

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION Garrett County

## August 2024 Newsletter

### 4-H Animal Science Program Graduates



We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the 4-H members who are graduating out of our 4-H animal science program. These members were recently recognized at the Garrett County Fair for completing their 4-H career in animal science projects. These members have grown in experience and diversity of animal agriculture experiences each year of their 4-H career. The skills learned through 4-H are unique. Whether related to project knowledge, agriculture knowledge, or the many life skills developed, 4-H gives each of them a strong foundation for pursuing their purpose and passion.

As they move forward, we hope they will stay connected to the 4-H community and the Garrett County Fair, returning as mentors, volunteers, judges, and engage with fellow 4-H alumni. 4-H is not just a program, but a lifelong network of individuals who share a common passion exemplified in the 4-H pledge.



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## Amazing Garrett County Livestock Sale



The Garrett County Fair Livestock Sale, coordinated by the Garrett County Livestock Association, was held Saturday, August 3rd, at the Garrett County Fairgrounds. This auction provides our 4-H members a culminating event for those who raise and exhibit market beef, hogs, lambs, goats, rabbits, and poultry projects.

"A total of 373 animals were sold with a total of over \$851,586 generated at the sale," stated Lacie Ashby, 4-H Educator. Lacie continued to add, "Our 4-H members and families are so proud of and grateful for the support of area businesses and individuals who come to bid or purchase at the annual livestock sale and the other countless ways people support our 4-H youth behind the scenes. Many buyers continue the charitable contributions by donating purchased animals to other non-profit organizations in the area. The outpouring of support in the Garrett County community is beyond compare. The sale and the fair provide youth a valuable opportunity to continue to learn and master life skills such as goal setting, self discipline, self responsibility, financial management, concern for others, and teamwork."

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## Garrett County Fair Engineering Events

During the 4-H Engineering Events, 19 4-H members participated in up to five contests that focused on mechanical engineering skills. During the contest, members tested their skills on knowledge of content area, identification of parts and participated in a skill-related event. During the hands-on portion, members rode bikes, drove lawn mowers, drove tractors, worked on small engines and soldered electronics. The five contests are Bicycle, Small Engines, Electricity, Lawn and Garden

Tractor and Tractor. The overall winner was Jonathan Malone, who will represent 4-H in the State 4-H Tractor Event.

# 2024 Engineering Events



## POLLINATOR GARDEN UPDATE



The University of Maryland Extension is pleased to announce that there is a new demonstration pollinator garden growing in the landscaped area in front of the office. This is a great opportunity to showcase many native plants that act as food sources for wildlife friends. While the garden is not 100% native plants, there are more than 30 different species of native plants in particular. Remember that as perennial gardens are established, it takes time and you must be patient. The hot/dry summer has also been a challenge to these new beauties. Come along with us on the

journey of our new pollinator garden and be sure to try and spot an insect friend the next time that you visit the Extension office!



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION | MASTER GARDENER

## Welcome to our Pollinator Garden

**Goal: Create a space to showcase a mixture of plants that are helpful for building habitat for increasing biodiversity at the homeowner level. More than 30 different plant species with the majority being native perennials!**

### Sleep

The first year a garden is established, perennial plants will focus energy on its root system. Typically you'll see little amounts of new foliage, but very limited and small blooms. The plant is putting lots of energy into a healthy, robust root system that will survive the winter dormancy period. Healthy roots anchor the plant, help it draw in water and nutrients, and build a healthy foundation for a long life in your garden.

### Creep

Returning from winter dormancy the plants begin their second year of growth. (Spring 2025) Plants will wake up in the garden and continue to grow. In the second season, you can expect to see blooms, though the plant hasn't quite reached its full size or full flowering potential. The root system will continue to grow larger and deeper, for a more resilient plant.

### Leap

The third year in the garden is when the plants will take off and reach full size. Flowers and foliage will be at their best and you can really see the full potential of your plant. Yes, you need a little patience, but as gardeners, we know that there is always something to look forward to!

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.

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## Upcoming Tomato Festival

August 23 is the 2nd annual tomato festival and judging contest. Be sure to plan to bring your best tomatoes to be entered into the contest. Taste testing, education booth, and celebration of the tomato! Festival will be held at the Deep Creek Farmers Market from 2-5pm. Stay tuned for more updates! There are four categories for the judging contest- Largest, Ugliest, Best Tasting, and Cherry. Participants can enter in each category, if they wish- prizes and ribbons awarded! All free of charge!



## Annual Tomato Festival August 23, 2024 - 2-5 pm



Location: Deep Creek Farmers Market

Can you grow the best tomato in Garrett County? Mark your calendar and start planning your garden now! Winners receive prizes and bragging rights!

- ✓ Taste testing different tomato varieties
- ✓ Demonstrations and interactive displays
- ✓ Celebration of tomatoes!
- ✓ Categories for judging contest:

Free to  
Participate



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## Master Gardener Basic Training Classes Set

The 40-hour Master Gardener Basic Training will be held at the University of Maryland Extension Office in Garrett County on Oct. 18, Oct. 21, Oct. 25, Oct. 28, Nov. 1, and Nov. 4 from 9:30am-4pm each day. The cost of the training is \$150. Interested applicants must complete the required volunteer background check. Interested applicants should apply by Sept. 15th. The training will cover vegetable gardening, native plants, increasing biodiversity in your landscape, plant diseases, insect identification, and much more! Please contact the office at 301-334-6960 to register.

**Master Gardener Basic Training 2024**

**Dates**

Friday-Oct. 18  
Monday- Oct. 21  
Friday- Oct. 25  
Monday- Oct. 28  
Friday- Nov. 1  
Monday-Nov. 4

**9:30am - 4:00pm**

**Apply before Sept. 15, 2024**

Training held at:  
University of Maryland Extension  
1916 Maryland Hwy., Suite A  
Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550

Call 301-334-6960 or email [abachtel@umd.edu](mailto:abachtel@umd.edu) to register.

**Training Topics Include**

- Soil Science
- Botany
- Ecology
- Insects
- Plant Diseases
- Native Plants
- Vegetable Gardening
- Increasing Biodiversity
- And More!

**Master Gardener Requirements**

- Virtual background check during application
- Complete 40 Hours of Basic Training & 40 Hours of Volunteer Service to get certified

**\$150 /Person**

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION **MASTER GARDENER**

**A reduction in fees is available by request and is approved based on availability, eligibility, and financial need.**

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## Real Life Heroes at Work!

The Master Gardeners visited Accident Library on July 10th- Accident Library:Adventures in Gardening Make You a Real Life SuperHero! and had 4 stations for the participants to enjoy learning about the super power of carnivorous plants, pollinators, seeds, and chlorophyll!



*Adventures in Gardening  
Make You a Real Life Hero!*



## What is Water-Wise?

Have you heard about the voluntary conservation landscaping and recognition program in Garrett County? This is an opportunity to earn certification as a Water-Wise landscape with the University of Maryland. Part of the certification process requires an in-person interview at your landscape. Once approved, you will receive a small sign that designates the property as Water-Wise in Garrett County. If you are interested in learning more, completing the yardstick guide, or have questions, please visit our website, call 301-334-6960 or email [abachtel@umd.edu](mailto:abachtel@umd.edu).

# Are You Water-Wise



Voluntary program that allows property owners to be recognized for implementing best management practices in their lawns and gardens. Landowners can help reduce pesticides, improve water quality, provide wildlife habitat, and much more! Check the yardstick and see if your property measures up to 36 inches! Once certified, you will receive a small aluminum sign to display.

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



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## Cambria Snyder Reflects on Summer Internship



Hi all, I'm Cambria Snyder. I am an undergrad at West Virginia University-Davis College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; studying Horticulture. I am a member of Gamma Sigma Delta, which is the honor society of Agriculture. This summer I had an amazing opportunity to intern at the Garrett County Extension office. I had the wonderful experience of being a mentee to Willie Lantz and Jennifer Bentejewski. Each week I met with the other

eleven interns across the state for a weekly connections meeting via zoom. This was a great opportunity to meet other college aged individuals across the state who all are working towards similar goals and have involvement in agriculture. Through the summer I was able to connect with so many talented UME agents across that state that encouraged me, poured into me and strived to help me grow. I am so grateful for all the learning experiences, eye-opening opportunities and connections with outstanding extension agents that I made this summer. For those of you that didn't keep track of my adventures through my blog, here's a little insight of what I got myself into this summer.

This summer Ashley Bodkins; home horticulture educator, master gardeners and I educated our community on backyard gardening. We set up and planted community gardens in a few places



throughout our county. This was a great opportunity for people to learn about gardening and reap the benefits of the harvest. We also operated an apprentice garden. Apprentices were individuals who were inquisitive and eager to learn how to garden with none to minimal experience. It's so important to educate our community on gardening and teach them that they can be self-sufficient and provide for their families from their own backyard.

Willie Lantz instructed a no-till workshop and a high tunnel construction workshop. The no-till workshop aimed to educate people on no-till practices and encourage the implementation of these practices. The high tunnel construction workshop was an excellent opportunity for people who are interested in having their own high tunnel to come out and learn and experience putting one together. These workshops were a great opportunity for me to connect with farmers in our area and learn about their varying operations.

I was fortunate enough to spend a day at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center and assist agents in gathering data for their research. I assisted Amanda Grev and Jeff Semler on taking fecal samples from their cattle and sheep herds. The samples were to test the feces for egg count to see how many parasites the animal had obtained on either annual or perennial pasture grasses. The aim of this research was to see which group of livestock were more resistant to parasites due to their diet. I was then honored to work with Joe Fiola on his research with harvesting, evaluating, and weighing peento peaches. I then also got the neat experience of evaluating the maturity and verasion of his vineyard. Joe is heavily involved in research and crafting of wines so I was also able to assist him in his work on wines.



A portion of my time was also spent doing activities with our 4-H youth. I was able to work with the youth and encourage them along in their varying pursuits. I have delighted in being able to connect with our 4-H youth and use my time with them to help encourage and teach them. I hope I was able to leave a positive impact on the youth I encountered and they continue in their ambitions.

I had the wonderful privilege of connecting with Sarah Llewellyn; home horticulture educator & agricultural educator from Allegany County. Sarah and I worked on providing Barton youth with kid's gardening classes. Each week we taught the kids a new lesson and checked the progress of their raised garden beds. Week after week the kids were so eager to check their raised beds and see what they could harvest. Being able to get the kids to be engaged and excited about gardening was so hopeful for the future of agriculture.

**Cambria Snyder Intern Blog**



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## Getting Students Connected

For a limited time, T-Mobile is offering a free mobile hotspot and free / low cost internet connectivity to up to 10 million eligible student households across the U.S.

Families with K-12 students who do not have internet access at home and have at least one child in the National School Lunch Program (Free/Reduced Lunch program) are eligible.

Having the internet at home can impact not only student achievement, but also overall household income so connectivity is essential. Feel free to reach out to T-Mobile for more information.

[T-Mobile.com/P10M](https://T-Mobile.com/P10M)

Introducing

# T PROJECT 10MILLION

WORKING TO CONNECT EVERY STUDENT

We're committing to help close the homework gap by offering school districts free internet access and mobile hotspots for 10 million eligible households. And, due to COVID-19 many schools are completely online, so we're offering school districts low-cost options to increased monthly data plans to provide connectivity to their students for free.



## Increase opportunities for success


The lack of home internet access has a devastating effect on student achievement. You see it every day. Let us partner with you to get students the equipment and connectivity they need.


### T-Mobile assists educators across the country


We are supporting school districts by providing free and low-cost options.

Plans	\$0/mo	\$12/mo + taxes & fees	\$15/mo + taxes & fees
	100GB data per year Available for five years	100GB data per month	unlimited data per month

#### Plus, all plans include:

 **Free mobile Wi-Fi hotspot device:** a take-home internet connection for mobile network access

 **Education grade content filter on all devices:** to control the internet content accessible to your students

 **Discounted Wi-Fi-ready devices:** including tablets and laptops at low-cost

During congestion, Project 10Million customers may notice speeds lower than other customers due to data prioritization. Video typically streams at DVD quality (480p).

#### Who is eligible?

- K-12 students who do not have internet access at home.
- A household with at least one child in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

#### Learn more

Call us at (844) 301-2667 or visit [T-Mobile.com/P10M](https://www.t-mobile.com/P10M)



Limited time offer; subject to change. Available lines are limited. Intended for student mobile connectivity. Must verify student National School Lunch Program eligibility. 1 offer per household. Confirm your program can accept free equipment and/or service. Roaming not available. Annual data service ends at earlier of 100GB or 365 days; monthly data service ends at 100GB on \$12 plan. Excessive switching between data allotments may be limited. Monthly Regulatory Programs (RPF) & Telco Recovery Fee (TRF) totaling \$1.16 per data only line (\$0.15 for RPF & \$1.01 for TRF) apply for paid plans. **Video streams** at up to 1.5Mbps. Optimization may affect speed of video downloads; does not apply to video uploads. For best performance, leave any video streaming applications at their default automatic resolution setting. **Coverage** not available in some areas. **Network Management:** Service may be **slowed, suspended, terminated, or restricted** for misuse, abnormal use, interference with our network or ability to provide quality service to other users, or significant roaming. During congestion the small fraction of customers using >50GB/mo. may notice reduced speeds until next monthly cycle due to data prioritization. See [T-Mobile.com/OpenInternet](https://www.t-mobile.com/OpenInternet) for details. See **Terms and Conditions (including arbitration provision)** at [www.t-mobile.com](https://www.t-mobile.com) for additional information. T-Mobile, the T logo, and the magenta color are registered trademarks of Deutsche Telekom AG. © 2020 T-Mobile USA, Inc.

## Freezing Your Summer Yummies!



You have planted your summer garden and now the bounty is starting to come in. What to do with all the wonderful fruits and veggies that you cannot possibly eat? Preserve them by freezing them safely! Here are some easy steps from the SNAP-Ed [Eat Smart Blog](#).

## Maryland Financial Day

University of Maryland's Financial Wellness Team is excited to share the details about the upcoming Maryland Financial Day Program.

This program will cover a variety of important financial topics and include presentations from UME's Financial Literacy Educators and other community agencies. The program will be offered on Zoom on August 13th and 14th from 9 AM to 4 PM.

To register, you can go to [https://ume.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_aXCKoPRrRZCGkby](https://ume.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aXCKoPRrRZCGkby)



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

# Maryland Financial Day

Educating ourselves on living well with Personal Finance

UMD ZOOM MEETING  
9:00AM - 3:00PM

[https://ume.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_aXCKoPRrRZCGkby](https://ume.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aXCKoPRrRZCGkby)

**DAY 1** 8/13/2024 **REGISTER NOW** **DAY 2** 8/14/2024

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION  
FINANCIAL EDUCATORS/SPEAKERS:**

- **9:00-9:15AM: WELCOME, OVERVIEW & INTRODUCTIONS**  
Michael Elonge, Moderator
- **9:15-10:05AM: FINANCES THROUGH THE AGES**  
Dr. Jesse Ketterman,  
Western Maryland Cluster
- **10:05-11:00AM: IMPROVING FINANCIAL HABITS**  
Carrie Sorenson, MPH, AFC,  
Carroll County
- **11:10-NOON: FINANCIAL VALUES**  
Dr. Troy Anthony Anderson,  
Calvert County
- **1:00-1:50 PM: FASFA FACTS: THE NEW FASFA**  
Dorothy Nuckols, MPH, AFC  
Central Region
- **1:50-2:40PM: MANAGING INCOME IN TOUGH TIMES**  
Michael Elonge, MA-ECON., CAGS  
Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll & Harford Counties
- **2:40-3:00PM: CLOSING REMARKS**  
Michael Elonge, Moderator

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE WITH:

- **9:00-9:15AM: WELCOME, OVERVIEW & INTRODUCTIONS**  
Michael Elonge, Moderator

**MORNING SESSION**

- **DIGITAL LITERACY FOR MAINTAINING SAFETY OF OUR FINANCES ONLINE**  
Isaias Tesfalidet, Project Director,
- **SAVING FOR THE FUTURE**  
State Employees Credit Union

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

- **OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
Karen Straughn, Director of the Consumer  
Protection Mediation Unit

**TO BE UPDATED**

- **2:50-3:00PM: CLOSING REMARKS**  
Michael Elonge, Moderator



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## Update AG Client Contact Information



Agriculture & Food Systems

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.



National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### NOTICE TO BENEFICIARIES AND PROSPECTIVE BENEFICIARIES

Name of Organization: University of Maryland

Name of Program: University of Maryland, Garrett County Programs

Contact Information for Program Staff:

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

Jennifer Bentlejewski, Area Extension Director

301-334-6960

[jthorn@umd.edu](mailto:jthorn@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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

(5) If you would like to seek information about whether there are any other federally funded organizations that provide these kinds of services in your area, please contact Latoya Hicks at [lhicks12@umd.edu](mailto: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.

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# 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	Family & Consumer Sciences	Maryland SNAP Ed	Environment & Natural Resources
<b>Dr. Jennifer Benthlejewski</b> <a href="mailto:jt Thorn@umd.edu">jt Thorn@umd.edu</a>	<b>Lacie Ashby</b> Principal Agent <a href="mailto:lashby@umd.edu">lashby@umd.edu</a>	<b>William Lantz</b> Principal Agent <a href="mailto:wlantz@umd.edu">wlantz@umd.edu</a>	<b>Dr. Lisa McCoy</b> Senior Agent <a href="mailto:lmccoy@umd.edu">lmccoy@umd.edu</a>	<b>Kristin Spiker</b> Senior Agent Associate <a href="mailto:kspiker@umd.edu">kspiker@umd.edu</a>	<b>Ashley Bachtel-Bodkins</b> Senior Agent Associate Master Gardener Coordinator <a href="mailto:abachtel@umd.edu">abachtel@umd.edu</a>
<b>Administrative Support</b> <b>Roberta Cvetnick</b> Program Management Specialist <a href="mailto:rcvetnic@umd.edu">rcvetnic@umd.edu</a> <hr/> <b>Jessica McClurg</b> Business Services Specialist <a href="mailto:jmclclurg@umd.edu">jmclclurg@umd.edu</a>	<b>Karen Wood</b> Senior Agent Associate <a href="mailto:kwood125@umd.edu">kwood125@umd.edu</a>  <b>Emily Pysell</b> Extension Program Assistant <a href="mailto:epysell@umd.edu">epysell@umd.edu</a>	<b>Andrea Uphold</b> Nutrient Management Program Coordinator <a href="mailto:auphold@umd.edu">auphold@umd.edu</a>	<b>Dr. Jesse Ketterman</b> Senior Agent <a href="mailto:jketterm@umd.edu">jketterm@umd.edu</a> <hr/> <b>Shelita Jackson</b> Tech Extension Educator <a href="mailto:sjack111@umd.edu">sjack111@umd.edu</a>	<b>Mary Helbig</b> Program Assistant <a href="mailto:mhelbig@umd.edu">mhelbig@umd.edu</a>	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

## 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 8:30 am-4:30 pm excluding holidays

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

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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.

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**Roberta Cvetnick**

Roberta is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters