

# Dropoff Locations For Clean And Green Applications Set

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Lancaster Farming Staff

**NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.)** — To help Lancaster County farmers facilitate sign-up under Clean and Green (Act 319) in this year of court-ordered reassessment, one of several dropoff meetings is scheduled at the farm of Eugene Martin on Tuesday, May 9 from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

Martin, who maintains 90 acres next to the Summit Valley School at 224 Eastern School Road, is working with the Earl Township Farmland Preservation Trust to set up a series of meetings, including one at the Martin Farm and two other locations, for sign-up.

The plan is to allow farmers to fill out the Clean and Green registration forms and have them notarized at the site. If requested, the forms can then be hand-delivered to the county courthouse.

"What we're doing here is to make it more convenient for the farmers," said Martin during a recent interview at his farm. Martin, who finishes 70 head of beef cattle per year, has decided to sign up his farm under the "ag-use" segment of the Clean and Green application form (an example of the form is reproduced this issue).

While this is a busy time of year for farmers, with planting season well under way, the Trust realizes it is a short timeframe. The application deadline is June 1.

"We realize it's going to be a short timeframe. It will be busy, so (to speed up the process) we're going to have notary service available on those given dates," said Martin.

Those who sign up under Clean and Green must have the people whose names that are listed in the deed, including all partnerships, present at time of notarization.

The meeting is open to residents from all portions of the county. Personnel from the Farmland Trust and other organizations will be on hand at the Martin Farm on May 9 to answer questions and help with the form-filling process.

The Trust will have transportation available. Call (717) 354-2272 or 354-8263 for transportation.

Martin indicated that much has to be worked out regarding how to implement the Clean and Green Law with the farmers. The Clean and Green Law value itself depends on the amount of farmers who sign up.

What is certain is that taxes will go up, in some cases substantially, for some farmers even if they sign up for Clean and Green. Depending on the individual farm, if they don't sign up for Clean and Green and opt for "fair market value" on their property, farmers will be facing a near-catastrophic increase — reports by as much as two to three times the amount.

An example of the form is included in this issue of *Lancaster Farming*. The reverse of the form needs to be notarized, which the Trust will provide free of charge at the dropoff meetings.

According to some estimates, a farmer in the eastern part of the county with Class 1 soils could see their taxes increase by as much as \$6,000 under fair market value. Under Clean and Green, depending on the farm, taxes could remain the same or actually become lower.

Some reports indicate that only half of the farmers intend to sign up for the program as of presstime. This could have a major impact on individual taxes due in spring of next year for many farmers.

Martin indicated that, under Clean and Green, ag-use value of land in Lancaster County is eyed at approximately \$1,200 per acre. Fair market value puts land per acre at about \$5,000 in Lancaster County.

Farmers could face thousands of more dollars in taxes unless they sign up for Clean and Green. Martin said farmers should sign up under the "ag use" segment of Clean and Green.

What will hurt the farmers most, according to Martin, is the fact that, even under Clean and Green, the first acre of a farm will be assessed at anywhere between \$40,000-\$45,000, which makes up a great deal of the increase. Also, new construction may contribute to increased taxes, and large buildings that are sitting with no use could prove financially burdensome in terms of taxation.

Martin said that much needs to be worked out. "We're not going to know what it's going to be yet, even when the reassessment comes out. What they are going to do is they're going to estimate a millage, and then they're going to see how many farmers sign up for Clean and Green and how many stay at fair market value." The base millage will depend on how many farmers sign up for Clean and Green.

"We have to get on the ball and do something to help these people," said Martin.



A dropoff meeting is scheduled at the farm of Eugene Martin on May 9. Martin, who maintains 90 acres next to the Summit Valley School at 224 Eastern School Road, is working with the Earl Township Farmland Preservation Trust to set up a series of meetings, including one at the Martin Farm and two other locations. The plan is to allow farmers to fill out the Clean and Green registration forms and have them notarized at the farm.

LANCASTER COUNTY APPLICATION FOR ACT 319 (CLEAN AND GREEN)  
USE VALUE ASSESSMENT OF LAND

Application is hereby made for preferential assessment of land under the Pennsylvania Farmland and Forest Land Assessment Act of 1974 (72 P.S. Sections 5490.1 - 5490.13) for the tax year beginning 1996. *"PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT"*

1. Legal ownership: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial Phone #  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial Phone #  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial Phone #

2. Location of Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Road/Street Mailing address (to where tax notices are mailed)  
Street, RD or Box #  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Township/Borough City, State, Zip

3. Parcels to be considered: Map Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_

4. Check box for predominant use: Agricultural Use  Agricultural Reserve  Forest Reserve

5. a) Is this parcel 10 contiguous acres or more in size? Yes  No   
b) Does this application represent the total acres in the parcel? Yes  No   
c) If this parcel is less than 10 acres, can you verify that the land is now devoted to Agricultural Use and that the land will be used to generate \$2,000 annual gross income? N/A  Yes  No   
d) If this parcel has open tillable land, is it now devoted to Agricultural Use, and has it been so for the preceding three years? N/A  Yes  No   
e) If this parcel has Forest Land, is the land stocked with trees of any size, and is it capable of producing wood products in excess of 25 cubic feet per acre each year? N/A  Yes  No   
f) Do you or anyone else currently conduct any non-agricultural commercial business on this land parcel? Yes  No   
If the answer is yes, list or describe those activities here: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have the mineral rights previously been sold or leased? Yes  No

Completed applications for enrolling in Act 319 must be received in the Lancaster County Assessment Office on or before June 1 to be considered for tax assessment under the Act for the next year.

I/we hereby accept the provisions of the Pennsylvania Farmland and Forest Land Assessment Act of 1974, Act 319, and agree to be bound by the provisions set therein. / The applicant, approved for preferential assessment, agrees to provide 30 days notice to the County Assessor of any proposed change in land use, split-off or conveyance of the land. / The undersigned declares this application and accompanying schedules and statements have been examined and by best knowledge and belief is true and correct.

Signature(s) of owners or corporation name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature(s) of owners or corporation name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) of owners or corporation name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature(s) of owners or corporation name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted into program as:	Agricultural Use	Agricultural Reserve	Forest Reserve
Agreement # _____	Date _____	Recorded # _____	Date _____

*"APPLICATION CANNOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS NOTARIZED ON THE REVERSE SIDE"*  
NOTE ASSESSED VALUES ARE NOT FIXED BY THIS APPLICATION AND MAY VARY FROM TIME TO TIME

Farmers could face thousands of more dollars in taxes unless they sign up for Clean and Green. Martin said farmers should sign up under the "ag use" segment of the law. Here is an example of the Clean and Green application form.

Many farmers don't realize what it will cost them. Early reports indicated that a third of the farmers will see their taxes increase, a third will see them stay the same, and a third will see them drop.

Martin, who has his own farm in preservation with the Trust, indicated that the reassessment takes into account only the land and building size and not what is in the buildings. Equipment and livestock will not be taxed.

There is a \$40 filing fee to accompany the sign-up. Sign-up dates and locations are:  
• Eugene Martin Farm, May 9, from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m. The farm is located at 224 Eastern School Road, near the Summit Valley Elementary School south of New Holland between Kinzer Road and New Holland Road. Martin's phone number is (717) 354-8263.

• Martindale Fire Hall, May 10, from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m. The fire hall is located at Lancaster Avenue near Hurst Rd., Martindale. Call (717) 354-2272 for more information.

• Amos Huyard, May 11, from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Huyard is located at 469 N. Railroad Ave., New Holland. Call (717) 354-2272 for more information.

## Clean And Green Sign-Up Dates Set

**NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.)** — Farmers who want to sign up for Clean and Green can attend the following dropoff meetings:

• Eugene Martin Farm, May 9, from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m. The farm is located at 224 Eastern School Road, near the Summit Valley Elementary School south of New Holland between Kinzer Road and New Holland Road. Martin's phone number is (717) 354-8263.

• Martindale Fire Hall, May 10, from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m. The fire hall is located at Lancaster Avenue near Hurst Rd., Martindale. Call (717) 354-2272 for more information.

• Amos Huyard, May 11, from 12:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Huyard is located at 469 N. Railroad Ave., New Holland. Call (717) 354-2272 for more information.

Also, educational meetings regarding Clean and Green have also been scheduled. They are:

• May 3, Martindale Fire Company, Martindale, 7:30 p.m.

• May 10, Hoffman Building, Solanco Fairgrounds, Quarryville, 7:30 p.m.

• May 10, Ken Zurin Farm, Mount Joy, 6 p.m. Call (717) 898-6213 for more information.

• May 15, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.

## Call For Exhibitors List

**PHILADELPHIA**—Call today for an exhibitors list for the Pennsylvania Fair at Philadelphia Park.

Special classes have been established for entries in beef, sheep, and goats at the 1995 fair. The Junior Beef Show will be held on

Monday, May 22, at 5 p.m. Entries must arrive on Sunday, May 21 between noon and 5 p.m. Entry fee is \$5 per head.

Breeds eligible are Angus, Polled Herefords, and Simmental. Seven classes will be shown for each breed, and prizes will be paid

in five places.

Top prize is \$50. In the market steer class, there are four classes, with the same premium monies as in the heifer classes. Prize money and ribbons are also awarded for the fitting and showmanship contests. Champions in the show

received director's chairs.

The open class sheep show will be held on Wednesday, May 24 at 4 p.m. The sheep must arrive on Tuesday before 4:30 p.m. and may depart on Wednesday following the show. The youth show is on Thursday, May 25 at 5 p.m. and they may depart at 9 p.m.

In both sheep shows, the fol-

lowing breeds are being shown: Cheviot, Dorset, Hampshire, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk, and Oxford. Prizes awarded are \$20 for first place, paying five monies. Champions in the show receive blankets. Entry fee in \$3.

The Youth Open Goat Show will be Saturday, May 20 at 1:30

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