



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA's
94th
Annual

Agricultural Outlook Forum

THE ROOTS OF PROSPERITY

February 22-23, 2018 • Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

Pre-Forum Field Trips Wednesday, February 21, 2018

New this year, the Agricultural Outlook Forum Pre-Forum Field Trip will offer two Bus Tour options that will run concurrently. You may only sign up for one field trip option. Space is limited and registration is required.

Farm Conservation Tour USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) staff and partners host. Morning: Tour of a Maryland vegetable and livestock farm to learn about numerous conservation practices implemented in partnership with the local Conservation District and NRCS. Showcased will be practices to improve soil health on crop fields, livestock grazing best management, and soil erosion reduction and runoff in the barnyard. Conservation planning and practice implementation processes discussed and demonstrations of new technology for metals detection in soils and the benefits of improved soil health. Afternoon: USDA's Farm Production and Conservation leaders speak. NOTE: Tour is outdoors. Please dress appropriately for the cold and potential wet weather.

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and National Arboretum Tour Participants will visit the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington D.C. and USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) in Maryland. The National Arboretum is a USDA facility with nearly 450 acres of gardens and ongoing multi-disciplinary research on ornamental and landscape plant improvements. BARC is the USDA's largest scientific installation with more than 6,000 acres and 18 research areas, including animal biosciences, food quality, hydrology, and genomics. Participants will visit with scientists at both sites and see the Nutrition Lab, Adaptive Cropping Systems Lab and others.

Time 9:00am - 6:00pm

Depart & Return from Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, VA

Cost \$40 per person
Transportation and boxed lunch included in fee

Register as part of your AOF registration or select a field trip only option.

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