

Date: June 4, 2021

To: All NYS Soil and Water Conservation District Employees

From: Kristin White, Chairperson of the State Fair Committee

2021 STATE FAIR BOOTH SHIFT REQUEST

The NYSCDEA has had a booth at The Great New York State Fair for over 45 years! This booth is an educational display for fairgoers that promotes the great programs and projects of the Soil & Water Conservation Districts across the state. This year, the Governor has extended the fair to 18 days, where the NYSCDEA will need volunteers more than ever to help with this event!

The NYSCDEA State Fair Committee comes up with a theme that is used for two years. This year the theme is “*Soil Health*” where we have displays that correspond with the theme and include hands-on items for all ages of fairgoers. *Due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus we will be modifying the hands-on displays for 2021.

If you volunteer, there is a Booth Binder behind the counter that has instructions for opening and closing shifts, the shift schedule for the current and next year, committee contact phone numbers, public and volunteer comment pages, and sign in and sign out sheets.

COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – A recent article put out by CNY Central states that the Horticulture Building will be one of the buildings open to the public. At this time we are uncertain if we will be asked to be a vendor within the building. We are moving forward and planning as if we will have a booth this year. This includes, but is not limited to, providing hand sanitizer and disposable masks that are available at the booth, however; it is recommended that volunteers bring their own masks. We also recommend that *if possible*, that each county SWCD work with someone from their same county for a shift. We will be following any CDC guidelines when it comes to vaccinated vs. unvaccinated persons.

Location Our booth is located in the Horticulture Building.

Tickets Admission and Orange Parking Lot tickets will be issued to all volunteers.

Shifts There are 2 shifts you can choose from: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM **or** 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We are looking to have 2 volunteers per shift.

Incentive Volunteers are eligible to win **\$50 cash incentive**. The NYSCDEA State Fair Committee will draw 5 names from the sign-in/sign-out sheets. The winners will be notified via email.

Shirts The committee will provide a shirt for each volunteer that is yours to keep and this year we have new shirts (Syracuse Orange)!

State Fair Committee:

Erica Schreiner, Oswego County SWCD
Kelly Emerick, Monroe County SWCD
Doug Kierst, Cayuga County SWCD
Kristin White, Monroe County SWCD
Eva Brown, Onondaga County SWCD

Empire Farm Days Committee:

Alaina Robarge, Ontario County SWCD
Tuker Kautz, Ontario County SWCD

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR A SHIFT

We are using SignUpGenius® for volunteer registrations for the State Fair Booth. The link can be found on our website at <https://www.nyscdea.com/state-fair-efd/>. If there are 2 employees volunteering to work a shift, please input each name separately. This program keeps track of how many people sign up for each shift and once a shift is filled, it becomes unavailable. To submit, select the yellow Sign Up box for the shift(s) you want. Then select the Submit and Sign Up button at the bottom of the screen. Put your County in the "Comment" section (*leave the Quantity at 1*; each volunteer must be entered separately) and select your shirt size before clicking on the Sign Up Now button. Be sure to include your email. A reminder will be emailed to you and we will also use this email to inform you of any cancellations.

Information about The Great New York State Fair can be viewed from their website at www.nysfair.org

Please contact Kristin White with any questions, 585-753-7663 or KristinWhite@monroecounty.gov.



(Jeff Parker, Steuben County SWCD)

