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Morenci farm to host Lenawee County Breakfast on the Farm on June 25

EAST LANSING, Mich. – The Raymond and Stutzman Farm at 8055 Seneca Highway in Morenci will host Breakfast on the Farm June 25 at their Lenawee County farm. The rain-or-shine event will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with breakfast served from 9 a.m. to noon.

Breakfast on the Farm attendees can enjoy a home-cooked breakfast that includes a variety of Michigan- and Ohio-grown and -produced menu items before taking a self-guided farm tour featuring numerous educational exhibits hosted by local farmer volunteers. From petting a calf to climbing onto the seat of a tractor or combine to discovering how technology such as GPS is used to plant crops and learning about all the jobs that must be done each and every day on a livestock farm, there will be lots to see and learn. The local farmer volunteers are on hand to answer any questions or to share their firsthand expertise about farming. You can easily identify them by their Breakfast on the Farm T-shirts.

The family-owned and -operated livestock farm, a beef calf to finish operation, has been in business since 1930. Dedicated to conserving the environment and implementing sustainable management practices, the Raymond and Stutzman Farm was awarded the Lenawee County Conservation Farmer of the Year in 2004. This award is presented to a farmer who has consistently implemented conservation practices. For the past 15 years, the farm has been the host site for the Center for Excellence in Lenawee County, one of the region's largest field days, which showcases some of the latest cutting-edge technologies available to the agriculture industry.

The farm is also MAEAP (Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program)-certified. MAEAP is an innovative, holistic and proactive approach to protecting the environment that can be applied to farms of all types and sizes. MAEAP helps farmers evaluate their entire operation by completing a comprehensive three-system – cropping, farmstead and livestock – and three-phase – education, farm-specific risk assessment and on-farm verification – process that ensures that they implement environmentally sound management practices. The completely voluntary program must be repeated every three years for the farm to remain verified.

Breakfast on the Farm is free, but tickets are required to eat breakfast. Free tickets can be obtained from the following businesses listed alphabetically below by location in Michigan and Ohio.

In Michigan:

- Addison – Addison Public Library
 - Adrian – First Federal Bank at 300 N. Main St. and 1701 W. Maumee St., Lenawee County Library, Lenawee County Farm Bureau, the Michigan State University (MSU) Extension Lenawee County Office
 - Ann Arbor – MSU Extension Washtenaw County Office, Washtenaw County Farm Bureau
 - Britton – Britton Branch Library
 - Clayton – Clayton Library
 - Deerfield – Roberts-Ingold Memorial Library
 - Hillsdale – Hillsdale County Farm Bureau, MSU Extension Hillsdale County Office
 - Hudson – First Federal Bank, Hudson Public Library
 - Ida – Monroe County Farm Bureau
 - Jackson – Jackson County Farm Bureau, MSU Extension Jackson County Office
 - Manchester – Wacker Oil and Propane
 - Monroe – MSU Extension Monroe County Office
 - Morenci – First Federal Bank,
 - Onsted – Onsted Branch Library
 - Petersburg – Petersburg Branch Library
 - Tecumseh – First Federal Bank at 501 E. Chicago Blvd. and 1449 W. Chicago Blvd.
- In Ohio:
- Archbold – Archbold Community Library, Farmers and Merchants State Bank (Archbold-Main Office and Archbold-Woodland Office), Sauder Village
 - Delta – Delta Public Library, Farmers and Merchants State Bank
 - Fayette – Normal Memorial Library
 - Metamora – Evergreen Community Library
 - Perrysburg – Way Public Library
 - Pettisville – Fulton-Henry-Williams-Defiance County Farm Bureau
 - Swanton – Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Swanton Public Library
 - Sylvania – Sylvania Branch Library
 - Wauseon – Farmers and Merchants State Bank (Wauseon Shoop Office and Wauseon Downtown Office), the Ohio State University Extension Fulton County Office, Wauseon Public Library
 - West Unity – Farmers and Merchants State Bank
 - Woodville – Lucas-Ottawa-Wood-Sandusky County Farm Bureau

Breakfast on the Farm is a statewide MSU Extension program. The Lenawee County Breakfast on the Farm is organized by the Lenawee County MSU Extension Office and the Lenawee County Michigan Farm Bureau with support from more than 150 volunteers.

In addition to the Lenawee County Breakfast on the Farm scheduled for June 25, seven other Breakfast events are planned for 2011:

- June 18 hosted by Jef-Len Dairy Farm, St. Johns (Clinton County)
- July 9 hosted by Circle K Farms Inc., West Branch (Ogemaw County)
- July 16 hosted by Pasch Dairy, Mount Pleasant (Isabella County)

- August 13 hosted by Daybreak Dairy LLC, Zeeland (Ottawa County)
- August 20 hosted by S & M Dairy, Harbor Beach (Huron County)
- September 17 hosted by Taylor Creek Farm LLC, Pickford (Chippewa County)
- September 24 hosted by Benthem Brothers Inc., McBain (Missaukee County)

The statewide sponsors for 2011 are the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan and the Michigan Corn Growers Association, Dairy Farmers of America, Dairyland Seed Co. Inc., Dairy Marketing Services, Greenstone Farm Credit Services, the Michigan Ag Council, Michigan Milk Producers Association, the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee, Pioneer and the United Dairy Industry of Michigan.

For more information about the Lenawee County Breakfast on the Farm, visit www.breakfastonthefarm.com or contact Nancy Thelen, MSU Extension agriculture literacy educator, at 734-222-3825 or thelenn@anr.msu.edu, or the Lenawee County MSU Extension Office at 517-264-5300.

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