March 2015

"Some people say you can’t make a living farming. I tell them doing anything else isn’t really living at all."

~ Anonymous

FRESH.

Farmers Markets & Local Food Drops – March News & Events

Riverdale Park Farmers Market continues to convene indoors in the same space on Thursdays, 3 to 7pm, this winter. Enjoy product from many market favorites including Groff’s Content Farm, Eco City Farm, Cat’s Paw Organic Farm, Zeke’s Coffee, Stone Hearth Bakery, Romano & Elk Run vineyards and Peachy Family Dairy.

For more information about the market, visit RPFM’s website and Facebook page.

Farmer Market at Maryland begins on March 25 and will operate every Wednesday at the Cole Field House (front parking area) through November 18. For more information contact Market Manager, Larry Tumlin.

For more information about the market and vendors, visit their website and Facebook page.

Sustainable Ag Tuesdays
Tuesdays in March & April, 6pm

The Institute of Applied Agriculture’s Sustainable Tuesdays Program hopes to cater to all those interested in agricultural sustainability by opening the Sustainable Agriculture Tuesdays series to all UMD students and faculty. The series is already underway, meeting Tuesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in room 1123, Jull Hall. See flyer for details.

Learn How to Grow Your Own Food!
Become a MD Master Gardener
 Begins March 2

The Maryland Master Gardener Program is designed to train participants as volunteer horticultural educators to help Maryland residents.

Review the PGC Master Gardener page for details and contact.
Greenbelt Farmers Market has a newsletter announcing winter drops by some of their favorite vendors including Shlagel Farms, Two Oceans True Foods, Ferguson Family Farms, Zeke’s Coffee and Stone Hearth Bakery. This is not an official market event; however, the market is encouraging their customers to stay in touch with their favorite vendors over the winter. Drops are the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Please visit their website for more information.

Roots & Stems Community Farmers’ Market is moving to the National Church of God (International Education Center parking lot) this season. Located in Oxon Hill on St. Barnabas Rd, the market will operate Saturdays, 9:30am to 2:00pm, May 2 through October 31, 2015.

P.A. Bowen Winter Drop-Off
The next drop-off will be March 8, from 8:30 - 9:30am at the College Park Farmers Market location, 4500 Knox Rd. Please note they will only be there for an hour, so make sure you can be there to pick up your order during that time frame. Deadline to order is March 5.

Visit their website for more information and ordering details.

Before you keep reading on, be sure to check out their recent spot on the popular PBS program, Maryland Farm & Harvest. Their segment can be viewed around 19:50.

Find the full list of county markets here.

LOCAL.

Romano Vineyard & Winery
Did you see this interview with Joe Romano on WUSA9? More wine coming to Prince George’s County!

- **Open House** every Saturday, 12-5pm
- **Riverdale Park Farmers Market** March 5, 3-7pm
- **Explore Couture Clothing & Wine Party** March 6, 7pm - 9pm
- **Wine & Canvas Painting** - March 20 6:30pm - 9:30pm - doors open at 6:00pm - registration required

For more information, visit their website and Facebook page.

Esther Mitchell for further information and to enroll in the program.

School on the Farm @ Edie’s Place Farm
Begins March 5

Students will receive hands-on experience with gardening and a variety of animals on a small, suburban, working farm. They will learn about plant care, animal care, and composting. The students will plan, seed, and plant our entire spring garden. Students will help incubate chickens, ducks and turkey eggs and brood the chicks & ducklings. Students will have many opportunities to handle and care for our new baby animals that have arrived over the winter. Classes will also explore the various aspects of homesteading such as, sustainable gardening, food preservation, crafts & music. Academic review will take place with science topics, real life math word problems & new vocabulary every class. Students will also experience a variety of physical activity through farm work, games and yoga. This class will supplement K-8 lessons in science, math, health, social studies, art and history. Students will have the opportunity to work in small groups and build great friendships!

Visit their Eventbrite listing for more information.

Adventures in Science
Begins March 7
UMD Campus

Prince George’s County 4-H program is having an adventure in science this spring.
Eco City Farms: Help Wanted!
Apprentices and Interns Wanted for the Spring/Summer Season!

ECO’s apprenticeships and internships present an immersive, hands-on opportunity to learn about sustainable urban agriculture by working directly with experienced farm staff. In addition, you make a significant contribution to ECO’s programs.

They are now accepting applications for 5 different positions:

1. Edmonston Farm: (2) Apprentices and (4) Interns
2. Bladensburg Farm: (1) Apprentices and (2) Interns
3. (1) Farm to Market Intern
4. (1) Microgreens Intern
5. (1 or 2) Farm Educator Intern (More details will be announced)

For more information and to apply to their internship and apprenticeship program or apprenticeship visit their Internships & Apprenticeships page.

For more information about ECO City Farms programs, please visit their website and Facebook page.

Cabin Creek Heritage Farm
It’s never too early to order your Easter Ham! Cabin Creek is taking orders now. Please email Doug and Lori for more information.

The farm store is open Thursdays 10-4, Fridays 10-4, Saturdays 10-2, and by appointment.

Stock up on their woodland raised Berkshire pork, charcuterie, pasture-raised soy/corn-free eggs, grass fed and finished lamb, pastured chicken, goat milk soap, turkey, home-spun yarn, and hand-knit items.

Can’t make it to the farm store? You can find their products year-round at the Victoria Fancy Foods Indoor Farmers Market in Severna Park and the Takoma Park Farmers Market.

Visit their website and Facebook page for details.

“Wild Encounters” Storytime Season Weekend Opening
Accokeek Foundation
March 14, 1-3pm

By connecting monthly themes through storytelling, followed by a nature-themed craft and/or activity, visitors will enjoy this engaging family-friendly (and free!) activity geared towards children of all ages. Join AF this month at the Visitor Center for a Wild Encounter with sheep and wool. Visit their website for more information.

“Weekends on the Farm”
Interweaving History + Science through Interpretation
Accokeek Foundation
Begins March 14
Weekly; Saturdays and Sundays, 10 am - 4 pm.

The National Colonial Farm invites visitors to examine a different current-day environmental issue through the lens of history. What historical paths did Americans follow that have led us to this critical stage of concern about the Earth’s future vitality? By working and playing along-side the Bolton family, visitors discover a time before acid rain and shrinking polar ice-caps. They will have fun learning some of the lost arts of homesteading, while also coming to understand that colonial people had environmental challenges too. Paired with each monthly colonial experience, museum interpreters will be on hand to engage visitors of all ages in interactive activities that help to illuminate some of our time’s most pressing environmental challenges.

Want to Meet Your Prince George's County Farmers?

on the University of Maryland campus! Please see attached flier for more details. Registration form is also attached. Spots are limited, please send registration in as soon as possible!
Come to the Prince George’s County Farm Bureau’s Annual Banquet at the Baden Firehouse in Brandywine, MD. It’s only $35 and includes a social hour, dinner, music and silent auction.

Proceeds will benefit Farming 4 Hunger, a local charity that donates and coordinates donations of local produce from area farms to food pantries and food banks. Their work doesn’t stop there as they have a job skills program for the incarcerated and educational opportunities for students. Two Prince George’s County farms, Montpelier Farms and Miller Farms have both donated product to Farming 4 Hunger.

So what does our local farm bureau do? They support local agriculture and farmers (current, new and aspiring) in Prince George’s County through educational programs, scholarships for students, grants for Ag-related projects at local schools and event legislation. For example, the PGCFB is working to stop HB-928: Sales & Use Tax - Agricultural Products & Equipment which would repeal the tax exemption that exists in current law for the purchase of inputs for farm operations. If you are interested in Ag issues in Prince George’s County, consider attending the banquet and even become a member.

PGCFB is looking for donation items for the silent auction. If you can help, contact Michelle Snyder of At Last Farm. For more information about this event, please see the flyer.

Rent-A-Chicken from Michelle Allman!
Life should be fun...keep chickens!

Michelle’s Organic Homesteading is excited to announce the availability of CHICKEN RENTALS. A complete package to be delivered or picked up, you can keep chickens for a period of 2-4 weeks to see if it’s right for you. Learn more about how fun and fulfilling it is to keep chickens!

Please note, depending on your zoning in Prince George’s County, chickens may not be allowed. Visit Prince George’s Hens for more information and to find out how you can support legislation to allow backyard chickens in Prince George’s County.

Clover Hill Dairy – First Annual Sale
On March 6th and 7th, Clover Hill Dairy in St. Mary’s County will offer a variety of discounts on their 100% whole milk pasteurized cheese made with fresh local milk supplied by Amish community dairy farms. The dairy is Amish owned and operated. Hours are Friday, 8am - 5pm and Saturday 8am to 4pm.
Visit the calendar on the Prince George’s County Farm Fun website for information about more local farm and food events!

**FUN.**

**Lattes with Lambs**
**Accokeek Foundation**
March 21, 10 am - 2 pm  
$5 general admission  
(FREE for AF Members)

Celebrate the 2015 season opening with Lattes with Lambs. Experience spring-time on the farm as AF educators introduce you to the newest barnyard additions. Farm activities throughout the day include “Sheep to Shawl” wool processing stations, butter- and cheese-making demonstrations, barn tours and “Meet the Farmer” barnyard talks, storytime, hot beverage and doughnut station, and a haywagon shuttle.

The farm will re-open for visitors for the 2015 season on Saturday, March 14. Kicking off the official season opening on Saturday, March 14, they’ll have weekend activities for the whole family to enjoy...

Visit their website or Facebook page for more information.

**TEDxManhattan: Changing the Way We Eat Viewing Party**
Join ECO City Farms, the Food Equity Council, GoodSoil Events and Vigilante Coffee for a LIVE viewing party of the sold out TEDxManhattan event.

See Viewing Party Events and choose the sessions of “Changing the Way We Eat” you want to view (event schedule here).

- Hear from speakers in the local food movement  
- Enjoy the show in Vigilante Coffee’s airy, industrial-look roastery & cafe.

**MD Ag Education Foundation Poster Contest**
**May 1 Deadline**

Calling all students, K-12! Submit your best farm artwork to the MAEF Poster Contest. If your artwork is selected, it will appear in the 2015-2016 MAEF Calendar. Please visit their website for details!

**SAVE THE DATE!**
**Bowie Macaroni Kid**
**2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt**
Montpelier Farms  
April 4, 1-3pm

The event will feature:
- Egg Hunts for kids broken into 6 different age groups! They will be staggered so those with multiple children won’t miss a thing!  
- Pictures with the Easter Bunny (bring your camera)  
- Golden Egg Opportunity (one per age group) and a SUPER Golden Egg hidden on the property for a BIG PRIZE donated by the Bowie Macaroni Kid.  
- Goodie Bag for the kids, age group 1 & under will receive an Easter plush in lieu of goodie bag.  
- Cupcake for every kid  
- Another special visit from Chuck-e-Cheese!

**Location:**
UMD Center for Educational Partnership  
6200 Sheridan St, Riverdale, MD 20737

**RSVP:** Michelle Nelson
Nosh on locally grown, hand crafted, and ethically sourced samples, snacks, and drinks

Register with Eventbrite. Contact sydney@pgcfec.org for more information. Check out the sessions, speakers, and more at www.tedxmanhattan.org.

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**Scrumptious, Seasonal Recipe from *Edible DC***

If you haven’t seen the hardcopy version of the latest issue of Edible DC, you’ll want to check it out on-line. It’s a great publication featuring farms, artisanal foods and craft cocktails in the Metro area.

Try this simple, yet delicious recipe featured by Edible DC using some of your favorite winter vegetables - butternut squash and red cabbage. Add some animal protein from one of our local farms for an extra special treat! It also pairs well with venison so if you’re not a hunter, make friends with one!

The recipe was created by Chef Brad Walker of Boundary Road. In addition to the red cabbage and butternut squash, all you need is some olive oil, caraway and sea salt.

**Centro Ashe 2015 Classes**

Upcoming classes include:
- Herb Camp for Kids
- Grassroots Herbal Apprenticeship Program
- Permaculture Design Certificate Course
- Herbal Encuentro
- Herb Keepers Circle
- Pleasure Medicine Series
- Nature Mediation Series

Visit their [website](#) for details.

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