

Purpose

Generally overlooked, agricultural production and commerce continues to contribute over \$1 billion annually to the economy of the Washington Metropolitan Area (WMA). Given that growth projections will add an additional 2 million residents to the region in the next 25 years, can local agriculture and other “green and open space” lands survive?

The purpose of this forum is to both examine and discuss the role of agriculture in the rapidly growing WMA, as well as the opportunities that enable local agricultural producers and markets to flourish.

Come join us to discuss the importance of our local agricultural community and programs and how we may work together regionally to assure their continued success, so as to ensure their continued contribution to our local economy, quality of food and quality of life.



This forum is sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project – a partnership between the National Park Service, National Capital Region and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Working Lands In the Washington Metropolitan Area:

A Forum to Discuss the Future of Agriculture within the WMA



Event Location:

Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Training Center / First Floor
Washington, DC

Tuesday April 12, 2005
8:30 am – 3:30 pm



\$15 Registration Fee
(Lunch provided)



On-line Registration:

www.mwcog.org/environment/green/agriculture/default.asp

Contact: Brian LeCouteur at COG
202-962-3393 or
Glenn Eugster at the
National Park Service
202-619-7492.

Working Lands Forum
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 N Capitol Street, NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

Working Lands Forum - Tuesday, April 12, 2005 Registration Form

Pre-Registration is required by *Friday, April 8, 2005*

Please complete this form and mail your \$15 registration fee (checks payable to MWCOC) to:

Working Lands Forum Attn: Brian LeCouteur
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, NE Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

Name _____ Organization _____
Title _____
Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

For additional information please contact Brian Lecouteur at COG 202-962-3393,
Glenn Eugster at the National Park Service 202 619-7492.

To register on-line visit: www.mwcog.org/environment/green/agriculture/default.asp

Working Lands In the Washington Metropolitan Area:

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8:30-9:00 a.m.

Workshop Registration – Poster Session Open

9:15 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Brian LeCouteur, MWCOC

Glenn Eugster, National Park Service

9:20 a.m.

Opening Remarks

Sarah Taylor-Rogers, Maryland Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc.

9:35 a.m.

Past and Present State of Agriculture in the WMA

Christine Vatovec, MWCOC

9:55 a.m.

Agriculture's Contribution to the WMA Economy

Lori Lynch, Associate Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland

10:15 a.m.

Government Support for Local & State Agricultural Programs - Panel Discussion

Moderator: Karl Berger, MWCOC

•Joe Tassone, Maryland Department of Planning

•Tom Sleight, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

•Tim Blaser, Frederick County

•Jeremy Criss, Montgomery County Department of Economic Development, Agriculture Services

•Lou Nichols, Loudoun County Department of Economic Development

•Bob Lee, Virginia Outdoors Foundation

•Mark Rose, USDA NRCS

11:00 a.m.

Surviving in the Urbanizing Landscape - A Farmer's Perspective - Panel Discussion

Moderator: David Plummer, Montgomery County Soil Conservation District

•Gray Coyner, Fauquier County

•Wade Butler, Butler's Orchard

•Scott Hertzberg, Jug Bay Market Garden

•Hiu Newcomb, Potomac Vegetable Farms

•Joe Barley, Clear Ridge Nursery

•Chip Planck, Wheatland Vegetable Farm

11:45 a.m.

Eating and Drinking Local - Farmers' Markets, Wineries, and Restaurateurs in the WMA - Panel Discussion

Moderators: Todd and Ellen Grey, Equinox Restaurant

•Nina Planck, Farmer's Market Specialist

•Ann Harvey Yonkers, FRESHFARM Markets

•Nora Pouillon, Restaurant Nora

•Marta Wallace, Tarara Winery

12:30 p.m. Lunch (provided)

1:00 p.m.

Agriculture in Transition: Recent Trends in the Hudson Valley

Judith LaBelle, Glynwood Center, Cold Spring, NY

1:45 p.m.

WMA Growth Trends and a Regional "Reality Check" - How Do Regional Growth Projections Play into the Reality of Preserving Agriculture as Green Infrastructure?

Paul Desjardin, MWCOC

2:15 p.m.

Roundtable Discussion – How Do We Better Support and Ensure the Future of Agriculture in the WMA?

Moderator: Glenn Eugster, National Park Service

•Joe Tassone, Maryland Department of Planning

•Bernadine Prince, FRESHFARM Markets

•Bob Lee, Virginia Outdoors Foundation

•Lou Nichols, Loudoun County Department of Economic Development

•Melanie Choukas-Bradley, Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve

3:15 p.m.

Workshop Summary/Wrap-Up

3:30 p.m.

Adjourn

Note: The workshop will feature an informal poster session.
Please contact Brian LeCouteur
(202-962-3393) if you would like to present a poster.