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Prince George's County
2018

December

Your Monthly News & Updates



Greetings, Friends of Prince George's County Extension

With the conclusion of 2018 in our midst, I would like to thank you all for your support this past year. There are many that contribute to our Extension programs as volunteers, partner agencies and organizations, and other members of the community that offer their support. We would like to give special thanks to our county government partner, MNCPPC, for their financial support for

many of our programs. Our faculty and staff greatly appreciate all of you!

We wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful new year.

Best wishes,



Karol Dyson
Capital Area Extension Director
University of MD Extension



@UMEPGC

Upcoming Events

Winter Family Fun

[Winter Festival of Lights](#) (Through January 1)

Bring a little twinkle to your holidays at this spectacular drive-through event (via Visit Prince George's County)

[STEM for Families](#) (1/2)

Join us as we explore science, technology, engineering and math. Drop in for hands-on experiments and activities. Space may be limited (via Prince George's County Memorial Library System)

[Gentle Beginner's Yoga at Tripple Springs](#) (January 5)

Are you a yoga beginner? Join Tripple Springs for a morning of relaxation.

[Kid's Yoga at Tripple Springs](#) (January 5)

Looking for something for your 9-13 year old(s)? Spend the morning at Tripple Springs.

[A Run to the Taproom 5K - Calvert Brewing Co](#) (January 13)

Join Calvert for a 5K, food, games, and more!



Classes, Workshops & More



ANNIE'S PROJECT
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

[Computer Basics at Local Library](#) (January)

Join us for a class on basic computer skills. Learn to navigate the basic components of the computer as well as the internet. Registration is required. (via Prince George's County Memorial Library System)

[Orchid Diagnostic & Repotting Clinic](#) (January)

Want to learn more about orchids? Come out to Behnke's and ask your questions!

[Garden Tool Sharpening](#) (January)

Visit Behnke Nurseries to get your tools ready for the upcoming growing season!!

[Annie's Project: Empowering Women in Agriculture](#) (January, February)

Join other women and learn more about business, agriculture and farm operation.

[Beginner Hands-On Bonsai Class](#) (January 5)

Want to learn more about the Bonsai? Check out this course at Behnke's

[ECO City Intensive Urban Agriculture Class](#) (January 9 - March 13)

Looking to learn more about Urban Agriculture? Here's a class for you

[Farmer Training & Certification: Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan](#) (January 22)

Want to learn to write your own nutrient management plan? Check out this workshop series.

[2019 BUMBA Beginning Beekeeping Class \(February\)](#)

Looking to get into beekeeping? Here's a class for you!

[Farmer Training & Certification for Intensive Small-Scale Food Production Operations](#) (March)

Questions about Small-Scale Food Production Operations? Check out this workshop series.

Registration ends February 25.

Looking for more farm and local food events in Prince George's County? If so check out our Fresh. Local. Fun. PGC [events page](#).

Looking for more events in Prince George's County? If so check out [Visit Prince George's County](#), [Prince George's County Government](#), as well as [Prince George's County Library Systems](#).

Find the full list of county farmers markets [here](#). Download and print our [2018 Farmers Market Guide](#). You can also pick one up at your local farmers market or community center.

Holiday Saving Tips

Many of us seem to have a lot more holiday cheer than cash this season. The holidays can be a stressful time for you and your wallet. It's important to make smart financial decisions now so you don't begin the New Year with added debt and stress. The presents, the parties, the special foods, and the long list of family activities can cause unnecessary stress and lead to overspending, but it doesn't have to be that way! You simply need a plan. Here are a few tips that may save you some of your hard earned money and reduce your stress.



It is important to decide how much you can spend. Set your holiday budget before you begin shopping. Make sure to include the little extras that we often overlook such as decorating, postage and shipping costs. Little extras can really add up. Santa isn't the only one who should check his list twice. Set a gift budget and stick to it, and know when to stop buying.

Think of credit cards as short-term loans and do your best to pay them off immediately. If you can, avoid credit cards and use cash as often as you can.

If shopping online, allow time for shipping and avoid last minute shipping fees which can really add up.

The cost of Christmas cards and postage can add up. Why not send a holiday email or holiday postcards?

Donations can be a perfect gift and you get a tax deduction.

Holiday meals can be expensive. Why not plan a potluck meal? It will save you time and money, and will give you more time to enjoy being together with family and friends. Take advantage of grocery store sales. Use coupons and store rewards cards for extra savings.



Use nature to decorate your home. Holly, pine-cones and greens are beautiful. String popcorn and add fresh cranberries for a festive look.

Entertainment is a fun part of the holiday season. Have a casual family night to decorate the tree, wrap presents, play games and bake. Why not bake extra goodies to give as gifts? The memories will last a lifetime.

Give your time. It's free and can be the greatest gift of all. Volunteer anywhere you can be of help. Just one volunteer visit can brighten the holidays for countless people.

It's easy to get caught up in overspending during the holidays. However if you have a plan and know how to stretch your holiday dollars, you will be able to keep a level head and you won't suffer from buyer's remorse. You will welcome the New Year feeling hopeful without the added stress of holiday debt.

Happy Holidays!

Making Cent\$ of It All...

Patricia Maynard
FCS Financial Wellness Educator

Did You Know



Did you know...DoE TV has helpful hints on recycling? The Prince George's County Department of the Environment has put together a video with **helpful tips about some items that may or may not be considered recyclable**. To view the video and see these wonderful tips, [click here](#).

Did you know...Secretary Perdue has announces a new OneUSDA Internship Program? This internship program **"offers Federal opportunities to students currently enrolled in qualifying educational programs or institutions**, with a comprehensive developmental program intended to provide students with **experience in a dynamic work environment** that will enhance their educational goals and shape their career choices." For additional details and information about applying, [click here](#).

Did you know...January is a great time to join a 4-H Club? Youth ages 8 - 18 will meet new friends, delve deeper into existing hobbies / interests, and learn new skills. For information about current Clubs, [click here](#). Search for a topic to investigate on the 4-H [curriculum site](#). **No club in your community? Start one.** It is a minor time commitment with huge impacts on positive youth development. **Youth build life skills by leading hands-on projects in a variety of areas** helping them to grow confidence, independence, resilience, and compassion. Contact our office for more details: 301-868-9636



Did you know...Scammers are asking people to pay with gift cards or by wiring money? People 70 and older are reporting **losing cash to scammers who pretend to be a friend or family member in trouble**. (You know the calls: "Grandma, I'm in jail. I need you to send me money for bail."). Learn more about "Putting Cash in the Mail" [here](#).



Did you know...Urban Landowners in Maryland Have a Duty to Inspect Property and Handle Diseased or Damaged Trees to Prevent Damage to Neighbors? A **blog post by Paul Goeringer**, Extension Legal Specialist, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland for the Maryland Grows Blog, informs readers of **tips for "when a neighbor's tree has become diseased and poses a danger."** To read more, [click here](#).

Did you know...You can recycle your Christmas tree after the holiday? **Beginning December 31st, the County will collect undecorated, unbagged, live Christmas trees** left at the curbside on your **regular Monday yard trim collection day**. As an added bonus, DoE will chip the trees into free mulch to be given away at the County's annual **Mulch Madness event**.



Fresh. Local. Fun.

Prince George's County, Maryland

Visit [Fresh. Local. Fun. PGC](#) for more information about farms, food events, and farmers markets in gorgeous Prince George's! Minutes from the Nation's Capitol, Prince George's County offers a variety of [food and farming events](#) every month!



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

Educational Partnership in Riverdale.

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funded by federal, state, and local governments within the University of Maryland - College Park and the University of Maryland - Eastern Shore. 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. The Prince George's County office, partially supported by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, serves the community from two locations including the main Extension office in Clinton and the Center for

University of MD Extension, Prince George's County, 6707 Groveton Drive, Clinton, MD 20735

STAY CONNECTED:

