

FSCAP Certified Steward

Alan, Hans and Jennie Schmidt Schmidt Farms, Inc.



Schmidt Farms, Inc. is a third generation family farm in Queen Anne's County with a focus on sustainability. Originally a livestock and grain operation, the farm diversified when brothers Hans and Alan Schmidt took over management of the farm in the 1990s. Today, Hans and Alan operate the farm along with Hans' wife, Jennie, their parents Walter and Nancy, and a crew of year-round and seasonal workers. They currently grow grain crops, vegetables, food-grade non-

GMO soybeans, hay and wine grapes. The family also operates Schmidt Vineyard Management Company, LLC, which offers vineyard management services to landowners in the region.

The Schmidts use a variety of best management practices, or BMPs, to conserve nutrients used on the farm and prevent soil erosion. Conservation tillage and no-till farming, crop rotations, cover crops, and precision nutrient management are some of the practices in their conservation toolbox. The farm fields also feature beautiful buffers, both natural forest buffers and grassed buffers established as part of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.

Committed to agricultural advocacy and education, the Schmidt Family frequently hosts farm tours with government officials and international delegations. They also serve as board members and officers with organizations like MASCD, the Queen Anne's Soil Conservation District, Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board, Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association and Maryland Soybean Board, to further research and policy issues.

Links:

Learn more about Schmidt Vineyard Management Company at <http://www.shorevines.com/vineyard-Management>

Visit "The Foodie Farmer", Jennie Schmidt's informative and thought-provoking blog about food production at <http://thefoodiefarmer.blogspot.com/>



Farm
Stewardship Certification
and Assessment Program (FSCAP)
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