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Know the Law, Protect Your Farm
This free, self-paced online module was created to teach farmers in the Mid-Atlantic strategies to reduce risks within their operation. In addition to the online module, a series of three webinars will be hosted on February 7, February 21, and March 7; all will be from 2:00-3:30pm. Expert lawyers include Rachel Armstrong, Founder and Executive Director at Farm Commons, and Paul Goeringer, University of Maryland Extension Legal Specialist. Topics include employment law, creating leases, farm financing, farm insurance, business structures to protect personal and business assets, and agri-tourism and value-added regulations. To register for the module or webinars, visit:
https://go.umd.edu/reducingrisks

Marketing Beyond the Brochure
Date: Tuesday, February 19
Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm
Location: Frederick County Extension Office, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, MD 21702
Cost: None, but pre-registration is required.
Registration Link: https://agmarketingfeb19.eventbrite.com

This class is for farmers who have been farming for at least a few years. (This is not a beginning marketing class.) Bring your own lunch and learn about how to take your marketing to the next level. Ginger Myers, University of Maryland Extension Marketing Specialist, will offer tips on branding, developing a marketing budget, engaging potential customers, and diversified marketing strategies including social media.
Produce Safety Rule (PSR) Grower Training

Date: Wednesday, February 20
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm
Location: Frederick County Extension Office, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, MD 21702
Cost: $25.00
Registration Link: https://go.umd.edu/PSRfrederick2019

This class will provide training on the Produce Safety Rule of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). If your farm must comply with the PSR, at least one supervisor or responsible party from your farm must attend this training. Speakers include staff and educators from Maryland Department of Agriculture and University of Maryland. Lunch is included. The registration deadline is Tuesday, February 19.

H-2A Employer Compliance Webinar

Date: Tuesday, February 26
Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm
Location: Online
Cost: None, but pre-registration required.
Registration Link: https://go.umd.edu/h2awebinar

H-2A employers are subject to strict and complex recordkeeping requirements related to how they pay both H-2A and non-H-2A workers. Tune into this webinar for a review of the numerous compliance obligations of H-2A employers and learn about some newly created resources meant to help employers fully comply with the law. Presenters will include Sarah Everhart, Managing Director of the Agriculture Law Education at the University of Maryland Francis K. Carey School of Law, and Merlin Williams, State Rural Services Coordinator, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation.

Advanced Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Workshop

Date: Wednesday, February 27
Time: 8:30am – 3:30pm
Location: Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) Headquarters, Lower Level Conference Rooms, 50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, MD 21401
Registration Link: https://bit.ly/2SITHVb

MDA is hosting this workshop for growers who already have a food safety plan and are interested in improving their food safety practices, and/or achieving USDA Harmonized or Harmonized Plus certification. For more information on the specific topics covered in this workshop, please click on the registration link above.
Agritourism for Every Farm

Date: Thursday, February 28
Time: 12:00pm – 4:00pm
Location: Zigbone Farm Retreat, 6612 Harbaugh Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780
Cost: $20 for Future Harvest members and $40 for non-members
Registration Link: [https://go.umd.edu/agritourism](https://go.umd.edu/agritourism)

From on-farm dinners to petting zoos, agri-tourism takes many forms. As more farmers explore additional ways of generating income, owners must consider the logistics and legal risks in addition to possible profit. What will agri-tourism look like for you? Join Future Harvest, local farmers, Maryland Extension, Frederick County Office of Economic Development, and the Agriculture Law Education Initiative for a half-day look at how local farmers are opening their doors to the public.

Speakers include Marijke Torfs of Zigbone Farm Retreat, Laura Beth Resnick of Butterbee Farm, Jo-Ann Coates-Hunter of Fox Haven Farm and Retreat Center, and Sarah Everhart of the Agriculture Law Education Initiative.

The event will begin with a potluck: please bring a dish to share.

Beginning Farmer 101 Course

Dates: Thursday evenings in March (March 7, 14, 21, & 28)
Time: 6:30-8:30pm
Location: Frederick County Extension Office, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, MD 21702
Registration Link: [https://2019bf101.eventbrite.com](https://2019bf101.eventbrite.com)
Cost: $30

This course is for all beginning farmers or those thinking about becoming a farmer. The schedule for the class is listed below. Speakers include University of Maryland Extension educators, Future Harvest CASA staff, and local farmers.

Class 1 (March 7) – Jumping Into Farming: Decision-Making and Resources. Speakers include Ellen Polishuk, farm consultant, and local agricultural organizations.

Class 2 (March 14) – Narrowing Your Focus: Selecting What to Grow/Raise.

Class 3 (March 21) – Soil Fertility and Nutrient Management. Speakers are Ben Friton, Can YA Love & Forested, and Kelly Nichols, Frederick County Extension Ag Agent.

Class 4 (March 28) – Financial Planning. Speakers include Dale Johnson, Farm Management Specialist with University of Maryland Extension.

Author: Kelly Nichols, Ag Agent Associate
University of Maryland Extension, Frederick County

If at any time you would like to update your contact information or be removed from this mailing list, please contact Lisa Strong at lstrong@umd.edu or 301-600-3576.