



Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County

1383 Arcadia Road
Lancaster, PA 17601-3149
www.farmandhomecenter.com

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THE FARM AND HOME CENTER NEWSLETTER

FALL/WINTER 2017-2018

VOLUME X, NO. II

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Yes, I want to help Grow Our Future in 2017-18

I want to assist the Farm and Home Foundation in fulfilling its mission to make agriculture successful in Lancaster County now and for the coming generations.



Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of: \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$

Please make all checks payable to the Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County.

Name Phone

Street Address

City State Zip Code Email

The official registration and financial information of the Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

ADDRESS CHANGE?

If you have moved, changed your name, or prefer to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us by mail, email (info@farmandhomecenter.com), or phone (392-4911). Thank you!

March Banquet to Feature Speaker Chad Hymas

On Thursday, March 1, 2018, the Farm and Home Center will host the Foundation's Biannual Fundraising Banquet in the Max Smith Auditorium. A social hour will be followed by a dinner full of delectable delights. The evening will feature Chad Hymas, a nationally renowned speaker who has inspired people across the globe.

On April 3, 2001, Chad was involved in a serious farming accident, leaving him a quadriplegic. But Chad's dreams were not paralyzed that day; as you can see below, he has kept himself busy:

- He started Chad Hymas Communications, Inc., a professional speaking company designed to motivate businesses and corporations to "use their wings and reach seemingly impossible heights".



Motivational Speaker, Chad Hymas

UPCOMING EVENTS at the FARM and HOME CENTER

Nov. 24&25: Lanc. Post Card Show

Dec. 9 Gifts that Give Hope
Dec. 10 Santa Paws Vendor Show
Dec. 16 Brill Sports Memorabilia
Dec. 17 K2 Collectibles Stamp Show

Feb. 3 & 4 Muzzleloaders Gun Show

March 1 Farm and Home Foundation Banquet
March 3 Hunt & Fish Show

For more information on all public events at the Farm and Home Center, please visit our website!

www.farmandhomecenter.com

- The Wall Street Journal calls Chad Hymas one of the 10 most inspirational people in the world!
Last year, Chad spoke at 220 different events, traveling just over 300,000 miles and speaking on five continents and in four countries.
Chad maintains his hobby and dream of managing a 5,100 acre elk preserve with his father, Kelly.
He has raced in marathons and, in the summer of 2003, set a world record by wheeling his chair from Salt Lake City to Las Vegas (513 miles).
Chad participates in other wheelchair athletic competitions, including basketball, rugby, and officiating basketball (a dream come true).
He spends many hours with other injured individuals in therapy, encouraging them to overcome their challenges, focus on dreams and

make them a reality, and love life for all that it has to offer. To achieve the unachievable and to reach for the unreachable.

- Chad's greatest accomplishment is that he remains a devoted husband to his loving wife, Shondell, and a proud father to their three children, Christian, Kyler, and Gracee!

Chad will share his enthusiasm for "Leaving a Legacy" at the Farm and Home Foundation Fundraising Banquet on March 1. Chad will also share with FFA and 4H students about "Farm Safety" and "Opportunities in Agriculture" the following day, March 2, 2018.

Table sponsorships are available for the banquet as well as individual tickets. For more information, please call 717-392-4911.



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Leon J. Ressler
Deanna Grager, Manager

MISSION STATEMENT

The Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County strives to sustain and preserve our agrarian heritage by supporting, strengthening and promoting the advancement of agriculture and family living in local communities through education, leadership development and conservation.



MANAGER'S DESK

An Eclipse, Chicken Barbecue, and Ghosts

On the surface, it may seem as though an eclipse, a chicken barbecue, and ghosts may have nothing in common. In reality, they have a great deal in common. All three unrelated events were experienced by the tenants at the Farm and Home Center!

At its inception, the members of the Farm and Home Foundation envisioned creating a place where encouraging and supporting agriculture in Lancaster County could be a reality. The Farm and Home Center became that reality in 1967. Since then, the Farm and Home Center has seen many farmers, contractors, gardeners, coin club members, stamp collectors, etc. walk through its doors. The faces most often seen at the Farm and Home Center are the tenants who work in the various businesses and agencies housed in the building.

Tenant offices at the Farm and Home Center include:

- Adagio Dance Academy
- Daniel Baum Company
- Ducks Unlimited
- Farm Services Agency (USDA)
- John Lichty Tax Accounting
- Lancaster Co. Conservation District
- Natural Resources Conservation Services (USDA)
- Penn State Cooperative Extension

Day after day employees enter the building, but only on rare occasions do employees from multiple agencies interact with one another. One such experience happened on August 21st. Like much of the rest of the country,



employees at the Farm and Home Center spent time outside looking up at the skies on this warm summer day. Homemade devices and special glasses were passed around as we witnessed the historical event. We all look forward to the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024!

Another event meant to draw tenant employees together was a Farm and Home Center Chicken Barbecue held on September 7th. This luncheon included employees from all of our tenant offices and many of the Farm and Home Board members. A well appreciated break from the grind combined with good food and good conversation made this an event we all hope to experience again!

A third happening that seemed to bring solidarity to the Farm and Home Center was the appearance of ghosts around the building. As Halloween approached a friendly spook deposited ghoulish friends and sweet treats around the offices of the Farm



and Home Center. These were certainly a treat which brought a little levity to the daily routine and added a little fun to the Farm and Home Center.

As opportunities rise, the tenants at the Farm and Home Center come together as a community who do more than just work in the same building.

If you or someone you know would like to join the Farm and Home Center community, we have office space available for lease. Please call Deanna at **717-392-4911** for more information.

- Deanna Grager

TENANT NEWS

LICHTY TAX ACCOUNTING

Planning for the End of 2017

Here are some ideas to consider as we approach the end of 2017:

Year-end gifts to family members:

The first \$14,000 of gifts (\$28,000 for married couples who split gifts) made by a donor to each donee in calendar year 2017 is excluded from the amount of the donor's taxable gifts. (The per-donee exclusion rises to \$15,000 for calendar year 2018, as calculated by RIA based on inflation data.) These exclusions can save both transfer tax for the donor and family income taxes. A gift that qualifies for the exclusion is free of gift tax. Estate tax can be saved because both the value of the gift on the date of transfer and post-transfer appreciation (if any) in the value of the gift will not be included in the donor's estate. Family income tax savings can be realized where income-earning property is given to family members who are in lower income tax brackets than the donor.

Year-end Tax Planning Moves for individuals:

- Higher-income earners must be wary of the 3.8% surtax on certain unearned income. The surtax is 3.8% of the lesser of: (1) net investment income (NII); or (2) the excess or modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) over a threshold amount of \$250,000 for joint filers or surviving spouses, \$125,000 for a married individual filing a separate return, and \$200,000 in any other case. As year-end nears, a taxpayer's approach to minimizing or eliminating the 3.8% surtax will depend on his estimated MAGI and NII for the year.
- The 0.9% additional Medicare tax also may require higher-income earners to take year-end actions. It applies to individuals for whom the sum of their wages received with respect to em-

ployment and their self-employment income is in excess of an unindexed threshold amount of \$250,000 for joint filers, \$125,000 for married couples filing separately, and \$200,000 in any other case.

- Realize losses on stock while substantially preserving your investment position. There are several ways this can be done. For example, you can sell the original holding, then buy back the same securities at least 31 days later. It may be advisable for us to meet to discuss year-end trades you should consider making.
- Postpone income until 2018 and accelerate deductions into 2017 to lower your 2017 tax bill.
- Consider using a credit card to pay deductible expenses before the end of the year. Doing so will increase your 2017 deductions even if you do not pay your credit card bill until after the end of the year.

Year-end tax-Planning Moves for Businesses:

- Businesses should consider making expenditures that qualify for the business property expensing option. For tax years beginning in 2017, the expensing limit is \$510,000 and the investment ceiling limit is \$2,030,000. Expensing is generally available for most depreciable property (other than buildings), off-the-shelf computer software, air conditioning and heating units, and qualified real property—qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property.
- Businesses also should consider making expenditures that qualify for 50% bonus first year depreciation if bought and placed in service this year (the bonus percentage declines to 40% next year).

These are just some of the year-end steps that can be taken to save taxes. For further tax planning information go to www.lichty.us.

OCTOBER 1, 2016 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

GIFTS & DONATIONS RECEIVED

PLANTERS: \$1,000 - \$4,999

J. Clayton and Dorothy Charles
River Valley Animal Health
Donald and Kathryn Wolgemuth

R. Charles and Carol Groff
H. Thomas Kirk
James and Eleanor Kreider
Roger and Kandy Rohrer
R. Kenneth and Sarah Shearer

TILLERS: \$500 - \$999

Nevin and Doneen Dourte
Hess's Catering
J. Larry and Janet Hess
Lamar and Sally Moyer

FRIENDS: \$1 - \$99

Richard Booth
James and Virginia Hess
Robert Hoffines
James and Jean Hogue
Brendon and Yvonne Landis
Douglas and Katina Musser
William and Catherine Shirk
Angela Spickler
John and Joan Stipe
Donald and Emily Welk

GLEANERS: \$100 - \$499.99

N. Alan and Sally Bair
Timothy and Cher Breneisen
Brubaker Farms
Dennis and Ellen Eby
John and Phyllis Eshleman
Elias and Mary Groff

E & S AGRICULTURE

New Standard Animal Weights Released to Determine CAO/CAFO Operations

In the summer of 2017, the State Conservation Commission (SCC) announced the finalized updated standard animal weights used for calculating concentrated animal operations. The webinar and associated materials are summarized in this article, but can be found here: <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/nutrient-management/educational/standard-animal-weights-webinar>.

These animal weights are used to determine if an operation is a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) or a Concentrated Animal Operation (CAO). Operations with more than 2000 lb. of animal weight per acre available for nutrient application including crop and pasture, (2.00 AEU/ac), are classified as a CAO. An operation is determined to be a CAFO based on the number of animals they have.

The weights total for all animals in the operations can also be important as total animal weights could change classification of an operation to a CAFO. If the operation has more than 1,000,000 lb. of animal weight in total based on the new animal weights standards, or 300,000 lb. of total animal weight based on the new animal

weights standards, the operation may qualify for a new category. With these changes in animal weight standards, a farm that is currently not a CAO may become a CAO. Additionally, a farm that is currently not a CAFO may also become one.

Animal weights were last revised in 2010. Since then, substantial changes have occurred in production agriculture across the state. In the fall of 2016, the review process was started to update animal weights to better reflect current Pennsylvania agriculture. The new animal weights were published in the PA Bulletin in June 2017 and the updated Agronomy Fact Sheet 54 (available from Penn State Extension).

An updated list of all animal weights can be found here: https://extension.psu.edu/programs/nutrient-management/educational/standard-animal-weights-webinar/copy_of_nutrient-management-technical-manual-webinar. However, the main changes that will affect Lancaster County agriculture are found in box at right. Additional animals and groups can be found in the resource listed above.

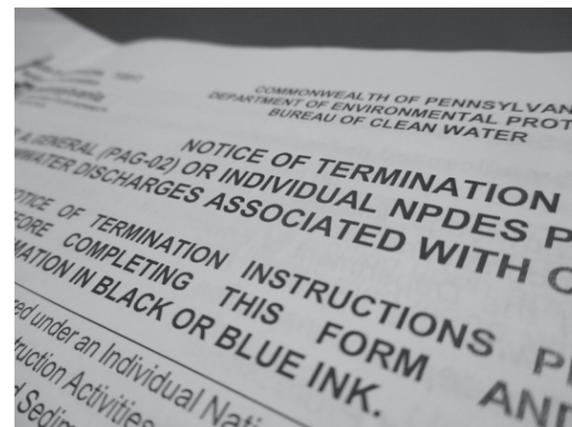
Newly identified CAOs and CAFOs, due to weight changes only, will have two crop years to obtain an approved Act 38 NMP (Nutrient Management Plan) and/or CAFO permit once the operation is determined to be a CAO or a CAFO. In other words, the new standard weights must be reflected in an up-to-date NMP at the

ANIMAL TYPE	WEIGHT (LB)
HOLSTEIN COWS	1450
HOLSTEIN HEIFERS (1-2 YRS)	1000
HOLSTEIN CALVES (0-1 YEAR)	420
HOLSTEIN BULL	1700
NURSERY PIG	35
WEEN TO FINISH	143
GROW FINISH	165
GESTATING SOW	450
LAYER - WHITE EGG 18-75 WEEK	3.13
LAYER - WHITE EGG 18-90 WEEK	3.14
LAYER - BROWN EGG 18-75 WEEK	3.85
LAYER - BROWN EGG 18-90 WEEK	3.85
PULLET, WHITE EGG 0-16 WEEK	1.38
BROILER - LARGE 0-53 DAYS	3.55
BROILER - MEDIUM 0-35 DAYS	2.55
ROASTER MALE 0-7 WEEK	4.70
ROASTER FEMALE 0-9 WEEK	4.95

start of crop year 2020 (October 1, 2019). If you are concerned that you may be a CAO or CAFO under the new weights, please consult the AEU calculator found on the Lancaster County Conservation District website at <http://lancasterconservation.org/agriculture/nutrient-management/>. If you determine that you may be a CAO or CAFO, you may contact the Lancaster County Conservation District for resources to help you obtain the appropriate documentation.

For existing CAOs, the new weights will be rolled out when the Nutrient Management Plan is due for its triennial review or if a plan amendment is necessary. If you have questions about what generates a plan amendment, you may consult with your nutrient management planner or contact the Lancaster County Conservation District at **717-299-5361 x.5**.

- Kate Bresaw
Ag Compliance Inspection



Example of Termination Notice

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Watch Out for this New Predator

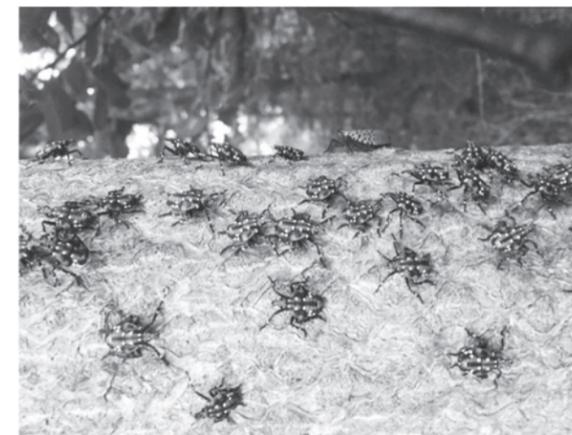
There's a new predator invading Lancaster County and the surrounding areas. The colorful Spotted Lanternfly is a species of insect native to China, India, Vietnam, and Korea. An invasive plant hopper, this

major pest attacks many plants including grapes, apples, stone fruits, and tree of heaven. Both nymphs and adult spotted lanternflies can cause extensive damage to trees by feeding on sap. More sap production combined

with the insect's excrement may attract other insects like ants and wasps and promotes mold growth. "That one-two punch can weaken the tree and eventually contribute to its death," commented Emelie Swackhamer, a horticulture educator at Penn State University's agricultural extension who is taking the lead in researching the Spotted Lanternfly.

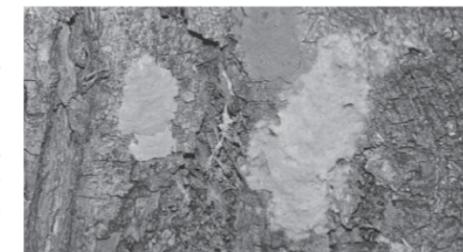
These destructive insects were first found in two towns northwest of Philadelphia. Despite restrictions on moving firewood, yard waste, construction materials, and

other outdoor household articles, the insect has rapidly spread to several Pennsylvania counties including Berks, Chester, Montgomery, Schuylkill, and Lancaster. "It wouldn't surprise me if it reaches New



Late Stage Nymphs

Jersey," said Swackhamer. "I hope it doesn't get there, but it's just very easy these days to transport things unintentionally that can establish a population and take hold." The Spotted Lanternfly adult is approximately 1" long and 1/2" wide at rest. The forewing is grey with black spots and the wings tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in grey. The hind wings have contrasting patches of red and black with a white band. The legs and head are black; the abdomen is yellow with broad black bands. Immature stages are black with white spots, and develop red patches as they grow.



Egg Masses



of heaven, willows, and other trees, in groups of up to 20. Egg masses will be laid on medium to large trees, on trunk, branches, and limb bases. After hatching in the spring, nymphs will move off the tree and search out new hosts, including several kinds of agricultural crops.

Symptoms of a Spotted Lanternfly invasion include the development of weeping wounds that leave a greyish or black trail along the trunk. This sap will attract other insects to feed. In late fall, adults will lay egg masses on host trees and nearby smooth surfaces like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and structures. Newly laid egg masses have a grey mud-like covering which can take on a dry cracked appearance over time. Old egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed-like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk roughly an inch long.

Please be aware of this new invasive insect that has the capacity to destroy over 70 different species of plants. If

you see egg masses, scrape them off, double bag them and throw them away. You can also place the eggs into alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them. Please report all destroyed egg masses to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture on their website www.pda.state.pa.us/spottedlanternfly. Specimens of any life stage can be turned in to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Entomology lab for verification. Photographs of any life stage can be submitted to Badbug@pa.gov. If you cannot take a specimen or a photograph, call the Automated Invasive Species Report Line at **1-866-253-7189** and leave a message detailing your sighting and contact information.

Information published by Lawrence Barringer, Entomologist, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

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TENANT NEWS

PENN STATE EXTENSION

New Leadership in the Penn State Extension

After administrative restructuring in Penn State University's Agricultural Extension programs, we welcome two new leaders to the Penn State Cooperative Extension office in Lancaster County:

Greg Gnatt – Business Operations Manager, Area 9

After thirty exciting years in IBM's Global Services division providing extensive technical/business knowledge and leadership in the integration, operation, delivery and financial management of complex global business and IT environments, Greg retired from IBM in 2014 to become Penn State Extension's District Director overseeing Berks and Schuylkill counties.



Greg Gnatt

Greg and his wife relocated from the Mechanicsburg, PA area to Schuylkill County in the summer of 2016. He earned his MBA in 1984 along with a BS in Horticulture ('81) from The Pennsylvania State University. He is also a certified Penn State Master Gardener. Greg is enjoying his new role as the Area 9 Business Operations Manager, serving Schuylkill, Berks, Lebanon, Lancaster and Chester counties.

Stephanie Shirk – Client Relationship Manager, Area 9

Stephanie Shirk has worked for over 15 years as a communications consultant and non-profit organization manager for a diverse range of organizations, including New Holland Agriculture, Fritz & Associates and The Pennsylvania FFA Foundation. Prior to joining Penn State Extension, she also worked as a Development Specialist at Penn State Harrisburg for the Office of Development and Alumni Relations.



Stephanie Shirk

Growing up on a dairy farm in Nebraska and graduating from Millersville University with a degree in Speech Communication, Stephanie's varied background in agriculture, communications, public relations, organizational management, development and digital media provides a solid foundation for coordinating Penn State Extension's efforts for Lancaster, Lebanon, Chester, Schuylkill and Berks counties as the Area 9 Client Relationship Manager.

Stephanie and her husband Jim live on the family's Bicentennial Family Farm in eastern Lancaster County with their three children, Samantha, Sarah and Luke.

USDA'S FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Fall Harvest News from the Farm Service Agency (FSA)

The fall season is well upon us, and our farmer customers sure have been blessed with great weather conditions to complete the harvest of corn, soybeans and forage crops. While fall is a busy time for our farmer/producers, it is also the time the staff of FSA make the annual CREP rental payments, ARC/PLC payments when applicable, and the time for the fall acreage reporting where producers report their fall seeded small grains and fall seeded forage crops. With good weather, excellent crop yields, and some program support payments from the FSA office, the 2017 year is ending in a very positive way.



Agricultural Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC)

When the powers to be in Washington created the ARC/PLC program, their intention was to move away from the expensive annual direct payments program and go to a commodity program based more on risk and disaster provisions. And consequently ARC/PLC came to be. In simplistic terms the program payments are calculated by determining the benchmark revenue which uses the previous 5 year national average price for the commodity times the county 5 year average yield for the commodity.

The marketing year actual revenue is calculated by using the average national price for the commodity times the county yield for the commodity in that year. When the marketing year actual revenue calculation is below the benchmark revenue, payments are triggered for the applicable commodities.

Here are the Lancaster FY2016 ARC/PLC payment rates:

Lancaster, Corn
\$81.43 per corn base acre

Lancaster, Soybeans
\$68.85 per soybean base acre

Lancaster, Wheat
\$52.93 per wheat base acre

Keep in mind that base acres are connected to eligible farms that were determined by acreage reporting activity in the late 90's thru early 2000's and no new base acres can be created or earned.

The Lancaster/Lebanon FSA Office recently distributed 3.3 million dollars in ARC/PLC payments to those eligible producers with farms in Lancaster and Lebanon Counties.

TENANT NEWS

DBC AG PRODUCTS

Daniel Baum Company acquires LIRA GOLD® and KAUFFMAN'S® brands

Daniel Baum Company, parent company of DBC Ag Products, announces the acquisition of the products currently marketed under the LIRA GOLD®, KAUFFMAN'S® and FORTITUDE® trademarks from Kauffman's Animal Health, Inc.

The acquisition of these brands will leverage the innovative technologies, marketing and sales strengths of the Daniel Baum Company to increase product offerings to current dairy, beef, sheep, goat and poultry markets being served and expand access to new markets with high quality equine, pet and specialty animal products.

"For years Daniel Baum Company has provided sales, marketing and technical support, as well as innovative ingredients for the development of LIRA GOLD® and KA-HI products. Kauffman's is well known for their high quality, 'best in class' manufacturing processes and services. This agreement allows both companies to leverage their core strengths to better serve our customers," says Tom Baum, vice president, Daniel Baum Company.



"Long known for our quality manufacturing and customer service, Kauffman's Animal Health, Inc., will now be able to focus additional resources on its core strength of manufacturing the highest quality animal feed premixes and supplements. We look forward to reinforcing a long-standing relationship with DBC Ag Products and its ownership team by transitioning the trademarks of LIRA GOLD®, KAUFFMAN'S and FORTITUDE® to them while at the same time continuing to be the key manufacturer for the brands," says Tom Kauffman, vice president of Kauffman's Animal Health, Inc.

"This arrangement allows both companies to continue the long-standing partnership in place for more than 30 years and enjoy the growth opportunities it provides," Dan Baum, president, Daniel Baum Company.

The acquisition is effective immediately. Each division will continue to conduct business and serve their customers under their current distribution, marketing and sales strategy at this time, under the Daniel Baum Company umbrella.



For more information on the acquisition, contact David Mathes, (717) 509-5724 or email: dlmathes@danielbaumco.com.

Daniel Baum Company

Founded in 1984, Daniel Baum Company, dba DBC Ag Products, specializes in innovative biotechnology solutions that utilize practical research and proven technology to meet agribusiness needs using applied microbiology, enzymology, and immunology. We also partner with other quality-driven companies serving the agriculture industry, to deliver problem-solving solutions that meet changing customer needs and grow their business.

Kauffman's Animal Health, Inc.

Kauffman's Animal Health, Inc., founded in 1978 by Leon Kauffman, is a family business that provides high-quality manufacturing of nutritional supplements and premixes for poultry, livestock, horses, pets and specialty animals. Their AFIA Safe Feed/Safe Food certified facility manufactures high-quality products for a broad range of partners serving the agriculture and companion animal markets.



USDA'S FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

The interest in the CREP program in Lancaster and Lebanon continues to be significant here at FSA. Due to all of the voluntary efforts in the agricultural community to improve the Chesapeake Bay, the CREP program is an option to implement conservation measures and be compensated for the installation of the practices along with an attractive annual rental rate for the term of the contract. Certainly most everyone agrees that stream buffers have proven to be an effective way of improving water quality. As that interest and workload



increases, we do our best to administer this program and provide a quality service for our customers who have an interest in CREP.

For the federal fiscal year 2017, the Lancaster/Lebanon FSA office completed the following CREP enrollments and re-enrollments:

New FY2017 CREP Contracts
25 Contracts covering 205.84 acres

Re-Enrolled FY2017 CREP Contracts
23 Contracts covering 180.3 acres

Personnel

For the 1st time in many years, the Lancaster/Lebanon FSA office has a full complement of farm loan staff members. **Allison Froelich**, a native of Bucks County joined the office the beginning of July as a Farm Loan Officer (FLO). The FSA office is now better equipped to serve the farm loan needs of our Lancaster County customers.

Program Technician (PT) **Karen Sweigart** has recently transferred from Lancaster as she has accepted another PT position at the Berks County FSA office.