Who Should Attend? Anyone interested in farming, producing food or farm products, currently farming and want to expand or diversify, or just wanting to learn from experts!

Friday's program is exclusively for new and beginning farmers - we'll cover lots of info that will help in your planning and you can have one-on-one consultation with farm business experts!

Saturday's program is for everyone, whether you're farming or not! We'll have vendors available to talk about their latest products, lots of time for networking and great sessions in a variety of topics.

January 23-24, 2015
Frostburg, Maryland
Early Registration Due January 15
www.AppGrows.com
Friday, January 23 - Beginning Farmer Success

CCIT Building, Frostburg State University
3:30-4:00 pm - Registration
4:00-4:30 pm - Opening Session: Keynote/Kick-off
4:30-6:00 pm - Starting a Farm: Finding the Right Pieces to Your New Farm Puzzle
- Selecting the Best Farm Property
- Common Farm and Food Regulations and Laws
- Marketing Routes for the New Small
6:00-7:00 Dinner - Keynote Dinner Speaker: Mike Tumbarello, Coordinator of the Garrett Information Enterprise Center
7:00-7:30 Beginning Farmer Program
7:30-9:30 Selecting the Ideal Enterprise for Your New Farm:
Session One (7:30 - 8:20) Room 1: Livestock: Beef and/or Small Ruminant
Session One (7:30 - 8:20) Room 2: Vegetable and Small Fruit
Session Two (8:30 – 9:20) Room 1: Livestock: Poultry: Meat and Egg Production
Session Two (8:30 – 9:20) Room 1: Natural Resources Opportunities

Saturday, January 24 - Beginning & Small Farms Conference

Lane Center, Frostburg State University
8:00- 9:00am  -  Registration, Continental Breakfast
Trade Show Vendors – Lobby and Arma
9:00-9:30am - Welcome and Opening Remarks – 9:45- 10:45    Session 1:
1. Small Ruminant Production: Management for Profitability
2. Deer Management
3. Social Media Strategies for Marketing Planning -
4. Day Neutral Strawberries and Production in Low Tunnels
5. Fall to Spring Vegetable Harvest and Marketing
11:00 – 12:00  Session 2:
1. Do’s and Don’ts of Selling Meat
2. Shiitake Mushroom Production
3. Pricing and Selling Your Poultry Products
4. Controlling Spotted Winged Drosophila (SWD) and Other Insects in Small Fruits
5. Hydroponic Vegetable Basics
6. Grafting Vegetables: Make the Most of this Tool in Your Vegetable Operation
12:15 – 1:45 Lunch – Arma Room
Keynote Lunch Speaker: “The Strongest Link” - Matt Lohr, Director of the Knowledge Center, Farm Credit of the Virginia – Matt will share an entertaining and inspiring message on the importance of small farms and how they can be most successful and productive in today’s changing environment
2:00- 3:00  Session 3
1. Keeping Them In and What Happens When You Don’t: Fencing and Liability Laws for Livestock Producers
2. Native Tree Production and Composting
3. Farm Management and Marketing Topic
4. Blueberry Establishment and Management
5. Reducing Plastic Use in Vegetable Production
6. Secondary or Minor Crops for Niche Markets in High Tunnels
3:15 – 4:15    Session 4
1. Selecting and Growing Woody Ornamentals for the Florist Trade
2. Hiring and Managing Labor or Farm Leasing
3. Small Fruit Diseases
4. Vegetable Product Quality: Know and Manage this Key to the First and all Follow-up Sales
5. High and Mid Tunnels for Beginners
6. Small Scale Livestock Production: Which Business Model is For You? (Panel Discussion)