

PENNSTATE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



Economic and Community Development Resources

2006–2007

*Grow Quality of Life in
Your Community*

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INTRODUCTION

Our economic and community development programs focus on the context in which twelve million Pennsylvanians live, work, farm, and play, helping to create vibrant and productive communities and citizens. We work to make Pennsylvania stronger from the local level on up by building leadership, increasing citizen participation, improving decision making, and nurturing local entrepreneurship.

Our educational programs generally fall within four core thematic areas, which cut across the variety of subject matter programs and materials described in this catalog:

1. Place-Based Economic Development—creating jobs and sustaining local economics by building upon each community’s existing advantages
2. Community-Based Agricultural Development—connecting farming with the general community and economic development efforts
3. Expanding Local Leadership—teaching emerging and existing leaders the wide range of skills necessary to build Pennsylvania’s future
4. Enhancing Community Decision Making—creating ways for citizens to work together with objective information, ensuring decisions reflect the varied interests in the community

If you would like information about the programs or tools in this catalog, contact your county Penn State Cooperative Extension office or the subject matter contact person listed. Copies of selected materials are available on the Web at <http://economicdevelopment.psu.edu/> or from the Publications Distribution Center, The Pennsylvania State University, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park PA 16802. For information, telephone 814-865-6713.

As one of the nation’s land-grant colleges and universities, Penn State has a special mission in addition to research and classroom teaching. That mission is extension. In every Pennsylvania community, Penn State Cooperative Extension provides informal education with direct relevance to people’s daily lives. We share university-based research and expertise to help people, communities, businesses, and governments solve their problems and reach their potential.

Courses/Workshops

Access eBusiness

Access eBusiness connects small- to medium-sized businesses to the Internet, electronic commerce, and global trade. The program teaches Pennsylvania business people about the potential for electronic commerce to dramatically increase access to resources and to expand their available markets. The 12-hour eBusiness for Small Business course is taught in an easy-to-understand format in an informal classroom setting. A substantial portion of the course consists of hands-on exploration of the Internet.

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu

<http://www.ebusiness.extension.psu.edu/>

Small Home-Based Business Development

A small business curriculum specifically developed to enable start-up and home-based entrepreneurs to explore the ability to achieve self-sufficiency through self-employment. Materials are available in Spanish and English and are appropriate for general audience, limited-resource clients, or farm families that wish to diversify their source of income. The 15 sessions cover what it takes to be a successful entrepreneur: how to develop and test your business concept; how to select the best business entry option; how to organize and manage your business; how to research and market your business; how to understand and get your finances in order; how and where to get funding for your business; how to determine the feasibility of your business concept; and how to network with other entrepreneurs.

Contact: Winifred McGee, 717-270-4391, wwm1@psu.edu

<http://www.nxlevel.org/>

(Curriculum—microentrepreneurs)

Tilling the Soil of Opportunity

This course for agricultural entrepreneurs is aimed at individuals who have started or are thinking about starting an agricultural-based venture that is not tied to large-scale, commodity-style production. The materials are specifically designed for the individual searching for innovative ideas and enhanced marketing opportunities in the area of agriculture. This 10-session course is often delivered over a 12-week period.

Contact: Winifred McGee, 717-270-4391, wwm1@psu.edu

<http://www.nxlevel.org/>

(Curriculum—alternative agriculture)

COMMUNITY-BASED AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Courses/Workshops

Edible Connections

In today's fast-food society, many people don't understand the complexity of the food system and what it takes to sustain a local agricultural sector. They know little about the foods they consume. At the same time, opportunities to have firsthand experiences growing and preparing food are decreasing. Edible Connections is a program that offers strategies for becoming more involved in the local food system and creating opportunities for dialogue about food system issues.

Contact: Joan Thomson, 814-863-3825, jthomson@psu.edu

Expanding the Market for Local Foods

This program helps link together farmers, local grocery stores, schools, and restaurants, opening up additional marketing options for farmers and creating additional opportunities for community residents to buy locally grown fresh, wholesome food. It also increases the food dollars that remain in the community.

Contact: Rose Marie Kendall, 724-465-3880, rmk17@psu.edu

Tools/Analysis

Future of Agriculture in Your Community

The Future of Agriculture in Your Community is a program to help people respond to the challenges facing agriculture in their community. It helps the community identify the concerns and barriers to survival and growth facing local farms and then develop and implement a community-based plan for sustaining farms and farming in the county, with the ultimate goal of sustaining a healthy local farm economy and creating an improved business climate in the county.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/futureofag/>

Written Materials

What Is the Future of Agriculture in Your Community?

Provides an overview of the Future of Agriculture in Your Community program, with particular focus on implementation. Extension publication. 2003.



CONFLICT AT THE RURAL/URBAN INTERFACE

Courses/Workshops

Good Neighbor Relations: Getting Along with Nonfarm Neighbors

Workshop for farmers on strategies for coexisting with nonfarming neighbors.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

Written Materials

Agricultural Uses: Legal Issues Regarding Nuisances and Right to Farm Laws

Ownership of property enables landowners to select from among a variety of uses of the land they own. A variety of government laws and regulations affect how owners approach their responsibility to others who may be affected by their actions. In this publication a variety of laws that affect an owner's land use choices are discussed, including the common law concept of nuisance and emergence of protective measures that provide immunity from suit for certain actions.

Contact: John Becker, 814-863-0575, jcb1@psu.edu

Questions and Answers about the "ACRE" Program (Act 38 of 2005, House Bill 1646)

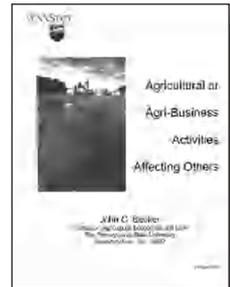
Provides an overview of the key provisions of this new law, which is intended to coordinate existing laws and regulations affecting agriculture. 2005.

Contact: Charles Abdalla, 814-865-2562, cabdalla@psu.edu

Agricultural or Agri-Business Activities Affecting Others

Provides information about Pennsylvania's Right to Farm law and how it may apply in different situations. 2005.

Contact: John Becker, 814-863-0575, jcb1@psu.edu



Community Conflicts over Agriculture, Land Uses, and Natural Resources: Finding the Common Ground

Describes a collaborative, community-oriented approach to resolving conflicts, the steps needed to implement this approach, and alternative roles for local leaders and citizens to play in resolving rural-urban conflict. Extension publication. 1996.



Country Living: A Homeowner's Guide

This guide covers the basics of rural water supply and wastewater disposal for individual homes and briefly describes township authorities and services. Describes how Pennsylvania's countryside is changing and suggests ways for rural residents to coexist with farming neighbors. Extension publication. 1997.





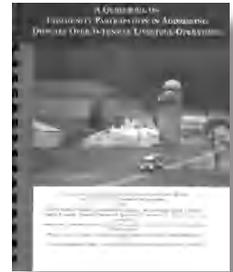
Good Neighbor Relations: Advice and Tips from Other Farmers

Farmers give advice to other farmers on how to coexist with nonfarming neighbors. Extension publication. 1996.

A Guidebook on Community Participation in Addressing Disputes over Intensive Livestock Operations

Describes five procedures that community leaders can use to enhance dialogue and increase the potential for resolving disputes over intensive livestock operations. It describes the legal setting for existing and proposed operations and provides contacts for obtaining dispute resolution and public participation services and resources. Coproduced with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. 2000.

Contact: Charles Abdalla, 814-865-2562, cabdalla@psu.edu



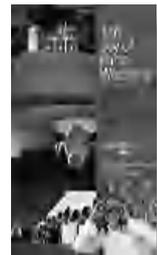
Interaction between the Agricultural Security Area Law and the "Right to Farm" Law Revisited

In this 2003 edition of the fact sheet, the protective provisions of the Agricultural Security Area Law and the Protection of Agricultural Operations from Nuisance Suits, commonly called the "Right to Farm" law, are discussed and analyzed. Special attention is given to explaining these laws in light of the role they play in describing local land use planning authority under the recently amended Municipalities Planning Code.

Contact: John Becker, 814-863-0575, jcb1@psu.edu

The Joy of Farm Watching: A Roadside Guide to Pennsylvania Agriculture

A slightly quirky guide that helps nonfarmers better understand the farms and farming activities they may observe in their own communities. The guide is organized similar to a bird-watching guide, with ample photographs and brief descriptions of common types of farms and farm operations, crops, machinery and equipment, and farm animals. Extension publication. 2006.



Understanding Your Community's Agriculture

Overview of what rural residents should know and expect from their neighboring farms. Some local governments hand this out to new residents. Extension publication. 1997.

Courses/Workshops

Access eBusiness

See “Business Development and Skills” section.

Access eGovernment

Three related programs helping local governments learn how to plan information-rich Web sites to transact business and communicate with their citizens and how to find the resources to design and maintain their Web sites. A complete description is in the “Government” section of this catalog.

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu

<http://www.egov.psu.edu/>

Access eNonprofit

Access eNonprofit is designed to help small- and medium-sized nonprofit organizations develop information-rich Web sites to serve clients and members, communicate with members, and promote their activities. The course is taught in an easy-to-understand format in an informal classroom setting. A substantial portion of the course consists of hands-on exploration of the Internet.

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu

<http://www.enonprofit.psu.edu/>

Community Networks

A Community Network initiative is a process that helps communities by engaging a broad group of stakeholders to leverage existing community resources in a way that allows all organizations and citizens to have access to tools of the information age. A Community Network has three components: (1) a Web site that is a virtual image of the community, containing information about and from every private and public organization in the community; (2) a community center that provides free access to the computers, the Internet, and the software; and (3) free training on the technology provided by community volunteers. Current Community Network projects include Potter County, Susquehanna County, Bloomsburg (Columbia County), Kane Borough (McKean County), and Steelton Borough (Dauphin County).

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu

Written Materials

Community Networks Project Fact Sheets

These fact sheets provide an overview of the Community Network process and components. The workshops are designed for use in initiating and sustaining local Community Network projects. Extension publications. 2003.

1. Introduction
2. Education Component
3. Community Center
4. Community Web Site
5. Broadband Demand Aggregation



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

Courses/Workshops

Rural Health Works: Estimating the Impact of the Health Care Sector on the Local Economy

The health care sector is an important component of an economically healthy rural community. Rural Health Works is a national program demonstrating how the health care sector impacts the local economy. This free training program has been successfully implemented in more than 40 states across the nation.

Contact: Lisa Davis, 814-863-8214, lad3@psu.edu

<http://rhw.aers.psu.edu/>

Tools/Analysis

Community and Economic Development Toolbox

The “toolbox” provides accessible tools to local community and economic development (CED) practitioners, such as community leaders, newly elected officials, extension educators, and community technical assistance providers. The toolbox can assist you in working through the community development process and may help you understand CED issues. By analyzing existing situations and learning about alternatives, communities can create a new future with an improved quality of life for themselves. Topic areas include agriculture economic development, community planning, economic development, and mainstreet and downtown revitalization.

<http://www.cdtoolbox.net/>

Written Materials

Road to 2005: Update on Pennsylvania



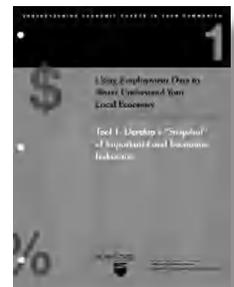
This publication develops a picture of employment changes for the state and counties, using maps, graphs, and tables. Data are presented by both broad and detailed industry sectors for the most recent two-year period and averages for a longer period. Particular attention is given to top growing and declining industries. First published in 1986, it is developed annually in cooperation with Verizon and the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association. Current and recent reports are available online.

<http://cecd.aers.psu.edu/>

Using Employment Data to Better Understand Your Local Economy

This series of eight publications provides a family of tools that can help you better understand your local economy. The tools offer simple techniques for analyzing, presenting, and interpreting readily available data. This information can then be used to identify and enhance local economic development opportunities.

<http://cecd.aers.psu.edu/>



Courses/Workshops

Access eGovernment

Three related programs helping local governments learn how to plan information-rich Web sites to transact business and communicate with their citizens and how to find the resources to design and maintain their Web sites.

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu
<http://www.egov.psu.edu/>

- Introduction to eGovernment: Brief (one-hour) overview of eGovernment and its benefit for citizens, communities, local officials, and county and municipal officials.
- Hands-On eGovernment Tour: A 3 to 4-hour hands-on training session providing local officials with an in-depth understanding of eGovernment, its benefits, and its possibilities. The session includes exploration of eGovernment sites so participants can better understand the possibilities and small-group consideration (with others from the same local government) of its usefulness for participants' own jurisdictions.
- County- and Municipal-Level eGovernment Implementation: Design, creation, and implementation of an eGovernment site in a specific county. This is a months-long process of planning, design, and implementation, under the leadership of the county government and Penn State Cooperative Extension. Municipalities in the county are invited and encouraged to engage in the process to develop municipal eGovernment sites.

Written Materials

An Introduction to County Government

Overview of county government functions and roles of county officials. Extension publication. 1998.



Videos

24 Hours in County Government

Demonstrates the breadth of activities county governments are involved with. For youth and adult audiences. Time: 18:25 minutes. 1995.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu.

Pennsylvania Spirit Alive in Boroughs

What borough governments do, how they function, and how they have overcome several challenges facing boroughs in Pennsylvania. Time: 39:05 minutes. 1997.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

Strong Traditions for Today and Tomorrow

The history of county government in Pennsylvania, highlighting how its roles and functions have changed over the centuries. Time: 11 minutes. 1999.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

Courses/Workshops

Demographic Change in Your Community

This one- to two-hour program uses current data (2000 U.S. Census, 2000 health statistics, 2002 Census of Agriculture, and other recent data sources) and offers a profile of demographic, health, economic, and agricultural trends that have occurred in your community, county, or region. Includes a presentation tailored to the specific region or county of interest combined with an overview of Web resources and how to utilize them in your programming. This program is intended to help extension agents, program providers, and others to assess local needs, inform program content, and target program efforts.

Contact: Tasha Snyder, 814-865-6223, snyder@pop.psu.edu

GIS Fundamentals for Local Government Officials Workshop (4 hours)

The participants of this workshop will obtain a basic understanding of spatial data characteristics, GIS functionality, and potential application areas. The standard analytical capabilities of a GIS are illustrated and discussed using various databases. The course closes with a summary of organizational issues to be considered for the successful implementation of a GIS and is geared toward elected officials and municipal managers.

Contact: Stewart Bruce, 814-863-7609, stew@psu.edu

Introduction to ArcGIS 9.1 Desktop (2 days)

This beginners' workshop in ArcGIS 9.1 Desktop is designed for those with little GIS experience, or experience in the older ArcView 3.x work environment. The importance of projections, projection definitions, and x y domains will be discussed as well as the benefits of the new on-the-fly reprojection capability of ArcGIS. A short exercise on map production will familiarize the user with the newly enhanced map production capabilities. The various newly improved tools for spatial analysis and geoprocessing will be explored so the user will be able to formulate complicated spatial queries to seek answers to detailed research questions.

Contact: Stewart Bruce, 814-863-7609, stew@psu.edu

Intermediate ArcGIS 9.1 Desktop

Previous working experience with at least ArcGIS 8.x is required for this workshop. This hands-on course encompasses more advanced ArcView functions. Attendees will create and design a personal geodatabase with multiple feature classes and feature datasets with attribute domains and defined projections including x y domains. Exercises will include learning how to create hyperlinks to other documents such as images and Word documents, and an introduction to some of the new labeling and annotation methods will also be included. Attendees will also receive training in the new digitizing methodologies introduced in ArcGIS as well as instruction on georeferencing and spatial adjustment tools that are now available.

Contact: Stewart Bruce, 814-863-7609, stew@psu.edu

Tools/Analysis

Pennsylvania County Economic and Demographic Profiles

This Web-based program provides detailed information on key economic and demographic indicators (such as employment, income, and population) over time. The program helps facilitate an understanding of recent economic and population trends at the local level. Profiles can be customized to a county's economy or the user's interests in specific industries.

Contact: Tasha Snyder, 814-865-6223, snyder@pop.psu.edu

<http://fipa.aers.psu.edu/>

Families in Pennsylvania

Employing data from the 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census, the following Web site includes a link to informational maps of every Pennsylvania county and rural school district. These maps describe family poverty, educational attainment, median family and household income, population change, and the utilization of the free and reduced-priced school lunch program. Extension educators and others can use this information when conducting needs assessment, targeting specific programs, or for grant-writing purposes.

Contact: Tasha Snyder, 814-865-6223, snyder@pop.psu.edu

<http://fipa.aers.psu.edu/>

Using Employment Data to Better Understand Your Local Economy

A series of workbooks that offers simple techniques for analyzing, presenting, and interpreting readily available information about your community. See the "Economic Development and Analysis" section for more information.

Courses/Workshops

Costs and Revenues of Residential Development

Workshop on how residential development affects local governments and school districts. Can include instruction on how to conduct a basic fiscal impact analysis of a proposed residential development.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

Fiscal Impacts of Different Land Uses

Workshop on how the types of land uses in your community make a difference for the revenues and services your local government and school district provide.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

Community Planning Educational Program: Middle to High School Target Audience

This program focuses on what makes a community and the factors involved in a community's formation, characteristics, and future. The educational material is presented through verbal instruction as well as hands-on activities. Subject categories include governmental structure, land use, comprehensive planning, community development tools, and impacts of individual and community decisions.

Contact: Neal Fogle, 570-275-3731, nef3@psu.edu

Land Use Planning Education

(With the PA Municipal Planning Education Institute, which is a partnership of Penn State Cooperative Extension and the Pennsylvania Planning Association)

These are three-session, in-depth courses for planning commissioners, zoning officials, elected officials, and others involved in community planning and development. All are hands-on courses with discussion, problem solving, and local plan and ordinance review.

- **Basic Course for Planning Commissioners**
Presents a thorough review of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code and how it structures planning in the Commonwealth. The role and responsibilities of planning commissions—and techniques for how they can be effective in local government—are examined.
- **Basic Course in Subdivision and Land Development Review**
This course examines in detail the principles of subdivision and land development regulations, application review procedures, and design and technical requirements in subdivision development. Hands-on work is included to enhance review skills.
- **Basic Course for Zoning Officials**
Intended specifically for zoning hearing board members and zoning officials, this course explains the responsibilities in zoning administration of the hearing zoning terms are clarified, and proper hearing procedures are detailed to ensure fair hearings are conducted. A mock zoning hearing is held to practice proper hearing procedures.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/pmpei/>

Tools/Analysis

Calculating a Cost of Community Services Ratio for Your Pennsylvania Community

Workbook for conducting a study of the public costs and revenues of different land uses in your own municipality. Extension publication. 1998.

Costs and Revenues of Residential Development: A Workbook for Local Officials and Citizens

Hands-on workbook for estimating the fiscal impacts of a residential development in your own municipality. Includes a Web site with most of the data required and an interactive online workbook. Extension publication. 2000.

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/residentialimpact/>

Future of Agriculture in Your Community

A program to help people respond to the challenges facing agriculture in their communities by developing and implementing a community-based plan for sustaining farms and farming in the county. See the “Economic Development and Analysis” section for more information.

Plan-O-Scope!

Want an expert opinion about the state of your community’s land use planning and regulation? Just answer a few brief questions, sit back in your Barcalounger, and through the miracle of Modern Science the Plan-O-Scope will do its thing. It’s a fun (and somewhat irreverent) way to get expert advice on how to improve land use planning in your own community.

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/planning/planoscope.htm>

Written Materials

Act 319—Use Value Assessment under Pennsylvania’s “Clean and Green Act,” 2001

An overview of Pennsylvania’s “Clean and Green” program, which reduces real property taxes for eligible landowners. The publication also addresses principal questions about the program.

Contact: John Becker, 814-863-0575, jcb1@psu.edu



Fiscal Impacts of Different Land Uses

The types of land uses in your community make a difference for the revenues and services provided by your local government and school district. This bulletin presents the results from studies in 11 Pennsylvania townships, showing how land uses matter. Extension publication. 2005.



Land Use Planning in Pennsylvania Series

The Land Use Planning in Pennsylvania series is intended to help you better understand the current state of planning and land use regulation in Pennsylvania, and is based upon a comprehensive study of municipal and county planning and land use regulations conducted by Penn State Cooperative Extension and financial support from the Center for Rural Pennsylvania. County-level information from the study is available at the Land Use Planning in Pennsylvania Web site. Extension publications. 2001.

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/planning/>

1. An Inventory of Planning in Pennsylvania
2. Municipal Planning Commissions
3. County Planning Agencies
4. Comprehensive Plans
5. Zoning
6. Subdivision and Land Development Regulations
7. Training for Local Government Officials
8. Barriers to Effective Planning in Pennsylvania
9. Collaboration and Communication
10. How Effective Is Land Use Planning in Pennsylvania?



Property Rights Interests and Perspectives Series

The Property Rights series explores the political, social, economic, and legal aspects of property rights. It includes historical perspectives, the constitutional foundation for property rights protections, and contemporary property rights decisions.

Contact: John Becker, 814-863-0575, jcb1@psu.edu

1. The Overview
2. Philosophical and Political Foundations of Rights in Property
3. Common Law Protections of Individual Interests in Protecting Self and Property
4. Property Rights in the Courts
5. The Call for Property Right Reform Action
6. Case Studies

Timber Harvesting in Pennsylvania: Information for Citizens and Local Government Officials

Gives community leaders a better understanding of forestry and timber harvesting, and helps them make administrative decisions that reflect forestry's role in sustaining open space throughout Pennsylvania. Extension publication. 2001.



Videos

Making Your Mark: How to Be an Effective Planning Commissioner

Video for planning commission members and local officials, focusing on how to be an effective member of a local planning commission. 2002.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

Property Rights: Interests and Perspectives

Video giving citizens and local officials a basic understanding of “property rights.” This includes why (and when) such rights matter, where property rights come from and how they change (which includes the structure of government and preemption), and who gets to decide. 11:10 minutes. 2001.

Contact: John Becker, 814-863-0575, jcb1@psu.edu

Courses/Workshops

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow: Develop Your Leadership Potential

The Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow leadership program is a comprehensive leadership development program open to individuals interested in developing their personal and community-leadership potential. The curriculum includes information on working together, resolving conflicts, analyzing issues, goal setting, and planning, as well as improving participants' skills to affect change in their communities or organizations.

Contact: Joann Kowalski, 570-278-1158, jmk20@psu.edu

<http://www.leadership.psu.edu/>

RULE (Pennsylvania Rural Leadership Program)

The RULE program is designed to develop community leaders who have the skills and resources necessary to meet the challenges of a changing community. Through individual and group learning experiences, participants develop the knowledge to make a difference. RULE is a competitive two-year program comprised of ten study institutes. RULE staff and alumni are available to conduct leadership and communication skills-based training and are committed to developing and nurturing local leadership programs.

Contact: J. D. Dunbar, 814-863-4679, rule1@psu.edu

<http://rule.cas.psu.edu/>

Written Materials



Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Thirteen participant workbooks for the leadership development program. Extension publications, 2005. Titles include:

- I. Personal Leadership Skills
 - 1: The Leader within You
 - 2: Values and Ethics
 - 3: Understanding Your Leadership Style
- II. Interpersonal Leadership Skills
 - 1: Communications Basics
 - 2: Facilitation
 - 3: Managing Conflict
- III. Group/Organizational Leadership Skills
 - 1: Productive Groups
 - 2: Effective Meetings
 - 3: Group Decisions
- IV. Community/Public Policy Leadership Skills
 - 1: Dealing with Change
 - 2: Public Issues
 - 3: Understanding Pennsylvania Local Government
 - 4: Active Leadership

Courses/Workshops

Annual Pennsylvania Rural Health Conference

Join rural health leaders throughout the state for the only annual conference devoted exclusively to rural health issues in the Commonwealth. The conference brings together policy makers, health educators, and program administrators for two days of exciting and informative programs. Special topics focus on rural health policy, rural health partnerships, the role of the health care sector in economic development, health care issues for special populations, rural health advocacy, and more.

Contact: Lisa Davis, 814-863-8214, lad3@psu.edu

Grant Writing

A three- to eight-hour experiential workshop for local leaders, health educators, and health coalition members/leaders. The program includes an in-depth overview of the parts of a grant, the funding search, proposal presentation, budget development, grant submission, and discussion of how grant reviewers evaluate proposals. Includes training manual and supporting materials.

Contact: Lisa Davis, 814-863-8214, lad3@psu.edu

An Overview of Teen Pregnancy and Childbearing Issues in the United States and Pennsylvania

Several related presentations on teen pregnancy and childbearing issues tailored for specific communities and audiences. See the fact sheets on the next page.

Contact: Tasha Snyder, 814-865-6223, snyder@pop.psu.edu

Written Materials

An Overview of Teen Pregnancy and Childbearing Issues in the U.S. and Pennsylvania Fact Sheets

- Just the Facts: Data on Teen Pregnancy, Childbearing, Sexual Activity, and Contraceptive Use.
<http://fipa.aers.psu.edu/ppt/facts/index.htm>
- Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Issues in Pennsylvania.
http://fipa.aers.psu.edu/ppt/March2001_inservice/index.htm
- Substance Use and Risky Sexual Behavior and Violence.
http://fipa.aers.psu.edu/ppt/sex_drugs/index.htm
- Teen Pregnancy . . . So What? An Overview of the Teen Pregnancy Problem in America
<http://fipa.aers.psu.edu/ppt/teenpreg/index.htm>

STRATEGIC PLANNING/COMMUNITY PROCESSES

Courses/Workshops

Grant Writing

Two- to six-hour training in grant writing for nonprofit organizations, local government officials, and others interested in improving their grant-writing skills and success rate.

Contact: Walt Whitmer, 814-865-0468, wew2@psu.edu

Tools/Analysis

Charting the Future of Our Community

Four-session community visioning program that brings community leaders and interested citizens together to develop a strategic vision for their community and a workable plan of action for implementing that vision. Includes local follow-up and support. Some communities use this program as part of their comprehensive planning process, or to develop consensus about specific community issues.

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu

Choosing Our Direction

A strategic planning program for organizations, such as local service clubs, civic organizations, local governments, and government agencies. The Choosing Our Direction program helps groups assess their organizational strengths and weaknesses, identify threats and weaknesses, develop strategic goals, and implement plans to achieve those goals.

Contact: Bill Shuffstall, 814-863-5665, shuffy@psu.edu

The Futures Festival: An Intergenerational Approach to Community Participation

This is a special event designed to engage people of all age-groups in constructive dialogue about community development issues. It is geared primarily toward youth and senior adults—two population groups with typically limited community participation opportunities. Through murals, models, photographs, theatrical displays, and other communication media, community residents and public officials come together to share their ideas about community development. All participants get the chance to answer (and learn how others answer) the all-important question: What would you like to see in the future of your community?

Contact: Matt Kaplan, 814-863-7871, msk15@psu.edu

Written Materials

Charting the Future of Our Community Workbooks

These are participant workbooks for the strategic vision program described above. Extension publications. 2002. A facilitator's packet is also available at the Web site below.

- Setting Our Course
- Where Are We and What Are the Forces Shaping Our Future?
- Where Do We Want to Be?
- How Do We Get There?



<http://visioning.aers.psu.edu/Charting.htm>

Choosing Our Direction Workbooks

Participant workbooks for the organizational strategic visioning program of the same name. Extension publications. 2003.

- Strategic Planning and Visioning: A Primer
- What We Do Now?
- What Shapes Our Future?
- What We Are Going to Do?
- Making It Happen

<http://visioning.aers.psu.edu/COD.htm>

Finding the Funds You Need: A Guide for Grant Seekers

Basic introduction to the grant-writing process, including preparing your nonprofit organization for fund seeking; investigating public sources of assistance; knowing the research tools and methods for successful grants; and writing effective grant proposals.

<http://cedev.aers.psu.edu/grantwriting/>

The Futures Festival: An Intergenerational Approach to Community Participation—A Facilitator's Guide

This is an instructional guidebook outlining how to implement "Futures Festival" special events as a strategy for engaging people of all ages in constructive dialogue about community development issues. Through murals, models, photographs, theatrical displays, and other communications media, community residents of all ages and public officials come together at a community event to share their ideas about community development.

<http://AgExtEd.cas.psu.edu/FCS/mk/docs/futures.pdf/>



Courses/Workshops

School Tax Change Under Act 1 of Special Session 2005–2006

One-evening presentation to help citizens and local officials understand the Taxpayer Relief Act of 2006, which provides property tax rebates for eligible households and requires school districts to get voter approval for large tax increases.

Written Materials

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/taxreform/>

Understanding the Taxpayer Relief Act: Act 1 of Special Session 2005–2006

Overview of Act 1, which uses a combination of “slots” money and local income taxes to provide property tax rebates for eligible households and requires school districts to get voter approval for large tax increases. Extension publication. Available fall, 2006.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

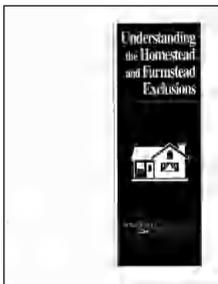


Understanding the Homeowner Tax Relief Act: Act 72 of 2004

Overview of Act 72 of 2004, which allows school districts to use local contributions and state “slots” money to provide property tax reductions to homeowners and farmers. Extension publication. 2004

Forest Finance 4: Understanding Forest Property Tax Assessment in Pennsylvania

Overview of how forest properties are assessed under Clean and Green—Pennsylvania’s preferential tax assessment program. Extension publication. 2002.



Understanding the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusions

Introduction to the homestead and farmstead exclusions, which were authorized for counties, municipalities, and school districts by Act 50 of 1998. Extension publication. 1998.

Local Taxes & Our Community

This is a hands-on, discussion-oriented workbook series about local taxes in Pennsylvania, designed to help communities understand the local tax choices available to them and the impact of those taxes on the community's taxpayers. It extensively uses information from participants' own communities. <http://cax.aers.psu.edu/ltoc/>. Workbooks include:

- **Tax Fairness: What's Fair for Our Community?** Introduction to tax fairness and local tax reform. Intended to accompany the video (see below). Extension publication. 1998.
- **What's Going on in Our Community?** Workbook for developing a community tax profile of who lives in your community, who creates demands for services, and who has ability to pay. Extension publication. 1998.
- **How Do We Currently Use Taxes?** Workbook for analyzing your community's current use of local taxes, including reliance, the role of the tax base, and expenditures. Extension publication. 1999.
- **How Do the Taxes We Use Affect Taxpayers?** Workbook and computer spreadsheet to estimate the current impact of local taxes on typical taxpayers in your community. Compare current impacts with potential impacts under different local tax alternatives. Extension publication. 1999.
- **What Should Be Our Local Tax Distribution?** Workbook to help communities learn about the tax alternatives available to them, and to reach a consensus on which taxes should be used. Extension publication. 1999.



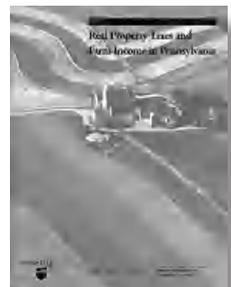
How Is the Real Property Tax Distributed among Land Uses?

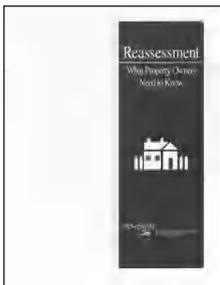
Details-breakdown of real property tax across different land uses, and thus different taxpayers. Extension publication. 1998.

Real Property Taxes and Farm Income in Pennsylvania

Examines how real property taxes on farms compare to farm income, and thus the tax burden on farms. Includes supporting Web site with county-level information. Extension publication. 2001.

<http://cax.aers.psu.edu/farmtaxes/>



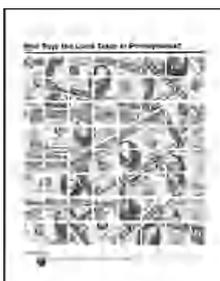


Reassessment: What Homeowners Need to Know

Basic introduction to reassessment. Discusses how reassessment can affect your taxes. Extension publication. 1996.

Which Taxes Do Pennsylvania's Local Governments Use?

Information on how different local governments and school districts rely upon different local taxes, showing and discussing regional differences. Extension publication. 2000.



Who Pays the Local Taxes in Pennsylvania?

How the real property and earned income taxes are distributed across Pennsylvania taxpayers, by age and income. Extension publication. 1995.

Video

Local Taxes in Pennsylvania: What's Fair?

This video is intended to help communities decide for themselves which taxes are fairest for them. Designed to be used with the Local Taxes and Our Community workbook series (see description above). Time: 10:43 minutes. 1999.

Contact: Timothy Kelsey, 814-865-9542, tkelsey@psu.edu

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Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences research, extension, and resident education programs are funded in part by Pennsylvania counties, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

This publication is available from the Publications Distribution Center, The Pennsylvania State University, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802. For information telephone 814-865-6713.

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Produced by Information and Communication Technologies in the College of Agricultural Sciences

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CODE# UA392 2MREV8/06MPC 4537