#### Attend Backyard Composting Workshop

COLLEGEVILLE (Montgomery Co.) — Did you know that approximately 30% of your household waste is organic material that can be recycled in your own backyard?

Leaves, grass clippings, other yard wastes, and food scraps, are all materials that will naturally decompose through a process called composting. If you have considered composting but haven't gotten around to making or buying a bin, now is your

chance to learn more about the topic and get a coupon toward a bin.

Montgomery County residents who attend a Bin in Your Neighborhood (BIN) Composting Workshop, will learn how to cut down on yard work, help reduce disposal costs, and cut back on the amount of materials being landfilled or incinerated each year. In exchange for attending a BIN Workshop, Montgomery County residents will be given a \$25 BIN Coupon which can be redeemed at

participating stores throughout Montgomery County, or through participating mail-order companies.

The first BIN Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 19, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., as part of the Perkiomen Valley Watershed Association's Earth Day celebration. The workshop will take place at the Old Mill House in the Central Perkomen Valley Park, Plank Road, Schwenksville, followed by a tour

of a composting demonstration site at the Earth Day celebration. Workshop participants are then welcome to enjoy the Earth Day festivities.

The Recycling Education Program of Penn State Cooperative Extension, Montgomery County, will be teaching the BIN Workshop. The coupon give-away for compost bins is sponsored by a

grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Only Montgomery County residents are eligible to receive the coupons.

Pre-registration for BIN Workshops is required. To pre-register or to find out about other BIN Workshops, call the Recycling Education Program at (610) 489-4315.

### Auction To Benefit Erie 4-H

ERIE (Erie Co.) — The eighteenth annual auction to benefit the Erie County 4-H/Youth Development Program will be held Saturday, April 26, beginning at 10 a.m.

The auction will be held indoors in the 4-H/FFA Youth Arena, at the Waterford Fairgrounds, located just south of Waterford on Route 19. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. for inspection of merchandise. Seating and refreshments will be available.

The auction will feature a wide variety of new household and garden items, plants and shrubs, gift certificates, and services donated by area busineses and individuals. In addition, used items in working condition will be donated by the county's many 4-H families. Also for sale will be a number of hand-

crafted items and baked goods.

According to Robert Soltis, volunteer co-chair of this year's event, all proceeds from the auction will directly benefit the county's more than 2,400 4-H members. Funds raised will be used to provide these young people with scholarships enabling them to attend a number of leadership and citizenship development activities, to help cover the costs of conducting the annual 4-H Fair, or to provide a variety of other 4-H programs and opportunities to the county's young people.

All items will be sold by Auctioneer Paul Holtz who has volunteered his professional services to 4-H again this year. He will be assisted by Bill Bellis of Franklin, an apprentice auctioneer and Venango County 4-H members. Terms of the auction are strictly cash and carry

cash and carry.

Donations of items for the Auction will be accepted through the day of the sale. Those wishing to donate items may contact the extension office at (814) 825-0900, or Robert Soltis at (814) 756-5334.

#### University Of Delaware Holds Family Ag Day

NEWARK, Del. — Bring the family to Ag Day on Saturday, April 19, when students from the College of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Delaware introduce the community to the wide world of agriculture. The ever-popular annual event will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the grounds of Townsend and Worrilow halls on South College Avenue in Newark.

Adults can stock up on bedding plants and learn to identify pests and weeds, while children can find out about chicks and blue hens, ride a pony or a hay wagon, milk a cow, pet a piglet or climb on a tractor.

Ag Day is a virtual gardener's heaven, with two distinct plant

sales. Plant and soil sciences students will sell annual bedding plants, both vegetables and flowers, that they have grown. Staff, students and volunteers will offer unusal perennials, trees and shrubs at the UD Botanic Gardens plant sale in the Fischer Greenhouse.

Now in its 21st year, Ag Day is organized each spring by students of the college. Activities, displays and refreshments are provided by a variety of student groups, including the Equestrian Club, Wildlife Club and service fraternities. From designing the annual Ag Day T-shirt to grilling chicken and hot dogs, student organizers keep the event fresh and exciting.

Admission and parking are free.



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