



BIOGRAPHY

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PETER FUREY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEW JERSEY FARM BUREAU

Peter Furey has been executive director of the New Jersey Farm Bureau since 1982. His responsibilities encompass organizing and executing the mission of the Farm Bureau through varied initiatives and activities.

Among them are encouraging government legislation to be fair and favorable to New Jersey farming interests, monitoring public and agri-business policies, raising public awareness on the importance of farming to the New Jersey economy and quality of life, involvement with natural resource and business management regulations, advocating for and assisting with improvement of marketing systems for farm commodities, expansion of agricultural research and farmer training programs, continuation of farmers' access to ground and surface water for irrigation, alleviation of crop damage from wildlife, taxation, labor and other issues.

A native of Haddonfield, NJ, Furey has been involved with the state's land use and natural resources throughout his career. He began as a land-use planner for Ocean County government, moving on in 1979 to project director of the Grass Roots farmland preservation study for the NJ Department of Agriculture. The Grass Roots study led to the Agricultural Retention & Development Act of 1981. As executive director of the Farm Bureau, he has been involved with the major issues affecting agriculture and with many of the key political personalities in the state for the past two decades.

Furey graduated from Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, with a degree in economics, prior to which he studied at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in Washington, DC. He lives in Moorestown, NJ, with his family.

The New Jersey Farm Bureau is a member organization of more than 19,000 farmers and farm-related entities within the Garden State. It is the only organization solely dedicated to representing the grass-roots interests and directives of its members in educating all levels of government and the public on the farm community's policies and positions. The Farm Bureau also takes a lead in seeking out initiatives, activities and ventures to enhance the profitability of producer members and the ensure the viability of agriculture in New Jersey -- *the Garden State for Good Reason.*