



Pennsylvania
Department of Agriculture

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Contact: Shannon Powers, 717.603.2056, aginfo@pa.gov

MEDIA ADVISORY: WEDNESDAY IN Port Matilda – Governor Josh Shapiro’s 2026-27 Budget Creates \$10 Million Fund to Support Pennsylvania Fruit Growers Harmed by Devastating Spring Freeze

Port Matilda, PA – Tomorrow, **Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding** will visit **Way Fruit Farm** in Centre County to meet with growers whose fruit crops were devastated by the late-April freeze.

Secretary Redding will highlight the [2026-27 state budget](#) Governor Shapiro recently signed, which invests **\$10 million in Freeze Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants** to help fruit growers recover from this year’s unprecedented crop losses.

WHO:

Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding
State Representative Scott Conklin
Centre County Commissioner Mark Higgins
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Tommy Nagle
State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania (SHAP) President Sarah Zost
Pasa Associate Director of Policy Noah Erwin
Way Fruit Farm Owners Jason and Megan (Way) Coopey

WHEN: Wednesday, July 22 at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: 2355 Halfmoon Valley Road, Port Matilda, PA 16870

(Press conference to precede an orchard tour).

RSVP: Please email aginfo@pa.gov if you would like to attend.