



## WVDA SAVINGS

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### WVDA Savings Since 2017:

- WVDA's FY 2021 General Revenue appropriation is at the same level as it was in FY 2008, \$12M. Although the Legislature has increased WVDA's mandates for several new programs over the last decade, WVDA's General Revenue appropriation has also been cut more than \$4M.
- Adjusting for recent programs transferred into or added to WVDA by the Legislature, the current year General Revenue funding level is 15% or \$1,975,498 less than FY 2008's. Thus, WVDA receives almost two million dollars less from General Revenue now than we did 13 years ago to carry out our mandated duties.
- The WVDA has reduced travel costs for FY 2017 – FY 2020 by 26.9% or \$1.1M compared to FY 2013 – 2016.
- The WVDA has reduced the number of vehicles purchased FY 2017 – FY 2020 by 28% compared to FY 2013 – 2016.
- The WVDA has five fewer FTEs compared to the previous administration.
- Exxon Card Phased out in 2018 reducing the cost of WVDA fuel by one percent.

### Funding Brought to WV:

- 20 million more gross receipts of timber and lumber sales increased in first year by changing phytosanitary inspection process.
- The WVDA brought the Department of Defense Fresh Program contract back to a West Virginia company. This created an estimated 40 jobs.
- The WVDA helped secured AML grant monies to help Buzz Foods expand their meat processing facility in the Kanawha Valley.
- Meat processing has increased by 200% while livestock slaughter is up 40%.
- The WVDA has expanded the Veterans and Heroes to Agriculture program to help veterans and emergency response personnel through agri-therapy
- The WVDA secured a USDA Farm-to-School grant to increase fresh fruit and vegetables into schools.

### Unfunded Mandates:

- Publishing of the Monthly Market Bulletin.
- Providing Livestock Grading services to all markets in the state.
- Conducting Animal Health inspections at all the fairs, shows, sales, etc. which allow interstate commerce.
- Managing the West Virginia Grown program to help in-state producers market their products.
- Managing the Captive Cervid Program.
- Managing the Wild and Dangerous Animal Act without any support.
- Enforcing the Fresh Food Act which requires all state agencies that purchase food commodities to source five percent of those commodities from in-state producers.

## Underfunded Mandates:

- Running the West Virginia Hemp program. Fees charged to producers do not cover all WVDA expenses.
- Overseeing auctioneers in the state which requires licensing and consumer protection measures.
- Monitoring all West Virginia Farmers Markets, which WVDA has begun to oversee in an effort to reduce regulation and increase opportunities for local producers.

## Frequent Funding Requested:

- Previous commitments to Wild Ramp and Central City Farmers Market in Huntington, as well as the Capitol Market in Charleston. Previously, these markets were earmarked specific funding within the budget bill. The WVDA has combined that line item to allow other markets to tap into this appropriation.

