

Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture  
**KENT A. LEONHARDT**



304-558-3550

agriculture.wv.gov



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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**Contact: Crescent Gallagher**  
Communications Director  
304/558-3708; 304/380-3922 (cell)  
[cgallagher@wvda.us](mailto:cgallagher@wvda.us)

## **Commissioner of Agriculture Applauds EPA WOTUS Decision**

**Charleston, W.Va.** – Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt issued a statement on the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) decision to withdraw the Waters of the United States Rule (WOTUS). With the removal of the 2015 Clean Water Rule, the EPA will recodify its 1986 regulations.

“This is a great day for our West Virginia farmers. WOTUS created unnecessary and burdensome regulations that had dire effects on farm operations throughout the Mountain State. It was ridiculous to consider ditches, ponds and streams as navigable waterways as the previous rules did. WOTUS rules were nothing but overreach by the federal government. I applaud the EPA’s decision to reverse its course,” stated Commissioner Leonhardt.

For more information or the full press release from the EPA, click here:

<http://www.nasda.org/News/PressReleases/50358.aspx>.

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