



**NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**New Jersey Department of Agriculture**  
**P. O. Box 330**  
**369 South Warren Street**  
**Trenton, NJ 08625-0330**  
**1-877-AgEd FFA**  
**FAX: (609) 633-2421**

*In cooperation with New Jersey Department of Education*

TO: New Jersey Teachers of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and FFA Members

FROM: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Specialist and State FFA Executive Board

C: Nancy J. Trivette, State FFA Advisor

RE: Leadership Experience and Development (L.E.A.D.) - Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) and State Greenhand Conference (SGC), **Friday, October 9, 2009** 12:00 pm - **Saturday, October 10, 2009**, 6:30 pm; YMCA Camp Ralph S. Mason – 23 Birch Ridge Road, Hardwick, NJ 07825 (*directions on last page*)

DATE: August 19, 2009

The 2009-2010 State Officer Team and New Jersey FFA Alumni Association with the help of the State FFA Executive Committee are excited to announce – **Leadership Experience and Development. (L.E.A.D.)**. L.E.A.D. is a two-conference experience meeting the needs of younger members and chapter officers.

- First-year FFA members in 7-10<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend “**Tropical Island**” at State Greenhand Conference (SGC). State FFA Executive Committee and Alumni members will help participants discover FFA opportunities, plan for Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, learn how to work with a team, and develop personal and leadership goals. By the end of the conference, participants will be awarded certificates of completion for meeting the requirements of the Greenhand FFA Degree.
- Chapter FFA Officers are invited to “**Surviving the Shipwreck**” at Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT). The State FFA Officers will instruct participants in the areas of leadership, communication, officer responsibilities, and teamwork. Chapter officers are requested to bring their chapters most recent Program of Activities (POA) for part of the conference. The officer team will also need a new idea for an activity to further develop and include in their 2009-2010 POA.
  - *As a part of a special session this year, chapter officers are asked to bring 2-3 items that best represent them. The “Me in a Box” session will take place Friday night and will be a great opportunity for chapter officers to get to know each other.*

In addition to enhancing leadership skills, FFA members will meet other members from New Jersey’s 34 FFA Chapters and connect with the state officer team, the State FFA Executive Committee and New Jersey FFA Alumni. During COLT, advisors will play an integral role in the confidence course and working with the chapter officers to develop the POA activity goals and timeline. Advisor workshops and meetings are scheduled throughout the weekend.

### **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

The conference registration fee of \$104 covers four meals, one night’s lodging, conference materials and a 2009-10 state theme t-shirt. **Please submit your registration form by Wednesday, September 16, 2009 by emailing your completed form to [ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us).** PLEASE forward a check for \$104 per participant to: **TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY** with “**FFA LEAD**” identified in the memo section prior to **October 9**. **In addition to your registration, each person attending must complete the Camp Mason Waiver. This waiver can be found on the Ag Ed Bulletin Board.**

The conference will begin with registration at 12:00 pm Friday and end at 6:30 pm on Saturday. **Official dress is required for the first session. It is recommended that your students arrive in official dress.**

## We look forward to seeing you at Camp Mason for L.E.A.D!

### Important LEAD Facts:

1. Conference registration is 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch is own your own.
2. LEAD will kick-off with a joint COLT and SGC session in the Dining Hall promptly at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. LEAD will conclude with an awards banquet on Saturday. Members and advisors must come and stay the entire time.
3. Workshops are designed for dynamic participation where every member will be engaged in discussion, activities and interaction.
4. FFA Members will have several public speaking opportunities that help meet core curriculum content standards in Language Arts (3.3). Workshops will also meet Career Education and Consumer, Family and Life Skills standards 9.1 and 9.2.
5. Awards will be given to recognize leadership skills evident during the weekend. Participants will sign-up with State Officers following the kick-off session. Conference participants will be recognized at the closing session for their achievements.

Awards to be presented are as follows:

<b><u>Chapter Officer Leadership Training</u></b>	<b><u>State Greenhand Conference</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best Chapter Officer Team</li> <li>• Leadership Award</li> <li>• Best First Year Officer (1<sup>st</sup> year as Chapter Officer)</li> <li>• Official Ceremonies - Awarded individually for each office</li> <li>• Best Ice Breaker (activity that gets the conference pumped up)</li> <li>• Best Pitch (a short speech highlighting an FFA opportunity)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creed Speaking Award</li> <li>• Outstanding Greenhand Award</li> <li>• Future Leader Award</li> </ul>

6. Official dress is required during the first session and closing session. When not in official dress, appropriate attire is required (NO flip flops). Please see the definition of causal and official dress below. Members will be asked to wear the State Theme t-shirt they receive for Saturday morning's activities.
7. Every member and advisor needs to bring:
  - Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.)
  - Linens (towel, bedding – including pillow)
  - FFA Manual (recent)
  - Pen/ Pencil
  - Official FFA Dress (see description of attire below)
  - Recreational clothing for confidence course (appropriate footwear is mandatory)
  - Other personal items
  - Me in a Box Items
  - *Note: There is no need for CD player, TVs, or other expensive electronic equipment*
8. Friday night activities include a Halloween dance. Members are encouraged to bring a costume.
9. Lodging will be in cabins. Meals are prepared by the camp.
10. Teachers are responsible for their students at all times. No student should be in the cabins during L.E.A.D. sessions.
11. Teachers will play an integral role in the conference and workshops will be provided.

## Description of Attire

- Official Dress (OD):** Men: Black dress pants (no jeans – blue or black, leather, pleather, etc.), white dress shirt, official FFA tie, black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe (no boots, sandals, open-toed shoes, tennis shoes), black socks, Official FFA jacket zipped to the top
- Ladies: Black skirt (at least knee length, hemmed evenly across the bottom, with a slit no longer than 2 inches above the knee, excluding the kick pleat), white collared blouse, Official FFA blue scarf, black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe (no boots, sandals, open-toed shoes, tennis shoes), black nylon hosiery, Official FFA jacket zipped to the top
- Business Casual (BC):** Includes khakis type pants, and a polo or button down shirt. No jeans.
- Casual Dress (CD):** Includes everything except tank tops, halter-tops, extremely short shorts or short skirts and cut-offs. NO flip flops! Please use your best judgment. This is not a fashion show.

## YMCA CAMP RALPH S. MASON

Camp Mason is located north of the Delaware Water Gap, in rural Warren County. It is about 1.5 hours from the George Washington Bridge, and 2 hours from North Philadelphia.

To reach Camp Mason, take the most direct route to Interstate 80, near the New Jersey, Pennsylvania border.

- From the New York area, take I-280, I-287 or the GSP to I-80.
- From the shore, take the GSP to I-287 or I-280 to I-80.
- From Trenton/east Philadelphia - Routes 31& 46 or 206 North to I-80.
- From West Philadelphia, or Bucks County - Rt. 611 N or the N.E. Extension to 78/22, east to Rt. 33 N to I-80 East.

### ***From Interstate 80 West Bound (NYC & New Jersey)***

1. Take Exit #12, Blirstown/Hope. Proceed right off the ramp onto Rt - 521 North, towards Blirstown.
2. At the T-junction with Rt - 94, turn left (The Forge restaurant is on corner) .
3. Proceed to the first traffic light and make a hard right onto Stillwater Road (Rt - 521).
4. After 2.2 miles make a left onto Spring Valley Road (Rt - 659).
5. Follow Spring Valley Road for 2 miles and then make a right onto Millbrook Road at the T-Intersection.
6. Follow Millbrook Road for 1.7 miles and turn right onto Birch Ridge Road.
7. Camp is 1/4 mile down Birch Ridge Road on the left.
8. Follow the Camp Mason driveway and proceed to the office for a hearty welcome!

### ***From Interstate 80 East Bound (Pennsylvania and Delaware Water Gap)***

1. Take exit 4C (Blirstown, Rt - 94 North).
2. Follow Rt - 94 North to Blirstown ( 8.9 miles).
3. You will pass three gas stations and arrive at a traffic light (onlot the second traffic light that you will meet since I - 80). At the light turn left and then make an immediate right onto Stillwater Road (Rt - 521).
4. After 2.2 miles make a left onto Spring Valley Road (Rt - 659).
5. Follow Spring Valley Road for 2 miles and then make a right onto Millbrook Road at the T-Intersection.
6. Follow Millbrook Road for 1.7 miles and turn right onto Birch Ridge Road .
7. Camp is 1/4 mile down Birch Ridge Road on the left.
8. Follow the Camp Mason driveway and proceed to the office for a hearty welcome!