

Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

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Grey County Council Meeting, January 25th 2018



Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

Who We Are

- After changes in government services to the local agricultural industry in the year 2000, the need for a support system for agricultural organizations and the farming community became apparent.

Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

Who We Are

- With the aide of local agricultural organizations, individual farmers, and Grey County Council, Grey Ag Services, a “grass-roots”, “farmer-driven” initiative, “not-for-profit” organization was created to service and fulfill the needs of the local farm community.

Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

Who We Are

- Grey County Agricultural Services has become a central resource centre for the local farming community, by providing agricultural information, referral services, and educational events.

Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

Who We Are

- Grey Ag provides meeting space to local rural organizations including after-hours usage.
- Meeting rooms were used 322 times in 2017.
- 55% of the rooms were used after-hours.

Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

Who We Are

- Grey Ag Services has successfully delivered on its vision and all aspects of the original mandate.
- It has become an integral thread of the rural fabric of Grey County, serving the needs of the area farmers, rural community, and organizations.



Grey County Agricultural Services Centre

Who We Are

- This service has a strong visibility, trust, and familiarity in this county and beyond.
- The quality and quantity of the programs delivered by Grey Ag Services is recognized across the county, region and on the provincial level.
- The office is extremely busy and successful!

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Projects We Co-ordinate

- **Grey County Rural Guide** – *Information Resource for Grey County Rural Organizations, Municipalities, Elected Officials and Media*
- **Ag Courses Brochure** – *Sent to 9,400 Rural Households in Grey Bruce*

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Projects We Co-ordinate

- **Winter Courses** – 14 conducted in 2017, 13 planned for 2018.
- Courses in 2017 were attended by 316 people. 65% participants were from Grey County, 10% from Bruce County, 25% from Other Counties.

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2018 Winter Course List:

Projects We Co-ordinate

Alpaca Info 101

Farm Finance Workshop –Putting It All Together For Profit

Direct Farm Marketing

Beef Info Day

Navigating Changes in Pest Dynamics

Weeds to Watch – Weed ID Workshop

Beekeeping 101 – The Beekeeper's Year

Cover Crop, and Double Crop Forages for Sheep and Cattle

Best Practices To Keep Your Garden Healthy

Home Canning Demonstration

Enhancing On-Farm Biodiversity

Horse Health Night

Introduction to Small Ruminants

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Administrative Services & Project Co-ordination



for a cleaner tomorrow



Georgian Soil & Crop
(Grey, Bruce, Dufferin,
North & South Simcoe
Counties)



A Weston Family Initiative



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Administrative Services & Project Co-ordination

- GBFW is a 7 day agricultural conference featuring a program dedicated to each of the major commodity groups in Grey and Bruce counties and beyond.
- It has an excellent track record of being a well organized, well attended, informative conference.



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Administrative Services & Project Co-ordination

- Interest in GBFW continues to grow, and the reach is extending well beyond the borders of our counties.
- Most years there are about 1300 people in attendance over the course of the 7 day event.



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Administrative Services & Project Co-ordination

- In 2018 we celebrated 52 years of producer education.
- There were a total of 124 sponsors/exhibitors at the 2018 conference.



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Administrative Services & Project Co-ordination

- 50 Major Sponsors (Premier to Silver), supported the conference.
- 52 speakers/panelists presented at #GBFW18.



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Administrative Services & Project Co-ordination

- **New in 2018** – Live Streaming on all 7 days!
- Timing was tight due to internet issues.
- Even with limited promotion due to the tight timing, there were 77 producers who used this online viewing option.

