

# Wayne County Farm Bureau

Summer 2022



## President's Report



We have all just weathered a two-plus year pandemic and now we're facing some really tough economic times with high gas prices, parts for farm equipment seemingly non-existent and inflation running rampant. It can be difficult to see the brighter side of farming these days. With summer finally

here and crops doing well, our pessimism can tend to reset to a degree, and we regain some of the eternal optimism that defines a farmer. At least that's what I'd like to think.

With all the economic uncertainty going on, you've got to find the bright spots where you can. The New York State 2022-2023 budget agreement is worth mentioning as it had some significant investment in the agriculture industry that benefits all of us. There is funding for critical research, marketing and promotion programs aimed at the state's diverse agriculture commodities. Financial resources to expand the positive record of environmental stewardship. Monies to expand the *Farm to School Program* with increased access for students to locally produced food. The budget also includes tax credits for farms to help balance the rising cost of labor and will also help with workforce retention and investment. Although it doesn't address all the issues we face, it certainly seems like a win for agriculture in New York and an acknowledgment of the hard work that we, as farmers, do every day.

There was positive news at the end of the legislative session in Albany as well. Bill A3954-B/S549-B establishes the New York State Council on Food Policy. This bill will benefit the market of New York agriculture producers by helping to promote and procure locally grown food products for state agencies and facilities. There was also a little bit of luck with bills that did not move forward with a vote. The Neonics

Ban (A7429/S699D) and the Extended Producer Responsibility (S1185C) are two bills I'm sure you're familiar with. These bills may come back again in some way or another in the future, but for now we can be grateful and go about our business of farming without some of these unnecessary restrictions.

The agriculture industry will always face challenges ahead, and there will always be work to do. That's why I'm asking you to continue to e-lobby on the NYFB webpage. Go to NYFB.org and click on the green e-lobby-Take Action! button in the middle of the page. Currently you can add your voice asking the governor to maintain the 60-hour overtime threshold for farm workers. In addition, you can contact the governor and ask her to veto the Class C Streams Waterway Bill (A6652/S4162), which would only add more undue burdens on agriculture.

All of us will continue to work together to address the obstacles placed before us like we always do, united together with determination. For the summer, I hope you're able to relax and celebrate the bright spots we have right here in Wayne County. Above all, have a safe, and enjoyable summer everyone.

**Matt Wunder**, President



## ONTARIO & WAYNE COUNTY FARM BUREAU PICNIC & MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM

Friday, August 19 at 6:00 p.m.  
Ontario County Fairgrounds Carriage Barn  
2820 Co. Rd. 10, Canandaigua, NY

Enjoy the company of your fellow Farm Bureau members for a fun, relaxing and informative night.

The evening will kick off at 6:00 p.m. with a Meet the Candidates forum. Candidates have been invited who are running for the 24<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, 54<sup>th</sup> State Senate District, 130<sup>th</sup>, 131<sup>st</sup> and 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District and Sheriff.

A chicken barbecue dinner will be available for \$10 per person which will include salt potatoes, coleslaw and rolls. Dessert and beverages provided. Reservations required—see below.

We hope to see you there!



### RSVP by August 8

Wayne County members: email [sorbellofarms@gmail.com](mailto:sorbellofarms@gmail.com) or call 315-730-2670  
Ontario County members: email [grefrath@frontiernet.net](mailto:grefrath@frontiernet.net) or call 585-330-4322

## WAYNE COUNTY FARM BUREAU COURTESY INSPECTIONS FOR FARM AND AGRICULTURE PLATED TRUCKS

### AUGUST 2022

Mon., Aug. 15 (Starts at 9 a.m.)

Tues. Aug. 16 (Starts at 8 a.m.)

### LOCATION

K M Davies Co., Inc.  
6509 Lake Avenue, Williamson

### TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

Call the NYFB Regional Office at 1-518-431-5650. If you get the answering machine, please speak slowly and clearly when leaving your name and phone number. We will call you back to schedule an appointment.

NYSDOT is solely responsible for the operation of the program at the inspection sites. There will be no law enforcement personnel present and no tickets will be written.

### COURTESY INSPECTION PROGRAM

According to the NYSDOT, vehicles that have no "out-of-service defects" will be issued a Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance window decal. The decal is valid for three months. During that period, if the vehicle enters a NYSDOT inspection site and there are no obvious safety defects, the vehicle will not be re-inspected. If any out-of-service defects are discovered during the courtesy review, the vehicle must be repaired on site or be towed to a repair facility. The vehicle operator will be provided with a form listing any defects discovered on the vehicle.

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE:** Must have an appointment.



### MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**Wayne County Farm Bureau County Annual Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 29**  
**Young Sommers Winery, 4287 Jersey Rd, Williamson, NY**  
Watch your mail later this summer for further details!

### **GAIN A COMPETITIVE EDGE - JOIN AN NYFB ISSUE COMMITTEE**

New York Farm Bureau recently opened its Issue Committees to all NYFB members. Join an Issue Committee now to receive targeted agricultural industry-specific updates about the latest news and inside scoop on legislation, regulation, and related events. This is your one stop shop to gain valuable insights and information on the issues you care about most!

#### NYFB Issue Committees:

- Dairy Committee
- Labor Committee
- Specialty Crops and Organics Committee
- Farm Beverage Committee
- Cannabis Committee
- Equine Committee
- Livestock and Feed Grains Committee

Advisory members of each committee are appointed by the NYFB Board of Directors annually. To sign up go to the NYFB.org website. Under the Programs tab go to the Issues Committees Tab. **You will need to be logged in as a NYFB member.\***

\*To do so, click on the member login tab and then enter your username and password. If you have forgotten either, click on the links for «forgot username» or «forgot password.» You can also call member support services for assistance at 518-436-8495.

### **NEW YORK FARM BUREAU LAUNCHES NEW PODCAST**



New York Farm Bureau is excited to announce it's new podcast "News Bytes," a weekly podcast that will include the latest

news and information regarding NYFB and agriculture. You can find it in your favorite podcast app, like iTunes, Spotify, or iHeartRadio. Make sure to subscribe and never miss an episode!

In the coming months, we look at issues impacting farmers and long form interviews about food and farming will be available. We also welcome any topic ideas or feedback. Please email us at [communications@nyfb.org](mailto:communications@nyfb.org).

## WAYNE COUNTY FARM BUREAU POLICY DEVELOPMENT MEETING

Monday, September 12 - Begins at 6:30 PM

HELD AT CCE WAYNE COUNTY, 1581 NY-88, NEWARK, NY

One of the most valuable benefits of your Farm Bureau membership is the ability to develop and shape policy for the organization. Our policy, approved each December at the State Annual Meeting, is what all Farm Bureau members and staff use as a guide to act on legislation and regulations that deal with farm business and landowner issues. It all starts with you!

### ***You have an idea about how to improve agriculture:***

- Talk with fellow members
- Attend your county policy meeting
- Submit your idea to the county Policy Development Committee

### ***Your county considers your idea:***

- Provide background information to the committee

- County Policy Development Committee considers your idea and makes a recommendation

### ***Attend your County Annual Meeting to support your idea:***

- County votes on your policy resolution at the annual meeting in the fall
- Local resolutions become county Farm Bureau policy and are submitted to NYFB Resolutions Committee to be considered at the State Annual Meeting in December.

We strongly encourage you to bring your ideas, issues and concerns for consideration. Hope to see you there!

***Light refreshments will be served***

## NEW YORK FARM BUREAU POLICY DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION FORUM 2023

*This forum explores several emerging issues relevant to agriculture in New York and the U.S. Please review these topics and bring this to your county Farm Bureau policy development meeting and County Annual Meeting this summer and fall as a jumping off point for discussion in your county. These issues are only suggestions and unique ideas generated from your county should be an important part of your consideration. These questions are also available on [www.nyfb.org](http://www.nyfb.org) and in the July issues of Grassroots.*

### **STATE TOPICS**

- 1) The Extended Producer Responsibility legislation and an enhanced Bottle Bill will be a major focus of the 2023 Legislative Session. Right now, New York Farm Bureau opposes both. If you had to pick one bill or the other, which one would you pick? Should NYFB continue to oppose both bills even though one may be approved in 2023?
- 2) Who should be responsible for paying for Worker's Compensation insurance for workers secured through a farm labor contractor? The labor contractor or the farm owner?
- 3) Should roads that are utilized by farm equipment and farm vehicles be required to have a certain width that accommodates these vehicles and equipment if reconstructed and if this is not possible, should the plan be required to provide an appropriate alternate route?
- 4) Should the state and/or local municipalities be permitted to give values-based procurement preference and priority to food products that meet certain standards regarding locally produced, labor, nutrition, animal welfare, racial equity, and environmental sustainability? If so, what should the specific criteria be for each standard?
- 5) Should the state recognize USDA's urban area

maps for eligibility requirements for state urban agricultural programs?

- 6) Should the state budget include funding for promotion of local fairs? And should funding be administered by NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets?

### **NATIONAL POLICY TOPICS**

*NYFB members are encouraged to review the federal policy book to determine if any existing federal policies need to be amended or added/deleted to be more reflective of changing agricultural issues. Think about federal issues that have impacted you the most over the past year from USDA programs, labor, commodity prices, crop insurance, specialty crop needs, agrochemical, organic standards, etc., are there policy changes needed to better address these issues. The federal policy book is available online at: <https://www.nyfb.org/advocacy/legislative-affairs/priority-issues>.*

1. "Regenerative agriculture" is being used without a standard nationally recognized definition. Should there be a standardized definition for regenerative agriculture and how should it be defined?
2. What policy updates and changes are needed for discussion for the 2023 Farm Bill?
  - Are the dairy programs (DMC, Dairy-RP, LGM) meeting the needs of dairy farmers?
  - Are the specialty crop programs meeting the needs of specialty crop producers?
  - Are conservation programs (EQIP, CSP, CRP, RCCP) meeting the needs of farmers?
  - Do crop insurance programs and PLC/ ARC programs provide the necessary protections for agricultural commodities?
  - Do USDA programs meet the needs of beginning farmers and socially disadvantaged farmers?



New York Farm Bureau  
159 Wolf Road, Suite 300  
Albany, NY 12205



Wayne County Farm Bureau

**For your  
always  
growing  
side.**



**As a loyal New York Farm Bureau member, you  
may be eligible for a discount on farm insurance.**

Nationwide® is proud to be the  
exclusive insurance provider  
of the New York Farm Bureau  
Member Services, offering  
NYFB members significant  
savings on farm insurance, and  
a full range of insurance and  
financial services.

**TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT YOUR  
LOCAL NATIONWIDE AGENT, OR VISIT  
NATIONWIDE.COM/NYFB**



## **WAYNE COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**WNY OFFICE:** Pam Zwolinski ..... 585-343-3489

Wayne County Farm Bureau Board meetings are held  
the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the  
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County.