

May 19, 2009

EDITORS: The following information is for immediate release. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Costello, program and marketing coordinator of the Chester County Economic Development Council, at 610 458-5700.

Workshop to target improving farm profitability

EXTON _ The Southeastern PA Agriculture Partnership is sponsoring a two-day workshop by Liz Alakszay on “How to Do More With Less: Improving Farm Profitability by Streamlining Operations.”

The workshop focuses on methods for streamlining operations and maximizing value creation in small to mid scale agriculture by applying management, accounting, operations and performance measurement approaches that improve and sustain profitability over the long term. Attendees will participate in a variety of hands-on small group exercises and assignments to create a specific actionable plan to improve profitability for their operations.

The two-day workshop takes place on Monday, June 22, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, and on Tuesday, June 30, 2009, from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Delaware Valley College. The total cost is \$30. For more information contact Karen Costello at kcostello@cceconomicdevelopment.com or 610-458-5700 x 219.

The workshop is offered by Liz Alakszay, Business Process Analyst. She has been helping businesses and individuals develop and streamline operations since 1990. She coordinates and leads numerous improvement initiatives in financial operations for a major insurance company. Additionally, she is an adjunct profession at Keller School of Management, an instructor of sustainable small scale backyard food production at West Chester Night School and a grower of custom heirloom and open pollinated vegetable and herbs transplants.

Technical and resource support is provided by the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture and Delaware Valley College. The Southeastern PA Agriculture Partnership is an initiative of the Chester County Workforce Investment Board and the Chester County Economic Development Council with grant funds received from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

The Chester County Economic Development Council is a private, non-profit economic development organization that has been nurturing economic growth in Chester County and the surrounding region for more than 45 years. The Council’s portfolio of business growth services includes: low-interest financing, small business lending, workforce training, retention and expansion, customized international business assistance, land and building site selection, brownfields consultation and remediation, urban redevelopment, and agricultural economic development. The Council also offers state-of-the art conference and training facilities at its facility in Eagleview. For more information, see www.cceconomicdevelopment.com