

September 2010 Newsletter

ANNOUNCING TWO NEW INTERNET SITES!

Two new websites have been set up to promote citizen enjoyment of the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve. The first is our Sugarloaf site which is designed to support our mission to preserve and protect agriculture. Founded in 1973, Sugarloaf Citizens' Association (SCA) has been at the forefront in solving a long list of problematic issues, such as the expansion of the power plant, the development of the incinerator, curbside recycling, businesses operating in violation of the rules governing the Ag Reserve, suburban type developments, and the power transmission lines, to name a few.

The new website offers background on all issues that impact the Ag Reserve and spells out SCA positions and actions. It also tells you how to access our headquarters at Linden Farm and announces upcoming events such the potluck on October 17 (see the website for details). To utilize these services go to www.sugarloafcitizens.org and sign up to be a member and receive monthly e-mail updates, including a copy of our newsletter in the *Monocacy Monocle*.

The other site is: www.sugarloafregionaltrails.org created by our friends at Sugarloaf Regional Trails (SRT). Founded in 1974 under the guidance of Fritz Gutheim, SRT has been a leader in promoting the natural, cultural and historical features of the Ag Reserve. With the help of local volunteers a series of trail guides were developed in 1978 describing the unique features of the Ag Reserve and how to explore them by foot, canoe, bike, automobile and rail. The first trail guides were printed pamphlets that were provided free to all who wanted to enjoy the Reserve. In 1980, and again in 1999, these guides were updated serving as the major source of trail information for the following decade. Now SRT has adopted advanced technology that provides both old and new trails in an upgraded guide on the internet that can be downloaded or used online for mobile devices.

We announce these two websites as a support of whatever attracts you to the Ag Reserve. Whether you choose to explore the trails in the Reserve or to join the dedicated volunteers who protect agriculture in our region, the information is at your fingertips.