



Horticultural Inspection Society  
Eastern Chapter

## Please Join Us for the 100th Eastern Plant Board Meeting!

You are cordially invited to attend the 2026 Eastern Plant Board meeting, to be held Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey and the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society will once again be hosting concurrent meetings with their members.

Liberty Mountain Resort is in Adams County, home to the Gettysburg National Military Park, the site of the Battle of Gettysburg which was fought from July 1–3, 1863 and considered a turning point in the American Civil War. The terrain surrounding the resort is the rolling mountains and hills that make the South Mountain Fruit Belt highly productive with thousands of acres of apple and stone fruit orchards. From this location you can also visit historic downtown Gettysburg, the home and farm of President Dwight D Eisenhower, and the halfway point of the Appalachian Trail.

### Meeting Registration

Registration will begin on February 12<sup>th</sup> and is \$450 per person. Registration ends on March 16<sup>th</sup>. **Please note that the group room rate will expire on Monday, March 16, 2026.**

Single day registration is as follows:

- Tuesday, April 7: \$265
- Wednesday, April 8: \$300
- Thursday April 9: \$215

Attendees may bring a guest for the reception, banquet, and field trip, at an additional cost of \$150 per guest.

**\*\*\* Note: Registration Ends on March 16<sup>th</sup> \*\*\***

Register by visiting this Cvent page: <https://cvent.me/02yQB9>

### Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda can be found by visiting: <https://www.nationalplantboard.org/meetings1.html>

### Accommodations

A block of rooms is available at the Liberty Mountain Resort, from Monday night through Wednesday night, with check-out on Thursday morning. **The hotel address is 78 Country Club Trail, Carroll Valley, PA 17320.**

The group rate is \$122.00/night (this is also the prevailing federal rate for Adams County). There will be a 6% state tax (\$7.32) and a 5% occupancy tax assessed per room (\$6.10). **The cut-off date to book rooms is March 16th, 2026.** To reserve a room please call 855-953-0195 and follow the prompts to the correct hotel (Liberty Mountain Resort). This is a reservation line dedicated to reservations for group guests staying at the Vail family of resorts. You can call every day from 8am-5pm MT (**this translates to 10am-7pm EST**). Reference the group name (Eastern Plant Board 100th Annual 2026) and/or group code (BLIEPB26).

They will honor the group rate of \$122.00 if you would like to tack on an extra day to the end of your stay, but it is advisable to make your reservation promptly, as they are not holding any rooms for our group outside the Monday night through Wednesday night timeframe.

### **Getting to Liberty Mountain Resort**

Liberty Mountain Resort is located in Adams County in South Central Pennsylvania. It is about a 20 minute drive from historic downtown Gettysburg. Harrisburg International Airport (MDT) is the closest airport (58 miles). Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) is about 64 miles away and Dulles International Airport (IAD) is around 75 miles away. Keep in mind that traffic around these airports can be heavy depending on the time of day.

### **Parking and Amenities**

Parking is complimentary. Luggage storage is offered for early arrivals or late departures. Complimentary internet will be provided in all guestrooms and meeting spaces.

### **Speaker Presentation Requirements**

Speakers may provide a copy of their presentation prior to arrival at the meeting; however, the meeting hosts do not have access to a file sharing platform that would allow for reception of very large files. Each presentation should, at the very least, be provided to the moderator assigned to your meeting room on the morning of your presentation. If you have any questions or should you require any equipment other than the laptop and projector assigned to each room, please contact Sarah Gettys or Mike Hutchinson (see contact information at the bottom of this letter) at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

### **Exhibits**

Participants are invited to bring displays, posters, or distribution items to share with the group. Please notify **Sarah Gettys** at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

### **Weather and Attire**

Early April temperatures in this part of Pennsylvania typically range from the low 40's at night to the 50's in the day. Weather can be changeable so layering is recommended and a rain jacket is a good idea. While the height of spring bloom in Adams County's fruit belt is usually from mid to late April, we may enjoy the leadup to this beautiful time of year if the weather is warm enough in the weeks prior.

### **Field Trip**

There will be one field trip with three stops. We will use two school buses to transport everyone to each of the three following locations:

- **National Apple Museum** (eat our box lunch, pre-visit presentation for FREC, time to walk around the museum): <https://www.nationalapplemuseum.com/>
- **Penn State University's Fruit Research and Extension Center (FREC)**: <https://agsci.psu.edu/research/centers-facilities/extension/frec>
- **Gettysburg National Military Park** (tour with the park biologist): <https://www.nps.gov/gett/index.htm>

**Door Prizes**

If you would like to donate a door prize representing your state or agency or a fun item to share, we will be collecting door prizes at the registration desk and will ask you to fill out a door prize form when you register.

**Contact Information**

For further information, contact **Sarah Gettys (717-705-0764, [sgettys@pa.gov](mailto:sgettys@pa.gov))** or **Mike Hutchinson (717-772-5229, [mhutchinso@pa.gov](mailto:mhutchinso@pa.gov))**.