



# THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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## **Chester County celebrates National Agriculture Day on March 21** *Agriculture is the county's top industry, supporting 9,000 jobs*

**WEST CHESTER, PA** \_ On March 21, Chester County – and the nation – will celebrate the 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Agriculture Day. As the county's number one industry, agriculture supports approximately 9,000 jobs\* including on-farm work, suppliers like seed sales and tractor manufacturers, and even local retail and restaurant businesses that are supported by farm workers spending their wages.

“When it comes to Chester County farms, many people think of our top vegetable crop, the mushroom,” said Hillary Krummrich, director of the Chester County Agricultural Development Council. “But we have much more including dairy farms, vineyards, equine operations and field crops to name a few.”

The theme for National Agriculture Day 2017 is “Agriculture: Food for Life.” According to the Chester County Agricultural Development Council, the connection between farming and the food on the table is easy to understand, but local farming means so much more in terms of the strength of our economy.

“When you ask a person to think about what a farming job is, they are likely to imagine a farmer on his tractor in a field,” adds Krummrich. “Although that is an important part of many farm operations here in the county, the wider industry is full of people working in careers as sales and marketing representatives, soil and plant scientists, veterinarians and even financial managers who coordinate lines of credit in banks. There is so much opportunity and potential for growth in agriculture these days.”

Chester County's many agricultural employees are responsible for over 14 percent of Pennsylvania's agricultural production value (over \$5.7 billion), an impressive feat for a region that also hosts a wide range of housing and business development.

For more information about National Ag Day: [www.agday.org](http://www.agday.org)

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\*JobsEQ (2016)

The [Chester County Ag Council](#) raises awareness of the economic impact of the local farming industry and promotes excellence in farming. This outreach assists county farmers market their businesses, helps create an environment to attract new farmers, and informs residents and municipal officials about the importance of local agriculture. We also partner with other organizations to address agricultural issues. For more information, visit us at [www.chesco.org/agdev](http://www.chesco.org/agdev), Facebook and Instagram pages.