



# MARYLAND BEGINNING FARMER SUCCESS



## BEGINNING Farmer Success

[Extension.umd.edu/newfarmer](http://Extension.umd.edu/newfarmer)

### Upcoming Events

- Dec 3- Dec 17:** Beginning Farmer Training Sessions- Kent Co. Ext.
- Dec 3 & 4:** Soil Biology: Core Principles & Practical Applications Conference – multiple locations
- Dec 10:** Nutrient Management Update - National Wildlife Visitors Center Auditorium
- Dec 11:** 2014 Northern Maryland Field Crops Day - Friendly Farm Restaurant
- Dec 13:** All about Meats - Baltimore Co. Center for MD Agriculture
- Dec 15:** Crops Sustainability & IPM Workshop - Anne Arundel Co. Ext.
- Dec 18:** Nutrient Management Voucher Training - Kent Co. Ext.
- January 15-17:** Future Harvest CASA Conference – College Park
- January 17:** Beyond the Lawn: Landscaping with Nature - Carroll Co. Ext.
- January 23 & 24:** Small and Beginning Farm Conference - Frostburg State
- January 24, 2015:** Bee Keeping 101 opening session - Wye Research & Edu. Center

*More events can be found on our website under "events"*

## Future Harvest CASA Conference

Future Harvest CASA's 16th Annual Conference is just around the corner. Farmers, food activists, and locavores from all corners of the Chesapeake region will be gathering for the largest local and sustainable agriculture event in the lower Mid-Atlantic, January 15-17, 2015. The conference, now in its 16th year, has expanded to three full days with 8 pre-conference workshops, 42 sessions, two keynotes, and more!

The opening keynote will be delivered by Lindsey Shute, Executive Director of the National Young Farmers Coalition, speaking about how farmers and consumers can work together to build a better food system. Local food advocate and celebrated Baltimore chef Spike Gjerde will give a dinner keynote on making farm-to-table work.

A full day of pre-conference, skill building and homesteading workshops kicks off the pro-

gram. Participants can choose from eight in-depth how-to workshops, covering everything from beekeeping to food photography to canning.

"This conference is a big, open tent for Chesapeake region farmers, food activists, and food lovers," says Dena Leibman, Executive Director of Future Harvest CASA. "It's for anyone who wants to be part of building a profitable food system that protects our land and water, provides the freshest, highest quality food, and strengthens our communities and great cities. It's for anyone who wants to celebrate the great food and drink produced here in our region."

Additional attractions will include a Hoophouse Haiku contest, Photography of the Foodshed slideshow, food trucks, local food dinner, and samplings of local libations and craft food.

Click [here](#) to register!



# More About the Future Harvest Conference

The conference will offer four tracks for farmers; three for food entrepreneurs, foodies, and activists.

**Fruit & Vegetable Production** – latest innovations for best yields

**Made Local: Artisanal Foods** – the local libation and craft food boom

**Everybody Eats: Health & Food** – sourcing fresh, healthy, local food

**Grass-fed: Meat & Dairy** – for the serious livestock producer

**Beginning Farming** – resources and networking for getting started

**Environment, Community, & Policy** – building a strong regional food economy

**Business of Farming** – how to farm sustainably and profitably



**Don't Miss This!  
Register Now!**

## Help Us Help You

### Win a Beginning Farmer Bag!



We are asking for your help to let us know how we can better serve the needs of beginning farmers in Maryland. If you will spend just 5-10 minutes of your time to complete the survey, we will have information that can be used to deliver high-quality programs. Please complete the survey by December 31, 2014.

In order to gather all of the information needed, we welcome and encourage service providers, established farmers, and industry providers to [complete the survey](#). Your individual responses are confidential.

To thank you for completing the survey, and for your time we are giving away canvas tote bags. Please follow the link and complete the survey. Following the survey you can enter to win. A total of 30 bags will be awarded.

Thank you for taking the time to [complete this survey](#) and assist University of Maryland Extension in our programming efforts to help beginning farmers in Maryland.

### Click here to receive this newsletter every month

To submit information for the monthly newsletter, please contact the Beginning Farmer Success Project Coordinator, Hannah Shear at [hshear@umd.edu](mailto:hshear@umd.edu).



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