

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

Solutions in your community

Prince George's County

August 2015

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Did You Know?....



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Dear Kim,

Support YOUR County Fair!

Do you know that the Prince George's County Fair is the longest running fair in the state of Maryland? And one of the oldest in the country! [Check out the opportunities it offers!](#) The American county fair developed in the early nineteenth century when agricultural reformers in the northeastern United States organized local exhibitions to promote modern farming. Today, a majority of states and counties across the country still have county fairs! In Prince George's county, the fairs have always been associated with one of the thoroughbred race tracks in the county and this year it will be held at Rosecroft Raceway in Fort Washington, Exit 4 on the Capitol Beltway from September 10-13.

This year, the fair especially needs your support. Urbanization and financial difficulties have ended a number of fairs in recent

years. Let's not let this happen in Prince George's! Come see what it is all about! There will be pony rides, exhibits of plants and homemade goods and a [Beautiful Baby Contest!](#)



You can also watch 4-H members demonstrate their speaking skills in a Visual Presentation Contest, enjoy live music and of course, experience the thrill of carnival rides and games.

For more information, visit the [web site](#) or their [Facebook Page](#).

See you at the Fair!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karol Dyson".

Karol Dyson
Capitol Area Extension Director
University of MD Extension

Upcoming Events

- **Pasture Seminar:** Join soil health, horse nutrient management and pasture management experts on August 26, 6 to 8pm at the Prince George's County Soil Conservation District for a "[Pasture Seminar](#)." RSVP by August 21 with Eileen Beard at 301.574.5162, ext 3 or [Eileen Beard@md.nacdn.net](mailto:Eileen.Beard@md.nacdn.net).
- **Maryland State Fair:** Plan to bring the family to the [Maryland State Fair](#) later this month! The action is happening August 28th - September 5th, 2015 at the Timonium Fairgrounds located at 2200 York Road, Lutherville-Timonium, Maryland. Visit their [website](#) for more details about the state fair!



- **SAVE THE DATE & VOLUNTEER REQUEST:** Mark your calendars for the annual [Prince George's County Fair](#), September 10th to September 13th, 2015 at the Rosecroft Raceway located at 6336 Rosecroft Drive, Fort Washington, MD 20744. **If you are interested in volunteering, see below for details.**

One of the major needs we have is for judges and volunteers for the 4-H indoor exhibit area and special events. In addition, if you are available or know of any individuals who may be willing to serve or need community hours, please provide your contact information to Pamela Mack at dmack1@umd.edu. See the volunteer section below for jobs. Many thanks in advance for your consideration of this request.

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Accokeek Foundation's annual [Food for Thought](#) festival will be held on September 26

at Piscataway Park. The event will explore strategies for reducing food waste through discussion, theater, DIY workshops, games and - of course - food. Held on the green pastures of the historic National Colonial Farm, this fun and interactive event will feature nationally and locally recognized writers, activists and performers inspiring us to eat sustainably and well.

Details are still shaping up; however, author Jonathon Bloom will participate on the panel along with Alex Moore, Director of DC Central Kitchen.

- **SAVE THE DATE:** *2015 Crop Hop Cycling Tour is October 10th, 2015*

and co-hosted by the Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation and the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission, is set to kick off from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Anne Arundel County! [Registration is open](#), and as always, early registration comes with a local lunch, snacks and a commemorative t-shirt. Watch the Facebook [page](#) for updates and announcements at [The Crop Hop!](#)

4-H Program Welcomes Nikki Guy-Dixon!



Our office is pleased to welcome Nikki Guy-Dixon on board as the new Faculty Extension Assistant with the [4-H Youth Development](#) program. Nikki is a native of Prince George's County and an alumni of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, the University of Maryland, University College and the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York.

She is a certified Maryland teacher with a concentration in Family and Consumer Sciences and has 10+ years of teaching in the public school system and homeschool community. Nikki served as a volunteer 4-H leader in both Prince George's and Charles County for 5 years. Her position will be focused on outreach and expansion to new youth audiences

including school enrichment programs in STEM, Healthy Living and Financial Literacy for Youth. Please give her a call at 301-868-9636 ext. 445 if you have ideas for bringing new youth and communities into the 4-H program!

Call for Speakers for 2nd Annual Food Equity Forum



Join University of Maryland Extension, Prince George's County staff at the 2nd annual Prince George's County Food Equity Council's, [Food Equity Forum](#) serves as a catalyst for new conversations and raises awareness of existing efforts and innovation in advancing food system equity. UMD's Extension Denise Benoit-Moctezuma served on [last year's panel](#). The Food Equity Forum will take place on September 10th from 4-7 pm at the Sports and Learning Complex.

The FEC is seeking Prince George's County food system innovators to share their story in ten-minute, high quality, high impact presentations (Think TEDx for Prince George's County). They are particularly interested in speakers on the following FEC focus areas: local food production, healthy eating and nutrition education, healthy food retail, and healthy school meals. If you are interested in speaking, please [fill out this form](#).

To attend the Food Equity Forum, [sign-up here](#).

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
University of Maryland Extension



July 25, 2015

Attention: Prince Georges County Students, Teachers and Parents.

The Prince Georges County Master Gardener Program (PGCMGP) announces the **"Friends of Master Gardener Community Service Volunteer Program."**

This program is open to all Prince Georges County middle school and high school students who are in good academic standing and are between the ages of 14-19. Through this volunteer program students will be able to earn community service hours under the guidance of Certified Prince Georges County Master Gardeners.

Students will participate in various gardening programs offered by the PGMGP and learn valuable hands-on experience on food production, flower production, food harvesting, garden maintenance, growing plants from seed and transplants and will participate in creating personalized garden art and accessories that will be used throughout our four demonstration gardens on-site at the extension office at 6707 Groveton Drive, Clinton, MD 20735.

If you are interested in participating in this program please e-mail your name, grade and school name to Esther Mitchell, Prince Georges County Master Gardener Program Coordinator estherm@umd.edu. We will forward additional information and a registration form to you upon receipt of your e-mail.

Thank you for your interest in our program and we look forward to working with you.

Esther Mitchell

Master Gardener Coordinator- University of Maryland Extension
Prince George's County Master Gardener Program
6707 Groveton Drive, Clinton, MD 20735
[\(301\) 868-8781](tel:(301)868-8781)
estherm@umd.edu

Be a Judge at the Prince George's County Fair

We in the UME- Prince George's County 4-H office are busy planning for 4-H participation in the annual 2015 Prince George's County Fair. This year's County Fair is scheduled for September 10-13 at Rosecroft Raceway in Fort Washington, MD. Fair set-up is on Labor Day, September 7, and Project Entry Night is on September 8.

One of the major needs we have is for judges and volunteers for the 4-H indoor exhibit area and special events. Please view the schedule below; it provides the date, time, events and how many volunteers and judges will be needed throughout the scheduled fair week.

If you are available or know of any individuals who may be willing to serve or need community hours, please provide your contact information (i.e. -name, address, and phone number, email address, available date & time and interest area(s) willing to serve), to Pamela Mack at dmack1@umd.edu. *Please share your interests and availability the help with this year's fair, no later than Thursday, August 20, 2015.*

2015 4-H Fair Schedule –Judges & Volunteers

Date	Time	Event/Activity	Area(s) and Numbers Needed
Monday, Sept. 7	8:00am-2:00pm	Set-Up Exhibit Area(s)	Volunteers-(need 15)
Tuesday, Sept. 8	3:00pm-3:45pm 4:00pm-4:45pm 5:00pm-7:00pm	Set-up (4-H Staff & Volunteers) Judges Orientation 4-H Entry Night	Volunteers-(need 3), Judges-(need 25), Greeters-(need 2), Fair Entry Processors-(need 3), 4-H Information Table Assistants-(need 2)
Wednesday, Sept. 9	9:00am-12:00 noon	Continued judging 4-H Entries & Set-up (Exhibit Area)	Judges- (need 5) Volunteers-(need 5)
Thursday, Sept. 10	5:00pm-8:30pm	Fair Opening Day-4-H Projects Display 4-H Information Table-To work in shifts to greet and assist inquiries about the 4-H program.	Volunteers-(need 3)
Friday, Sept. 11	5:00pm-9:30pm 7:00pm-9:00pm	Set-up (4-H Staff & Volunteers) 4-H Information Table-To work in shifts to greet and assist inquiries about the 4-H program. Archery Contest Set-up	Volunteers-(need 5) Volunteers- (need 2) Adults (18 older)
Saturday, Sept. 12	9:00am- 9:45am	Orientation -4-H Staff, Volunteers, Judges & Clubs Set-up Club's Demonstrations & Archery Contest	Volunteers-(need 5)
Saturday, Sept. 12	10:00am-1:00pm	Archery Contest	Judges-(need 6)
Saturday, Sept. 12	1:30p-4:00p	4-H Fashion Revue Contest and Public Speaking Contest	Judges-(need 5 per contest)
Saturday, Sept. 12	6:30pm- 9:00pm	Tentative Watermelon Eating Contest	Volunteers-(need 5)
Sunday, Sept. 13	9:00 am- 4:00pm	4-H Information Table-To work in shifts to greet and assist inquiries about the 4-H program.	Volunteers-(need 6)
Sunday, Sept. 13	11:00am- 11:30am	Volunteer Orientation and Set-up	Volunteers (need 4)
Sunday, Sept. 13	3:30pm-6:30pm	Breakdown	Volunteers-(need 5)

The youth and families of this county's 4-H program appreciate your continued service to help make this county fair program a success.

Volunteer at The Gardens!

Calling all Volunteers, We need you!



Join us at Sheridan Street and Field of Greens Community Gardens located at the Center for Educational Partnership, 6200 Sheridan Street, Riverdale, Maryland 20737 for Saturday Workdays. Service learning internships and community service hours are available for all students. Contact Michelle Nelson, nelsonm@umd.edu or Betti Gregus, bgregus@umd.edu or via telephone at 301-779-2806 x706 for more information!



The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and supports Equal Access Programs.

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We are looking for ongoing volunteers interested in helping with various projects located at:

Sheridan Street and Field of Greens Community Gardens
Center for Educational Partnership, 6200 Sheridan Street, Riverdale, Maryland 20737

Community Service Hours will be granted to middle and high school students who attend.

For more information contact:
Michelle Nelson at nelsonm@umd.edu
Betti Gregus at bgregus@umd.edu

Did You Know....?



Did you know... That it's time for those nutrient management plans. Summer is the time for horse operations and hay producers to start their [Nutrient Management](#) plan updates for the 2016 growing season. Soil samples need to be taken every three years. If you are planning on liming this fall you should take your samples before you lime to get an accurate pH result. It takes 6-12 months for lime to react in the soil and raise the pH. Soil moisture levels are great for soil sampling right now, so if your soil analyses are set to expire before or during the 2016 growing season, please sample your soil soon. For more information, contact Chris Dowell at csdowell@umd.edu or call him at 301-868-9366. He is in the Prince George's county office on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Did you know you can Check Your Credit Report? Here's how:

- You are entitled to one free credit report each year.
- To order, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228
- If you choose to call to order a copy of your credit report you will need to answer questions from a recorded system. You will be asked to provide your address, social security number, and your date of birth.
- There are three credit reporting agencies. You may choose to have all three report at once or you can choose to have them report individually (one free report from each company every year). Staggering your requests during a 12-month period may be a good way to monitor the accuracy of the information in your reports.



If you choose to have your report mailed to you, it should arrive within 2-3 weeks after you call. To learn more, go to consumer.ftc.gov. Making cent\$ of it all...

- Patricia Maynard

Family Consumer Science (FCS) Educator



Did you know... Templeton Knolls Elementary has an Earth Club with a thriving school garden!

4th and 5th graders participate in the Earth Club growing delicious beans, cucumbers, radishes, squash, and peas. The Growing Healthy Habits curriculum developed by the Food Supplement Nutrition Education Program (FSNE) (<http://extension.umd.edu/fsne>) was used to help the students learn about gardening. Through the program, they learned about soil types, water cycles, the advantage of growing or buying produce locally and the importance of eating fresh fruits and

vegetables.

Did you know... August 9th through August 15th is No Tax Week in Maryland! Be sure to get those school clothes and supplies on sale before school starts on August 25th, 2015!

Did you know...that August is National Catfish Month? Nearly 85% of the world's fisheries are fished to capacity, or overfished. Eating blue catfish helps restore the Bay because they are considered an invasive species. The Maryland Department of Fisheries says the best way to control their population is to eat them and the University of Maryland Dining Services is trying to do just that! See their [Sustainable Seafood page](#) for more information. Not keen on catfish? Try this [recipe](#) from *Saveur*!

Did you know...that the first week in August was National Farmers Market Week? Continue the celebration all month at your [local farmers market](#).

Did you know... that the **zoning ordinance** can help create active and vibrant neighborhoods by allowing an array of uses like farmers' markets, urban parks, and neighborhood stores? Many people are surprised to learn that zoning laws establish fundamental aspects of our neighborhoods like sidewalk widths, building heights, public notifications and the types of businesses permitted in a community. The Prince George's County Zoning Rewrite team wants you to get to **KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**.

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD is a two-part series for residents to learn more about Prince George's County neighborhoods, the zoning contexts that shape our communities, and how the zoning and subdivision regulations affect our everyday lives. To register for the community brainstorm, please visit zoningpgc.pgplanning.com/know-your-neighborhood.

Build Your Neighborhood

Thursday, September 17, 2015

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex

8001 Sheriff Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20785

Please share the event information with your local civic associations, community organizations, friends and neighbors. For questions, please contact Brittney Drakeford at 301-780-8173 or zoningpgc@ppd.mncppc.org.

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This newsletter is brought to you by University of Maryland Extension, Prince George's County. University of Maryland Extension is a statewide educational organization funded by federal, state, and local governments. Our mission is to support Maryland's agricultural industry; protect its valuable natural resources; enhance the well-being of families and individuals, both young and old; and foster the development of strong, stable communities. University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, or national origin.