



Capitol Hill Day 2025

Scenes & Social Media Moments from a
Powerful Week in Washington D.C.

usapple.org

Photos from Capitol Hill

As showcased in the social media posts, we received more than 60 photos, including pictures with Members of Congress, interactions with staff, and state delegations gathered in front of the Capitol, congressional buildings and within its halls.



WA members with Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA)

Hill Meetings

3



Senator Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)



Rep. Tony Wied (R-WI)



Rep. Troy Balderson (R-OH)

Hill Meetings

4



Senator Jim Risch (R-ID)



Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)



Rep. John Joyce (R-PA)

Hill Meetings

5



Rep. John Moolenaar (R-MI)



Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA)



Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Senior Democrat on the Senate Agriculture Committee

Hill Meetings

6



Rep. John Mannion (D-NY)



Rep. Ben Cline (R-VA)



Rep. Josh Riley (D-NY)

Hill Meetings

7



Senator Dave McCormick (R-PA)



Rep. Kim Schrier (D-WA)



Rep. Joe Morelle (D-NY)

Hill Meetings

8



Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-WI)



Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY)



Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN)
Senior Democrat on the House Agriculture Committee

Hill Meetings

9



Rep. Josh Harder (D-CA)



Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D-WA)

Hill Meetings

10



NY meeting with staff of Senator Gillibrand (D-NY)



CA meeting with staff of Rep. Dave Min (D-CA)



CA meeting with staff of Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA)

Administration Meetings



USApple CEO and Officers meet with Riley Pagett, Chief of Staff, Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, USDA



USApple Vice Chair Steve Smith with Keith Sonderling, Deputy Secretary of Labor, who attended the Government Affairs meeting.

Legislative Breakfast



Ahead of Congressional visits, a full and energized room heard from USApple staff as well as guest speaker Senator Elissa Slotkin.



Senator Slotkin discussed ag labor, the Farm Bill, and trade plus answered a handful of questions from attendees.

NextGen Program



NextGen Fellows with Keith Blackman who facilitated Media Training.



Fellows from Washington on Capitol Hill Day.



A group of Fellows and their mentors at dinner.

Social Media

- We saw many attendees utilize the social media templates we sent prior to the event – most adding their own customization.
- We saw “in the moment” posts on Instagram stories, as well as more comprehensive recap posts on Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook after the event.
- Members of Congress and the Deputy Secretary of Labor also posted on their own social media pages about our meetings.



Posts from Members of Congress/Administration social media accounts

**Rep. Kim Schrier, M.D.**  
@RepKimSchrier

 ...

I was thrilled to meet with [@usapples](#) representatives from Washington State!

I've proudly fought for our apple industry in Washington, including pushing for India to drop their destructive tariffs on Washington apples, and I will continue to advocate for our growers.



5:41 PM · Mar 26, 2025 · **285** Views

**Deputy Secretary Sonderling** 
@Sonderling47

🍏 I just participated in a productive roundtable with the U.S. Apple Association.

Our apple growers play a crucial role in Making America Healthy Again, and the [@USDOL](#) is committed to supporting this important agricultural sector.



 **USApple**

3:45 PM · 3/24/25 · **3.2K** Views

Posts from Members of Congress/Administration social media accounts



repbencline



 26

 3





 Liked by orchardrows and others

repbencline Yesterday, I met with Virginia Apple Growers, including Sixth District growers like Scott Johnson of Shawnee Canning Co., Phillip Glaize of Glaize Apples, and Joseph Strippoll of Shenandoah Valley Orchards. We discussed the challenges facing the industry and the path forward in the reconciliation process. I'm grateful for their hard work and will continue fighting for policies that support our local growers.

4 hours ago



senslotkin



 237

 4

 1



senslotkin Michiganders know that apples have an emotional connection to the state and culture of Michigan.

Whether it's high input costs, including the cost of labor, or tariffs or USDA cuts, it's clear that regardless of party, we must all work to protect this historic industry and our farmers.

Posts from company
accounts



Riveridge Produce Marketing, Inc.

1,574 followers

7h · 🌐

Kari and Theresa are part of the #USApple25FlyIn to meet with our legislators to voice the needs of our industry.

We need strong partners in DC to make sure growers can keep producing apples to feed the nation!



 You and 38 others

4 comments



Rice Fruit Company

1,087 followers

1d · 🌐

This week, our Pennsylvania delegation of growers, packers, and marketers participated in Capitol Hill Day with the **U.S. Apple Association**. We are proud and energized to engage with our legislators to ensure the success of the apple industry- specifically on ag labor reform, export access, SCRI, and the Farm Bill.

#USApple25FlyIn

#eatmoreapples

#ApplesGrowAmerica



 You and 14 others

1 repost

usapple.org



Posts from company accounts



Legacy Labor, Inc.
3,068 followers
22h · 🌐

Legacy Labor, Inc. was proud to sponsor the Legislative Briefing Breakfast at the **U.S. Apple Association** Capitol Hill Day! 🍏

Representing Legacy Labor, **Bill Stone** joined the Michigan delegation in meetings with Senators Peters and Slotkin, and Representatives Bergman, Moolenaar, Huizenga, Scholten, Dingell, and Walberg.

A top priority in every conversation: the urgent need for meaningful agricultural labor reform to support growers and secure the future of the apple industry. As a vital part of American agriculture, the apple industry depends on a stable, reliable workforce to thrive. One key step forward: supporting the Supporting Farm Operations Act, a bipartisan effort to streamline the H-2A program and bring real relief to American growers. Labor reform isn't just good for growers—it's good for the nation. 🍏

#USApple25FlyIn #USApples #MichiganApples #AgLabor #LegacyLabor #FarmBill #CapitolHillDay





March 25 7:14 AM

✕



We're on Capitol Hill today advocating for apple growers across the country with @usapples! 🍏 Ag Labor Reform, Export Access, and specialty crop programs in the #FarmBill are critical to our industry's future. Congress must act. #USAppleFlyIn25 #AgLabor #ApplesGrowAmerica

Posts from company accounts

BeeHero
9,305 followers
1d • 🌐

During [#USAppleFlyIn25](#), industry leaders met with lawmakers to push for policies that support apple growers nationwide. We're excited to see our PNW Key Account Manager, [Shelbi Perkins](#), take part in these important conversations alongside [U.S. Apple Association](#)! 🍏

[#FarmBill](#) [#AgLabor](#) [#Advocacy](#)

Shelbi Perkins • 2nd
PNW Key Account Manager @ BeeHero US Apple Next Gen Cla...
1d • 🌐 [+ Follow](#)

Grateful for this experience & proud to represent the industry with [U.S. Apple Association](#) for Capitol Hill Day 🍏 [#Advocacy](#) [#usapples](#) [#apples](#)



Riveridge Produce Marketing, Inc.
1,576 followers
6h • 🌐

The Michigan contingent for the [#USApple25FlyIn](#) met with the Congress members or their staff this week - Senators Slotkin and Peters and Representatives Bergman, Moolenaar, Huizenga, Scholten, Dingell and Walberg.

These meetings covered the needs and concerns from the apple industry, namely agriculture labor reform, crop protection, research, establishing a new Farm Bill and international trade.

It is imperative the apple industry stays in front of our legislators as apples are a large economic driver in the state of Michigan AND a healthy part of anyone's diet. Apples are a win, win for all!



Posts from company accounts



Posts from attendees



Kaari Stannard · 2nd
President, CEO
4d · Edited · 🌐

✓ Following

⋮

This week I spent 3 days in WA DC representing our apple industry and sharing our concerns and actions needed for our industry to survive. I believe you must tell your stories on how regulations, and laws impact you personally. I remain hopeful and appreciate the fact that I have access and the ability to speak to our elected officials.
Bottom line for your health and those that you love - EAT MORE APPLES!

[#usappleflyin25](#)



 Beth Brown and 64 others

5 comments



Madison Schaefer · 1st
Director of Technology at Storage Control Systems, Inc.
3d · 🌐

⋮

Incredible week in Washington, D.C. at [#USAppleFlyIn25](#), advocating alongside apple industry leaders from across the country with [U.S. Apple Association](#). We pushed for ag labor reform, increased research funding, and checked in on the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure program—a key initiative that could help growers enhance storage capabilities. Thank you to everyone who took the time to meet with us and discuss the future of the U.S. apple industry.

Proud to stand with the growers, packers, shippers, and industry leaders working to show lawmakers how vital apples are to our communities and economy. 🍏🍏

[#Advocacy](#) [#ApplesGrowAmerica](#) [#AgLabor](#)



 You and 41 others

3 comments

Posts from attendees



Shelbi Perkins • Following
PNW Key Account Manager @ BeeHero US Apple Next Gen Class of 2025
1d • 🌐

Grateful for this experience & proud to represent the industry with **U.S. Apple Association** for Capitol Hill Day 🍏 #Advocacy #usapples #apples





Angela Sommers and 54 others

3 comments • 1 repost



Maggie Reid Travis • 1st
Grower Services at Rice Fruit Company
4h • Edited • 🌐

USApple Fly-In 🇺🇸🍏🇵🇦 Proud
I have always found it an honor to represent the apple industry on Capitol Hill, and with industry peers such as these, it doesn't get much better! Stay active, stay engaged, they want to hear our voice!
#USApple #PAapples #supportyourlocalfarmer





18

1 comment

Posts from attendees

Joseph Strippoli • 1st
 --Livin' Life Above the Trellis 🍏 EAT MORE APPLES 🍏 @orchardrows
 1h • 🌐

Food security is national security and we don't have that without legislators that are willing to fight alongside their constituents. We will continue to fight for our fellow Americans to have access to safe, nutritious, American grown fruit!
[#USAppleFlyin25](#) [#feedamerica](#) [#trade](#) [#laborreform](#) [#freetrade](#)



  You and 8 others

Brenda Briggs • 1st
 --
 5h • 🌐

It was an honor to join my fellow Pennsylvania industry members this week in walking the halls of Congress and advocating for the critical support and changes needed to ensure the future success of the Apple 🍏 industry.

Rice Fruit Company
 1,087 followers
 1d • 🌐

This week, our Pennsylvania delegation of growers, packers, and marketers participated in Capitol Hill Day with the [U.S. Apple Association](#). We are proud and energized to engage with our legislators to ensure the ...more



  7

Posts from attendees



Theresa Kober • 2nd

 Food Safety at Riveridge Produce Marketing, Inc. 🍏

1h • 🌐

[+ Follow](#)

...

This week, I had the privilege of traveling to Washington, D.C. to advocate for the apple industry. Meeting directly with representatives and senators was a powerful opportunity to discuss key industry concerns. Advocacy to law makers is essential for supporting farmers, producers, and preserving our agricultural heritage, along with ensuring economic stability. I am truly grateful for this opportunity and left inspired by the resolve of everyone working to champion the apple industry's future.

Thank you to everyone who made this experience possible and to those who continue to champion the needs of agriculture in policymaking. 🍏

#USApple #USAppleFlyIn25 #NexgenUSApple #Advocacy #Apples

 **U.S. Apple Association**
3,589 followers
2h • 🌐

Apple leaders across the country came together in Washington, D.C. for #USAppleFlyIn25, advocating for policies critical to our industry's future. From ag labor reform to trade and research funding, our voices were ...more



 with Beth Brown and 29 others

+16

 Brenda Briggs and 5 others



Julie DeJarnatt • 1st

I love a good challenge for a great cause.

18m • 🌐

[+ Follow](#)

...

This was a phenomenal experience and an honor to be included. I came away impressed by how our industry shows up to big conversations and inspired to continue sharing the reality of apple farming today.

Great work by [U.S. Apple Association](#) and all parties who participated in these meetings. 🍏

 **U.S. Apple Association**
3,589 followers
1h • 🌐

Apple leaders across the country came together in Washington, D.C. for #USAppleFlyIn25, advocating for policies critical to our industry's future. From ag labor reform to trade and research funding, our voices were ...more



 with Beth Brown and 29 others

+16

Posts from attendees



William Gant • 2nd
Production Coordinator @ CMI Orchards | Fruit Packing Pro...
2d • Edited •

[+ Follow](#) ...

Excited to participate in the **U.S. Apple Association** Capital Hill Day alongside state representatives. Grateful for the opportunity to engage with our legislators. [#Advocacy](#) [#CommunityEngagement](#) [#usapples](#) [#apples](#)





Alexandra Roberts • 1st
VP of Culture and Compliance
2d •

...

Proud to represent at **U.S. Apple Association**'s Capitol Hill Day with my daughter! She's learning how to advocate while supporting the apple industry to urge Congress to take meaningful action on ag labor reform, export access, SCRI, and the Farm Bill.

🍏🍏 Let's keep America's orchards thriving! 🍏🍏

We need strong partners in DC to ensure growers can keep producing apples to feed the nation and a strong next generation to use their voices in DC!


[#USApple25FlyIn](#) [#eatmoreapples](#)
[#ApplesGrowAmerica](#)



 You and 42 others

5 comments


Posts from attendees



Helene Dembroski · 2nd
Eat apples for health...
2d · 🌐


+ Follow · ⋮

it's so important to come and visit with the people who represent your state and talk about agriculture and how to keep us in business to feed others health apples.



Joseph Strippoli · 1st
--Livin' Life Above the Trellis 🍏 EAT MORE APPLES 🍏 @orchardrows
3d · 🌐

See y'all tomorrow! So very proud, privileged and grateful to advocate on behalf of, what I believe is, the greatest industry in the world!
[#USAppleFlyin25](#) [#FarmBill](#) [#Trade](#) [#Apples](#)

 1



Sarah Lott Zost
7h · 🌐

⋮

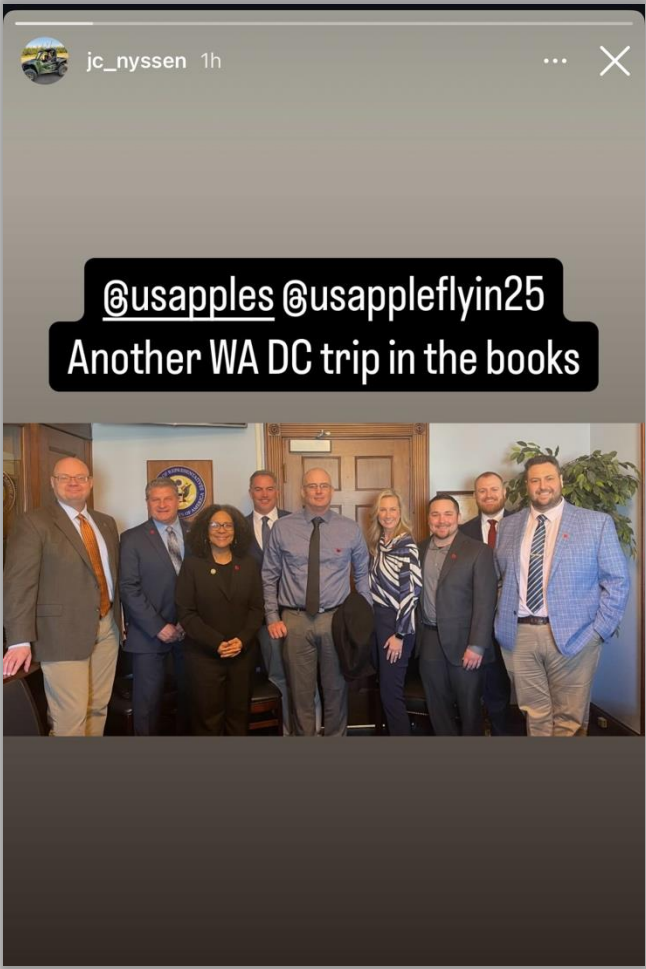
At the [@usapples](#) Capitol Hill Day to advocate for improvements to the H-2A program and protect specialty crop funding in the Farm Bill. The PA delegation is so big, we split up! PA apple people are awesome!
[#USAppleFlyIn2025](#) [#AgLabor](#) [#FarmBill](#) [#ApplesGrowAmerica](#)



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  52

Posts from attendees



Posts from attendees



Posts from attendees



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