January 29, 2016

TO: Farm Tour Participants

FROM: Gail Somodi, Soil Conservation Supervisor/Tour Coordinator
gail.somodi@fl.nacdnet.net
Go Green! E-mail me and I'll send out notifications to you via e-mail.

SUBJECT: 2016 Spring Conservation Farm Tour - Book early, tour will fill fast! Friday March 11, 2016

The Manatee River Soil and Water Conservation District (MRSWCD) has been planning a spring farm tour and we hope you will join us!

The tour will depart from the Manatee County fairgrounds (enter from the northeast corner of the fairgrounds off of 17th Street East) in Palmetto on Friday, March 11, 2016. Buses will leave at 8:00 a.m. and return around 4:30 p.m. Please join us on the tour.

The farm tour has several planned stops, including Sweetgrass Farms, established in 2014, where we will see hydroponically grown crops; Char-O-Lot Ranch where we will see Appaloosa horses and learn about their training and breeding; UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center a research and teaching facility focused on plant breeding, entomology, plant pathology, and other disciplines; and Mariposa Nursery growers of small trees, palms, succulents, ornamental grasses and other plants.

Please note that we will be visiting working farms and facilities. Please wear appropriate footwear for potentially rough terrain and dress appropriately for the weather.

The cost for the day is $40 per person. Cost includes transportation, a snack and lunch. We will eat lunch at the GCREC. RESERVATIONS are a must. Please e-mail or call Gail Somodi, Tour Coordinator, in the USDA-NRCS Manasota Service Center at 907-0011 Extension 101 to make your reservations. The Manasota Service Center will be coordinating the event for the Manatee River Soil and Water Conservation District. We will need the names of everyone in your group, mailing addresses and phone numbers. Providing your e-mail address will assist us to communicate with you quickly and will save postage costs. We are not able to accept credit card payments. Refunds for cancellation are at the discretion of the Board. Please mail your check made payable to ‘Manatee River Soil and Water Conservation District’ (MRSWCD) to the office address below:

Manatee River Soil and Water Conservation District
6942 Professional Parkway East
Sarasota, FL  34240

We ask that all money be paid in advance so your seat is guaranteed. Book early, tour will fill fast. Seats are chosen on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the tour.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer