

Farm Notes

Mid-Issue Brief

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



March/April 2022

Greetings!

From time to time, *Farm Notes* will send out a “mid-issue brief” to our digital subscribers. This will allow us to keep you up-to-date on all the information and events that have been announced since our last print issue (or that we couldn’t fit!). The mid-issue brief will be short on filler but packed with timely information that we hope you’ll find helpful. This way, we can keep subscribers in the know without spamming your inbox.

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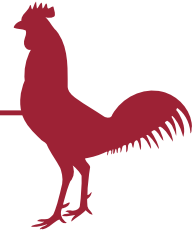
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SICK BIRD REPORTING FOR BACKYARD FLOCKS

Procedure for Requesting Samples



1

Monitor your flocks for any signs of increased mortality.

2

Pay particular attention if any birds are showing signs of respiratory illness or distress.

3

If concerned, send an email to md.birdflu@maryland.gov with contact information, size of flock, location, and concerns.

4

You will be contacted **if a sample needs to be taken.**

5

DO NOT take dead or sick birds to a lab to be tested or move them off-site!

6

If necessary, personnel will notify you and then arrange to visit the site to take a sample.



mda.maryland.gov/AvianFlu

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

A Guide To Help You Understand the Response Process



How Long Does the Process Take?

Ideally, this entire process could be completed in as soon as 60–120 days. However, the timeframe varies depending on many things (for example, flock size, depopulation and disposal methods used, test results, farm's location). We're committed to restoring production as fast as we can while also protecting poultry health.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Questions?

Talk with your case manager or the State or Federal officials responding to the disease event in your area.

For general information and contacts, visit:

www.usda.gov/avian_influenza.html
www.aphis.usda.gov/fadprep
www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • APHIS 91-85-005 • Issued March 2017



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Backyard Farming Zoom Series Raising Chickens for Meat

- **Introduction to Meat Chickens**
March 18, 2022
- **Breed Selection**
March 25, 2022
- **Management**
April 1, 2022
- **Processing Chickens**
April 8, 2022

Register one time and select the backyard poultry sessions you want to attend! <https://go.umd.edu/drumstick>

@UMEBackyardFarming



**Flock Friday
sessions will be
held on Fridays at
noon EST.**

Registration is required. You will receive a link via email. If you do not have internet access, contact Maegan at 443-523-4389 or mperdue@umd.edu for call in options.

Sessions will be approximately 45 minutes.

If you need reasonable accommodations, please email Maegan Perdue.

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Maryland Beef Webinars

Join us on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30-8:30 pm

- March 8** — To deworm or not to deworm?
- April 12** — Breeding and Genetics
- May** — Break for weekly public beef education series
- June 14** — Interpreting a Forage Analysis
- July 12** — Mineral Nutrition for Beef Cattle
- August 9** — Pasture Management: Stockpiling Tips
- September 13** — Spring Stocker Cattle Recap: Successes and Lessons Learned
- October 11** — Utilizing Crop Residue as a Forage Source
- November 8** — Benchmarking for Success
- December 13** — Wintering Bulls and Cows



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AgFS
Agriculture & Food Systems

Registration:

<https://go.umd.edu/beef-webinars>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact your local University of Maryland Extension Office.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

JUMP START YOUR SPRING PLANTING

with cost-share grants for manure injection



Cost-share grants are available from the Maryland Department of Agriculture to help farmers inject all types of liquid manure into their fields. Grants are available for spring or fall-planted crops and may be used to hire custom operators, rent or lease equipment, or offset operating costs associated with manure injection. Call or visit your soil conservation district to jump start your spring planting today!

Advantages of Manure Injection

- ▶ Reduces odors and complaints from neighbors
- ▶ Reduces nitrogen volatilization—more nitrogen is available to crops
- ▶ Minimizes soil disturbance—helps prevent soil and nutrient losses
- ▶ Works well with no-till and strip-till systems

Guidelines and Conditions

- ▶ Manure must be injected below the soil surface
- ▶ Applicants must be in good standing with the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program and the Maryland Nutrient Management Program
- ▶ Additional restrictions may apply

Manure Injection Eligible Cost-Share Expenses	
Expense	Cost-Share Rate
Use of purchased injection equipment to inject manure	Up to \$45 an Acre* (Must submit invoices)
Rent or lease manure injection equipment	
Hire a custom operator to inject manure	
Manure transport costs	Rates are based on travel distance between the manure source and the field. (Restrictions apply)

**Based on a maximum application rate of 6,000 gallons/acre*



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Office of Resource Conservation

410.841.5864

mda.maryland.gov/manure

University of Maryland Extension will host a series of Farm Stress Management Workshops for Agriculture Service Providers.

This workshop is designed for Agriculture Service Providers to equip them with the skills and knowledge to support farms and farm families in times of distress. The University of Maryland Extension Farm Stress Management Team will train service providers to identify signs of distress, develop skills to communicate with those experiencing stress, and provide resources both locally and nationally. Financial and regulatory topics will also be discussed as they are often contributors to stress on the farm.

Upcoming Trainings (All hosted from 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM):

- Southern MD (UMD Extension, Calvert County) : April 5, 2022
 - 30 Duke Street, #103, Prince Frederick, MD 20678
- Lower Shore (University of Maryland Eastern Shore) : April 6, 2022
 - Hensen Center - 11868 Academic Oval, Princess Anne, MD 21853
- Central MD (UMD Extension, Montgomery County) : April 7, 2022
 - 18410 Muncaster Rd, Derwood, MD 20855
- Western MD (UMD Extension, Washington County) : April 13, 2022
 - 7303 Sharpsburg Pike, Boonsboro, MD 21713
- MidShore (Chesapeake College) : April 14, 2022
 - Higher Education Center - 1000 College Circle Wye Mills, MD 21679

For more information contact Shannon Dill, Extension Educator, University of Maryland Extension (410-822-1244 / sdill@umd.edu). To register visit <https://fsagservice2022.eventbrite.com>. The program is open to all. If you need special accommodations please contact the organizers two weeks prior to the event. For more information on the Farm Stress Management Education Project visit www.go.umd.edu/farmfamily.

This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under sub award number ENE20-160-34268.

1) Registration is still open for the Spring Session of "The Woods in Your Backyard" Online Course

March 28 - June 6, 2022

Online

There's still time to register for the spring session of "The Woods in Your Backyard" online course, but not much! Our self-directed, non-credit course runs 10 weeks from March 28th to June 6th. The course will help landowners convert lawn to natural areas and enhance stewardship of existing natural areas. Based on the guide of the same name, the course provides strategies to landowners of small parcels of land (1-10 acres) that improve the stewardship of their property for personal enjoyment and environmental quality. It uses a hands-on learning approach to help participants develop and implement a plan for their property. Activities include how to map habitat areas, understand basic ecological principles about woodland and wildlife, choose and implement a few habitat management projects, and how to set a timetable and record your progress. Online discussion groups will allow participants to interact with others taking the course. A certificate of completion is awarded when all assignments are completed.

The course costs \$95.00 per person, which includes the 108-page "Woods In Your Backyard" guide, workbook, and a tree identification guide. The course is limited to 25 participants, so sign up now!

For more information, go to https://go.umd.edu/the_course. To register through Eventbrite, go to <https://spring22.eventbrite.com>. Registration closes March 28th or when class is full.

2) Registration closes soon! Maryland 4-H Forest Exploration program

March - June, 2022

Maryland 4-H is looking for youth who are interested in exploring the state's forests and learning how to conserve our natural resources. This new statewide program will provide hands-on experiences for participants, ages 8-18, to gain a strong understanding of trees, forest management, and environmental issues. 4-H'ers and volunteers, from all clusters, will meet virtually once a week, and participate in monthly field sessions across the state. The MD state 4-H forestry contest will be held in June, 2022. Winners of this contest will have a chance to represent Maryland at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational at Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp in Weston, West Virginia.

Program Fee: \$40/child to cover materials and supplies. For more information contact Amy Lang at amlang@umd.edu or 301-934-5403.

3) Applications for NRCC 2022 are being accepted! Natural Resources Careers Camp (NRCC)

Sun, July 24 - Sat, July 30, 2022

Garrett County, MD

Join high school students from across Maryland at this week-long camp in Garrett County to explore

careers and college studies in natural resources. This partnership with Allegany College of Maryland and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources-Forest Service offers high school students a co-educational opportunity to learn from industry professionals and develop contacts that could lead to future employment and a career in natural resources.

For more information: <https://marylandforestryfoundation.org/index.cfm?event=nrcc>

4) Volunteer with the DNR Forest Service and Help a Food Forest

*March 26 & 27; April 2 & 3, 9 am - 2 pm
White Marsh Park, Centreville MD*

A food forest needs you! Weeds are invading and the young shrubs and trees need help. Learn about agroforestry and lend a helping hand. For more information and to RSVP, contact Francis Smith at francis.smith@maryland.gov or call 410-260-8516.

5) An Edible Understory

*March 30, 2022, 10 am
Mt. Pleasant Acres Farm, Preston MD*

Come visit a farm with ties to Harriet Tubman's Underground Railroad, and help plant berry- and nut-producing shrubs and trees. For more information and to RSVP, contact Francis Smith with the Maryland DNR Forest Service at francis.smith@maryland.gov or call 410-260-8516.



The Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association announces the availability of several scholarships for college-aged horticulture students.

The MNLGA Ornamental Horticulture Scholarship will award three \$5,000 scholarships for eligible students in ornamental horticulture and landscape programs.

Applications for this scholarship are due May 31st. Visit the [MNLGA website](#), for more information.

In addition to the aforementioned scholarships, the MNLGA in conjunction with MANTS, sponsors the Carville M. Akehurst Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is administered by the Horticulture Research Institute (HRI). Further information regarding this program may be [found here](#).

The MNLGA website also includes scholarship information for awards offered by the Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation (MAEF) and the Southern Nursery Association. Detailed information regarding each of these opportunities may be [found here](#).



MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.
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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2022

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MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES OPENING OF 2022 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

(HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND) – March 1, 2022 – The Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation (MAEF) is now accepting applications for the 2022 Academic Scholarship. The recipients of the MAEF Academic Scholarship will receive \$1,500 in support of their academic achievements and pursuit of a career in agricultural or Extension education.

MAEF Academic Scholarships are open to rising junior or senior undergraduate or graduate students enrolled in majors leading to careers in agricultural education or Extension education. Qualified candidates should complete and submit their online application by April 1, 2022.

Award announcements will be made by April 30, 2022.

Application information and the full announcement are posted on MAEF's website at <http://maefonline.com/home/student-center/scholarships/>.

Dedicated to increasing agricultural literacy and agricultural education, MAEF is a nonprofit organization with programs serving pre-kindergarten through post-secondary audiences. MAEF signature programs include "Infusing Ag in the Classroom" professional development courses for teachers; mobile science labs; mobile agricultural showcases and Maryland FFA. Funded by the Maryland "ag tag" license plate revenues, gifts, grants and program fees, MAEF promotes the importance of agriculture in everyone's daily lives. For more information visit www.maefonline.com.



2022 Spring Equine Webinar Series

April 6 – Managing Manure on Your Farm

Erika Crowl, University of Maryland Extension

April 20 – Making the End of Life Decision

Erika Crowl, University of Maryland Extension

May 4 – Understanding Kissing Spine

Dr. Magda Stewart, DVM, Equine Sports Medicine of Maryland

Register Today!

<https://go.umd.edu/equineonlineseries>

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PASTURE MANAGEMENT FIELD DAY

April 21, 2022

5:30 PM

Baltimore County Ag Center

Topics to Include:

Seasonal Grazing Strategies
When to Lime and Fertilize your Fields
Managing Damaged Areas from the Winter

Register Today!

<https://go.umd.edu/aprilpasturewalk>
or call 410-887-8090

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