

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

GARRETT COUNTY

AUGUST 2022



The University of Maryland Extension (UME) Garrett 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.

**MARYLAND MASTER GARDENER BASIC
TRAINING ANNOUNCED**

COMBINE YOUR LOVE OF PLANTS, PEOPLE & THE ENVIRONMENT TO
HELP YOUR COMMUNITY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS & MAKE SUSTAINABLE
GARDENING DECISIONS

UME Master Gardener

FALL 2022 BASIC TRAINING

Master Gardeners Volunteers receive 40 hours of classroom, hands-on, and virtual instruction in their county of residence so that they can become a volunteer horticultural educators and teach their community through workshops, presentations, demonstrations, and more.



Sept 6 - Nov 29, 2022
Virtual classes on Tuesdays 6-9pm

OR

Sept 12- 16 9am - 4pm
One Full Week of Learning

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

MASTER
GARDENER

Accepting applications now in Garrett County!
Background Check is Required

COST: \$150

Call 301-334-6959 or email a.bachtel@umd.edu for details

"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 in Garrett County is excited to announce that there are two training opportunities this fall for those who are interested in taking the Maryland Master Gardener Basic Training Course. Master Gardeners share gardening knowledge through programs, educational booths, outreach activities, classes, and much more! If you enjoy getting to know new people and love nature, plants, and gardening, this volunteer organization is something you should consider learning more about. In order to become a certified Maryland Master Gardener, 40 hours of basic training and 40 hours of volunteer work are required. Additional requirements for the following years apply.

Two options are available:

The first option will be a week-long, 9 am to 4 pm at the UME- Garrett office, September 12 through September 16th.

The second option is a hybrid with the majority of the course being held online. Sept. 6

through November 29th every Tuesday from 6-9 pm.

The fee is the same for both options at \$150 (only cash or check payable to University of Maryland can be accepted) and there is a required background check procedure.

Please call 301-334-6960 or email abachtel@umd.edu for additional information and details. A full training schedule is available upon request.

HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE YOUR SOIL?

Soil is an element of the landscape that most everyone takes for granted; however, all soils can benefit from good management practices. Click on the article below as Ashley Bodkins, Master Gardener Coordinator shares her insight to improving your soil.



How can you improve your soil?

marylandgrows.umd.edu

A cover crop of spring seeded oats is included on this slope with grass and trees. Photo: A. Bodkins Healthy soil can sustain plant growth, prevent environmental damage, mitigate stormwater runoff, and help recharge and clean groundwater. Soil type is probably not something that people consider when they move to a new property, so it reminds...

RECORD BREAKING LIVESTOCK SALE AT GARRETT COUNTY FAIR



The 4-H Livestock Sale managed by the Garrett County Livestock Association was held Saturday, August 19, at the Garrett County Fairgrounds. Young people from across the county presented their market beef, hogs, lambs, goats, and rabbits.

"A total of 331 animals were sold with a record total of \$694,016 generated at the sale" stated Ann Sherrard, 4-H Educator. "The 4-H members and their families appreciate the encouragement provided by area businesses and individuals who support the annual livestock sale. Many buyers continued their generosity by donating the purchased animals to county organizations and charities. The livestock sale is the wrap-up of the 4-H member's work on their projects for the year. The goal of these projects is to teach members to select animals, provide for their care, and to learn about record keeping."

2022 FAIR MASTER SHOWMAN



On Friday morning at the fair, champion showmen from past contests are invited to compete for the coveted title of Master Showman. This is a particularly difficult task because the young people are asked to show animal species that they have never worked with in the past. The morning starts with a personal interview of each contestant. After which there is a showmanship contest for each species (equine, swine, lamb, rabbit, meat goat, dairy goat, beef steers, dairy cows), concluding with a fishbowl question answered on the microphone to a live audience.

The judge for this year's event stated, "This event is everything a 4-H event should be; a 4-H alum coordinating, past winners helping out, and young people speaking publicly about how 4-H gives them a platform to give back or pass it forward. In a world sometimes seen as going

crazy, these young people are a breath of fresh air. You should be proud of your program. It is truly 'Making the Best Better.'"

Pictured L to R: Annie Rugola, Coordinator, Madison Glover, Jaryn Teets, Isabelle Hauser, 2022 Master Showman, Connor Clary, Cambria Snyder, and Jeff Semler, Judge.

HORTICULTURE JUDGING CLASS OFFERED AT GC FAIR



Willie Lantz, Agriculture Educator of University of Maryland Extension provided a hands-on discussion about the criteria used when judging vegetables and fruit at the fair. Judging considerations, such as maturity, freshness, cleanliness, proper trimming, and uniformity of size and shape were highlighted.

Horticulture items for display should be carefully selected and prepared. The characteristics of each vegetable that attract the judge and make for a winning exhibit are the same characteristics that make vegetables attractive to consumers.

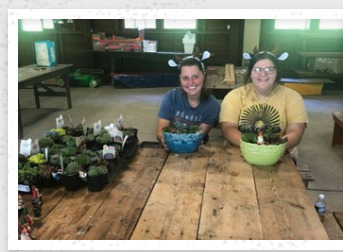
SUMMER 4-H PROGRAM ASSISTANTS EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY



Nonpoint Pollution Lesson



Glue Making Demonstration



Succulent Garden Planting

Summer 4-H Program Assistants, Emma Rush and Brianna LeMay, have been providing outreach education at local farmers' markets this summer. Information regarding our services is provided weekly, along with other county informational resources. Each week a new topic is taught at both the Mountain Fresh Farmers Market, Oakland, and the Deep Creek Farmers Market, McHenry. Activities are held each week for children to participate in. Demonstrations regarding topics are open to all ages.

The 4-H Program Assistants also taught a specialty class during 4-H Camp Algawa. The class created their own succulent garden. Succulents were donated by ALL Produce, Oakland, and garden gnomes were provided by Julie's Greenhouse, Oakland. There were a total of 12 participants.

UME PARTNERS WITH GRANTSVILLE ELEMENTARY SUMMER SCHOOL "CAMP" 2022



Bluebird Houses



Salad Making



Salad Boxes

University of Maryland Extension in Garrett County partnered with Grantsville Elementary to offer programs at their two-week summer camp in July. Ashley Bodkins, Master Gardener

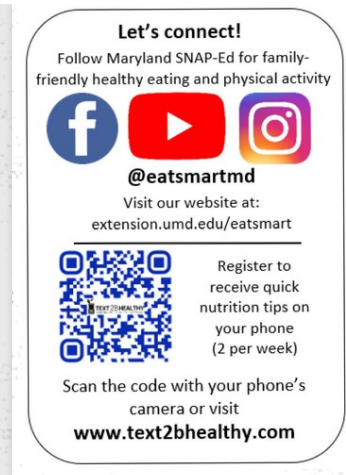
Coordinator, and Home Horticulture educator recruited Master Gardeners to help provide 11 hands-on activities for the students from grades pre-K through 5th.

Students had the chance to learn some basic building skills by building bluebird houses and [salad boxes](#). Participants learned about the importance of biodiversity of insects (insect collection kits were distributed), toads (toad houses were painted), and trees (created leaf collections) and how a diverse landscape is beneficial to humans and animal friends. A total of 18 nutrition lessons were taught during the two-week summer session at Grantsville elementary school.

University of Md Extension - Garrett County - SNAP-Ed program coordinator Kristin Spiker happily provided all of the food, books, and food prep supplies needed. PreK and kindergarten students rocked [Edible ABC lessons](#) to taste a fruit or vegetable that coordinated with the letter they learned each day...the first day happily eating cauliflower for [Cc](#). First, second, and third-grade students enjoyed a Read for Health book (like [Don't Yuck My Yum](#)) along with a food tasting or planting activity. Fourth and fifth graders made some delicious recipes. The first one was [Parts of the Plant salad](#)...where students all came back for seconds and thirds! Way to go Grantsville teachers and students!!

This opportunity to provide 29 lessons is a great example of cross-program collaboration and was made possible thanks to Kristin's ongoing partnership with Grantsville Elementary.

Follow us at www.facebook.com/EatSmartMD for recipes and physical activities for you and the whole family!



LANTZ GIVEN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



William Lantz, Principal Agent for University of Maryland Extension Garrett County, was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) at the annual conference in West Palm Beach, FL. The purpose of the Distinguished Service Award Program is to encourage and recognize excellence in the field of professional Extension for members with more than ten years of service. This award honors the top 2% of the NACAA membership. His peers and Extension Directors in Maryland chose Willie for this honor.

Willie has provided education throughout Garrett County for over 15 years in the areas of agronomy, pesticide, livestock, and farm management. Willie also has non-traditional programs including fruit and vegetable production and marketing, working with food councils and youth. Willie helps farmers establish high tunnel production to expand vegetable production in a county with short growing seasons, helped establish a farmer cooperative for marketing local produce, founded and chaired the Western Maryland Food Council, and has led youth programming in the area of robotics.

THINKING ABOUT SOLAR POWER?

Are you interested in using solar to power your farm? Maybe you'd like to lease your land for a solar project? Or perhaps, you'd like to know more about how solar works and what opportunities are available. Whatever the case may be, you'll want to join this free webinar addressing the opportunities and challenges for solar electricity. See how other farms and businesses are considering solar to offset their energy costs using an affordable and sustainable energy resource. Topics will include:

- How solar energy works and what role it plays
- How a solar project impacts you as a landowner
- How to finance and facilitate a solar project

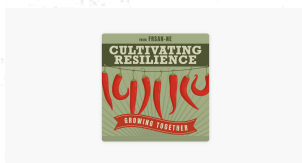
When: Tue., Aug. 16, 2022 (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET) live Online via Zoom

[REGISTER HERE FOR FREE](#)



FARM STRESS-CULTIVATING RESILIENCE

Sometimes stress can be overwhelming. Being able to identify mental health warning signs can be life-saving. So what should you look for? And if you encounter those warning signs, how can you help? Listen to the Podcast by clicking below as Dr. Jesse Ketterman and colleagues offer advice to help with those stressors on the July 13th episode.



Cultivating Resilience on Apple ...

podcasts.apple.com

If you're a farmer, you know the joy of working the land: the cadence of the seasons, the understanding of the natural world, the tangible results of your hard work. But you probably also know how stressful it can be. From family and finance pressures, to isolation and an exhausting job that has no...



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.

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