

Teen Challenge Becomes Berks Conservation Farm Of Year

REHRSBURG (Berks Co.) — Teen Challenge, a farm that serves as a rehabilitative center for men ages 18-60 based here, is the Berks County Conservation Farm of the Year.

The farm will be honored at the Berks County Conservation District Banquet at the 4-H Community Center in Leesport on Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m.

The farm was profiled in the June 22, 1996 issue of *Lancaster Farming*.

Farm manager is Eric Hole. According to Randy McCormack, district conservationist with the county's USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Teen Challenge became a cooperator with the Berks County Conservation District on Feb. 25, 1970.

The farm, in Tulpehocken Township, manages approximately 384 acres comprising six tracts.

In the past, this has been a dairy operation and recently converted into a calf replacement farm. According to McCormack, over the years Teen Challenge has applied approximately 234 acres of stripcropping, 2,845 feet of

diversions, 8,969 feet of subsurface drainage (tile), and about 1.4 acres (1,500-2,000 feet) of grassed waterways.

"Over the years, working with such an exceptional manager (Eric Hole) and dedicated soil conserva-

tionist has been a real pleasure," said McCormack.

Teen Challenge also raises some landscape nursery stock.

For tickets to the banquet, contact the conservation office at (610) 372-4657.

NADeFa Elects Leadership

LANHAM, Md. — The North American Deer Farmers Association membership has elected David Griffith, Griffith Brothers Whitetail Ridge Trophy Game Ranch, Huntingdon, Pa.; Tommie Lynn Cashion, Flint Land & Cattle, Woodbury, Ga.; and Cleve Tedford, Mule Face Farms/Tellico Plains Venison, Tellico Plains, Tenn. to their board of directors.

At their recent board meeting in Florida, the board appointed Jill Bryar Wood as president of the association.

"The number of deer farmers continues to increase each year, because people are looking for alternative forms of agriculture, the demand for its products, the ease with which deer are raised and the favorable economics involved in deer farming," said Mrs. Wood.

She said she is proud that NADeFA is able to help farmers with no agricultural background, as well as established farmers, with all aspects of their operations.

"We are increasing the seminars for deer farmers on both the national and local levels. This will provide more people an opportunity to learn about deer farming as well as keep those involved in the industry up to date with the latest marketing opportunities, innovations and regulations."

Mrs. Wood said "The future for the industry is very bright and with the enthusiasm of members of the North American Deer Farmers Association, you will be hearing more about the opportunities for those who are getting involved in deer farming."

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