



# URI Small Acreage Livestock Education Program

## Rhode Island 4-H Training Program

### Dear Rhode Island 4-H Program Volunteer

We are delighted that you have agreed to participate in our train-the-trainer education program. Our training program will be held on **Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 10 AM to 3:15 PM on the URI Kingston Campus**. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. A detailed **agenda** is enclosed with more information about the training program. We will follow up with you prior to the training with visitor parking passes and parking directions.

We have also enclosed a set of **fact sheets (4) and worksheets (2)** that were developed for this education program. We encourage you to review these fact sheets and worksheets before the November 1 training program. We will cover the topics within the fact sheets and learn how to fill out the worksheets during the afternoon session at URI Peckham Farm. These fact sheets, along with other information are also available on our website at [www.uri.edu/ce/healthylandscapes](http://www.uri.edu/ce/healthylandscapes).

As a participant in this program, you will:

- Learn about pollution and health risks associated with large animals.
- Learn how to manage manure, livestock yards and pastures for protecting water resources and human and animal health.
- Volunteer to educate other livestock owners about what you have learned in a variety of ways.

### Volunteer Education Program Delivery

Volunteers will pair up into teams of two. All teens will be paired with an adult.

#### Phase I: January - March 2009

Following completion of the training program, each volunteer team will deliver 2 educational activities to the target audience (small acreage livestock owners). A great place to start is with 4-H club members involved with large animal clubs.

#### Phase II: April - September 2009

Each volunteer team will commit to a minimum of 3 additional educational activities for a minimum total of 20 hours per person by the end of September 2009 (includes time spent on the first 2 educational activities conducted during phase I). This can continue to include activities with 4-H club members and their families who have large animals. We wish to reach as many 4-H families with large animals as possible.



## **Program Evaluation**

At the end of each educational activity that you present, you will ask your audience to fill out and turn in a short questionnaire that we will provide to you. The questionnaire or program evaluation form will allow URI staff to track the effectiveness of this program. It will tell us whether the information being presented to livestock owners is helpful and whether they are considering making any changes at home as a result of the information presented. The questionnaires will be anonymous. This is a very important part of this Program.

When staffing an educational display, we will also have ways to track information about the materials distributed, etc.

## **Volunteer Education Program Delivery – What is your plan?**

URI staff will arrange to meet with volunteers in January 2009 to review a volunteer education delivery plan. It could include the following:

- 1) Indoor talk (may include a version of the PowerPoint slideshow provided by the program). You can introduce 4-H club members and their families to the topics of proper manure, livestock yard and pasture management and why it is important for protecting water resources and health.
- 2) Outdoor site assessment. You can train 4-H club members and their families to use worksheets 1 and 2 to conduct their own site assessments. Assign independent site assessments to club members and follow up on progress.
- 3) Indoor talk (may include a version of the PowerPoint slideshow provided by the program) to another organization such as a livestock organization or Future Farmers of America, etc. The meeting or event must contain small acreage livestock owners.
- 4) Staff a display of posters and other educational materials (provided by the program) that are exhibited at a fair, or horse show, or other event.
- 5) Other: feel free to suggest other educational opportunities that you may have!

**We suggest educational delivery options 1 and 2 for the Phase I presentations to be completed January – March 2009.**

## **Public Speaking Training**

The program will provide volunteers with a version of the PowerPoint slideshow for indoor speaking opportunities. We will offer public presentation training in cooperation with the URI Department of Communications Studies during the winter 2009. Access to a laptop computer and projector will be provided through the URI State 4-H Program Office.

We thank you for participating in this valuable education program, and we look forward to seeing you on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

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