

Center For Rural Pa. Seeks Five Communities

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Center for Rural Pennsylvania and the Countryside Institute, are seeking five rural Pennsylvania communities to participate in the 1995 International Countryside Stewardship Exchange.

This exchange will bring together planners, land conservation, and rural professionals from the United States, Canada, and Europe into five selected rural Pennsylvania communities for an intense week of community analysis and visioning.

In addition, these communities are to receive focused assistance to develop resources and partnerships that can support future strategic action steps.

According to the chairman of the Rural Center, State Rep. David R. Wright, Clarion, "The theme of

the Rural Pennsylvania Exchange is, "Building a Shared Vision for Rural Communities." The exchange will help communities develop and begin implementing a plan of action that will affect community development initiatives in the future."

The exchange is based on the premise that rural areas and small towns in many countries face essentially the same types of economic and social problems. Whether it is a fishing village in Scotland or a mining town in northeast Pennsylvania, issues of change remain the same.

Often, due to a lack of resources, leadership, and time, communities fall prey to crisis-by-crisis management or a reactive planning process. When outside professional help is needed, the

financial resources to obtain assistance cannot be found.

Rep. Wright said, "While there are no magical solutions that work in every community, there are some tried and true processes that can help rural communities set their own agendas for the future."

Any community-based organization, local governments or citizen group within the eligible regions can apply to be a host com-


munity for the International Countryside Stewardship Exchange in Rural Pennsylvania.

For the exchange to be successful, it is critical that the proposal represents the views of the entire community; therefore, the primary or lead organization should represent a broad-based coalition from within the area. Only one application per host community may be submitted.

Accompanying is the list of regions from which counties or communities can apply for the 1995 International Countryside Stewardship Exchange in Rural Pennsylvania.












All proposals are due at the Rural Center by Dec. 16, 1994. To receive a request for proposal, or to learn more about the exchange, call the Rural Center (717) 787-9555.

Agriculture and Tourism Region	Anthracite Coal Region	Bituminous Coal Region	Forest Product Region	Oil Region
Bradford	Carbon	Armstrong	Cameron	Clarion
Monroe	Lackawanna	Cambria	Clinton	Crawford
Pike	Luzerne	Clearfield	Elk	Forest
Sullivan	Northumberland	Fayette	McKean	Venango
Susquehanna	Schuylkill	Greene	Potter	Warren
Wayne		Indiana	Tioga	
Wyoming		Jefferson		
		Somerset		
		Washington		
		Westmoreland		



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