

1992 Schedule Of Events

(Continued from Page B20)

- Presentation: Urban Youth Education and the Theatre Arts (Wednesday)** - College Exhibits Building
Presentation: Is Your Water Safe to Drink (Thursday) - College Exhibits Building
3:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
3:30 Processed Food Demonstration: Low-fat Dairy Products - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
3:40 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
4:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
5:00 Ag Progress Days Exhibits Close (Tuesday and Thursday)

The following activities take place on Wednesday only

- 3:30 General Conservation Tour** - Conservation Education Tent
4:00 Forest Stewardship Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
Presentation: Backyard Composting - College Exhibits Building
Horse Breed Exhibitions - Horse Arena
4:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
4:30 General Conservation Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
4:40 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
5:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
Forest Stewardship Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Meat Cooking Demonstration - Meating Place
9:00 Ag Progress Days Exhibits Open
10:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
Forest Stewardship Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Vegetable and Small Fruit Research Tour (Tuesday) - Corn Crib
Rotational Grazing Systems Tour (Wednesday) - Corn Crib
Corn and Small Grain Research Tour (Thursday) - Corn Crib
Meat Cooking Demonstration - Meating Place
Pesticide Workshop: Weed Life Cycles and Identification - College Exhibits Building
Horse Breed Exhibitions - Horse Arena
Horse Events: Thorncroft Mainstreamers Drill Team, Side Saddle Demonstration (Thursday) - Horse Arena
10:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
10:30 Timber Bridge Tour (Wednesday) - Corn Crib
General Conservation Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Watering Systems and Stream Crossing Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Machinery Demonstration: Conservation Planting
Food Demonstration: Omelettes from Pellets - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building

- 10:40 General Research Tour** - Corn Crib
11:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
Forest Stewardship Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Nutrient Management Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Machinery Demonstration: Primary and Secondary Tillage
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
Pesticide Workshop: Choosing and Using Spray Nozzles - College Exhibits Building
11:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
11:30 General Conservation Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Watering Systems and Stream Crossing Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Wetlands Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Food Demonstration: Vegetable Stir-fries - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
11:40 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
12:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
Forest Stewardship Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Meat Cooking Demonstration - Meating Place
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
Pesticide Workshop: Residue Testing - College Exhibits Building
12:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
12:30 Processed Food Demonstration: Low-fat Dairy Products - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
12:40 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
1:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
Forest Stewardship Tour - Conservation Education Tent
Machinery Demonstration: Mowing
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
Presentation: Composting Poultry (Tuesday) - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
5:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
5:30 Food Demonstration: Omelettes from Pellets - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
5:40 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
6:00 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
Presentation: Pesticide Handling for the Homeowner - College Exhibits Building
Horse Events: Flag Presentation, Dedication Ceremony, Thorncroft Mainstreamers Drill Team, Freestyle Reining, Draft Horse Hitches and Carts - Horse Arena
6:20 General Research Tour - Corn Crib
6:30 Processed Food Demonstration: Low-fat Dairy Products - College Exhibits Building
Macintosh Computer Class - Youth Building
General Research Tour - Corn Crib

Youths Learn About Technology And The Environment

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)— Young people can find out about computers, 4-H programs, horses, plants, soils and more at Penn State's Ag Progress Days.

"Young people will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities introducing them to a variety of skills and careers in the agricultural sciences," says Dr. Robert Baldwin, assistant dean for resident education in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Two horticulture exhibits will be on display in the Youth Building. "Propagation: the Art of Reproducing Plants" will cover reproduction techniques for horticultural crops. Youths will have a chance to propagate their own geraniums.

"Do You Know the Trees in Pennsylvania Landscapes?" includes an identification test of the state's trees. Leaf and stem samples will be on display along with information about the trees they represent. "Trees provide beauty, shade and many other benefits," says Dr. Larry Kuhns, professor of ornamental horticulture. "It's important for young people to recognize their value."

Another Youth Building display will show careers in agricultural and biological engineering and agricultural systems management and technology. "Young people can get information on soil conservation and water quality, food processing engineering, structures and their environments and power and machinery systems," says Dr. Dennis Buffington, professor and head of agricultural engineering.

Youths also can learn about soils and landscapes, computerized geographic information systems, terrain analysis and remote

sensing. "A display will compare traditional and computerized methods of evaluating soil and land resources," says Dr. Rick Day, manager of Penn State's Land Analysis Systems Program.

Youngsters and adults can get experience using Macintosh computers at a number of exhibits. Half-hour computer-training classes will take place in the Youth Building's computer classroom, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and until 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Visitors can take a computer quiz, work with basic data and learn how to use a graphics program.

"This is an opportunity for people of all ages to sit down at a computer for the first time in a low-pressure situation," says Thomas Weber, computer training and support specialist in the College of Agricultural Sciences.

A station next to the computer classroom will introduce PENpages, an electronic library of consumer and agricultural information operated and maintained by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences. PENpages is a free information service with thousands of fact sheets, news articles and other sources of information.

The 4-H exhibit "4-H is More" features a touch-screen computer program. Youths can interact with the program to learn about 4-H programs in plant science, entrepreneurship, photography, nutrition and many other areas. The exhibit also will include 4-H materials and printed information.

Other 4-H exhibits include "4-H Camp: The Experience of a Lifetime"; "Don't Waste Our Future," which demonstrates newspaper recycling and small-scale composting; and "Be Careful: You're Standing on Groundwa-

ter," which shows how human activity impacts water resources. "4-H Livestock Raising: Art or Science?" demonstrates how youths learn to raise and care for animals. Participants in the 4-H Theater Arts Program also will perform.

In addition, several equine events of special interest to youths are planned for Wednesday, August 19. These include a therapeutic

horseback riding demonstration, presentations by 4-H horse club members and demonstrations by state 4-H riding champions. Wednesday evening will feature an exhibition of draft horses, drill teams and freestyle reining.

"Various breeds will be exhibited each day of the event, and there will be a horse handling and training clinic by Penn State horse farm manager Ward Studebaker," says Pat Comerford, extension

horse program coordinator.

A tent in the horse area will feature 4-H horse programs, tack and equipment, Penn State's quarter horses and teaching programs, horseshoeing, the horse in medical agriculture and other exhibits. Commercial and breed exhibitors also will have displays. A variety of horse-related videos will be shown including "Careers in the Horse Industry."

On-Farm Composting Featured

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)— Composting can reduce manure and farm wastes by one-half to two-thirds while converting them into an effective soil conditioner that can be spread or sold.

"During the composting process, microorganisms convert organic waste into a light, odor-free soil-like product," says Timothy Fritz, Penn State Cooperative Extension agent in Montgomery County. "It can be used as-is mixed with wood chips, sawdust or other materials to make an excellent mulch."

Fritz will talk about on-farm composting Thursday, August 20 at 1:00 p.m. in the College Exhibits Building during Penn State's Ag Progress Days.

"Composting is simple and can be done on any size farm," says Fritz. "Farmers with small operations can turn piles with front-end loaders, and larger operations may choose to move compost with mechanized composting systems."

Any livestock manure or organic waste can be composted, including leaves, yard waste, paper and cardboard. It takes three to four months for a properly designed and operated system to complete a cycle.

The finished product can be used on the farm as a soil conditioner or for livestock bedding. "It also can be sold to other farmers, homeowners, landscapers, turf managers and nursery operators," says Fritz.

Composting is slightly more labor-intensive than spreading raw manure or disposing of wastes. It requires proper siting, and larger operations may need to purchase equipment for moving compost.

In addition, The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the American Society of Soil Conservation views manure composting as manure storage. The composting operation can be cost-shared, but the site must meet certain design standards.

"But composting is worth the effort on many farms," says Fritz. "Less manure and waste means less hauling and spreading with soil-compacting machinery. Compost also improves soil's fertility, structure and water-holding capacity. Nitrogen in compost is slow-releasing, which can be better for plants and the environment than nitrogen in other forms."

Composting may also be the most practical way for poultry farmers to dispose of dead chickens.

"Composting chickens is an inexpensive alternative to incinerating," says John Schwartz, extension director and poultry specialist for Penn State Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County. "Instead of destroying the carcasses, farmers can turn them into an asset."

Schwartz will talk about poultry composting Tuesday, August 18 at 1:00 p.m. in the College Exhibits Building.

Flock sizes and body weights of chickens have increased in recent years, creating more bulk to dispose of when chickens die. "Incinerating carcasses requires fuel," says Schwartz. "Selling them to rendering companies to make into animal food has been an option, but fewer companies are accepting dead poultry because the feathers are difficult to process."

Composting chickens started in Pennsylvania about three years ago. "Farmers are discovering that it fits into their routines without creating a lot of extra work," says Schwartz.

Poultry compost bins must have concrete floors to keep moisture from leaching into the ground and a roof to keep rain out. Pressure