

Register online at

<https://www.troopstotractors.org/events-1>

Or mail this form no later than February 20th with your check payable to "PA Friends of Ag" with "PAVFP Conference" in the memo line to:

PAVFP
PO Box 65
Forbes Road PA 15633

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Please PRINT:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Postal
address: _____

__Veteran/served in the military __Active
duty __Guard __Reserve*
__Spouse of one of the above*
__General Public

Tell us about yourself:

Have you farmed less than 10 years?

__Yes __No

__I have a solid business plan

__I'm seeking info on building a business
plan or improving mine.

*Bring proof of service such as DD214, VA
Healthcare VIC, military ID, Homegrown by
Heroes documentation to event.

Per person registration fee includes
light breakfast, lunch, & instructional
materials.

Veterans/Military/Guard/Reserve/their
Spouses: \$15

*Space permitting, registration for the
public will open February 1st: \$25*

Nearest lodging is at Wyndham

Garden State College, minutes
from the Museum. Limited number
of rooms available at the
military/veteran rate, which
includes breakfast. Contact hotel
directly. 814-466-2255

Handicap accessible parking is
available behind the Museum.

**Bring the family and make a
weekend of it.** Boalsburg is
minutes from State College.

2020 PA Veteran Farming Conference

"Growing your Veteran Farm or Agribusiness"

Friday, February 28, 2020

8:30 am to 4 pm

PA Military Museum
Boalsburg, PA

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Funding provided by USDA's Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement

USDA program sessions:

- **NRCS**, Natural Resources Conservation Service, helps farmers with technical and financial incentives to put voluntary conservation practices on the ground, helping the environment and your farm operation. Examples of NRCS programming include: high tunnels, planting cover crops, animal waste management systems, innovative livestock watering devices.
- **FSA**, Farm Service Agency, offers low-interest loans for land and operations to eligible farmers, as well as disaster mitigation help and educational resources.
- **Rural Development** operates over fifty financial assistance programs, including the **Value Added Producer** grant for farm products which change form, as in fruit to jam, or meat to jerky.



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Have you ever thought, "I'll form a 501c3 and the grants will roll in!"?

Plan to attend the session on non-profit farms--pros and cons and legal considerations. Our panel will include a local attorney and leaders from two veteran-owned NPOs.

Agenda

0830--1600

Morning:

Registration, light breakfast

Welcome, Introductions

- FSA Loans, Microloans
- NRCS Technical Assistance, Incentives
- Rural Development, Value Added Producer Grants
- Business Planning for beginning and experienced operators

Lunch

Afternoon:

- Risk Management in Agritourism
- Marketing Case Study with Rhonda Smith/The Skirted Soldier
- Non-Profit Farms: Pragmatic considerations and pros/cons
- Interest group meetings
- Evaluation, next steps for regional workshops

Pennsylvania Military Museum



Conference highlights

Whether you are a farmstead planning to grow into a business, a business seeking growth, or considering establishing a non-profit farm, a viable business plan, is the first requirement to access financing.

Presenters from the Veterans Business Development Office of the SBA and Penn State Small Business Development Center will provide tailored help for attendees at any stage of experience.



Marketing Case Study: join us for the session on the growth of **The Skirted Soldier**, purveyor of custom-blended tea. With veteran proprietor/grower Rhonda Smith and Andrew Trexler of Bedford County Development Council.



Agritourism is a growth opportunity for many veteran farms. But it also entails risks of which you may not be aware. Plan to attend the session on agritourism risk management and make sure all your liability bases are covered.