Visit Northumberland County and the Northern Neck Farm Museum

History of the Farm Museum

The Northern Neck Farm Museum began with a collector, an individual who refused to discard what was once considered useful and later became obsolete.

In his 50-plus years of farming, Luther Welch (right), a native of Northumberland County, grew his collection of farm equipment and wanted to share it. Other farmers and community members shared his dream and a five county regional museum was formed in 2006 to tell the story of agriculture on the Northern Neck of Virginia.

The Northern Neck of Virginia has a rich agricultural tradition. From the early American Indians who grew maize, squash and beans to the present-day farmer managing hundreds of acres of corn, soybeans and small grains, the accumulated knowledge of the land from generations of participants in this life-sustaining activity is worthy of a permanent display of appreciation. The goal of the museum is to develop exhibits that span the years from early American Indian agriculture through the present.

The museum is a recognized 501c3 non-profit corporation dedicated to creating a center devoted to preserving and sharing the history of farming and forestry and its cultural impacts on society. Education is primary to the museum with fieldtrip programs for the school systems and general public visitation as the top priorities.

Heather Drinkwater, the Education and Administrative Coordinator, is available to answer questions and assist with a visit to the museum. Her phone number is 804-761-5952.

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Watch the grand opening of the Northern Neck Farm Museum filmed in 2008.