Hello Farmland Advisors,

                On \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you are registered to participate in the Agricultural Conservation Easements: A Tool to Support the Next Generation Networking Call.   The following Farmland Advisors will be on the call: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The number to use for your call is: (605) 475-4810, 487106#.

These calls are an important part of building a strong Farmland Advisors’ network, a group of agricultural and land conservation professionals who share resources, strategies and creative solutions.   We hope they will provide a forum for peer learning and information exchange.  To make the most of these calls, please take time to review the information included in this email and come to your Networking Call prepared to participate.

Prior to your call, please review the below questions.  The facilitator for your call will use these questions to guide the conversation.   Because the calls are structured to be interactive discussions, each Advisor may be asked to share his or her perspective around a question to ensure that everyone has a chance to speak.

The following questions and issues will be discussed during your Networking Call:

1. What are the biggest needs that you’ve heard about from next generation farmers regarding farming protected land or buying land and protecting it with an agricultural conservation easements (Ex. farmland affordability, value-added processing, agritourism and agriculture-related ventures, renewable energy, etc)?
2. What is your organization’s experience in addressing these needs?
3. Has your organization used farmland access or affordability provisions in agricultural conservation easements?  If you have incorporated such provisions in your easements, what has been your experience?  If not, describe your questions or concerns about them.
4. What trainings or educational materials do you use or are needed to help senior generation or next generation farmers understand the ways that agricultural conservation easements can be used to facilitate farm transfers and access to farmland?
5. What are the most substantial trends related to climate change that will impact the next generation of farmers and should be addressed in agricultural conservation easements?
6. What are the most significant challenges to ensuring that protected farms stay in active agriculture over the long-term?

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your hard work and for helping to participate in and build the Farmland Advisors’ Network.

**Tim Biello**

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