

KEEP FARMING FIRST'10

Saturday, March 6 • Octorara Area High School

Keeping Farming First's 2010 program will explore the positive economic impacts of agriculture. Senator Michael Brubaker will comment on the essential importance of the farmers' economy and the commitment to farmland preservation. He will also congratulate Octorara Area High School on its building expansion, award-winning agriculture program, and its strong FFA chapter. For Keep Farming First's eighth year, the Chester County Commissioners will preside as Honorary Chairs.

The key speaker, Dr. Tim Kelsey, will address "Agriculture in the Community: Its Value to the Local Economy." There will be professional panelists and stimulating breakouts throughout the day. In addition, the new Chester County Market Place will showcase direct marketing products for local farms and their programs. Also, the Octorara Area High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter students will lead tours of their new agricultural classrooms from 8:30 – 2 p.m. and offer samples of their homemade ice cream at lunch.

We are extremely grateful to the sponsors who help keep registration costs reasonable. Also, the commitment to locally produced foods continues as we create the menu. Realizing that farmers are rarely deterred by the weather, the summit will go on – no snow date scheduled. Nothing short of a true blizzard will result in a cancellation. In any emergency, however, 610-925-0900 will carry an announcement. A notice will also be posted on www.CC2020.org. If you have any questions now or closer to March 6, 2010, please call 610-925-0900 or by e-mail contact info@cc2020.org. Keep Farming First has been planned by farmers, for farmers. Do let us know if you have friends who should receive this mailing.

We look forward to seeing you!

The Keep Farming First Partners:

Nancy Mohr, *President*
Chester County 2020

Cheryl Fairbairn, *Director*
Penn State Cooperative Extension-Chester County

Sue Milshaw, *Agricultural Program Manager*
Chester County Economic Development Council

Duncan Allison, *Chairman*
Chester County Agricultural Development Council

Reminder

Please keep this letter as reference for the date and time of the event as well as the directions. Signing-in on the day of the event is very important. Your nametag is your lunch ticket!

Directions

Octorara Area High School is located on the east side of Route 41 north of Cochranville, easily reached from Route 30 and Route 1. From the north, turn left onto Gum Tree Road at the traffic light; you will see the high school on the southeast corner of the intersection. From the south, turn right at the same light. Turn right at the Parking sign.

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Sponsors (to date)

Southeastern Pa Agriculture Partnership
Sponsor of Octorara Area High School Ag Lab Open House

Central & Western Chester County IDA /
Penn State Cooperative Extension-Chester County
Sponsoring keynote speaker Dr. Tim Kelsey

Chester/Delaware Farm Bureau
Sponsoring Lyme Disease block

Atlantic Tractor
A DCED grant sponsored by Senator Dominic Pileggi

Robert and Jennifer McNeil

Saul Ewing LLP

J.D. Wood & Co.

Fulton Bank

Herr's Foods, Inc.

Kitchentable.biz

Gifts in Kind (to date)

Lancaster Farming
Octorara Area High School



Keep Farming First
c/o Chester County 2020
217 West State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348-3022

Keep Farming First
Saturday, March 6, 2010

