

# TRUSTED RESEARCH LOCAL EXPERTS

## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION



### 2021 Annual Report Harford County

Harford County Agricultural Center • 3525 Conowingo Rd. Suite 600 • Street, MD 21154  
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## ***Hello, Harford County!***

We are pleased to present the **2021 University of Maryland Extension Harford County Annual Report** to demonstrate the impact and importance of the work that University of Maryland Extension does in our community. Our work in 4-H Youth Development, Environment and Natural Resources, Agriculture, and the Family and Consumer Sciences programs touch thousands of our fellow citizens with research-based, practically oriented information to help Marylanders improve their lives, their businesses, their health, and their opportunities.

We look forward to continuing our work in 2022 to help Harford County residents thrive!

Sincerely,

*Bryan R. Butler Sr.*

Area Extension Director



## Harford County Extension Faculty and Staff



### **Area Extension Director**

Bryan Butler Sr.



### **Administrative Assistants**

Caroline Johnson  
Lynne DiBastiani



### **Home Horticulture/ Master Gardeners**

Joyce Browning  
*Coordinator*



### **Family and Consumer Sciences/Nutrition**

Jennifer Dixon Cravens  
*Agent Associate*



### **4-H Youth Development**

Dwayne Murphy  
*Principal Agent Associate*



### **4-H Youth Development**

Marylisa Schaedel  
*Program Assistant*



### **Agriculture and Food Systems**

Andrew Kness  
*Agent*



### **Nutrient Management**

Patricia Hoopes  
*Coordinator*



## 4-H Youth Development



### Events and Programs

- 4-H Farm Fair
- Day Camp Program
- Livestock Education Series
- STEAM Opportunities
- Watershed Wellness Series
- Winter Workshop
- Club meeting educational activities
- Officer training
- Public speaking workshop



[facebook.com/HarfordCounty4H](https://facebook.com/HarfordCounty4H)



[instagram.com/harfordcounty\\_4h\\_ume](https://instagram.com/harfordcounty_4h_ume)



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## Program Educators

Dwayne Murphy, Agent

Marylisa Schaedel, 4-H Program Assistant

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## Program Description

The Harford County 4-H Youth Development Program provides a supportive setting for youth to reach their fullest potential. Children learn beneficial cognitive and life skills through community-focused, research-based, experiential educational programs. Participation is open to all youth ages 5-18.

4-H has a 100+ year tradition of voluntary action through strong public-private partnerships at federal, state and community levels. Local volunteer leaders partner with Harford County Extension staff to provide direct leadership and educational support to young people in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

4-H youth develop relationships that inspire people to voluntarily help themselves and others as they interact with caring adults and peers.

4-H Program areas include:



[STEM and Agriculture](#)

[Healthy Living](#)

[Citizenship and Leadership](#)

[Volunteer Development](#)



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## 2021 Program Highlights/Impacts

### By the numbers:

**379**

Youth enrolled

**18**

4-H Clubs

**102**

Volunteers

### Accomplished by partnering with:

- Harford County Public Schools
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Harford Family House
- Our Volunteers!



# Family & Consumer Sciences

## Program Educator

Jennifer Dixon Cravens, MS, FCS/Nutrition Educator

## Program Description

Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) program provides healthy living, nutrition, health, and wellness, food safety, health literacy, chronic disease management, Community Nutrition, Environmental Education, and Financial Literacy programs. Our mission is to strengthen families, communities, individuals, community organizations, businesses and government agencies through Nutrition, Health & Wellness Education and programming efforts. Our goal is to empower the citizens of Harford County and Marylanders to make decisions that lead to healthy living, financial success, and long-term wellness.



## Program Highlights/Impacts/Outcomes

**54**

Classes/Webinars Taught

**782**

Program Participants/Students

**130**

Youth Reached Through

Watershed Wellness Grant

## Partnering with:

- Catholic Charities
- Days of Taste
- Harford County Department of Social Services
- Havre De Grace Housing Authority
- Harford County Public Libraries
- Village at Lakeview Community Center
- Harford County 4-H
- Harford County Master Gardeners
- W.A.G. E. Connections







# Food Supplement Nutrition Education

## Program Educator Open Position



MARYLAND  
SNAP-ED

## Program Description

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency. Maryland SNAP-Ed is an evidence-based program that helps people lead healthy, active lives. SNAP-Ed teaches people how to make their SNAP dollars stretch, how to shop for and cook healthy meals, and how to stay physically active. SNAP-Ed delivers multi-level interventions that promote healthy food choices and physically active behavior, and that aim to facilitate sustained improvements in health and shape environments that promote and remove barriers to healthy eating and physical activity.

Maryland SNAP-Ed reaches eligible participants through a variety of comprehensive interventions, including in-person nutrition education lessons, educational resource distribution, and technology efforts.

Across the state, more teachers also report that they regularly integrate physical activity into their classroom lessons and discussions. SNAP-Ed connects local farmers and farmers' markets with low income Marylanders to increase access to locally grown fruits and vegetables. SNAP-Ed supports farmers with marketing and promotion efforts, encouraging EBT acceptance at markets and farm stands, and helps to foster community connections through market tours and farmer visits to local SNAP-Ed sites.



### After SNAP-Ed programs, teachers promote healthy cafeteria foods in their classrooms.



**27% more** teachers regularly talk with students about fruits and vegetables they will select in the cafeteria.

**42% more** teachers regularly select fruits or vegetables for classroom tastings that are also being featured in the cafeteria.

### After SNAP-Ed programs, more teachers highlight physical activity during classroom lessons.



**40% more** teachers always talk about the importance of physical activity with their students.

**16% more** teachers often use physical activity-related examples in their classroom lessons.

## Previous Projects, by Initiative:

### Healthy School Communities

- Edgewood Elementary School  
9 classrooms: (2) Pre-K, (3) Kindergarten, (2) 1<sup>st</sup> grade, (2) 2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
Read for Health in Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grades
- Hall's Cross Roads Elementary School  
8 classrooms: (4) 1<sup>st</sup> grade, (4) 2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
Read for Health in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades
- Havre de Grace Elementary School  
8 classrooms: (4) 1<sup>st</sup> grade, (4) 2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
Read for Health in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades
- Magnolia Elementary School  
11 classrooms: (3) Pre-K, (4) 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, (4) 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Read for Health in Pre-K and 2<sup>nd</sup>, ReFresh in 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary School  
12 classrooms: (6) 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, (6) 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Read for Health in 3<sup>rd</sup>, ReFresh in 4<sup>th</sup> grade

### Healthy Changes for Out of School

- Aberdeen Boys and Girls Club  
Nutrition Nuggets and Read for Health
- Edgewood Boys and Girls Club  
Nutrition Nuggets and Read for Health
- Havre de Grace Boys and Girls Club  
Nutrition Nuggets and Read for Health
- Darlington (Wilson Center) YMCA  
Read for Health
- Deerfield Elementary YMCA  
Read for Health
- William Paca/Old Post Road YMCA  
Read for Health

### Farm to School

- Aberdeen Farmers Market
- Havre de Grace Farmers Market

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## Program Educator (s)

Joyce S. Browning, BS  
*Extension Program Assistant,  
Master Gardener Coordinator*



Volunteer Master Gardeners

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## Program Description

Harford County Horticulturist and Master Gardener Coordinator, Joyce Browning, answers consumer horticulture questions from clientele—pertaining to— how to take care of soil and plants, plant diseases and insects and coordinates the Harford County Master Gardener program.

Certified Master Gardeners are county residents who have been selected and trained by University of Maryland Extension (UME) to deliver research-based horticultural information to the public. Each Master Gardener, who receives over 40 hours of training from UME, commits to donate 20 hours of volunteer service each year back to their community. The mission of the Master Gardeners is “educate residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities.”



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## Program Highlights/Impacts/Outcomes

**449**

Residents assisted with plant  
and pest questions

**126**

Master Gardener Volunteers

MG's partner with:

- *Anita Leight Estuary Center*
- *Bel Air Farmers Market*
- *Brightview Senior Living Community*
- *Eden Mill Nature Center*
- *Harford County Public Libraries*
- *Harford Glen Environmental Education Center*
- *Havre de Grace Farmers Market*
- *Havre de Grace Heirloom Garden*
- *Liriodendron Mansion*
- *And more!*





## Master Gardeners/Horticulture



Visit the Harford County Master Gardener Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HarfordMG/> for gardening videos, events and classes.



MG Volunteers' activity and information table set up at The Grove.



# Agriculture and Nutrient Management



Andy Kness  
Agriculture Agent



Tricia Hoopes  
Nutrient Management Coordinator



## Program Educators

Andrew A. Kness, BS, MSc

*Agent, Agriculture and Food Systems Educator*

Patricia Hoopes, BS,

*Coordinator, Nutrient Management Advisor*

## Program Description

UM Extension Harford County office offers a variety of educational services to the commercial farm community. Some programs train or recertify agricultural producers to meet State regulations. Other seminars provide technical and business information that introduce new technologies or practices that help farmers improve production, operate more profitability, and maintain the environment.

In addition, our office assists agricultural producers by writing and updating nutrient management plans that are required by Maryland regulations. Maryland's Nutrient Management Program provides clients with information on Best Management Practices (BMP's) that aim to balance nutrient applications with crop nutrient requirements, thereby enhancing farm profitability while protecting the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



**32**

Teaching events

**1,908**

Direct contacts in educational events

**13**

Active research and education projects

**\$1 Million**

in grant funding

**386**

one-on-one consultations with farmers  
valued at over \$300,000

**80**

Harford County clients assisted

**670**

Nutrient Management Plans developed, bringing more than

**12,000**

Harford County acres into compliance and qualifying the  
producer for participation in cost-share programs.

Also assisted Baltimore County with 7 clients to develop 57  
Nutrient Management Plans bringing 1,483 acres into compliance in Baltimore County.



*Expanding new  
research in drones  
for agriculture  
production in 2022.*



2021





2021



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION



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