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Lycoming County Farmer Honored for Continued Efforts to Preserve Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Harrisburg – Three farms within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed received the Clean Water Farm Award for their efforts to protect the Chesapeake Bay during the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts', Inc. (PACD) annual conference and awards ceremony July 10. Recognition is given annually to those farmers who are environmentally conscious in the management of their farm operations and who also exhibit an understanding of the roles we all play in protecting the state's waterways.

“This year's awardees are from Bradford, Lebanon and Lycoming Counties,” said Drew Gilchrist, PACD President. “In Lycoming County, Michael and Vanessa Sherman, owners of Sherman Beef Cattle, have demonstrated a strong commitment to conservation and improved water quality. They have installed several best management practices on the farm which include rotational grazing, stream-bank fencing, riparian buffers, a stabilized stream crossing and a livestock heavy-use area. Sherman Beef Cattle Farm is a model for Lycoming County and we are proud to recognize their efforts today.”

The farm, which is located in Clinton Township, also participates in the Lycoming County Nutrient Credit Trading Program, has been preserved for agriculture through the farmland preservation program, and allows local groups to conduct education and outreach activities on their lands throughout the year. In 2011, the Sherman Beef Cattle Farm was the recipient of the PA Cattlemen Association's Environmental Stewardship Award.



Michael and Vanessa Sherman of Clinton Township, receive the Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Farm Award from Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts Immediate Past President MaryAnn Warren (pictured at right) at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center.

Since 1986, the Clean Water Farm award has been presented annually to farms within Pennsylvania's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed for their daily pollution prevention efforts in their farm operations while maintaining clean water. The honorees are nominated by their local county conservation districts. The program is coordinated by the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Education Office administered by PACD. The awards are sponsored jointly by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Chesapeake Bay Program and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Education Office conducts numerous activities annually with a theme of "We All Live Downstream." For more information, visit www.pacd.org. To learn more about the Lycoming Conservation District, [click here](#).

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