
From: Mark Powell -MDA- [mailto:mark.powell@maryland.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 10:49 AM
To: Criss, Jeremy; Stone Slade -MDA-
Subject: Re: Ag Tourism Sign Program

Jeremy: Stone will be talking with SHA today about this. We will get back to you shortly.
Mark

On Wed, Jul 2, 2014 at 5:29 PM, Criss, Jeremy
<Jeremy.Criss@montgomerycountymd.gov> wrote:

Hello Mark,

As a follow up from our meeting last week attached you will find the last message I received from the SHA on the Agricultural Tourism Sign program.

Please let me know if you can assist in getting a response to the questions raised by some of our farmers.

Thanks J

Jeremy V. Criss

Agricultural Services Manager

Department of Economic Development

Agricultural Services Division

18410 Muncaster Road

Derwood, Maryland 20855

[301-590-2830](tel:301-590-2830)

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jeremy.criss@montgomerycountymd.gov

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Amy Beall" <abeall@sha.state.md.us>
To: "Criss, Jeremy" <Jeremy.Criss@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: "Lees, Fred" <Fred.Lees@montgomerycountymd.gov>, <Stone.slade@maryland.gov>, "Cheryl Schreiber" <CSchreiber@sha.state.md.us>, "Brian Grandizio" <bgrandizio@rkk.com>
Date: Wed, 23 Apr 2014 16:00:27 -0400
Subject: RE: SHA-Agricultural Tourism SIGN PROGRAM

Good Afternoon Jeremy,

I appreciate your follow up and am forwarding your information to Cheryl Schreiber, Assistant Division Chief, and Brian Grandizio, RK&K, our consultant that will be assisting with the remaining development of the Ag Tourism program so they can follow up with your inquiries.

Thank you,

Amy

Amy K. Beall

Transportation Engineer

Traffic Engineering Design Division

Direct: [410-787-4087](tel:410-787-4087)

www.roads.maryland.gov

From: Criss, Jeremy [mailto:Jeremy.Criss@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 3:51 PM
To: Amy Beall; Stone.slade@maryland.gov
Cc: Lees, Fred
Subject: FW: SHA-Agricultural Tourism SIGN PROGRAM

Hello Amy and Slade,

I am following up on the Ag-Tourism signage pilot program for Montgomery County.

There are at least two farms in Montgomery County that offer Ag-Tourism opportunities to residents and the owners of these farms are interested in learning more about the Ag-Tourism Sign program.

I reached out to Wade Butler-Butler's Orchard and Ben Allnutt-Homestead Farm as outlined in the message below dated March 25, 2014 and three questions were raised during our March 18, 2014 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting:

1. We ask SHA if the information on page 1 regarding farm TIMES DATES for activities and schedule of events could be replaced with the website address for the farm.

This way anyone could access the website on their I-phone and have this information in their hand.

2. Another question pertained to page 2 for meeting the requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act. Most on-farm markets have handicapped parking and signs but does this requirement mean that farmers must have a lift machine for a hay ride.

3. The third question pertained to page 1 where the program is limited to rural conventional roads. In Montgomery County we have several different road classifications in Chapter 49 of the County Code as follows: Country Arterial, Arterial, Minor Arterial, Country Road, Primary and Principle Secondary Residential Streets, Tertiary Residential Street, and Alley. Finally we have under Article 8 Rustic Roads that encompass the Agricultural Reserve and most of the agricultural properties in the County.

Please help me to answer the three questions above so I can report back to the farmers.

Thanks J

Jeremy V. Criss

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From: Criss, Jeremy
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 1:56 PM
To: 'Ben Allnutt'
Cc: 'Wade Butler'
Subject: RE: SHA-Agricultural Tourism SIGN PROGRAM

Hello Ben,

I am following up on the Landcaster Farming article you provided during the April 15, 2014 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting regarding the Ag-Tourism Sign Pilot Program.

I will follow up with the SHA and MDA to address the questions that were outlined in my message below dated March 25, 2014.

I will let you know the responses I receive.

Thanks J

Jeremy V. Criss

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From: Criss, Jeremy
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 4:41 PM
To: 'Ben Allnutt'; 'Wade Butler'
Cc: Lees, Fred; 'Amy Beall'
Subject: SHA-Agricultural Tourism SIGN PROGRAM

Hello Ben and Wade

This message is a follow up to our discussion on March 18, 2014 during the Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC meeting regarding the SHA Agricultural Tourism Sign Program.

Please let me know if you would like to schedule a meeting for interested farmers-owners of on-farm markets to discuss the SHA Ag Tourism Sign program.

It is my understanding the County Trailblazer signs would be used along County roads to direct people to the property where the agricultural tourism activities are located.

For Ben the Trailblazer signs would be located at Sugarland Road, Montevideo Road, and Partnership Road.

For Wade the Trailblazer signs would be located at Brink Road, Wildcat Road, and Davis Mill Road.

The SHA would have requirements for the Trailblazer sign layout and content and the costs to fabricate and install the signs would be covered by the County and/or farmer.

During the AAC meeting it was suggested that we ask SHA if the information on page 1 regarding farm TIMES DATES for activities and schedule of events could be replaced with the website address for the farm.

This way anyone could access the website on their I-phone and have this information in their hand.

Another question pertained to page 2 for meeting the requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act. Most on-farm markets have handicapped parking and signs but does this requirement mean that farmers must have a lift machine for a hay ride.

The third question pertained to page 1 where the program is limited to rural conventional roads. In Montgomery County we have several different road classifications in Chapter 49 of the County Code as follows: Country Arterial, Arterial, Minor Arterial, Country Road, Primary and Principle Secondary Residential Streets, Tertiary Residential Street, and Alley. Finally we have under Article 8 Rustic Roads that encompass the Agricultural Reserve and most of the agricultural properties in the County.

I am still working on the details for the program but this is my understanding so far.

I have copied Fred Lees on this message because he works for the County Department of Transportation and hopefully he can help us with this new program.

I have a list of all the owners of on-farm markets but not all of them offer Agricultural Tourism activities.

Please let me know how you would like to proceed or if you have any questions.

Thanks J

Jeremy V. Criss

Agricultural Services Manager

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jeremy.criss@montgomerycountymd.gov

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agsservices>

From: Ben Allnutt [<mailto:ben.homesteadfarm@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 8:51 AM
To: Criss, Jeremy
Subject: SIGN PROJECT

Jeremy, Wade and I will discuss this proposal with some others. What is a county trailblazer sign and who would control them? What form of response would you think best? Suggestions, sign off ok, more meetings. Ben



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