# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

GARRETT COUNTY =

## SEPTEMBER 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.

INDUSTRIAL FIBER HEMP FIELD DAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2022



University of Maryland Extension and Mountain Maryland Hemp Alliance (MMHA) are hosting a field day for growing industrial fiber hemp on Thursday, September 8th from 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm, in the Accident and Oakland areas.

The passage of the 2018 Farm Bill has allowed Maryland growers the opportunity to grow hemp again after a 60+ year prohibition of the crop. Garrett County hemp growers have primarily focused on the production of CBD hemp, however, experimental research in the county has begun on growing industrial hemp for fiber, seed, and hurd components. There are thousands of potential



products that can be made from hemp, but the industry currently lacks sufficient infrastructure to process these fiber hemp components. The Mountain Maryland Hemp Alliance has partnered with Western Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) and over fifteen other partners from the Tri-state area to submit an ~\$5M grant application for the USDA Climate Smart Commodities Grant Program in June 2022. This grant would help develop a processing hub, a cooperative structure for farmers, and an outlet for local product development and export. The USDA will make grant announcements by the end of 2022.

Darryl Glotfelty (MMHA Chair), Katharine Dubansky (MMHA Vice Chair), and Haeli Gustafson (MMHA Secretary) will discuss their experiences growing hemp and the legal requirements for obtaining site registration. Willie Lantz, University of Maryland Extension, will review the

starting near Bittinger where Meadow Mountain Hemp partnered with a farmer to plant a hemp fiber test plot with three varieties, and ending in Oakland at Backbone Hemp. At the conclusion of the field day, participants will be asked to complete a survey on their interest in growing hemp.

To register for the field day, call the Garrett County Extension Office at 301-334-6960. There is no cost for the field day and once you register you will be given directions to the field locations.

# 4-H FOCUSES ON SPOTTED LANTERN FLY EDUCATION



Garrett County 4-H focused on educating youth about the Spotted Lanternfly this summer. 4-H STEM Educator, Karen Wood discussed how to identify these invasive pests and what to do when you find them. The youth were encouraged to become citizen scientists reporting all sightings they may encounter. Additionally, the youth were able to create a 3D model of their own invented insect combining art and design with technology using 3Doodler Pens. To report a sighting visit <a href="mailto:mda.maryland.gov/spottedlanternfly">mda.maryland.gov/spottedlanternfly</a>.

## FREE COMPOSTING CLASSES TO BE HELD AT LOCAL LIBRARIES



According to statistics gathered by the Environmental Protection Agency- food comprised the fourth largest category of household waste in 2018 and is estimated at 63.1 million tons. Yard trimmings were the next largest material category, estimated at 35.4 million tons collected at landfills across the United States. Compost can use both yard waste and food waste to create a useful, nutritious soil amendment that can be used to benefit all plants while adding important organic matter to soils.

Join Ashley Bodkins at our local libraries to learn more about composting and receive a free composting bin for the first 10 to register for each in-person class. You will also be entered to win a free composting pail. You must call the local branch to register. For the online class, you can register at: <a href="https://go.umd.edu/2022CompostingBin">https://go.umd.edu/2022CompostingBin</a>

#### LEGUMES ARE SPECIAL



What is so special about legume...

marylandgrows.umd.edu

Alfalfa (a legume) with nasturtium growing at the edge of a high tunnel. Photo: A. Bodkins There is a whole group of plants in the Leguminosae (a.k.a Fabaceae) plant family and are referred to as legumes, a word that many people may have heard but may not know the special details about.

Ashley Bodkins, Master Gardener Coordinator shares details about legumes. Click on the article above to see why you should add legumes to your landscape.

### MONEY, HEALTH AND HEALTH INSURANCE







#### Smart Choice / Smart Use Health Insurance™

Spring Series

Sign up for one session or multiple sessions!

#### https://go.umd.edu/health\_insurance

October 17th, 2022 Smart Choice Basics 12:00pm-1:00pm EDT

Choosing the right health care insurance plan makes you a smart consumer. Increase your understanding of health insurance and learn strategies for selecting a health care plan that will meet your health care needs and fit your spending plan.

October 24th, 2022

Smart Choice Smart Use: Healthcare in Your Senior Years
12:00pm-1:00pm EDT

Health Insurance in your Senior Years – Medicare and Other Options. Understand what you need to know about health care costs in your senior years, know where to go for information about Medicare and supplemental health insurance options, review strategies and use tools to help you estimate health care costs, and identify what options there are within these plans to cover long term health care costs.

October 31st, 2022

Smart Use: Your Health Insurance Benefits
12:00pm-1:00pm EDT

Do you know what your health insurance covers? Understanding your health insurance benefits will make you a smart health care consumer. Learn strategies for understanding, getting and using your health insurance benefits.

How do you choose the best health insurance plan for yourself and get best use for your money and your health? Find out in this free series. Learn health insurance tips and strategies from University of Maryland Extension and University of Delaware Extension community educators. REGISTER



#### **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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