



12 82 Independence Drive

St. Johns Antigua



Date / Time	Activities
Sept. 25- Oct. 1	Pesticide Awareness Week "Theme: "Save Lives! - Read and Understand Pesticide Labels"
Oct.9-15	Caribbean Week of Agriculture (Dominica)
Oct. 16	World Food Day Theme "Food Prices From Crisis to Stability"
Oct.16 9:30 a.m.	WDF, Church Service St. Luke Anglican, Bendals
Oct.16	WFD Message ABSTV
Oct.17	WFD Media Day
Oct.18	Planting of Trinity Academy School Garden
Oct. 19	Planting of Minoah Magnet Academy School garden
Oct. 20	Bee Buzz RRR
Oct. 21	Donation of Food Baskets
Oct. 21	Schools Farm Visit/ Pep talks
Oct. 22	Famers Market Farmers Market Launch
Oct. 26	Farmers Award Ceremony
Oct. 30	Results KAP Launch Buy Local Campaign
Nov. 1-30	Arbour Month

Disaster Preparedness Toolkit Developed For Agriculture & Livestock Sector

The readiness of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock sectors is critical for the sustainability of our Food Security. It is against this backdrop that the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment through its Communications Unit, along with the input of farmers, and fishers have moved ahead with the development of an emergency preparedness toolkit to assist stakeholders within the sector in their planning efforts toward keeping their pets, livestock's, crops, machineries and equipment safe in the event of a disasters.

The toolkit, which is accessible on the ministry's website www.agricultureantiguabarbuda.com provides resources on how to stay current on your disaster plan, and procedures; examples of how to promote preparedness awareness in your communities and engage other stakeholders in your efforts; as well as resources to educate the community about how to assemble emergency supply kit and make an emergency plan.

The toolkit, entitled "*Saving Animals, Securing Our Fishers and Farms From Disaster*" also outlines for actions Pre, during and Post a disaster.

In addition, there is a tools section which provides sample preparedness brochures, and press materials you can use to develop and distribute your internal preparedness messaging.

A template of the various media houses with their frequencies and other disaster related agencies are also included.

Preparing our Agriculture, Livestock Sector and Fisheries Sectors for unexpected disasters is a civic virtue.



ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

- ARBOUR MONTH
- NATIONAL LAND USE PLAN



Arbor Month Activities 2011

“Money DOES grow on trees!”

- **Workshops:**

November 3rd and November 17th
“General Plant care, Budding and Grafting”

Venue: Botanical Gardens

Time: 12 noon to 1:30pm

WALLINGS ADVENTURE HIKE

18th November

Venue: Wallings Forest

Time: 9am to 3pm

for Secondary Schools only

PLANT FAIR

Date: Thursday 24th
November

Venue: Botanical Gardens

Time: 9am to 3pm

Description: barter trade five
plant bags per plant.

Contact the Environment Division

1 Prime Minister Drive

268 -460 -7278

Final Draft of National Physical Development Plan Due

October 14.

September 1, 2011, St. Johns, Antigua: Critical development and planning related issues which highlight the lack of stringent policies were brought to the forefront as the public consultative process on the National Physical development Plan (NPDP), gets underway.

The final draft of the National Physical development Plan, is expected to be submitted to cabinet on October 14 highlights five key planning goals, to maintain and enhance eco-system integrity, foster economic development and engaging livelihoods, enhance livability, improve accessibility and promote efficient and effective governance.

Wednesdays Night, stakeholders spanning various agencies, the public and officials from the public sector added their voice to the draft Sustainable Island Resource Management Zoning Plan (SIRMZP), during a consultation held at the Multipurpose Cultural centre.

The consultation was among series of advocacy being planned to receive feedback on the draft document, which will serve as a guideline for strategic, national spatial development framework that addresses current flaws, and provides the platform for feasible private and public sector expansion.

Section seven, will examine Land Use and Development Control Policies, relating to Development control administrative structure, planning and development control process and development control guidelines for discrete spatial units. While section eight, deals with the implementation process in these phases the immediate actions, short-term actions and long-term actions. The process is expected to take approximately 20 –years.



Code Of Conduct In the Pipeline For Ministries' Staff

The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment as part of efforts to enhance its human resources capacity and the conditions under which employees function, a zero tolerance approach has been taken to workplace violence, including threats, insubordination, harassment, wanton submission of sick leaves, absenteeism, habitual lateness, physical assault, disruptive behaviors and any other matter that compromises workplace safety or the smooth operations within the ministry.

Moves have been made to nip, what appeared to be a developing trend of senior managers reporting that their lives have been threatened by employees. Concerns of insubordination, harassment, disruptive behaviors, the lack of regards for other person's workstation and property is becoming worrisome. Punitive actions have been taken against several employees in the past for infringement of workplace conduct, in some cases relating to theft and threat the police were called in.

Workplace safety is of utmost importance to this ministry; therefore early intervention helps prevent more serious acts. The Ministry recognizes its duty to furnish each employee in its employment and is mandated by law to recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm, whether emotionally or physiologically to its employees.

Staff members need to discern an "empty threat" from one that is serious. You are advised to be sensitive of about our safety code, by knowing when a threat should be reported to the police or when to obtain outside help to address these matters.



Read the Label

Over the years, the week has amplified

various messages, to include:

2004

‘Everyone has a role to play in improving the management of pesticides for a safer Caribbean Environment’

2005

“Integrating Actions for Safe Chemicals Management”

2006

“Pesticide Registration: Facilitating Trade, Protecting Health, and Environment”

2007

“Pesticide Registration: Assurance of the safe and efficient use of pesticides in Agriculture and Public Health”

2008

“Rational Pest and Pesticide Management = Food Security and Healthy Environment”

2009

“Improving Pesticide Management through Education and Participation”

2010

“Eliminating Obsolete Pesticides Today for a Healthier Tomorrow”

2011

“Save Lives! – Read and Understand Pesticide Labels” The PTCCB is constituted under the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment.

PTCCB Seeks Community Partnership To Combat Pesticide Overuse

Pesticide Awareness Week was celebrated throughout the week September 25 to October 01, 2011.

The Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Control Board (PTCCB) engaged in a series of activities under the theme “Save lives!-Read and Understand Pesticide Labels”.

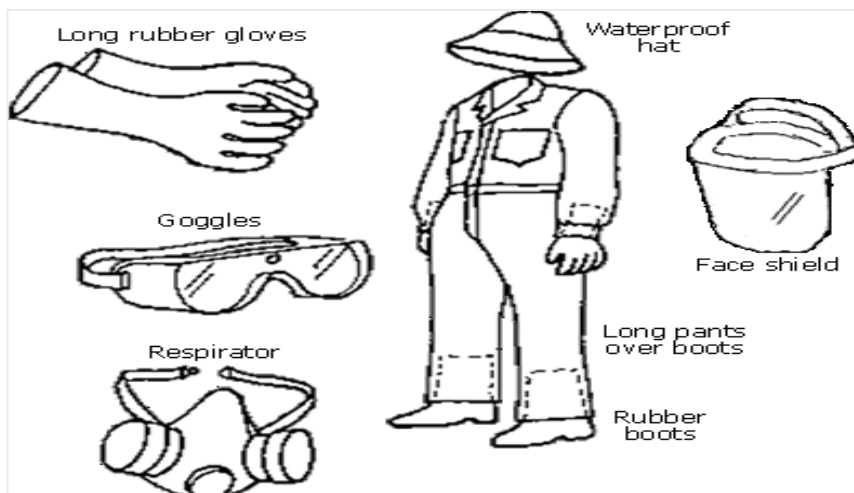
Chairman of the Pesticide and Toxic Chemicals Control Board (PTCCB), Dr. Malverne Spencer said, the week is being planned to heighten awareness of the need for the safe use and improved management of pesticides and other toxic chemicals.

As part of this thrust, the PTCCB a seminar entitled “Effective Regulatory Management of Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals” was held on 28th September, 2011 Fisheries Complex Conference room Point Wharf.

Dr. Spencer explained that pesticides by their nature, pose some risk to humans, animals or the environment. Therefore, he said it is critical that the pesticide labels are used as a guide for safe and effective usage.

The chairman of the PTCCB reiterated that the label contains pertinent information, and urge all stakeholders to read and understand its’ content before any pesticide and chemical is being.

The PTCCB is requesting the continued partnership of all media houses to amplify the theme, “Save Lives! Read and Understand Pesticide Labels” With the tagline: A message from the Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Control Board Contact: 268 -462 9191.





Campaign



MINISTRY SEEKS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN

The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment will be conducting a Knowledge Attitude and Perception (KAP) Assessment throughout the month of October, as a guide for the launching of a buy –local campaign.

This proposed buy –local campaign will seek to strengthen the local economy by promoting the country's local produce, services, and locally made products.

Chief among the objectives is the Identification of Consumers' Barriers to Buying Local through the execution of a Knowledge Attitude and Perception (KAP) Assessment. Additional objectives include the shift in consumer behavior, development of a strategy that encourages customers to identify with "being Local."

In this regard, the ministry has developed a questionnaire which will be used for the sole purpose a Knowledge Attitude Perception (KAP) assessment to aid in the determination of barriers to persons buying local product and services.

The KAP assessment is being executed by the Communication Unit within the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment which will form the basis for the launching of a National Buy Local Campaign. A multi-sectoral Steering Committee will be established to plan and implement various phases of the Buy -Local Campaign.

Permanent Secretary Mrs. Sharon Peters said, the ministry is interested in learning about local food consumption and its effects on economic development. "The Ministry is requesting the public's co-operation in creating a detail picture of local resources, the expectations of consumers and understanding the kinds of contributions that local products/services/ commodity make to the community. Our questionnaire focuses on the consumption of local food products and locally made products, and will take the average learner approximately five minutes to complete."

The questionnaire could be accessed on the Ministry's Website at www.agricultureantiguabarbuda.com.

The completed forms could be emailed to agriculturecommunication@gmail.com. Throughout the remaining portion of the month representatives from the communication unit will be at various locations requesting the public's participation.

For information on how to participate please contact the Communication Unit at 268 -562-6524.

A KAP assessment is being conducted the form could be downloaded from www.agricultureantiguabarbuda.com or contact 562-6524



**2012 Ministry Directory
Coming Soon!**



*Regional Food & Nutrition
Security Policy (FNSP)*

Agriculture Policy

*For further Information
Contact: the office of the
Director of Agriculture
268 -764-1259*



*This Newsletter is a production of the
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