

SOD PRODUCER NEWS

Chocolate Town readies itself for sod producers

The recently built Hershey Motor Lodge & Convention Center will host members of the American Sod Producers Association for their summer convention and field days, July 15-17.

The location, near many sod growers, farmers, and family entertainment spots, should attract a large number of members and exhibitors, says ASPA's Executive Director Bob Garey. Gettysburg and other historic sites are short drives from Hershey.

Rich Morrison, general chairman and member of the Pennsylvania Sod Producers Association, is planning a comprehensive convention schedule. Exhibits open on Wednesday (the 15th) afternoon at the convention center. There will also be a golf tournament and tennis and recreation time the first day.

The exhibits reopen at 7 a.m. Thursday and a continental breakfast will be served in conjunction with them. The annual business session begins at 10 with an address from Penny Hallwell, secretary of agriculture for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A review of ASPA activities and election of officers follows.

After lunch, attendees will travel to Davis Nurseries, run by Paul Davis, for two types of demonstrations: sludge injection and utilization and irrigation equipment. An embryo transfer facility, which uses new technology for breeding cattle, exists at the nursery and is available for a possible tour. Buses will take those who skip the facility immediately to Landis Valley Farm Museum, which features historical agricultural and farm implements.

At night, a Pennsylvania Dutch celebration will occur with a reception and dinner in front of the lake by the lodge.

Friday begins with a buffet breakfast. Buses will then take attendees to the Sporting Valley Turf operation of Bob Hummer. The field demonstrations will be held there.



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