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UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION



2022 Annual Report **Harford County**

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Hello, Harford County!

We are pleased to present the **University of Maryland Extension Harford County 2022 Annual Report** to help demonstrate the impact and importance of the work that University of Maryland Extension does in our community.

Our work in 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture and Food Systems, Environment, Natural Resources and Sea Grant, and Family and Consumer Sciences touch thousands of our fellow citizens with research-based, practically oriented information to help Marylanders improve their lives, businesses, health, and opportunities!

We look forward to continuing our work to help Harford County residents thrive in 2023.

Sincerely,

Scott Satchell

Harford County Area Extension Director

Harford County Extension Faculty and Staff



Administrative Assistants

Caroline Johnson
Lynne DiBastiani



SNAP-Ed

Charae Harris
*Project Leader/
Nutrition Educator*



Home Horticulture/ Master Gardeners

Joyce Browning
Coordinator



Family and Consumer Sciences/Nutrition

Jennifer Dixon Cravens
Agent Associate



4-H Youth Development

Marylisa Schaedel
Principal Agent Associate



4-H Youth Development

Karen Taylor
Program Assistant



Agriculture and Food Systems

Andrew Kness
Agent



Nutrient Management

Patricia Hoopes
Coordinator

4-H Youth Development

Program Educators

Marylisa Schaedel, BS, *Agent Associate*

Karen Taylor, *4-H Program Assistant*

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. Program areas include:

[STEM and Agriculture](#)

[Healthy Living](#)

[Citizenship and Leadership](#)

[Volunteer Development](#)

2022 Program Highlights/Impacts

By the numbers:

454

Youth enrolled

19

4-H Clubs

105

Volunteers

3,582

Volunteer Hours

With a Value of

\$107,280

Accomplished By Partnering with:

- Harford County Public Schools
- Harford Family House & Welcome One
- The Highlands School
- LASOS
- AND Our Volunteers!





Events and Programs

- Farm Fair
- Residential and Day Camps
- Livestock Information Series
- STEAM Opportunities
- Teen Leadership Council
- Robotics Program
- Embryology in the Classroom
- Winter Workshop
- Clover Craft Workshop
- Meal Appeal
- Public Speaking Contest
- Fun Educational Programs
- Club Meetings and Events



facebook.com/HarfordCounty4H



instagram.com/harfordcounty_4h_ume

Family & Consumer Sciences



Program Educator

Jennifer Dixon Cravens, MS
FCS/Nutrition Educator

Program Description

The 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.

Harford County Family & Consumer Sciences Nutrition Educator Jennifer Dixon Cravens' primary areas of expertise and teaching are nutrition, health, wellness, chronic disease management, food safety & preservation.



Program Highlights/Impacts/Outcomes

52

Classes/Webinars Taught

Including

10

Wellness Presentations

7

Food Safety & Preservation Classes

1,291

Program Participants/Youth Outreach

Partnering with:

- Harford County Dept. 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
- The EPICENTER at Edgewood
- Inner County Outreach (ICO)
- Eden Mill Nature Center
- Catholic Charities
- Days of Taste

Health and nutrition educational programs are offered for individuals, communities, church groups, families, seniors, businesses and more.

FREE pressure canner dial gauge testing is conducted at the Harford County Extension office by the FCS/ Nutrition Educator by appointment.



Online and In-person classes offered in 2022:

Nutrition, Health and Wellness

- Healthy Heart
- Nutrition & Stress
- The MIND Diet for Brain Health
- Summer Nutrition 101
- Meal Planning & Food Prep
- The Mediterranean Diet
- The Power Plate Eating Plan
- Meal Planning and Food Prep
- Healthy Cooking for the Holidays
- Walk and Wellness

Health Literacy

- How To Talk To Your Doctor
- Healthy Homes Green Cleaning

Food Safety and Preservation

- Capture the Flavor w/ Herbs & Spices
- Fruit Dehydration

Other available classes include financial literacy and food safety including canning and other methods of preservation.



Maryland Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education

Project Leader/Nutrition Educator

Charae Harris, BS, MPH



Program Description

Maryland SNAP-Ed is a program within University of Maryland Extension that creates healthier environments and improves the health and wellbeing of limited income families across Maryland. SNAP-Ed programs encourage a nutritious and active lifestyle through increased food access, drinking more water, and promoting physical activity. SNAP-Ed provides comprehensive programs that consist of nutrition education lessons, social marketing programs and policy, system and environmental-level changes at partnering sites.

Maryland SNAP-Ed collaborates closely with over 500 partner organizations to design programs that meet the needs of clients where they live, work and learn. Partners include community sites that serve families including youth education sites such as schools, early education centers, and out of school programs, as well as food access sites such as food pantries and farmers' markets.

This school year SNAP-Ed partnered with six Harford County elementary schools.

The curriculum that we use included:

- **Edible ABC's**, a curriculum targeting preschool aged children and connects the letters of the alphabet with healthy foods and physical activity.
- **Read for Health**, a language arts-based nutrition and physical activity education curriculum for elementary school students.
- **Growing Healthy Habits**, a garden-based nutrition education curriculum targeting youth audiences.
- **ReFresh**, a nutrition education curriculum for 4th and 5th grade students.





Harford County Schools	Curriculum/ Grades	Health Environment Changes
Bakerfield Elementary	Edible ABC's: PreK and Kindergarten Growing Healthy Habits: 4th and 5th grade after school club	Parent workshops
Riverside Elementary	Edible ABC's: PreK Read For Health: 1st and 2nd ReFresh: 4th and 5th	Student Water Campaign Parent workshops Cafeteria Tastings
Halls Cross Roads Elementary	Edible ABC's: PreK and Kindergarten Read For Health: 1st and 2nd	Parent workshops Cafeteria Tastings
Old Post Road Elementary	Edible ABC's: PreK and Kindergarten Read For Health: 1st and 2nd	Student Water Campaign Parent workshops Cafeteria Tastings
Deerfield Elementary	Edible ABC's: PreK and Kindergarten	
Magnolia Elementary	Edible ABC's: Judy Center Play Group	Parent workshops



70% of sites that work with SNAP-Ed created a new or improved policy, practice, or environmental effort aimed at supporting healthy choices and behaviors among local individuals and families.

Horticulture and Master Gardeners

Program Educator

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



800+

Residents assisted with plant
and pest questions

Program Description

Horticulturist and Master Gardener Coordinator, Joyce Browning, answers consumer horticulture questions regarding 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 receives over 40 hours of training from UME and 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.

Master Gardener projects and partners include:

- ◆ Anita Leight Estuary Center Pollinator Gardens
- ◆ Bel Air and HdG Farmers Markets
- ◆ Brightview Senior Living Community
- ◆ Community Garden Frances Silver Park
- ◆ Eden Mill Nature Center—
Demonstration Garden and Pollinator Garden
- ◆ Harford County Agricultural Center—
Plant and Literature (PAL) Garden
- ◆ Harford County Farm Fair
- ◆ Harford County Public Libraries
- ◆ Harford Glen Environmental Education Center
- ◆ Havre de Grace Heirloom Victory Garden
- ◆ Ladew Gardens
- ◆ Liriodendron Mansion
- ◆ Maryland State Police Barrack D
- ◆ Pollinator Trailblazers
- ◆ Rockfield Manor Gazebo Garden
- ◆ Steppingstone Farm Museum

135

Harford County Master Gardener Volunteers

8,346

Master Gardener Volunteer Hours

With a Value of

\$249,962



Coming 2023—The Harford County Pollinator Trail and Home Certifications!

Master Gardeners in the Community

Master Gardeners partnered with many organizations in 2022, including various branches of the Harford County Public Library where MG's conducted more than a dozen gardening classes!



Top Row L-R

Speaking to 4-H Campers about Pollinators, managing the Pollinator Garden at Eden Mill, teaching youth about eradicating invasive plant species, meeting and greeting at the Harford County Farm Fair, harvesting donations for the Mason Dixon Food Bank. The "Foods for Thought" newsletter with nutritional information and recipes is included to hand out with the produce!

Master Gardeners In Action

Harford County Master Gardener Coordinator Joyce Browning and Agricultural Agent Andy Kness were featured speakers and key organizers of the 4th Annual Farmers & Community Partnership Symposium, “Anyone Can Garden” held on March 26, 2022 at Harford Community College. The sold-out event also aired on Harford Cable TV.

These annual Symposiums are a centerpiece of a multi-year collaboration between Harford County Government and Harford Community College that aims to educate and engage the community in the local agriculture and food system.

To help fulfill this mission, this collaboration brings together a work group called the Farmers and Community Partnership of Harford County that consists of a variety of local nonprofit organizations.

This event could not have been produced without the dozens of Master Gardeners who volunteered hours of time before, during and after this special program.

Videos on topics such as soil testing and organic gardening that were played during the event are available for viewing on the Harford County Extension YouTube channel!



YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/
@harfordcountyextension3350/videos](https://www.youtube.com/@harfordcountyextension3350/videos)





4TH ANNUAL FCPHC SYMPOSIUM

ANYONE CAN GARDEN

Saturday, March 26

8:30 AM-12 PM (RAIN DATE: APRIL 16)

Harford Community College,
Chesapeake Theater

Everyone can grow healthy food! We will show you how to sprout microgreens indoors and raise a salad on your patio in a plastic jug or wine crate! In the garden, you can have fun cultivating vegetables in a straw bale. Plus, you will get the dirt on soil testing!

TO REGISTER:

TICKETS.HARFORD.EDU

or call the Ticket Office at 443.412.2211.

Celebrate spring and join us for this FREE event!

FEATURED PRESENTERS:

Joyce Browning, Horticulturalist, UMD Extension, Harford County and YouTube personality

Andy Kness, Agricultural Science Agent, UMD Extension, Harford County

8:30 AM

Doors open for a **free breakfast and gardening marketplace** with local vendors.

9:30 AM-12 PM

Presentations and Q&A

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



SPONSORED BY:



Masks are required and social distancing practices will be followed.



UNIVERSITY OF
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EXTENSION

**MASTER
GARDENER**



We 

collaborating with our fellow
Ag Center tenants!



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 Bay watershed.



40

Teaching events

2,265

Direct contacts in educational events

11

Active research and education projects

\$1.1 Million

in grant funding

40

one-on-one consultations with farmers
valued at over \$55,000

49,000

indirect contacts made through digital and print outreach
and educational resources

583

Nutrient Management Plans Developed

9,495

Acres

137

Current Client Base

ClassTaught:

Calibration of Manure Spreaders

University of Maryland Extension provides practical, applied research data to local farmers. Over \$1 million in grants help support 11 active research projects aimed towards helping our county farmers thrive. Research into drone technology in agriculture has been an ongoing project for four years, as farmers are interested in utilizing drones on their farms to pinpoint pesticide applications, scout crops, and seed cover crops that help clean the Chesapeake Bay. New research is also being conducted on management practices for a novel disease of corn, tar spot, that we detected for the first time in Maryland in Harford County in 2022. This disease poses a threat to the largest crop in the county and Extension is working closely with farmers to provide solutions to manage this disease.



Tar spot of Corn. This foliar disease can decrease corn yields by over 30%.



Harvest of on-farm drone research plots.

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