

NEWS

New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2017 Contact: Hope Gruzlovic (609) 984-2504

Applications Sought for Farmland Preservation Program; Interested Landowners Invited to Regional Meetings

Agriculture Secretary Douglas H. Fisher today announced that the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) is seeking applications for the Farmland Preservation Program and will hold a series of regional meetings for interested landowners who want to learn more about the process.

"Farmland preservation can help landowners meet certain financial goals while ensuring that the land will be permanently protected for agriculture," said Secretary Fisher. "Anyone considering farmland preservation, now or in the future, is encouraged to attend one of the upcoming meetings to learn about the application, selection and preservation process."

The meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

Cumberland County Regional Meeting

Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m. Cumberland County Administration Building 164 W. Broad Street, Bridgeton

Warren County Regional Meeting

Thursday, July 20, 6 p.m. County Department of Land Preservation 500 Mount Pisgah Ave., Oxford

Hunterdon County Regional Meeting

Wednesday, July 26, 4 p.m. Farmers and Businessman's Picnic Bob Ribbans Farm 101 Manners Road, Ringoes

Monmouth County Regional Meeting

Wednesday, August 9, 7 p.m. Upper Freehold Township Municipal Building 314 Route 539, Cream Ridge

Salem County Regional Meeting

Wednesday, August 23, 6:30 p.m. Salem County Agricultural Complex 51 Cheney Road, Woodstown

Interested landowners who are unable to attend one of the meetings may contact the SADC directly at (609) 984-2504 or <u>sadc@ag.state.nj.us</u>.

The SADC administers New Jersey's Farmland Preservation Program and promotes innovative approaches to maintaining the viability of agriculture. More than 2,400 farms covering approximately 226,000 acres have been preserved to date under the program.

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