Seeds to Die For

Taken from: https://marylandgrows.umd.edu/

By: Sara Tangren, Ph. D., Sr. Agent Associate, Sustainable Horticulture and Native Plants, University of Maryland Extension, Home & Garden Information Center

In the 1900s, Nikolai Vavilov studied botany and agriculture. He researched ways to make crop plants more disease resistant, drought tolerant, and higher yield. Working on behalf of the Institute of Plant Industry in Leningrad, he and his staff traipsed through villages, jungles, and savannas around the world, collecting seeds from crops and their wild relatives. They were after the genetic diversity needed to breed new crop varieties. There was an urgency to their work; as populations of heritage varieties and wild plants cross-pollinated with modern cultivars, precious genetic diversity was lost. Their hard-won collection constituted one of the world’s first seed banks.

During World War II, Hitler’s troops laid siege to Leningrad for two and a half years. Many citizens died as the result of air raids, artillery fire, and in the second winter, as many as 100,000 people died of starvation each month. The scientists of the seed bank secreted parts of the collection away and took shifts protecting the remainder. As food became scarce, they pledged to each other never to eat the seeds in the collection. The seed collection survived, but nine of the scientists starved to death, surrounded by envelopes of beans, corn, oats, wheat, and rye.

During World War II, Hitler’s troops laid siege to Leningrad for two and a half years. Many citizens died as the result of air raids, artillery fire, and in the second winter, as many as 100,000 people died of starvation each month. The scientists of the seed bank secreted parts of the collection away and took shifts protecting the remainder. As food became scarce, they pledged to each other never to eat the seeds in the collection. The seed collection survived, but nine of the scientists starved to death, surrounded by envelopes of beans, corn, oats, wheat, and rye.

The Vavilov Institute is an active genebank in the city now known at St. Petersburg. You can visit them at http://www.vir.nw.ru. Photo Credit: D.T.F. Endresen via flickr. March 2002


Continued on page 8
Hello Everyone!

I hope you’re doing well. Just a few notes for this month:

⇒ All hours for 2018 need to be entered into the OTS by December 14th. If you need help entering hours please give me a call. Hours cannot be entered into the OTS after this date.
⇒ Exciting news— I’ll be out on maternity leave mid February to mid April!
  ⇒ Sabine will spearhead the newsletter and MG Jim Persels will run our monthly meetings during this time.
  ⇒ MG’s Cathy Tengwall & Laura Klingler will need help with the plant sale and greenhouse.
  ⇒ MG Karen Wimsatt will need help with the Seedswap on March 16th.
  ⇒ MG Larry Lorenz will need help with Galilee Garden.
⇒ All MG volunteer activities have been added to http://signup.com/go/QdpYbQP Please use this link to sign up for the Plant Sale, helping in the greenhouse, the seed swap, and the plant clinic.
⇒ Our Master Gardener meeting schedule is on page 3 please note that our meeting place will be the new Queen Anne’s County Government Building across from the Queen Anne’s County High School. I’m still on the hunt for a place to have our September meeting.

Best,
Rachel

Howdy Partner....
It’s time to turn in Volunteer Hours

All MG Hours for 2018 must be entered by December 14th. To access the online tracking system go to http://www.agnr.umd.edu/mg
Every month from now until the end of the year one MG’s who’s turned in their hours will win a prize.
## 2019 MG Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 16, 2019</td>
<td>Spotted Lanternfly, Kim Rice with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Plant Protection</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Queen Anne's County Government Building 110 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 Meeting Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 20, 2019</td>
<td>Lavender, Jay Falstead, Calico Fields</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Queen Anne's County Government Building 110 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 Meeting Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 20, 2019</td>
<td>Natural Lands Project at Washington College, Dan Small</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Queen Anne's County Government Building 110 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 Meeting Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 17, 2019</td>
<td>Ticks, Emily Zobel University of Maryland Extension-Dorchester County</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Queen Anne's County Government Building 110 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 Meeting Room 1</td>
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<td>Thursday, May 15, 2019</td>
<td>Hazardous Household Products, Beverly Jackey, FCS Educator, University of Maryland Extension-Cecil, Kent, and Queen Anne's</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Queen Anne's County Government Building 110 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 Meeting Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 12, 2019</td>
<td>Picnic</td>
<td>Time: TBD</td>
<td>Liz &amp; Bob Hammonds 215 Thomas Rd Centreville, MD 21617</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 16, 2019</td>
<td>Garden CSI, Mikaela Boley, UME-Talbot County</td>
<td>5:30-7:30</td>
<td>Centreville Library 121 S. Commerce St. Centreville, MD 21617</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 18, 2019</td>
<td>“Pollinators,” Kerry Wixted, Maryland Department of Natural Resources</td>
<td>5:30-7:30</td>
<td>Place TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 16, 2019</td>
<td>Native Tree ID, Agnes Kedmenecz, UME Woodland Stewards Educator</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Wye Research and Education Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 20, 2019</td>
<td>Bird friendly gardening with Native Plants, Susie Creamer, Patterson Park Audubon</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Queen Anne's County Government Building 110 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 Meeting Room 1</td>
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December-Date TBD
Kent Island Farmers Market

Submitted by: MG Liz Hammond & Deane Horowitz, KI Plant Clinic Chair

All the vendors at the Kent Island Farmers Market are now indoors which makes the space look very inviting with all of us packed in there. We were told that since, Carl the baker, would not be there, we could set up in his spot. I thought it would be a great space, but, unfortunately, we did not get too many visitors – only 13 people stopped by! We had a great display – Susan Pendleton and Susan Edwards made a very nice display board about how to properly use and care for all your gardening equipment. They brought several garden tools and ergonomic extensions that would make gardening much less stressful on the gardener and were prepared to show anyone how to properly use them so you could work in your garden all day if you chose too! I know I was inspired – it’s embarrassing to think how I used to put my gardening stuff away – and then in the spring being reminded that I should have taken better care of them! Most people came by to take information on gardening tips for November, and one person was definitely interested in taking the upcoming Master Gardener course.

We had lots of help, however, which made the time go by fast as we all chatted about the upcoming holidays, plants, and Susan and Susan gave us demonstrations about gardening techniques! In addition to the two Susans, Deb Longhurst, Carol Romano, Jackie Kelly, and Cathay Miller were there; and Karen Wimsatt and Barbara Graham, who is recovering from knee surgery stopped by. Also, Fran Peters, Master Gardener Emeritus, stopped by to chat with us.

We plan to having a display about “Holiday Hazards – What’s Safe and Not Safe for your Pets” in December, so please consider joining us on Thursday, December 13! It will actually be the last chance to get hours for this year! So if you still need hours, come join us at Christ Church, Stevensville, 830 Romancoke Rd.

Liz Hammond 410-758-2992 er93hammon@aol.com
Deane Horowitz 410-604-0969 deanoch@yahoo.com

Upcoming Plant Clinic Dates: (at the Kent Island Farmers Market-unless otherwise noted)
January 10, 2019
February 14, 2019
March 14, 2019
April 11, 2019
May 9, 2019
June 13, 2019
July 11, 2019
August 8, 2019
September 12, 2019
October 10, 2019
November 14, 2019
December 12, 2019

To sign up for a particular day email Liz, come to an MG meeting or click on this link: http://signup.com/go/SyMwafK
Beekeeping 101

Chestertown:
Michael Embrey will be offering a beginning beekeeping class supported by the Upper Eastern Shore Beekeepers, Lower Eastern Shore Beekeepers and The Wye River Beekeepers Associations at Washington College, Miller Library on THURSDAY EVENINGS in the Sophie Kerr Room, in Chestertown, Maryland. There is free parking after 3:30. The opening session, the first of seven classes, will be held on Thursday, January 24, 2019 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Registration fee is $130.00. There is a class for students only from 4:00 to 6:00PM. There will be a total of seven (7) classes and will be held on every other Thursday until mid-April. For registration, please contact: Mike Embrey 410-924-0028 (cell) mecharjew@yahoo.com Registration deadline is January 15, 2019. Please make check payable to: Tuckahoe Apiaries.

Easton:
Michael Embrey will be offering a beginning beekeeping class supported by the Upper Eastern Shore Beekeepers, Lower Eastern Shore Beekeepers and The Wye River Beekeepers Associations on Saturday mornings at the Talbot County Extension Office Bldg. in Easton, Maryland. The opening session, the first of seven classes, will be held on Saturday, January 19, 2019 from 8:30AM to 12:00PM. Registration fee is $130.00. Class size is limited. There will be a total of seven (7) classes and will be held on every other Saturdays until mid-April. For registration, please contact: Mike Embrey 410-924-0028 (cell) mecharjew@yahoo.com Registration deadline is January 15, 2019. Please make check payable to: Tuckahoe Apiaries.

The recommended textbook is, "The Beekeeper's Handbook, Fourth Edition" by Diana Sammataro is used in conjunction with the class and can be bought on Amazon.

Bay-Wise

Submitted by: MG Debbie Pusey

November was another busy month for us as we had several visits, most of which resulted in Bay-Wise certification. We have continued to receive numerous requests from homeowners in Kent County, particularly those living on or near the Sassafras River. We wrapped up our final visit for this year the week of Thanksgiving. Many different MG’s participated in our Bay-Wise program in various ways throughout this past year. Thank you to everyone involved. Our next Bay-Wise meeting will be Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 1:30pm at the Extension Office. Meetings and Bay-Wise visits are open to everyone. My best wishes to all for a wonderful Holiday Season.

2019 Bay-Wise Meeting Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 15th at 1:30 PM</td>
<td>at the Centreville Extension Office</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 19th at 1:30 PM</td>
<td>at the Centreville Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 21st at 1:30 PM</td>
<td>at the Centreville Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 16th at 1:30 PM</td>
<td>at the Centreville Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 17th at 1:30 PM</td>
<td>at the Centreville Extension Office</td>
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Bay-Wise Certification for Catherine Abramavavage on November 19th.
For the 119th year, the National Audubon Society is organizing its annual Christmas Bird Count. Between December 14 and January 5, tens of thousands of bird-loving volunteers will participate in counts across the Western Hemisphere. The data collected by participants continues to contribute to one of only two large existing pools of information notifying ornithologists and conservation biologists about what conservation action is required to protect birds and the places they need.

The Christmas Bird Count is one of the longest-running wildlife censuses in the world. Each individual count takes place in a 15-mile-wide circle and is led by a compiler responsible for organizing volunteers and submitting observations to Audubon. Within each circle, participants tally all birds seen or heard that day—not just the species but total numbers to provide a clear idea of the health of that particular population.

“The Christmas Bird Count is a tradition that everyone can participate in,” said Geoff LeBaron, Audubon’s Christmas Bird Count Director. “Adding observations to more than a century of data helps scientists and conservationists discover trends that make our work more impactful. Participating in the Christmas Bird Count is a fun tradition for anyone and everyone.”

Christmas Bird Count data have been used in more than 300 peer-reviewed articles, including 2014’s Audubon Birds and Climate Change Report, which found that more than half of the bird species in North America are threatened by a changing climate. When combined with other surveys such as the Breeding Bird Survey, it provides a picture of how the continent’s bird populations have changed in time and space over the past hundred years. The long-term perspective is vital for conservationists. It informs strategies to protect birds and their habitat, and helps identify environmental issues with implications for people as well.

Last year, the 118th Christmas Bird Count included a record-setting 2585 count circles, with 1957 counts in the United States, 463 in Canada and 165 in Latin America, the Caribbean, Bermuda, and the Pacific Islands. This was the eighth-straight year of record-breaking counts. In total, 76,987 observers out in the field and watching feeders tallied up 59,242,067 birds representing 2,673 different species and 426 identifiable forms—about one-quarter of the world’s known avifauna. Approximately 5 percent of the North American landmass was surveyed by the Christmas Bird Count last year included a new species for the entire Christmas Bird Count database: a Mistle Thrush representing the first ever appearance of that species in North America.
Continuing the disturbing finding from last year was the continued decline of the Northern Bobwhite, the only native quail in the eastern United States. This species has essentially disappeared from the Northeast and faces massive declines due to loss of shrubland habitat exacerbated by increased droughts. Other species in decline include American Kestrels, our smallest falcon, and the Loggerhead Shrike, a predatory songbird that impales its prey on thorns. While the reasons for these declines is poorly understood, scientists suspect loss of habitat as well as susceptibility to pesticide use.

Beginning on Christmas Day in 1900, Dr. Frank M. Chapman, founder of Bird-Lore — which evolved into Audubon magazine -- proposed a new holiday tradition that would count birds during the holidays rather than hunt them. Conservation was in its beginning stages in that era, and many observers and scientists were becoming concerned about declining bird populations. So began the Christmas Bird Count. 119 years later, the tradition continues and still manages to bring out the best in people.

The Audubon Christmas Bird Count is a community science project organized by the National Audubon Society. There is no fee to participate and the quarterly report, American Birds, is available online. Counts are open to birders of all skill levels and Audubon’s free Bird Guide app makes it even easier to learn more. For more information and to find a count near you visit [www.christmasbirdcount.org](http://www.christmasbirdcount.org).

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Galilee Garden

By: MG Larry Lorenz

This Fall we are:
1. Replacing our sign destroyed by last winter’s winds;
2. Installing plastic edging around the garden's perimeter; and
3. Refurbishing the paths inside the Garden using donated landscape cloth and wood chips.

The Galilee Community Garden is seeking donations to buy construction materials:
1. For the High School Shop Class to build us a Garden Storage Shed;
2. To build a wheelchair accessible path from the parking lot to the Garden; and
3. To build accessible raised garden beds of concrete blocks.

To collect donations for us online, the Garden has partnered with SeedMoney, a nonprofit that helps to start and sustain community gardens. If our donations total $600 or more by December 15, 2018, we also get a $400 SeedMoney challenge grant.

Please help GROW our Garden. Go to: [www.donate.seedmoney.org/2736/galilee-community-garden](http://www.donate.seedmoney.org/2736/galilee-community-garden)

A donation of any size is greatly appreciated! THANK YOU.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 6 @ 7 PM.

Looking ahead...In 2019, our GCG meetings will again be the 1st Thursday of the month @ 7pm at the GLC. Except July 2019 (the 1st Thursday is July 4th) we will meet on Thursday, July 11 and August 2019, we will NOT meet. The first Thursday in January will be the 3rd.
The effort to secure the DNA of the world’s flora in seed collections continues today. Here are the world’s largest seed banks and how they continue the struggle to save the DNA needed to protect the future of our crops and natural areas:

**USDA National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation**

The USDA’s genebank in Colorado is one of the largest in the world. They use the term “genebanks” because they store pollen and other plant parts involved in growth and reproduction as well as seeds. They also conduct research to improve the effectiveness of gene storage methods. Their cold room contains seeds preserved in vacuum sealed envelopes, stored on shelves at -18°C (0°F). These seeds have a shelf life of 20 to 50 years. The cryogenic vault area stores seeds in tanks cooled with liquid nitrogen. These seeds are expected to remain viable for hundreds of years.

**Millennium Seed Bank**

Working in partnership with countries around the globe, the Kew Botanic Gardens in London operates this seed bank focused on the conservation of native plant species of the world. Their mission is to provide an insurance policy against the extinction of species. Their initial focus is on dryland species. Dryland habitats will become drier with climate change, pushing many of these species beyond their tolerance range. At the same time, many moderate sites will become drylands, and these species will be needed to revegetate those areas. As of June 2015, Kew had succeeded in acquiring 13% of the world’s vascular plant species.

**Svalbard Global Seed Vault**

Svalbard is a gift to all of us from the Norwegian people and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Buried deep in a mountain on an island in northern Norway, Svalbard’s mission is to serve as a backup storage facility for the world’s other seed vaults, protecting them from the ravages of war, storms, fire, and war. Seeds are from both the USDA and from the Vavilov Institute. The staff of the seed bank in Lenin-grad would have appreciated Svalbard’s mission.

Entrance to the Svalbard Global Seed Vault was built to withstand sea level rise and nuclear attack. Photo credit: Miksu via Wikipedia
Native Plant Propagation
By: MG Betty McAtee

Why purchase native perennials at a local nursery when you can grow your own? Most of these plants produce seeds that require a cold, moist period prior to the germination process. This is called cold stratification and sometimes vernalization. The following is a simple process to propagate new native pollinator plants initiated during the fall season before the first frost:

Step 1: using an X-ACTO knife or scissors cut around the circumference of an empty clean plastic gallon milk jug (without the top) at a level approximately 3 ½” up from the jug’s base, carefully leaving an 1-2” just below the handle to be attached to the upper half of the jug thus forming a lid that can be opened or closed with the jug handle.

Step 2: Using a drill or large nail, put 3 or 4 holes through the base of the jug.

Step 3: Add garden soil to the base to within about a ½” of the cut edge.

Step 4: Plant seeds of choice into the soil at the appropriate depth and spacing determined by the seed size.

Step 5: Carefully moisten the garden soil until some leakage from the base is observed.

Step 6: Close the jug lid and secure with a single piece of duct tape (Do not seal cut edge completely).

Step 7: Using a wax pencil, write the plant name for the seeds, plus the current date, on the upper half of the jug.

Step 8: Place the jug in a protected outdoor spot with some sun and rainfall exposure. Be sure it cannot be easily blown over by the wind. Do not replace the round jug top. Occasionally check during the winter to see if the soil needs moistening.

Step 9: As spring approaches, check the jug for any germination/seedling growth. As daily temperature warm, open the jug lid to allow more exposure to the sun. Moisten the soil if needed.

Step 10: When seedlings are at least 2-3” tall, transplant as one unit into the garden. Some seedlings may be too fragile to separate before transplanting.

Step 11: Harvest your own seeds from mature plants each year in late summer/early fall, and continue the propagation process.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Orientation and Policy Training</td>
<td>Emily &amp; Mikaela</td>
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<td>MG Intern Group Projects?</td>
<td>E &amp; M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Feb 23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Botany</td>
<td>Wanda MacLachlan</td>
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<td>MG Intern Group Projects?</td>
<td>E &amp; M</td>
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<td>Thursday, Feb. 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Soil Science</td>
<td>Nicole F.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Native Plants* &amp;/or Entomology?? (Flexible)- ROOM 210</td>
<td>Mikaela Boley and Emily</td>
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<td>Thursday, Mar 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Ecology</td>
<td>Ginny Rosenkranz</td>
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<td>Invasive Plants</td>
<td>Ginny Rosenkranz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Snow Day?</td>
<td>Andrew Ristvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Mar 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Plant Nutrition &amp; Pruning</td>
<td>(Emily is out of town)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Pesticides &amp; Agriculture- ROOM 210</td>
<td>Jenny Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Mar 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Plant Pathology &amp; Abiotic</td>
<td>Dave Clement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar 23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9:30 am - 12:30pm</td>
<td>Turf &amp; Fertilizer</td>
<td>Dr. Gary Felton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Mar 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 7:30pm</td>
<td>Composting</td>
<td>Denise Malaug</td>
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<td>Public Speaking &amp; Work on Projects</td>
<td>Coordinators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Integrated Pest Management** &amp; Entomology?? (flexible)</td>
<td>Emily/Mikaela</td>
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<td>Thursday, Apr 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Grow It, Eat It/Bay-Wise/Plant Clinics</td>
<td>Sabine Harvey; Mikaela, Emily,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carol Jelich (MG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Apr 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Basic Tree I.D</td>
<td>Agnes K.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Apr 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Snow Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Apr 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Online Volunteer Log &amp; Work on Projects</td>
<td>Coordinators</td>
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<td>Back up Snowday</td>
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<td>Thursday, Apr 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>Jeopardy &amp; Study Day</td>
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<td>Saturday, Apr 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>No class- Easter Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Apr 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:30- 8:30pm</td>
<td>EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Apr 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9 am - 12</td>
<td>Group Presentations</td>
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Interested in being a hostess for our upcoming training? Hostesses/hosts have the important job of being the first individuals the interns will interact with from the program! They supply basic snacks or refreshments for the class, but are not expected to provide a full meal. Hostesses/hosts bring basic snacks and refreshments (coffee to be supplied by program) for roughly 18-25 interns attending the class on Thursday evenings & Saturday mornings. Crackers, cheese, fruit, veggies, and hummus are an example of some foods that have been provided in the past. Juice, tea, or lemonade are also popular choices. To sign up click here: [To sign up visit: http://signup.com/go/tOzSxjz](http://signup.com/go/tOzSxjz)
Grow With Us

Become a Master Gardener:

Interested in improving the Environment?
Avid Gardener or wishing you had a green thumb?
Dedicated Volunteer?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, you should consider becoming a University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener volunteer and joining the next class of enthusiastic horticulturalists! This rigorous 40+ hour course is designed to give you the basic information in preparation for volunteering as a University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener Volunteer. Topics will include: ecology, botany, soil science, plant pathology (disease), entomology, pest management, among others. This program emphasizes community involvement and outreach as well as environmental stewardship. A fee of $200 is charged to cover all costs including the University of Maryland Master Gardener Handbook. This class is held in conjunction with the University of Maryland Extension in Dorchester, Talbot and Queen Anne's Counties.

Classes are held: February 21 - April 20, 2019
Thursday Evenings 5:30 to 8:30 P.M.
Saturday Mornings 9:00 to Noon
Location: Eastern Shore Higher Education Center, Wye Mills
Cost: $200

For More Information Contact Master Gardener Coordinators:

**Queen Anne’s County:**
Rachel Rhodes  
(410) 758-0166  
rjrhodes@umd.edu

**Talbot County:**
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**Dorchester County:**
Emily Zobel  
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University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all persons and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religious ancestry or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
Volunteer Opportunities

Nature Club in Chestertown
Jennie Lee (Soil Conservation), Beth Hill (4-H) and Sabine are running a Nature Club for 3rd-5th graders. Most students come from Garnett. The club meets every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at the yellow building (Library in Chestertown), from 4 until about 5:15pm.

Over 40 kids are signed up so we are going to need some extra hands! Our schedule is as follows:
- December 17th (Winter Solstice)

Please contact Sabine Harvey if you would like to help out on sharvey1@umd.edu or 410-778-1661.

Garden Program at Kent County Middle School
Just like last year, we will be providing a program at Kent County Middle Schools on a number of Thursday mornings. We did this last year as well and it was pretty successful. The main idea is that we work in the garden, try to grow food and prepare/cook food as well. We will have about 20 students from grades 6-8. We meet every three weeks.

Time: 7:30-9:00am!!!!
We will have the same group of students from September-January and a new group from Feb-May.
Last year the students made a salad, sweet potato pancakes and tortillas from scratch; we dissected flowers and started seeds indoors; we made insect hotels and did a lot of work in the garden.

The dates are as follows:
Fall: 12/20, 1/10
Spring: 2/7, 2/28, 3/21, 4/11, 5/2, 5/23

Please contact Sabine Harvey if you would be interested in helping out with one or more of these sessions. sharvey1@umd.edu, 410-778-1661

Newsletter
Do you have a knack for writing? Submitting an article to the newsletter is a great way to earn a few hours during the winter months. To submit an article email Rachel.

Save the date for 2019.....
Show Dates: January 9-11, 2019
This trade show is the place where a diverse group of green industry professions from across the country showcase new plant varieties, tools, and other horticultural related products. MANTS is open to anyone, you just have to pay to get in and you must register prior to the event. Registration to attend MANTS is $15.00 through 12/7/18 and is $20.00 beginning 12/8/18. If you are going to register to attend click on attendee registration not media or exhibitor. http://www.mants.com/attendees/After clicking on-line registration, click on attendee, then option 3 "new registration." If it asks for a company name you can put UME Master Gardener.
Continuing Education

Webinars for Winter:
For a complete list of eXtension webinars visit: https://learn.extension.org/events/upcoming

- 2018 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: Pantry Pests Friday, December 7th at 2pm: https://learn.extension.org/events/3264
- Weed Management in the Garden & Landscape: Understanding Herbicides on Monday, December 17 at 2:00 pm EST https://extension.zoom.us/j/189114564

Pre-recorded Webinars:
- Water University: Science Based Homeowner Education https://learn.extension.org/events/3514
- Powdery mildew: Biology & Management in the Garden https://learn.extension.org/events/3290
- Hybridization and Tetraploids and Chromosomes, Oh My! Understanding Plant Breeding for Disease Resistance https://learn.extension.org/events/3287
- Avoiding and Remediing Abiotic Injury of Trees https://learn.extension.org/events/3033
- Soil Compaction and Urban Trees: Strategies for Gaining Ground https://learn.extension.org/events/2811

Mt. Cuba Center Lecture Series Our 2019 Lecture Series explores native plants and how landscapes can work for both humans and the environment. Discover the essential roles insects play in our ecosystems and simple ways to include them in your gardens, learn how landscape designs now mimic nature by protecting the quality of local water systems, and see how modern technology is helping to restore and conserve more than 200 species of endangered native orchids. Light refreshments will be served.

- Insects: The Little Things that Run the World (January 19, 2019) $19.00
- Stormwater Ecology: A New Paradigm in Landscape Design (February 16, 2019) $18.00
- Unlocking the Mystery of Native Orchids (March 16, 2019) $18.00

For more information https://education.mtcubacenter.org/wconnect/CourseStatus.awp?&course=191LECPKG
For a complete listing of classes at Mt. Cuba visit: https://education.mtcubacenter.org/wconnect/ShowSchedule.awp?&Mode=GROUP&Group=:FULL&Title=Complete+Listing

Irvine Nature Center
LUNCH AND LEARN: BABY BLUEBIRDS AND OTHER BIRDS IN BOXES Wednesday, January 9, 2019
12 – 1:30 p.m. $15 members; $20 non-members To register or for more information visit: https://www.explorenature.org/center-event/lunch-and-learn-baby-bluebirds-and-other-birds-in-boxes/
December 2018

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<td>Long-wood Gardens Trip</td>
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<td>Kent Island Plant Clinic 3:30-6:30 P.M.</td>
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Rachel Out of Office
Office Closed
Office Closed

Newsletter Submissions Due

T H E  W A T E R I N G  C A N
January 2019

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3  Galilee Garden Meeting 7 P.M.
   Plant Sale
   Meeting 11 am at Extension Office

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8  Office Closed

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10  Kent Island Plant Clinic
    3:30-6:30 P.M.

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15  Bay-Wise Meeting 1:30 P.M.

16  Master Gardener Meeting 9:30-11:30 A.M.

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Rachel Out of Office-Professional Development

Office Closed

Newsletter Submissions Due
January Newsletter Submission
due on
December 21st

University of Maryland Extension
505 Railroad Avenue, Suite 4
Centreville MD, 21617
Phone: (410) 758-0166

QACMG Website: http://extension.umd.edu/
queen-annes-county/master-gardener-home-gardening
QACMG Facebook Page: https://
www.facebook.com/
QueenAnnesCountyMasterGardeners

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Vision Statement: A healthier world through environmental stewardship