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## March Barnyard Newsletter and Calendar

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**Friends of Family Farmers** <info@friendsoffamilyfarmers.org>  
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To: Sarah Peters <sarah@friendsoffamilyfarmers.org>

Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 1:31 PM



### Join Us: April 4 Rally and Day of Action at the State Capitol!

On Tuesday April 4, 2017, Friends of Family Farmers will be holding our fourth biennial 'Family Farms Mean Business' Rally and day of action and events at the State Capitol in Salem!

#### RSVP Today!

Join us in Salem for a day of education, action and fun! The Family Farms Mean Business day at the State Capitol will include educational workshops, a mid-day rally on the Capitol steps, an indoor 'farmers market' to promote the positive impact of direct marketing and small farms, and more.

The Rally will take place on the State Capitol steps at 12:30 pm and is open to all, but we are requesting RSVPs in advance for those planning to attend morning policy workshops and afternoon meetings with Legislators.

We hope to see you there!

[Donate Today!](#)

[Volunteer with FoFF!](#)

#### Calendar of Events

**March 11** - [Living on a Few Acres Conference - Redmond](#)

**March 11** - [Advanced Farm Equipment Class - Medford](#)

**March 11** - [Community Food Land Trust Info Session - Philomath](#)

**March 11** - [CSA Share Fair - Portland](#)

**March 14** - [Feeder Hog Seminar - Woodburn](#)

**March 15** - [Agricultural Biodiversity on Western Farms -](#)



RSVP Here: [Join us at the State Capitol on April 4](#)

## Urge Governor Brown to Say 'No' to the Lost Valley Mega-Dairy!

Governor Kate Brown needs to hear from you. Oregon is facing a new threat to family-scale farms and our environment. A California company has applied for a water pollution (NPDES) permit for a new 30,000-cow mega-dairy near Boardman, OR called 'Lost Valley Ranch.'

### Take Action: Send an Email to Governor Kate Brown today

This industrial scale dairy would generate 187 million gallons of manure each year, roughly the biological waste of a city the size of Portland. The proposal threatens to pollute groundwater in a part of state that already has groundwater pollution issues related to nearby large livestock operations and other large-scale agricultural activities, the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area.

Additionally, if approved now, the proposed mega-dairy will also be able to take advantage of an Oregon loophole that allows unchecked air pollution from industrial scale livestock operations.

Lost Valley Ranch, if approved, would be Oregon's second largest dairy operation and it would be far larger in size and impact than the average dairy farm in the state.

Since the time that Oregon's first mega-dairy came to our state in 2001, we have lost over 75% of our dairy farms, mostly small and mid-sized operations, even as dairy cow numbers have risen. Industrial scale dairies not only create environmental problems, they are making it harder for our smaller farms to survive.

[Conservation Practices Working for Farmers - Troutdale](#)

[March 16 - Integrating Beneficial Habitat on the Farm - Aurora](#)

[March 21 - Assistance Programs and Educational Resources for Organic Farming Operations - Webinar](#)

[March 21 - Gaining Ground Film Showing - Salem](#)

[March 22 - On Farm Food Safety Training - Ellensburg, WA](#)

[March 23 - Opportunities in Organic Networking Event - Spokane, WA](#)

[March 28 - InFARMation - Portland](#)

[March 29 - Exploring the Small Farm Dream - Central Point](#)

[April 4 - Family Farms Mean Business - Rally and Day of Action - Salem](#)

[April 6 - Unlocking the Secrets of Soil Health in Organic Systems - Aurora](#)

[April 8 - Soil School - Portland](#)

[April 8 - Welding and Basic Metal Work for Small Farms - Medford](#)



It is time for Governor Kate Brown to stand up and deny the water pollution permit for the Lost Valley Ranch mega-dairy and to support new air pollution regulations for factory farms in Oregon. Please take action today!

Take Action!

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## Contact Us

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***We bring together farmers and citizens to shape and support socially and environmentally responsible family-scale agriculture in Oregon.***

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