



Greetings Buzzers! As always – send me your timely news and events! The Buzz is sent out every two weeks to a private listserve of over 480 members in ag, conservation, food systems and ag education. And, as always, forward on to anyone and everyone who you think may find this information useful!

Eastern Shore Land Conservancy Planning Conference (*HCHS*)

The Eastern Shore Land Conservancy announces its 13th Annual Planning Conference: **Rural Jobs Summit: Vibrant Towns + Working Landscapes**, will be held Friday, June 8, 2012, at the Tidewater Inn in Easton, Maryland. The conference will draw together community leaders, elected officials, planners, designers, entrepreneurs and farmers from around the region to discuss and envision the economic landscape of rural areas. Registration is at the event. See link for agenda:

<http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1102429805216-79/APCXIIIagenda.pdf>

National Agricultural Law Center (*University of Arkansas*)

The AGLC was mandated by Congress in 1987 and is housed at the University of Arkansas. Students and teachers pursuing agricultural and natural resources topics in issues-based learning will find the NALC very useful, especially the online ‘reading rooms’ and listing of Congressional Research Service Reports.

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

Teaching With Historic Places Conference: War of 1812 (*SBC*)

The Tusculum Institute at Sweet Briar College will host its fourth “Teaching with Historic Places” conference from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, June 9th. The workshop sessions will focus on the War of 1812 and President Madison and Monroe. Sessions will be led by historians, K-12 teachers, curators, and museum guides. Whether you’ve always wanted to understand the reasons for going to war with Britain in 1812 or if you want to hear President Monroe discuss America’s second war for independence, please join us for a diverse group of presenters. The conference is intended for K-12 teachers and other educators, including curators and interpreters from historical societies or museums. It is co-sponsored by the Tusculum Institute, an educational center that promotes environmentally sustainable preservation of historic buildings and places, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

http://www.tusculum.sbc.edu/TeachingHistoricPlaces_2012.shtml

Invasive Exotics and My Dog (*University of Auburn & American Forests*)

Many environmental science classes learn about invasive exotics and native invasive plants and animals and the impact these have on our environment. Students will love this approach to tracking and removing a real problem species in the Everglades of Florida! <http://www.americanforests.org/blog/python-hunting-dogs-to-the-rescue/>

Farm Bill Webinar (*American Farmland Trust*)

Only every five years is there such a significant opportunity to influence agriculture in the Mid-Atlantic—and the nation. The Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2012 is working its way through the Senate and on to the House. Its provisions will impact what is grown and raised, where and when it is produced, and how the land is farmed and protected for future generations. Please join our upcoming webinar to update farmers and advocates in the region on the progress of this critical piece of farm and food legislation: Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 2:00 to 3:30 pm. <http://action.farmland.org/site/R?i=nQdM-J-8jtc-vKOA4L4Gyw>

Screening for “Maryland Harvest” – (*Maryland Ag Resource Council*)

Join us Thursday, May 31st, from 5:30-7:30 for a screening of THE MARYLAND HARVEST, a wonderful film about Maryland farms and farmers, and the chefs who love them! The evening will feature a tasting of local wines, paired with delectable bites from Richardson Farms, with special guests Cindy Wolf, Al Spoler and Tom Albright. See flyer at:

<https://app.e2ma.net/app/view:CampaignPublic/id:1705754.12755196365/rid:dcbc49f9133b07ec5972e634a6c9ff21>

Smithsonian Live Online Events: Water Matters – (*SI*)

Join us May 16–17 for "Water Matters," the third online conference in the Shout 2012 series—this time coming to you with live sessions from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Maryland, as well as from our Washington, D.C., museums. We'll focus on water quality issues ranging from pollution to invasive species to legislation. We'll discuss problems but also positive actions we can take and ways to prepare students for the environmental challenges they will face. Water Matters addresses curriculum standards for human impact on the environment; ecological, social, and economic systems; and civic responsibility.

Take part with your students or on your own as professional development. Can't participate in the live sessions? Recordings are available online the next day. Visit:

http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/images/news/05102012/education_news_05102012.html

Real Food Farm Education Coordinator Position – (RFF)

Real Food Farm is a program of Civic Works, a non-profit organization in Baltimore City whose mission is to build a future for Baltimore's youth through community service and skills development. Real Food Farm works toward a just and sustainable food system by improving neighborhood access to healthy food, providing experience-based education, and developing an economically viable, environmentally responsible local agriculture sector. Real Food Farm is a production-focused farm that strives to offer high-quality education programs as an important facet of improving food access and engaging the Baltimore community.

Under supervision of the Projects Director, the Education Coordinator oversees the education program at Real Food Farm. The Education Coordinator is responsible for the success of the education program as a whole, as well as the quality and types of educational programming offered by Real Food Farm. As Real Food Farm continues to grow, the Education Coordinator will be the primary person responsible for solidifying the mission and defining the work of the education program.

For details, including salary and requirements, please contact rffeducation@gmail.com

Sprout Lenders Mini-Loans – (ATTRA)

The mission of Sprout Lenders is to support a vibrant and healthy local food system by making small loans to farmers, producers, and food system entrepreneurs that serve the greater Boston area. We value sustainable products and the communities that create and consume them. By investing in our local food system, we hope to strengthen our community economically, nutritionally, socially and environmentally.

See <http://www.sproutlenders.com>

Farm-Based Educators Maryland Network Meeting – (MAEF) *See Flyer!*

Leopold Education Project – (MAEF)

I am now filling spots for Fall 2012 for the LEP! This is a one day professional development opportunity for all educators interested in blending conservation literature, outdoor education, agroecology, and E-Lit for Maryland. Contact me for more information: peppig@maefonline.com

In Time of Silver Rain - *(Sam)*

In time of silver rain

The earth

Puts forth new life again

Green grasses grow

And flowers lift their heads,

And over all the plain

The wonder spreads

Of life,

Of life,

Of life!

In time of silver rain

The butterflies

Lift silken wings

To catch a rainbow cry,

And trees put forth

New leaves to sing

In joy beneath the sky

As down the roadway

Passing boys and girls

Go singing, too,

In time of silver rain

When spring

And life

Are new.

Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation
May 15, 2012

- Langston Hughes