



# COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA

## Department of Agriculture

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### **Berks County Department of Agriculture Celebrates its Second Annual National Ag Day!**

*Leesport* -- Berks County Department of Agriculture will celebrate its second annual **National Ag Day and Open House** on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Berks County Agricultural Center located on 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, 19533.

This year, the Department is featuring information related to the Poultry industry, which has a total economic impact of \$397,977,600 in Berks County.

The Berks County Conservation District, Berks County Department of Agriculture, Penn State Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) are located in the Agricultural Center and will welcome visitors throughout the day.

There will be two panel discussions, the first one will be held from 10:30 AM to Noon - "The Poultry Industry: Values, Successes and Challenges." Panelists will include: Scott Sechler of Bell & Evans/Farmers Pride; Dr. Jimmy Jurgielewicz of Mountain Breeze Duck Farm; Tom Pantano of Tyson Foods; and Troy Alderfer of Alderfer Farms in Oley.

The second panel discussion, from 1:00 PM to 2:30, "Living with an Expanding Poultry Industry in Berks County: Challenges and Conflicts in the Community" will feature representatives from agriculture, economic development, as well as municipal and government agencies.

This free event is open to the Public.

For more information, please contact Tami Hildebrand, Executive Director of the Berks County Department of Agriculture at 610-378-1844 or [thildebrand@countyofberks.com](mailto:thildebrand@countyofberks.com).

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