

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION Garrett County

March 2026 Newsletter

Register For Western Maryland Agronomy Meeting



University of Maryland will hold the Western Maryland Agronomy Meeting **March 11th** at the Pleasant Valley Community Building starting from 9 am to noon. Hayden Schug Agriculture and Food Systems Educator in Charles County will present topics on Scouting Basics and IPM Planning for Field Crops and Making Sense of Efficacy Trials. A full agenda can be found [HERE](#).

Registration is required by contacting the Extension Office at 301-334-6960. Registration deadline is March 7, 2026. Light refreshments will be provided.

Pesticide Recertification Credits will be offered for WV and MD.

Mid-Atlantic Spring Dairy Workshop

University of Maryland Extension will be hosting the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Workshop on, Monday, **March 2nd** at Garrett College CTTC in Accident, MD. Whether you're already a dairy farmer or thinking about getting into the business, this is a great learning opportunity! Register today: go.osu.edu/springdairy26 or contact Jeff Semler at 301-226-7528 or by email at jsemler@umd.edu.

DAIRY COST OF PRODUCTION & FEED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

March 2, 2026

Garrett College CTC
116 Industrial Drive
Accident, MD 21520
Questions: 301.226.7528

 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED

REGISTER NOW
FREE ADMISSION



go.osu.edu/springdairy26

If you are unable to register online,
please call 301-226-7528
or email Jeff Semler at: jsemler@umd.edu

Program Highlights

- Risk management tools available to dairy producers
- Simple tools to evaluate farm financial performance
- Evaluating rations, maximizing homegrown feeds, and assessing feed additives
- Hands-on learning, including TMR and corn silage audits using moisture testing, shaker boxes, and kernel processing evaluations



Mid-Atlantic Spring Dairy Workshop

Milk Pricing • Risk Management • Hands-On
TMR, Silage & Ration Audits

Speakers



Dale Johnson
Extension Specialist
Farm Management
University of Maryland Extension



Dr. Fabiana De Freitas Cardoso
Assistant Professor
Animal and Avian
Sciences Department
University of Maryland



Jeff Semler
County Agent, Washington Co.
University of Maryland Extension



Dr. Leoni Martins
Assistant Clinical Professor
Precision Dairy Nutrition,
Penn State University



Dr. Amanda Grev
Extension Specialist
Forage and Pasture
University of Maryland Extension



University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this event, please contact 301-226-7528 2 weeks prior to the event.



DAIRY COST OF PRODUCTION & FEED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.pdf

View full flyer including the agenda by clicking here

Download

7.8 MB

4-H Youth Receive Awards/Scholarships

STATE 4-H ACHIEVEMENT EVENT CELEBRATES 4-H YOUTH



The Maryland 4-H Achievement Event was held on February 15th at the Maryland State Fair, Horse Sales Pavilion. The event celebrated and highlighted the wonderful stories and achievements of 4-H youth and volunteers.

Lea Custer was awarded the Livestock Judging High Senior Individual Award and Laura Huelskamp was awarded the Maryland 4-H All Star Blackhall Scholarship.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Fitness & Smoothie Class Scheduled

Join us on Wednesday, March 25th for a fun and exciting class perfect to get your energy out! We'll kick things off with a fun exercise session full of exciting moves to get you jumping and laughing, led by 4-H Educators, Karen Wood and Lacie Ashby and guest educator, Kenzie Mousch. After that, we'll head to the smoothie station, where you can pick your favorite fruits, and tasty ingredients to whip up your own yummy smoothie. It's a fantastic chance to get fit and learn why eating healthy is awesome. Call the office at 301-334-6960 to register as space will be limited.



KIDS FITNESS & SMOOTHIES CLASS

Garrett County
FUN WITH 4-H



Wednesday, March 25th

(school 1/2 day)

2-3 pm

Garrett County 4-H Office Meeting Room

Space is limited - Sign up today by calling

301-334-6960



Youth In The Classroom

Garrett County 4-H STEM enrichment programs had a fun time exploring Wilson Bentley's snowflake photographs with Karen Wood, 4-H Educator and Emily Pysell, Program Assistant. Youth also learned about the concepts of symmetry and designed their own unique 3D printed snowflake.

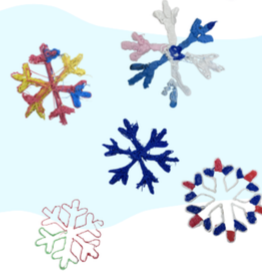
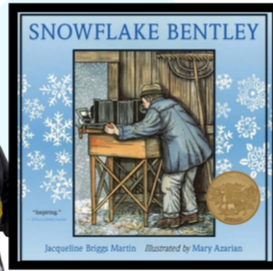
GARRETT COUNTY 4-H STEM ENRICHMENT

Snowflake Bentley 3D Designs

Winter

DID YOU KNOW?

Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley was a Vermont farmer and self-taught photographer who became the first person to photograph a single snowflake in 1885. Over 50 years, he captured over 5,000 images, proving that no two snowflakes are identical. He used a microscope attached to a bellows camera in freezing conditions.



★ Master Gardener Spotlight~ David Patterson ★

Through his volunteer work with the Garrett County Master Gardener program, David shows a deep passion for gardening and a strong commitment to community education. David states that "The neat thing about being a Master Gardener, you can specialize in an area that works for you. Some like teaching about vegetable gardening. Some want to work with pollinator gardens. I like teaching and working with Native Plants and naturalist gardens. If you want to teach, you can do that. If you want to research and write articles for publication, you can do that. Or if you want to help others through gardening, you can do that. It's what works for you."

The University of Maryland Extension office is there to support your endeavors. Also, being a Master Gardener is a great way to meet a whole bunch of wonderful people. Our group -- The Garrett County Master Gardeners-- is an exceptional one. We have a great time working together, and we continuously and enthusiastically share our ideas with one another. It's exciting to see the healthy growth of our group. Of course, none of this would happen without our fearless leader, Ashley Bodkins. She's the best!" We are so grateful to have wonderful volunteers like David to make this program a success!

Member Spotlight

DAVID PATTERSON



Why I chose to become a master gardener :

"I did not intend to become a Master Gardener. Since I was new to the area, I was taking the class to learn about gardening in the Allegheny Mountains. After completing the third class, I decided to pursue the designation and haven't regretted it."

My most memorable experience as a master gardener so far:

"Watching elementary school kids take an interest in our winter sowing demonstration (sowing seeds in plastic containers) was my most memorable experience. Their attention and enthusiasm were priceless."

The impact being a Master Gardener volunteer has had on me:

"Helping others can come in many forms. Perhaps the easiest one is to write a check and move on. But nothing impacts one more than to help someone on a one-on-one basis. Building a bluebird house with a senior on a cold, snowy January day comes to mind. The lady, with whom I worked, joked, laughed, and seemed to have a good time. Our project seemed to lift her spirits from an otherwise dreary winter day. One could see that our one-hour visit made a difference. The small things we do one-on-one can make a big difference in their lives. We are fortunate that the University of Maryland Extension has the programs to make this happen."

Completed the Master Gardener
basic training in:
2022

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

MASTER
GARDENER



MASTER GARDENER

Introducing Health Rocks!

"Choose Health: Food, Fun, and Fitness" is a 4-H program that our Extension Educator, Kenzi Mousch, is introducing to schools to encourage healthy habits in children through fun, hands-on learning. It combines active games with preparing and tasting nutritious snacks, giving students practical skills for a healthier future. The program targets key behaviors: choosing water or low-fat milk over sweetened drinks, engaging in 60 minutes of active play daily, eating more fruits and vegetables, opting for nutrient-rich and high-fiber foods, eating in moderation, and limiting screen time to two hours a day. These changes can foster lasting, beneficial health habits.

Health Rocks!



Estate & Succession Planning Workshop

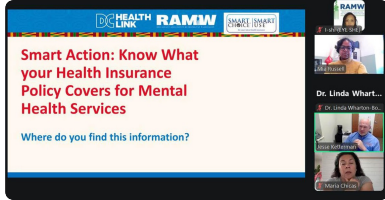


Our FCS Educator, Jesse Ketterman shared a presentation during the Estate & Succession Planning Workshop offered at the Garrett County Extension Office on January 13, 2026. Among topics discussed, Dr. Ketterman's focused on Health Insurance Options for Farmers and Small Business Owners, from our health insurance literacy program: [Smart Choice Smart Use™](#) .

Reach out to Jesse through email jketterm@umd.edu, or call 301-724-3320, to find out more about the various health insurance literacy programs that can be offered to your community group.

Health Insurance Literacy with DC Health Link

Dr. Ketterman partnered with DC Health Link to provide one of our Health Insurance Literacy Programs titled, Smart Actions for Mental Health. This is one of multiple modules that seeks to reduce confusion around health insurance. More information about the Health Insurance Literacy



Initiative is available [here](#). If you are interested in having one of our modules facilitated with your organization, please contact Dr. Ketterman at jketterm@umd.edu.

Update AG Client Contact Information



Are you receiving our monthly AG Newsletter? If not, please [click here](#) to update your contact information and to stay updated on everything agriculture-related in Garrett County and the tri-state area.

Keeping Connected

We are here to serve you in person, by phone, email, or by Zoom. If you have questions, contact one of our experts to provide solutions.



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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/4HGarrettCoMD>

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Roberta Cvetnick

Roberta is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters