

News Release
4-30-15

GOOD AGRICULTURE PRACTICES TRAINING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 7

West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) is hosting a Good Handling Practices/Good Agricultural Practices (GHP/GAP) class on Thursday, May 7, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lakeview Resort in Monongalia County. Dr. Robert Williams, the Associate Professor of the Food Microbiology Department of Food Science and Technology at Virginia Tech University will lead the class.

The one-day event will help producers and growers hoping to get their GHP/GAP certification take that first step. Participants will learn why GHP/GAP is so important and how it can benefit their bottom line. From reducing the risk of microbial contamination of fruits and vegetables to proper handling of farmyard waste, the class stresses food safety begins on the farm.

While not required by the state of West Virginia, GHP/GAP training is required for an USDA audit. Several counties now require a GHP/GAP certificate to participate in programs like Farm to School.

The cost of the class is \$25. You can register by contacting the WVDA Marketing and Development Division at 304-558-2210 or email mbeller@wvda.us.