



For Immediate Release

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FARM TOUR TO SHOWCASE SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA DAIRIES FOR FUTURE DAIRY LEADERS

High School Students Encouraged to Participate in Free Dairy Farm Tour

Harrisburg, Pa. – High school students interested in dairy industry careers are invited to attend a day-long tour on Wednesday, April 5, of two dairy farms and a large equipment dealership in southwest Pennsylvania. Students will gain firsthand knowledge of modern working dairy farms in Westmoreland and Somerset counties, while also highlighting careers and technology within agriculture.

The two farms featured on the tour will display different but successful dairy management styles that employ modern dairy technologies. Mike and Vickie Baker will host the tour group on their farm, Maple Bottom Dairy, in Scottsdale. The Baker's work their 75-cow operation that utilizes a DeLaval Voluntary Milking System (VMS). The Stoltzfus family of Pennwood Dairy in Somerset County milk over 500 cows and use an anaerobic digester, which separates manure solids that are used for cow bedding.

In addition to touring the dairy facilities, students will travel to West Central Equipment's Somerset location for lunch to learn about career opportunities within large equipment technology. During the meal, industry professionals will share information about their experiences and role in the dairy industry.

Teachers must register students for the Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow Farm Tour by Wednesday, March 22. Charter buses will be available for student and chaperone pick-up at the Tractor Supply Companies in both Everett and Gibsonia, as well as the Walmart Supercenter in Altoona.

More information about the tour can be found by visiting the "Program" tab at dairyleadersoftomorrow.com and selecting the "Dairy Leaders Farm Tour" on the left side menu. To register, visit the website or contact Mary Foote, at 717-346-0849 or via email at mfoote@centerfordairyexcellence.org.

This tour is funded by the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania, with lunch being generously sponsored by Phibro Animal Health.

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Established in 2010, the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax deductible organization that is Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) approved. The foundation was created to develop and support programs for both the Center for Dairy Excellence and other Pennsylvania dairy organizations which educate, cultivate, and inspire a thriving and sustainable Pennsylvania dairy industry. Learn more about the foundation at centerfordairyexcellence.org.