

Take Me Out To The Old-Fashioned Ball Game

DOVER, Del. — On July 14 and August 18 from 6 p.m. — 8 p.m., the grounds behind the Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village exhibit building will become the baseball field for recreated 19th century baseball games. The games will be played according to the rules adopted by the Massachusetts Association of Base Ball Players at Dedham, Massachusetts on May 13, 1858.

Sometimes referred to as "Town Ball," the Massachusetts game is a derivative of the British Commoners' game of rounders and a primitive form of our modern baseball. "Town Ball" was played in the rural areas of the United States until the late 19th century. Farmers would sell their goods at the Saturday morning market and then play a game of "Town Ball."

There are many differences between "Town Ball" and today's baseball. In "Town Ball" there is no foul territory; four wooden stakes are used instead of bases; and the batter stands between the

first and fourth stake. A "Town Ball" team may have between 10 and 14 players. Teams change places after one out and the game is played until 21 runs are scored

by one team.

The Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village "Town Ball" games promise to be fun for everyone. Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic, tour the museum

and root for the team of their choice. The museum, a private, non-profit organization, is located just south of Delaware State College on Route 13 in Dover. Admission to a "Town Ball" game

is \$3 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and youth 10 - 17, \$1 for children 6 - 9 and free for children under 6 and museum members. For further information, call (302) 734-1618.

Montgomery Extension Promotes Organic Waste Recycling, Composting

CREAMERY (Montgomery Co.) — Montgomery County Cooperative Extension has recently initiated a program to promote organic waste recycling and composting throughout the county. The program is funded through a grant from The William Penn Foundation. Extension is working in conjunction with the Montgomery County Waste System Authority to bring this type of recycling to municipalities, farmers, nurseries, landscapers, and residents.

Sally Pick has been named project director and will be coordinating a broad range of educational

programs. She comes to Cooperative Extension with a Master of Environmental Studies from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Pick will provide educational and technical assistance to organic waste recyclers, composters, and users of compost, to help the county turn organic wastes into organic resources. The program is intended to reduce the costly disposal of recyclable organic materials, promote environmentally sound uses of these materials, and protect the county's streams and rivers from polluted runoff from

poorly managed organic wastes and fertilizer applications (fertilizer use can be reduced with applications of compost and practices like grasscycling).

Here is a sampling of the variety of educational activities Extension is planning: helping municipalities to establish and refine their organic waste recycling and composting, developing educational materials on waste reduction practices such as grasscycling

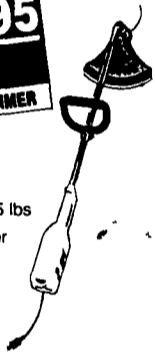
(mulching), working with the county parks department to establish backyard composting demonstration parks, and helping nurseries and landscapers to establish organic waste recycling in these industries. If you have ideas, questions, or want to participate in this new program, Extension encourages you to contact their new organic waste recycling and composting office in Creamery, Skipack Township at (215) 454-1245.

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Lunchtime Series

DOVER, Del. — Each Thursday from 12 noon - 1 p.m. during the month of July, the Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village and the City of Dover Department of Parks and Recreation will present events on the Green (State Street, downtown Dover) which depict different aspects of 19th century rural life. The program schedule is: July 8 — Stories and Music of the Railroad with Ted Ressler and Jackie Gaston. July 15 — Farm Songs by the Brandtwine

Dulcimer Club. July 22 — Should Women Have the Vote? A 19th Century Debate. July 29 — Reading, Writing, 'Rithmetic: Lessons from a 19th Century School.

These events are free and open to the public. Bring a lunch to the Green and munch while you are entertained. The Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village, a private, non-profit organization, is located on Route 13 in Dover. For further information, call (302) 734-1618.

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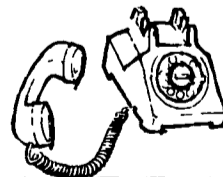
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