



Farm Bureau Events

(at a glance)

Events in RED are National
Events in BLUE are State

Scheduled Events

January

American Farm Bureau Convention

Farm Bureau is local, county, state, national and international in its scope and influence. This Convention is the annual gathering of members from across the nation.

Reasons to attend: educational workshops and local agriculture tours, expand your leadership skills and industry networks, take part in impactful policy discussions brought forth from the state Farm Bureaus, celebrate the accomplishments of leaders in agriculture, witness powerful keynote speakers, explore the IDEAg Trade Show, shop featured products, learn about innovative technologies, and enjoy TED-style talks.

January

Ag Fest at the Capitol

This event is hosted by Arizona Farm Bureau at the Arizona Department of Agriculture for members of the Arizona legislative body – the House and Senate. All county Farm Bureaus are encouraged to participate, and are asked to have an educational booth about their county's commodities and a food item to give away. The same day, the Young Farmer & Rancher Program also hosts a "Day at the Capitol" to help YF&R members learn how to interact with legislators.

Reasons to attend: opportunity to have the state legislative body interact with all commodity groups in the state, provides one-on-one interaction between Farm Bureau members and legislators, allows members to discuss Farm Bureau priorities with legislators, cultivates county teamwork, interactive event that everyone can appreciate.

February

Women's Leadership "Legislative Day"

Women's Leadership members interactive with their legislators in a one-on-one interaction while discussing priorities with legislators that affect their farm or ranch.

Reason to attend: opportunity to discuss priorities with legislators and learn what they want to know about farming and ranching in Arizona.

February

National Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference

YF&R Leadership Conference brings together YF&R members from across the nation.

Reasons to attend: network with other young agriculturalists from around the nation. Activities include local agriculture tours, collegiate Discussion Meet*, hands on learning sessions on-advocacy, business, collegiate and professional development, communication, education, leadership, rural development and entrepreneurship, and technology.

February

Fusion Conference (*occurs every few years*)

The national FUSION (*Farmers United: Skills, Inspiration, Outreach and Networking*) Conference brings together volunteer leaders from the Promotion & Education, Women's Leadership and Young Farmers & Ranchers programs.

Reasons to attend: activities include local agriculture tours, collegiate Discussion Meet*, hands on learning sessions on-advocacy, business, collegiate and professional development, communication, education, leadership, rural development and entrepreneurship, and technology.

February

Farm Bureau Advocacy Conference, Washington D.C. (*occurs every other year*)

This conference gives Farm Bureau leaders, members, and staff the opportunity to attend interactive workshops and in-depth training sessions, while networking with Farm Bureau leaders from across the country who share a passion for

agricultural advocacy. Meetings with state congressional members are also setup by state staff.

Reasons to attend: participate in the national Issues Advisory Committee Meetings*, learn the dos and don'ts for interacting with lawmakers and other policy related breakout sessions, hear briefings on the American Farm Bureau's strategic plans for national agricultural issues, and meet with Arizona congressional members.

March

State Commodity Committee Meetings

Commodity Committees meet to discuss issues in each Committee, and mark the beginning of the Policy Development Process in Arizona Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau members from around the state are appointed to the Committees in September of each year, and are not required to hold an official office to sit on them.

Reasons to attend: surface issues as they relate to all commodities within our state, aide in the beginning stages of the Policy Development Process, which guides the official policies of the Arizona Farm Bureau and its lobbying efforts. Participate in the most direct form of grassroots policy development within the organization.

March

Ag in the Classroom Dr Seuss Ag Literacy Event

The purpose of the Dr Seuss Ag Literacy Event is to educate students Kinder-2nd grade about where their food comes from. Kinder classrooms learn about the importance of bees and pollination while learning the bee dances, 1st Grade classrooms learn about the parts of a seed and get to dissect their very own seed, while 2nd grade classrooms learn about the difference between beef and dairy cattle. The first 500 teachers to sign-up get to keep the book for their classroom library.

Reasons to volunteer: it is important that students and teacher throughout the state have someone they can turn to for questions about food and how food is being produce. Who better to ask then a farmer/rancher?! Building relationships with students and teachers in your local schools/communities help prevent many of the misconceptions that are learned in classroom settings.

April

Ag in the Classroom Spring Ag Literacy Event

The purpose of the Spring Ag Literacy Event is to educate students Kinder-2nd grade about where their food comes from. Teachers explore the world of food through a story and a hands-on activity. The first 500 teachers to sign-up get to keep the book for their classroom library.

Reasons to volunteer: it is important that students and teacher throughout the state have someone they can turn to for questions about food and how food is being produce. Who better to ask then a farmer/rancher?! Building relationships with students and teachers in your local schools/communities to help prevent some of the misconceptions that are gained in the classroom setting.

May

AZFB Spring State Board Trip to Washington D.C.

An opportunity for members of the state board to travel to D.C. and meet with congressmen to discuss AZFB issues and priorities for the next year.

Reasons to attend: lobby on behalf of agriculture at our nation's capital, meet with congressmen/women and staff, learn how Farm Bureau works as a political organization.

May - July

Statewide County Policy Development Meetings

Agricultural members are invited to local county Policy Development Meetings to discuss 5-year policy recommendations, committee issues surfaced in March, and to create or edit policy for the current year.

Reasons to attend: be up to speed on expiring policies within the Arizona Farm Bureau, propose new policies if needed, review issues surfaced earlier in the year, help guide the direction of the Arizona Farm Bureau.

July

Arizona Farm Bureau - Women in Agriculture Conference

This annual conference is hosted by the Arizona Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee (WLC), the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the Arizona State Cowbelles, Arizona Beef Council, Arizona Department of Agriculture, and the Arizona Milk Producers.

Reasons to attend: hear from agricultural leaders from across the state, engage in interactive workshops to improve advocacy, marketing, learn about technology, food safety, and improve business skills. Network with likeminded women, and men, from around the state.

August

Statewide County Farm Bureau Annual Meetings

Agricultural members are invited to their local Annual Meetings to vote on a board of directors, state delegates, proposed policy from the Policy Development Meeting, and honor Farm Bureau award and scholarships recipients. Dinner is provided.

Reasons to attend: vote on proposed new policies and recommendations from the Policy Development Meeting, vote on new board members and delegates, network with local agricultural leaders, help guide the direction of the county and state Farm Bureaus.

September

AZFB Fall State Board Trip to Washington D.C.

An opportunity for members of the state board to travel to D.C. and meet with congressmen to discuss AZFB issues and priorities for the next year.

Reasons to attend: lobby on behalf of agriculture at our nation's capital, meet with congressmen/women and staff, learn firsthand how Farm Bureau works as a political organization.

October

Ag in the Classroom Pumpkin Ag Literacy Event

The purpose of the Pumpkin Ag Literacy Event is to educate students Kinder-2nd grade about pumpkins and where and how they are grown. Students learn about pumpkins through a Life Cycle Story and a hands-on activity reinforcing the concepts they learned through the story. The first 500 teachers to sign-up get to keep the book for their classroom library.

Reasons to Volunteer: it is important that students and teacher throughout the state have someone they can turn to for questions about food and how food is being produce. Who better to ask then a farmer/rancher?! Building relationships with students and teachers in your local schools/communities to help prevent many of the misconceptions that are obtained through the classroom setting.

October - December

Ag in the Classroom "From Farm to Football"

Ag in the Classroom has partnered with Hickman Family Farms to administer From Farm to Football. This program runs October-December and introduces students to the role that agriculture plays in their everyday life. With the help of the Arizona Cardinals, agriculture is made cool by a player who talks about the importance of agriculture in his daily life on and off the football field. Each month students can pen pal with a different farmer/rancher to learn about that month's commodity.

Reasons to Solicit Schools: this program has offers students a once in a lifetime opportunity to learn about agriculture through an Arizona Cardinals player. The program is free for schools and also provides a plethora of other classroom education materials.

November

Arizona Farm Bureau State Annual Meeting

Delegates will be voting on proposed policy from each county and will also be voting for state board officers. Meeting will include speakers on various relevant topics as well as an appreciation dinner.

Reasons to attend: vote on proposed new policies and recommendations from the county Farm Bureaus, vote on new state board members and officers, network with local agricultural leaders, take part in a Women’s Leadership Event, help guide the direction of the Arizona Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau - if a new national policy is recommended to be elevated to the next level of the organization.

November

State Young Farmer & Rancher Annual Meeting

Arizona Young Farmers and Ranchers gather for leadership workshops, networking and voting on leadership for the Arizona YF&R program. Program varies from year to year.

Reasons to attend: growing in leadership is a big part of the Arizona YF&R this meeting has in-depth leadership training and workshops to help YF&R members in Farm Bureau and in their everyday life. Officers for the Arizona YF&R are voted on by attending members.

Un-Scheduled Events

Ongoing

Ag in the Classroom

Schedule events at farming and ranching operations or in the classroom to educate and promote agriculture.

Membership Drives

Recruit new members for Farm Bureau.
