

From: [Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation](#)
To: [Larrimore, Ashley](#)
Subject: February 15, 2015
Date: Sunday, February 15, 2015 9:33:17 AM

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The Buzz!

An Educator's Newsletter for Events, Opportunities, Grants, and More!

MAEF Wants You!

The Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc. is currently seeking seasonal part time staff for its **Maryland Agriculture Showcase**. The Showcase features interactive exhibits, colorful displays, and activities for kids. The Showcase travels to fairs, festivals, and events throughout Maryland.

- The exhibiting season is April through October.
- Work hours and dates vary from one day to ten consecutive days depending on the event.
- This is a paid position with mileage and expenses reimbursed.
- Candidates must be dependable, friendly, personable, flexible, work well with kids and adults, and have an interest in agriculture.

Please contact Diana Tyler at 410-939-9030 ext. 106 or e-mail dtyler@maefonline.com.

In addition MAEF continues to need two **Part-Time Mobile Ag Lab** teachers. One position is available for South-Central Maryland (Howard/Prince Georges) and another for Western Maryland (Garrett/Allegheny/Washington)! Please call or email Diana with your interest! 410-939-9030 dtyler@maefonline.com

Mid-Atlantic Farm-Based Education Network Update

Note to Maryland/DC Farm-Based Educators: We will not have a 2014-2015 round of FBE gatherings in Maryland this year while the Maryland Chesapeake Food, Farms, and Bay FBE Writing Team meets throughout the winter to produce your curriculum on-farm education guide! Stay tuned for training opportunities and the release of the guide later in 2015!

[Chesapeake Food, Farms, and Bay Farm-Based Curriculum Project Meetings!](#)

[Wednesday, February 25](#) - National Colonial Farm/Accokey Fdn., Accokeek, MD

[Wednesday, March 25](#) - Real Food Farm, Baltimore, MD

[Wednesday, April 29](#) - MDA, Annapolis, MD

[Horse Discovery Center Curriculum Project Information Workshops](#)

Wednesday February 18 - Talbot Count Recreation Center, Easton, MD 11- 2
Tuesday, February 24 - Persimmon Tree Farm, Westminster, MD 11-2
Tuesday, March 3 - Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, Annapolis, MD 11-2

NEW SPRING WORKSHOP!



Design for Diversity hosted by Fernbrook Farm

Wednesday, April 15 - Bordentown, New Jersey

Program design and implementation for bringing farm-based education to your farm!

Tour this amazing farm and be inspired, tag along on a program, design your own program with knowledgeable and inspiring educators! \$30 to include a fabulous farm-catered lunch!

<https://fs4.formsite.com/fernbrookfarms/DesignForDiversity/index.html>

Contact Peggy Eppig at peppig@maefonline.com for more information about the Mid-Atlantic Farm-Based Education Network!

2015 MAEF Calendar Contest!

It's that time again! Submit individual or class entries for our annual MAEF Calendar Contest! Contest deadline is **May 1st**, so there's plenty of time to get your colorful ideas promoting Maryland agriculture on paper! See flyer and rules posted below! Questions? Contact Jeanne Mueller at: jeannemueller@comcast.net

[2015 MAEF Calendar Contest Flyer](#)

[2015 MAEF Calendar Contest Application](#)

2015 Weather and Climate Day Contest!

National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD

The National Aquarium and Climate Central invite Maryland middle and high school students grades 5-8 and 9-12 to participate in a contest that examines the impacts of climate change. Participants will be invited to attend Weather + Climate Day at the National Aquarium on **May 16**. See all contest details here:

<http://www.aqua.org/weatherclimateday>

Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science 2015 Workshops

Stony Brook University

Science communication is more important now than ever. Environmental science, agricultural sciences, biological technologies, and climate change science are all dependent upon policy-

makers, funders, and the public 'getting it.' Check out the AACCS for summer workshops for teachers, scientists, and learn about The Flame Challenge!

<http://www.centerforcommunicatingscience.org/>

National Ag in the Classroom Conference Scholarships!

NAITC and CHS Foundation

CHS Foundation is graciously providing a \$20,000 grant which will allow *even more* teachers to attend the 2015 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference! Engaging workshops, tours, keynote speakers and networking events will provide exceptional learning opportunities for these teachers to increase their comfort level in agricultural topics and also integrate agricultural content into instruction to meet academic standards in Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Math and Health/Nutrition. This year's conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, **June 16-20, 2015!**

http://www.agclassroom.org/conference2015/chs_scholarship.htm

UL Innovative Education Award

In recognition of our world's changing needs, Underwriters Laboratories (UL), the global leader in safety science, and NAAEE launched the UL Innovative Education Award, a first-of-its-kind initiative designed to invest \$250,000 in environmental and STEM education, sustainable communities, and youth empowerment. The program offers recognition grants to increase the impact of existing innovative nonprofit programs in the US and Canada that are leading the way to inspire a passion for STEM education in young people through a focus on the environment. Learn more and apply now!

<http://ulinnovationeducation.naaee.net/>

Urban Youth Garden Grant 2015

MAEF

Schools creating a garden for the first time will want to apply now for a **New Gardens Grant** of up to \$500. Schools with existing gardens may apply for an **Existing Garden Grant** of up to \$250. Deadline for applications is **March 27, 2015!** Application is available on the MAEF website! Please visit www.maefonline.com

"Flock to the Classroom" Curriculum Guides

Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.

"Flock to the Classroom" is a series of six lessons that explore the many facets of the chicken industry on the Delmarva Peninsula. Developed under the leadership of DPI's Connie Parvis in cooperation with educational professionals at the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, the educational tools are designed to enhance science, social studies, and math classes. The lessons are aligned with one or more educational standards set to ensure their usability in regional classrooms.

Copies of the 45-page manual, "Flock to the Classroom", are available to middle school educators (grades 5-9) in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia at no charge. Teachers in other states may request copies at \$12.00 each. Requests may be emailed to dpi@dpichicken.com and must include the teacher's name, school mailing address, grade taught, and a telephone number. Requests may

also be made by telephone to 800-878-2449 or 302-856-9037 or by mail to Flock to the Classroom, c/o Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc., 16686 County Seat Hwy., Georgetown, DE 19947.

"Environmental Challenges: Backyard and Beyond" Workshop

Baltimore County Forestry Board

Ever wonder why The Baltimore Zoo was named Druid Hill? Did you know that it has everything to do with trees? Join the Baltimore County Forestry Board volunteers for the **March 7th** workshop, "Environmental Challenges - Backyard and Beyond" that includes a guided tree tour on the campus of the third oldest Zoo in the country. Included in the tree tour are rare, notable, state and city champion trees. We have 5 major speakers on current topics and lunch. See

<http://extension.umd.edu/news/events/sat-2015-03-07-0900-environmental-challenges-backyard-and-beyond>

Contact Glenn Ferenschak sciencegf@msn.com
for an electronic brochure!

AFRI Grants Announced

USDA

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) announces a series of 8 grant programs for 2015 to include funding for Science for Climate Change, Childhood Obesity, Bioenergy, and Water.

<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/afri.html>

Welcoming Customers on Your Farm!

USDA Rural Development, New England

A two-day gathering in Rutland, VT for farmers, agricultural service providers, educators, and others interested in agritourism, on-farm education, and direct sales. Spend Tuesday, **April 7** touring a variety of farms in the Rutland region. On Wednesday, April 8, learn from experts in agritourism, on-farm education, and direct sales -- and share your experiences! Call for proposals ongoing until Jan. 31.

<http://www.uvm.edu/vtagritourism/?Page=conference.html#.VMgEr2jF-So>

2015 Maryland State Arbor Day Poster Contest!

Maryland DNR, Forestry Conservancy Districts & Tree-Mendous Maryland

Win a tree planting for your school! First, Second, Third Place Winners will win plantings! Deadline for entries **March 6**, 2015! See PDF below (front and back) for rules and more information:

[2015 Maryland Arbor Day Poster Contest Rules](#)

AgroWorld!

The latest AgroWorld Ezine is out and boy-howdy is it packed with great stuff! Subscribe for free with National Ag in the Classroom at <http://www.agclassroom.org/agroworld/>
Save/follow at Scoop It!
http://www.scoop.it/t/agroworld1-2015?_tmc=nlx6FkKSfxu27TYSpWExs7W9utHthiqdJsOYVx5g

ALHFAM Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting!

Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums

Get your ag history on! Farm-based educators who work on or with agricultural history (including equestrian!) will get a lot from this great regional conference! Hosted this year by historic Monmouth County Parks participants will enjoy a variety of tours, sessions, and beautiful tours! Mark your calendars for **March 20-22!** Find detailed information and registration links here:

http://www.alhfam.org/?cat_id=362#662

Mantis Tiller Garden Grant Award!

Looking for a tiller for your school or community garden? The 2015 Mantis Tiller Award is accepting applications through **March 6**, 2015. 25 winners will be selected to receive a Mantis Tiller/Cultivator. Any nonprofit, school, or community garden is welcome to apply.

<https://survey.garden.org/index.php?sid=94999>

Watching Sandhill Cranes

Spirits among us have departed-friends,
relatives, neighbors: we can't find them.
If we search and call, the sky merely waits.
Then some day here come the cranes
planing in from cloud or mist-sharp,
lonely spears, awkwardly graceful.
They reach for the land; they stalk
the ploughed fields, not letting us near,
not quite our own, not quite the world's.
People go by and pull over to watch. They
peer and point and wonder. It is because
these travelers, these far wanderers,
plane down and yearn in a reaching
flight. They extend our life,
piercing through space to reappear
quietly, undeniably, where we are.

- William Stafford

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The Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc. strives to promote the understanding and appreciation of the importance of agriculture in our daily lives. MAEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1989.

The Buzz is a free e-news service to all educators K-12 through post-secondary. This newsletter is open for reader contributions for agricultural and natural resources events, grant announcements, job openings. The Buzz is sent twice monthly, on the 1st and 15th, throughout the school year and only on the 1st, June to August. Please email events to peppig@maefonline.com. Include correct contact information!



Get your Ag Tag today and help support agriculture education in Maryland!
http://www.maefonline.com/ag_tag_maryland_agricultural_education.html



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