**Herbicide Resistant Weed Workshop**

**Organic Round Table Grower Discussion**

**Calendar**

**Registration Now Open for Mental Health Workshops**

**MDA Offers Cost Share Grants for Manure Injection**

**Farmers May Apply Commercial Fertilizer to Small Grains Beginning February 15**

**Maryland Risk Management Education Blog**

**Maryland Beef Industry Producer Survey**

**New Agriculture Extension Program Being Developed in Cecil County High Schools**

**There’s an App for That**

**Promoting Agriculture in Cecil County**

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**HERBICIDE RESISTANT WEED WORKSHOP**

**Topics:**
- Overview of herbicide resistance challenges and mechanisms
- Focusing on Palmer amaranth, common ragweed, and marestail
- Integrated management strategies
- Creating a weed management plan

**Guest Speakers:**
Dr. Mark VanGessel, University of Delaware
Ben Beale, UME St. Mary’s Co.
Mall Morris, UME Frederick Co.

Pesticide and CCA credits will be offered for this workshop.

**ORGANIC ROUND-TABLE GROWER DISCUSSION**

**Agenda:** round-table discussion with growers, industry, and research professionals on organic grain production

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**Thursday March 7th, 2019**
8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Free lunch to follow the program!

To be held at the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company
211 Maple Avenue
Chestertown, MD 21620

Please RSVP by March 4th to the Kent County Extension Office:
(410) 778-1661

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**Location:**
Chestertown Fire Hall
211 Maple Ave, Chestertown, MD

**When:**
Thursday, March 7th, 2019
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Please register by March 4th by calling the Kent County Extension Office:
(410) 778-1661

Lunch will be provided for attendees.

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**MARYLAND AGRONOMY NEWS**
http://blog.umd.edu/agronomynews/

**DAIRY INFORMATION**
http://extension.psu.edu/animals/dairy

**LIVESTOCK INFORMATION**
http://extension.psu.edu/

**POULTRY INFORMATION**
https://extension.umd.edu/poultry

**GRAIN INFORMATION**
http://extension.umd.edu/graing

**FOREST STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION**
https://extension.umd.edu/news/newsletters/branching-out

**WATERSHED PROTECTION/RESTORATION**
https://extension.umd.edu/news/newsletters/headwaters
### MARCH 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s County Agronomy Day, 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD.</td>
<td>For information, call the QAC Extension Office, 410-758-0166.</td>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs) Due. For information, 410-841-5959, or visit <a href="https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/air.aspx">https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/air.aspx</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>First Friday Produce Safety Rule Webinars - Water Testing Requirements and the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, 12:00 p.m., <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-friday-produce-safety-rule-webinars-registration-53439015534?aff=erellivm1t">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-friday-produce-safety-rule-webinars-registration-53439015534?aff=erellivm1t</a>.</td>
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<td>04</td>
<td>Advance Small Fruit Workshop, 1:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Hughesville, MD. For information, contact SMADC staff at <a href="mailto:info@smadc.com">info@smadc.com</a> or call 301-274-1922.</td>
<td>Planning Success.</td>
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<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD, coffee, donuts.</td>
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<td>07</td>
<td>Herbicide Resistant Weed Workshop, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Chestertown, MD. Details P1</td>
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<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Organic Round-Table Grower Discussion, 12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Chestertown, MD. Details P1</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Daylight Savings Time Begins</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>2019 Delmarva Poultry University-Industry Partnership Summit, 8:00 a.m-5:00 p.m., Salisbury, MD. For information and to register, <a href="http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ae7awram&amp;oeidk=a07egq9655341813cb99">http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ae7awram&amp;amp;oeidk=a07egq9655341813cb99</a>.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>The Woods in Your Backyard Spring session online course begins. For more information and to register, visit <a href="http://extension.umd.edu/woodland/woods-your-backyard/online-course">http://extension.umd.edu/woodland/woods-your-backyard/online-course</a>.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>WIA Wednesday Webinar — Protecting Yourself and Others on the Farm. For information and to register visit <a href="http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars">http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars</a>.</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Cecil County Farm Bureau Annual Banquet, 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Rising Sun, MD. For information visit <a href="https://www.mdfarmbureau.com/event/cecil-county-banquet">https://www.mdfarmbureau.com/event/cecil-county-banquet</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s County Farm Bureau Annual Banquet, 7:00 p.m., Sudlersville, MD. For information, call 410-490-6370.</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Containers &amp; Raised Beds Workshop, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Elkton, MD. For information, call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Basic GAP - Good Agricultural Practices Training, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Baltimore, MD. For information contact Neith Little, <a href="mailto:nglittle@umd.edu">nglittle@umd.edu</a>, 410-856-1850, x123.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>First Day of Spring</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Small Fruits Presentation, 6:30 p.m., Elkton, MD. For information call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>WIA Wednesday Webinar — Soils and Salts: From Fertilizer to Tidewater. For information and to register visit <a href="http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars">http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars</a>.</td>
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### APRIL 2019

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD, coffee, donuts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Pest Management Presentation, 6:30 p.m., Chesapeake City, MD. For information, call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.</td>
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<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Third Annual Agriculture Awareness Day. For information contact the QAC Extension Office, 410-758-0166.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>WIA Wednesday Webinar — Estate and Transition Planning Success. For information and to register visit <a href="http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars">http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gourd Birdhouses Workshop, 9:00 a.m.-noon, Elkton, MD. For information, call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>DPI Booster Banquet, Salisbury, MD. Call 302-856-9037 for tickets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>WIA Wednesday Webinar — Predator Control for Your Small Flock. For information and to register visit <a href="http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars">http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars</a>.</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Poultry Farm Management for New &amp; Existing Growers, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Snow Hill, MD. For information and to register, visit <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/poultry-farm-management-for-new-existing-growers-tickets-57194226471">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/poultry-farm-management-for-new-existing-growers-tickets-57194226471</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Fair Weather Farm Earth Day, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Elkton, MD. For information, call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.</td>
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**Cecil County Harvest Dinner**

A beautiful way to enjoy the bounty from our local farms!

The Cecil County Harvest Dinner Committee is in the process of planning this year’s Cecil County Harvest Dinner. The dinner will be held on September 26, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. The host of this year’s dinner will be the Chesapeake Inn, Chesapeake City, Maryland. This dinner is a farm-to-table concept and highlights our locally grown meat and produce. The committee is currently canvassing local producers to get an idea of available produce and quantities so a menu can be created.

The committee would like to know if local producers are interested in being considered as a source of local meat and produce for the dinner. In order to plan the menu, they would like to know what you grow and what quantities would be available for the September Harvest Dinner.

If you are interested in participating as a local source for this year’s Harvest Dinner, please contact one of the following committee members: Darla Bohnke, University of Maryland Extension Cecil County, 410-996-5280, dbohnke@umd.edu or Maureen O’Shea, Cecil County Office of Economic Development, 410-996-8469, MDshea@cegov.org.
Farmers May Apply Commercial Fertilizer to Small Grains Beginning February 15

ANNAPOLIS, MD (February 14, 2019) – The Maryland Department of Agriculture today announced that farmers who planted small grains for harvest last fall may “top dress” these crops with commercial fertilizer beginning February 15, as long as ground conditions remain favorable and in accordance with their nutrient management plans.

The determination follows Maryland’s nutrient management regulations and is based on research conducted by University of Maryland plant experts. As a reminder, manure may not be applied to fields until March 1.

Each year, University of Maryland researchers examine soil temperatures and crop growth over the winter to estimate when small grains will emerge from dormancy. According to data collected by University researchers, commercial fertilizer may be safely applied to small grains beginning February 15. At this time, these plants will have absorbed all available nutrients in the soil and will require additional nutrients to keep growing. The University cautions farmers, however, to check individual field conditions and avoid running heavy equipment across saturated soils.

The University recommends split applications of spring nitrogen with the first application occurring on or soon after February 15 and the second application when the crops begin to joint.

For additional information on Maryland’s nutrient application requirements, contact the department’s Nutrient Management Program at 410-841-5959. Farmers with fields that are not suitable for harvest should contact their crop insurance agent for guidance.

Department Offers Cost-Share Grants for Manure Injection

Sign-Up Ongoing at Local Soil Conservation Districts

ANNAPOLIS, MD (Feb. 12, 2019) — The Maryland Department of Agriculture is offering cost-share grants to help farmers cover the cost of injecting manure into cropland to lower the potential for nutrient runoff to surface waters and reduce on-farm odors.

Cost-share assistance is available to hire custom operators, rent or lease equipment, or offset operating costs associated with using equipment needed to inject liquid manure into the soil. Eligible farmers may receive up to $45 an acre in cost-share funds based on a maximum application rate of 6,000 gallons per acre. In addition, grants are available to haul manure. Rates for manure transport are based on the distance between the manure source and the field.

Manure injection and manure transport grants are administered by the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program. Applicants must be in good standing with the program and in compliance with Maryland’s Nutrient Management Regulations. All spring and summer injected manure must be completed by September 9 and all claims for payment received by October 9. Other restrictions apply.

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Farmers should visit their local soil conservation district office as soon as possible to apply. For more information, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 410-841-5864.

Registration is now open for the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD) Mental Health Workshops. Funded by the Rural Maryland Council (RMC) and The Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, the purpose of these workshops is to bring awareness to Mental Health in rural areas.

While not often talked about in our industry, farmers have one of the highest suicide rates of any job in the U.S., according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Farmers are also among the highest risk professions for drug abuse and alcoholism.

MASCD, in partnership with University of Maryland Extension, is hoping to make a change in that trend within the state of Maryland. Through these workshops, individuals working in the field with farmers on a daily basis will receive training to detect early warning signs and prevention methods for severe mental stress and substance abuse.

These workshops will be targeted towards, but not limited to, agribusiness professionals, crop consultants, extension agents, farm bureau leaders, nutrient management planners, agricultural lenders and soil conservation district employees. Farmers and farm families are also welcomed and encouraged to attend.

The workshops will be held at four locations around the state; including one at Chesapeake College on March 5, Harford County Public Library in Bel Air library on March 6, Frederick Community College on March 7, and the Charles Soil Conservation District on March 8, 2019.

To register for the workshops, please visit https://mascdmentalhealth.eventbrite.com or contact Danielle Bauer, 443-262-8491 or Danielle.mdag@gmail.com.
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENS ON REVISED “WOTUS” DEFINITION
February 19, 2019  Nicole Cook

On February 14, 2019, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) published a proposed rule revising the definition of “Waters of the United States” (WOTUS). The proposal is the second step in a two-step process to review and revise the WOTUS definition to clarify which bodies of water throughout the U.S. are subject to federal regulation under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The agencies are now taking public comments on the proposed revised definition. For information about the long and winding road leading up to the revised definition, what the agencies have proposed for the new definition, and how to submit your comments, keep reading.

What is WOTUS?
This blog has kept its readers updated on all the twists and turns of WOTUS, but if you’re not sure what the WOTUS rule is, you can learn about it in this post.

WOTUS is a term used in the CWA to determine what waters and their conveyances fall under federal and state permitting authority. In 2014, EPA and the Army Corps undertook an effort to rewrite and expand the current WOTUS definition. In 2015, the Obama Administration finalized a new definition of WOTUS, which was immediately challenged in the courts.

In February 2017, President Trump released Executive Order 13778: Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism, and Economic Growth by Reviewing the “Waters of the U.S.” Rule, which instructed the EPA and the Army Corps to review and rewrite the 2015 WOTUS rule. Then, in January 2018, EPA and the Army Corps finalized a rule to delay the 2015 WOTUS rule implementation date until 2020, giving the EPA time to develop the proposed revised definition released this month.

The 2015 WOTUS rule is currently in effect in 23 states (California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia and Washington), while regulations from the 1980s are in effect in the other 27 states. If finalized, the proposed new rule would apply nationwide, replacing the patchwork of regulation that has resulted from the litigation.

What's the new WOTUS definition?
Under the proposal, there would be six categories of federally-regulated waters. The six categories are:

- traditional navigable waters like large rivers and lakes, tidal waters, and the territorial seas (e.g., the Mississippi River, the Great Lakes, and the Atlantic Ocean) and tidally-influenced waterbodies, including wetlands, along coastlines—used in interstate or foreign commerce;
- tributaries that are naturally-occurring and which flow more than only when it rains (e.g., rivers and streams that flow to traditional navigable waters—such as Rock Creek, which feeds to the Potomac River in Washington, D.C.);
- certain ditches that are navigable (the Erie Canal) or affected by tide;
- certain lakes and ponds if they are traditional navigable waters (e.g., Lake Champlain), they contribute flow to a traditional navigable water, or they are flooded by WOTUS in a typical year;
- impoundments of WOTUS; and
- wetlands that abut or are connected to WOTUS.

The proposed rule specifies that if water does not meet one of the six listed categories, it will not be considered a WOTUS.

The proposed definition also identifies waters that would specifically not be regulated. These include:

- water features that only contain water during or in response to rainfall (e.g., ephemeral features);
- groundwater;  

(continued on page 5)
Maryland Beef Industry Producer Survey

College Park, MD — Currently the only way to get information related to the Maryland Beef Industry is via the 2012 Ag Census, which tells us the approximate number, county locations, size of primary operation (herd and acreage), approximate demographics and age. What this census doesn’t tell us is: their future plans, greatest challenges, preferred method of education and outreach and what topics they would like to see in the areas of education programming. In order to properly develop extension programming that will meet the current and future needs of our producers, we need to establish a baseline of information. The best way to collect this information would be to directly ask our Maryland Beef Industry producers. What information we will collect: operation characteristics including county location, type, and size; age of producers and their tenure in the industry; future plans; greatest challenges; preferred methods of education and outreach; topics for educational programming; production data that will include type of housing, pasture management, nutrition and how producers buy, sell and market their cattle.

Our survey will open February 1, 2019 and remain open for response until April 8, 2019. Completing the survey should take no more than 10-15 minutes with the results being used to offer targeted educational outreach and training on topics related to beef production. This will help maintain and grow a viable beef production industry in Maryland and help sustain this important agricultural sector of the economy.

All data will be stored on a secure server with access restricted to members of the research team. Your participation in this survey is voluntary and in no way affects your ability to take advantage of UME programs. This research has been approved by the University of Maryland Institutional Review Board (IRB #1158581-2).

The easiest way to complete the survey is to type the following link into a web browser on your computer:  

https://tinyurl.com/2019MD-beefsurvey

You can also request a paper survey if preferred at rslatt@umd.edu. If you need any further information on the survey or how the results will be used, please contact Rachael Slattery, Principal Investigator, Beef and Dairy Extension Coordinator at The University of Maryland at rslatt@umd.edu or 301-405-1392.

New Agriculture Extension Program Being Developed in Cecil County High Schools

Educators Requesting Participation from Local Ag Producers

Cecil County is lacking in agriculture education for our high school students and is lacking in skilled agriculture workers that could work at our local Ag businesses. There is a huge gap in providing our youth with agricultural experiences for them to gain the knowledge and the hands-on experience needed to thoroughly appreciate the work involved in an agricultural business. The Extension program called “Days of Learning” is being developed to help facilitate the Ag business owner and the secondary school Ag student interaction.

In 2018, we started working with Rachael Coffey of the Cecil County School of Technology and her students. After a few successful field trips and the support of the Cecil County Public School System, we realized that this program could definitely work. In the future, we would like to develop “Days of Shadowing” where the students could shadow a farmer for the day, then possibly develop on-farm internships. Over time, we would like to add more high schools to the program to help expand the offering to more students with a love for Ag.

There are many levels of participation in this developing program. If you are not a business where a field trip to your business makes sense, then you could participate in this program by presenting your agricultural topic to the students at the Cecil County School of Technology. The students would love a “show and tell” style presentation from your business. If you are an Ag business that would like to participate in this program, please contact Doris Behnke, 410-996-5280 or dbehnke@umd.edu.
The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression. The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Programs. La Universidad de Maryland es una institución con Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo y con Igualdad de Acceso a Programas.

Contact your local UME Agriculture Educator:

Cecil County ~ Doris Behnke at 410-996-5280 or dbehnke@umd.edu
Kent County ~ Nate Richards at 410-778-1661 or nrichard@umd.edu
Queen Anne’s County ~ Jennifer Rhodes at 410-758-0166 or jrhodes@umd.edu

There’s an App for That

The Southern Regional Extension Forestry Office has adapted the US Forest Service’s Forester’s Handbook into a mobile phone application. The handbook is a highly sought-after tool for foresters and natural re-source professionals working in the field. The mobile app puts the guide’s information at your fingertips, with basic forest and land measurements, tree measurements, site index charts and more. It’s available for Apple and Android devices. Go here to learn more.

The Southern Regional Extension Forestry Office also has apps for other purposes, such as GIS, invasive plants, timber tracking, burn tracking, tree identification, and much more. View the complete list on their website at this link.


Promoting Agriculture in Cecil County

The Cecil County Extension Office, along with the Cecil County Farm Bureau and the Cecil County Office of Economic Development, want to increase the awareness of Cecil County agriculture. They are looking for farmers and producers in Cecil County to share their operation photos/videos with them. This information would be included in a short video of farms and services in Cecil County. This short video will be shown on the University of Maryland Extension, Farm Bureau, and Economic Development websites. The idea is to promote our county’s agriculture.

If you are interested in this project, please contact one or more of the following contacts:
University of Maryland Extension Cecil County, Doris Behnke, 410-996-5280, dbehnke@umd.edu
Cecil County Office of Economic Development, Maureen O’Shea, 410-996-8469, MOShea@ccgov.org

The aforementioned organizations need to know your participation interest level. If you are interested in sharing information about your farm or your production business, please send photos, videos, etc., to Doris or Maureen. When submitting, please include your name, farm/operation name, address, and phone number.

If you do not have information to share, but are interested in being included in this project, call Doris or Maureen. Now is the time to voice your interest. If there is not enough interest in this project, the organizations will not move forward with the idea.

If there is a lot of interest, Doris and Maureen are prepared to conduct fundraising efforts to raise money to have a good quality video made, similar to the quality of the videos in the following link(s):

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sq7h3b4xbha16/AADlAcIq4GZjSm132HyV5F/Mh4m91

Now is the time to join the effort.