

Dauphin County Conservation District Successful Workshops

SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOPS

What Has Worked For Us

FOUR W's

WHO

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WHAT

WHEN

WHERE

WHO

- **WHO Do You Want to Attend**
- **WHO Will be Assisting**
 - **DISTRICT – NRCS – FSA – PENN STATE**
 - **OTHERS**
- **WHO is Project Leader / Coordinator**
- **WHO is Providing the Funding**

WHAT

- What is the Topic to be Presented
- What are the Resources that will be Needed
- What Outside Assistance May be Needed
 - Speakers – Equipment Dealers – Food
- What Number of Participants to Expect
 - Targeted Audience – Agencies - Coordinators

WHEN

- WHEN Will the Event Take Place
 - Winter:
 - Advantages – less competing factors
 - Disadvantages – no field activities & weather
 - Spring:
 - Advantages – Field activities & better weather
 - Disadvantages – Busy season for farmers

WHEN

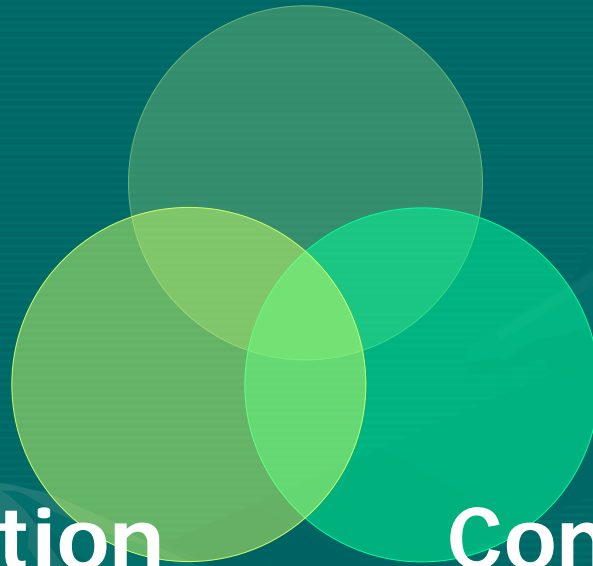
- WHEN Will the Event Take Place
 - Summer:
 - Advantages – less competing factors
 - Disadvantages – limited field activities & Heat
 - Fall:
 - Advantages – Field activities & better weather
 - Disadvantages – Busy season for farmers

WHERE

- Where: As in real estate
 - Location – Location – Location
 - Suitable Site for Workshop
 - Willing Owner/Operator of the Site
 - Centrally Located / Easy to get to
 - Adequate Parking even if raining
 - Signs
 - Adequate Directions

TWO C's

Cooperation



Communication

Communication

COOPERATION

- If Possible Have People Who Work Well Together
- Start Early & Involve Everyone that may be Participating
- Plan in Detail with Contingencies
- Delegation of Work Load
- Group Selects a Team Leader
- Everyone has Responsibilities
- All Help Set-up & Clean-up

COMMUNICATION

- Assign Specific Responsibilities for Everyone Involved
- Involve the Host Owner & Operator in the Planning
- Communicate & Visit Regularly with Host Site's Owner & Operator Including the Wife and Family
- Expectations & Responsibilities of the Host Site
- Team Frequently Meets to Communicate Progress & Setbacks
- Thank you Notes for All Involved

SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOPS

- 2005 No-Till Workshop
 - Homer Campbell Farm
- 2006 No-Till Workshop
 - Milton Hershey School
- 2007 Amish No-Till Workshop
 - Upper Dauphin County
 - Pequea Planters / Gideon Stoltzfus

July 2005 Workshop

- **FOOD & SMOKE**

- **Benefits of No-till**
- **Equipment Displays**
- **Tools available to incorporate different types of manure in a no-till situation**
- **Field Demonstrations of Equipment**
- **Soil Compaction Demonstration**
- **Soil Pits**
- **Demonstration Plot for Various Seeding Rates for Alfalfa**
- **Corn Plot with/without starter in a manure system**
- **NRCS, PSU Ext, FSA, DCCD, Joel Myers, Sjouerd Duiker, Equipment Dealers**

July 2006 Workshop

- **FOOD & SMOKE RAINED OUT**
- Very Similar to the Previous Year
- Equipment Displays
- Soil Pits
- Chlorophyll Meter Demonstration Plot
- Do we run equipment in conditions we do not want farmers running equipment?
- NRCS, PSU Ext, FSA, DCCCD, Joel Myers, Sjouurd Duiker, Jim Hershey, Equipment Dealers

February 2007 Workshop

- Amish No-till
 - Gideon Stoltzfus Pequea Planters
 - NRCS, PSU, District Participated
 - Nutrient Management Act – 38
 - Programs Offered
 - No-Till Benefits

SUMMARY

- **Cooperation**
- **Communication**
- **Start Planning Early**
 - 8 Months to a Year Minimum
 - 3 Years for Amish No-till
- **Work Closely With Host Site**
 - You may want to go back again.
- **Thank You Notes are always appreciated**









