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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 15-70

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Contact:

Adam Bosch (845) 334-7868, depressoffice@dep.nyc.gov

Media Advisory

DEP to Celebrate 100th Agriculture Lease with Watershed Farmers

More Than 3,700 Acres of City-owned Property in the Catskills is Leased to Local Farmers for Hay, Row Crops, Livestock Grazing and Maple Harvesting

DATE: Monday, August 17

TIME: 10 a.m.

LOCATION: Delaware County Fair, Fair Street, Walton, NY 13856

WHO: New York City DEP Commissioner Emily Lloyd, Watershed Agricultural Council Executive Director Craig Cashman, Watershed Agricultural Council Chairperson Sally Fairbairn, Byebrook Farm owners Paul and Gwen Deysenroth

WHAT: DEP and the Watershed Agricultural Council will open their booth at the Delaware County Fair with a ceremony to mark the signing of the 100th agriculture lease on water supply lands in the Catskills. Since 2000, DEP has leased protected property to local farmers to put that land back into production. Local farmers now lease more than 3,700 acres from DEP for uses such as hay, row crops, grazing and maple harvesting. More information about the program will be available at the event on Aug. 17.

More Information

NYC Department of
Environmental Protection
Public Affairs
59-17 Junction Boulevard
19th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373
(718) 595-6600

This is not a contract. For information on the terms and conditions of the program, please contact the DEP Office of Watershed Agriculture at (845) 334-7868 or depressoffice@dep.nyc.gov.

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