



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

Prince George's County

November 2017

Your Monthly News & Updates



Dear Friend of Prince George's Extension,

As we leave fall behind and move into the beginning of winter, the changing of the seasons reminds us that we are once again ending one year and beginning another. For the gardener and farmer, these winter months provide a short break from actively working the soil, but in a very short time, they will be back at work after having spent many hours planning for future projects. In Extension, it is a time for offering classes, researching new techniques and developing new ideas to better guide our many stakeholders and clientele.

We appreciate all of you and salute you for your role in protecting the environment and contributing to your community, whether by volunteering, supporting local agriculture, teaching others or donating to your favorite charity.

Wishing you a warm and wonderful holiday season.



Karol Dyson
Capital Area Extension Director
University of MD Extension

Upcoming Events

Prince George's County Wineries - Sip N' Stuff Event

Join us on **December 16th from 12-5pm** to sip your way around our **local wine trail** while **stuffing a holiday stocking with festive goodies along the way.**

Start at one of the four wineries to pick up a stocking, get your first two **stocking stuffers**, and enjoy a **wine tasting**. Then continue along the trail to the remaining three wineries for tastings and stocking stuffers at each! Participating Wineries include **Romano Vineyard & Winery, Janemark Winery & Vineyard, Gemeny Winery & Vineyards, and Robin Hill Farm & Vineyards.**

Tickets are limited - Reservations are Required!

For more information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).



Linden Hill Christmas Tree Season

Linden Hill Christmas Tree farm invites you and your family to come out and select your holiday tree. Join us **now through December 16th**, or while supplies lasts. We are open from **8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Friday through Sunday.**

This season we will be featuring **Douglas Fir, White Pine, Norway Spruce, Concolor Fir and Canaan Fir** in field to cut. We will also have freshly pre-cut Fraser and Douglas Firs 5ft-11ft.

Tree prices are \$10 a foot. There will be a **blower, baler, bow saws & assistance with cutting and loading your tree available** free of charge. There will also be **refreshments available at our concession stand.** Please remember cash and local check only, no cards.

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

Accokeek Foundation: Winter's Eve

The Accokeek Foundation invites you to **Winter's Eve, one of the most popular events** held at the **National Colonial Farm on December 9th.**

Guests will **enjoy a special evening as we deck the farm for the holidays** - colonial style! Enjoy the simplicity of the holiday season with:

- Hand-crafted earth-friendly gifts for someone special
- Experience an 18th century farm by candlelight
- Enjoy music and entertainment
- Decorate your own wreath using farm-fresh greenery
- Browse the Gift Shop for locally made treasures
- Sip hot cocoa and warm cider

For more information view our [event listing](#).



Villa de Alpacas Open House

Join us for our **fall/winter open house(s)**. Shop for **Unique Alpaca Gifts!** Mark your calendar and get a head start on fall/winter & Christmas shopping while enjoying our farm's hospitality that has been **well-known for over 150 years!** We are open **10 am - 3 pm every weekend** thru February 18, 2018 (for Valentine's shopping)! Shop local for:

- * Alpaca Scarves & Shawls
- * Alpaca Capes & Sweaters
- * Alpaca Vests
- * Gorgeous Alpaca Blankets
- * Alpaca Socks & Boot Insoles
- * Hand-Dyed Alpaca Yarns in unique and vibrant colors
- * Blends with silk, bamboo, & other natural fibers
- * See www.marylandalpacafarm.com for a sampling of our products!

Our historic Victorian-era showroom is also open 7 days weekly BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. For the most unique shopping experience, call ahead at 301-888-2742.

Prince George's County Holiday Markets

With the holiday's fast approaching, come out to a Holiday Market near you!

[Greenbelt Farmer's Market](#) (December 3)

[The Farmer's Market at Maryland](#) (December 6)

[Riverdale Park Farmer's Market](#) (December 16)

[The Alpaca Yarn & Fiber Shop](#) (December 17)

We look forward to seeing you!



Looking for more farm and local food events in Prince George's County? If so check out our Fresh. Local. Fun. PGC [events page](#).

Find the full list of county farmers markets here. Download and print our [2017 Farmers Market Guide](#). You can also pick one up at your local farmers market or community center.

Prince George's County Planning Department Rewrites Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations

The Prince George's County Planning Department is conducting a comprehensive rewrite of the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations.

These laws define how land in certain geographic areas can be used. Basically, it determines what can be developed, where it can be developed, and how!

All residents should be aware of the upcoming changes and have the opportunity to provide valuable feedback.



Unfortunately, the current Zoning Ordinance is more than 1,200 pages, inconsistent and difficult to use. The Planning Department is **working hard to create a 21st Century Zoning Ordinance** for Prince George's County, transforming the current zoning code into a **more modern and user-friendly** ordinance. Having said that, it's still quite the document!

Have something to say about the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance? You are invited to submit your comments [here](#). Please view and comment on a working draft of the Prince George's County Food Equity Council's feedback on how the current draft would affect residents' ability to grow, sell, and purchase healthy food [here](#).

Did You Know



Did you know...That 4-H has introduced the Cultural Life Program, helping youth learn to explore different perspectives and cultures on their own? The program is achievement-oriented, with **international travel scholarships available for the highest achievers**.

Contact alexchan@umd.edu for more information!

Did you know...That it is time to update your Nutrient Management Plan for the 2018 growing season? Plans need to be completed and in producers hands prior to nutrient applications. Please call the office to get your plan updated. Chris Dowell is the Advisor for Calvert and Prince George's County. His normal days in the Clinton office are Mondays and Tuesdays. He can be reached on other days by appointment. For more about your plan, please click [here](#).

Did you know... That it's almost time for Annie's Project 2018? Annie's Project is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in **production, financial management, human resources, marketing and the legal field**. Annie's Project provides a relaxed, fun, dynamic way to learn, grow and meet other women in agriculture. The workshop will take place in **Central Maryland, Caroline County, Southern Maryland and Washington County**. **Classes start in January**. For more information click [here](#). For registration to a workshop near you, click [here](#).



ANNIE'S PROJECT
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE



Did you know...That if you shop smart, a turkey dinner for 10 with traditional sides, such as cranberries and stuffing, will cost approximately **\$49.87**? That's less than \$5.00 per serving!

Did you know...That the top barriers for young farmers today are 1) access to land, 2) student loan debt, 3) labor and 4) health insurance? A recent survey was conducted by the National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC) in partnership with Dr. Kathleen Merrigan, Executive Director of Sustainability at George Washington University and former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. Read more [here](#)!

Did you know... That the **Prince George's County 4-H Livestock Club will begin meeting twice monthly in January at the Accokeek Foundation?** Youth will have the opportunity to directly **interact with heritage breeds of livestock**. Milking Devons and Hog Island Sheep will be leased to youth so that they can learn how to care for them and show them for next year's fair season. Contact alexchan@umd.edu to sign up and for information about meetings.



Did you know... That there is a **safe way to thaw your turkey?** Thaw turkeys in the refrigerator at least 24 hours per 4 to 5 lbs, in a sink of cold water that is changed every 30 minutes, or in the microwave. Never thaw your turkey by leaving it out on the counter. Find out more food safety tips [here](#).



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
FoodEquityCouncil

Did you know... That the **Prince George's County Food Equity Council and partners hosted the Bowie State University Food Day Symposium, Healthy Eating, Healthy Living: Using Food to Fight Diabetes?** The forum discussed the importance of farms and food for our health, and how our County Council candidates plan to improve both! Click [here](#) to view the forum!

Did you know... That the **Charles County Department of Health will be hosting a Parents and Teens: United Against the Opiate Crisis Workshop?** This workshop is a **free educational forum** with information on **important topics impacting teens** and **how to improve parent and teen communications**. This event is open to all. Click [here](#) for more information about the workshop. To register for the event, please click [here](#).

Did you know... That **nothing tastes better than turkey with all the trimmings?** However, **what to do with leftovers?** Reinvent your leftover turkey with these great tips! For example, blend leftover cranberries with frozen yogurt and orange juice for breakfast on-the-go or a quick snack! Click [here](#) for more tips and tricks!



Fresh. Local. Fun.

Prince George's County, Maryland

Visit [Fresh. Local. Fun. PGC](#) for more information about farms, food events, and farmers markets in gorgeous Prince George's! Minutes from the Nation's Capitol, Prince George's County offers a variety of [food and farming events](#) every month!



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This newsletter is brought to you by University of Maryland Extension, Prince George's County. University of Maryland Extension (UME) is a statewide non-formal education system funded by federal, state, and local governments within the University of Maryland - College Park and the University of Maryland - Eastern Shore. Our mission is to support Maryland's agricultural industry; protect its valuable natural resources; enhance the well-being of families and individuals, both young and old; and foster the development of strong, stable communities. The Prince George's County office, partially supported by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, serves the

community from two locations including the main Extension office in Clinton and the Center for Educational Partnership in Riverdale.

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