Speak Up for Agriculture!

Lobby Day

Thursday, March 18th

Legislative Office Building, Hartford
Meet with legislators between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Visit with producers during 'Ag Day' in the Hall of Flags

Come to the State Capitol and urge state leaders to:

- Protect funding for **dairy farmers** and the **Agriculture Viability grants** by opposing any raid on the **Community Investment Act Fund**!
- Support the growth of small farm enterprises and local food options by co-sponsoring **RB 5419 - AN ACT CONCERNING FARMS, FOOD AND JOBS**
- Maintain annual capital bonding commitments of $10 million per year for the **preservation of prime and important farmland**.
- Oppose unreasonable proposals that harm farming operations, including limiting the use of **outdoor wood burning furnaces** by declaring wood smoke a public nuisance and **excessive restrictions on farming near water**.

KEEP AGRICULTURE IN CONNECTICUT!

Participating Organizations:

American Farmland Trust · CitySeed · Connecticut Farm Bureau
Connecticut Northeast Organic Farming Association ·Connecticut Farmland Trust
CT State Grange ·CTMilk.org · Working Lands Alliance · Very Alive

American Farmland Trust
SAVING THE LAND THAT SUSTAINS US

CT FARM BUREAU

NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION
NOFA LOCAL ORGANIC CONNECTICUT
FOOD · FIBER · GARDENING · LAND CARE

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE

CONNECTICUT FARMLAND TRUST
PRESERVING WORKING LANDS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Working Lands Alliance
A Project of American Farmland Trust

CitySeed

VERY ALIVE
Concerned Farmers and Agri-business People
Working Together To Enhance
CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE

Speak Up for Agriculture Lobby Day welcomes all friends of agriculture, including farmers, growers, gardeners, farmers' market managers, chefs, land trusts, and consumers!

Hints for a Successful Speak Up for Agriculture Lobby Day on March 18, 2010

1) Contact your legislators in advance to make appointments. That's the best way to insure that you will get to speak to them in person. If you don't have an appointment, you can stop by offices and leave a note with your name and a message. To find phone numbers and other details, go to www.votesmart.org.

2) Let a staff person in one of the participating organizations know you are coming. We can send you speaking points before the event and can answer questions before you meet with legislators. You should only talk to legislators about those issues that you feel comfortable discussing and/or feel strongly about. Visit with agriculture organizations and their display tables in the Hall of Flags during 'Ag Day at the Capitol' between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

3) Getting there:

East on I-84: Take Exit 48B. The Legislative Office Building (LOB) on the right (Capitol is on the left). Make a right off the ramp onto Capitol Ave and another immediate right to go to the LOB.

West on I-84: Take Exit 48. Turn left at light onto Asylum, bear right onto Trinity St., bear right onto Capitol Ave, go 1block

From I-91: Take Exit 29A.Go halfway around rotary onto Elm St, left on Trinity St., bear right onto Capitol Ave, go 1 block

Free parking is usually available in the LOB parking garage but if it's full, on-street metered parking and commercial parking lots are also nearby.