

A GUIDE TO
**LOCAL
FARM
PRODUCTS**

IN
Chester County
2014

PRODUCED BY THE
Chester County
Agricultural Development Council



Message

from the

Chester County Agricultural Development Council

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Board of Commissioners**

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The Chester County Board of Commissioners Ryan Costello, Kathi Cozzone and Terence Farrell with Ag Council Chair Chris Alonzo; Past Chair Duncan Allison; and Director Hillary Krummrich (below). Ag Council Farm Tour at the Herra Angus Farm, West Nottingham (right).



The Chester County Agricultural Development Council is a county agency that supports all of our local farmers, regardless of scale, or how they sell their products (i.e. directly to consumers, or to wholesalers or cooperatives), and promotes our entire agricultural industry. One way we do that is by producing this Local Farm Product Guide to assist you in discovering what agriculture in our county is all about and to help you find local agricultural products. The Chester County Board of Commissioners also continues to support the preservation of open space as a way to protect our high-quality soils, and recognize agriculture as a vital component of the county's economy and its influence on our quality of life.

2013 marked the 25th anniversary of the Farmer of the Year awards given by the commissioners and the Ag Council and we are proud to honor not only the 2013 winners in this edition but the previous winners as well. These people represent some of the best of Chester County and their operations exemplify the diversity of our agricultural industry. While some of these operations have changed since winning the award (new endeavors, new generations now running the farms, etc.), their commitment to agriculture remains unyielding.

Also inside the following pages, you can meet our partners who support this publication. In addition, you will have the opportunity to get some of your questions answered about milk products and the dairy industry, learn about the important role that pollinators, including honeybees, play in food production, get some suggestions on how to incorporate more local, fresh food into your diet and learn why agriculture is a viable career option.

For more information on the Ag Council please visit our website at www.chesco.org/agdev or find us on [Facebook](#).

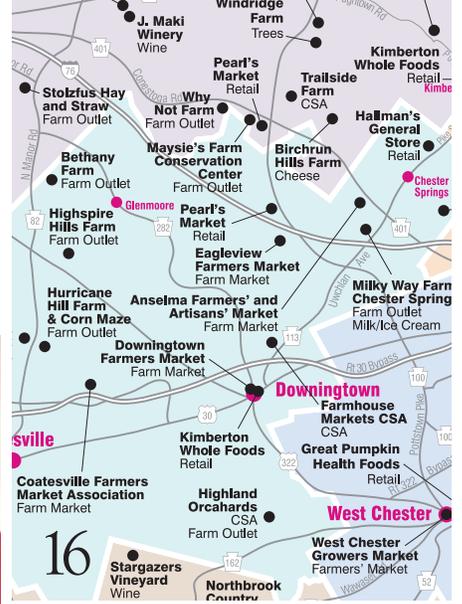


Chester County Agricultural Development Council

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Celebrating

25 Years

1989–Mason Brothers
1990–Bill Beam
1991–Ken & Marilyn Umble
1992–Horace & Hazel Walton
1993–Yeatman Brothers

1994–Omar and Nelson Beam
1995–Rosazza Family
1996–Matthews Family
1997–Tim Barlow and Ben Beiler
1998–The Raymond Harnish Family



The Chester County Board of Commissioners presented the 2013 Farmer of the Year award to co-winner: Mr. Peter Flynn of Pete's Produce Farm.

2013 Farmer of the Year co-winner: Peter Flynn

Pete's Produce Farm, and Pete Flynn himself, are staples in the Westtown community. He may be most known for the sweet corn that he grows on part of the 170 acres he leases from the Westtown School, but those who have been to Pete's know that there are a lot of other products available in the farm store as well. And that is no small feat considering local zoning requires that at least 50 percent of the products be grown on the farm.

For over 20 years, Pete has been an innovative producer and retail marketer. He implements conservation practices such as cover cropping systems, bio-controls, drip irrigation, and composting to take the best possible care of the land and has within the last few years integrated high tunnels into his farming practices which help extend his growing season. In addition to the large variety of produce that he grows,

Pete also sells: honey from his honeybees, tomato sauce, ketchup and soup made from his heirloom tomatoes, cornmeal and flour from grains that he grows and mills, ice cream, and eggs from his 300 laying hens.

In addition, Pete serves on the board of directors of the Chester County Food Bank and makes over four acres of ground available for the Food Bank to grow food for those in need. Go check out Pete's Produce Farm, there is something for everyone.



of Excellence!

1999–David Lantz Family
 2000–Gottlieb Strohmaier Family
 2001–Walmore Holsteins, Inc.
 2002–Knight Run Farm
 2003–Angelo J. Zunino and Sons,

Inc. 2004–Phillips Mushroom Farm
 2005–I. Glen Engle Family
 2006–Karen Vollmecke
 2007–Stan & Cathy Guest
 2008–Joseph and Ben Cordivano

2009–Norman Laffey Family and Anthony & Karen Vietri
 2010–Steve Castorani
 2011–Ike & Lisa Kerschner and David Hodge
 2012–Dave & Roberta Roteller
 2013–Peter Flynn and Tom & Barbara Schaar



The Chester County Board of Commissioners presented the 2013 Farmer of the Year award to co-winner: Barbara and Tom Schaar of Meadowset Farm & Apiary.

2013 Farmer of the Year co-winners: Tom & Barbara Schaar

Meadowset Farm and Apiary, which is owned and operated by Drs. Tom and Barbara Schaar, is different than Pete’s Produce Farm, but just as impressive. Though sheep dairies are not very common in Chester County (theirs is the only one), the Schaers have been raising Friesland and Lacaune milk-sheep on 30 acres in Landenberg for the past 12 years.

Both are full-time veterinarians at New Bolton Center, yet Tom and Barbara run a hands-on operation producing cave-aged artisan cheeses from the sheep milk, as well as grass-fed lamb and wool. In addition, they offer free-range eggs, wildflower honey, pollen and propolis. Meadowset Farm products are available through their small on-site farm store, local grocery stores, farmers’ markets and restaurants.

The Schaers are committed to quality and sustainable farming and approach conservation and breeding practices, as well as daily operations, with the utmost care for their animals, their land and the environment.



Their 250-year-old farm is something special; not only because it is beautiful, but with the Schaers as stewards, it stands as a vision for how small-scale farming can continue to prosper in the county.

Congratulations to the co-winners

The Ag Council was very pleased to honor both Pete, and Tom and Barbara as the winners of the 25th Farmer of the Year award, and to show the diversity and excellence in agriculture in Chester County.

For more information on Pete’s Produce Farm please visit www.petesproducefarm.com. For more information on Meadowset Farm and Apiary please visit www.facebook.com/MeadowsetFarmApiaryllc.





Spotlight Interviews

25
Years

Name of winner: Sam Matthews

Name of farm: Milky Way Farm

Year they won the award: 1996

Q What did winning the Farmer of the Year award mean to you?

It was a surprising bit of recognition that coincidentally preceded our acceptance into the Chester County's Farmland Preservation Program. The two programs helped us realize the dreams of many generations of our family hoping to preserve the heritage and invest in this historic farmstead.

Q Has your operation changed since you/your family won the Farmer of the Year award?

Yes. Since 2000, our dairy operation has used a Lely robotic milking system to milk our cows. Because this technology cuts down on the amount of time we have to milk, it has enabled us to establish additional retail opportunities. We now produce and sell a large variety of farm fresh products such as produce, pasteurized milk, brown eggs, pumpkins and more. In addition, we make ice cream using milk from our own cows at our Chester Springs Creamery. We also offer an educational program for school-aged children and over 5,000 come to the farm annually. With that success, we are expanding it to offer summer camp experiences as well.

Q What are the challenges to your farm in the next few years?

The rising cost of living and small profit margin in farming make it difficult to provide a stable income for the next generation of our family.

Q What are the opportunities for your farm in the next few years?

We can continue to provide opportunities for people to purchase fresh farm products and visit the farm for an educational experience. We can continue to teach farming concepts to young and old to help them understand the benefits and challenges of food production. And we can continue to be articulate, informed and welcoming interpreters of agriculture for a suburban population that is removed from the realities of farm life and agricultural enterprises.

The Truth about Dairy

People have questions about the way their food is produced, which is great, as those questions are a way to start a conversation with the folks who produce it and those who study animal science.

One industry that garners many questions is the dairy industry. With the variety of products available on the market, and various production methods used, many consumers struggle with what to buy. They want to know if organic milk is healthier than regular milk, they want to know about "hormone-free" milk, and the amount of antibiotics that they may be ingesting through milk.

To answer these questions and more, we went to some experts in the field. We talked to some of our innovative producers (dairy is one of our largest agricultural industries here in Chester County) as well as some of the researchers at New Bolton Center, part of University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, who are dedicated to studying animal nutrition and this industry overall.

What do cows eat?

The typical dairy cow eats a high-fiber, high-protein diet. The exact "recipes" vary a bit depending on the farm and the cows' dietary needs.

Forage: Forage comprises between 50 to 90 percent of a cow's diet. Primary examples of forage include: corn silage (the entire corn plant, ears and stalks, chopped and fermented for storage—cows find it very tasty!), hay (dried grass), alfalfa haylage (the alfalfa is fermented for storage), as well as grass in a pasture.

Grain: Cows also need grain to support milk volumes. Typically fed grains include: ground corn, roasted soybeans, soybean meal, canola meal, cotton seed (the seeds after the cotton is removed), and distillers and brewers grains (the residues after the alcohol has been made or after the barley has undergone a malting).

Vitamins and minerals: Most farmers give a vitamin and mineral supplement because cows need salt, calcium, phosphorus and other minerals and vitamins A, D, and E.

How do farmers know what to feed their cows?

Most farmers work with certified dairy nutritionists to determine the “right recipe” for their herds. Yet even within the herd, specific diets are established based on cows’ size, age, production level, etc. Nutrition is a highly intensive science and greatly affects a cow’s ability to produce milk. Feed and nutrition is about 50 percent of the cost of producing milk so farmers pay close attention to their formulas.

Do organic dairies feed the same diet as non-organic dairies?

Generally yes, the same feeds are used; the difference is that the feed must come from organic feed sources and be organically certified. If, however, the organic dairy is pasture-grazing their herds, then the primary forage would be grass.

Do grass-fed cows only eat grass?

Generally yes, when grass is available although they may get supplemental feed as well. However, as grass is not available year-round in most climates, they are fed hay and stored feeds in winter.

Is “grass-fed” synonymous with “organic” milk production?

No, they are not synonymous. Organic defines a method of production that does not use certain technologies or products. An organic dairy could feed their cows organically grown and certified feed as their primary food source and not rely upon pasture grass as the primary forage.

What does “hormone-free milk” mean?

It is a misleading concept—all milk contains naturally occurring hormones; it is being produced by a lactating cow. What the concept implies is that the cows are not fed or injected with synthetic growth hormones (rBST).

Do dairy farmers in Chester County use synthetic growth hormones (rBST)?

Yes, some. Some farmers use it because it helps keep the cows’ level of production higher throughout their lactation. Farmers can produce the same volume of milk with fewer cows in their herd therefore, having a smaller “carbon footprint.” Fewer cows need less barn space, possibly a smaller milking parlor, less feed, and

they produce less manure and methane gases. The farmer may be able to grow more of their total feed on-farm which can make him more profitable due to reduced feed costs.



Typically a herd will recognize a 10–15 percent gain in production over a non-supplemented herd. For example, a 500 cow herd supplemented with rBST could produce as much as 565 cows not supplemented. The 565 cow herd would need to feed an additional 1,200 tons of feed per year to their herd and they would produce over 300,000 gallons more manure per year (these numbers are based on averages not actual figures).

Why do some dairy farmers refrain from using rBST?

Farmers have different business practices and philosophies and it does not suit all of them to use it. For instance, a farmer that is not philosophically opposed to using it still may not give it to their cows because it may result in some cows needing to be milked three times a day and they do not have the labor for a third milking session, or the farmers may not see a cost benefit because of the relatively small size of their herd to offset other biological and environmental factors. Or a farmer may belong to a cooperative that contracts with them to not use rBST (these cooperatives generally pay a higher premium to off-set the lower production).

Do antibiotics find their way into milk?

Yes, BUT that milk never finds its way into the commercial milk supply or to the consumer. If a cow is sick enough to warrant treating her with antibiotics (dairy cows are not routinely fed or injected with antibiotics), her milk is discarded until all of the antibiotics have left her system.

When milk tankers pick up milk at farms it is sampled and screened for the presence of antibiotics. Dairy processors also then screen the milk when the tankers arrive at their facilities. If the samples test positive for antibiotics the entire tanker of milk is discarded. There are very few positive samples (in 2013 there were 3.2 million samples taken and only 445, or 0.014% tested positive) because farmers face a financial penalty (they must pay for the tanker load of milk as well as the transportation and discarding costs) if they contaminate a milk tanker.



Spotlight Interviews

25
Years



Name of winner: Karen Vollmecke

Name of farm: Vollmecke Orchards

Year they won the award: 2006

Q What did winning the Farmer of the Year award mean to you?

It was a wonderful honor to be recognized by my farming peers and it was really nice when customers and neighbors mentioned that they had seen that I had won the award. It was nice validation for the hard work we do.

Q Has your operation changed since you/your family won the Farmer of the Year award?

Yes. Although we still run the same basic type of operation, a CSA, we continue to innovate to meet our customers' needs. We've expanded the variety of what we grow, we offer three share sizes (weekly, bi-weekly and a mini which is great for single people), and we've enlarged our pick-up area so members are better able to customize their shares. In addition, we've begun carrying other products as well such as Swarbustin' Honey and Dr. Elkins' beef. We have also attempted to accommodate non-CSA members by making some of the surplus produce available to the general public during member pick-up times. Recently we added a pick-up location in Exton (Eagleview) at the Chester County Economic Development Council for people who can't make it out to the farm and we've added a winter order program so members can access fresh, wholesome food year-round.

Q What are the challenges for your farm in the next few years?

The poor economy and the proliferation of big box stores selling inexpensive produce. I think many people are working more hours than before and so have limited time to cook real food from scratch. The convenience of picking up a pre-made or partially made meal while doing other shopping means a lot of people just aren't cooking much of what they eat; and some people don't know how to cook. We can grow a lot of food and we need to be able to direct market it. We can't exist on farming in Chester County by just selling wholesale crops.

Q What are the opportunities for your farm in the next few years?

We have so many opportunities, the exposure that the local food movement has provided means many more people want local products. We have diversified into more and more different crops since I won the award and now we are focusing on marketing and standing out with really tasty, nutrient-dense food. I hope to attract people that want flavor and nutrition in their food and also want to know where their food comes from. That is a fantastic opportunity!

Eating Locally and Seasonally

Most of us know that it's better for our bodies, our environment and our local economy to eat fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers and producers, yet many of us struggle with exactly how to consistently incorporate fresh food into our diets. Whether we are concerned with cost, the pressures of limited time in our busy lives or just not knowing what to do with certain produce, many of us could use some helpful hints (even if you're already somewhere along the healthy eating continuum!).

Here are some ideas to consider when you are looking to increase or expand the fresh local vegetables and fruits in your diet.

Start small

Be realistic, start with small changes that you can actually implement. Taking on too much too soon can derail your plan.

Eating fresh and local

- Casually stop by a farm stand or farmers' market once a week and purchase a fresh vegetable or fruit that you know you already like. Be prepared to use it that day or the next. Write the date of purchase on it so it won't languish in your refrigerator. The sooner you eat it, the better it will taste and the more nutrition you will get from it. You can eat



it raw, cook it, or prep and freeze it. If you use it within two days, congratulate yourself because you are taking good care of yourself and your family every time you do this simple activity.

- Grow your own food plant or herb in a container or window box. Growing lettuce or herbs from a baby plant in a medium pot is easy and they can be harvested as needed. A little more courageous? In a large container you can grow potatoes or a cherry tomato plant, even a zucchini.
- If you don't use all the produce you bought, consider blending or whole-food juicing it into a smoothie or a frozen treat or make it into a vegetable soup.
- There are lots of cookbooks featuring PA grown produce that can help you incorporate fresh vegetables and fruits into quick and easy recipes to help family members that may be veggie averse. Look online for easy recipes using particular vegetables that might be new to you.

Eating frozen

- If you really cannot commit to eating fresh, stock your freezer with frozen veggies that you know you already like and some new ones too. Fruits and vegetables need to be at the peak of their ripeness, freshness and nutrition to be flash frozen, so you get the benefit of all three, if not the wonder of a freshly picked food! And if you find something you like that is grown locally, you can easily freeze it yourself so that it will be there when you are ready for it (even if it's just a week or two later).

Getting the hang of it

Once you have comfortably incorporated some fresh foods into your diet it is time to challenge yourself.

- Continue that weekly trip to the farm stand or farmers' market, but now bring home enough fresh produce to enhance one meal per day, a few times in that week.
- Talk with the farmers, growers and producers to see how to use vegetables and fruits that are less familiar to you. They can usually offer great suggestions or cooking tips to help you have the best experience.



- Become a member of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). If you have tried one in the past, note that our local farmers are always learning and growing, some of them now offer smaller shares as an introduction to CSA or for the individual locavore.
- When you know what you like, try to grow it! Start with various pots or if you have the outdoor space, put in a raised bed garden or dig a small plot in the ground. Consider starting a garden with a neighbor so you can share the bounty.

You've got this!

Here's more..., whether you are already far along on the fresh food continuum or on your way.

- Share recipes. Make up recipes. Try new things!
- Plant a garden and offer extra produce to others; you may just get them started on their own journey with fresh foods.
- If you are not growing your own food but have developed a relationship with a farmer or producer, ask them to help you find additional products (perhaps eggs, poultry or beef) so you can incorporate more local foods into your diet.
- Eat seasonally, including over the winter. Some farmers have high tunnels that can extend their growing season through the winter. Many CSAs have winter shares and farmers' markets offer winter ordering and winter market hours so that you can continue to incorporate fresh, local foods year-round.

While it may not happen overnight or in a single growing season, all of these things can lead to a healthier diet and a love of nutrient-dense food.



Spotlight Interviews

25
Years

Name of winner: Bill Beam

Name of farm: Beam Farms, Inc.

Year they won the award: 1990

Q What did winning the Farmer of the Year award mean to you?

As a young farm family I remember being surprised by the award. It seems a long time ago but I remember we were honored and humbled to be selected by the county. Any time you are recognized, whether the farm or as a representative of the farming community, there is a responsibility that goes with it. I hope we have lived up to that responsibility; I think we have.

Q Has your operation changed since you/your family won the Farmer of the Year award?

Since 1990 we have raised our three boys. Matt, our oldest, graduated from Penn State University and is working with us on the farm. Shawn also graduated from PSU and Dylan is a freshman at PSU. The farm is now called Beam Farms, Inc. which is helping us bring in the next generation. Our two oldest sons each have a share of Beam Farms, Inc. and Dylan will also some day. Now that I am in my fifties the focus needs to move to the next generation of farming. In addition, we preserved our farm through the county open space program. With the money we then purchased another farm and preserved it also.

Q What are the challenges to your farm in the next few years?

Challenges keep farm life interesting whether it be a weather problem or volatile grain prices and inputs. But there is a newer challenge to agriculture, public perception is becoming a concern for farmers. It used to be if we worked hard and you grew a crop that was good enough. Now it seems we need to prove ourselves to the community with all the noise about GM crops, organics, antibiotic free chickens—you name it. I have never seen agriculture attack agriculture before for profit or public approval. It seems strange that this is happening when I am using safer products than ever before.

Q What are the opportunities for your farm in the next few years?

Opportunities are everywhere, the hard part is recognizing them. We have new markets for our grain here on the east coast with container exports of soybeans to China and Indonesia. This year I hauled soybeans from the farm to Newark, NJ to be loaded onto a ship. Regarding labor, recently I needed a new employee to help with the farm and was surprised by the number of good young candidates that wanted to work on our farm. It makes farming a lot easier when you have good quality employees.



The Critical Role of Pollinators

Although these days more people think about how their food is produced, one aspect that probably still does not enter their minds is the vital role of pollinators. Approximately 200,000 animal species worldwide are pollinators, including species of birds, bats, small mammals, flies, beetles, butterflies, moths and bees, even though many people only tend to think of honeybees.

Some plants such as cereals, rice and potatoes can self-pollinate but they are by far the minority. Most plants are cross pollinated and between 75 and 95 percent of all flowering plants need help with pollination. If you remember back to biology class, the flowers require pollen from the stamens to reach the stigma so that the ovules can be fertilized and reproduction is possible. As pollinators visit the flowers they brush against the suitably positioned stamens on their way to feeding on the nectar or collecting the pollen. When they visit the next flower, some of the pollen brushes off on to the stigma which fertilizes the ovules which results in seeds being produced.

Many of us think of honeybees as the primary source of pollination, partly because they have been prolific. They are fairly easy to manage on a commercial

level—beehives can be moved around so that the bees can be on different crops, making them useful in orchards, berry fields, local gardens and large-scale agriculture. Honeybees also have received a lot of attention in the news over the last two decades due to the significant reduction in worldwide populations.

Honeybees have been experiencing problems with mites, small hive beetles, viruses and environmental toxins. In 1995–1996, beekeepers in Pennsylvania lost 53 percent of their colonies (previous disappearances have occurred in the 1880s, 1920s and 1960s). Research has indicated that no single factor is the cause for what is known as the Colony Collapse Disorder, but that multiple factors are at play. Many experts believe loss of habitat is probably one of the most critical reasons. In addition, there are concerns about a particular group of insecticides called neonicotinoids that may be playing a role in reducing bee populations but there is not sufficient scientific evidence that these products are more responsible than other factors.

All pollinators, not just honeybees, depend on suitable habitat to flourish. Some things we can do to help provide and maintain favorable habitats for these necessary creatures include:

- Planting shrubs, trees, and bulbs which provide early supplies of pollen (witch hazel, sugar maple,

Did you know?

The value of pollinators is difficult to estimate but many suggest one out of every three bites of food we eat is due to them. In 2013 the USDA stated, “Bee pollination is responsible for more than \$15 billion in increased crop value each year.” And one estimate for the effect on the global economy is \$217 billion dollars.

plum, apple and pear trees, blueberries, crocus and snowdrops).

- Talking with your local plant nursery to find plants that will attract insects.
- Eliminating or sparingly using insecticides and herbicides and only when absolutely necessary (be willing to accept some insect damage).
- Leave those dandelions—they are early pollen sources for the developing bee larva that will become the spring pollinators in your garden.
- Leaving dead tree trunks, called “snags,” for wood-nesting bees and beetles.
- Supporting land conservation and preservation efforts so there are reservoirs of natural habitat.

Implementing even some of the suggestions above can have a significant impact on our local crops, gardens and natural areas, in addition to the pollinators themselves.





Spotlight Interviews

25
Years

Name of winner: The Yeatman Family

Name of farm: C.P. Yeatman & Sons, Inc.

Year they won the award: 1993

Q What did winning the Farmer of the Year award mean to you?

It was a huge achievement for the Yeatman family and gave us immense pride for our family farm operations.

Q Has your operation changed since you/your family won the Farmer of the Year award?

Yes! We have expanded our growing and packing operations greatly over the last 20 years. In the last few years we have also become PTI (Produce Traceability Initiative) compliant and have passed our GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative) audit at the packing level. There have also been many advancements to the equipment used in our growing and packing operations.

Q What are the challenges to your farm in the next few years?

Modernization in growing and harvesting equipment and building structure (we know what works because it has worked for years, so are we ready to take the leap to something less known?). We are working towards getting our GFSI Audit at the farm level in the next year. Keeping up with OSHA standards—the idea of “farm exempt” is not valid. We have had to make many changes to our operations over the last 20 years to make them safer and are continuing to do so every day.

Q What are the opportunities for your farm in the next few years?

Our organic niche always helps keep us ahead of the game and opens up new opportunities. There are also a lot of modern developments and growing techniques available to the mushroom industry that will help our industry greatly advance.

Agriculture Careers

What are the possibilities?

Farming is a business, not so unlike other businesses, even though some people may not associate it as such. Farmers are innovative and technological entrepreneurs who face new challenges every day. That farming is a business is very evident here in Chester County; we see it when new generations join family operations and develop new ventures or product lines, when the industry embraces new innovation and technologies and when farmers rise to meet the challenges of new regulations. We also see it in their passion for doing what they do in spite of the ups and downs of markets and the extremes of climate.

Yet farmers are only part of the agricultural equation, albeit an important part. The agricultural industry is made up of a host of other careers such as scientists and researchers, large animal veterinarians, agricultural lenders, agricultural builders, equipment dealers, and processors just to name a few. These jobs either directly or indirectly support the agricultural industry but without them, the industry cannot survive. And with growing world population and other factors, there is expected continued growth in the agricultural jobs sector.

Over the last several years reports have shown a dramatic increase in opportunities for careers in agriculture. According to the USDA, “The agricultural, food, and renewable natural resources sectors of the U.S. economy will generate an estimated 54,400 annual openings for individuals with baccalaureate or higher degrees in food, renewable energy, and environmental specialties between 2010 and 2015.”

In addition, they cite, “Four major factors [that] shape the market for graduates between 2010 and 2015:

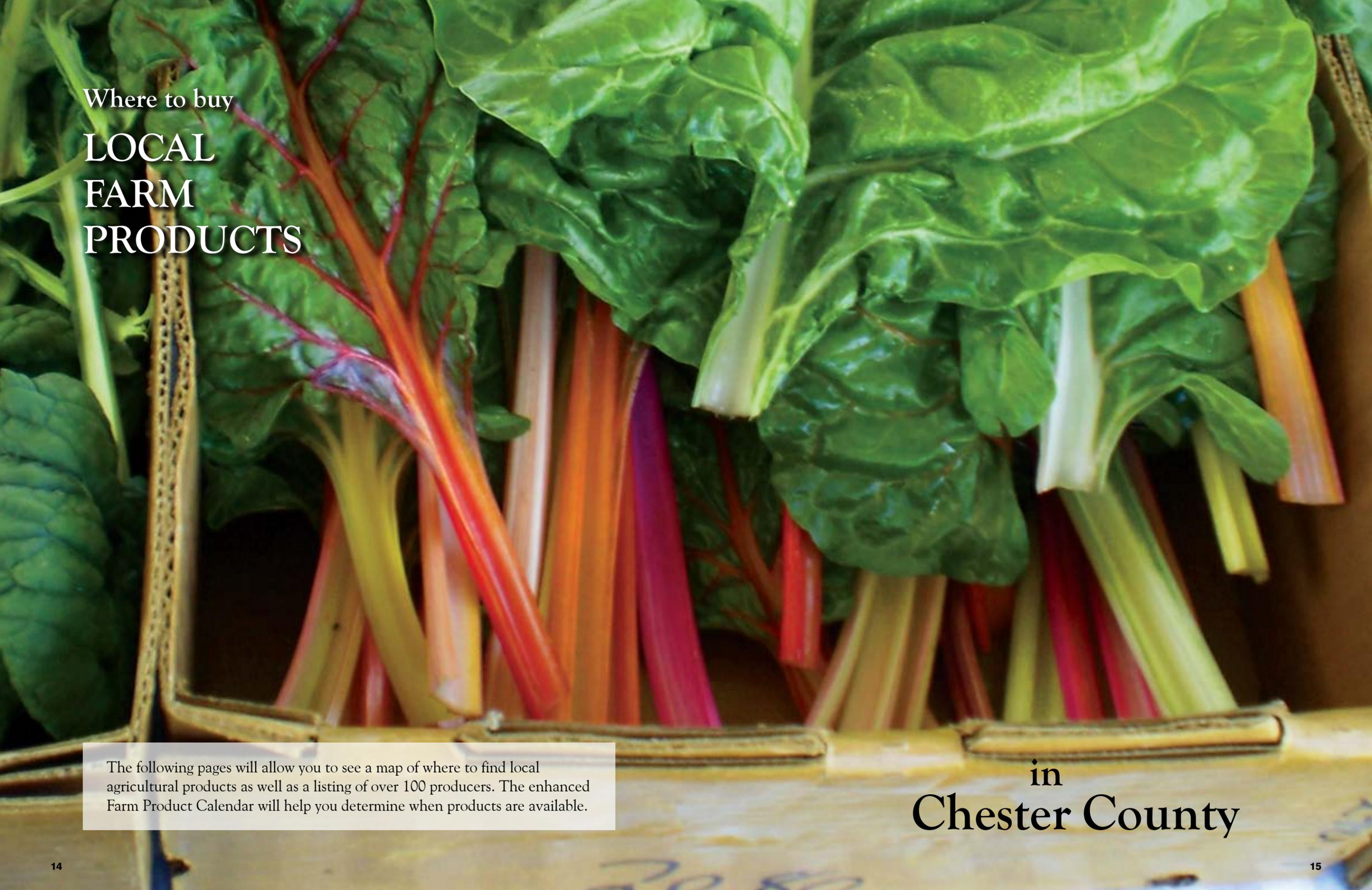
- Macroeconomic conditions and retirements.
- Consumer preferences for nutritious and safe foods.
- Food, energy, and environment public policy choices.
- Global market shifts in population, income, food, and energy.”

People who hold such jobs currently may not be surprised by the job growth potential, but many people who are not involved in these industries may be—especially if they have a loved one that expresses an interest in “being a farmer” or working in these associated fields. Post-secondary educators would not be surprised either as they know that a large majority of students enrolled in agricultural colleges/majors do not come from an agricultural background but still have an interest and see the potential in the industry.

So how do we continue to encourage children to value agriculture and perhaps pursue agricultural careers? Well, it is important to expose them to agricultural education early on to help them foster an interest in such areas. This can be done at home through a variety of methods (planting a small garden, going to farmers’ markets, or talking about where food comes from) as well as in schools. In fact, many schools in the county are taking this task very seriously because teaching children about food production and agriculture can also influence their food choices and help them develop healthier eating habits. Several of our local organizations such as the Chester County Food Bank, and Chester-Delaware and PA Farm Bureau are working hard along with schools to bring the fundamentals of agriculture into the classroom.

This positive trajectory for the agricultural industry, where career opportunities are met with a growing number of people interested in and aware of the importance of agriculture and food production, may mean increased recognition for what farmers and other folks in the industry already know, that agriculture is a viable career. Maybe it is right for you.





Where to buy

LOCAL FARM PRODUCTS

The following pages will allow you to see a map of where to find local agricultural products as well as a listing of over 100 producers. The enhanced Farm Product Calendar will help you determine when products are available.

in
Chester County

Where to buy LOCAL FARM PRODUCTS in Chester County

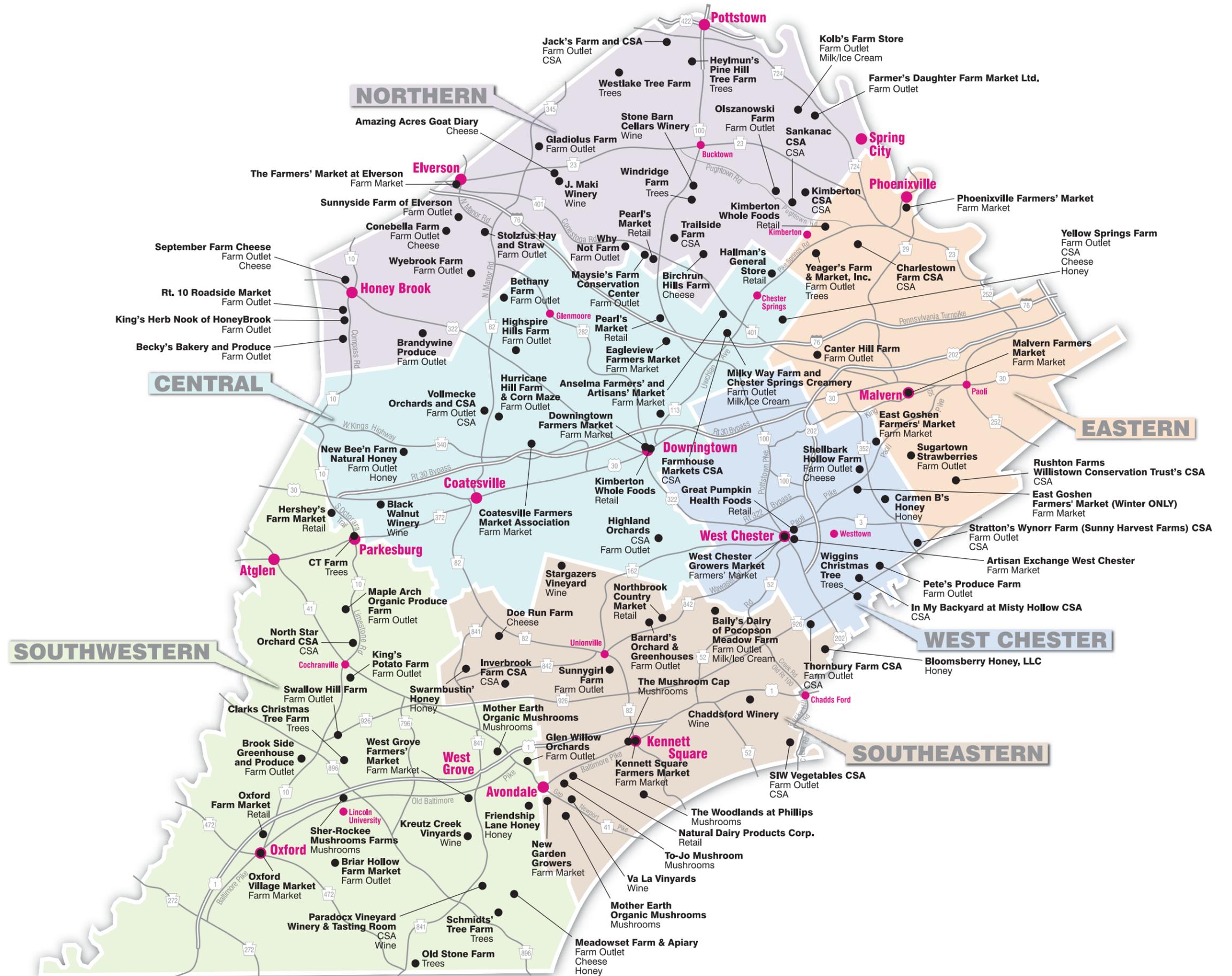
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This Local Farm Products map is now interactive!

The online map allows users to get the most up-to-date information as they go from the map directly to the website or Facebook page of local producers.

www.chesco.org/agdev/farmguide

Check it out today!





Farmers' markets

Farmers' markets are generally open-air markets at which various farmers offer their products. They are typically open during the growing season from late May through late fall and offer consumers a variety of products. For the purpose of this guide, farmers' markets are generally "producer only markets," meaning they sell what they produce, not items they purchase from other suppliers. Some markets, denoted with a snowflake ❄️, now host winter markets at least once a month during the off-season months. Information is available on their websites.

Anselma Farmers' and Artisans' Market

CENTRAL

Historic Mill at Anselma
Route 401, 1/2 mile west of Route 113
Chester Springs, PA
Wednesdays: 2pm–6pm
610-827-1906
www.anselmamill.org

Artisan Exchange West Chester ❄️

WEST CHESTER

Artisan Exchange West Chester
208 Carter Drive Suite 13-B
West Chester, PA 19382
Saturdays: 10am–2pm
610-719-0232
www.artisanexchangewcpa.com

Coatesville Farmers Market at Brandywine Hospital

CENTRAL

201 Reeceville Road, Coatesville
Wednesdays: 2pm–6pm
Open June 4 through November
201-888-8260
coatesvillefarmersmarket@gmail.com

Downingtown Farmers Market

CENTRAL

Kerr Park, Downingtown
By the gazebo, off of Pennsylvania Ave.
Saturdays: 9am–1pm
lisa@growingrootspartners.com
www.growingrootspartners.com

Eagleview Farmers Market at Town Center

CENTRAL

Wellington Square
Thursdays: 3pm–7pm
lisa@growingrootspartners.com
www.growingrootspartners.com

East Goshen Farmers' Market ❄️

WEST CHESTER

East Goshen Park, 1661 Paoli Pike
West Chester, PA 19380
Thursdays: 3pm–7pm
jlang@eastgoshen.org
www.eastgoshenfarmersmarket.org

Winter Location Dec 2014–Apr 2015
East Goshen Township Building
1580 Paoli Pike
West Chester, PA 19380
Thursdays: 3pm–6pm

Kennett Square Farmers Market ❄️

SOUTHEASTERN

Downtown Kennett Square
Fridays, 2pm–6pm
610-444-8188
ksqfarmersmarket@gmail.com
www.ksqfarmersmarket.wordpress.com

Malvern Farmers Market

EASTERN

Burke Park, Malvern
Saturdays: 9:30am–1pm
lisa@growingrootspartners.com
www.growingrootspartners.com

New Garden Growers Market

SOUTHEASTERN

Near New Garden Township Park
Route 41
Saturdays: 9am–1pm
610-268-2150
www.newgardengrowers.com

Oxford Village Market

SOUTHWESTERN

Downtown Oxford at
3rd and Locust Streets
Tuesdays: 12:30pm–6pm
610-998-9494
www.downtownoxfordpa.org

Phoenixville Farmers' Market ❄️

EASTERN

Under the Veterans Memorial
Gay Street Bridge
Phoenixville, PA 19460
Accessed by Taylor Alley off of Bridge St.
Saturdays 9am–1pm
lisa@phoenixvillefarmersmarket.org
www.phoenixvillefarmersmarket.org

The Farmers' Market at Elverson ❄️

NORTHERN

Route 82 South at the gazebos in
Livingood Park
Elverson, PA 19520
Saturdays: 9am–1pm
www.thefarmersmarketatelverson.org

West Chester Growers Market ❄️

WEST CHESTER

Downtown West Chester at
Church Street parking lot
Saturdays: 9am–1pm
info@westchestergrowersmarket.com
www.westchestergrowersmarket.com

West Grove Farmers' Market

SOUTHWESTERN

Off of Prospect Ave.
Beside the railroad tracks
West Grove, PA 19390
Thursdays: 2pm–6pm
610-932-5468
www.westgrovefarmersmarket.com

Farm outlets

Farm outlets are temporary or permanent on-farm structures used for the sale of agricultural products. Outlets may offer products from a single farm or multiple farms and may be open seasonally or year-round. **Contact the outlet, or check the website, for hours of operation before visiting.**

Baily's Dairy of Pocopson Meadow Farm

SOUTHEASTERN

1821 Lenape Unionville Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-793-1151
www.bailysdairy.com

Barnard's Orchard & Greenhouses

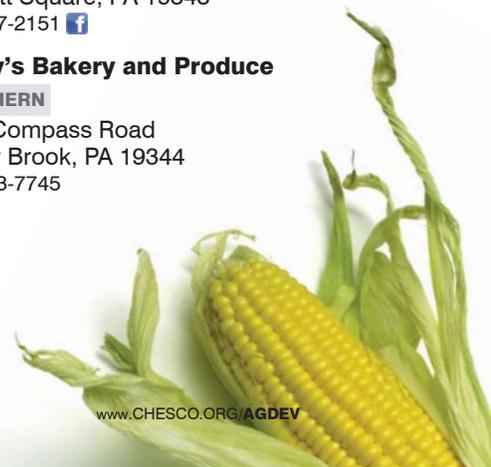
SOUTHEASTERN

1079 Wawaset Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-347-2151

Becky's Bakery and Produce

NORTHERN

2163 Compass Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-7745





Bethany Farm

CENTRAL

81 Fairview Road
Glenmoore, PA 19343
610-942-4004
www.facebook.com/bethanyfarm

Brandywine Produce

NORTHERN

180 Beaver Dam Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-7817

Briar Hollow Farm Market

SOUTHWESTERN

476 Little Elk Creek Road
Lincoln University, PA 19352
610-932-0914

Brook Side Greenhouse and Produce

SOUTHWESTERN

170 Catamount Road
Oxford, PA 19363
610-932-5510

Canter Hill Farm

EASTERN

2138 Valley Hill Road
Malvern, PA 19355
610-827-1594
www.canterhillfarm.org

Conebella Farm

NORTHERN

337 Chestnut Tree Road
Elverson, PA 19520-9115
610-286-2967
www.conebellafarm.com

Farmer's Daughter Farm Market Ltd.

NORTHERN

3190 Schuylkill Road
Spring City, PA 19475
610-495-4555
www.farmersdaughterfarmmarket.com

Gladiolus Farm

NORTHERN

191 Pine Swamp Road
Elverson, PA 19520

Glen Willow Orchards

SOUTHWESTERN

1657 Glen Willow Road
Avondale, PA 19311
610-268-8743

Highland Orchards

CENTRAL

1000 Marshallton-Thorndale Road
West Chester, PA 19380
610-269-3494
www.highlandorchards.net

Highspire Hills Farm LLC

CENTRAL

EGGS ONLY
709 Highspire Road
Glenmoore, PA 19343
610-942-9634
drehmeyer@highspirehillsfarm.com
www.localharvest.org/highspire-hills-farm-llc-M6683

Hurricane Hill Farm & Corn Maze

CENTRAL

704 East Reeceville Road
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-213-5944
www.hhfmaze.com

Jack's Farm

NORTHERN

1370 West Schuylkill Road
Pottstown, PA 19465
610-326-1802
www.jacksfarm.net

King's Herb Nook of Honey Brook

NORTHERN

1060 Compass Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-4583
<http://agmap.psu.edu/businesses/4084>

King's Potato Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

302 Daleville Road
Cochranville, PA 19330
610-593-5345 or 610-996-1403

Kolb's Farm Store

NORTHERN

151 Kolb Road
Spring City, PA 19475
610-495-7841
www.kolbsfarmstore.com

Maple Arch Organic Produce Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

3418 Limestone Road
Parkesburg, PA 19365
610-593-7105

Maysie's Farm Conservation Center

NORTHERN

15 St. Andrew's Lane
Glenmoore, PA 19343
610-458-8129
www.maysiesfarm.org

Meadowset Farm & Apiary

SOUTHWESTERN

210 North Creek Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
610-274-8320
www.facebook.com/MeadowsetFarmApiaryllc

Milky Way Farm and Chester Springs Creamery

CENTRAL

521 East Uwchlan Avenue
Chester Springs, PA 19425
Farm: 610-827-1484
Creamery: 610-363-8500
www.milkywayfarm.com

NewBee'n Farm Natural Honey

CENTRAL

106 Edwards Drive
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-380-1374
www.1family.biz

Olszanowski Farm

NORTHERN

315 Pughtown Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-476-0737 or 610-469-0609

Pete's Produce Farm

WEST CHESTER

1225 East Street Road
Westtown, PA 19395
610-399-3711
petesproducefarmstore@verizon.net
www.petesproducefarm.com

Rt. 10 Roadside Market

NORTHERN

941 Compass Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-7793

Shellbark Hollow Farm

WEST CHESTER

942 Cornwallis Drive
West Chester, PA 19380
610-431-0786
shellbarkhollow@aol.com
www.shellbarkhollow.com

SIW Vegetables

SOUTHEASTERN

4317 South Creek Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
610-388-7491
www.siw-vegetables.blogspot.com





Stoltzfus Hay and Straw

NORTHERN

579 North Manor Road
Elverson, PA 19520
610-286-6047

Stone Barn Cellars Winery

NORTHERN

3050 Pottstown Pike
Spring City PA 19475
610-996-3064
stonebarncellars@yahoo.com
www.stonebarncellars.com

Sugartown Strawberries

EASTERN

650 Sugartown Road
Malvern, PA 19355
610-647-0711
info@sugartownstrawberries.com
www.sugartownstrawberries.com

Sunnyside Farm of Elverson

NORTHERN

351 North Manor Road
Elverson, PA 19520
484-955-7692
miller_12@hotmail.com

Swallow Hill Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

Route 926 and Ewing Road
Cochranville, PA 19330
610-932-9619
efrandolph@gmail.com

The Woodlands at Phillips

SOUTHEASTERN

1020 Kaolin Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-444-2192
woodlandspa@gmail.com
www.thewoodlandsatphillips.com

Thornbury Farm

WEST CHESTER

1256 Thornbury Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-793-2933
www.thornburyfarmcsa.com

Vollmecke Orchards and CSA

CENTRAL

155 Cedar Knoll Road
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-383-4616
www.csachestercounty.com

Why Not Farm

NORTHERN

3108 Conestoga Road
Glenmoore, PA 19343
610-458-5408
www.whynotfarm.com

Wyebrook Farm

NORTHERN

150 Wyebrook Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-942-7481
www.wyebrookfarm.com

Yeager's Farm & Market, Inc.

EASTERN

1015 Pike Springs Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-935-8244
www.yeagersfarm.com

Yellow Springs Farm

CENTRAL

1165 Yellow Springs Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-827-2014
www.yellowspringsfarm.com

Retail outlets

Retail outlets are generally places where consumers may find local items but a variety of non-local items are offered as well. Often a store, these permanent structures are open year-round.

Great Pumpkin Health Foods

WEST CHESTER

607 E. Market Street
West Chester, PA 19382
610-696-0741
www.mygreatpumpkin.com

Hallman's General Store

CENTRAL

Route 113 and Pikeland Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-827-7721

Hershey's Farm Market

CENTRAL

959 South Octorara Trail
Parkesburg, PA 19365
610-857-5053
www.hersheysfarmmarket.com

Kimberton Whole Foods

EASTERN

2140 Kimberton Road
Kimberton, PA 19460
610-935-1444
www.kimbertonwholefoods.com

CENTRAL

150 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Downingtown, PA 19335
610-873-8225

Kreutz Creek Vineyards

SOUTHWESTERN

533 South Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-869-4412
www.kreutzcreekvineyards.com

Northbrook Country Market

SOUTHEASTERN

1805 Unionville-Wawaset Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-793-1210
www.northbrookmarketplace.com

Oxford Farm Market

SOUTHWESTERN

193 Limestone Road
Oxford PA 19363
610-932-8048

Pearl's Market

CENTRAL

160 Park Road
Downingtown, PA 19335
610-458-7733

NORTHERN

Routes 100 & 401
Ludwigs Corner, PA

Charlestown Farm CSA

EASTERN

2565 Charlestown Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-917-0252
www.charlestownfarm.org

Farmhouse Markets CSA

CENTRAL

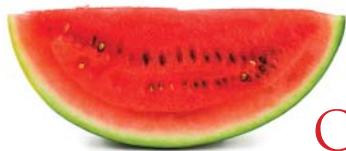
521 East Uwchlan Avenue
Chester Springs, PA 19425
info@farmhousemarkets.com
www.farmhousemarkets.com

Highland Orchards

CENTRAL

1000 Marshallton-Thorndale Rd.
West Chester, PA 19380
610-269-3949
www.highlandorchards.net





CSA Community Supported Agriculture

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a partnership between the farmer and the members of that CSA. Farmers sell shares of the coming season's harvest, sometimes in various sizes to accommodate different family sizes, in the late winter or early spring. Members pay upfront to join the CSA, and essentially, for the products they will receive during the growing season (often late May through October). This upfront investment helps the farmer have capital for needed seeds and supplies and helps the farmer plan how much farm produce to grow or raise. The farmer and the members share in the bounty and/or risk of the harvest. Most CSAs sell fruit and vegetables, though there are a wide range of other products that may be offered through a CSA arrangement including eggs, meats and honey. Some CSAs also offer winter shares.

In My Back Yard at Misty Hollow CSA

WEST CHESTER

1020 East Street Road
West Chester, PA 19380
610-717-6949
www.imbymistyhollow.com

Inverbrook Farm CSA

SOUTHEASTERN

345 Lamborntown Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-563-3116
www.inverbrook.com

Jack's Farm and CSA

NORTHERN

1370 West Schuylkill Road
Pottstown, PA 19465
610-326-1802
www.jacksfarm.net

Kimberton CSA

NORTHERN

415 West Seven Stars Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-933-8339
kimbertoncsa@hotmail.com
www.kimbertoncsa.org

North Star Orchard CSA

SOUTHWESTERN

3226 Limestone Road
Cochranville, PA 19330
610-593-0314
www.northstarorchard.com

Paradoxx Vineyard CSA (wine CSA)

SOUTHWESTERN

1833 Flint Hill Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
610-255-5684
www.paradoxx.com

The Market @ Liberty Place
Wine shop, bar & tasting room
148 West State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-255-5684

Rushton Farm Willistown Conservation Trust's CSA

EASTERN

Goshen & Delchester Roads
Newtown Square, PA 19073
610-353-2563 ext. 22
www.wctrust.org

Sankanac CSA

NORTHERN

Camphill Village Kimberton Hills
1852 French Creek Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-495-7295
www.camphillkimberton.org

September Farm Cheese

NORTHERN

5287 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-3552
www.septemberfarmcheese.com

SIW Vegetables CSA

SOUTHEASTERN

4317 South Creek Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
610-388-0656, 610-388-7491
www.siw-vegetables.blogspot.com

Stratton's Wynnorr Farm Sunny Harvest Farms CSA

WEST CHESTER

1631 East Street Road
Glen Mills, PA 19342
610-399-9080
www.strattonsfarm.net

Thornbury Farm CSA

WEST CHESTER

1256 Thornbury Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-793-2933
www.thornburyfarmcsa.com

Trailside Farm CSA

NORTHERN

2928 Horseshoe Trail
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-469-CORN
trailsidefarm@gmail.com

Vollmecke Orchards and CSA

CENTRAL

155 Cedar Knoll Road
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-383-4616

Yellow Springs Farm (cheese CSA)

CENTRAL

1165 Yellow Springs Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-827-2014
www.yellowspringsfarm.com



Specialty products

These products highlight the diversity in Chester County agriculture and the opportunities that exist for farmers. Some of these products, such as cheese and wine, are available at farmers' markets and the producers are not generally open to the public without prior arrangement. However, some of the producers are open to the public so it is best to contact the producers directly for specific information on availability.



Milk & Ice cream

Baily's Dairy of Pocopson Meadow Farm

SOUTHEASTERN

1821 Lenape Unionville Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-793-1151
www.bailysdairy.com

Kolb's Farm Store

NORTHERN

151 Kolb Road
Spring City, PA 19475
610-495-7841
www.kolbsfarmstore.com

Milky Way Farm and Chester Springs Creamery

CENTRAL

521 East Uwchlan Avenue
Chester Springs, PA 19425
Farm: 610-827-1484
Creamery: 610-363-8500
www.milkywayfarm.com

Cheesemakers

Amazing Acres Goat Dairy

NORTHERN

184 Grove Road
Elverson, PA 19520
610-913-7002
www.amazingacresgoatdairy.com

Birchrun Hills Farm

NORTHERN

2573 Horseshoe Trail
Chester Springs, PA 10425
610-827-1603
www.birchrunhillsfarm.com

Conebella Farm

NORTHERN

337 Chestnut Tree Road
Elverson, PA 19520-9115
610-286-2967
www.conebellafarm.com

Doe Run Farm

SOUTHEASTERN

324 Hicks Road
Coatesville, PA 19320
doerunfarm@gmail.com
www.chestercountycheese.org/meet-the-artisans/doerunfarm

Meadowset Farm & Apiary

SOUTHWESTERN

210 North Creek Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
610-274-8320
www.facebook.com/MeadowsetFarmApiaryllc

September Farm Cheese

NORTHERN

5287 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-3552
www.septemberfarmcheese.com

Shellbark Hollow Farm

WEST CHESTER

942 Cornwallis Drive
West Chester, PA 19380
610-431-0786
www.shellbarkhollow.com

Yellow Springs Farm

CENTRAL

1165 Yellow Springs Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-827-2014
www.yellowspringsfarm.com

Honey

Bloomsberry Honey, LLC

SOUTHEASTERN

485 Webb Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
484-315-8083
bloomsberry@comcast.net

Carmen B's Honey

WEST CHESTER

1607 Williams Way
West Chester, PA 19380
610-436-6760
carmenrbattavio@aol.com
www.carmenbshoney.com

Friendship Lane Honey

SOUTHWESTERN

1 Friendship Lane
Avondale, PA 19311
610-368-7172
romingdh@comcast.net

Meadowset Farm & Apiary

SOUTHWESTERN

210 North Creek Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
610-274-8320
www.facebook.com/MeadowsetFarmApiaryllc

New Bee'n Farm Natural Honey

CENTRAL

106 Edwards Drive
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-384-1374
www.1family.biz

Swarbustin' Honey

SOUTHEASTERN

190 Thouron Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-384-2384
www.911honey.com

Tree Farms

Clarks Christmas Tree Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

235 Pusey Mill Road
Cochranville, PA 19330
610-358-4933
www.clarkschristmastrees.com

CT Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

175 South Church Street
Parkesburg, PA 19365
717-442-3132
www.facebook.com/pages/CT-farm/323617367652534

Old Stone Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

688 Strickersville Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
484-798-8413
www.oldstonefarm.com





Heylman's Pine Hill Tree Farm

NORTHERN

1174 Sheep Hill Road
Pottstown, PA 19465
610-323-8045
www.pinehilltreefarm.com

Schmidts' Tree Farm

SOUTHWESTERN

1741 Flint Hill Road
Landenburg, PA 19350
610-274-8560
easytree@aol.com
www.schmidstreefarm.com



Westlake Tree Farms

NORTHERN

2421 North Hill Camp Road
Pottstown, PA 19465
800-564-TREE
www.westlaketreefarms.com

Wiggins Christmas Tree

WEST CHESTER

1257 Westtown Thornton Road
West Chester, PA
610-344-7822

SOUTHWESTERN

2176 Gap Newport Pike
Cochranville, PA
www.wigginschristmastrees.com

Windridge Farm

NORTHERN

1049 Bartlett Lane
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-469-9299
www.cutyourownchristmastree.net

Yeager's Farm & Market, Inc.

EASTERN

1015 Pike Springs Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-935-8244
www.yeagersfarm.com

Mushrooms

Mother Earth Organic Mushrooms

SOUTHWESTERN

600 North Baker Station Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-869-3595

(second location)

SOUTHEASTERN

740 Penn Green Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
610-268-5904
www.organicmushrooms.com

Sher-Rockee Mushroom Farms

SOUTHWESTERN

170 SherRockee Lane
Lincoln University, PA 19352
610-869-8048
www.sherrockmush.com

The Mushroom Cap

SOUTHEASTERN

114 West State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-444-8484
www.themushroomcap.com

The Woodlands at Phillips

SOUTHEASTERN

1020 Kaolin Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-444-2192
woodlandspa@gmail.com
www.thewoodlandsatphillips.com

To-Jo Mushroom

SOUTHEASTERN

974 Penn Green Road
Avondale, PA 19311
610-268-8082
www.To-Jo.com

Wineries

Black Walnut Winery

CENTRAL

3000 Lincoln Highway
Sadsburyville, PA 19369
610-857-5566
www.blackwalnutwinery.com

Tasting room
260 Bridge Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460
484-924-8740

Chaddsford Winery

SOUTHEASTERN

632 Baltimore Pike
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
610-388-6221
www.chaddsford.com

J. Maki Winery

NORTHERN

200 Grove Road
Elverson, PA 19520
610-286-7754
www.jmakiwinery.com

Kreutz Creek Vineyards

SOUTHWESTERN

553 South Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-869-4412
www.kreutzcreekvineyards.com

Tasting room
44 East Gay Street
West Chester, PA 19380
610-436-5006

Paradocx Vineyard Winery & Tasting Room

SOUTHWESTERN

1833 Flint Hill Road
Landenberg, PA 19350
610-255-5684
www.paradocx.com

The Market @ Liberty Place
Wine shop, bar & tasting room
148 West State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-255-5684

Stargazers Vineyard

SOUTHEASTERN

1024 Wheatland Drive
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-486-0422
www.stargazersvineyard.com

Stone Barn Cellars Winery

NORTHERN

3050 Pottstown Pike
Spring City PA 19475
610-996-3064
stonebarncellars@yahoo.com
www.stonebarncellars.com

Va La Vineyards

SOUTHEASTERN

8820-8824 Gap
Newport Pike
Avondale, PA 19311
610-268-2702
www.valavineyards.com



Farm Product Calendar

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

VEGETABLES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Arugula				■	■				■	■	■	
Asparagus				■	■	■						
Beets						■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Broccoli						■	■	■	■	■	■	
Broccoli raab								■	■	■	■	
Brussels sprouts								■	■	■	■	
Cabbage						■	■	■	■	■	■	
Cantaloupes								■	■	■	■	
Carrots	■	■	■			■				■	■	■
Cauliflower							■	■	■	■	■	
Celeriac/Celery root									■	■	■	
Celery							■	■	■	■	■	
Chard				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Chicories									■	■	■	
Corn (sweet)						■	■	■	■	■	■	
Cucumbers						■	■	■	■	■	■	
Eggplant							■	■	■	■	■	
Escarole									■	■	■	
Fava beans					■	■	■					
Fennel										■	■	
Fiddleheads				■	■							
Garlic	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Garlic scapes/ Green garlic					■	■						
Green beans							■	■	■	■	■	
Green onions					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Kale				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Kohlrabi						■	■	■	■	■	■	
Leeks								■	■	■	■	■
Lettuce	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Morels				■	■	■						
Mushrooms (cultivated)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mushrooms (wild)										■	■	
Nettles				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Onions	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Parsnips				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Pea greens				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Pea pods							■	■	■	■	■	
Peppers (sweet)							■	■	■	■	■	
Potatoes	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Pumpkins									■	■	■	
Radicchio									■	■	■	
Radishes					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Ramps			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Rhubarb					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Rutabagas								■	■	■	■	
Scallions					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Shelling beans									■	■	■	
Spinach				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Squash (summer)							■	■	■	■	■	
Squash (winter)									■	■	■	■
Sweet potatoes	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Tomatoes							■	■	■	■	■	
Turnips	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Zucchini							■	■	■	■	■	
Zucchini blossoms						■	■	■	■	■	■	

**Farm Product Calendar
Season of Availability**

- Harvest season
- Extended season
- Available from storage

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec



Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
FRUIT												
Apples												
Blueberries												
Cherries												
Cranberries												
Grapes												
Melons												
Nectarines												
Peaches												
Pears												
Plums												
Raspberries												
Strawberries												
Watermelon												
DAIRY												
Cheese												
Ice cream												
Milk												
Yogurt												
MEAT												
Beef/Bison												
Lamb												
Pork												
Poultry												
GRAINS (for milling or use in animal feed)												
Corn												
Oats												
Rye												
Soybean												
Wheat												
OTHER												
Eggs												
Honey												
Wine												
NON-FOOD ITEMS												
Xmas trees												
Wool												
HERBS												
Basil												
Mint												
Oregano												
Parsley												
Thyme												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

**Farm Product Calendar
Season of Availability**

- Harvest season
- Extended season
- Available from storage



Deborah Ellis, Teacher, Program Assistant and Eastern Pennsylvania Area Coordinator for the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab.

Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau

The Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau is a voluntary organization that works to advance the interests of agriculture and rural communities. It offers numerous benefits and services to its over 6,000 members, and is affiliated with the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The Farm Bureau advocates for agriculture at the state and federal level to ensure that farmers are treated fairly in legislation affecting their land and livelihood. The Farm Bureau offers a multitude of programs and services including but not limited to:

- Policy programs.
- Business services such as farm management services which includes accounting and payroll assistance.
- Leadership development programs for high school age youth, college age, young farmers, older adults and even those seeking public office.
- Scholarship programs for high school seniors studying agriculture.
- The Food Checkout Program to help those in need of food in our area.
- The Mobile Agriculture Education Lab which introduces kids K-8 to agriculture.
- Ag in the Classroom for teachers K-12 to learn about agriculture and bring it to the classroom.
- Lyme disease awareness programs.

In addition, the Farm Bureau offers many other member benefits such as savings on electricity, vehicle rebates, telephone services, health insurance, a comprehensive list of insurance products through Nationwide Insurance, supplies, travel and more.

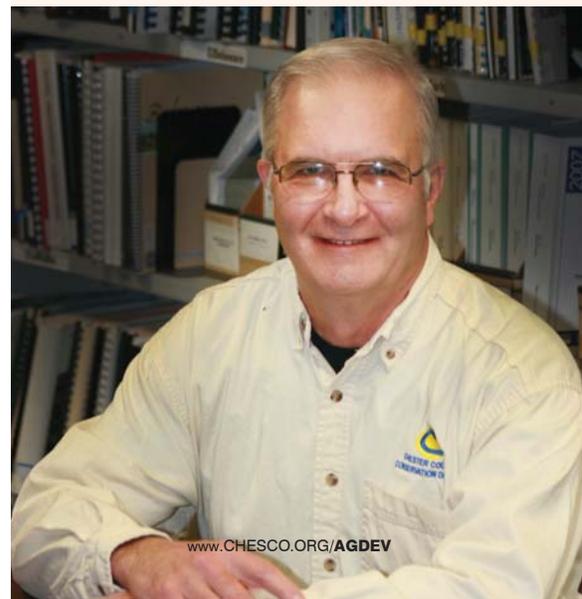
The Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau is committed to promoting our agricultural industry and heritage. For more information, please visit www.pafbcountries.org or visit us on Facebook.

Dan Miller, CDCFB President, was honored with the 2013 Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award.

Our Partners

The organizations profiled on the following pages work to keep our agricultural industry and economy strong and it is through their hard work and endeavors that our agricultural producers receive continued support. There are many other organizations that contribute to agriculture, but the following have supported this guide. The Agricultural Development Council would like to sincerely thank them; without their support, we would not be able to produce this publication.

*Advocates
for farmers
and rural
communities*



Chester County Economic Development Council

The Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) is a private, non-profit economic development organization promoting smart growth in Chester County and the surrounding region for over 50 years. The CCEDC provides proven financing solutions, cultivates workforce talent, leverages business partnerships, and fosters entrepreneurial collaboration. Together, with the support of the private and public sectors, CCEDC initiates, implements and innovates programs that improve the business community and enhance the quality of life in Chester County.

CCEDC has been a strong proponent of economic development within the agriculture industry alongside other more commonly recognized, high-profile industries within the county. It has helped to raise awareness about the importance of agriculture's contribution to the local economy and provided services to agricultural businesses, such as financing, workforce development and business development consulting and support. The council is considered a pioneer and leader for its work in agriculture among economic development organizations across the Commonwealth. For more information, visit www.cceconomicdevelopment.com.

Central & Western Chester County Industrial Development Authority

The Central & Western Chester County Industrial Development Authority (C & WCCIDA) is a leader in the Commonwealth for special loans to help first-time farm ownership become a reality for beginning farmers. The Next Generation Farmer Loan Program, a national program adopted in Pennsylvania in 1998, offers first-time farmers below-market interest rates that last throughout the entire life of the loan. The loans run through a commercial bank or other lender and go through a process by which they become tax-exempt for the lender, meaning the lender does not have to pay federal and state income taxes on the interest earnings from the borrower. Due to the tax-exempt status, the lender reduces the interest rate paid by the first-time farmer. The savings earned through the program allow the beginning farmer to make investments in the farm or build a cushion for those inevitably challenging years ahead.

Combined with their colleagues at the Chester County Industrial Development Authority, the two IDAs have contributed to over 123 new farm ownerships in southeastern Pennsylvania, representing over 7,300 acres of prime farmland that will continue to be farmed for years to come.

For more information on the Next Generation Farmer Loan Program or the other work of the C & WCCIDA, please contact 610-458-5700.



*Growing
agricultural
business,
growing
smart*





Healthy food initiatives



Chester County Food Bank

The Chester County Food Bank, Inc. (CCFB) is a non-profit organization that helps feed over 40,000 households in need while focusing on hunger's role in poverty, health and education. Unlike typical food banks, the CCFB is intricately involved with community partners, schools, the county's agricultural producers, local gardeners, local businesses and many dedicated volunteers to help fulfill their mission.

The CCFB's focus on nutrition education extends well beyond the walls of their warehouse. In addition to helping instruct people of all ages what foods are healthy and good for them to eat, they help teach people how to grow and prepare their own food. This helps create a much healthier and sustainable food system for all Chester County residents.

The CCFB has several outreach initiatives, programs and services including:

- Project Fresh, Eat Fresh and Taste It! in which the CCFB works with schools; in classrooms, cafeterias and afterschool programs and with community partners to increase understanding about and access to fresh, healthy food.
- The Outdoor Classroom at Springton Manor Farm, an educational center for students, teachers and the community to learn about growing food and helping those in need.
- Gleaning Program to harvest usable leftover crops from area farms for feeding the hungry.
- Fresh Food Program to grow fresh produce year round.
- Raised Garden Bed Program supports organizations, schools, places of worship, and area businesses in growing food for local food cupboards. With a "Home Grown" standards based curriculum, the CCFB and local educators teach across the curriculum using Raised Bed Gardens.
- Backpack Program to provide hungry children and their families food over the weekend.
- A commercial kitchen to produce value added products, and preserve local produce for residents in need.

For more information call the Chester County Food Bank at 610-873-6000 or visit www.chestercountyfoodbank.org.

Mushroom Farmers of Pennsylvania

The American Mushroom Institute (AMI) is a voluntary, national trade association in Washington D.C. representing the growers, processors and marketers of cultivated mushrooms in the United States. Mushroom Farmers of Pennsylvania (MFPA) is a subcommittee of AMI and is headquartered in Avondale, PA.

MFPA works on legislative issues at the state level to advocate for mushroom farmers. The group also partners with local governments and agricultural development organizations to promote the mushroom farm community by educating them on new farming technologies and Best Management Practices that are used to increase production while at the same time safeguard the environment.

In addition, MFPA sponsors local high school scholarships, sports teams, Kennett After School Association, Stroud Water Research Center, Brandywine Valley Association, Community Volunteers in Medicine, the Chester County Conservation District's Envirothon event and donates to many other charitable organizations in the area. MFPA is committed to developing and rewarding its labor force by offering managerial workshops targeted at Hispanic workers. The group is one of the principal sponsors of the Mushroom Festival every September. For more information, please visit www.americamushroom.org or call 610-268-7483.



*Mighty
mushrooms*



Igniting the future of agriculture in Chester County

AgConnect: connecting agricultural partnerships within the region

AgConnect is a public-private partnership of the Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) in collaboration with the Chester County Workforce Investment Board. AgConnect is a vibrant network of farmers, business owners, and service providers connecting farmers to business resources, training, and financing to grow business, and promoting agriculture as a career option.

Financing

The AgConnect partnership helps inject capital into agricultural businesses via federal Small Business Administration loans and Small Business First loans from the Commonwealth. Since 2000, CCEDC and AgConnect have administered the Next Generation Farmer Loan Program, a tax exempt loan program for first-time farm buyers, closing 106 loans for more than \$3.4 million helping farmers purchase 7,252 acres in Pennsylvania.



Training

In addition, the partnership impacts the workforce of Chester County agribusinesses by providing funding for workforce development. In the past year, with the help of training scholarships from AgConnect and the Chester County Workforce Investment Board, farmers and agribusiness owners have expanded their skills in the areas of farm succession planning, farmers' market management, food safety, sustainable agriculture production, and farm business management. In 2012–2013, 192 farmers and agribusiness owners participated in trainings, and that number will be surpassed in 2013–2014.





Business resources

The partnership also invests in agribusinesses in Chester County by providing business resources, such as business planning and consulting services, which encourage growth and expansion. In 2013, AgConnect partnered with SCORE, a nonprofit dedicated to helping small businesses through a core of senior-level volunteers, to offer valuable agricultural business planning and consulting services to Chester County farmers. AgConnect also partnered with AgChoice Farm Credit, an agricultural credit association, to offer the AgBiz Masters business planning workshop to help new and beginning farmers grow their business.

Youth initiatives

To ensure a future Chester County workforce, AgConnect provides high school students opportunities to explore careers in agriculture outside of the classroom. Since 2008, AgConnect has inspired more than 3,100 students through career exploration showcases, career fairs, and youth events.

AgConnect is funded in part by private sector contributions and grants from the PA Departments of Agriculture, Community and Economic Development, and Labor & Industry. For more information about AgConnect or CCEDC, please contact 610-458-5700 or visit AgConnect on the web at www.agconnectpa.org.

We redesigned our logo

Just as we redesigned this Guide to Local Farm Products three years ago to update our brand, we have redesigned our logo to compliment that brand. Look for it in the future!



Chester County
Ag Council

**Chester County
Agricultural Development Council**

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**Chester County
Board of Commissioners**

Ryan Costello
Kathi Cozzone
Terence Farrell

