



Governor Ted Strickland
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Declares Sustainable Agriculture Week in Ohio

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Sept. 18, 2009) – Gov. Ted Strickland declared Sept. 20-26 “Sustainable Agriculture Week” in Ohio in honor of the state’s movement toward supporting agricultural practices that are ecologically sound, economically viable, and socially responsible.

“Sustainable Agriculture Week provides an opportunity to increase public awareness and understanding about the importance of supporting and promoting sustainable agricultural practices,” said Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs. “By doing so, we ensure Ohioans will be able to enjoy the good benefits of agriculture and live off the land for many years to come.”

Farmers are moving toward sustainability by using production technologies to apply fewer fertilizers and pesticides to preserve the integrity of the land and water while producing higher quality products often at higher yields. Ohio farmers are using other Earth-friendly agricultural practices, such as methane digesters and wind turbines to turn animal waste and wind into renewable power sources to run their operations.

State programs like the Ohio Food Policy Council, chaired by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, are maximizing the benefits the food and agricultural sector adds to the state’s economy and environment while ensuring all Ohioans have access to fresh and healthy foods.

Consumers can also support this movement in Ohio by purchasing a Sustainable Agriculture license plate, now available at http://bmv.ohio.gov/vehicle_registration/ohio_sustainable_ag.htm. Proceeds from each plate will go into a fund that will help support sustainable agriculture projects across the state.

For more information about sustainable agriculture, visit www.agri.ohio.gov.

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