

# FRESH. LOCAL. FUN.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Minutes from Washington, D.C. and centrally located, discover Prince George's County farms, farmers and food.



## November 2014

"Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bands."

~ Thomas Jefferson



LOCAL EVENTS

## FRESH.

### Megan Van Wagoner: "Comforts of Home" Exhibit

Nov 2, 2014 - Dec 31, 2014

2-4pm

Sponsored by: [M-NCPPC](#)

Van Wagoner's sculptural work captures moments in a narrative and expresses them as artifacts. In this series of current works made from steel, cast aluminum, cast iron, blown glass, clay, and other materials, the sculptures in "Comforts of Home" reflect the changing value placed on land, agricultural practices and food in our culture.

Montpelier Arts Center  
9652 Muirkirk Road  
Laurel, MD 20708

Contact: [montpelier.arts@pgparks.com](mailto:montpelier.arts@pgparks.com), 301-377-7800

### Farmers Markets - November News & Events

Although the farmers market season is winding down, there are still markets open this month!

**Cheverly Farmers Market** is hosting two special Holiday markets that will include a wine tasting by Romano Vineyard & Winery:

### **Alice Ferguson Foundation Autumn Evening Hayride & Campfire**

Nov 8, 6:30-8:30pm

Join AFF on Saturday, November 8 for an evening of fun, family, and friends on the farm when we host a campfire and hayride on the farm grounds. The event is free for members and \$5 for non-members. Visit their [website](#) for details.

### **Modern Homesteading Series: Biodynamic Soils**

Nov 9, 1-3:30pm

During the November workshop, participants will learn the basics of biodynamics. Using the herbs and flowers grown on the Ecosystem Farm, workshop attendees will make at least two biodynamic soil "preps," to strengthen the soil in

- **Thanksgiving Market:** Nov 22, 8am – noon
- **Holiday Market:** Dec 13, 8 – noon

For more information, visit their [website](#).

**Greenbelt Farmers Market** is hosting several special events this month on Sundays, 10am – 2pm:

- **Chef Demo:** Nov 16
- **Wine Tastings:** Nov 16, Nov 23
- **Doctor's Community Hospital:** Nov 23 – will educate market goers about healthy eating
- **Holiday Market:** Dec 7, 10am – 2pm

For more information, visit their [website](#).

**Riverdale Park Farmers Market** has extended its regular market season through Dec 18! Stay tuned for details about the winter market. Also, they will be hosting their annual Holiday market on Dec 13, 12–8pm.

For more information, visit their [website](#).

#### **Harvest Bounty at St. Thomas Church Holiday Market**

Nov 22, 3–7pm

On the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day, join us for a fall market event hosted by St. Thomas Church. Local farmers, gardeners, and craftspeople will have products for sale downstairs, while a pot-luck community celebration takes place upstairs in the church hall. Enjoy a wine tasting with Romano Winery & Vineyard.

Plenty of free parking! Donations welcomed!

For more information, visit their [website](#).

Find the full list of county markets [here](#); or [download a printable brochure version](#).

preparation for next season. Visit the [website](#) for details.

#### **The Alpaca Yarn & Fiber Shop at Pax River Alpacas: Christmas Market & Open House Dec 6, 10 am – 6 pm**

Special deals on award winning alpacas and alpaca breedings. Buy your sweetheart a unique, hand-made alpaca scarf, hat or shawl made from the fiber of animals on our farm. Exquisite alpaca yarns and alpaca blends. Hand-dyed and hand-painted alpaca yarns. Peruvian textiles and jewelry. Unique gift items. Pet the alpacas while you do your holiday shopping. Meet Piper the friendly pig. Knitters/crocheters are welcome to bring a project and stay as long as you wish. Enjoy snacks and meet new friends. Try your luck at our annual yarn raffle. Visit [www.paxriveralpacas.com](http://www.paxriveralpacas.com) for additional information.

#### **ECO City Farms Urban Ag Training Series**

Offered in partnership with Prince George's County Community College

**Crop Planning & Analysis:** Nov 8  
[More info and how to register.](#)

## LOCAL.

### Prince George's County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Thursday, November 20, 2014: 6:30pm

Baden Volunteer Fire Department  
16608 Brandywine Road Brandywine, MD  
20613

- 6:30 pm – lite meal
- 7:00 pm Meeting

Not a member... Become a member today! Request your scholarship application today.



PGCFB will be awarding one \$2,000, Fred Walzel Agricultural Scholarship (agricultural majors only) and two additional \$1,000 scholarships (agricultural majors or non-agricultural majors). Application deadline is January 20, 2015. Awardees will be announced in the winter of 2015.

Any questions contact Jennifer Cross at [jcross4380@yahoo.com](mailto:jcross4380@yahoo.com) or call 301-579-6552. Find us at <http://princegeorges.mdfarmbureau.com/>

### Crop Hop Bike Ride



320 riders gathered at Nottingham (home of the Patuxent Riverkeepers) on Food Day, October 25th, to celebrate Prince George's County's farms by bike! Farm stops included [Leighton Farm](#), [Bald Eagle Farm](#), [Romano Vineyard & Winery](#), [Sunsplash Farm](#) and [P.A. Bowen Farmstead](#). There were also activities at [Mt. Calvert Historical and Archaeological Park](#) and [Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary](#), the

destination for the children's Sprout Route. Various partners collaborated to make this event possible including the M-NCPPC, Prince George's County Government, the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission which organizes the ride each year and [local sponsors](#).

For more information about the [2014 Crop Hop](#), check out a recent [article](#) from the *The Gazette* and a [blog post](#) from a local cyclist.

### Sheridan Street Community Garden Work Day

Nov 15, 9am – 12pm

Help with plot clearing, weeding and composting. Water and snacks will be provided. RSVP [Michele Nelson](#).

6200 Sheridan St  
Riverdale, MD 20737

### Food Preservation Class

Nov 15, 10-11:30am

Want to learn ways to preserve freshly grown food to enjoy in the winter months? The city of Bowie's Green Team will host two speakers from the University of Maryland Extension, Donna Koczaja and her husband. They will discuss canning, freezing and drying methods. The event is free. For more information, contact [Kristin Larson](#).

### SAVE THE DATE!

### Image of Agriculture: Ag Evolution, Food Revolution

Dec 3, 2014

The Symposium topics will focus on the following themes:

Maryland Agriculture/Precision Agriculture

Buying and Sourcing Local Foods

Food Labeling/Genetically Modified Foods

The goal of the Symposium is to inform, educate and promote awareness of agriculture in everyday life. The audience is

## Food Day Symposium

The Bowie State University Natural Sciences Department in Collaboration with USDA hosted their 4th annual [Food Day Symposium](#) on Friday, October 24, 2014 in collaboration with Prince George's [Food Equity Council](#). Food Day is celebrated nationwide, and is the foundation for a movement toward healthier, more affordable, and sustainable food for all. There are critical issues relating to hunger and malnutrition as well in Prince George's county.

The event included speakers from various sectors of the food system including Dr. Elizabeth H. Jeffrey who presented her research on how to enhance the anti-cancer efficacy of cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli. UMD Extension, Prince George's County participated with several exhibits including lettuce cup terrariums. The event concluded with breakout groups on Healthy & Hunger Free Youth, Healthy Food for Sale and Farming for Health and live cooking demonstration by BSU Dining Services and Thompson Hospitality.



broadly intended to be a non-agriculture group who is interested in where and how their food is produced. Visit the [LEAD MD website](#) for details.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Cultivate the Chesapeake Foodshed**  
Jan 15-17, 2015

The food and farming meeting of the year! Visit Future Harvest's [website](#) for details.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Beekeeping 101**  
Jan 24, 2015

Mike Embrey, UME Apiculturist, is offering his beginner beekeeping class again starting January 24, 2015. Each class is held on Saturday at the Wye Research and Education Center.

There will be seven classes total, five in the winter/spring and two in the fall. Stay tuned for details!

## **FUN.**

### Nottingham Landing Farm – Fall Fun Fest

Nov 16, 1-7pm

Join Nottingham Landing Farm for hot dogs, drinks, hayrides, pony/horse rides a bonfire and S'mores. It's a great way to meet the horses.

17309 Tanyard Road  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

For more information, email [Denise Benhoff](#) or visit Nottingham Farm on [Facebook](#).

### Romano Vineyard & Winery – Holiday Fun

Upcoming Fall Events:

- **Open House:** every Saturday, 12 – 5pm through December
- **Sip, Snack & Shop – A Holiday Shopping Extravaganza** (admission is free, local artisans, door prizes, wine tasting and more): Nov 7, 6-9pm



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- **Cheverly Thanksgiving Market:** Nov 22, 8am – noon
- **Harvest Bounty at St. Thomas Church:** Nov 22, 3–7pm
- **Black Friday Tasting:** Nov 28, 1–5pm

Don't forget about Romano's mulled wine. It's a tasty treat you don't want to miss this Holiday season.

For more information, visit their [website](#).

## **Montpelier Farms Family Farm Park – Holiday Celebration**

December 5th – December 21st

Glide through the woods and cornfields on a peaceful Hayride while enjoying our delightful trimmings, lights and holiday decorations (unlimited rides)! A blazing bonfire to warm your tootsies & footsies for 4 hours! Receive one free steaming cup of hot chocolate, coffee or hot apple cider, as well as a complimentary candy cane! Enjoy a different Holiday Movie Screening each night. Ho, Ho, Ho! Bring your cameras for pictures with "Santa" by the fire! (Santa available Fridays & Saturdays Only) Visit our Market for cookies and goodies, fresh popped kettle corn and other fun treats and sweets for sale!



For more information, visit their [website](#).

Visit the calendar on the Prince George's County Farm Fun [website](#) for information about more local farm and food events!

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