

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Somerset County to Celebrate Ag Day on March 19

Residents Can Safely Visit Local Farms in a Virtual Tour

SOMERVILLE, NJ – Join the Somerset County Agriculture Development Board (SCADB) to celebrate National Agricultural Day. Participants can safely tour farms from the comfort of their home while learning the rich history of local agriculture and enjoying a multitude of agricultural-related activities for all ages in an interactive video that will be available at noon **Friday, March 19**.

“Ag Day is a time for all of us to be reminded that agriculture is important to our county’s communities,” said Somerset County Commissioner Melonie Marano, Public Works liaison. “Agriculture is not only about harvesting nutritious food, but it also helps supply material for clothing, medicine and it provides jobs.”

“I encourage residents to check out the Ag Day interactive video,” said Somerset County Commissioner Paul Drake, Agricultural Board liaison. “It’s a great way to explore the world of gardening and horticulture without getting your hands dirty, and it can be very therapeutic by helping to relieve stress.”

Not only will participants have the ability to visit local farms virtually, but the SCADB’s new online tool will allow visitors to locate farmers’ markets via their desktop and cell phone so they will have better access to locally grown fresh produce.

The Somerset County Agricultural Board (SCADB), is sponsored by the Somerset County Board of Commissioners, Somerset County municipalities, and the State Agriculture Development Committee. Since the SCADB’s inception in 1983 over 8,900 acres of farmland in Somerset County have been preserved through the Somerset County Farmland Preservation Program.

The Somerset County Farmland Preservation Program was established in 1983, after the New Jersey Agriculture Retention and Development Act (ARDA) became legislation. The Farmland Preservation Program identifies farmland that is appropriate for preservation, it manages stewardship matters and ensures that the Right to Farm Act is being implemented.

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