

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

**GARRETT COUNTY**

**MAY 2022**



## **WELCOME TO EXTENSION!**

Our office is open from 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. As always, we are here to answer any questions you might have related to agricultural production, nutrient management, home horticulture, food safety, nutrition, financial management, and 4-H youth development.

## **4-H ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**



The 4-H Achievement Program is held annually to recognize the successful completion of projects by 4-H youth and a celebration the work of volunteer leaders. The 4-H staff enjoyed reviewing the 221 record books that were completed by members for 2021. In addition to project awards, youth are recognized for service hours earned and receive special awards for achievement.

In 2021, the Lowdermilk family was named as 4-H Family of the Year. Rick and Cindy Lowdermilk, and their children, Darrick, Brianna, and Rileigh were recognized for their many years of participation as volunteer leaders and active 4-H members.

**CONGRATULATIONS, HANNAH!**



The Maryland 4-H State Public Speaking Contest was held at the Carroll County Extension Office in Westminster, MD on Saturday, April 23rd. There were 73 participants representing 17 counties for this event.

Garrett County 4-H is pleased to announce that Hannah Frazee, a senior member of Country Explorers, received State Champion for her prepared speech in the senior division.

Other county champions who participated in the state competition were Jaxson Corbin, Brenton Gnegy, Eliza Frazee, and Rae Smith-Pritt.

**IT'S ALWAYS "GOOD DAY SUNSHINE" TO  
LEARN ABOUT GARDENING**



RUTH ENLOW LIBRARY  
OAKLAND

# 2022 Gardening Classes

## Creating Biodiversity in Your Landscape

April 28 @1pm

Learn why you should want to create biodiversity in your landscape and a few easy ways to start

## 10 Vegetables to Grow in 2022

May 26 @1 pm

This class will give you some inspiration for easy vegetables to grow and give advice on how to be successful

## Herb Gardening

June 23 @1 pm

Join us as we explore the fun, exciting, and easy world of herb gardening

## Who Polluted the Waterways

July 6 @6 pm

Hands on activity with information about Water-Wise, a new conservation landscaping program in Garrett County. Activity is appropriate for children and adults

## Tomato Gardening Tips & Tricks

August 18 @1 pm

Class with a taste testing of different tomato varieties

## Composting for Beginners

September 22 @1 pm

If you would like to begin composting, this class will help you get inspired and show you all the steps for getting started

## Invasive Plants

October 27 @1 pm

Fall is a great time to get outside and explore our beautiful area. This class explains what invasive means, why it is important, and help identify common plant offenders



All classes are free but registration is encouraged by calling 301-334-3996 or email Andrew Miller @ [andrew@relib.net](mailto:andrew@relib.net)



"University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class."

University of Maryland Extension is pleased to partner with the Ruth Enlow Library in Oakland to offer adult gardening classes in 2022! Check out the awesome lineup and be sure to sign up and bring a friend. After so many months of staying home, this is the perfect chance to get out of the house, visit the library, and learn something new.

Registration is encouraged by calling the library at 301-334-3996 or emailing Andrew Miller at [andrew@relib.net](mailto:andrew@relib.net)

## IS YOUR SOIL HEALTHY FOR YOUR GARDEN?



## Are you looking at my soil?

marylandgrows.umd.edu

As a first-year college student studying horticulture (and later agronomy) I had no idea what I was in for when I signed up for that first Introduction to Soil Science course. Growing up, gardening and working on my family's dairy farm, soil was something that we often talked about, mainly if it was wet or...

Making sure your soil is healthy for your garden is one of the services we provide at the Garrett County Extension office. If you would like your garden soil tested, please contact Ashley Bodkins, Home Horticulture Educator and Master Gardener Coordinator at 301-334-6959 or email at [abachtel@umd.edu](mailto:abachtel@umd.edu) for questions about pricing, sampling procedure.

Read the article above to see why soil is so important.

## FEEDING MINDS AND NOURISHING BODIES

This school year, **Maryland SNAP-Ed** will be distributing thousands of books to students across the state of Maryland. ***Sylvia's Spinach***, by Katherine Pryor, tells the story of a young girl whose relationship with spinach transforms from yuck to yum through the process of growing veggies in her school garden.



*Sylvia's Spinach* is being sent home with Broad Ford, Crellin, Friendsville, and Grantsville elementary school students (=over 800 books) to encourage summer literacy, eating, and gardening fun! Funding provided by University of MD Extension - SNAP-Ed Program.

You can join thousands of families across Maryland as we read our featured book, *Sylvia's Spinach*, and explore the wonders of fruits and vegetables—at home, at the farmer's market, and in the garden!

LIVE online event with author, Katherine Pryor

Thursday, June 9 at 7:00 pm

To access the live event, visit:



## MARYLAND BEEF PRODUCER'S EDUCATIONAL COURSES

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION



DEPARTMENT OF  
ANIMAL & AVIAN  
SCIENCES

### Maryland Beef Producers Shortcourse Series I – The Fundamentals of Beef Cattle Production

**Cost: \$75** (Includes all refreshments, lunches and educational materials)

For more information about this two-day workshop, please visit our website:

<https://ansc.umd.edu/extension/beef-extension/educational-courses#series-i>

Dates		Times	Location
Eastern Shore	May 13-14, 2022	May 13: 10am-4pm May 14: 9am-2pm	Wye Angus 2016 Carmichael Rd Queenstown, MD 21658
Southern Maryland	May 20-21, 2022	May 20: 10am-4pm May 21: 9am-2pm	Charles County SCD 4200 Gardiner Rd Waldorf, MD 20601
Western Maryland	June 3-4, 2022	June 3: 10am-4pm June 4: 9am-2pm	WMREC 18330 Keedysville Rd, Keedysville, MD 21756

To Register Online: <https://umdbef-series1.Eventbrite.com>

**Hands-on Chute-side Learning,  
including Field Demonstrations**



#### Topics Covered:

- Farm Economics – Budget Building
- Body Condition Scoring
- Cattle Health
- The Basics of Reproduction
- Understanding Genetics and EPDs
- Pasture Management
- Nutrition and Building Rations

**Registration limited to first  
40 participants**

Please Contact Racheal Slattery [rslatt@umd.edu](mailto:rslatt@umd.edu) or phone: (301)405-1392 with  
any questions or concerns or to register via check/cash

The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Offers Equal Access Programs

The University of Maryland Department of Animal Science in partnership with the University of Maryland Extension has designed these in-person short courses to provide producers with educational information and hands-on training in several areas of beef production. Whether you're just thinking of starting your own beef production operation or have been in the industry for years, these short courses will have something for all. [Registration Details](#)

# MARYLAND BEEF WEBINARS CONTINUE

## 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



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

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION | AgFS  
Agriculture & Food Systems

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.

The University of Maryland Extension beef team will be offering Maryland Beef Webinar Series. It is a recurring event held from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. During each session, learn about timely topics related to raising beef cattle. While the webinars are free, registration is required.

- **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 Forage Source
- **November 8** – Benchmarking for Success
- **December 13** – Wintering Bulls and Cows

To register or for additional information, visit <https://go.umd.edu/beef-webinars>.

## HELPING YOU HELP YOUR CUSTOMERS





The Personal Finance Seminar for Professionals team will host their 34th annual PFS seminar on Thursday, May 12, 2022, via the Zoom platform.

The Personal Finance Seminar for Professionals is intended for a multi-disciplinary field of professionals including financial counselors, educators, human service workers, and any individual providing financial literacy counseling to their clients.

For more information, contact Dr. Jesse Kettermann at 301-724-3320 ([jketterm@umd.edu](mailto:jketterm@umd.edu)). To register, visit our website [HERE](#).

## **OVERCOMING VACCINE HESITANCY**





The EXCITE (Extension Collaborative on Immunization Teaching & Engagement) grant collaborative with UME and Delaware Cooperative Extension is moving into its second year. One focus of the project is the disproportional impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on agricultural workers, specifically immigrants. In their first year, the team worked with interns from the UMD School of Public Health to interview stakeholders who work directly with immigrant farmworkers in MD and DE and collect data for a community needs assessment. Through these interviews and assessments, the team identified the top reasons for vaccine hesitancy, what motivated farmworkers to get vaccinated and how to create successful education interventions.

Some of the common reasons for vaccine hesitancy are the side effects, taking time away from their jobs, religious beliefs, and misinformation from social media, family, and friends concerning the purpose and safety of the vaccine. Immigrant farmworkers were most motivated to be vaccinated to protect themselves and their community and return to a normal life to celebrate special milestones like birthdays and weddings.

One way the EXCITE team is combatting vaccine hesitancy is through training for healthcare workers. The next virtual training will be held on Monday, May 9, 2022, at 12:00 noon. For more information about the EXCITE program, contact Lisa McCoy at 301-791-1304 or at [lmccoy@umd.edu](mailto:lmccoy@umd.edu).



## KEEPING CONNECTED

We are here to serve you in person, by phone, email, or video conferencing. If you have questions, contact one of our experts to provide solutions.

**Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski**  
**Area Extension Director**  
**Western Maryland Cluster**  
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## Administrative Assistants

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UNIVERSITY OF  
**MARYLAND**  
EXTENSION

## UME GARRETT COUNTY

 Facebook

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 301-334-6960

 [extension.umd.edu/locations...](https://extension.umd.edu/locations...)