

Celebrate Saratoga County Agriculture at Sundae on the Farm in the Town of Saratoga

Fifty years ago there were 1,800 farms in Saratoga County... today 641 farms (one-third as many) are in operation. Because fewer people are directly involved in farming, not many have the opportunity to experience agriculture first-hand and understand how the food we eat (and some of the fiber we wear) is produced. The Saratoga County Agricultural Promotion Committee decided to provide that critical link between the farming community and the public-at-large and hold an open house at a different farm each year for area residents to visit a real working farm, learn about local agriculture, and realize the importance of a viable agricultural industry in Saratoga County.

Saratoga County's 14th Annual "Sundae on the Farm" will be held on Sunday June 21 at Koval Bros. Dairy, LLC on 313 Burke Road, Stillwater in the Town of Saratoga. The annual event, taking place from 12:00 pm through 4:00 pm, showcases the breadth and significance of agriculture in Saratoga County and is enjoyed by approximately 2,500 visitors each year. This is the sixth time the popular farm tour and festival has been held in the town of Saratoga; farms in the town of Charlton and Northumberland have also hosted the event.

"Sundae on the Farm" is fun and educational for the whole family... a perfect way to spend this Father's Day together. Free events include: tours of the dairy farm, children's activities, farm animals to see, horse-drawn wagon rides, live music, agricultural exhibits, and demonstrations by three area chefs using local farm products. Chefs from Siro's and The Wishing Well restaurants, and Executive Chef Noah Sheetz from the Governor's Mansion will be creating dishes using locally produced products.

New events this year include a Spelling Bee and Stewart's Ice Cream Eating Contest. Plenty of food is served at "Sundae on the Farm" including: hotdogs, hamburgers, Stewart's Ice Cream featuring hot fudge topping from Sundae's Best Hot Fudge, and Pie a la mode featuring homemade pies from Smith's Orchard Bake Shop.

More fun can be found for all ages with the showcase of horses and a unique Farmer's Market. Parking is plentiful and several trams (with farm-savvy hosts on board for questions and answers) will transport visitors between the parking area and the farm.

Saratoga County's "Sundae on the Farm", a successful educational effort to promote local agriculture, has become a model emulated by many other counties. The event is organized by the Saratoga County Agricultural Promotion Committee and sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County, American Farmland Trust, Saratoga County Farm Bureau, and the Town of Saratoga with support from the Saratoga County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. The public is invited to experience this year's event in Saratoga and see what all the fun is about! Visit <http://www.saratogafarms.com/> for directions to the event.