

# GOOD NEIGHBOR RELATIONS

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

Some of the highlights: **Last Wednesday's Grower Lunch Chat (June 10)**

- First and foremost for good neighbor relations: Appearance!
  - Well maintained grounds: first impressions mean a lot
    - Is the grass mowed
    - Is farm equipment put away
    - Is trash being picked up - in between flocks and anytime while walking grounds
    - Are the end doors closed and area clean of debris
    - Feed spills – picked up
  - Driveways
    - Ruts and pot holes are properly filled; driveway is maintained
    - Angle – so lights from vehicles don't bother neighbors coming and going
    - Trash cans – lined up at the end of the drive so visitor booties and clothes-covers may be disposed of at the end of visits
- Composting properly
  - Proper dead bird disposal to help cut down neighbors' exposure to:
    - Odor
    - Buzzards
    - Flies
    - Varmints
- Buffers
  - Jim Passwaters of DPI has great suggestions and information
  - Cut down noise, ammonia smell, feathers, and dust leaving houses
  - Miscanthus and switch grasses were one participants favorites
  - Pollinator plot and berry buffers help promote crop pollination
  - Some companies want you to plant buffers before you receive chickens
  - Planning and Zoning may also require buffers prior to growing chickens
- Flies!
  - Again, proper composting will cut down on
  - Different sprays and strips to try (may be costly but may be worth it)
  - To keep from entering your home, aromatics near doorway suggested, ie., lavender, basil, lemongrass, lemon thyme, mint, rosemary, sage, catnip, fennel, lemon balm, oregano

When neighbors ask about the smell after poultry houses have been cleaned out or the fields have been spread with compost, Jenny Rhodes answers, it's organic and it "smells like money!"

Bud Malone mentioned that Dennis Murphy and Lou Carr began here on Delmarva what is now a world-wide composting program.

Lastly, our 'Attitude' and 'Communication' can keep relationship with neighbors positive. One participant even shared that he gives a box of chicken to close neighbors!

**NEXT 'CHAT' IS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, AT NOON**

**TOPIC: SAFETY**

Register at: <https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUuduqoqjpkGNDno5ZLyNu-hRao7XHB1jlk>

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