



FARM FORUM

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are generally required to provide metered information. The majority of agricultural water users are not expected to exceed that amount and will be given alternate methods to estimate water use and withdrawal.

Because of the rapid expansion of businesses and new housing into rural areas, a stress has been put on both surface and ground water supplies. Local officials will now be able to consider how much water is being used and how much is still available, and limit development before water-use and water-quality conflicts arise.

The registration process has begun, and you must register by March 16, 2004 for existing withdrawals or uses of water. Withdrawals or uses developed after Feb. 16, 2004, must be registered within 30 days of development.

After you register, water use data will be compiled and studied by statewide and regional water resources committees. These committees consist of representatives of business and industry, agriculture and local government and environmental interests. This group will be responsible for identifying existing and potential water-use conflicts and water-quality issues that may occur, and address these issues before they become problems.

Producers will receive a pre-registration packet in the mail that will explain the registration process, and include suggestions for estimating water

usage. If you have any questions please contact the Act 220 Hotline at (888) 457-6653.

— Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Camp Hill

Editor:

Legislation to be considered this week by a General Assembly committee allowing state-owned farmland in Warren County to be used for a shopping mall would weaken Pennsylvania's policy for farmland preservation, according to the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

At issue are 29 acres of prime farmland located at Warren State Hospital which are being farmed. Last year the Warren County Commissioners approved an agreement whereby the state-owned land would be sold to a commercial developer along with two other land parcels. The transaction requires passage of House Bill 66, which would transfer ownership of the land to Warren County without an agricultural use restriction. The measure was scheduled to be considered by the House State Government Committee on Wednesday, Oct. 8.

Passage of House Bill 66 would establish a perious precedent and weaken Pennsylvania's long-standing public policy that farmland owned by the commonwealth be restricted for agricultural use to the fullest extent possible if sold or transferred. At least one farm family who is actively using much of the land would be gravely affected by the action. So in this instance, not only is the future of state-owned farmland at risk, but the future of the farm family as well.

— Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Camp Hill



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National Apple Harvest Festival, Arendtsville, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., thru Oct. 12, (717) 677-9413.

Day on a Dairy Farm, Mark and Cindy Tompkins Evergreen Lane Farm, Montrose, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., (717) 278-1212.

Maine Food Festival, Unity, Maine.

Sunday, October 12

York County 4-H Achievement Day, 4-H Center.

Beaver-Laurence County Summer Picnic, Coachmen's Club, New Castle.

Monday, October 13

Beech Grove Farm Field Day, Trout Run, Lycoming County, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

ADADC District Meeting, N.E. Pa., First United Methodist Church, Mainsburg, 7 p.m., (570) 549-8259.

PASA/NEON Field Day, Beech Grove Farm, near Trout Run, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Poultry Management and Health Seminar, Kreider's Restaurant, Manheim, noon, (814) 865-5573.

Tuesday, October 14

Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc. annual meeting, (302) 856-9037.

Dillsburg Community Fair, thru Oct. 18.

Nutrient Management Plan Writing Workshop, 118 ASI Building, Penn State, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Penn State Santitation Short Course, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, thru Oct. 16, (814) 863-2298.

Lancaster County 4-H Recognition Night, Ruhl's United Methodist Church, Manheim, 6:15 p.m., (717) 394-6851.

Dairylea Co-op Annual meeting, Holiday Inn, Liverpool, N.Y., thru Oct. 15, (315) 433-0100.

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Meeting, Solanco High School, Quarryville, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 15

Maryland State Grange Session, Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster, thru Oct. 17.

ADADC District Meeting, New York Chateaugay American Legion, 7 p.m., (518) 358-2058.

ADADC District Meeting New York, DiPacific Restaurant, Farmington, N.Y., 7:30 p.m., (585)352-3537.

ADADC District Meeting New York, Tally Ho Restaurant, Richfield Springs, N.Y., 7:45 p.m., (607) 264-8128.

Forestry Taxation and Financial Planning Workshop, Royal Inn, south of Ridgeway on Rt. 219, (814) 863-0401.

Cumberland County Farmer Field Day, Brandt's Dairy Farm, Shippenburg, 8:45 a.m., (717) 240-7812.

Thursday, October 16

Mid-Atlantic Conference for Growers, Penn State's Great Valley Campus, Malvern, (610) 690-7676.

National Tree Farmer Convention, Hilton Columbus, Columbus, Ohio, (330) 674-9947.

Texas Longhorn Show and Convention, Kentucky Expo Center, Louisville, Ky., thru Oct. 18, (817) 244-8855.

Laurence County Pesticide Update meeting, Courthouse Annex, New Castle, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., (724) 654-8370.

Friday, October 17

Uniontown Poultry and Farm Show, thru Oct. 19.

Pa. Graded Feeder Cattle Sale, Belleville Livestock Auction, Belleville, 7 p.m., (717) 935-2146.

NEEDS program for nutrient and environmental education, Holiday Inn Express, Meadville, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., (814) 863-3902.

American Chestnut Foundation Annual Meeting, Nittany Lion Inn, thru Oct. 19, (802) 447-0110.

Delaware Friends of Ag Breakfast, Modern Maturity Center, Dover, 7:15 p.m., (302) 832512.

S.A.V.E. Shindig at Springdell, Historic Bank Barn, Coatesville, 6:30 p.m., (610) 925-0041.

Saturday, October 18

Rites of Fall, U.S. Botanical Gardens, Ag Center, Gettysburg, (717) 334-6271.

Growing and Using Garlic, Lebanon Valley Ag Center, 10 a.m.-noon, (717) 270-4391.

Fall Lawn Care, Bradford County Master Gardener, Demo Garden. Extension Offices, Towanda, 6:30 p.m.

Pa. Graded Feeder Cattle Sale, Bedford Cattlemen's Assoc., Bedford County Fairgrounds, Bedford, 1 p.m., (814) 623-2321.

Pa. Graded Feeder Cattle Sale, Westmoreland County Cattlemen's Assoc., Westmoreland County Fairgrounds, Greensburg, 6:30 p.m., (724) 837-1402.

S. W. Pa. Forestry Field Trip to Burnham's Tree Farm and S. W. Woodland Owners' Assoc. Meeting, (724) 627-6624.

Fifth Annual Punkin Chunkin' and Fall Festival, York Expo Center, noon-5 p.m., (717) 843-4411.

Hay Processing Field Day, David Fink, Heidel Hollow Farm, Germanville, Lehigh County, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., (610) 767-2409.

S. W. Pa. Tillage Manure Handling Field Day, Diamond Farms, Smithfield, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., (724) 438-0111.

Manor FFA Tractor Pull at River Heritage Day, Washington Boro Community Park, (717) 285-0763.

Maryland Horse Pasture Walk, Van-Brunt farm near New Windsor, 9:30 a.m.-noon, (410) 313-2707.

Workshop on Painted Floorcloths, Schaefferstown Brendle Museum, 1 p.m.-4 p.m., (717) 949-2244.

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