

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

## Garrett County

### June 2026

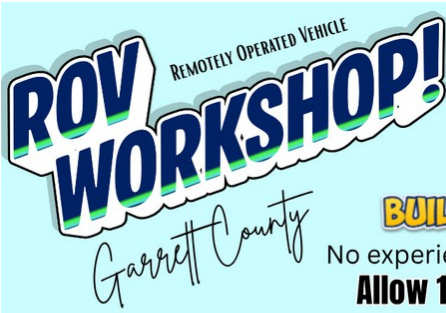
#### ✦✦ UPCOMING PROGRAMS ✦✦

## Build Your Own Underwater ROV

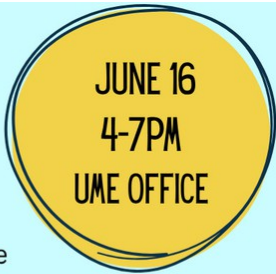
Join us for an exciting ROV Workshop!

Pick between 3 start times (4 pm, 4:45 pm, 5:30 pm) on Tuesday, June 16th at the Garrett County Extension Office. Participants will have the chance to build and take home their very own ROV. The workshop will also share valuable information on how to get involved in the Maryland 4-H ROV Challenge competition taking place this summer. Details about the competition will be held at 5:45 pm. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

To register, simply choose your preferred start time (allow yourself 1 1/2 hours to complete) and call the Garrett County Extension Office at 301-334-6960.



FOR ALL YOUTH AGES 8-18



**BUILD AND TAKE HOME AN UNDERWATER ROV**

No experience necessary- just curiosity and a sense of adventure

**Allow 1 ½ hours to build... Pick between 3 start times**

**4:00pm - 4:45pm - 5:30pm**

PARENTS WELCOME  
AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

**Register by calling 301-334-6960**

COMPETITION DISCUSSION  
WITH BE HELD AT 5:45PM



Learn how you can be part of the exciting Maryland 4-H ROV Challenge competition this summer!!

---

## Container Gardening Class At Local Libraries

Be sure to join us in June at your favorite Library Branch to learn about container gardening and get a free grow bag and tomato seedling! Call your local library to register.

## LIBRARY GARDEN LABS

### June: Container Gardening



Most any plant can be grown in a container, as long as care is taken to match the plants needs with the container size. The Grow It Eat It Program with University of Maryland Extension is focusing 2026 education on Container Gardening. June's Library Garden Lab will feature a container garden demonstration and each participant will receive a free 5 gallon grow bag and tomato plant.

**Spend time with a Master Gardener and complete a hands-on activity to take home and support your gardening initiatives for 2026! Free! Family friendly! Casual! Fun learning opportunity! Activities will be the same at each location. Contact corresponding Library Branch to register for 2026!**

#### Accident

June 4  
2-3pm  
301-746-8792

#### Friendsville

May 30  
11am-noon  
301-746-5663

#### Grantsville

June 12  
1-2pm  
301-895-5298

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

MASTER  
GARDENER

#### Kitzmilller

June 15  
6-7pm  
301-334-8091

#### Oakland

June 13  
11am-noon  
301-334-3996

The  
Ruth Enlow Library  
of GARRETT COUNTY



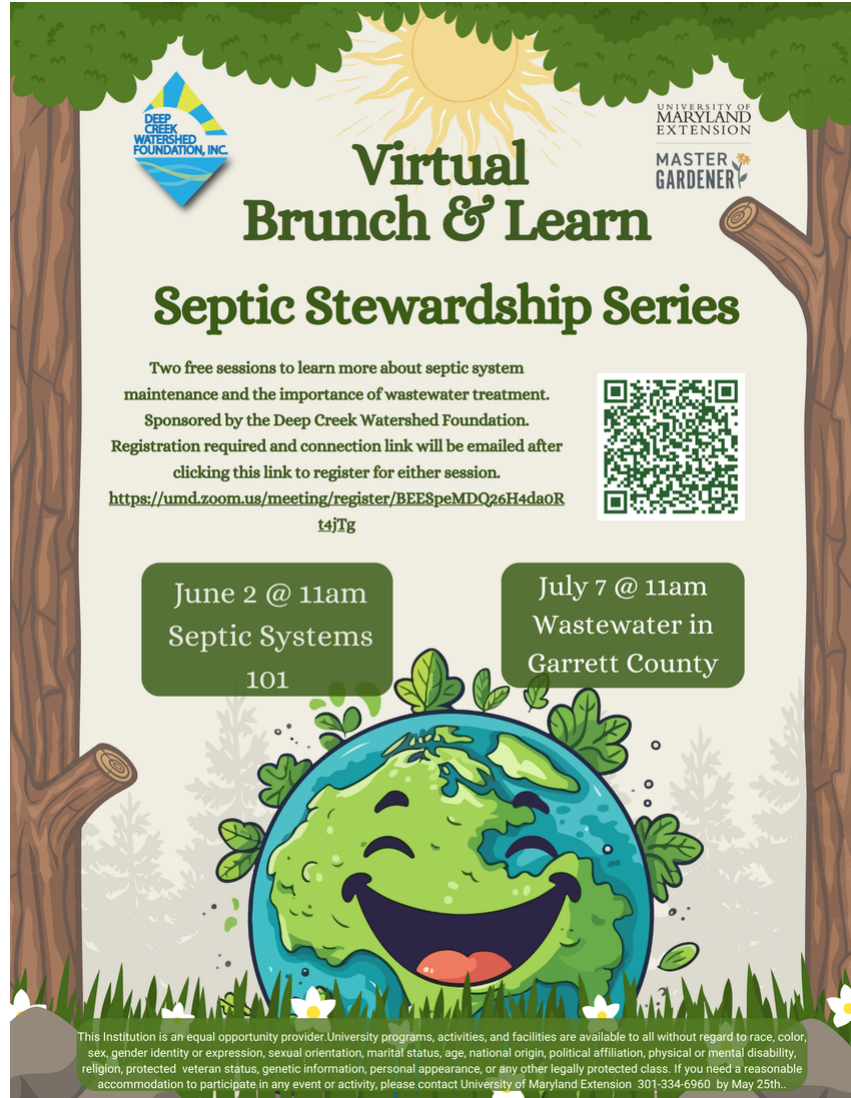
Community • Opportunity

**Let's grow food, flowers, and friendships—together!**

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 University of Maryland Extension @ 301-334-6960 at least 2 weeks prior to the class that you want to attend.

## Septic Stewardship Series

There will be two free sessions to learn more about septic system maintenance and the importance of wastewater treatment. Sponsored by the Deep Creek Watershed Foundation. Registration required and connection link will be emailed after clicking this link to register for either session. <https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/BEESpeMDQ26H4da0Rt4jTg>

A colorful poster for a virtual event. At the top, there's a sun and trees. Logos for Deep Creek Watershed Foundation, Inc. and University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener are in the top corners. The main title is 'Virtual Brunch & Learn Septic Stewardship Series'. Below that, text describes two free sessions on septic system maintenance, sponsored by the Deep Creek Watershed Foundation. A QR code and a Zoom registration link are provided. Two green boxes list the sessions: 'June 2 @ 11am Septic Systems 101' and 'July 7 @ 11am Wastewater in Garrett County'. At the bottom is a cartoon Earth character with a smiling face, surrounded by grass and flowers. A small disclaimer is at the very bottom.

DEEP CREEK WATERSHED FOUNDATION, INC.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION  
MASTER GARDENER

# Virtual Brunch & Learn

## Septic Stewardship Series

Two free sessions to learn more about septic system maintenance and the importance of wastewater treatment.

Sponsored by the Deep Creek Watershed Foundation.

Registration required and connection link will be emailed after clicking this link to register for either session.

<https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/BEEspeMDQ26H4da0Rt4jTg>

June 2 @ 11am  
Septic Systems  
101

July 7 @ 11am  
Wastewater in  
Garrett County

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider. 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 University of Maryland Extension 301-334-6960 by May 25th.

## Free Rain Barrel Program

Are you interested in conserving water, protecting the environment, and supporting local watersheds? The **Deep Creek Watershed Foundation**, in collaboration with the **University of Maryland Extension** and the **Master Gardener Program**, is offering Garrett County residents a unique opportunity to receive a **free rain barrel!**

Rain barrels are an excellent way to collect and store rainwater for outdoor use, such as watering plants, gardens, and lawns. They help reduce runoff, protect local waterways, and contribute to sustainable living practices.

### How to Qualify

To receive a free rain barrel, participants must complete a 45-minute educational class. The class will cover essential topics such as:

- Proper rain barrel installation techniques.
- Maintenance and care for long-term use.
- Environmental benefits, including reducing stormwater runoff and supporting local watersheds.

### Registration Details

Space and barrels are limited, so **registration is required**. Sign up today using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/DQtBaHZepSstCfYc9>

The **distribution date** will be announced soon, so stay tuned for updates!

Don't miss this opportunity to make a positive impact on your community and environment—sign up today!



# Want a Free Rain Barrel?

**Distribution date to be determined.**

Space and barrels are limited; registration is required.

**To qualify- Participants must complete a 45-minute educational class about rain barrel installation, care, and benefits to the environment and local watersheds.**



**Register:**  
<https://forms.gle/DQtBaHZepSstCfYc9>



The Deep Creek Watershed Foundation is sponsoring this free rain barrel distribution for Garrett County residents and would like to thank the Chesapeake Bay Trust for their support on this project!

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider. 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 University of Maryland Extension 301-334-6960 by May 25th.



## 2026 Garrett County Agricultural Fair

It's that time of year again! The Garrett County Agriculture Fair will be held from August 1, 2026 to August 8, 2026, at the Garrett County Fairgrounds in McHenry, MD! Enjoy 4-H showmanship, concessions, exhibits, rides, concerts, and so much more! This is where we shine. We'll see you there!



GARRETT COUNTY 4-H

*Come See Us Shine!*

**SATURDAY AUGUST 1**

**10AM-4PM** Entering ALL 4-H Indoor Exhibits & Rabbits

**SUNDAY AUGUST 2**

**9AM-4PM** Market Animal Weigh-In  
**1PM** 4-H Indoor Exhibit Judging

**MONDAY AUGUST 3**

**9AM** Rabbit Show  
**12PM** Livestock Skillathon  
**4PM** Sheep Showmanship  
**5PM** Horsemanship Contest  
**6PM** 4-H Fashion Revue  
**7PM** Market Lamb Show

**TUESDAY AUGUST 4**

**1PM** Breeding Goat Show  
**2:30PM** 4-H Robotics Challenge  
**4PM** Goat Showmanship  
**5PM** Robotics Demonstrations  
**7PM** Market Goat Show

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST**

**9AM** Dairy Show  
**11:45AM** Horse Showmanship  
**12:30PM** Horse Show  
**3:30PM** Swine Showmanship  
**7PM** Market Swine Show

**THURSDAY AUGUST 6**

**9AM** Dairy Breeding Goat Show  
**1PM** Beef Breeding Show  
**2PM** Beef Showmanship  
**6:30PM** Market Beef Show

**FRIDAY AUGUST 7**

**8AM** Master Showman Competition  
**9AM** 4-H Engineering Events  
**2PM** Lead Contest  
**5PM** 4-H Engineering Awards  
**6PM** Costume Animal Parade

**SATURDAY AUGUST 8**

**8:30AM** Youth Awards Program  
**10AM** 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale

**SUNDAY AUGUST 9**

**11-1PM** Indoor Exhibits will be released



**2026 Garrett County Agriculture Fair**

★ **SHINING MOMENTS: RECENT PROGRAMS** ★

**Spring 4-H STEM Enrichment Program**

It was a busy spring for the Garrett County 4-H STEM Enrichment program. STEM Educator Karen Wood and Program Assistant Emily Pysell traveled throughout the county to present programs to In-School and After-School classrooms, 4-H Clubs and Libraries as part of the Student Discovery Series. Highlighted programs were:

- Fairy Frog Gardens & Lifecycles
- Slime Science & Non-Newtonian Fluids
- Bug Explorers & Entomology
- Soar and Explore Flight Lab & Kite Physics
- 3D Printing & Material Arts
- The Art of Leaf & Flower Pressing

These programs successfully sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for STEM among participants of all ages.



# 4-H STEM ENRICHMENT



3D PRINTING

SLIME SCIENCE



FAIRY FROG GARDENS



SOAR & EXPLORE KITE LAB



BUG EXPLORERS



PRESSED FLOWERS



---

## Mousch Offers Information at GC Benefit & Health Fair

Kenzi Mousch, Extension Educator along with Roberta Cvetnick, Program Management Specialist, recently attended the annual Garrett County Benefit & Health Fair to provide educational materials from University of Maryland Extension focusing on Nutrition Health and Wellness. 240 Garrett County employees benefited from various vendors during this event.



---

## Maryland 4-H State Public Speaking Contest Results

The Maryland 4-H State Public Speaking Contest was held at the University of Maryland, College Park on Saturday, April 25th. There were 131 participants representing 21 counties for this event. Garrett County participants fared well at the event. Public speaking fosters creativity, critical thinking skills, leadership abilities, poise, and professionalism, valuable for the job market.

Results:

Kylie Bates, 2nd Place-Prepared

Dustin DeBerry, Participation-Extemporaneous



---

## Spring Weigh-In & Western MD District Show

Livestock projects remain one of the most popular areas of participation in Maryland 4-H in Garrett County, which continues to have the highest number of livestock project members in the state. This year brought another strong turnout, with record participation at the Spring Weigh-In and Tagging Event held May 8. Youth brought the following market animals to be tagged and weighed:

- Goats-56
- Sheep-81
- Swine-187

On Saturday, May 9, the 4-H District Livestock Show was held at the fairgrounds. 4-H members from Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties are eligible for the show. This event serves as a "practice show" allowing participants to practice showmanship skills, gain confidence in the ring, and spend time working with their animals before the fair season begins.

# Western MD District Show



---

## From Egg to Chicken

The Kitzmiller Library Story Time recently hosted a fun and educational chick program, taught by Lacie Ashby, 4-H Educator. Children learned all about chickens and their life cycle, exploring the fascinating journey of a chick from egg to fully grown chicken. Participants discovered why eggs come in different colors and learned about the parts of a chicken and their functions.

Bob the rooster and some chicks joined the program, giving the children an exciting opportunity to interact with live poultry. They got to touch and compare the soft fuzz of chicks to the feathers of adult poultry, adding a hands-on element to their learning experience. Lacie also introduced kids to what chickens eat and how they grow, fostering curiosity about animals and agriculture. The story time provided a unique opportunity for children to connect with nature and learn about the world of chickens in an engaging way.



---

## Local Team Attends Statewide Meeting

Faculty and Staff attended the University of Maryland Extension Statewide Meeting focusing on topics related to AI and technology in Extension, partnership building and community engagement, grants management, and measuring impacts, while also providing ample opportunities for collaboration and networking among staff from across the state. Welcome and opening remarks were provided by Dean Wendy Powers.

The morning general sessions featured updates on the UME Programmatic Plan along with Lightning Talks highlighting innovative programs and initiatives taking place across Maryland. Afternoon breakout sessions covered a variety of professional development topics including stress management, grants management, and AI and technology in Extension, among others.

Two members of our local team served as presenters during the conference. Kenzi Mousch presented during the session on Partnership Building to Expand Reach and Engagement, while Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski presented on Fiscal Management and Operations.



## 2026 University of Maryland Extension Statewide Meeting

*Success through Collaboration*

### PRESENTERS

Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski

Kenzi Mousch



## Extension Risk Management and Education Conference



Dr. Ketterman attended the Extension Risk Management and Education Conference. Risk Management Education provides training that improves the ability of agricultural producers and their families to effectively manage risk. Training addresses five general types of risk associated with farm and ranch businesses. At the conference, Dr. Ketterman presented with colleagues on the Farm Family Finance Toolkit and shared posters on Farm

Succession Planning and Health Insurance Literacy.

## Native Plant Festival

The annual Native Plant Festival brought more than 200 people to the Friend or Foe: Test Your Plant Knowledge plant display and educational booth on May 9th at New Germany State Park. Master Gardeners got to spend the day educating about native and invasive plant species that we see commonly in MD and our surrounding areas. Plan to attend the event in 2027 which is always held the 2nd Saturday May!



---

## Garden Growers Exchange



On April 25th, the Master Gardeners proudly hosted two tables at the Civic Club-Sponsored **Anything Goes Market**, creating a vibrant space for community members to explore gardening. Visitors had the opportunity to participate in a fun, hands-on activity by crafting their very own **seed snail**, a creative way to learn about planting and germination. Additionally, attendees were invited to choose from a wide selection of **free seeds**, perfect for starting their own gardens at home. Alongside these activities, the Master Gardeners shared valuable information about their **upcoming classes and workshops**, offering participants the chance to expand their gardening knowledge and skills.

---

## May Library Garden Lab

Library Garden Labs have been a fun adventure for Master Gardeners and participants. During the month of May participants have been learning how to make seed snails a great way to start seeds early and do so with recycled materials.



---

## Update AG Client Contact Information



Are you receiving our monthly AG Newsletter? If not, please [click here](#) to update your contact information and to stay updated on everything agriculture-related in Garrett County and the tri-state area.


---

## Keeping Connected

We are here to serve you in person, by phone, email, or by Zoom. If you have questions, contact one of our experts to provide solutions.

---



Area Extension Director Western Maryland Cluster	4-H Youth Development	Agriculture & Food Systems	Environment & Natural Resources	Family & Consumer Sciences
Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski jthorn@umd.edu	Lacie Ashby Principal Agent lashby@umd.edu	William Lantz Principal Agent wlantz@umd.edu	Ashley Bachtel-Bodkins Senior Agent Associate Master Gardener Coordinator abachtel@umd.edu	Kenzi Mousch Agent Associate mmousch@umd.edu
<b>Administrative Support</b> Roberta Cvetnick Program Management Specialist rcvetnic@umd.edu <hr/> Jessica McClurg Business Services Specialist jmccclurg@umd.edu	Karen Wood Senior Agent Associate kwood125@umd.edu  Emily Pysell Extension Program Assistant epysell@umd.edu	Andrea Uphold Nutrient Management Program Coordinator auphold@umd.edu		Dr. Jesse Ketterman Senior Agent jketterm@umd.edu  



## UME-Garrett County

Email: [rcvetnic@umd.edu](mailto:rcvetnic@umd.edu)

Website: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county>

Location: 1916 Maryland Hwy., Suite A, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550

Phone: 301-334-6960

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am-4:30 pm excluding holidays

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/4HGarrettCoMD>

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 us at least two weeks prior to the event at (301) 334-6960.



**Roberta Cvetnick**

Roberta is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters