

SUMMER 2026

EASTERN PANHANDLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Berkeley County

Robert Boarman,
Treasurer

Robert Cloud, Secretary

Carla Kitchen, Supervisor

Jefferson County

Daniel Lutz, Chairperson

Karen Magaha, Supervisor

Morgan County

Adam Cook, Supervisor

Happy
Summer!

IN THIS ISSUE:

Ag Enhancement Programs.....	3
Century Farm.....	5
Septic Programs.....	6
Soil Program.....	7
Equipment Rentals.....	7
Word Search.....	8
Coloring Page.....	9
In Case You Missed It.....	10



PROGRAMS ARE OPEN!

We are pleased to announce that our conservation programs are now open for the new fiscal year!

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis from June 2nd, 2026 through April 3, 2027.

Landowners and producers are encouraged to apply for cost-share assistance on a variety of practices, including lime application, pasture and hay re-seeding, heavy use area protection, invasive species management, urban agriculture, and honeybee nucs.

As you prepare to apply, please note that certain practices, such as lime and re-seeding require soil samples prior to enrollment. Early planning will help ensure a smooth application process.



YAY!



WOOHOO!

AGRICULTURE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HEAVY USE AREA

The stabilization of areas frequently and intensively used by animals and/or vehicles by surfacing with suitable materials. The base shall be either gravel, crushed stone and geotextile to provide the site with a need for increased load bearing strength, drainage, separation of material and soil reinforcement.

Flat rate of \$1.32/SF, Maximum of \$2,000.00

Installation Deadline: May 28, 2027

HAY OR PASTURE RE-SEEDING

Soil test analysis report is required.

Forage re-seeding is the method of re-establishing adapted and/or compatible species, varieties, or cultivators of herbaceous species suitable for hay land

Flat rate of \$65/acre, Maximum of 50 acres

Installation Deadline: May 28, 2027

LIME

Soil test analysis report is required. Applications will not be accepted if there are no maps and soil sampled attached.

Not to exceed 50 acres and/or 150 tons per producer per fiscal year (July to June)

A soil analysis report must be included with your application. If you do not have current soil samples (less than 3 years old), please take your soil samples NOW.

Coast-Share Rate:

- Commercial application: 75% cost share on application : up to \$27/ton
- Self-application: 50% cost share : up to \$27/ton

Installation Deadline: 60 days from the time of approval



INVASIVE SPECIES

Designed to provide landowners with an incentive to control approved invasive species and noxious weeds, improving the health and productivity of pasture and hay lands.

Cost-Share Rates:

- Commercial application: 50% cost share on both application and chemical expenses.
- Self-application: 75% cost share on chemical expenses plus 25% of the chemical bill for labor.
- Total cost-share payment shall not exceed \$500.00.

Installation Deadline: May 28, 2027

**FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT SKY BROWN AT
SBROWN@WVCA.US OR 304-380-6336**

AGRICULTURE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HONEYBEE NUC COLONIES

Pollination practices establish new pollinator habitat, manage/improve existing habitat, and increase healthy pollinator populations.

Cost Share: 75% up to \$300 on 5-frame nucs with new queens. First-year beekeepers are not eligible.

Installation Deadline: May 28, 2027



URBAN & COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

Provide safe, healthy, and green environments for growing fruits and vegetables in a smaller setting. Cost share incentive to assist with the purchase of raised beds, landscape fabric, and more.

Covers the following components:

- Raised bed gardens
- Cold frames
- Low tunnel and/or shade cloth
- Composters
- Soil, Mulch, Compost, Trellis & Stakes
- Landscape Fabric
- Bluebird Boxes
- Irrigation

Cost share: 50% up to \$500

Installation Deadline: May 28, 2027

NUCLEUS COLONY VENDORS

Hive House Apiaries - Jason Murphy

(304) 261-8548 | hivehouse@hotmail.com
Shepherdstown, WV

Sleepy Creek Honey - Nate Caudill

(304) 322- 5522 | nate@sleepycreekhoney.com
Berkeley Springs, WV

Pig Tails Farm & Apiaries - Phil Haines

(301) 991-8293 | phastestphil@aol.com
Falling Waters, WV

Eversweet Apiaries - Jennifer King

(304) 876-3832 | info@eversweetapiaries.com
Kearneysville, WV

WV Honey Bees - Jerry deGroot

(301) 801-2943 | wvbees@wvhoneybees.com
Berkeley Springs, WV

La Belle Vie Apiaries - Beth Ann Shaffer

(304) 886-5989 | mlleshaffer@gmail.com
Falling Water, WV

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT SKY BROWN AT
SBROWN@WVCA.US OR 304-380-6336

WV CENTURY FARM PROGRAM

CENTURY FARM

The West Virginia Century Farm Program is designed to recognize those families who have been farming the same tract of land for at least 100 years. Century Farms, Sesquicentennial Farms and Bicentennial Farms and Sestercentennial Farms will be recognized. A Century Farm is one that has been in continuous operation by the same family for at least 100 years. A Sesquicentennial Farm has been in continuous operation by the same family for at least 150 years. A Bicentennial Farm has been in continuous operation by the same family for at least 200 years, and a Sestercentennial Farm has been in continuous operation by the same family for at least 250 years. A family member must have lived on the farm or must have been an integral part of the day-to-day operation of the farm enterprise. The farm must consist of at least 10 acres of the original holdings and gross more than \$1,000 annually from farm products.



HOW TO REGISTER:

- EPCD Martinsburg Office to get the Application
- At least five current photographs of the farm must accompany the application. Additional photos of buildings and structures are welcomed and encouraged.
- Deed documentation must accompany this application or be witnessed.
- No photographs or materials will be returned to you.
- Owner or family member must ensure validity of the application by completing the signature area.

Ownership Rules:

The same family must have had ownership (title to the land) for a minimum of 100 years to be designated a Century Farm, 150 years to be designated a Sesquicentennial Farm, 200 years to be designated a Bicentennial Farm, or 250 years to be designated a Sestercentennial Farm. Leasing or sharecropping does not qualify for ownership. Line of ownership from the first family member owning the land may be through wives, husbands, children, brothers, sisters, nephews, or nieces.

SEPTIC SYSTEM PUMPING PROGRAMS

JEFFERSON COUNTY WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Residents within Jefferson County can apply for a septic pumping cost share. This reimburses 50% of the cost of pumping your septic system up to \$150.

Applications must be approved before getting pumped.

SLEEPY CREEK 319 SEPTIC COST-SHARE

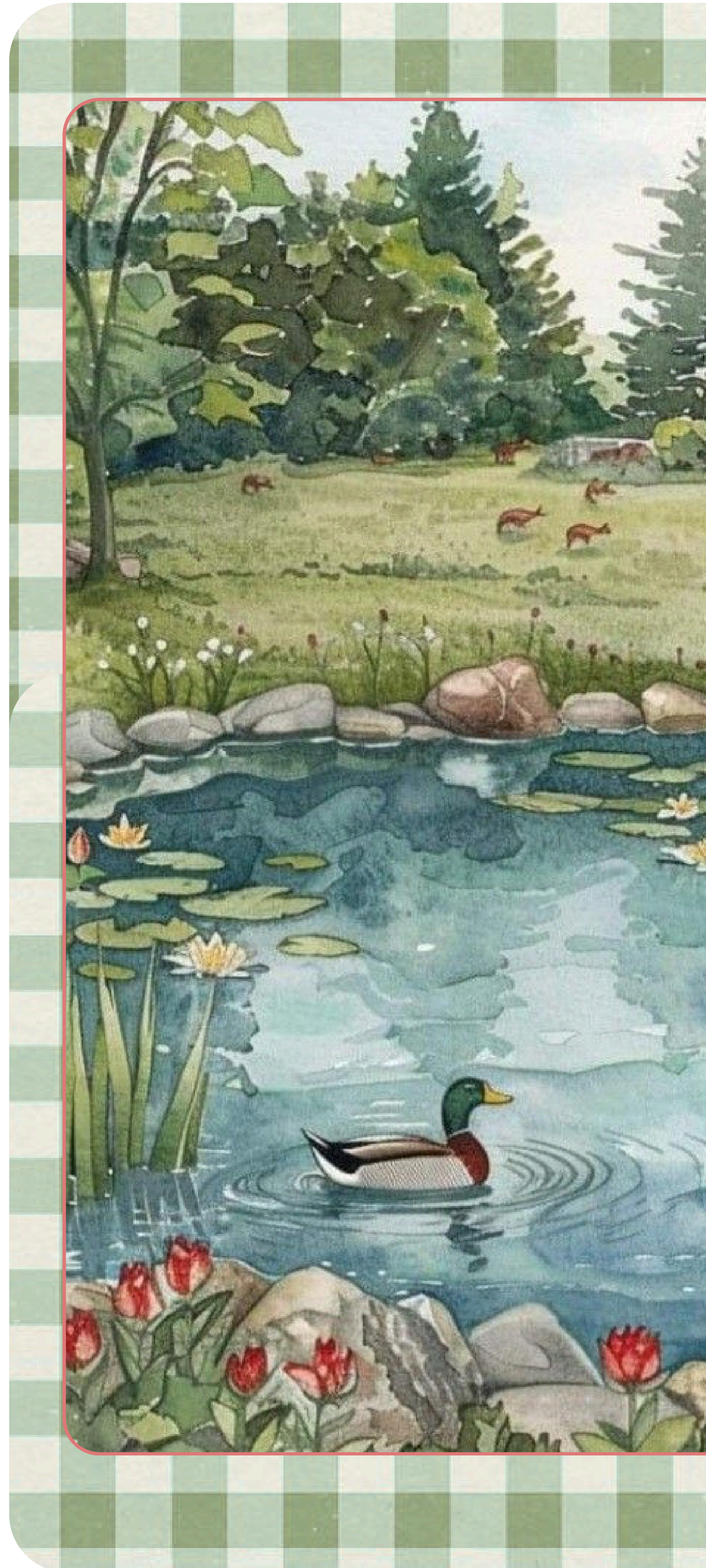
Residents within Sleepy Creek Watershed in Morgan County can apply for a septic pumping / septic repair cost share.

Pumping Reimbursement : 50% cost-share up to \$150.

Repair Reimbursement: 75% cost-share up to \$8,000.

Applications must be approved before getting pumped.

For applications and further questions, contact Sky Brown at (304) 380-6336 or sbrown@wvca.us.



SOIL TESTING PROGRAM

We now offer soil sample kits that include a soil probe, sifters, and collection bags. These kits are available at the Martinsburg Office to rent at no cost; however, renters must sign a contract agreeing to replace any damaged or lost equipment.

For soil sample submissions, we provide two options:

1. **Free Submission** – Samples are sent to the Department of Agriculture office in Moorefield on the third Wednesday of each month.
2. **Expedited Submission** – For a fee of \$3 per bag, samples can be sent to Waypoint for analysis within the week. Does not include a Waypoint \$10 per sample lab fee or cost of additional nutrient tests.

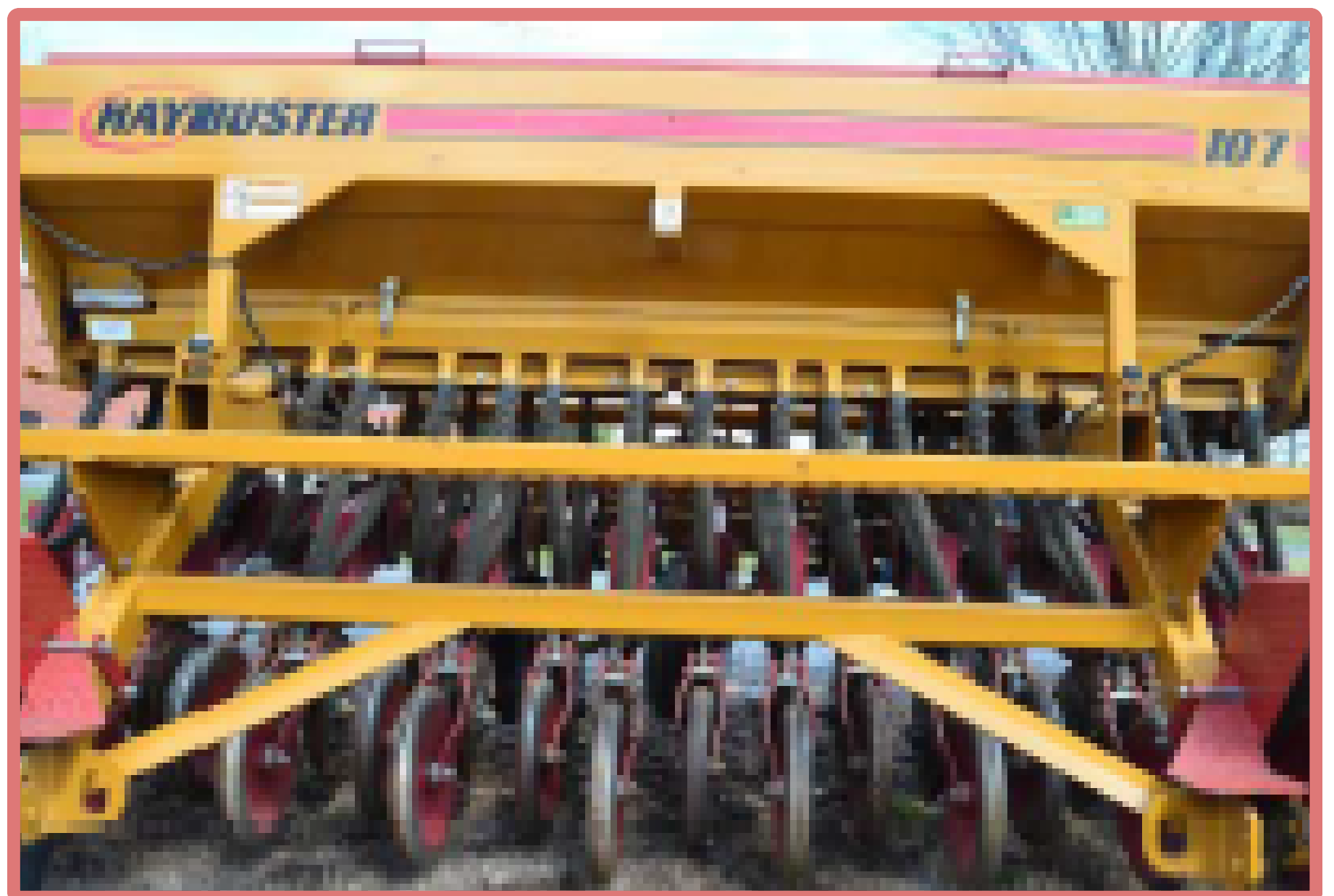
As a reminder, the EPCD Soil Sampling Program is classified for land use as Crop, Pasture, Hay, Orchard, or Vegetable/ Fruit Production ONLY.

Checks are the ONLY accepted form of payment. For more information or to request a soil sample kit, please contact us.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL

There is an \$80 delivery and \$80 pickup fee for all equipment. You must provide your own hitch/pin for pickup. A \$250 fee will occur if returned equipment that have not been greased and cleaned.

Haybuster Model 107
10-foot no-till drill
\$15.00 per acre
\$50.00 per day after 48
hours
Minimum 50 hp tractor



HAPPY SUMMER!

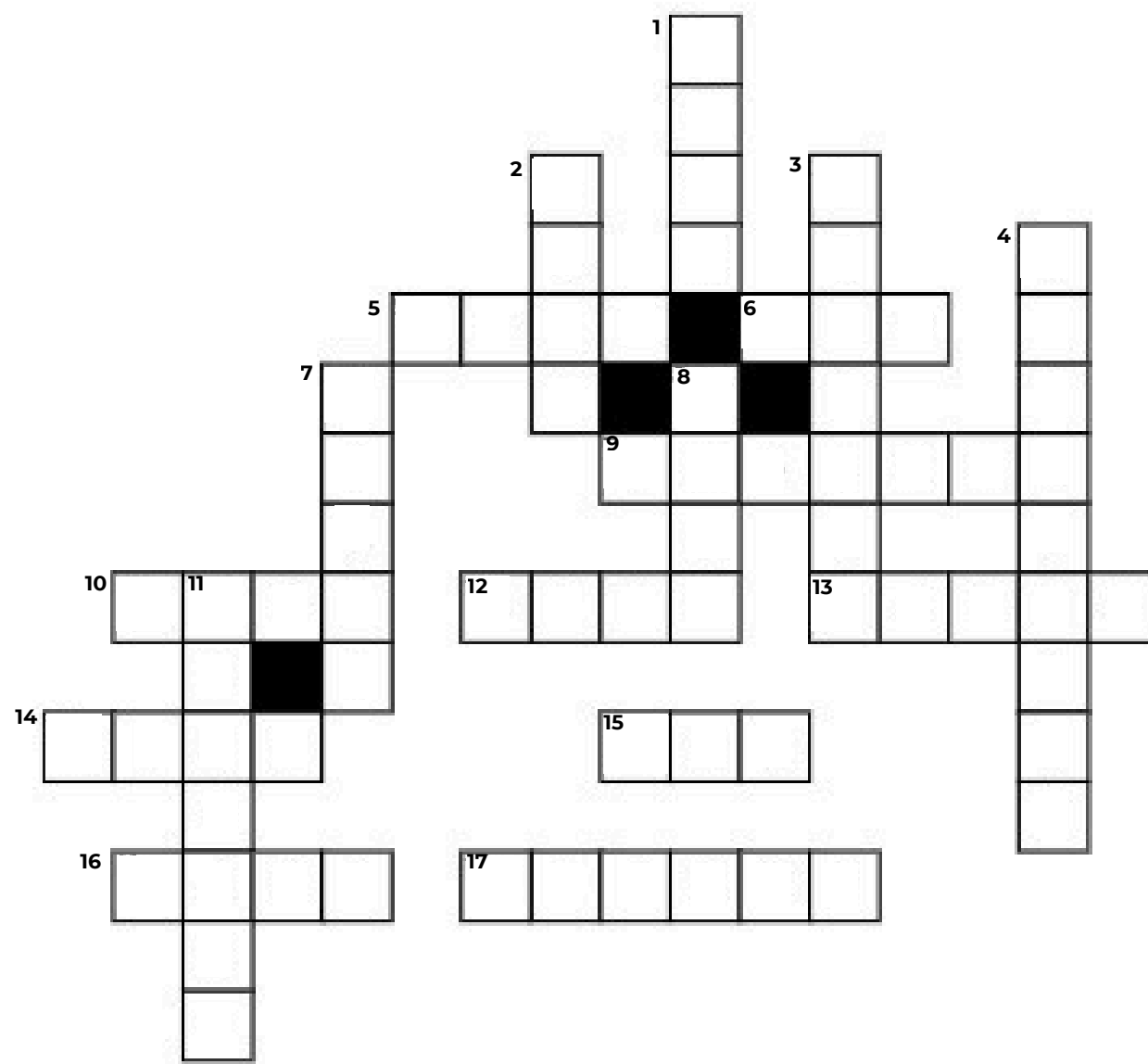
FARMING CROSSWORD

Across

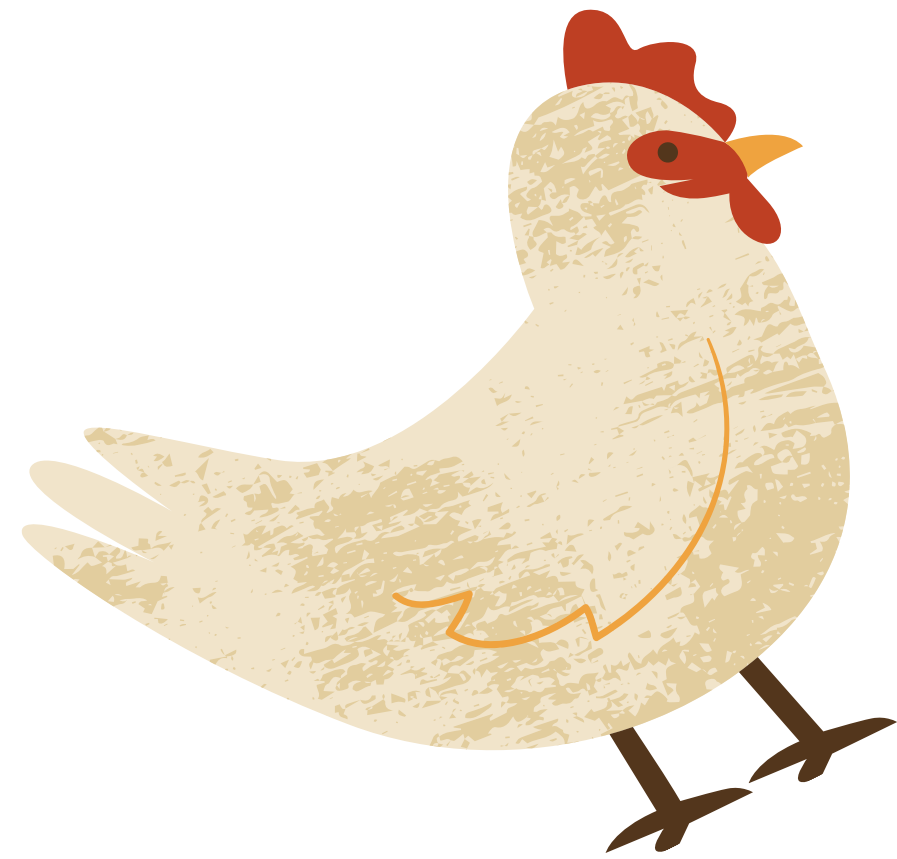
- 5. Offspring of donkey and horse
- 6. tool used for weeding
- 9. where animals graze
- 10. grain that grows on a cob
- 12. 43560 square feet
- 13. a large cattle farm
- 14. your local conservation district
- 15. animal noise a cow makes
- 16. Shelter for farm animals
- 17. thanksgiving poultry

Down

- 1. liquid cows produce
- 2. baby cow



- 3. a male chicken
- 4. oat, rye, clover are types of
- 7. 1 of the 3 sisters
- 8. large, tied up bundle of straw
- 11. where fruit trees grow

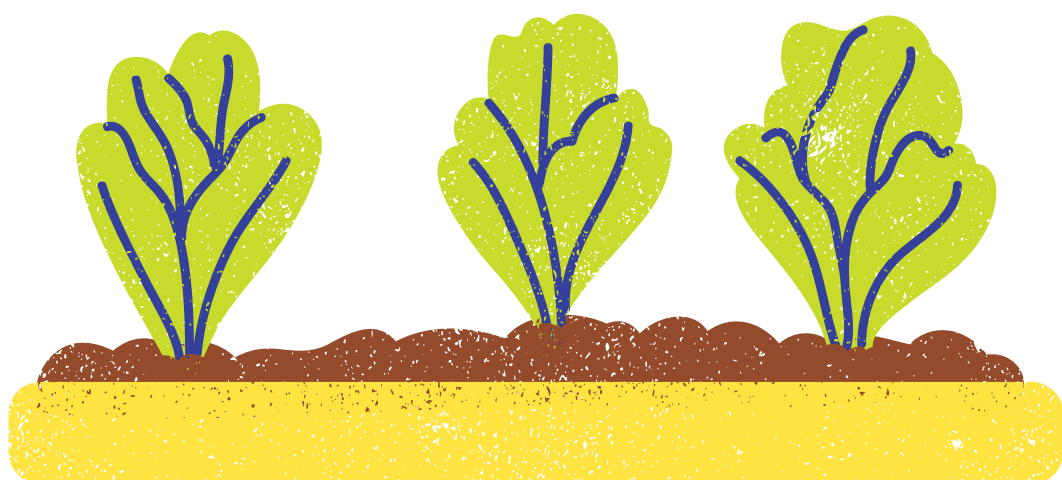


URBAN AG WORD SEARCH

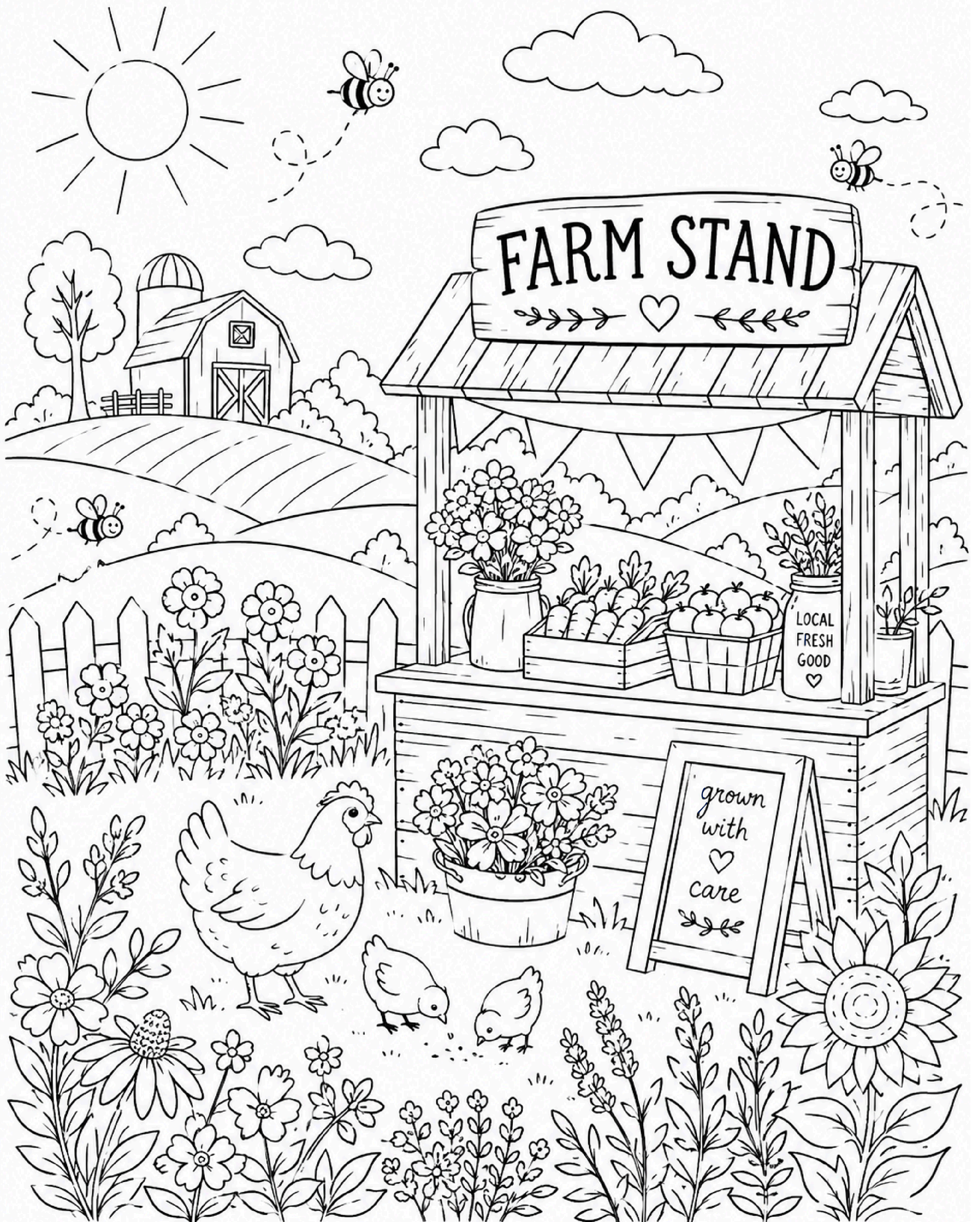


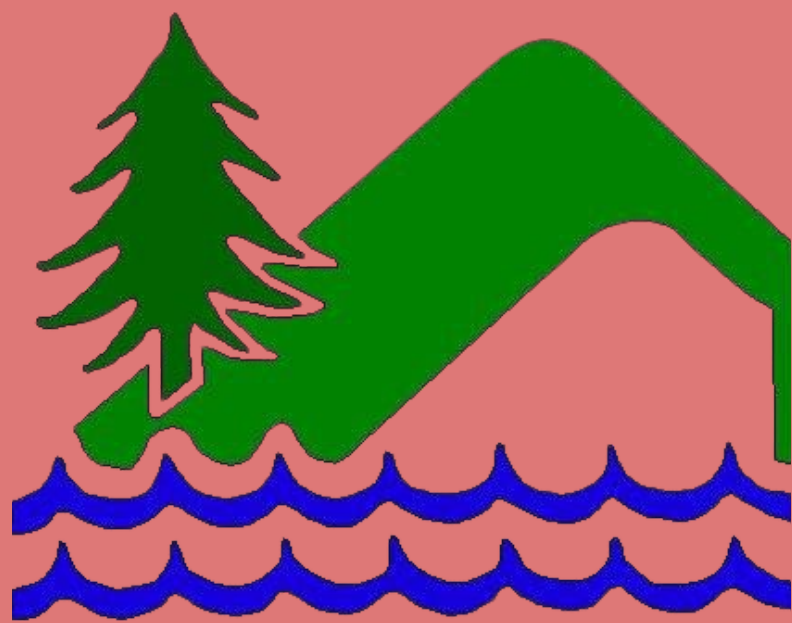
WORD BANK

- birdbox
- community
- farmstand
- flowers
- fresh
- garden
- honeybee
- local
- market
- native
- pollen
- produce
- raisedbeds
- spring
- sunshine



HAPPY SUMMER!





EASTERN PANHANDLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

151 Aikens Center, Suite 2 | Martinsburg, WV
25404

Phone: (304) 263-3010 Fax: (304)263-4986

Email: epcd@wvca.us

Like us on Facebook!

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
Paid
Martinsburg, WV
Permit #03

INFORMATION ENCLOSED:

- AgEP Programs
- Poster and Photo Contest
- Septic System Programs
- Century Farm
- Contact Information

Please visit our webpage at:

www.wvca.us/district/epcd.cfm

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

EPCD TREE SALE

Eastern Panhandle Conservation District will not be holding a tree sale at this time. We are sorry for the inconvenience!

POSTER AND PHOTO CONTEST

ENTRIES DUE JUNE 30TH, 2026

It's time for our annual photo and poster contest! This year's theme for the contest is "Soil. Where it all Begins." Hand Drawn Posters are open to K-12. Digital Poster Contest is open to 7th -12th grade. All posters must include the theme phrase. For the photo contest, photo categories include Conservation Practices, Close-up conservation, Conservation in Action, and Agriculture/Conservation Across America, with each having one youth and adult submission chosen.

For any questions, please contact Sky Brown at sbrown@wvca.us or 304-380-6336

