

- Members of Lycoming County's Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy Advisory Committee and Work Groups participated in a tour on May 7 to personally see many of the practices and issues with which the County's efforts are concerned. The group visited the Lycoming County Farm, Sherman Beef Farm in Montgomery, and the Muncy Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The group meets at and hears a brief introduction to the County Farm, where Best Management Practices (BMPs) in agriculture are being planned for implementation.



At the Sherman Farm, the group is introduced to the farm's overall operations.



LCCD staff member Chad Bower helps explain the BMPs that have been implemented on the Sherman farm.



Tom Murphy and Monica Chenault explore the heavy use area built for the cattle.



Cattle graze in one of the farm's fenced pastures.



A riparian buffer has been installed on the farm to filter the runoff from the heavy use area and provide habitat and other environmental benefits.



In the fenced riparian buffer area, tree tubes protect young saplings as they become established.



Mike Sherman and Tom Murphy explain the benefits of the farm's off-stream watering system.



Members of the group peer into one of two watering stations built on the farm.



Cattle graze in the pasture, which employs a rotational grazing system to improve the quality of forage and soil fertility.



County Commissioner Jeff Wheeland and DEP North Central Regional Director Bob Yowell examined the improved health of the stream running through the Sherman Farm.



One of the cattle gets up close and personal with the LCCD vehicle.



A calf checks out the County Seal.



Tom Murphy of PSU Extension explains how a no-till planter works.



This no-till drill allows a farmer to plant rows of corn or soybeans without tilling up the field, thus reducing soil erosion and conserving fuel.



Deputy Planning Director Bill Kelly checks out the no-till equipment.



This is one of many scenic views on the Sherman farm.



A fenced stream on the Sherman Farm keeps cows out, reducing erosion and nutrient pollution in the stream.



At the Muncy Wastewater Treatment Plant, the group is briefed on the plant's operations.



A trickling filter at the Muncy plant.



A conveyer belt at the Muncy Plant carries solids to a waste receptacle bound for the landfill.

