



NEWSLETTER



HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Volume 26, Issue 5

November 2016

~Contacts~

Howie Feaga, President (410) 531-2360
Jay Rhine, Vice-President (410) 442-2445
Leslie Bauer, Secretary (410) 531-6261
Kerry Brendel, Treasurer (301) 606-2341
Mandy Ackman, Newsletter Editor (240) 638-6174

WEBSITE: www.howardfarmbureau.org

Message to Members

By: *Howie Feaga, President Howard County Farm Bureau*

The fall harvest is at full go now. The crops are ready to be harvested and if they are not they soon will be. Try to take your time and be careful, nothing takes longer than to repair something you broke when you were in a hurry and if it's you that gets hurt, that takes even longer to fix. So slow down, you will get it done, you always do.

There are a lot of things going on in the county. One is that farms in Ag Preservation can now have up to 75 acres of Solar Panels on them. You have to realize though you will need a Conditional Use Permit. Also the power companies are looking for 10-20 acres due to availability of power lines near your farm, not necessarily 75 acres. Be sure to read your contracts closely, and talk to other farmers that may have done this ahead of you, so you understand all of your possibilities. Mulch and Composting legislation is coming up in December. So here we go again! We will be able to do our own composting, but most likely will not be allowed to sell enough Mulch or Compost to be financially feasible. We will try and keep you posted as things develop. I want to thank the folks at DPZ for doing their best to work out a reasonable compromise, even though it's been very one sided.

Maryland Farm Bureau will be having their annual convention also in December; the 4th 5th and 6th. We have some new policies that will be discussed including getting extension back and education into all levels as well as what the states feelings are on Solar. There are many pros and cons due to the nature of solar, so it should make for some lively discussions on the convention floor.

Our own Howard County Farm Bureau's Annual Dinner is going to be on the 10th of November. I hope to see all of you there. It is always good to take a break and have a good meal with all our friends and fellow farmers. I am always glad to see everyone and it is good to catch up on the latest going on in Howard County. We will be electing some new board members as well as some officers as well. So send your reservations in ASAP. You don't want to miss the fun. We will have a new US president by then and that should make for a reason to get out and "talk it over". Remember to vote on Nov. 8th your vote does matter. Like I always say "Keep your plow in the ground, we're all pulling for you"

Howie Feaga, your president

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message To Members
- 2 HCFB Farm to Table Dinner
- 2 Fair Farms vs. Fair Farm
- 3 "Seed the Future, Grow Together" – AFBF Article
- 4 Ag Education and Farm Bureau News
- 4 State Agencies are Bringing the Farm to School!!
- 5 MD Department of Agriculture Press Releases
- 6 FY17 Mathias Ag Energy Efficiency Grant Program
- 7 Announcements
- 8 *Calendar of Events*

Howard County Farm Bureau Farm to Table Dinner



Howard County Farm Bureau's Farm to Table Dinner was held on September 27th at Circle D Farm and it was a great time and a big success! Everything was fantastic; the elegant four course dinner prepared from local produce and meats as well as the ice cream and deserts, the local brewery and winery that provided the tasty beer and wine, and the venue and staff who did an amazing job setting up and helping organize this event.

Howard County Farm Bureau would like thank everyone who helped make this event a success! Not only did it support the Howard County Farm Bureau but the continued efforts to support Howard County Farms!

We would like to send a special thanks to the talented Chefs from Aida Bistro, Centre Park Grill, and The Elkridge Furnace Inn; as well as Manor Hill Brewing and Elk Run Winery! Also a big thank you to Circle D Farm!

Not only was there great food, entertainment and company but there were silent auctions featuring gift baskets from Larriland Farm, Elk Run Winery, and the Family Fun pack including various gift certificates from local farms and organizations. Thank you all for your donations and support!

If you were not able to attend the Farm to Table event, stay tuned and watch for updates about a future event! There will be another Farm to Table Event and we hope to see even more of the community come together and join in on the fun!

Where to Find the Truth to Communicate about Agriculture- Fair Farm vs. Fair Farms?

By: *Barb Glenn*

It is essential that Howard County farmers talk with our neighbors and share information about our farming operations, whether it's a landscape nursery operation, a horse farm or a row crop farm. So having the right facts and tools - websites, blogs, twitterers, instagrammers, and others - to share in our conversations are important.

Sometimes those that choose to criticize modern agricultural practices and may even push out misinformation, are not easy to spot. We understood that there was a new web site to share information about Maryland agriculture and farming for all audiences. So we googled and found it – at least we thought we did! We thought it was “Fair Farms Maryland,” <http://fairfarmsnow.org/> who defines themselves as “a movement of environmental and public health groups, businesses, consumers, and farmers committed to a sustainable food system.”



It turns out that their views on agriculture are NOT always grounded in truth.

A new initiative, “Fair Farm Maryland,” <https://fairfarmmd.com/> says they are “The Truth About Maryland Agriculture.” “Fair Farm Maryland is a campaign focused on providing the truth about Maryland agriculture. Our farmers are constantly under attack by environmental groups and activists who portray agriculture as an industry that doesn't care about pollution or the Chesapeake Bay. We are here to tell the real stories about Maryland farmers who are good stewards of the land, implement conservation practices and do all they can to keep the environment safe and healthy.”

So what do we recommend to all Howard County Farm Bureau members? You choose! But you could sign up for emails from both web sites, and watch for the differences. And there will be differences! It is always good to know what the 'other side' is saying about our Agriculture, so that we can correct their mis-information. As Paul Harvey used to say.....AND NOW YOU KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY!



“Seed the Future, Grow Together”- Imagine a World More Connected to Agriculture

By: *Barb Glenn*

As Howard County Farm Bureau members we always wish we knew how to tell our story about agriculture with our non-farm neighbors. Well, this resource is just for us! Do you know what Agricultural Literacy is? We just don't have enough of it in today's society, as many think their food comes from a grocery store! Here is some amazing work of an organization that is very close to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's (www.agfoundation.org) mission is to **“Build awareness, understanding and a positive public perception of Agriculture through education.”** They believe that everyone should have an understanding of where their food comes from.

The Foundation has taken the steps to define "agriculturally literate." An agriculturally literate person understands the relationship between agriculture and the environment, food, fiber and

energy, animals, lifestyle, the economy and technology. These are their Pillars of Ag Literacy.

Agricultural literacy can be cultivated in any person, no matter the age or experience. Helping others understand the important role agriculture plays in their everyday lives is our goal. The Foundation works towards this goal by being a credible source for agricultural literacy information. Their materials and programs are designed not only to reflect reliable information, but also to meet today's standards of learning.

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture has continued efforts to **produce outstanding educational materials, create accurate resources, and provide opportunities to tell the story.** And they are working toward making more of those materials free to educators and volunteers.

Check out their web site – examples of resources are:

- Learn About Beef
- Free Resources and Lesson Plans (Bringing Biotechnology to Life; Discover the Powerful Peanut; Dive into Water Careers; My American Farm; Farm to Cart; Food Science Fun, etc.)
- On The Farm Experience
- Help us Thank a Farmer or Rancher!
- Food & Ag Resources Guide AND MORE

If you are interested in learning how to create a positive public perception of agriculture through education, check out the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. You will be amazed!



Ag Education and Farm Bureau News: “My American Farm”

Source: *American Farm Bureau Federation*

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture has launched this year's My American Farm Outreach Grant Program. Middle- and high-school students who are interested in using My American Farm resources to reach out to elementary school students about why agriculture is important in everyone's life.

The resources found online at <http://myamericanfarm.org/> will provide middle- and high-school students with appropriate tools to share the messages that agriculture is everywhere, there are many careers in agriculture, and farmers feed the world, care for animals and are stewards of the land. The outreach events should utilize at least one My American Farm interactive game, one lesson plan and one video from the set of available resources. Classrooms also are encouraged to bring in a community/industry representative to share about how agriculture affects their everyday lives.

Upon completion of outreach events, 10 selected classrooms received \$1,500 to use for further agricultural literacy efforts. Details can be found at: <http://www.agfoundation.org/projects/2016-my-american-farm-outreach>.

The My American Farm educational resource is a special project of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. The site and resources are made possible through the generous support of title sponsor, DuPont Pioneer. To take advantage of the free My American Farm resources, games and activities, visit <http://myamericanfarm.org/>.



AMERICAN FARM BUREAU
FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE

http://www.fb.org/newsroom/news_article/412/

USDA Blog: State Agencies are Bringing the Farm to School!

By: *Lauryn Hong,*
Office of Community Food Systems, Food and Nutrition Service

From organizing statewide conferences, to training farmers and child nutrition professionals, to developing farm to school curricula and resources, state agencies are playing a big role in bringing the farm to school. State agencies are using effective strategies to help community food systems take root. Here's a sampling of three ways state agencies are making an impact.

1. Coordinate Statewide Networking and Goal Setting

State agencies are strategic stakeholders in farm to school initiatives as they offer vital connections to the many groups and organizations engaging in food systems across the state. By facilitating a collective vision, coordinating statewide goal setting and strategic planning, and tracking state progress, agencies understand the wide breadth of activities and partnerships and can identify stakeholders who are not yet at the table or part of networks.

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture established a partnership between **GrowFood Carolina** and the South Carolina Department of Education to develop local food procurement resources for a pilot “farm to freezer” project. Thanks to the partnership, frozen blueberries are now available for schools beyond the traditional growing season.

2. Host Local and Statewide Trainings

State agencies identify needs among stakeholder groups and host statewide conferences and events. Training events can include a wide variety of audiences including educators, farmers and producers, school nutrition professionals and non-profit and cooperative extension professionals. Trainings often focus on delivering technical assistance to help schools purchase local foods; build and maintain school gardens; and integrate agriculture, nutrition and health education into school curricula.

In Nevada, the **Department of Agriculture** provided Good Agricultural Practices

(GAP) training and on-site group mock audit demonstrations for schools and farmers, ensuring both groups understood the certification process. In 2015, the **Minnesota Department of Agriculture** delivered 15 on-site workshops on maintaining and connecting school gardens to curriculum standards. State agencies such as the **Washington State Department of Agriculture** and the **Wyoming Department of Education** have also hosted regional and statewide conferences to engage new stakeholders and provide technical assistance on supply chain connections and procurement.

3. Develop and Share Resource Materials

State agencies develop resources such as state procurement guides, farm to school curricula, school garden guidance and local food promotional materials. In Alabama, the Department of Agriculture and Industries and the State Department of Education partnered with other organizations to develop a **farm to school website** that surveys farmers and enables schools to find farmers who match their procurement needs.

State agencies also create websites or devote portions of their websites to disseminate farm to school related resources and information. For instance, West Virginia's Departments of Agriculture and Education collaborated with partners to create the **Grow.Educate.Sell website** that connects farm to school practitioners across the state.

Dig in!

Since 2013, the **USDA Farm to School Grant Program** has funded 36 state agencies in 25 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands with nearly two million dollars to expand statewide initiatives including training and technical assistance, increasing capacity for incorporating local foods into school meals and connecting school gardens and culinary activities to classroom curricula. In September, USDA began accepting applications for Fiscal Year **2017 Farm to School Grant Funding**. State agencies are eligible to apply for training and support service grants and USDA strongly encourages state agencies to apply. Applications are due December 8, 2016.

Maryland Announces Funding for Fruits and Vegetables Crops

Source: Maryland Department of Agriculture



Selected Projects include “Reach for the Peach” and food safety

ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 18, 2016) – The Maryland Department of Agriculture today announced the recipients of over \$376,000 in federal grants that will fund projects designed to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in Maryland. Specialty crops are defined as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops. Funding for the grants came through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, which was authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill.

“We are pleased to announce awardees of the Maryland Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The 2014 Farm Bill provided significant grant funding dedicated to specialty crops to become available,” said Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Joe Bartenfelder “These funds are a great opportunity to help farmers and value-added producers advance and promote local specialty crops in the marketplace and spark new markets, healthy eating, and job creation.”

The department created a competitive grant process with a review committee to award these federal funds. The following is a snapshot of the funded projects (Details about these projects can be found at <http://news.maryland.gov/mda/press-release/2016/10/18/maryland-announces-funding-for-fruits-and-vegetables-crops-3/>):

Chesapeake Farm to Table – \$18,584
Grow & Fortify – \$28,071
Maryland Department of Agriculture – \$254,051
Maryland Horticultural Society – \$15,000
University of Maryland – \$30,640

USDA announced over \$62.5 million in specialty crops grants to U.S. states and territories that will support 693 initiatives across the country to strengthen markets and expand economic opportunities for local and regional producers.

Maryland Young Farmer Advisory Board Seeks Nominations

Source: Maryland Department of Agriculture



ANNAPOLIS, MD (October 20, 2016) – The Maryland Young Farmer Advisory Board – an advisory body to the Maryland Agricultural Commission and Secretary of Agriculture which represents young farmers in Maryland – is seeking nominations to fill multiple vacancies. The board is seeking nominees for the Future Farmers of America, urban farmers, and at-large seats. As a group, the board members address legislative and policy issues that affect Maryland Young Farmers.

To be considered, nominees must be Maryland residents who are interested in the preservation and development of the agriculture industry and the agricultural way of life in Maryland. Nominees must also be under the age of 45 at the beginning of their term and derive at least 50 percent of their personal income from farming or agricultural activities. The board meets quarterly on the third Wednesday of January, April, July, and October, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Rachel Rhodes at Rachel.rhodes@maryland.gov, or visit the board's website. Those interested in applying may do so at: govappointments.Maryland.gov

Announcing the FY17 Mathias Ag Program

Source: Maryland Energy Administration

MEA is pleased to announce the launch of the FY2017 Kathleen A. P. Mathias Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in the agriculture sector.

MEA will provide grants up to \$150,000 on a competitive basis to farms/businesses in the agricultural sector. Eligible projects include energy efficiency measures and renewable energy measures when done in conjunction with energy efficiency. For the further information, the program application and other documentation, please visit the 2017 Mathias Ag Program webpage and see the attached flyer below on page 11.

<http://energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/incen tives/MathiasAg.aspx>

Applications are due Thursday, December 15, 2016.

Grantees will be notified once the review process has been completed. Successful candidates must complete their approved projects by April 1, 2018.

If you have any questions about the program not answered in the application materials, please contact EnSave, a MEA subcontractor, at 800-732-1399.

Looking forward to your applications,
MEA Mathias Ag Program Team

Announcements



❖ Citrus Order!

Don't forget to send in your Citrus order by November 15th! The delivery date will be in early December; the exact date is TBD.

Please see the attached order form.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Leslie Bauer
(443) 812-1662
Labauer5@verizon.net

❖ The Great Lisbon Feed the Hungry Christmas Parade

Don't forget to come out for the Great Lisbon Christmas Parade! There will be saddle horses, carriage horses, and tractors decorated for the Christmas parade.

After the parade there will be pony rides, a bon fire, country ham and fried chicken dinner, music and more. Proceeds benefit Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry, Howard and Carroll County Food Banks, & Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department.

For more information, please visit:

www.lisbonchristmasparade.com

See the attached Flyer for details.



~
*Wishing Everyone a
Happy
Thanksgiving
&
Merry Christmas
From your Board of
Directors and the
Officers and Staff at
Howard County
Farm Bureau!*
~

Calendar of Events

2016 / 2017

NOV 8 COVER CROP MANAGEMENT IN VEGETABLE SYSTEMS WEBINAR

Place Online
Time 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
* <https://extension.umd.edu/events>

NOV 10 HCFB ANNUAL DINNER

Place Lisbon Fire Hall
1330 Woodbine Road Woodbine, MD 21797
Time 7:00 p.m.

NOV 13 HORSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Place Maryland 4-H Center, College Park, MD
Time 1:00 p.m.

NOV 15 CITRUS ORDER DEADLINE

Place Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD
*See Attached Order Form!
Citrus Delivery will be early December. Date TBD

NOV 22 NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT VOUCHER TRAINING

Place Carroll County Extension Building
700 Agricultural Center Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
Time 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Contact: Bryan Butler (bbutlers@umd.edu)
410-386-2760

DEC 1 MARYLAND GRAIN MARKETING WORKSHOP

Place Carroll County UME Office
700 Agricultural Center Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
Time 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Contact: Bryan Butler (bbutlers@umd.edu)
410-386-2760

DEC 4-6 MD FARM BUREAU CONVENTION

Place Ocean City, MD

DEC 6 FARM TRANSITION WORKSHOP

Place Carroll County UME Office
700 Agricultural Center Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
Time 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Contact: Bryan Butler (bbutlers@umd.edu)
410-386-2760

DEC 7 NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Place National Wildlife Visitors Center
Laurel, MD
Time 9:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

DEC 10 THE GREAT LISBON FEED THE HUNGRY CHRISTMAS PARADE

Place Main Street (Route 144) Lisbon,
Western Howard County
Time 3:30 p.m.
Register Online: www.LisbonChristmasParade.com

JAN 8-11 AFBF ANNUAL CONVENTION

Place Phoenix, AZ
Contact: John Hawkins (jhawkins@fb.org)

JAN 10 FINCH SERVICES SPRAYER CLINIC

Place Carroll County Extension Building
700 Agricultural Center Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
Time 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Contact: Bryan Butler (bbutlers@umd.edu)
410-386-2760

JAN 10 NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT VOUCHER & PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION TRAINING

Place Carroll County Extension Building
700 Agricultural Center Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
Time 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Contact: Bryan Butler (bbutlers@umd.edu)
410-386-2760

[NOTE]: Some programs require pre-registration and/or a fee. For programs sponsored by University of Maryland Extension, if you need special assistance to participate, please contact the

The Great Lisbon Feed The Hungry Christmas Parade

Saddle Horses, Carriage Horses & Horse Power (Tractors)
presented by The Howard County Farm Bureau

FREE FOR SPECTATORS

Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

"Main Street" (Route 144) Lisbon, Western Howard County



*Wagon bells ring, are you listening,
On Main Street, horses are glistening,
A beautiful sight,
We're happy tonight,
Riding in the Lisbon Christmas Parade.*



To register for the parade, visit www.LisbonChristmasParade.com

Registration Officially Opens August 1 & Closes September 30

Space is limited; only 150 horses will be accepted for the Parade

Post-Parade Activities

Fire Hall & NW Corner of Routes 94 & 144

Pony Rides • Bon Fire • Raffle
Christmas Vendor Village
Music & "Karaoke with the King"
Country Ham & Fried Chicken Dinner
(vendors: to register, please visit website)

Parade proceeds will benefit:

Howard & Carroll County Food Banks
Farmers & Hunters Feeding The Hungry
Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department
*Stations will be located at LVFD for canned & dry goods;
new toys accepted for WFVFD Toy Drive.*

www.LisbonChristmasParade.com



*The Lisbon Christmas Parade is an equal opportunity celebration and
does not discriminate based on color of tractor or breed of horse.*

Maryland Farm Bureau

A Farmer - to Farmer Agricultural Commodity Marketing Service through
Maryland Farm Bureau Service Company and Florida Farm Bureau.

*Florida Citrus is thinner skinned than others,
giving a more edible product.
*Fruit must be kept cool.



Citrus Delivery will be in early
December - exact date TBD; We will
contact you to confirm pick-up date at
the Howard County Fairgrounds

Citrus Order Deadline: November 15, 2016

Please Make Check Payable To:
Howard County Farm Bureau
PO BOX 282
Glenelg, MD 21737

Questions? Leslie Bauer
443-812-1882
Labauer5@verizon.net

"FLORIDA'S BEST"	Price	Quantity	Amount
Navel Oranges (4/5 Bushel) <i>California</i>	\$33.00		
Navel Oranges (2/5 Bushel) <i>California</i>	\$22.00		
Red Grapefruit (4/5 Bushel) <i>Texas</i>	\$25.00		
Red Grapefruit (2/5 Bushel) <i>Texas</i>	\$16.00		
Tangerines (2/5 Bushel) <i>Florida</i>	\$22.00		
Hamlin Juice Oranges (4/5 bushel) <i>Florida</i>	\$25.00		
Hamlin Juice Oranges (2/5 bushel) <i>Florida</i>	\$16.00		
Grand Slam Gift Box (6 Red Apples, 6 Di Anjou Pears, 3 Golden Apples, and 16-20 Navel Oranges)	\$25.00		
Mixed Citrus Box (Half 'n Half) *NEW* (20 Navel Oranges and 11 Red Grapefruit)	\$25.00		
Peanut Gift Pack (3 can pack)	\$11.00		
Chocolate Nut Gift Pack (2 can pack)	\$12.00		
Berry Nut Trail Mix (15oz tin)	\$10.00		
Whole Cashews (16oz can)	\$9.00		
Mixed Nuts (16oz can)	\$6.00		
Pecan Halves, Fresh Shelled (16oz bag)	\$10.00		
Skinless "Southern Fried" Peanuts (16oz can)	\$5.00		
Honey Krunch Peanuts (12 oz can)	\$4.00		
Roasted Almonds (9 oz cans)	\$6.00		

TOTALS:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL: _____

Now Accepting Applications!

**2017 Kathleen A.P. Mathias
Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program**



Maryland agricultural businesses are invited to compete for grants to support:

- energy efficiency projects, or
- combined energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

For successful applicants, funding will cover up to 50% of the project cost for energy efficiency measures and up to 25% for renewable energy measures, to a maximum total grant of \$150,000. Minimum project size is \$20,000.

Get details on program requirements and apply now!

www.energy.maryland.gov
(click "MEA Incentives")

(800) 732-1399 · (410) 537-4068

APPLICATIONS DUE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016.