



BEGINNING
Farmer Success

USDA UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
EXTENSION
Solutions in your community

SMADC UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

FUTURE HARVEST
A Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture

MARYLAND BEGINNING FARMER SUCCESS

Meet a Partner—Future Harvest-CASA

A valued partner in the Maryland Beginning Farmer Success Project is Future Harvest - A Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture. This organization is a network of farmers, agricultural professionals, landowners and consumers living and working in the Chesapeake region. Future Harvest—CASA members and stakeholders promote profitable, environmentally sound and socially acceptable food and farming systems that work to sustain communities.



The organization holds an annual Farming for Profit and Stewardship Conference for members and non members which occurred on January 17 -18 this year. Future Harvest - CASA also promotes a beginning farmer training program which is described on page 2.

Along with the conference and training program Future Harvest—CASA provides information for sustainable farmers on their website, facebook page, and twitter feed.

January/February
Events—click events
for more information

1/16—Annie’s Project—
Harford County

1/17-18—Farming for profit
& stewardship conference

1/20—Annie’s Project—
Baltimore County

1/21—Seed starting & sav-
ing seeds lecture

1/22—Annie’s Project—
Multiple Counties

1/23—Annie’s Project—
Lower Eastern Shore

1/24—Central MD Vegeta-
ble Growers Meeting

1/29—Lower Shore Agron-
omy Day

1/29—Marketing Essentials
Class

*More events can be found
on our site under “events”*

Extension.umd.edu/newfarmer

On-Farm Training Programs

Training is commonly a required procedure in every job. Even after operating a farm for several years, additional training can offer a farmer new insight into production methods, marketing techniques, and enterprise development. The [Beginning Farmer Success website](#) presents three beginning farmer training program entities and explains what can be gained from each training experience.

The [Beginning Farmer Training Program](#) from [Future Harvest CASA](#) screens applicants and accepts about 14 trainees annually. The trainees attend classes and field days during the winter and spring. Throughout the growing season the trainees work on a training farm, gaining hands on experience from an established farmer.

[Maryland FarmLINK](#) constructed their [Mentor Match program](#) to model the Maryland Grazing Network's mentorship program. Fill out the online form to be matched with a mentor who works one on one with beginning farmers on their own property. Work at your own pace throughout the year and gain valuable advice from a veteran farmer in your area.

[University of Maryland Extension](#) and [University of Maryland Eastern Shore](#) offer an array of training opportunities. Programs like Annie's Project, local county small farm short courses, and the UMES small farm institute can meet the more specific needs of a beginning farmer through classroom and hands on experiences.



[Click here to receive this newsletter every month](#)

To submit information for the monthly newsletter please contact the Beginning Farmer Success Project Coordinator, Andrea Rice at amrice@umd.edu

Please submit information and photos by the first of the month.



Andrea Rice
amrice@umd.edu
301.868.9410

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