

# FRESH. LOCAL. FUN.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Minutes from Washington, D.C. and centrally located, discover Prince George's County farms, farmers and food.



## November 2015

"The thankful receiver bears a plentiful harvest."

- William Blake

## FRESH.

### Understanding Acidified Foods Workshop



This [workshop](#) is designed to teach the basics of food safety requirements and regulation in the manufacture of acidified foods in Maryland. Whether you have a business that you wish to expand, or you are just in the planning stages, this workshop will be helpful to you.

This workshop will be held at our Extension office in Clinton, MD on **November 30**. Participants will receive a certificate at the end of class. Please see the [brochure](#) for registration and course agenda.

**Note, both the Prince George's County Farm Bureau and Southern MD Ag Development Commission are offering scholarships.**

Contact [kimrush@umd.edu](mailto:kimrush@umd.edu) for details.

### Fall Farmers Markets

Although the temperatures are dropping, several farmers markets in Prince George's County are still cookin', so don't miss out on late season goodies. Be sure to take advantage of the following:

- Branch Avenue in Bloom Farmers Market (Saturdays, through Nov 21)
- College Park Farmers Market (Saturdays, through Dec 19)
- Downtown College Park Farmers Market (Sundays, through Nov 22)
- Glenn Dale Farmers Market (Saturdays, through Nov 21)
- Greenbelt Farmers Market (Sundays, through Nov 22)
- Hollywood Farmers Market (Saturdays, through Dec 19)
- Riverdale Park Farmers Market (Thursdays, through Dec 31)



## In This Issue

[Acidified Foods Workshop | Fall Farmers Markets](#)

[Wine Tastings | Raw Pet Milk | Alpaca Gifts](#)

[Upcoming Winery | MD Ag Commission Tours PGC Farms](#)

[Field to Tray: The Mid-Atlantic's First Regional Farm to School Conference](#)

[Small Farms Conference](#)

[Forested Fall Planting](#)

[Pumpkin Composting](#)

[Fall Happy Hour & Open House with Food Equity Council](#)

[Sheridan Street Garden Work Day](#)

[Greater Baden Aquasco Citizens Assoc. Community Social](#)

[Grow & Fortify Workshop for Breweries, Wineries & Distilleries](#)

[Winter's Eve Celebration with Accokeek Foundation](#)

[Future Harvest CASA Confernece](#)



## LOCAL EVENTS

**Field to Tray  
The Mid-Atlantic's First Regional Farm  
to School Conference**  
November 4 & 5

Field to Tray: Strengthening Farm to School Purchasing in the Mid-Atlantic will bring together farmers, food service directors, suppliers and

- The Farmers Market at Maryland (Wednesdays, through Nov 18)

Please check out our farmers market [page](#) for details.

[Ferguson Family Farms](#) is taking thanksgiving **turkey orders**. Turkeys can be picked up at the [Greenbelt Farmers Market](#) on Sunday, November 22. Contact Lynn Ferguson at [lynne@fergusonfamilyfarm.com](mailto:lynne@fergusonfamilyfarm.com) for details.

[Roy & RT's Kitchen & Garden](#) participate in several farmers markets in the County with their delicious Indonesian fare made with ingredients from their small urban farm. Check out this [link for recent video](#) about their farm.

## Farmers Market Nutrition Program Checks

Please remember to spend your FMNP checks by November 30th. Farmers must deposit the ones they have from their shoppers in the bank by Dec 5th.



## Holiday Farmers Markets Harvest Bounty Celebration

St Thomas' Parish is hosting Harvest Bounty on **November 21st**, from 3:00-7:00pm. It will be held in the Parish Hall at 14300 St Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. Vendors include P. A. Bowen Farmstead, Prima Terra Farm, Eve-Lynn Organics, Elysium Unique Jewelry, Fair Weather Pottery, Romano Vineyard & Winery, Jug Bay Market Garden, Mt Airy Garden Club, Melwood, Serenity Farm, and more. There will also be a pot luck and entertainment. Admission is free. For more information, visit their [website](#).

other stakeholders from our region for a day of digging in to local food procurement strategies. This conference is supported by a USDA Farm to School Grant.

For more information and to register, visit their [website](#).

## Small Farms Conference November 6 & 7

There is still time to register for the Small Farms Conference! The University of Maryland Small Farm Program will host the **Annual Small Farm Conference**. Now in its twelfth year, this two day conference will be held at the **University of Maryland's Eastern Shore** campus in Princess Anne, Maryland. This year's conference will feature four hands-on demonstration workshops and three educational tracks: Alternative Agriculture, Farm Business & Marketing, and New & Beginning Farmer. **Brian Wort, Farm Manager at Prince George's County's P.A. Bowen Farmstead will speak about their experiences in one of the afternoon panels.** Please refer to their [brochure](#) for more information.

## Forested Fall Planting Day November 7, 10am - 2pm

Plant plants, move mulch and explore the forest garden.

Come help plant trees, learn the best way to mulch, and provide care to some plants in a 10 acre research forest garden. Facilitators will provide training in tree planting and mulching methods. The work day will include a tour of the forest garden, and interested participants can receive a list of forest garden plants.

**Location:** field next to D&S General Store and Gas Station located at 3507 Enterprise Road, Bowie, MD 20721

For more information visit their [website](#).



### Greenbelt Farmers Market

Greenbelt Farmers Market will have its special Holiday Market on December 6 from 10-2 in the parking lot behind the Greenbelt municipal building, 25 Crescent Road in Greenbelt. Participating vendors will be listed on their [web site](#) as the event draws near.

The Holiday Market will be held in conjunction with Greenbelt's Festival of Lights Juried Crafts Fair in the Greenbelt

Community Center.

**Look out for more Holiday Market events in next month's newsletter!**

Find the full list of county markets for the 2015 season [here](#). You are also welcome to print out our downloadable [directory!](#) Note that the most updated version is on the website.

## LOCAL.

### Sip, Snack & Shop at Romano Vineyard & Winery

Here's what the Romanos are pouring this month:

Every Saturday, 12 - 5pm

#### Open House at the Vineyard

Mulled wine has made a return for the season - stop in and see what this warm wine is all about!

#### Sip, Snack & Shop: A Holiday Shopping Extravaganza

November 6: 6 - 9pm

There will be over 13 vendors in addition to a food truck for eating and wine for tasting!

#### Riverside WineFest at Sotterly

November 7 & 8: Sat, 12pm - 6pm; Sun, 12pm - 5pm

#### Vintage Flea and Farm Market

November 14: 8am - 3pm

#### Black Friday Sale

November 27: noon - 5pm

10% off - Prepackaged Mulled Wine Kit - Black Friday only

For more information, visit their [website](#) and Facebook [page](#).



### Pumpkin Composting!

November 4, 11

Go green this Halloween and compost your pumpkin. The Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) is pleased to announce the collection of pumpkins, in addition to other organic Halloween decorations including dried corn, hay and straw.

There are two ways to compost your pumpkins and organic Halloween materials:

Place items curbside for residential pick up (items are not required to be bagged, but paper lawn/leaf bags must be used if residents choose to bag materials for collection)

Residents may drop off materials at the County's Convenience Centers on specified dates.

### Fall Happy Hour & Open House

Prince George's County  
Food Equity Council  
November 12, 5:45pm

Are you curious about the Food Equity Council and our work? Come meet our members, learn about our volunteer work groups, and find out how you can get involved in the food system change happening in Prince George's County during our Fall Happy Hour and Work Group Open House!

Our Happy Hour and Work Group Open House will run from 5:45-6:45 pm Thursday, November 12th at the Hyattsville Busboys and Poets, right after our November Food Equity Council Meeting. Come for our meeting from 3:30-5:30 and stay to mingle or just drop in between 5:45 and 6:45 to learn how to get involved.

Please [RSVP here](#).

**Location:** Busboys & Poets  
5331 Baltimore Avenue  
Hyattsville, MD 20781

## Prince George's County Farm is the First in the State to Sell Raw Pet Milk

**P.A. Bowen Farmstead, a small sustainable farm in Prince George's County, recently obtained a permit to sell unpasteurized milk for pets.** This is the first raw cow's milk to be legally sold in the state of Maryland for many decades.

The pet milk is handled with the same strict sanitary procedures as the farm's award-winning artisan raw milk cheese. Every batch is tested for coliform levels (which are always very low). This full-fat, corn/soy/GMO-free milk from grass-fed cows is available in quart and half-gallon size containers: \$6 for a half gallon, \$3.50 for a quart. Since this is pet milk, the farm must charge sales tax.

The milk is available at P.A. Bowen Farmstead's on-site store on a first-come, first-serve basis, Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. One gallon limit per family.



Also available are raw milk artisan cheeses, woodlands pork, pastured eggs and chicken (including livers, hearts, gizzards, heads and feet), pastured beef, and many other items that appeal to the health-conscious consumer.

**Finally, join Farm Manager, Brian Wort this Saturday at the Small Farms Conference at University of MD Eastern Shore. See side bar for details.**

For more information about P.A. Bowen visit their Facebook [page](#) and [website](#).

## Alpaca Gifts for the Holidays!

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit one of Prince George's County's alpaca farms yet, you'll want to stop by [Alpaca Criations](#) and [Villa de Alpacas](#) this holiday season.



**Villa de Alpacas Farm** at historic Villa de Sales is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3pm, the weekend after Thanksgiving through Christmas. They'll have a variety of alpaca and lama gifts for sale including their farm signature products such as alpaca scarves, shawls, blankets, capes and sweaters blended with silk, bamboo and other natural

fibers. Many of these are made on their commercial looms! For more information, check out their [website](#).

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## Sheridan Street Garden Work Day

November 14, 9am - 12pm

Please join us for the 2nd Annual Winter Work Day @ The Gardens at the CEP (center for Educational Partnership). Join us as we tidy up our garden spaces for winter preparation! Last year we had roughly 45 volunteers and would like to double that this year! Please circulate to EVERYONE you know and please encourage to RSVP to [nelsonm@umd.edu](mailto:nelsonm@umd.edu) or call Michelle at 301-779-2806 x706 to get an accurate number for snacks and drinks!

For professors and on-campus appointments, this could be a great extra credit opportunity! I will also grant any middle or high school students community service hours.

**Location:** UMD Extension, Center for Educational Partnership  
6200 Sheridan Street, Riverdale, MD

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## Greater Baden Aquasco Citizens Association Community Meetup & Social

November 18, 7 - 9pm

Local Artists and Authors  
Local Farms and Food  
Local Organizations and Businesses

Refreshments  
Door Prizes  
50/50 Raffle  
Live Music

Lots of Holiday shopping opportunities from the farm! All are welcome.

**Location:** Baden Fire Hall  
16608 Brandywine Rd.  
Brandywine, MD 20613

Call for info: (301) 502-3261

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**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Important Considerations for**  
**Breweries, Wineries & Distilleries**  
**Grow & Fortify**  
December 3, 6-9pm

**Alpaca Criations'** shop is open every Saturday and Sunday, 9am to 5pm. Their alpaca products include clothing, hats, scarves, socks, sweaters, alpaca toys, alpaca children's books, yarn, roving and many more items. They accept cash and credit cards. Check out their [website](#) for a sample of their alpaca products for sale.



### **Benevola Bread**

Looking for homemade bread for your holiday celebrations? Place an order with Casey-Mae McGinley of Benevola Bread. Their bread is a true, elemental sourdough loaf, that they have spent the last two and a half years searching for and perfecting. The ingredients are simply water, freshly ground organic whole wheat flour (they even have a home grain grinder), all-purpose flour, and Celtic Sea Salt. Because it relies on a natural leaven to rise, all the flour used is soaked before baking, making the nutrients more readily available. These sizable loaves are \$10 a loaf.



Benevola is a little place, a crossroads really, just south of Hagerstown, where Casey and her family hope to have a farm one day. There is a beautiful farm in Benevola that was once farmed by their ancestors, and they hope to return to these family roots. In the meantime, they hope that their baking endeavor will help them save some money towards their farm. "Benevola" means "we wish you well," and that is truly what they wish for you!

Contact Casey at [cmfleischer@email.msmary.edu](mailto:cmfleischer@email.msmary.edu) or 443.536.1830.

**Visit the calendar on the Prince George's County 'Fresh. Local. Fun.'** [website](#) for information about more local farm and food events!

Are you starting a brewery, winery or distillery in Maryland? Or, perhaps another value-added agricultural production operation? If so, there are many important legal, financial and insurance considerations to address before you launch.

Join three professionals for their take on three major considerations when opening a winery, brewery or distillery: accounting, business formation and legal concerns and insurance.

**Location:** Baltimore County Center for MD Agriculture

**Cost:** \$40pp

For more information, [click here](#).

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**SAVE THE DATE: Farms for the Holidays  
Winter's Eve with Accokeek Foundation**

December 5, 4-7pm

Experience the holidays 18th-century style at the National Colonial Farm. Handcraft your own earth-friendly gift for someone special, hear the sounds of the season sung by fireside carolers, decorate your own wreath made from gathered fresh greenery, enjoy hot cocoa, cider and popcorn as you browse the farm's gift shop!

This FREE event is hosted by the Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park, 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek MD 20607. Visit their [website](#) or call 301-283-2113 for more information.

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**SAVE THE DATE: Future Harvest  
CASA**

**Cultivate the Chesapeake Foodshed**  
January 14 - 16, 2016

One of the Region's Largest Farm and Food Gatherings!

Interact during pre-conference, skill-building workshops for farmers and food lovers alike

Experience SEVEN conference tracks - something for everyone!

# FUN.

## Janemark Winery of Brandywine Featured in Delmarva Farmer

It's been two generations since Janie Vogt's front yard has produced anything but grass, but it's always been a farm to her.



**Grant opens way for produce in Richmond**  
 By JENNIFER CHERRY  
 RICHMOND — It's a small, unassuming vineyard in the heart of the city, but it's producing some of the most delicious grapes in the area. The grapes are used for wine, but they're also being used for fresh eating. The vineyard is owned by Janie Vogt, who has been growing grapes for over 20 years. She says the grapes are the best she's ever tasted, and she's proud to be able to share them with her community.

**Vogt's Janemark Winery nearing fruition**  
 By WHITNEY PIPKIN  
 RICHMOND — It's almost time to start drinking wine from Janie Vogt's front yard. The winery, which is named Janemark Winery, is set to open in the next few months. Vogt, 54, has spent the last two years working on the vineyard, and she's now ready to start producing wine. She says the wine is made from the grapes she grows in her front yard, and she's proud to be able to share it with her community.

She remembers when her grandfather, Oscar Townshend, grew tobacco on this property, which measured 270 acres before parts of it were sold, and her grandmother grew a quarter-acre garden and Concord grapes for jelly in the back.

Though the tobacco and its industry disappeared from this part of Prince George's County in the late 1960s, the grapes are back. Now, they're in the front yard, too.

"About four years ago, we said, 'Let's start doing grapes and wine,'" Vogt, 54, says of a conversation with her husband Mark, who plans to retire from his engineering job in a couple years. "We like to stay busy."

It has taken that long to bring the idea to fruition, partly because the vines take up to five years to reach full fruit production. [Read more...](#)

- [Whitney Pipkin](#)

## MD Ag Commission Tours Prince George's County

The Maryland Agricultural Commission kicked off its fall 2015 tour at **Miller Farms** in Clinton on the crisp autumn morning of October 14. The advisors to the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Commission gather for farm tours in two counties each spring and fall to learn more about the issues and policies affecting agriculture in those counties. **This year's fall tour focused on farms in both Prince George's and Charles counties.**



After consuming a breakfast of champions, including the bakery's signature homemade donuts and both apple and pumpkin ice cream, the Commission hopped on a wagon and toured this 200 year old farm's brassica fields adorned with clever scarecrows, a pick-your-own kale section and corn maze. The 30 member commission and the **Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary, Joe Bartenfelder**, also enjoyed the farm store stocked with local goodies and colorful mums before heading to three diverse operations in Charles County. [Read more...](#)

Enjoy Interest Gatherings, Local Fare Fair, Chesapeake Farm Dinner and a Photo Contest!

THREE Keynote Speakers  
 Ricardo Salvador, Union of Concerned Scientists  
 Chef Cathal Armstrong, Restaurant Eve  
 Natasha Bowens, The Color of Food

Visit their [website](#) for more information.

**2015 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FARMERS MARKETS**

Photo credit: Kari Gary Photography

*From the farm to your plate...*

## Prince George's County – Shared Work and Responsibility Can Benefit Prince George's County's Local Food Movement

I just read an article sent to me by Erik Wolf, President of The World Food Travel Association. The article entitled "Have You Thought About Permablitzing Your Yard?" **What is permablitzing?** Permablitzing is simply using social media to aggregate local neighbors that share ideas and concerns around food to transform backyards into backyard gardens.

[Read more...](#)

- Barry Abrams

[PGC Volunteer Tech Nation](#)

## Hard Bargain Farm Barnyard Update:



### Animals and Students Benefit from One Another

Back-to-school time on the farm is exciting for staff and animals alike, as we enjoy the return of visiting children. The entertainment value goes both ways between students and animals. This fall we have a new dairy calf to show off,

born in August; two young Berkshire pigs, born in June; and a batch of broiler chicks; which arrived in September. All will quickly learn that young children are very interesting and friendly animals, themselves. [Read more...](#)

- Eileen Watts

[Alice Ferguson Foundation](#)

## MDA's Produce Seasonality Charts

### Vegetables in Season



## Contact Us!

Do you have an interesting idea or event that you would like to share in the newsletter or even an interest in contributing an article?

Have you enjoyed a tasty, locally-made dish or treat in Prince George's County?

Did you have a phenomenal experience at one of our County's farm destinations or farmers markets?

If you answered yes to any of these, we'd love to hear from you! Send us an [email](#) or call us at 301.868.8780.

Warmly,

Kim & Norma

AG Marketing, Prince George's County

[Prince George's County Farm Fun](#)

[University of MD Extension,  
Prince George's County](#)



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*Prince George's Farms, Fun & Food*

*Solutions In Your Community*

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Check out our [newsletter](#) archive!

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*Solutions in your community*

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