

March 1, 2012



2 x Leopold Education Projects! *(MAEF/ Hard Bargain Farm)*

This workshop is being offered twice this spring – at Swan Harbor Farm (MAEF homebase), Havre de Grace, MD [April 21](#) and at Hard Bargain Farm in Accokeek, MD [April 4](#). Leopold’s Conservation Ethic is a powerful framework of ideas and practices helping to guide agriculture and natural resources policy and application. Aldo Leopold taught that we are members of a living landscape. This concept gave rise to the Conservation Ethic, known today as the Land Ethic. This workshop is geared for educators and interested citizens, who wish to bring the conservation literature of Leopold into their classrooms or outdoor sites. LEP is a multi-disciplinary approach to exploring and practicing stewardship in our landscapes. Curriculum guide and a copy of “A Sand County Almanac” are included for each participant. Dress for the weather! Bring a bag lunch. To register for Swan Harbor, email peppig@maefonline.com or to register for Hard Bargain, email officemanager@fergusonfoundation.org

University of Maryland Extension Small Farm Workshop Series! *(UMES)*

This is one of my favorite series! This year’s sessions include Integrated Pest Management, Small Farm Composting and High Tunnel Berries! Register at www.umes.edu/1890-mce

IEEA Training: June 25-29! *(MSDE/Horn Point)*

“This workshop will familiarize participants with issues of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and will provide them with skills that can be used by all learners, including Gifted and Talented (GT) students, to help them understand and tackle issues related to the environment in their local communities. Teachers will be trained in implementation of the IEEIA model in their own teaching situations, in partnership with non-formal providers.” This workshop is geared for GT students, but the issues investigation model is very useful in many environmental science and agriculture education settings. This is a five day residential course working from the Horn Point Laboratory in Dorchester County! From personal experience, IEEA training is highly recommended! [See flyer, attached!](#)

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Farm-Based Education Association – Maryland Network! (MAEF)

If you teach agriculture to students K-12 from a working farm, nature center/environmental center, community garden site, or a non-profit program which offers experiential agricultural education to students and their communities – now is your chance to meet and work with other professional non-formal ag educators! Join the National FBEA **for free** www.farmbasededucation.org and start networking with ag educators across North America – and check the events calendar to see what the Maryland Network is up to, chat with fellow aggies, attend webinars or on-site event, and basically love the fact that there are lots of people like us out there!! Mark your calendars for the First Annual Maryland Network FBEA Meeting to be held November 17, 2012 at Hard Bargain Farm, Accokeek, Maryland. See the attached flyer for this event – email peppig@maefonline.com if you would like to join (FREE!) the FBEA Maryland Network! See flyer, attached!

6th Annual National Farm to Cafeteria Conference Call for Proposals! (Farm to School)

Who attends? Expect a very diverse audience in terms of occupation. Attendees typically include food service professionals, policy-makers, public health workers, farmers, environmentalists, community based organization advocates, community residents, parents, school administrators, nutritionists, teachers, sustainable agriculture advocates, food system representatives, researchers/academics, students, funders, and others engaged in building a sustainable food system. See attached flyer for proposal instructions – Due March 7, 2012. See flyer, attached!

Chesapeake Chefs at Irvine Nature Center! (Irvine Nature Center)

The Summer Nature Camp at Irvine will offer a brand new specialty week during its 2012 season. Chesapeake Chefs is designed to teach children about food sources and the relationship between our eating habits and the environment. The program will run Monday, July 16 to Friday, July 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Recommended for boys and girls ages 10 to 12, Chesapeake Chefs will give children the chance to discover the connection between the land and our food, while using biology, chemistry and nutrition to craft culinary creations. Campers will travel to offsite locations where they can explore first-hand the forest, farmland and Bay. The week will conclude with a fresh feast from the farm to the table.

Registration for the Chesapeake Chefs session is available now and costs \$465 for non-members. Irvine members receive a discount. For more information, including registration details, please visit www.explorenature.org.

March 1, 2012

Project BudBurst Online Course!

The National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) is offering a new online course for educators focused on its successful citizen science program Project Budburst! Project BudBurst: Introduction to Plant Phenology and Climate Change is the inaugural offering is *being offered at no charge* to K-12 educators and is suited for both formal and informal educational settings. This online course provides all needed information to implement Project BudBurst (www.budburst.org) in the classroom and engage your students in a national program by learning more about plants and climate change at a local level. Involvement in Project BudBurst will give students valuable experience collecting data and will give them the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to ongoing scientific research where scientists are very interested in the observations students across the county are making. This professional development course will provide you with detailed information on Project BudBurst and how to participate including how to select your plants and make observations, suggestions for structuring your classroom involvement, classroom activities to engage your students in making observations, analyzing data, as well as forming a community with other K-12 educators within Project BudBurst. Participants in **PBB - 501** can sign up for optional graduate level continuing education credits from Colorado School of Mines. The fee for 2 credits is \$90.00!

Calendar Contest Deadline – April 30! (MAEF)

K-12 students are invited to enter their best farm/crops/food/livestock artwork for our popular annual calendar! See the MAEF website for entry information! The MAEF calendars are popular with students and teachers and our supporters – and they are gorgeous!

http://www.maefonline.com/Calendar_Poster_Contest.php

MAEF Urban Garden Grants! – March 9th! (MAEF)

The goal of the Edible Classroom Youth Gardening Project is to increase the awareness of and appreciation for agriculture in the lives of urban students through hands-on gardening and classroom activities that meet MSDE's State Curriculum. By implementing MAEF's mission, this project offers students direct experience with growing, harvesting and preparing fresh foods while learning plant requirements, growing conditions, nutrition and wellness. Deadline for applications is March 9th!

See flyer, attached!

Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting at KSU, June 6-9! (AHS)

I've been a long-time member of AHS and highly recommend their annual and regional meetings if you are in any way interested in agricultural history, ag economics and how ag history intersects with policy/social studies/ trade. From the website - "In view of the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Land

March 1, 2012

Grant, the 2012 conference of the Agricultural History Society is not only taking place at one of the major U.S. land-grant schools (Kansas State University), but seeks to highlight the State's role in agriculture and the development of rural life. We welcome topics such as agricultural education, research, and technology; the development of agrarian ideals and improved farming; and land usage in rural settings in the United States and other countries. We invite panel sessions or individual papers from any of these areas, especially as they may apply to the role of the State and notions of progress and improvement in the construction of a better rural society and landscape.” See website and/or conference page:

<http://www.aghistorysociety.org/meetings>

Sustainable Campus Conference @ UMD!

Join colleagues and take an in-depth approach toward defining, understanding, and creating solutions to sustainability issues facing our campuses. Unlike other conferences, SSCC sets itself apart by creating a program that features in-depth discussions, dialogues, and workshops. Besides traditional 40-minute presentations, there is significant time in the schedule for 80-minute hands-on workshops. These 80-minute sessions will allow leaders and attendees to dig deeper into a particular topic area using active and participatory learning strategies. Contact Aynsley Toews: atoews@umd.edu 301-405-7533

<http://www.sustainability.umd.edu/content/community/sscc.php>

C'Mon Cow

Jonas, Dairy Farmer Poet, ONT Canada

Eyes - windows of the soul. Yours tell me you won't listen.

You will try to do as you wish. I am here and I ain't moving.

We stand face to face waiting on each other to make the first move.

When it comes, action will be explosive.

I will triumph, overcome your stubbornness,

Tag your ear.