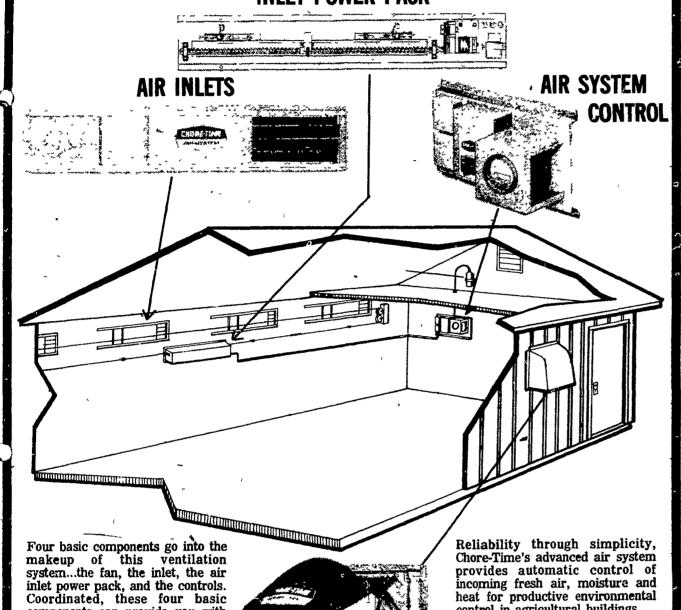


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The hot Summer sun assured a steady flow of visitors to refreshments stands.

Farm renovated

(Continued from Page 31)

The idea mushroomed quickly. Groups of people, as well as individuals and numerous businesses were eager to donate time and equipment. On August 19 the entire Roelkey farm turned into a beehive of activity which many visitors described as just plain fantastic.

Bulldozers roared into action to build a pond. Men and

boys with tanned arms hammered a new hog barn together. Others painted and built fences. Tons of debris which had littered the farm were removed and buried. Pastureland was renovated, complete with concrete watering facilities for livestock and acres of woodland were cleaned to to mark the beginning of forest management.

Spokesmen at the scene explained that the Project was "agriculture's positive response to Congress' mandate to clean up rivers and streams. It was pointed out that two small streams go through the Roelkey property and empty into the nearby Potomac River, which eventually winds up in Washington, D.C.

Because of the massive scale of the event and the profound implications, the activities were widely publicized well in advance as well as during the field day. Numerous representatives from radio, television, newspapers and magazines were on hand to observe, scribble notes and take pictures. Helicopters were available for aerial photography.

The thrust of the activities were obviously aimed to urban and suburban people, as well as agriculturalists. There was something for everyone. And while most of it was a positive learning experience, there were a number of areas which raised questions and left doubt. Typical of such an experience was the stream which was supposed to allow cows to drink while keeping pollution out. Many farmers weren't convinced it would work. Also, variations of such watering areas could possibly allow water to lay in pools and become stagnant.

Nonetheless, the happenings at the Warren Roelkey farm were regarded as impressive and worthwhile. In upcoming weeks Lancaster Farming will present more detailed reports on the work which took place to completely renovate a farm which had previously been in a pitiful state of neglect.



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