

Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture
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NEWS RELEASE
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WVDA & WILDLIFE SERVICE CONTINUE PREDATOR CONTROL MANAGEMENT

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Service (WS), have renewed their cooperative agreement for predator control in West Virginia. Since 1996, the WVDA and WS have been working together through the Integrated Predation Management Program to protect livestock from depredation.

“Newborn calves and lambs are prime targets for coyotes and other predators. The WS does an amazing job managing these predators,” said Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt. “Raising livestock is a \$200 million industry in West Virginia that we must protect.”

There has been a change in WS national policy on the use and placement of M-44 devices. Under the new policy, M-44s cannot be placed within a half mile of an occupied residence. The restriction does not apply to an occupied residence on a cooperator’s property if the cooperator requests placement of the device and documents notification of any residents on that property.

If you have any questions, please contact the WS office at (304) 636-1785 or the WVDA at (304) 558-3200.

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