



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Cuyahoga Valley National Park
15610 Vaughn Road
Brecksville, Ohio 44141-3097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L1425

July 29, 2011

SUBJECT: Request for Proposals (RFP)

Enclosed is a copy of the 2011 Request for Proposals (RFP) package for leasing farm properties in Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). We appreciate your interest, and wish you every success in preparing a proposal.

Please Note: while the overall RFP evaluation factors have remained the same from prior RFP offerings, the questions and the response format have changed. Proposers familiar with prior RFP's are advised to carefully read the RFP and, in particular, the Proposal Content and Development sections.

Completed proposals are due to CVNP Headquarters by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday October 3, 2011 (see page 22 of the RFP for submission details). Proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

We expect to evaluate all proposals, and select and notify finalists by the end of October. Interviews, as needed, will be conducted in November, with a final determination of the selected lessees for the farms by the end of November. It is anticipated that the leases can be signed in December, and that the lessees will have access to their farms shortly thereafter.

Two tours of each farm will be conducted in August. These tours will provide an opportunity to see and discuss the properties. CVNP and Cuyahoga Valley Countryside Conservancy (CVCC) staff will conduct the tours. Supplemental information not included in the RFP is available on CVNP and CVCC websites as well as at the tours (see page 23 of the RFP for a list of materials available, and website addresses). Tour times and locations are attached to this letter.

The CVCC was originally established to help CVNP manage the Countryside Initiative program, and in particular, help with recruiting prospective farmers. For that reason the CVCC will serve as the primary contact for interested proposers; should you need additional information or assistance, please contact Darwin Kelsey and Julie Gabelman at 330-657-2542.

Once again, thank you for your interest. Good Luck!

Superintendent

Enclosure