QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY AGRONOMY DAY
Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park
March 1, 2019 8:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Pesticide, MD & DE Nutrient Management & CCA Credits Offered

8:00 a.m. Registration & Visit with Sponsors
Coffee, Donuts, Snacks, Fruit

8:30 a.m. 2017 Weed & Herbicide Control Update
Dr. Mark J. VanGessel, Professor and Extension Weed Specialist
University of Delaware

9:30 a.m. Review of Nitrogen Behavior and Management
(Specifically what happened during this year’s growing season)
Dr. Nicole Fiorello, Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist, Agronomy

10:15 a.m. Nitrogen Management in Cover Crop Based No-Till Corn
Nate Richards, Kent County Ag Agent

10:45 a.m. Break (15 min)

11:00 a.m. Managing Micronutrients for Maximum Crop Production
Dr. Gurpal S. Toor, Associate Professor, Nutrient Management
University of Maryland

11:45 a.m. Aquatic Pesticide Update (Meeting Room)
Jackie Tackacs, Watershed Restoration Specialist
University of Maryland Extension - Sea Grant Extension

11:45 a.m. Pesticide Update
Dave Parks, Pesticide Regulatory Inspector
Maryland Department of Agriculture

12:45 p.m. Clicker Evaluation

1:00 p.m. Lunch - FREE courtesy of your local Ag Supplier Sponsors

1:30 p.m. Dicamba Training - Mandatory Annual Training on Dicamba for Specialized Use
(The required annual training is in addition to any certification or recertification training an applicator may take to achieve or maintain certification itself.)
John Suroutchak, BASF

To register, call the Queen Anne’s County Extension Office, 410-758-0166. For sponsorship information, visit https://extension.umd.edu/queen-annes-county/agriculture-and-natural-resources/agronomy-day or call the Queen Anne’s County Extension Office.
FEBRUARY 2019

01 - First Friday Produce Safety Rule Webinars - More to Know About Worker Trainings and the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, 12:00 p.m., https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-friday-produce-safety-rule-webinars-registration-53439015534?aff=erellivmlt.

05 - Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD, coffee, donuts.

05 - Farmer Nutrient Management Certification, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Wye Research & Education Center, Queenstown, MD. Call 410-841-5959.

06 - WIA Wednesday Webinar—Your Key to International Agriculture. For information and to register visit http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars.

06 - 2019 Eastern Shore Pest Management Conference, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Salisbury, MD. For information and to register, https://2019pestconference.eventbrite.com/, or contact Ginny Rosenkranz, 410-749-6141, x106, rosnkrnz@umd.edu.

07 - Southern Maryland Vegetable and Fruit Meeting. For information and to register, call 301-475-4484.

07 - Know the Law, Protect Your Farm Program—Video Discussion #1, 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m., http://bit.ly/ReducingLegalRisks.

07 - Taste of Maryland Agriculture Dinner, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., Glen Burnie, MD. For information contact Gail Yeiser, 410-353-3069, https://mdagcouncil.com/.

09 - Cecil Garden Fest, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Elkton Library, Elkton, MD. For information call the Cecil Extension Office, 410-996-5280. Details P6

12 - Eastern Shore Vegetable Growers Meeting, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Cambridge, MD. Details P8

12-13 - Women in Agriculture Annual Conference, Dover, DE. Details P7

16 - Rain Barrel Workshop, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Elkton, MD. For information call Cecil Extension Office, 410-996-5280. Details P3

21 - Know the Law, Protect Your Farm Program—Video Discussion #2, 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m., http://bit.ly/ReducingLegalRisks.

21 - Annie’s Project—Mid-Shore Maryland, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Denton, MD. For more information and to register, visit http://extension.umd.edu/annies-project/class-information or call 410-822-1244.

22 - 2019 Bay Area Fruit Meeting, Queenstown, MD. Details P8

22 - Maryland Dairy Convention, 8:30 a.m., Frederick, MD. For more information, www.marylanddairyindustry.org, 301-349-0750. Details P7

23 - Maryland Organic Food & Farming Winter Meeting, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Annapolis, MD. For more information visit https://marylandorganic.org/2018/12/16/moffa-winter-meeting-2019/, Ginger Myers, 301-432-2767, x338, gsyers@umd.edu. Details P7

26 - H2-A Employer Compliance Webinar, 12:00 p.m., https://extension.umd.edu/user/reset/699/1548364238/bCOPYRPCpUc-dZsozIvtaYzjewHXdKebBNl9r79P784.

27 - WIA Wednesday Webinar—Designing Cover Crops to Work for Your Farm. For information and to register visit http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars.

MARCH 2019

01 - Queen Anne’s County Agronomy Day, 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD. Details P1

01 - Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs) Due. For information, 410-841-5959, or visit https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/air.aspx.

01 - First Friday Produce Safety Rule Webinars - Water Testing Requirements and the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, 12:00 p.m., https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-friday-produce-safety-rule-webinars-registration-53439015534?aff=erellivmlt.

05 - Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD, coffee, donuts.

07 - Know the Law, Protect Your Farm Program—Video Discussion #3, 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m., http://bit.ly/ReducingLegalRisks.

13 - WIA Wednesday Webinar—Protecting Yourself and Others on the Farm. For information and to register visit http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars.

16 - Containers & Raised Beds Workshop, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Elkton, MD. For information, call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.

18 - Basic GAP - Good Agricultural Practices Training, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Baltimore, MD. For information contact Neith Little, nglittle@umd.edu, 410-856-1850, x123.

21 - Small Fruits Presentation, 6:30 p.m., Elkton, MD. For information call the Cecil County Extension Office, 410-996-5280.

27 - WIA Wednesday Webinar—Soils and Salts: From Fertilizer to Tidewater. For information and to register visit http://www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars.

3RD ANNUAL AGRICULTURE AWARENESS DAY

APRIL 9TH AND 10TH

Please save the date! We would be absolutely thrilled to have you help educate our 7th graders across Queen Anne’s County.
Mid-Shore Soil Conservation Districts
Accepting Applications for Soil Health Practices and Projects

ANNAPOLIS, MD — Soil conservation districts in Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne’s, and Talbot counties are now accepting applications from farmers seeking funding and technical assistance to implement conservation practices on their farms that enhance soil health, improve air quality, and safeguard water quality.

Farmers have until February 15 to apply for funding and technical assistance to establish healthy soil practices. This funding opportunity is made possible by a federal grant secured earlier this year by the Maryland Department of Agriculture to support the installation of healthy soil practices that allow farmers to gain experience using the latest technological advances. The department was awarded a five-year, $1 million Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Farmers in participating counties should contact their soil conservation districts before the February 15 deadline. For more information about Maryland’s healthy soils initiatives, please contact the department’s Office of Resource Conservation at 410-841-5865 or visit their website.

Grow With Us
Become a Master Gardener:

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, you should consider becoming a University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener volunteer and puring the next few months of enthusiastic horticultural training! This rigorous 40-hour course is designed to give you the basic information in preparation for volunteering at a University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener Volunteer site. Topics will include: soil, fertilizers, insects, weeds, plant diseases, pest management, among others. This program emphasizes community involvement and outreach as well as environmental stewardship. A fee of $200 is charged to cover all costs including the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener Handbook. Class is held in conjunction with the University of Maryland Extension in Dorchester, Talbot and Queen Anne’s Counties.

Classes are held: February 21 – April 9, 2019
Thursday Evenings 5:30 to 8:30 P.M.
Location: Eastern Shore Higher Education Center, Wye Mills
Cost: $200
For More Information Contact Master Gardener Coordinators:

Queen Anne’s County:
Rachel Rhodes (410) 758-0166
rjrhodes@umd.edu

Dorchester County:
Emily Zabel (410) 528-8800
ezabel@umd.edu

Kent County:
Mikaela Boyle (410) 822-1244
mboyle@umd.edu

Talbot County:
Mikaela Boyle (410) 822-1244
mboyle@umd.edu

4-H Tractor School
FOR TEENS

March 22 – 24, 2019
Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park
100 Dulin Clark Road, Centreville, MD

A weekend training to provide certification for youth ages 14-15 wishing to work on a farm.
This training is required by law for youth ages 14 - 15 to operate a tractor over 20 horsepower and other specific farm machinery on a farm not owned/operated by their parents or guardians. Individuals 16 years of age and older can be employed in agriculture without this certification but may register for course if space allows.
Course provides 40 hours of intensive farm safety training including classroom lectures, demonstrations, activities and a field trip.
Pre-course reading is required. Certification based on successful completion of Written Exam and Tractor Driving Skills Course.
Registrations are due by March 1, 2019
Registration fee: $50. Many counties offer assistance to 4-H youth.

To REGISTER or for INFORMATION contact: Christine Johnston – University of Maryland Extension, QA Co. 505 Railroad Ave, Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-0166
cjohnston@umd.edu

Rain Barrel Workshop
Help protect the environment and the Chesapeake Bay!
Get ready for spring and summer gardening!

COST: $55 (includes BLUE ONE PIECE PLASTIC, FOOD GRADE 55-GALLON RAIN BARREL, DIVERTER KIT, MATERIALS, INSTRUCTION AND PARTS.

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER AND PRE-PAY BY FEBRUARY 8, 2019

Saturday, February 16, 2019
10:00 a.m.—noon
Cecil County Administration Building
200 Chesapeake Blvd., Senior Center (back entrance)
Elkton, MD 21921

For more information and to register for the workshop, call the Cecil County Extension Office, (410) 996-5280.

*The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Affirmative Action Programs.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
SEEK HELP TO WEATHER TOUGH TIMES ON THE FARM

December 18, 2018  Sarah Everhart

This time of year many farmers are in the process of assessing farm financials. If your farm, like many in the region, is facing tough economic times, don’t ignore the problem or attempt to “go it alone” and make hasty decisions. It may seem odd, when money is tight, to pick up the phone and call your lawyer and/or accountant; however, advice from experienced professionals may prove to be invaluable and will help you to make good decisions during a stressful time. In addition, farmers facing a tough financial outlook should take advantage of available resources to help manage the associated stress.

One the worst things an operator can do when faced with overdue bills, loan payments or calls from creditors is to bury his or her head in the sand and hope it will all go away. Most creditors will inform a debtor of a past due account by sending notices of default and acceleration or demand, followed by the intent to foreclose. If your overflowing mailbox is anything like mine this time of year, these type of notifications may be easy to overlook; however, ignoring this correspondence and failing to take action is not wise. Creditors are often more limited in what actions they can take after a debt has been accelerated or not paid for a certain period. Delay, therefore, will only serve to reduce your viable options. Even the best attorneys and accountants will need time to assess your financials and work with your creditors to come up with solutions. If your farm financials look bleak and creditors are calling, you will be well-served to be proactive and ask your trusted professionals for help sooner rather than later.

If instead of ignoring a bleak financial reality an operator opts to make quick decisions, not based on legal or tax advice, there may be unintended consequences. For example, renegotiations of debt or the sale of assets may have short term benefits but leave a debtor subject to unwelcome income tax obligations.

Another potential pitfall to avoid is to unwittingly fall victim to a debt restructuring scheme. According to Bud Stephen Tayman, Esq., a Maryland attorney who specializes in consumer debt and bankruptcy, “those in financial trouble are especially vulnerable to foreclosure scams. People having debt problems will seek help anywhere and will agree to anything which looks like it may help. It is only later or after the fact that they discovered that they have not been helped, and in fact, have been harmed.”

In order to successfully restructure your farm’s debts, an operator will be well served to seek legal advice from an attorney qualified in restructuring of consumer debts and bankruptcy. Bankruptcy is a specialized area of the law and not every attorney has the requisite experience to provide good legal advice related to bankruptcy. Farmers facing bankruptcy should, before they hire the individual, ask about the attorney whether he or she has bankruptcy experience.

Farmers may be hesitant to consider bankruptcy based on a fear that it will mean giving up the farm. Chapter 12 bankruptcy, however, is a bankruptcy option only available to family farmers and fisherman and allows the debtor to create a plan and use business income to pay off debts without the need to liquidate the operation. Many farmers may find filing for Chapter 12 a good solution to mounting debts, as it will allow them to continue farming while paying down their debts over an approximately 5 year period.

In additional to legal expertise, it can also be beneficial to find an attorney with knowledge of agricultural operations. A good way to find an attorney is through the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA). The MSBA has sections or subgroups that lawyers may join based on their interests and experience. The consumer bankruptcy and agricultural law sections have many members who are qualified to guide farmers through economic trials and tribulations. The agricultural law section’s directory of lawyers can be found on the Agriculture Law Education Initiative’s website, umaglaw.org.

Farmers and families facing financial stress, legal issues or mental health concerns, should refer to the University of Maryland Extension’s (UME) Financial Stress Management resources available at https://extension.umd.edu/FarmStressManagement. Additionally, the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, in partnership with UME, is holding workshops this March to help the farming community detect early warning signs and prevention methods for severe mental stress and substance abuse. The workshops will be held at four locations around the state: March 5 (Chesapeake College), March 6 (Harford County Public Library, Bel Air), March 7 (Western Maryland (location TBD)), and March 8 (Charles Soil Conservation District). For more information, contact Danielle Bauer, 443-262-8491 or Danielle.mdag@gmail.com.
Ordinary Point Farm is a beautiful grain farm owned by the Bayard family. The 479 acre farm in Earleville, Maryland is located along Grove Neck Road and borders the Sassafras River, coming to a point more than half a mile into the river. The property is bounded to the east by Money Creek. 210 acres of the farm are in grain production, and 7 acres are devoted to the farmstead. The remainder of the property consists of woods, creeks, wetlands, and shoreline, a rich habitat for a variety of flora and fauna. This beloved family farm has served as a haven for several generations of Bayards, who have cherished the chance to retreat to the peace of its shores. The known history of Ordinary Point stretches back into the 1600s. In 1679, a traveler named Jasper Danckaerts noted the site in his journal as the location of an ordinary, or tavern, which gave the point its name.

Jim Bayard’s father purchased the farm in 1940. Jim spent many happy days with his family at Ordinary Point. Jim married Fran, and they eventually settled in Delaware. After his parents’ deaths, Jim bought Ordinary Point Farm. When Jim retired after 30 years of working for the State of Delaware, he began to spend more time at the farm, taking care of the farm and enjoying the beauty of nature. Jim passed away in 2013, leaving a legacy of love and memories of a man devoted to his family and his community.

The Cecil Soil Conservation District has worked closely with the Bayards for many years on a variety of projects. The Spry Brothers, who farm the property, utilize crop rotations, cover crops and no-till farming to promote healthy soils and protect the soil structure.

The farm rests high above the Sassafras River with steep slopes and vertical cliffs. Due to these conditions and the highly erodible soils and elevation changes, ravines erode and head cut into the crop fields. To remedy this problem, grade stabilization structures have been installed under the Maryland Agricultural Cost Share Program. These structures, called pipe drops, have a grassed diversion installed to divert water away from the woods edge to the vertical riser pipe. The barrel then conveys the water along the slope to a rock-lined plunge pool, allowing the water to safely outlet into the existing stable channel bottom. Other best management practices installed on the property include grassed waterways, critical area plantings, and field borders.

In 2005, Jim and Fran began their largest conservation project to protect the shorelines of Ordinary Point. In some places, the point had narrowed to only 12 feet wide. The project was extensive and took two years to complete. The first phase was reconstruction of the farm road down to the point. The road grade elevation was lowered in some areas and raised in others to allow the river bank to be graded to stable slopes. The second phase was restoration of nearly 5000 feet of shoreline. Once clearing of phragmites, noxious weeds, and dead and diseased trees was completed, the upper banks were graded to create stable slopes. Slopes were stabilized as grading progressed, and shrubs were planted in these areas. Stone sills were constructed in order to prevent shoreline erosion and reestablish shoreline habitat. Around 30,000 cubic yards of sandy fill were placed in the areas behind the sills to establish new marsh areas. The new marsh areas were planted with native grasses and plants.

Jim’s major interest for the farm was in conservation, which was very important to both him and Fran. To ensure that future generations would be able to farm the land, Jim and Fran worked with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy to place a Rural Legacy conservation easement on the property in 2007.

Ordinary Point, with its woods and marshes, creeks and shorelines, is home to a wide variety of species. There are several areas designated as wetlands of special State concern, and part of the farm is located in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. The property is home to several rare, threatened, or endangered species. Bald eagles, herons, and ospreys make their nests on the property, and deer are abundant. The water, woods and fields are full of life. The American lotus blooms along the shores each spring. Fran is continuing Jim’s conservation work on the farm, and planning for new projects to protect this beautiful farm with its diverse habitats.

The Cecil Soil Conservation District honors the memory of Jim Bayard and recognizes Ordinary Point Farm and the Bayard family for their passion for preservation and conservation.

The video that was presented at the Annual Cooperators’ Banquet on January 11, 2019, can be viewed at https://www.cecilscd.com/ and https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=629&v=WXZviDYDlQ4.
Spotted Lanternfly Basics Webinars

In conjunction with the New York State IPM Program and the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Northeastern IPM Center will host a collection of webinars, titled “Spotted Lanternfly Basics.”

Each webinar will focus on, and be tailored to, a specific commodity group:

- Spotted Lanternfly Basics for Hops, Berry, and Vegetable Growers (Feb. 26, 2019, 10:00 a.m.)
- Spotted Lanternfly Basics for Grape and Apple Industries (Feb. 26, 2019, 1:00 p.m.)
- Spotted Lanternfly Basics for Christmas Tree Growers (Mar. 4, 2019, 10:00 a.m.)
- Spotted Lanternfly Basics for Nursery, Greenhouse, and Landscape Industries (Mar. 4, 2019, 1:00 p.m.)

All webinars will follow a similar format that covers spotted lanternfly biology, identification, and hosts, monitoring and management strategies, and a regulatory update. While the content may be relevant to audiences throughout the Northeast, management practices covered will be specific to New York. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions.

For more information and registration links, go to: http://neipmc.org/go/mYey

The Northeastern IPM Center fosters the development and adoption of integrated pest management, a science-based approach to dealing with pests that brings economic, environmental, and human health benefits. We use the list periodically to publicize IPM funding opportunities, research and extension projects, and IPM news and information.
Women In Agriculture Annual Conference

The 18th Annual Regional Women in Agriculture Conference will be held on February 12 and 13, 2019 at Dover Downs Hotel in Dover, Delaware. The conference goals are to educate, engage, and empower women in agriculture. The conference provides an opportunity to come together to learn about current issues and topics in order to make informed decisions concerning the farm, business and family life. Sessions will cover marketing, financial management, farm production, business planning and much more.

A preconference will take place on February 12, 2019 from 1-5pm. Participants can choose between two track offerings: (Option A) The Family Farm Legacy: Keeping the "Family" in your Farm or (Option B) Connecting Through Effective Agriculture Communication: Building Trust, Respecting Voices, Engaging New Audiences. The evening will host a free reception in the harness racing area.

The full day conference will be February 13, 2019 and include 3 keynote sessions, 15 breakout sessions, 140+ participants involved in agriculture and 20+ exhibitors from around the region. More information about this conference and other women in agriculture activities can be found at: www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag.

Programs are a collaboration of the University of Maryland Extension, Delaware Cooperative Extension, Delaware State Extension, Virginia Tech and Rutgers Cooperative Extension. For questions please call 410-822-1244 or email sdill@umd.edu. Programs are open to all, if you require special assistance to attend the classes please contact organizers at least two weeks prior.

Save the Date! MARYLAND ORGANIC FOOD & FARMING WINTER MEETING - Saturday, February 23, 2019 8:00 AM–5:00 PM at the Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, MD. News you can use! Presentation, panels, and workshops for farmers and gardeners looking for new ideas, techniques, and inspiration, as well as networking opportunities for consumers and distributors looking for good sources of local, organic food. Homegrown 'Eat Local' Potluck Lunch. Silent Auction. Half Price New Book Sale. Display Tables. Cost: $25. (Includes one year membership.)
www.marylandorganic.org for more information.

Maryland Dairy Convention

Friday, February 22
Clarion Inn
Frederick

ALL dairy producers and industry supporters are invited for a day of education, awards and networking.
The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression. The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Programs. La Universidad de Maryland es una institución con Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo y con Igualdad de Acceso a Programas.

Contact your local UME Agriculture Educator:

Cecil County ~ Doris Behnke at 410-996-5280 or dbehne@umd.edu

Kent County ~ Nate Richards at 410-778-1661 or nrichard@umd.edu

Queen Anne’s County ~ Jennifer Rhodes at 410-758-0166 or jrhodes@umd.edu

2019 Eastern Shore Vegetable Growers Meeting

February 12, 2019. 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Eastern Shore Hospital Center,
5262 Woods Road, Cambridge, MD 21613

This year’s program will cover vegetable variety trials, CONSERVE program updates, IPM for greenhouses, weed management, controlling bacterial wilt in cantaloupe, FSMA updates and record-keeping requirements and more.

Free REGISTRATION REQUIRED
To register call the Dorchester Extension Office (410) 228-8800 or register online at: https://ume_esfvgm.eventbrite.com
If you need special assistance please inform the point of contact at least one week prior to the event.

Topics to include:

- Why Herbicides Fail
- Soil-bome Diseases in Fruit Orchards
- Drivers of Honey Bee Losses
- Late Season Fruit Rot Control in Grapes
- Tree Fruit Disease Management in a Very Wet Year
- Performance of Late-planted Day-neutral Strawberries in Low-tunnels
- Basics of Strawberry Disease Management

Pesticide and CCA credits approved

Cost: $25.00 (includes morning refreshments and lunch)

How to Register:
Online through Eventbrite: https://2019fruitschool.eventbrite.com/
Over the phone by calling (410) 827-8056

PLEASE REGISTER NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15, 2019.