

Herman “Trey” Hill

Agricultural Economics, Purdue University

Herman “Trey” Hill (B.S. 2009, Agricultural Economics) is manager and partner at Harborview Farms. A company committed to producing corn, wheat, and soybeans for the mid-Atlantic region focusing on sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship. Together, the entire Harborview Farms team is pioneering new techniques to influence the Ag industry as a whole, instilling a mix of traditional practice with innovation and creativity to uncover novel solutions that move the industry forward.

Trey says that in his view, farmland is not a commodity but a canvas on which to create. He works to bring game-changing new ideas to farming by approaching it as a creative endeavor, exploring new techniques, and connecting dots in new ways that others aren’t willing to try. Trey does this by searching for better ways to make things work and by being courageous enough to try things that don’t always work. As a result, Trey and the Harborview Farms team are pioneering techniques for totally new kinds of farms that bridge environmentalism, technology and ecology.

Harborview Farms is also rooted in family. Trey says that the most integral part of his career is the relationship he holds with his wife Cheryl and their children, Taylor and Clay. Together the couple aligned Harborview Farms with a non-profit to reduce poverty in their area. The initiative, called “Project Protein,” was developed after the couple learned that a local church’s food pantry was in need of a protein source. After their initial donation, they realized how easy it would be to solicit the same type of help from other area businesses to insure that the food pantry would always have a reliable source of protein for their patrons. “Project Protein” now facilitates the donation of more than 1,500 pounds of protein to the food pantry each month and continues to actively recruit company sponsors. In the three years since the couple started the project, more than 40 tons of protein have been donated to the food pantry.



Trey & Harborview Farms Environmental Efforts:

- Awarded Champion of Change recognition at the White House under President Obama (2015)
- Fully adopted the use of cover crops (1999-present) and 100% cover cropped and no till (2015-present) Recognized by the Governor and well as several representatives.
- Board member on the Sassafras River Association (2015-present), Shore rivers (2017-present), and the Hughes Center for Agroecology (2016-present)
- Keynote Speaker at the National No-till conference, MD association of Soil conservation Districts annual meeting, AFT annual board meeting, ASFRMA annual meeting, and CTIC conservation Tour (2016-present)
- Speaker featured in France, Germany, Canada, Argentina and Romania for work in sustainability and technology.

- Featured in; articles in the Chester River Association magazine, Farm Futures magazine, Farm Journal, The Bay Journal, The Furrow, Direct drilling (UK), Insights from ag leader, and no-till farmer (2014-present)
- Featured Podcast with Will Baker of CBF, and Speaker at the Nature Conservancy annual meeting (2016-2018) Featured in a TNC video released in 2020 taking about the role of conservation in landowner/ farmer relationships. Featured in Healthy soils film (soil health institute) a new Corteva documentary about my story.
- Utilize 390 kW solar array to supply power to granary, office, pivot irrigation, and the housing of half of our work force. (2014-present)
- Harborview farms became the first farmer in the US to sell carbon credits in a market by growing commodity crops through the Nori marketplace

Trey & Harborview Farms Technological Advancement Efforts:

- One of the first farms to implement Granular enterprise software and have been a featured customer (2016)
- Full implementation of precision agriculture technology and software. (1997-present)
- Speaker at 2 Granular conferences, featured speaker at the Commodity Classic, National academy of Science, Northeast SARE conference at Cornell, Annual meeting of the Fertilizer Institute, Chesapeake Bay. Commission annual meeting, National Soil health conference put on by soils conservation society, (2017-present)
- Awarded the worlds most visited farm, with folks from over 50 different countries visiting. (2016)

Trey & Harborview Farms Ecological Efforts:

- Harborview is the Bayer Forward Farm for North America, we have been featured globally for our work in sustainable farming. (2018)
- Implemented a pollinator program establishing habitat through cover crops on our farmland (2017-present)
- Leader in the soil health movement by adopting practices on all acreage. (2010-present)
- Successfully took 4.4% out of production to promote wildlife habitat (2000-present)
- Established acres of milkweed to promote Monarch habitat (2017-present)
- On farm soil health research with University of MD, USDA, NCGA (soil health Institute), Shore Rivers, Ridges to reefs, and CBF (2016-present)
- Established over 100 acres of Quail habitat with Washington College Center for the Environment,