



## The Buzz!

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

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### April 15, 2013

April is slowly proving to us that spring is actually here! A visit to Oxon Cove Park/Oxon Hill Farm on a windy, cold day on the Potomac was made much warmer by a wonderful meeting with the ranger-educator staff about how important agriculture education is to our urban and suburban students! Please visit Oxon Cove next time you are south of D.C. and enjoy the views, the farm, and the beautiful vistas.

<http://www.nps.gov/oxhi>

**Peggy Eppig**, [peppig@maefonline.com](mailto:peppig@maefonline.com)

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### Summer Professional Development: Wetland Boot Camp! Environmental Concern

June 17, 10-4: Project WOW -Wonders of Wetlands. Wetland ecology, vegetation, hydrology, soils. \$35  
June 18, 10-4: POW - Planning of Wetland. Wetland design and construction for outdoor classroom. \$40  
June 19, 10-4: Wetland Plant ID. Wetland plant ecology, adaptations, ID resources and planting tips. \$40  
June 20, 10-4: IEEIA - Issues Investigations. Inquiry and community-based engaged learning. \$35  
June 21: 10-4: Schoolyard Habitat Integration. Standards-based learning activities. \$35

Professional Development Summer Institute will take place at Environmental Concern's Wetland Learning Center in St. Michael's, MD. Space is limited and registration deadline is June 3!

**See website for more info and to register:** [www.wetlands.org](http://www.wetlands.org)

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## **Who Wants to be an Urban Farmer? Workshops!**

Civic Works at Real Food Farm

Saturday April 20 "Who Wants to be an Urban Farmer?" Day! In-field and hands-on learning for all ages at Real Food Farm for small scale urban growers. Workshops throughout the day include small livestock (bees, rabbits, chickens), seeding & transplanting, Growing mushrooms, composting, and more! Plus (yummm!) free burritos from Chipotle!

**Register at:** <http://whowantstobeanurbanfarmer.eventbrite.com/>

**Visit Real Food Farm at:** [www.realfoodfarm.org](http://www.realfoodfarm.org)

(While you're visiting the Real Food Farm website, check out the Get Educated page to see all the great things the education staff is doing! Wonderful ideas for our farm-based education programs and school-based gardening/farming programs!)



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## **Cabbage Program!**

### **Bonnie Plants**

Bonnie Plants offers third grade teachers and students a great way to learn about gardening, agriculture, and a love for growing plants! Charles County student Natalie Fox can tell you all about her adventures growing an award winning cabbage plant at <http://news.maryland.gov/mda/> and you can be sure she and her class are hooked on gardening!

**Learn more at** <http://bonniecabbageprogram.com/>

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## **Cecil College Horticulture Sciences**

Cecil College offers an excellent horticultural science program that earns an Associate of Applied Science Degree that can be applied to careers in landscaping, green industry, greenhouse operation, and plant production. Summer 2013 courses in Herbaceous Plants and Botanical Garden Studies. Fall 2013 courses include Botany: An Introduction to Horticulture and Woody Plants Identification. For more information consider attending the Cecil College Horticulture Club Earth Day Plant Sale to meet students and teachers!

**Contact Dr. Judith Own at** [jowen@cecil.edu](mailto:jowen@cecil.edu) **or visit Cecil College website**  
<http://www.cecil.edu/Programs/Academic-Areas-of-Interest/Pages/Horticulture.aspx>

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## **MAEF Southern Maryland Mobile Lab Instructor Needed!**

On- board mobile lab instructor needed to service MAEF mobile ag and science labs in Southern Maryland as they visit Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert Counties. Teaching experience needed, preferably with science or agriculture. Training provided.

**Contact Dianna Tyler for more information 410-939-9030 or** [dtyler@maefonline.com](mailto:dtyler@maefonline.com)

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## **Garden-Based Learning Professional Development**

Longwood Gardens, PA

Teachers, administrators, youth garden instructors, community garden volunteers are encouraged to sign up for this summer intensive offered at Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA. The National Institute for Garden-Based Learning partners with Longwood Gardens to provide a rich learning experience for educators to share practical and creative ways to integrate content area curriculum with school gardens and campus-based horticulture. Summer sessions are School Gardening 101 July 8-9, 2013, and School Gardening 102 July 10-11, 2013. Online courses also offered!

**For more information see**

<http://www.longwoodgardens.org/ProfessionalDevelopmentOpportunities.html>

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### **Natural Resources Career Camp**

Maryland Forestry Boards

An excellent opportunity for any Maryland high school student to explore careers and college studies in natural resources! Two college credits may be earned from Alleghany College of Maryland. Experiences in forestry, wildlife ecology, fisheries, aborculture, watershed management, GIS and GPS. Camp runs from Sunday July 21 through Saturday July 27 at the Hickory Environmental Education Center in Garrett County, MD.

**For more information visit** [www.marylandforestryboards.org](http://www.marylandforestryboards.org)

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### **Evergreen Heritage Center E-Lit Professional Development**

Join us in beautiful Western Maryland for a one day professional development to introduce and implement Maryland's new environmental literacy standards. The group will identify and deconstruct barriers to teaching outdoors, explore exciting new hands-on learning opportunities, and practice new skills that provide meaningful outdoor experiences for studets K-12. There are two training dates: July 23 for Pre-k through 5th grade teachers or July 24 for secondary teachers. Both sessions are 9:30am to 3:30pm

**Contact Elaine Raesly for more information at** [Elaine@evergreenheritagecenter.org](mailto:Elaine@evergreenheritagecenter.org)

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## Leopold Education Project Professional Development

MAEF is taking requests now from environmental and nature centers for summer/fall Leopold Education Project teacher and staff training workshops. LEP is a one-day agriculture and conservation literacy program based upon Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac*, designed for high school students in environmental sciences, literature, natural resources and agriculture education. MAEF provides facilitator, workshop materials, and help with PR and marketing.

For more information on LEP <http://www.aldoleopold.org/Programs>  
For more information on arranging a workshop please email Peggy  
[peppig@maefonline.com](mailto:peppig@maefonline.com)

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## Mobile Science Labs Booking Now for 2013-2014!

MAEF's Mobile Ag and Aquatics Labs are very popular! **Don't delay!** Reserve a lab for your school's visit next year, TODAY! Find out more about our mobile science lab programs online <http://www.maefonline.com/programs>

Contact Dianna Tyler for information and to register a week's visit!  
[dtyler@maefonline.com](mailto:dtyler@maefonline.com)

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## Maryland Nursery and Landscape Association Scholarships!

The Maryland Nursery and Landscape Association announces the availability of two \$2,500 scholarships for eligible students in ornamental horticulture and landscape programs. Please visit the MNLA website at the following link for more information. Applications are due May 1.  
<http://www.mnlaonline.org/content.asp?pl=21&sl=54&contentid=54>

In addition, in conjunction with the American Nursery and Landscape Association, the MNLA sponsors the Carville M. Akehurst Memorial Scholarship. Further information regarding this program may be found at the following link. Applications are due May 31st.  
<http://www.hrresearch.org/>

The MNLA website also includes scholarship information for scholarships offered by the Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation, Maryland Greenhouse Growers' Association, and the Southern

Nursery Association. Information regarding all of these may be found via:  
<http://www.mnlaonline.org/content.asp?pl=21&sl=54&contentid=54>

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## **Shelburne Farms Summer Institute**

A great way to spend part of your summer vacation is to attend the Summer Institute on Education in Sustainability! Shelburne Farms is a working Vermont farm, agriculture education center, and conference site, beautifully restored and a National Historic Landmark. Claim your place for this three day retreat to where you'll be immersed in the practice and philosophy of sustainability education. July 31 - August 2, 8:30am,- 4:30 pm. Fee is \$350 to include materials, breakfast and lunch. There are scholarships available.

**For more information please contact Jen Cirillo at [jcirillo@shelburnefarms.org](mailto:jcirillo@shelburnefarms.org)**

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## **Ag Discovery 2013 at University of Maryland College Park!**

For high school students, July 7 - 26 at UMD/College Park, to learn about plants and animals, the importance of protecting America's food supply from insects and disease, the role of regulation in genetically engineered organisms, and the challenge of managing and resolving wildlife conflicts. The 3-week program at the University of Maryland's College Park campus provides an educational odyssey exploring food, culture, and the environment. Participants also receive 3 hours of university-level course credits through the Young Scholars Program.

**For more information please contact:**

**Alyse Carter, (301) 405-2078, [acarter7@umd.edu](mailto:acarter7@umd.edu)  
or April Brohawn, (301) 314-7222, [abrohawn@umd.edu](mailto:abrohawn@umd.edu)**

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## **Ag Discovery 2013 at University of Maryland Eastern Shore!**

High school students interested in careers in animal management, plant biotechnology, plant microbiology, water quality, nutrient management, horticulture, and natural resources sciences should check out the Ag Discovery

session July 14-27 being held in Princess Anne, MD!

For more information contact Dr. George Shorter at [gsshorter@umes.edu](mailto:gsshorter@umes.edu) or Dr. Bessie Green at [bmgreen@umes.edu](mailto:bmgreen@umes.edu)

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## Congratulations UMD AGNR and North Garrett High!

Career and Technology Education Awards of Excellence

Dr. Wei, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Associate Dean Leon Slaughter, and Glori Hyman, Director of the Institute of Applied Agriculture, University of Maryland, will be accepting the 2013 Career and Technology Education **Reaching the Goals Award of Excellence** from the Division of Career and College Readiness, MSDE on April 23 in Baltimore! In addition, Mr. Richard McCrobie, agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, will be receiving the **Outstanding Career Technology Student Organization Award!** Congratulations to all recipients! Well done!

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### Saint Francis And The Sow

The bud  
stands for all things,  
even for those things that don't flower,  
for everything flowers, from within, of self-blessing;  
though sometimes it is necessary  
to reteach a thing its loveliness,  
to put a hand on its brow  
of the flower  
and retell it in words and in touch  
it is lovely  
until it flowers again from within, of self-blessing;  
as Saint Francis  
put his hand on the creased forehead  
of the sow, and told her in words and in touch  
blessings of earth on the sow, and the sow  
began remembering all down her thick length,



from the earthen snout all the way  
through the fodder and slops to the spiritual curl of the tail,  
from the hard spininess spiked out from the spine  
down through the great broken heart  
to the blue milken dreaminess spurting and shuddering  
from the fourteen teats into the fourteen mouths sucking and blowing beneath  
them:  
the long, perfect loveliness of sow.

- Galway Kinnell