



Pennsylvania
Association for
Sustainable Agriculture

Native Bees & Plastic Tube Habitat



By Tony Buck
Chester County Penn State Master Gardener

An informal experiment conducted by Chester County, Penn State Master Gardener, Tony Buck. I had read that native bees, especially Mason Bees, do not nest in plastic tubes. However, due to my day job of fixing houses, I once observed them nesting in an electrical outlet, so I knew they were adaptable...

[Read more...](#)

Upcoming PASA Events

Regional Membership Meetings: Open to All!

Western	Thursday, Oct 26, 5-7pm	Chatham Univ.	Allegheny Co.
*New this year! Virtual Meeting	Monday, October 30, 7-8pm	Online or Call-in	

Join us at our final Regional Annual Membership meeting to learn more about PASA's work over the last year and where we're headed next year.

Our annual meetings are also a great way to meet PASA folks in your area.

All are welcome, but a head count will be necessary for dinner. Please [click here](#) or call PASA at (814) 349-9856 to RSVP.



You can check out the [2017 Annual Report here](#) that we'll be talking about at our Regional Meetings.

Preparing for the Maple Syrup Season

Sat, Nov 4

Chatham University, Eden Hall Campus
Gibsonia, PA (Allegheny Co.)

The key to a successful maple syrup

season is preparation. With sap flows varying widely from year-to-year, it is essential that you are ready to collect sap on short notice. Join PASA and Chatham University's Tony Miga to learn about setting yourself up for maple syrup success in the coming months.

Topics discussed will include: Collection systems and equipment, proper sanitation, and preparing your sugar bush and sugar shack for the season ahead.

For more information and to register, click [here](#).



In Other PASA News

\$100 Gift Card for Central & Western PA Farmers

Finance Survey

Complete within 3 days

Temple University's Fox Business School is teaming up with PASA on a project for Central and Western PA farmers. The students have created a brief survey about financing and farming and we ask you to please take a few moments to fill out the survey.

The confidential survey should take 2-5 minutes to complete. For an incentive to take the survey within the next three days, you can be entered into a drawing for a \$100 VISA gift card.



Please [click on the link to complete a short survey regarding Central and Western PA Farming](#).

Quick Survey on the State of Meat Processing in PA

Livestock Producers Invited to Participate - Win \$250

Calling all pastured livestock producers!

If you raise livestock, and use a federally inspected (USDA) processor, PASA invites you to help us study the state of meat processing in the state of Pennsylvania. We are interested in how many animals you raise annually, your satisfaction with processing, and your ability to work with your processor. PASA

worked with some of our own livestock producers to figure out what questions would help shed light on some common issues producers may have, and what services are missing from our existing processing infrastructure. The survey takes less than 20 minutes to complete, and enters the participant in a chance to **win one of two \$250 gift cards to Agri-Dynamics**. This information is very important to us, and we appreciate your time invested in the survey!



[Click here to take the quick survey.](#)

Scranton Public Market Seeking Produce Vendor

Check out the plans for the new Scranton Public Market, a permanent fixture in downtown Scranton. The market is currently seeking produce vendors.

Those interested should contact [Patrick McHugh](#).

[Click here to learn more.](#)



NE Cover Crop Council Meeting - Registration Now Open

Big Flats Plant Materials Center
Corning, NY
Wed, Nov 8

Registration is now open for the 1st annual Northeast Cover Crops Council meeting.

Please join us for talks, farmer panels, a poster session and social, and field demonstrations.

This meeting will be a great opportunity to learn about cover crop advances and network with cover crop experts from throughout the Northeast.

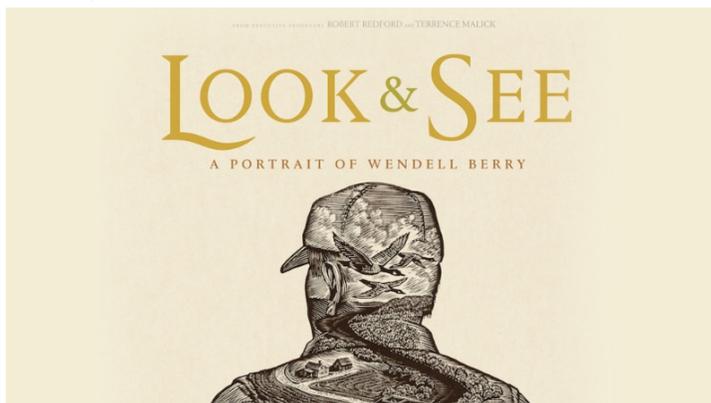


[Click here for more details and to register.](#)

Wendell Berry's Film Screening- Free

The State Theatre
State College (Centre Co)
Wed, Nov 1 at 7pm

The award-winning Sundance documentary LOOK & SEE, a powerful cinematic portrait of Wendell Berry-farmer, activist, and undoubtedly one of America's most significant living writers will be screened on November 1st at 7pm. Tickets are FREE to the public. Following the film will be a panel discussion.



To RSVP for this free event, [click here](#).

PA Pollinator Protection Plan (P4)

Seeking Input

Public comment period ends
Dec 15, 2017

Farmers, gardeners and other Pennsylvanians concerned about the health of pollinators given their critically important role growing and producing food now have the chance to comment on a draft of the state's [proposed Pollinator Protection Plan](#). The plan, developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and Center for Pollinator Research at Penn State University is designed to protect bees and other insects that pollinate nearly 75 percent of the commonwealth's food crops.



The plan was developed with input from 36 individuals representing 28 state and national organizations and stakeholder groups.

PASAResearch Featured at Organic Soil Health Symposium

**Tune into Live Broadcast
Wed, Oct 25, 9:30am**

Next week, agricultural scientists from across the country and around the world will be gathering at the annual American Society for Agronomy meetings, in Tampa Bay, Florida. Soil health is a major focus of the conference, and the Organic Farming Research Foundation has organized a special symposium on soil health in organic farming systems.



PASA's education director, Dr. Franklin Egan, will be sharing insights from our [Soil Health Benchmark Study](#). This is a great opportunity to share the innovations of PASA farmers on a national stage and to contribute our data to advance soil health research. The symposium will be live broadcast as a webinar, and will also be made available through the eOrganic YouTube channel. [Click here to register for the webinar.](#)

Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture
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