

The Times Leader

Tour to highlight issues of farming on strip mine land

Register now for June 9 trip

BELMONT — A farm tour highlighting the challenges faced when trying to farm strip mine land is slated from 8 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. June 9 at Valley View Campgrounds, located at 43169-43247 National Road, Belmont.

The tour will continue on at a reclamation site and an agricultural site.

At the reclamation site, people can see first-hand what landowner and Jefferson County Commissioner Tom Gentile is doing to enhance the quality of his previously strip mined property.

At the agriculture site, learn what Rick Young, owner of Young's Cattle Company, does to ensure the success of his cattle operation. Also on site will be Division of Mineral Resources discussing the regulations and permitting that they handle regarding strip mine land, and DVM Em Mowrer discussing herd health.

People will also have the opportunity to attend informative workshops based on soil health, conservation, and reclamation. This event is free and open to the public. Two Stack-Bar-B-Que will be serving chicken and pulled pork to all participants.

Be sure to stay for the entire event to be eligible to win a door prize. Registration is required by May 26; call the Belmont Soil and Water Conservation office at 740-526-0027 to register.

This event is sponsored by Farm Credit Mid America and Ohio River Collieries.