:00 pm. The indoor dining is air conditioned if we cannot be outdoors for any reason. The Ruritan Club's ice cream truck will also be there to serve their delicious ice cream. Fried Chicken will be provided, along with paper goods and utensils. Please bring a covered dish, a drink and some good policies.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

July marks the beginning of the 2026/2027 membership. Please consider renewing your membership early, before your statements come out, so there are less statements to send out. Your county has to pay for all of these mailings. You can pay online or even call our ROD, Chanin Rotz-Mountz at 717-552-0071 to renew your membership. Remember, you only pay \$95.00 until the end of September, then it goes up to \$100.00.

Chicken BBQ

The 3rd Annual Chicken BBQ was a success. There were 300 chicken halves sold and lots of delicious baked goods. We would like to thank all the people who participated, companies that

Calendar of Events

July

- 2 – Board Meeting
- 4 – Independence Day

August

- 6 – Board Meeting
- 11-13 – Ag Progress Days
- 16 – Annual Meeting/Picnic
- 25 – Legislative Tour

September

- 3 – Board Meeting
- 7 – Labor Day

Service Provider
Quick Reference

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717-359-7380

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1-800-522-2375

bought chicken for their employees, and the New Oxford FFA for helping sell the baked goods and pack the chicken. Everything ran smoothly with the help of the FFA students.



Policy Updates Newsletter

The Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) continues to evolve as the Adams County Conservation District moves from its initial rollout into a more structured and competitive phase. Early funding brought nearly \$3 million to the county and supported a wide range of conservation projects, and those funds have now been fully committed. Looking ahead, annual state allocations are expected to be lower, with approximately \$650,000 available each year. Because of this, program policies have been updated to help ensure funding is distributed fairly, used efficiently, and directed toward the highest priority resource concerns.

One of the most notable updates is the change to the cost-share rate. ACAP will now provide up to 90% cost share up to the contracted amount for most projects, down from 100%. This adjustment reflects both the reduction in available funding and a shift toward encouraging applicants to invest in projects that directly address their needs without unnecessary additions. The goal is to support practical, well-sized solutions rather than overbuilt practices.

There are some important exceptions. Standalone cropland erosion and/or stream exclusion practices remain eligible for 100% funding. These projects are not subject to prevailing wage requirements if they are less than \$25,000, as they typically are, and are considered essential, cost-effective conservation efforts. To help move these projects forward more quickly, the District Manager has been given the ability to approve applications and authorize contracts that have a total cost of \$10,000 or less without waiting for Board approval if staff feel the project fits and is worth investment. Additionally, applications that fit these guidelines can be accepted outside of the identified application schedule. This allows work to begin sooner, which can be especially important when timing depends on field conditions.

Eligibility requirements have also been clarified for certain types of projects. For manure management systems and similar practices, applicants must show that current animal numbers have been consistent for at least the past three years. This helps ensure that funding is used to support existing operations rather than expansion or new projects, which are not eligible under current policy. The intent and goal of ACAP

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Facebook**

Visit our web page.
www.pfb.com/adams

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BE SAFE!

**Farming is a profession
of hope.**

Brian Brett

**"The way I see it, if you
want the rainbow, you
gotta put up with the
rain!"**

Dolly Parton

**The greatest mistake
you can make is to be
continually fearing that
you'll make one**

Elbert Hubbard

**"Many of us have been
running all our lives.
Practice stopping."**

funding is to address only existing resource concerns, not aid new operations and/or expansions in preventing potential future concerns.

To strengthen the review process, additional documentation is now required for best management practices (BMPs). Engineers of record must confirm that proposed practices are properly sized and represent the least cost option needed to address the resource concern. This helps ensure projects are both effective and financially responsible.

The project ranking process has also been updated. A new ranking form, approved by the State Conservation Commission, will help staff better identify and prioritize the most impactful projects. With limited funding available, this step is key to making sure resources are directed where they can do the most good.

ACAP has also moved to a set application schedule. Applications will be accepted during two periods each year: June 15 through July 31, and December 15 through January 31. This replaces the previous first-come, first-served approach and allows applications to be reviewed together in a more consistent way.

As ACAP continues to develop, these updates are intended to improve how the program operates while keeping the focus on meaningful conservation outcomes. If you have resource concerns such as cropland erosion, heavy use areas in pasture, or manure storage needs, contact the Conservation District office to discuss available options.

Brock Clouser
Agricultural Conservation Technician
Adams County Conservation District
670 Old Harrisburg Road, Suite 201
Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717)-334-0636 ext. 3048

Renew Your Membership Now!

Reminder: July starts the new membership drive! Farm Bureau affects so many areas besides crop and livestock farmers. The policies that are passed and brought to the attention of the Pennsylvania legislators affect so many people from wineries, horse owners, to produce owners and sellers to commodity companies. If you know someone that isn't but should be a member, ask them to join, the Farm Bureau is there to help all the agricultural community. You can renew your membership by mail or online at PFB.com

There is an opening for a Board Member. If you are interested in sitting on the Board, contact President Brian Davis at 717-528-4485.

Thich Nhat Hanh

Kindness is one thing you can't give away. It always comes back

George Skolsky

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

Nelson Mandela

Living is the art of getting used to what we didn't expect

Eleanor Wood

Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day

Sally Koch

In the face of uncertainty, there is nothing wrong with hope.

Bernie Siegel

"Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy."

Thomas Merton

"Reflect on your present blessings, of which every man has plenty, not on your past misfortunes, of

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which all men have
some."

Charles Dickens

"Although the world is
full of suffering, it is
also full of the
overcoming of it."

Helen Keller

"Three things in
human life are
important: The first is
to be kind; the second
is to be kind; and the
third is to be kind."

Henry James

"The tests of life are
not to break you but
to make you."

Norman Vincent Peale

"May my dreams be
bigger than my fears,
my actions louder
than my words, and
my faith stronger than
my feelings."

Unknown

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ATV safety



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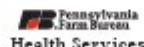
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Publication

PFB adds value to membership and keeps members informed through a variety of print and digital publications. Members receive 5% off advertising rates in our print publications. Contact advertising coordinator for details.

A total \$6 portion of annual member dues covers subscriptions to *Positively Pennsylvania*. Members receive 5 issues of *Positively Pennsylvania* per year. Publication frequency and details are subject to change.



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