

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

## Garrett County Ag Newsletter

**AgFS**

Agriculture & Food Systems

**September 2023**

### Farewell to Jill Hauser



Please join us in offering our thanks to Jill Hauser who served as our Nutrient Management Advisor from 2011 until August 31, 2023. In those 12 years, she planned over 116,000 acres in Garrett County for 65-70 farmers each year. We appreciate her dedication and years of service to the agricultural producers of Garrett County. The Maryland Department of Agriculture and the University of Maryland Extension are making plans for how the nutrient management program will evolve given recent changes to the program. Stay tuned for more information.

---

### MDA Reverses Decision on Nutrient Management Planning



After an announcement on June 1st to discontinue funding University of Maryland to write nutrient management plans, MDA reversed that decision and has agreed to fund University of Maryland Extension to continue writing plans for farmers. Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary, Kevin Atticks, made the announcement at the Nutrient Management Plan Writing Summit held on July 17th in Annapolis. While many details have to be worked out University of Maryland Extension will take over

Nutrient Management program from the Department of Environmental Science and Technology at University of Maryland on September 1st. Previous employees are awaiting details but it is anticipated most will be rehired. The Secretary is planning to evolve the nutrient management plan model through industry input to adapt to modern farming practices and operations. The Secretary also announced the formation of a new 30-member Farmer Taskforce, convening in August to

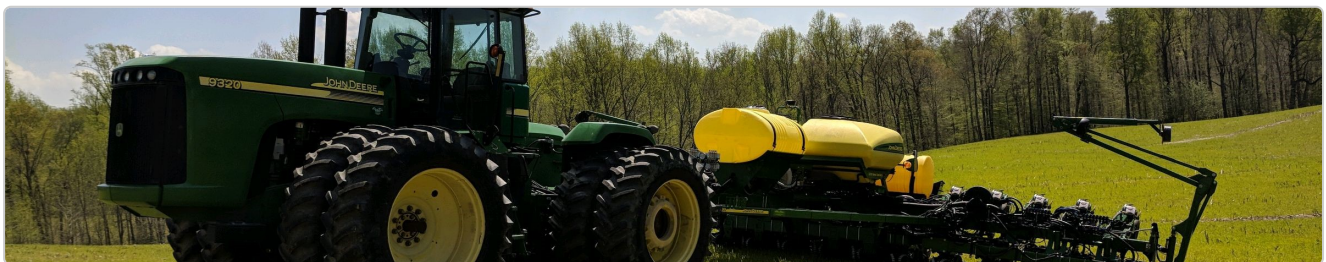
provide guidance to MDA and UMD regarding ways to improve the nutrient management plan to be more practical for farmers to implement.

If University of Maryland has written your plan in the past, contact the Garrett County office after September 1st to get on the schedule to have a plan written for 2024.

---

## Funding Help to Assist with the Expansion of Livestock Processing Capacity in MD

The Maryland Livestock Processing Loan Fund has been established by MARBIDCO, as a complement to USDA's Meat and Poultry Intermediary Lending Program opportunity, to assist with the expansion of livestock processing capacity in Maryland. This program offers loans to eligible applicants to help start-up or expand small- and medium-sized USDA-inspected facilities in Maryland to increase the processing of meat, poultry and the invasive blue catfish. (Large meat and poultry processing companies are not eligible to participate in this program.) Click on article below and to download application.



### Maryland Resource-Based Industry Financing Fund

MARBICO helps Maryland small and family-owned farms, forestry and seafood businesses through targeted financial services including accessing capital and credit, business planning and other services. Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program is one option for the land preservation program.

🔗 [marbidco.org](http://marbidco.org)

---

## Do You Qualify For a Free Chromebook?

Garrett County government in partnership with the Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County will be giving away one free Chromebook per household address that meets the program's income guidelines. For details, application, and upcoming distribution events, visit:

[www.garrettcountry.org/broadband/devices](http://www.garrettcountry.org/broadband/devices) or call 301-914-1543.

# COMPUTERS FOR THE PEOPLE BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



---

## Agriculture Marketing Grant Money Available

Garrett County Business Development is providing aid in promoting agriculture-based businesses in Garrett County. Example: signs, banners, pamphlets, etc. 4 grants of up to \$500 each may be awarded each fiscal year to fund up to 90% of the project's costs. For more information and to request an application, contact Melissa Bolyard, Agriculture Business Specialist, Garrett County Business Development at [mbolyard@garrettcountry.org](mailto:mbolyard@garrettcountry.org) or call 301-334-7285.



---

## Statewide Agriculture Newsletters



Newsletters from UME offer informative, researched-based information that the reader can put into practice. Informative articles include crop production, disease information, animal science, and upcoming programs. Take a closer look at the newsletters listed below.

The **Agronomy News** is a statewide newsletter for farmers, consultants, researchers, and educators interested in grain and row crop forage production systems. This newsletter is published once a month during the growing season and will include topics pertinent to agronomic crop production. Subscribers will receive an email with the latest edition.

### [Agronomy News](#)

The **Fruit & Vegetable News** is a timely publication for the commercial vegetable and fruit industry available electronically from April through October. Published by the University of Maryland Extension Agriculture and Food Systems team.

### [Fruit & Vegetable News](#)

---

## Update AG Client Contact Information

Please [click here](#) to update your contact information and to stay updated on everything agriculture-related in Garrett County and the tri-state area.

**CONTACT US**



---

## UME Garrett County Agriculture & Food System

**William Lantz, Principal Agent**

Agriculture & Food System

[wlantz@umd.edu](mailto:wlantz@umd.edu)

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Except for Observed Holidays



[Faculty/Staff Directory](#)

---



Agriculture & Food Systems

**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>

---

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 301-334-6960.

---



**Roberta Cvetnick**

Roberta is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters