

FARM NOTES

Carroll County Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

University of Maryland Extension

700 Agriculture Center
Westminster, MD 21157
M-F 8:00 a.m.-4:30p.m.
(410) 386-2760

extension.umd.edu/locations/
carroll-county

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HELLO,
CARROLL COUNTY!

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER
2024



PRESENTATION TOPICS

- Crash Course on Soybean Diseases
- PFAS in Ag Land
- Negotiating Contracts for the MPRP
- MDA Nutrient Management & Pesticide Updates

Attention!

ALL PRODUCERS OF CORN,
SOYBEANS, SMALL GRAINS AND HAY

You are invited to attend the 2024

NORTHERN MARYLAND FIELD CROPS DAY

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Summit Manor at Hereford Fire Hall
510 Monkton Rd, Monkton, MD 21111

8:00 a.m.

Visit commercial exhibits & refreshments

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Presentations

12:00 p.m.

Lunch

Northern Maryland Field Crops Day - Ticket Order Form

\$20.00 if you pre-register, or \$25.00 at the door, includes a catered lunch. This meeting serves as Recertification for Maryland private pesticide and nutrient applicators and offers recertification credits for Pennsylvania Applicators.

To register to attend call the University of Maryland Extension, Baltimore County Office at 410-887-8090, or fill out the form below and mail to: 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2, Cockeysville, MD 21030. Make checks out to "BCEAC" or register online [here](#)

Name: _____ Number of Tickets @ \$20: _____ Total: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Funding for Small Equine & Livestock Farms

Maryland Department of Agriculture [press release](#)

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has announced that cost-share funding to install a range of popular best management practices is now available for small-scale equine and livestock operations with at least 1,000 pounds of live animal weight.



conservation practices that farmers and landowners reduce soil erosion, manage animal manure, and control nutrient runoff to protect the health of local streams and the Chesapeake Bay, as well as mitigate impacts associated

with climate change. The program provides up to 100% cost-share for high-priority practices such as forest buffers and stream exclusion fencing.

Examples of qualifying conservation practices that benefit equine and livestock operations include:

- Watering Facilities – Up to 87.5% cost-share
- Pasture Management – Up to 87.5% cost-share
- Animal Waste Storage Structures – Up to 87.5% cost-share
- Heavy Use Area Protection – Up to 87.5% cost-share
- Roof Runoff Structures – Up to 87.5% cost-share
- Stream Exclusion Fencing – Up to 100% cost-share
- Interior Pasture Fencing – Up to 50% cost-share

This expansion of the [Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share \(MACS\)](#) Program extends the popular conservation assistance program to these smaller farms. Previously, participation in MACS was limited to operations with 8,000 or more pounds of live animal weight.

“We are actively seeking out and working with small farms to get them the financial assistance they need to improve the natural resources that support their operations,” said Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary Kevin Atticks. “Erosion and runoff are issues that all equine and livestock operations—large and small—face. We are excited to expand our conservation programs to help everyone do their part to protect the natural resources we all depend on.” MACS currently funds 40

Backyard Farming Zoom Sessions

Small Ruminants: The Good, Bad and the Ugly

- **Are Dairy Goats a Good Fit for My Farm?** November 5, 2024
- **Managing Manure and Mortalities on Small Farms** November 12, 2024
- **Meet the New UME Ruminant Specialist** November 19, 2024
- **Farm Signage for a Legal Specialist’s Perspective** December 3, 2024
- **Guardians** December 10, 2024

Register at umd.edu/goodandbad

Animal Disease Traceability Rule Change

Maryland Department of Agriculture [press release](#)

The Maryland Department of Agriculture is notifying cattle and bison producers about an important update to [the disease traceability rule](#) announced by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Starting November 5, 2024, OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION (ID) for cattle will be required to be both electronically and visually readable.

This updated requirement applies to animals moving within the state or across state lines when submitting official tests or vaccinations, such as tuberculosis testing and brucellosis vaccination. The following types of cattle are required to have electronic ID (EID) when crossing state lines:

- Dairy cattle of any age or sex
- Sexually intact beef cattle and bison aged 18 months or older

- Cattle and bison of any age used for rodeos, shows, or exhibitions

While a wand reader is not mandatory to read the printed numbers on the tags, it is recommended to reduce transcription errors and improve accuracy. Producers should also be aware that removing existing official ID tags from any animal is illegal. It is prohibited to place two 840 RFID tags with different numbers on a single animal, but management tags may be added as needed. Official 840 RFID tags are not reusable, and correct placement is essential for effective tag retention.

Additional information regarding the seven common myths and misunderstandings about the new regulations can be found [here](#). For information or questions, producers can contact the Animal Disease Traceability team at the Maryland Department of Agriculture at (410) 841-5810 or animal.disease.traceability@maryland.gov.

Septic System Survey

Cameron Smith, Graduate Student, University of Maryland, School of Public Health

We are working on a project to understand the risk of septic system failure and the risk of contamination of well water for homes that rely on septic systems.

Our project team includes researchers from the University of Maryland, George Mason University, Resources for the Future, and the Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. (SERCAP).

We invite you to participate in a short survey (around 9 minutes long) to provide us with more information about your septic system and well. You must be at least 18 years of age to participate in this study.

If you agree to participate, please use this link to access the survey: https://umdsurvey.umd.edu/jfe/form/SV_3kJ12mOAEw80K0K.

Your answers are confidential and will not be shared with any other party, and only used by project investigators.

We appreciate your participation!

Emergency Regulations for Food Residuals

Maryland Department of Agriculture [press release](#)

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has announced that the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR) has approved emergency regulations to establish a new permit program for food processing residuals (FPRs) and make corresponding amendments to the Maryland Nutrient Management Manual.

Food processing residuals are generated during the production and processing of food products such as milk and poultry. New legislation, which took effect July 1, 2024, requires the department to oversee the transport, storage, and land application of food processing residuals on Maryland farms as a nutrient source. People who engage in these activities must first obtain a permit from the department. The new rules are designed to ensure that FPRs are managed to protect air and water quality.

“With the passage of House Bill 991 and Senate Bill 1074, the department has been granted the authority to establish a permit program for FPRs. The new requirement aims to address citizen complaints while still allowing the land application of this important nutrient source, following Maryland’s nutrient management regulations,” said Maryland Agriculture Secretary Kevin Atticks.

In 2023, Maryland joined a growing list of states regulating FPRs by requiring direct injection or same-day deep incorporation of FPRs on all

cropland except hay fields. But residents in several Maryland counties have asked for stronger regulations and new permit requirements which are now in place.

- If you are a Maryland farmer who uses FPRs, here’s what you need to know and do.
- A Food Processing Residuals Utilization Permit is required if you plan to transport, store, or land apply FPRs on Maryland farmland.
- A separate permit is required for each activity (transport, storage or spreading).
- Permit holders are required to post a bond to ensure compliance.
- Applications for transport and storage received by November 15 to be issued by January 1.
- Farmers who have submitted their applications by November 15 may continue to transport or store FPRs until the permit determination has been made.
- Applications for land application of FPRs are due to the department by January 15. Permits will be issued by March 1, when land application of nutrient sources resumes.
- All FPRs must be applied to fields following Maryland’s nutrient management regulations. Nutrient management staff will be making site and field inspections to ensure compliance.

For more information on the new regulations, please visit mda.maryland.gov/conservation. To request a permit application, please contact: Dwight Dotterer, Administrator, Nutrient Management Program, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401, Phone: 410-841-5877 | Email dwight.dotterer@maryland.gov.

Conservation Buffer Initiative

Maryland Department of Agriculture [press release](#)

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has announced the 2024-2025 enrollment period for the popular Conservation Buffer Initiative will run from October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025. To help Maryland meet its ambitious tree planting goals, qualifying farmers who plant forest buffers through this program will receive a one-time \$1,000/acre signing bonus along with the program's standard incentive payment.

Entering its fifth year, Maryland's Conservation Buffer Initiative provides farmers with attractive incentive payments to plant buffers next to streams to improve water quality and support the state's climate goals. Three types of buffers are eligible for funding and free technical assistance from local soil conservation districts under the program: forest buffers planted next to waterways, grass buffers planted next to waterways or field ditches, and watercourse access control areas adjacent to pastures. Program highlights include:

- Payment rates range from \$500 per acre for existing grass buffers to a maximum of \$4,500 per acre to install a riparian forest buffer with pasture fencing
- Mowing and hay harvesting are allowed; nutrient applications are not

- Farmers receive 75% of the project cost upfront and the remaining 25% after verification of planting for new or improved buffers and 100% of the eligible payment for existing buffers that have been field-verified
- An extra one-time bonus payment of \$1,000/acre for enrolled forest buffers is offered
- Annual maintenance payments are available for forest buffers during the first five years
- Contracts are for 5 or 10 years
- Soil conservation districts can provide free technical assistance to get your buffer installed
- Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis based on availability of funding
- All work must be completed within one year of the Agreement's signing date

Farmers wanting to install new buffers on land adjacent to waterways or improve existing buffers are encouraged to apply for this program. Applications and required forms are available on the [website](#) and at local soil conservation districts (410-638-4828). Questions? Conservation experts at your [local soil conservation district](#) office are standing by to help you with your application.

2025 Custom Farming Rate Survey

Extension services in Maryland and Delaware will be collecting farming custom survey rates this fall. We need your assistance securing up-to-date information about farm custom work rates, machinery rental rates, and hired labor costs. Custom rates are used widely by farmers across the states, so we need the best information available.

Please respond even if you know only a few rates. We want information on actual rates, either what you PAID TO HIRE work or what you CHARGED TO PERFORM custom work. Custom Rates should include all ownership costs of implement & tractor (if needed), operator labor, fuel, and lube. Reported rates will be summarized in the Custom Rate Survey to show a range and averages for the states. NO individual names or rates will be published in the Custom Rate Survey.

The results will be available at local Extension Offices and will be available online at <https://extension.umd.edu/grainmarketing>. We hope this publication will benefit you as a custom farm operator. Thank you for your cooperation in this effort.

The survey can be completed online at: <https://go.umd.edu/customrate2025> or to get a blank survey call the Talbot County Extension office at (410) 822-1244. Please complete the survey by December 31, 2024.

New Ruminant Livestock Specialist

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Brittany Fletcher to the University of Maryland Extension Team. Brittany is the new Ruminant Livestock Specialist at the University of Maryland's Western Maryland Research & Education Center. Brittany brings a rich background in livestock management, having grown up on a small farm in Lineboro, Maryland, where she and her family raised cattle, sheep, and hogs. Brittany earned her M.S. in feedlot cattle nutrition from Oklahoma State University in 2021, where her research focused on trace mineral supplementation strategies. In 2024, she completed her Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University, specializing in ruminant nutrition with a focus on managing woody plant encroachment in the Great Plains through mixed-species grazing of cattle and goats. As part of her role, Brittany will develop Extension programming and conduct applied research for small ruminants, beef, and dairy cattle across the state. Brittany can be reached at bfletch1@umd.edu or (301) 226-7576. Please use this link or scan the QR code and fill in your information to be on her mailing list! [Sign up for our mailing list](#)



7 2024-25 Nutrient Management Voucher Class and Private Pesticide Applicator Training, Testing, and Recertification Offerings for Carroll County

Nutrient Management Voucher Class*

Wednesday December 11, 2024 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Monday January 6, 2025 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday January 9, 2025 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification*

Monday December 2, 2024 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Monday February 3, 2025 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday January 9, 2025 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

New Private Pesticide Applicator Training & Testing*

Wednesday February 5, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Training

Wednesday February 12, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Test

Applicators that already have a license and need continuing education credits may attend one of the two-hour training sessions. Be sure to bring your certification number to get credit.

For individuals that need to take the exam to acquire their private applicator pesticide license, two exam offering is still available. Be sure to bring your driver's license for identification. An optional training session to prepare for the exam is also available. Copies of the Private Applicator Core Manual will be available for purchase for \$20. Checks can be made payable to "CCEAB." Manuals should be purchased prior to the training.

As a reminder, private applicator credits as well as nutrient management voucher training will also be offered at our Mid-Winter Meeting on January 9, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

All sessions will be held at 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD 21157. **Please call the office at 410-386-2760 to register for a session.** Please notify our office 2 weeks in advance if you need a reasonable accommodation to participate.

Great resources are just a click away!

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facebook.com/umecarroll



[extension.umd.edu/locations/
carroll-county](https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county)

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact the University of Maryland Extension office at least two weeks prior to the event.

NOTICE TO BENEFICIARIES AND PROSPECTIVE BENEFICIARIES

Name of Organization: University of Maryland Extension

Name of Program: UME-Carroll County

Contact Information for Program Staff: Charles Schuster – Interim County Extension Director,
410-386-2760, cfs@umd.edu

Because this program is supported in whole or in part by financial assistance from the Federal Government, we are required to let you know that:

- (1) We may not discriminate against you on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice;
- (2) We may not require you to attend or participate in any explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) that are offered by our organization, and any participation by you in such activities must be purely voluntary;
- (3) We must separate in time or location any privately funded explicitly religious activities (including activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization) from activities supported with direct Federal financial assistance; and
- (4) You may report violations of these protections, including any denials of services or benefits by an organization, by contacting or filing a written complaint with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Center for Civil Rights Enforcement, Program Complaint Division by mail, fax, or e-mail at:
Mail:
United States Department of Agriculture
Director, Center for Civil Rights Enforcement
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-9410
Fax: (202) 690-7442
Email: program.intake@usda.gov
If you would like to seek information about whether there are any other federally funded
- (5) organizations that provide these kinds of services in your area, please contact Latoya Hicks at lhicks12@umd.edu.

This written notice must be provided to you before you enroll in the program or receive services from the program, unless the nature of the service provided, or exigent circumstances make it impracticable to provide such notice before we provide the actual service. In such an instance, this notice must be provided to you at the earliest available opportunity.



To: Farm Notes Recipients
From: Bryan Butler - Extension Agent, Ag & Food Systems

Revision of Mailing List

Regulations require annual circularization of mailing lists. If you wish to **continue receiving *Farm Notes***, please check your label on back, make any corrections and mail it to me. You may also E-mail this information to pzepp@umd.edu If a reply is not received within **30 days**, I shall assume that you no longer wish to receive *Farm Notes* and your name will be removed from our mailing list. **You must respond to this notice to receive *Farm Notes***.

NAME _____ HOME PHONE _____
FARM NAME _____ WORK PHONE _____
STREET _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS _____