



Cultivating Comparative Advantages for Agriculture and Farm-based Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century

“We should incentivize local business clusters that build connections and cooperation between related businesses, even though these businesses and networks may at times compete with each other.” ~ Ken Meter, President of Crossroads Resource Center

Featured Speakers: Scott Sheely, Executive Director of the Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board, will discuss how to optimize **comparative advantages** of agriculture and farm-based entrepreneurship with **manufacturing, educational, tourism, alternative energy, natural resources conservation and farmland protection** sectors. Scott assisted with the development of the **Lancaster Prospers** strategic plan, which plans for many local entities in Lancaster County to be involved, clustered and networked to better coordinate their efforts toward a set of county-wide **agricultural and community economic development** goals. <http://www.lancastercountywib.com/>

George Hurst and his family own and operate Oregon Dairy Farm in Lititz, PA. Oregon Dairy is a real **multi-generation** working 500-cow dairy farm in Lancaster County that includes a **family friendly** supermarket, restaurant, gift shop, bakery, ice cream shop and **agritourism** attractions, but also innovations in **manure handling** and **alternative energy** such as **anaerobic digestion, methane recovery** and **composting of food waste**. George and his family have been leaders in environmental stewardship and farmland protection in Lancaster County for more than 50 years. <http://www.oregondairy.com/>

Tuesday, March 27, 2012	4:00 p.m.	Virginia Horse Center, 2 nd Floor Mezzanine 487 Maury Road Lexington, Virginia 24450	
Tuesday, March 27, 2012	7:00 p.m.	Virginia Horse Center, 2 nd Floor Mezzanine 487 Maury Road Lexington, Virginia 24450	
Wednesday, March 28, 2012	10:00 a.m.	Augusta County Government Center Smith Room West, 18 Government Center Lane, Verona, Virginia 24482	
Wednesday, March 28, 2012	1:30 p.m.	Farm Credit of the Virginias 4646 South Valley Pike Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801	
Wednesday, March 28, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Luray-Page County Chamber of Commerce 18 Campbell Street Luray, Virginia 22835	
Thursday, March 29, 2012	9:00 a.m.	Strasburg Town Hall, Council Chamber 174 East King St. Strasburg, Virginia 22657	

******Registration Deadline: Monday, March 26, 2012 at 12:00p.m.******

To register, please call the Northern District Office at (540) 432-6029 Ext. 106 or 107.

For more information, please contact Eric Bendfeldt at (540) 432-6029, Tom Stanley at (540) 463-4734, or Jason Carter at (540) 245-5750, or your local Extension office.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Eric Bendfeldt, Northern District Office, at (540) 432-6029 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event.



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