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### **NUTRIENT TRADING IN PA POSITIVELY IMPACTING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY EVENT HELD**

*(Elizabethtown, PA)* – The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts (PACD), the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture jointly hosted a one day event today entitled, “Nutrient Trading in PA Positively Impacting the Chesapeake Bay, focusing on nutrient credit trading in Pennsylvania.

Dignitaries from several states surrounding the Chesapeake Bay, government leaders and conservation districts met to discuss Pennsylvania’s initiatives to reduce nutrients entering the Bay including an explanation of Pennsylvania’s nutrient trading program. Attendees also toured three Lancaster County sites where nutrient trading credits were generated.

“Cleaning our local waters and restoring the Chesapeake Bay are vital and a sound trading program that cost effectively cuts pollution,” stated Department of Environmental Protection Secretary John Hanger. “The trading program helps our water, our economies and will help the Chesapeake Bay.”

In addition to discussing the state’s nutrient trading program, the event highlighted:

- agricultural innovations in conservation;



- a conservation district panel;
- the impact of nutrient trading on the Chesapeake Bay; and
- a roundtable discussion

“All of us have a shared responsibility to protect Pennsylvania’s natural resources as well as the national treasure in our backyard – the Chesapeake Bay,” said Agriculture Secretary Russell C. Redding. “This event is part of our collective commitment at the state and local levels to ensuring that we are a good upstream neighbor and responsible stewards of our land.”

PACD president and State Conservation Commissioner MaryAnn Warren agreed. “This event showcased Pennsylvania’s efforts to improve water quality at the local level and for the Bay. Vital technical assistance is provided by conservation districts who work with landowners and communities to reduce nutrients entering our waterways.”

A webinar of the morning portion of the event was recorded by Penn State University Cooperative Extension and can be found at <http://www.aec.cas.psu.edu/>. More information on the Nutrient Trading Program can be found at <http://www.dep.state.pa.us> Keyword: Nutrient Trading.

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PACD, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization representing Pennsylvania's 66 conservation districts. For more information on the PACD visit [www.pacd.org](http://www.pacd.org).

