

# Chesapeake Bay Funding Goes To Northumberland County Farmers

SUNBURY (Northumberland Co.) — The board of directors of the Northumberland County Conservation District has approved Chesapeake Bay funding agreements with three local farmers, according to Robert Pardoe, Jr., district chairman. Approved for funding are John Esenwein, Rush Township; Donald Hauck, Upper Mahanoy Township; and Jacob Boyle, Lower Augusta Township.

Farmers that participate in the Chesapeake Bay Program are entitled to receive up to \$30,000 in state funds to install conservation practices to prevent agricultural pollution. Since the program began in 1987, the Northumberland County Conservation District has received \$295,000 in Chesapeake Bay grants from the state to cost share the establishment of conservation practices on local farms.

The Northumberland County Conservation District has been accepted into the Pocono-Northeast Resource Conservation and Development Area, according to Richard Morgan, conservation district director. Other counties already in the area include Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Schuylkill, Pike, and Wayne. The purpose of the Resource Conservation and Development program is to accelerate the conserva-

tion, development, and utilization of natural resources and strengthen economic activity. Acceptance into the program may result in future funding opportunities for Northumberland County.

A record-breaking 93,500 trees were sold in the conservation district's 19th annual tree seedling sale. Nearly 1,000 people purchased seedlings from the district, according to Robert Jacobs, conservation district manager.

Guy Temple, Penn State Extension community development agent, reported on the status of farmland preservation efforts in Pennsylvania. The state Agricultural Land Preservation Board recently agreed to spend \$20 million this year to purchase development rights for farmers. Farmers who participate in the program will give up their rights to sell their farms to developers for at least 25 years. All counties in Pennsylvania are eligible to participate in the program, according to Temple.

The conservation district staff presented 31 environmental education programs in elementary schools throughout the county in March and April. Nearly 1,900 students in grades 3-6 participated in the programs. The conservation district also distributed 14,500 Game Commission seedlings to

seven boy scout troops, three girl scout troops, and one 4-H Club. Approximately 235 scouts and 4-H Club members participated in the tree planting projects.

The conservation district will sponsor three demonstration projects this year, according to George Phillips, district soil conservationist. Ronald and Cyril

Shaffer, Lower Mahanoy Township, will plant a no-till corn demonstration plot and Irvin Reynolds, Delaware Township, will plant a nutrient demonstration plot in cooperation with the conservation district. Two livestock crossings will be installed on the RMD Shultz Farm, Rush Township.

Forty-one churches in North-

umberland County sponsored Soil Stewardship Week observances this year, according to Lorraine Kinder, conservation district director. Soil Stewardship Week, April 30 - May 7, is an annual observance sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts.

## Scholarships Available To Ag Students

EPHRATA (Lancaster) — Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to students enrolled at Penn State in the College of Agriculture by the Delta Theta Sigma professional and social fraternity at PSU. The scholarship money will be applied to the winners' tuitions upon successful completion of two semesters in the College of Agriculture at University Park.

Applicants should demonstrate outstanding leadership and involvement in agriculture.

To be eligible you must:

- 1) Be fifth semester standing or less.
  - 2) Be in your first year at University Park campus.
  - 3) Be enrolled in a College of Agriculture major.
  - 4) Have a desire to contribute to the agriculture community.
- The scholarships will be awarded based on the following qualifications:

- 1) Your desire to contribute to the agricultural community.
- 2) Experience in agriculture.
- 3) Involvement and leadership

in community and school activities, clubs and organizations.

4) Previous scholastic record. To apply, call the Northampton County Extension Office for the application forms at (215) 746-1970. Applications and letters must be postmarked by September 29, 1989.



## Carroll County Conducting Farm Ponds Tour

WESTMINSTER, MD — On Saturday, June 3, the Carroll County Extension Service, in cooperation with the Carroll Soil Conservation District, is conducting a tour of farm ponds. The purpose of the tour will be to look and hear experts talk about pond construction and maintenance with regard to farm fish production and irrigation. Participants will have the opportunity to view ponds in the early stages of construction, recently constructed ponds and older ponds in need of renovation. University of Maryland specialists and local soil conservation technicians will discuss the details of obtaining permits, pond construc-

tion, fish culture, irrigation management and pond renovation.

A bus will leave the Agriculture Center in Westminster at 9 a.m. on June 3rd, and should return by 3:30 p.m. There is no cost for the bus - you should bring your own lunch. The bus and drinks are being provided courtesy of the Carroll Soil Conservation District. To reserve a seat on the bus, call the Extension Office at 848-4611.

The Maryland Cooperative Extension Service's programs and activities are open to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex and handicap.



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