You Are Invited to the
Farm and Ranchland Protection Conference

April 16, 2003 Wednesday

Harkins Luxury 24 Cinemas at Arizona Mills
Tempe, Arizona

A growing number of communities across Arizona are concerned about protecting important farm and ranchland from conversion to non-agricultural uses. Many individuals, communities, and groups are seeking technical and financial assistance to help them with this land use planning issue. Because of this increased interest in farm and ranchland protection, several groups have organized to provide a unique opportunity that will inform and educate landowners, landusers, local government officials and planners and other community leaders about farm and ranchland protection in Arizona.

The one-day conference will be held at Harkins Luxury 24 Cinemas at Arizona Mills. Arizona Mills is located in the southeast quadrant of the intersection of Interstate 10 and Superstition Freeway (US Hwy 60) with ample FREE parking and Harkins Cinema is on the northwest side of the Mall. From I-10, exit Baseline Road East, From US Hwy 60, exit Priest Drive South.

Should you require hotel accommodations, we suggest you contact AmeriSuites at 1520 West Baseline Road in Tempe (within the Arizona Mills Center at 480-831-9800, http://www.amerisuites.com/hotels/ajte.shtml. Rooms are being held so please mention this specific conference to receive the rate of $89 with breakfast.

RSVP required

Space is limited! Please contact Mac Herrera, Executive Director of the Arizona Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) with your positive RSVP. Mac can be reached at 602-280-8803 fax number is 602-280-8779 or aacd@az.usda.gov.

$10 registration

Registration can be paid at the door from 8:00 to 8:45 AM. Please make checks out to AACD. Because this is theater seating, latecomers will interrupt other attendees so PLEASE BE ON TIME.

Sponsors

Arizona Agri-Business Council
Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
Arizona Cattle Grower’s Association
Arizona Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
The Nature Conservancy
The Trust for Public Land
University of Arizona – Cooperative Extension
AGENDA

Introduction and Welcome 9:00 AM
Michael Somerville, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), AZ

The Evolution of the State Farmland Protection Policy 9:10 AM
Lori Faeth, Policy Advisor to Governor Napolitano for Environment and Natural Resources

A Real Rancher's Views on Farm and Ranchland Protection 9:30 AM
Sid Goodloe, Southern Rockies Agricultural Land Trust and Rancher, Capitan, NM

Break 10:00 AM

A Legal Summary of Conservation Easements and Purchase of Development Rights Programs 10:10 AM
Peter Ives, Esq., Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, The Trust for Public Land

Panel discussion: Existing Protection Efforts in Arizona 11:15 AM
Sarah Young Teskey, Young’s Farm, Dewey, AZ
Billy Cordasco, Babbitt Ranches, Flagstaff, AZ
Peter Warren, Malpai Borderlands Group, AZ

Lunch on Your Own 12:15 PM
The food court is immediately adjacent to the theaters

Water Issues relating to Perpetual Conservation Easements 1:00 PM
Speaker to be announced

Federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program 1:30 PM
Doug Lawrence, Farmland Protection and Community Planning, NRCS, Washington, DC

Request for Proposals (Federal Farm and Ranchland Protection Program) 2:00 PM
Jeff Schmidt, Community Assistance Coordinator, NRCS, Phoenix, AZ

Paying for Conservation Easements and Purchasing Development Rights 2:30 PM
Maria Baier, Arizona Conservation Finance/Marketing Director, The Trust for Public Land

Break 3:00 PM

Panel debate: The Buyout of Federal Grazing Allotments 3:15 PM
John Whitney, Rancher, Sunflower, AZ
A representative from the Arizona Cattle Grower’s Association to be announced

Wrap up and where do we go from here 4:00 PM
Michael Somerville, State Conservationist, NRCS, AZ

Adjourn 4:30 PM

Speakers and agenda topics are subject to change