Zoonotic Diseases and the Human Connection
November 25, 2014

What is a zoonotic disease? Where do they come from? How do we get and give them? What do we do to get over them? Learn the answers to these and other questions about diseases that pass between humans and animals.

Speaker: Ian Tracy, R.E.H.S.
Environmental Health Specialist
Bureau of Environmental Health
Department of Health

When: Tuesday, November 25, 2014
Where: Anne Arundel County Extension Office
97 Dairy Lane, Gambrills, MD
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

RSVP (requested but not required) to ensure adequate materials. Contact the Anne Arundel County Extension Office at 410 222-3900.
Light refreshments will be served.

Crop Sustainability & IPM Workshop
Pesticide Recertification & Nutrient Applicator Voucher Training
December 15, 2014

Make plans to attend the Crop Sustainability & IPM Workshop, at the Anne Arundel Extension Office from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This workshop will explore advanced crop production practices focusing on sustainability, food security and integrated pest management tactics. Topics will include: Crop selection; integrated crop management; soil fertility; weed control; insect control; and disease control for field crops, fruits and vegetables.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Applicator Voucher Recertification will be awarded for full class participation.

To register for this event contact the Anne Arundel County Extension Office at 410-222-3906.

Southern Maryland Crops Dinner Conference
December 3, 2014

The Southern Maryland Agents would like to invite everyone to join with our University specialists to have your questions answered about crop production and pest control at the Southern MD Crops Conference on December 3, 2014, 4:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Baden Firehouse Hall, 16608 Brandywine Rd., Brandywine, MD.

Attendance at this conference will satisfy the requirement for the Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Applicator Voucher.

See the attached Agenda and Registration form. Please call your local Extension office to register.

Become a MD Certified Private Pesticide Applicator

If you have allowed your Private Pesticide Applicator Certification to expire or are a new applicant, then you are invited to attend the Private Pesticide Applicator Certification Training and Examination. It’s a two-step process:

Step 1: A Private Applicator Certification Training will be conducted at the Anne Arundel Extension Office from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. January 13, 2015.

Step 2: A Private Pesticide Applicator Exam will be given at the Anne Arundel Extension Office from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. January 27, 2015.
Maryland/Delaware Forage Council
Southern MD Hay & Pasture Conference
January 14, 2015

Make plans to attend the Southern Maryland Hay & Forage Conference on January 14, 8:30 am to 4 pm at the Baden Firehouse Hall in Brandywine, MD. Topics will be presented covering all aspects of hay and pasture production. The programs will address key issues and concerns facing hay and pasture producers.

The conferences also feature displays and exhibits by numerous agribusinesses. Attendees will be able to obtain information on seed, fertilizer, equipment, fencing, etc. needed for hay and pasture production and management. More detailed program information on the Southern Maryland Conference will soon be available on the Web at: http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/maryland-forages-program or through local county Extension and NRCS/Soil Conservation District offices in MD.

MDA Deadline for Manure Application Extended to December 6

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 12, 2014) Due to a late harvest, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has extended the deadline for the fall application of organic waste on dairy farms and other livestock operations from November 15 to December 6. This extension does not apply to poultry farmers. “Due to heavy rains, spring planting was delayed by as much as four weeks in many areas of the state,” explained Maryland Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance.

“As a result, farmers will be harvesting their corn and soybean crops for another month or even longer,” he added.

“We have enjoyed a long, warm fall this year, which makes a deadline extension both practical and reasonable. The extra time will allow farmers to empty their waste storage structures in preparation for winter. This, in turn, will reduce the number of farmers who exceed their manure storage capacity over the winter and need to request emergency spreading. We want to avoid application of nutrients in the winter when they are most subject to runoff.” Maryland’s Nutrient Management Regulations allow livestock (non-poultry) farmers to apply manure to fields in fall on either an existing crop or a crop that will be planted later in the fall or next spring. Certain requirements apply. Farmers should consult their Nutrient Management Plans or contact MDA’s Nutrient Management Program at 410-841-5959 or www.mda.maryland.gov for more information.

Statement from the Maryland Department of Agriculture on the Release of the Economic Impact Study of the Phosphorus Management Tool

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 7, 2014) The Economic Impact Study on the Phosphorus Management Tool (PMT) was released today. The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) commissioned the study to better understand the economic impacts the PMT will have on farmers and on Maryland’s economy. MDA provided a copy of the report to the General Assembly’s House and Senate Budget Committees; the Senate Education, Health, Environmental Affairs Committee; as well as the House Environmental Matters Committee for review and a 45-day comment period.

The study assessed all available economic and financial data and information related to the proposed PMT implementation, including the potential costs, potential benefits, and other related decision-points, from the perspective of all interested stakeholders. While there is no one single figure representing the economic impact, the study considers specific variables at various levels resulting in a range of both costs and benefits.

Statement Attributable to MDA Secretary Buddy Hance:

“MDA is analyzing all information this widely-anticipated comprehensive study contains. The study provides valuable insight as we consider next steps related to the phosphorus management tool. MDA does not intend to make any further comments on the study until our analysis is complete. We appreciate the work of Dr. Memo Diriker and his team of advisors on this highly informative study. We will continue to work to understand the findings and balance the need to restore the Bay with reasonable protections for Maryland family farms. MDA has set up an email address PMTinfo.mda@maryland.gov for anyone who has questions about the report.”

Read the report online here.

See Dr. Diriker’s briefing presentation online here.

A “Frequently Asked Questions” document is available online here.
Lawn Fertilizer Blackout Dates Begin November 15 for Homeowners; December 1 for Lawn Care Pros

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) reminds citizens that November 15 is the last day they may fertilize lawns under Maryland’s Lawn Fertilizer Law. Lawn care professionals have until December 1, provided they use specially formulated products that reduce the risk of nutrient runoff into streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Both citizens and lawn care pros may resume lawn fertilizer applications of nitrogen and phosphorus on March 1, as long as the ground is not frozen or heavy rain is not predicted.

For more tips and information on Maryland’s Lawn Fertilizer Law, call the University of Maryland’s Home and Garden Information Center at 1.800.342.2507 or visit www.mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer.

Professional Fertilizer Applicator Certification Exams and Training Offered

Lawn care professionals seeking certification by the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) to apply fertilizer to turfgrass and lawns may register for one of the following certification classes:

- November 19 in Annapolis
- December 15 in Montgomery County
- December 16 in Washington County
- December 17 in Salisbury

Optional training sessions are offered from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. the day of the exam.

Lawn care professionals hired to apply fertilizers to turfgrass must be certified by MDA’s Nutrient Management Program or work under the direct supervision of an individual who is certified. The requirement is a major component of Maryland’s Lawn Fertilizer Law which took effect October 1, 2013. To register for a training session and exam, visit www.mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer. In addition, information on recertification training classes for lawn care professionals who are already certified can be found on the web site.

Farmer Training and Certification Course Offered in Howard County

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) and University of Maryland Extension (UME) Howard County will offer a training course for farmers with pastured animals and cropland who want to become certified to write nutrient management plans for their own operations. The course includes two evenings of training on December 2 and 4, an exam on December 11 and a final plan writing session on December 16.

Participants must pass the open book exam and complete a nutrient management plan for the 2015 season in order to become certified. UME and MDA nutrient management specialists will be available to assist with plan writing.

Seating is limited, so interested farmers should enroll right away. The registration fee is $20. For a registration form, visit www.mda.maryland.gov Scroll down the Quick Links to Nutrient Management and click on Nutrient Management Training Classes for a registration form.

Nutrient Management Training

The Maryland Department of Agriculture and University of Maryland Extension will offer a workshop on how to comply with Maryland’s agricultural nutrient management regulations on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at the National Wildlife Visitor Center in Laurel.

The program awards six continuing education units in all agricultural nutrient management categories. Cost is $30.

To register, visit www.mda.maryland.gov Scroll down the Quick Links to Nutrient Management and click on Nutrient Management Training Classes for a registration form.

November 15 Is the Last Day Homeowners May Apply Fertilizer to Lawns This Year

Annapolis, MD - The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) reminds citizens that November 15 is the last day they may fertilize lawns under Maryland’s new Lawn Fertilizer Law. Lawn care professionals have until December 1, provided they use specially formulated products that reduce the risk of nutrient runoff into streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Both citizens and
lawn care pros may resume lawn fertilizer applications March 1, as long as the ground is not frozen or heavy rain is not predicted.

Maryland’s lawn fertilizer law became effective October 1, 2013 and includes new Bay-friendly rules for both for lawn care professionals and homeowners to follow when fertilizing lawns. In addition, lawn care professionals must be licensed and certified by MDA to apply fertilizer to the properties they manage. MDA maintains a list of certified lawn care professionals on its website at www.mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer

The law requires both homeowners and lawn care pros to follow University of Maryland fertilizer recommendations and use best management practices when fertilizing lawns. Lawn fertilizer products containing nitrogen or phosphorus CANNOT:

■ Be applied by homeowners between November 16 and March 1

■ Be applied by lawn care pros between December 1 and March 1. From November 16 through December 1, only water soluble nitrogen (not slow release) may be applied to lawns at a maximum rate of ½ pound per 1,000 square feet

■ Be applied to lawns when the ground is frozen or if heavy rain is predicted

■ Be used to de-ice walkways and driveways

■ Be applied within 15 feet of streams or other waterways. This setback is reduced to 10 feet if a drop spreader, rotary spreader with deflector or targeted spray liquid is used.

For more information, visit www.mda.maryland/fertilizer

"2014 Farms for the Holidays"

Winter Farm Guide Released!

The Farms for the Holidays guide is now available. Free to the public, the guide is distributed region-wide through Southern Maryland libraries, welcome centers and at participating farms and businesses while stocks last.

Published by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), the full color guide connects you with fresh food, holiday events and activities, trees and trimmings, firewood, gifts, wine, winter produce, seafood, meats, poultry, dairy and more -- all from our local farms.

For a truly fresh and local shopping experience for the holiday season and through the winter months view or download the guide on the “Get the Guides” page at www.smadc.com and find farm-grown foods and fun farm-hosted events for the whole family. See the full list of pick-up sites on the "News and Announcements" page at www.smadc.com.

R. David Myers, Principal Agent
Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Maryland Extension
Anne Arundel and Prince Georges Counties
2014 Southern Maryland Crops Dinner
December 3, 2014

4:00 Welcome

4:05 Nitrogen Application/Usage/ Management in Wheat, Corn, Soybeans
Dr. Robert J. Kratochvil
Associate Professor & Extension Specialist
Agronomic Crop Production

4:45 Weed Control Update--Palmer Amaranth is Here: Now What?
Dr. Burkhard Schulz
Asst. Professor of Weed Science and Extension Specialist
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

5:30 New Farm Bill Choices.
Dr. Howard Leathers
Associate Professor & Extension Specialist
University of Maryland- Dept. of Ag & Resource Economics

6:15 Dinner- Provided by Baden Ladies Auxiliary
   - Sponsors Acknowledgement

6:45 Soybean Growth and Maturity - What to Plant and When?
Mr. Jim Lewis
Senior Extension Agent- Caroline County
University of Maryland

7:30 NRCS Program Updates: Conservation Initiatives in the New Farm Bill
Mr. Oliver Miranda
District Conservationist for Charles, St. Mary’s & Calvert Cos.
National Resource Conservation Service

7:45 Pesticide and Nutrient Management Update
Southern Maryland Ag Agents Team

8:30 Evaluation and Adjourn

Equal Opportunity Programs
Southern Maryland Crops Dinner

Wednesday, December 3, 2014
4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Baden Volunteer Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, Maryland

Sponsored by University of Maryland Extension in cooperation with local Agri-businesses and organizations.

- Palmer amaranth is here: Now what?
- Nitrogen application/usage/management in Wheat, Corn, Soybeans.
- Soybean growth and maturity - What to plant and when?
- New Farm Bill choices
- Pesticide and Nutrient Management Update

The registration fee of $10.00 includes a catered dinner. For further information call (301) 934-5403 or your local Southern Maryland Extension Office. Register by November 24, 2014, to insure dinner availability. Please fill out and return the registration form below along with your check. Attendance at this program will also fulfill the requirements for Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification and Nutrient Management Voucher Training.

The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.

If you need special assistance to participate in the Crops Dinner, please contact Ben Beale, University of Maryland Extension, (301) 475-4484, by November 14, 2014.

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Please complete separate form for each participant

Wednesday, December 3, 2014
4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Baden Volunteer Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, Maryland — registration $10

Name ___________________________ Telephone ___________________________

Company ___________________________________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________________

Email Address_________________

Please make check payable to: Charles County EAC and mail to: UME-
Charles COUNTY, ATTN: Crops Conference Dinner, 9375 Chesapeake St.,
Suite 119, La Plata, MD 20646

Directions to Baden Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD 20613

From St. Mary’s County and Points South:
Take Rte. 5 North to Hughesville. Turn right onto Rte. 231 and proceed 2 miles. Turn left onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 10 miles to the Fire Department on the right.

From Calvert County and Points East
Take Rte. 2/4 to Prince Frederick. Turn onto Rte. 231 and proceed 10.5 miles. Turn right onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 10 miles to the Fire Department on the right.

From Points North:
Take Rte. 301 South towards Waldorf. Just before you get to Waldorf, turn left onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 6 miles to the Fire Department on the left.

From College Park and Points West
Take Rte. 5 South from the beltway towards Waldorf. Just before you get to Waldorf and the 301/5 merge, turn left onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 6.5 miles to the Fire Department on the left.