

**News Release**  
4-30-15

**FOOD SAFETY PLANNING WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR MAY 14**

Food safety is vital for producers. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) is sponsoring a workshop on “Writing YOUR Food Safety Plan.” The event is all about helping growers and producers develop and implement a plan that meets the requirements set by the USDA Good Agriculture Practices/Good Handling Practices (GAP/GHP) audit. The workshop will walk participants through the tools and resources needed to accomplish their plan and get their certification.

The workshop focuses on standard operating procedures such as controlling the risk factors for foodborne illnesses. The information is helpful to those who want to sell produce to institutions and wholesalers. The workshop helps producers reach a wider customer base and open up new agriculture opportunities.

The event takes place May 14, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the West Virginia Regional Technology Park located at 2001 Union Carbide Drive, Building 2000, Room 1120, South Charleston, West Virginia. The cost of the workshop is \$25. Participants can register by calling the WVDA Marketing and Development Division at (304) 558-2210 or emailing [mbeller@wvda.us](mailto:mbeller@wvda.us).