

Rodale Bus Trip OCTOBER 21, 2019



Managing tillage in organic systems for maximum soil health (Farming Systems Trial)





- Organic ag is growing in the landscape and in the market
- Reducing tillage without synthetic herbicides is difficult





▶ Rodale Institute founded in 1947 by organic pioneer J.I. Rodale to study the link between healthy soil, healthy food and healthy people





- Rodale Institute's research department is committed to building healthy soil through organic practices and establishing research projects that...
 - ...give farmers the tools and knowledge to increase soil health, crop quality and yields while simplifying farm management overall.
 - ...ensure citizens feel confident the food they feed their families is good for them and for the world around them.



- Farming Systems
 Trial
 - ▶ Organic Manure
 - Organic Legume
 - Conventional Synthetic
 - ▶ No-Till Systems
- Vegetable Systems Trial
- ▶ Livestock

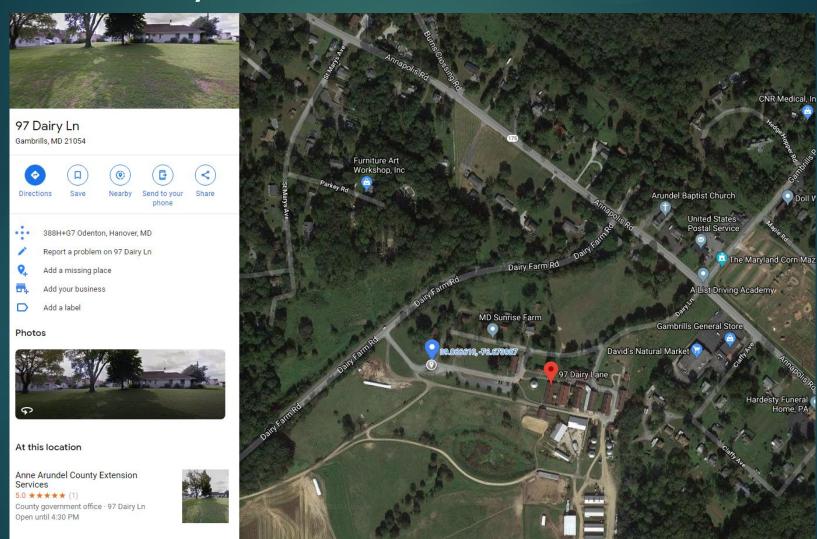


Introductions

- Nevin Dawson, UMD Extension
- Alexis Baden-Mayer, Organic Consumers Association
- Lisa Garfield, Future Harvest CASA
- Peter Lawson Coffey, UMD Extension
- •Tod Wickersham, Beneficial Results LLC/MDA healthy soils advisory committee
- Weida Stoecker, Md Department Agriculture
- Caroline Trossbach, St. Mary's Soil Conservation District
- Jocephus Weeks, Bowie State University



97 Dairy Ln., Gambrills, MD



- 7:45 Depart Sunrise Farm, Gambrills MD
 - ~8:45 pickup at I-83 & MD-439 park & ride
 - Restroom stop at Cracker Barrel
 - Restroom stop
 - Activities
 - ▶ Listen to Soil Health podcasts (http://notillveggies.org/soilpodcast/) and discuss
- ▶ 11:15 Arrive Rodale
- ▶ 11:30 Welcome and overview
- 12:00 Working Lunch: Soil health, organic production, and tillage
 - Dr. Andrew Smith, Chief Scientist
 - Dr. Emmanuel Omondi, Director of Farming Systems Trial
 - Dr. Yichao Rui, Soil Scientist
- 1:00 Field tour
 - Bonus topics: industrial hemp and deep soil core sampling
- 2:30 Roundtable discussion with speakers
- ▶ 3:00 Depart Rodale
 - Activities
 - Planning for integrating lessons learned into future work
- 6:30 Arrive Sunrise Farm, Gambrills