

# The Buzz!

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

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**June 1, 2013**

Summer months are here! Just a reminder that The Buzz will only be published on the first day of the month for June, July, and August. September through May it goes out twice monthly on the 1st and 15th. Send me your news, events, gatherings, courses, and announcements as they relate to agriculture and natural resources education and I'll be sure to get them in The Buzz at the appropriate time to over 1000 teachers, students, and organizations who receive this e-newsletter!

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

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## Engaging the Public Through Farm-Based Education

Fox Haven Farm, Jefferson MD

Come join us Saturday, July 13, 9:30A - 3:30P out at beautiful Fox Haven Farm, 4855 Broad Run Road, Jefferson, MD 21755 for this Future Harvest CASA Field Day event! Field day registration includes a walking tour of the farm led by Mark Eyestone and farm manager Dick Bittner, along with a discussion of conservation and alternative energy elements being demonstrated throughout the property. Following the tour, attend a presentation in the learning barn on engaging children through sustainable food and farming education by Peggy Eppig of the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation and a light lunch. After lunch, optional workshops allow you to participate in some of the farm-based educational programs offered by MAEF and Fox Haven Farm. Each one-hour workshop is an additional \$20 (topics online). Bring the kids! For only \$20 for the entire day, your young ones will participate in fun activities such as a creek walk and scavenger hunt. Members - \$20, Nonmembers - \$30

**Register online at [www.futureharvestcasa.org](http://www.futureharvestcasa.org) or call 410-549-7878 to sign up!**

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## **NEED Classroom and Project Support**

National Energy Education Development Project

Check out the excellent resources available from NEED as you think about next school year's energy units for all grades K-12. NEED provides engaging STEM lessons, including science project ideas, professional development workshops for teachers, contests and awards, and grants. One of the best industry collaborations out there for high quality STEM project-based classroom support curriculum.

**Check it out at** [www.need.org](http://www.need.org)

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## **Brickyard Farm Fundraiser!**

Montgomery County, MD

Please join us for the Brickyard Educational Farm Fundraiser on Friday, June 14th at Glenview Mansion in Rockville. Brickyard Educational Farm is planting seeds that inspire young people to know, nurture and preserve our living soils. Over 2000 children in Montgomery County have participated through in-class presentations and farm visits. With your help more children will learn about where food comes from, and how eating healthy is part of being a true steward of our planet.

**Check it out! Event registration information can be found on the farm's website along with lots of cool stuff to do and learn!**

<http://brickyardeducationalfarm.org/>

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

MAEF's Mobile 3 Science Labs (Food, Fiber & You; Ag Products; Aquatics) 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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### **Mobile Science Lab Teachers Needed!**

Southern Maryland and Lower Eastern Shore

The mobile science lab program is in need of educators who can teach in a fully contained mobile classroom. MAEF delivers labs to every region in the state, but we really need educators from the Lower Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland to facilitate in these regions. It's fun, rewarding, fully supported, training provided, and the students love their experiences aboard the labs!

**For more information and to apply, please contact Diana Tyler, Outreach Coordinator at**  
[dtyler@maefonline.com](mailto:dtyler@maefonline.com)

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### **AgSploration Teacher Training**

University of Maryland Extension

A teacher training workshop for the award-winning AgSploration science-based curriculum is scheduled for June 17 at the Washington County Extension office in Boonsboro, MD. This one-day workshop will enable teachers to receive training in one of the four curricular tracks: animal agriculture, plant agriculture, agriculture and the environment, or agricultural technology. Workshop participants will receive a copy of the curriculum for the chosen track as well as teaching kit to include all materials necessary for teaching the lessons in the chosen track.

**For more information please contact:**  
Sara Meagher BhaduriHauck

Faculty Extension Assistant  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
University of Maryland Extension  
(410) 638-3255  
[sbh@umd.edu](mailto:sbh@umd.edu)

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## State Farm Good Neighbor Student Achievement Grant

The State Farm Companies Foundation and Youth Service America offers grants to enhance student achievement through service-learning in K-12 public schools. The grant engages participating teachers and students in a service and learning program that promotes academic achievement, workplace readiness, and stronger communities. Note: the grant requires a 12-14 week Semester of Service™. The deadline for application is June 23, 2013.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.ysa.org/goodneighbor>

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## Leopold Education Project at Swan Harbor

MAEF Outdoor Experience for Schools

Teachers are invited to reserve a day out for middle and high school students at MAEF's home in Havre de Grace, MD. Swan Harbor Farm, a Harford County Parks and Rec property and historic 300 acre working farm, serves as the backdrop for a one-day inquiry-based exploration "The Leopold Education Project." LEP investigates how humans and nature intersect at agriculture and natural resources management through hands-on field activities, reflective literature-based writing exercises, investigations of conservation policy, and exploration the land/Chesapeake Bay interface. This program can also go 'on the road' and is available for nature centers, community gardens, and farm-based education sites throughout the state.

For more information contact Peggy Eppig at [peppig@maefonline.com](mailto:peppig@maefonline.com)

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## FFA Middle School Ag Knowledge Bowl!

Sponsored by MAEF

Middle school teams are encouraged to enter the Agricultural Knowledge Bowl scheduled for Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD during the Maryland FFA State Convention! The competition starts at 4pm -building and room TBA. For study materials and details for registering a team see the MAEF website [www.maefonline.com](http://www.maefonline.com)

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Excerpt from **SONG OF MYSELF**

I am he that walks with the tender and growing night,  
I call to the earth and sea half-held by the night.

Press close bare-bosom'd night - press close magnetic nourishing night!  
Night of south winds - night of the large few stars!  
Still nodding night - mad naked summer night.

Smile O voluptuous cool-breath'd earth!  
Earth of the slumbering and liquid trees!  
Earth of departed sunset - earth of mountains misty-topt!  
Earth of the vitreous pour of the full moon just tinged with blue!  
Earth of shine and dark mottling the tide of the river!  
Earth of the limpid gray of clouds brighter and clearer for my sake!  
Far-swooping elbow'd earth - rich apple-blossom'd earth!  
Smile, for your lover comes.

- Walt Whitman