

FARM BUREAU NEWS

County Farm Bureau Office Move

The Erie, Huron and Lorain County Farm Bureau office has moved from its location in Oberlin to North Royalton. We have moved in with Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau at their office which is located at 8460 Ridge Road (State Route 3) in North Royalton.

Each of the county Farm Bureau board of trustees in Erie, Huron, Lorain, and Cuyahoga counties discussed the possibility of the office move over the summer and by August all four counties had voted in favor of the move. A 90-day notice was given to Lorain County Farm Bureau's landlord and the office move was completed on November 30, 2012.

Toll free numbers, which is 1-888-292-6442 for Huron County, have remained in tact and each county Farm Bureau can be reached by email at erie@ofbf.org, huron@ofbf.org or lorain@ofbf.org. The website has also remained the same which is www.northcoastfarmbureau.org. County specific information can be found at this website.

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Farm Bureau Mission Statement

Forging a partnership between farmers and consumers that meets consumers needs, addresses public expectations and ensures agricultural prosperity in a global marketplace.



Productive conversation can be done with

E-A-S-E!

Engage | Acknowledge | Share | Earn trust

Important conversations about how our food is produced are taking place, and farmers need to be a part of those conversations. Understanding what consumers want and allowing them to learn more about food production will build trust and confidence in food, farming and agriculture.

To help farmers and other key stakeholders have productive conversations that build trust and confidence in food, farming and agriculture, the U. S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance—which Ohio Farm Bureau belongs to—has developed the Conversation with EASE (Engage, Acknowledge, Share, Earn trust) program.

Conversation with EASE is not a spokesperson or media training program, but rather a movement specifically designed to help turn today's war of words about food, farming and agriculture into a conversation led by the people who know the subject best—farmers.

Talk is not cheap. Conversation is powerful. It can change opinions, it can enlighten and it can inspire additional conversation. It's one of the most powerful human interactions.



EASE Training scheduled for June 13, 2013

MEMBER BENEFIT MINUTE

Did you know?

Farm Bureau primarily focuses on two goals: Legislative representation for members and promotion of agriculture. We work on issues important to you and strive to keep consumers connected to producers and local farmer's businesses.



Visit local orchards this year and meet the farmer that grows the food you enjoy.

For a listing of local orchards and other markets, visit www.ourohio.org and click on the Buying Local Directory

Huron County Farm Bureau Policy Process

Huron County Farm Bureau annually goes through the policy development process at the county level. They hold several meetings to assess the needs of the county where they determine if the problem is something that affects agriculture. Huron County Farm Bureau met with numerous elected officials on June 21, 2012. Both elected officials and Farm Bureau members were present for the meeting. Great discussion was had and everyone in attendance left a little more informed. This meeting serves as a vital part to the policy development committee.

The committee then takes the information that was presented and formulates proposed policies. The policies are categorized by county, state, and national policies. These policies are sent to the eligible members of the Huron County Farm Bureau prior to the annual meeting to review.

The Ohio Farm Bureau's policy development process is a grassroots process. It starts on the county level in all 88 counties of Ohio and works its way up to the Ohio Farm Bureau and then the American Farm Bureau.

The policies that are passed at the county Farm Bureau annual meeting then become the 'marching orders' for the county Farm Bureau.

Huron County Farm Bureau members adopted the county policies that were voted on at their county annual meeting in September. They are listed below.

LOCAL/COUNTY

1. We request the removal of limited access signage from the U.S. Route 20 bypass thereby allowing farm machinery to avoid the serious safety risks of other routes through and around Norwalk.
2. We support local government and not regional government (ie. township trustees).
3. We support traffic lights and lighting

at the intersection of U.S. Route 250 and U.S. Route 20.

4. We support stiffer penalties for crop and property damage done by four-wheelers. We encourage four-wheeler owners to have written permission to be on property that is not their own.
 5. We do not support unfunded mandates.
 6. We recommend state capital improvement money and grants be divided more equally amongst the Ohio counties and communities.
 7. We continue to support the funding for The Ohio State University Extension.
 8. We support an income tax base for school levies with a reduction in real estate taxes.
 9. We support the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board and oppose animal rights groups such as HSUS, PETA, and MFA.
 10. We support better vegetative control along roadways and encourage earlier mowing in the summer, to especially avoid safety risks of impaired vision at intersections and crossings.
 11. We support keeping the title office and license bureau in the same building (on south side of Norwalk) located in a county owned building.
 12. We encourage all livestock farmers to utilize BMP's (Best Management Practices) for animal waste.
 13. We encourage state and county highway departments and township trustees to pertain to safety at all intersection (in regards to trees and weeds).
- If you feel there is anything that the county Farm Bureau should be working on then contact a member of the board of trustees.

Mark Your Calendars!

February 14 | Membership Check-in

7 p.m. — Elaine Conger's House— Call office for address

February 28 | Membership Check-in

7 p.m. — Ag Credit, Norwalk

March 8 | Family Fun Night with Erie County Farm Bureau

5 - 10 p.m. - Rain Water Park/Cedar Lanes, 1935 Cleveland Rd., Sandusky

March 14 | Membership Check-In

7 p.m. — LynMarie's Coffee on Main, Monroeville

March 18 | Worker's Compensation Safety Meeting

7 p.m. — EHOVE Career Center, Milan

March 21 | Membership Recognition Dinner

6:30 p.m. — Location TBA

For all volunteers who sign one or more member

June 13 | Conservations with EASE Training

7 p.m. — Lorain County JVS

June 20 | Policy Development Meeting with elected

officials 7 p.m. — Place TBA

July 20 | 5th Annual Appreciation Day

3 p.m. to 7 p.m. — Huron County Fairgrounds Veteran's Pavilion, Norwalk

Did You Know that Huron County...

- Ranked 28th in corn production in Ohio in 2011 with an average yield of 156.6 bushels per acre?
- Ranked 23rd in soybean production in Ohio in 2011 with an average yield of 45.8 bushels per acre?
- Ranked 14th in wheat production in Ohio in 2011 with an average of 51.5 bushels per acre?
- Ranked 25th in alfalfa production in Ohio in 2011?
- Ranked 58th in Ohio in the number of cattle & calves in 2011 with over 8,000 head?
- Ranked 24th in Ohio in the number of milk cows, with over 3,400 head in 2011, which produced 70,600 million pounds of milk sold?
- The average farm size in Huron County is 277 acres and there were more than 793 farms in Huron County in 2011.

*Data acquired from the 2011 Annual Report from the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Report can be viewed at www.agri.ohio.gov

Animals for Life Requests for Proposals

The Animals for Life Foundation, which works to educate the public about the value animals bring to human life and the care humans give their animals in return, is now accepting requests for proposals (RFP). Visit <http://aflfoundation.org/grants> for more information on how your organization can apply for funding. Requests for proposals are due by July 1. Community organizations can apply for this money.

Advisory Councils Name Changed to Community Councils

Advisory Councils now have a new name. The name change to Community Councils is symbolic of the reason advisory councils were started: To make a difference in the community by identifying and helping to solve problems. The success of councils is largely based on the fact that group discussion is the method and problem solving is the goal. Councils should have received a workbook, in late January, that outlines several areas of discussion.

Sixth Annual Appreciation Day

Huron County Farm Bureau will sponsor the Sixth Annual Appreciation Day **Saturday, July 20** at the Huron County Fairgrounds Veterans Pavilion. The day will start at 3 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. Bratwursts, burgers, salads, desserts and beverages will be served.

We hope that you will join fellow Farm Bureau members for a good time. Learn about all of Farm Bureau's benefits and how to get the most out of your Farm Bureau membership. A representative from Grainger will also be at the appreciation. Be sure to be there so you can take advantage of the 10% discount on catalog items and free freight. We will also have \$2,500 Reward signs and you can purchase your annual meeting ticket for September

Look for your invitation in the mail closer to the event and be sure to RSVP with the county office.

Huron County Farm Bureau

8460 Ridge Rd.
North Royalton, OH 44133

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**Huron County
Farm Bureau**

**8460 Ridge Rd.
North Royalton, OH
44133**

**Phone: 888-292-6442
E-mail: huron@ofbf.org
www.northcoastfarmbureau.org**

The Huron County Farm Bureau newsletter is distributed to Huron County Farm Bureau members to keep them informed of Farm Bureau issues, events, member benefits and agriculture. With direction from the county board of trustees, the organization supports Ohio farmers and promotes Ohio agriculture.

**SEEKING FARM BUREAU MEMBERS
WITH BUSINESSES**

We are getting ready to prepare our 2013 Erie, Huron, & Lorain County Farm Bureaus Member Benefits brochure. This brochure lists businesses that are Farm Bureau members and offer a discount to fellow Farm Bureau members. The brochure is put together by the Farm Bureau office and is then distributed to the entire membership in the tri-county area. This reaches close to 11,000 people!

You can advertise in the brochure as long as you or your business are a Farm Bureau member, you offer a discount to Farm Bureau members, and your Farm Bureau membership is currently paid or is enclosed with the form below. **You must offer a discount to be included in this brochure.**

Please fill out the form below and mail to the Farm Bureau office, along with your membership dues (if not paid), by March 1, 2013 to be included in the brochure.

Mail to: Huron County Farm Bureau, 8460 Ridge Rd., North Royalton, OH 44133

*If you have already paid your current membership dues, please note that and we will contact you if our records indicate differently.

Cut here -----Cut here

Business Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____

Discount Offered: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Name Which Membership is Under: _____

Executive Board

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Elaine Conger—Greenfield

Vice President:

Jason Nuhfer—Richmond

Secretary:

Heidi Benich—New Haven

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John Brooks—Peru

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