



# COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA

## Office of Agricultural Coordinator

**Sheila Miller, Agricultural Coordinator**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

1/30/13

LEESPORT --- Students are invited to participate in a career fair at the Berks County Agricultural Center on Friday, March 8th, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. to learn more about opportunities in the field of agriculture, food science, environmental science, and other related careers. While agriculture is a focus of the day, other career paths will be offered for students of all ages who are interested in fields that deal with conservation, the environment, law, insurance, retail marketing, and more.

Berks County Agricultural Coordinator Sheila Miller has partnered with the Berks Agricultural Resource Network for the past four years in organizing this annual event to help people learn more about the multitude of career choices in today's green industry.

In 2012, the career fair featured several universities that offer courses in environmental and agricultural sciences, along with other types of businesses, agencies and non-profit organizations. Participants included: Penn State University's College of Agricultural Sciences; Harcum College (veterinary technology); Pennsylvania College of Technology; Delaware Valley College; Berks Conservation District; Berks Co. Agricultural Land Preservation Office; Berks County Grange; Berks County Sheep and Wool Growers; Winterside Sheep Farm; Creation Appreciation; Deer Country Farm and Lawn, Inc.; USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service; USDA's Farm Service Agency; USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service; Penn State Cooperative Extension – Berks County; PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry; PA Game Commission; F.M. Browns Sons (feed and flour producers); Rosetree Consulting, Shillington; Fulton Bank, Wyomissing; Karetas Foods; Giorgi Mushroom Company; Kathy Barry Agency – Nationwide Insurance; Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit; Permacultivate, Reading; Hartman Shurr law firm; and Reading Area Community College.

"I anticipate these participants will be returning in March to once again provide participants with the opportunity to ask questions and explore opportunities," said Miller. Also on this year's invitation list are: SUNY (State University of New York) at Cobleskill, NY, the PA Fish Commission, Rodale Institute, landscapers, environmental consultants, seed companies, equipment companies, and other businesses in the fields of agriculture, conservation, food and the environment. "We welcome other companies, agencies, and organizations related to the food, farm and fiber industries to join us," Miller added. "There is no cost to participate and it is a great way to reach out to future employees, interns, or volunteers."

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Students will have the opportunity to tour the various agencies at the Ag Center and network with exhibitors as they look for job shadowing possibilities or internships. Soil scientists, land preservation specialists, conservationists, and many others will be featured. Students will have the opportunity to win a gift card by visiting exhibitors. Each student will receive a booklet that outlines the multitude of careers and facts about the food industry, how to write a resume, and other helpful information.

This event welcomes students of all ages—high school, college, and adults looking to change careers. Pre-registration is appreciated by calling Sheila Miller, Berks Agricultural Coordinator, at 610-898-5482 or e-mailing [smiller@countyofberks.com](mailto:smiller@countyofberks.com).