

The Buzz!

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

July 1, 2013

Summer is in full swing! Teachers are busy attending professional development and training sessions, farm-based educators are hosting summer camps, FFA students are at conventions and competitions, and MAEF staff, it seems, are everywhere at once! We hope your summer is productive and enjoyable but restorative as well. Take some to go fishing down at the farm pond, catch lightening bugs in a mason jar, and make some ice-cold homemade lemonade to sip some hot afternoon in the good company of a child or grandchild. Happy Summer!

Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week!

Maryland Farm to School

Mark your calendars for September 23 - 27 to celebrate Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week! This year's event will take place in Washington County and will include in-school and on-farm events! How are your county schools incorporating locally grown foods and agriculture education in the cafeteria and classroom?

Read about the national Farm to School initiative and Maryland's own program at <http://www.farmtoschool.org/MD/> a link to the Maryland Farm to School FaceBook page!

Summer News for Evergreen Heritage Center

Alleghany County, MD

Evergreen Heritage Center announces their new Heritage Hoop House, a 2100 square foot greenhouse built in partnership with the Rural Maryland Council and USDA, that demonstrates best practices in sustainable agriculture and forestry. Also new for 2013 are the outdoor learning stations designed and led by Frostburg State University, sponsored by the Appalachian Regional Commission. Check out all the happenings in

their summer newsletter!

Check out EHC!

http://www.evergreenheritagecenter.org/newsletters/Newsletter_Summer_2013.pdf

Ag Teacher Position Opening!

Baltimore City Schools

Baltimore City Public Schools be starting a new agriculture program in the Cherry Hill section of Baltimore this fall! Ag teacher needed! This is now the third program to start up in city schools and have been very well received by students and their communities. The programs work directly with the Office of Learning to Work that houses Career and Technology Education for City Schools. Baltimore City had the number one CTE program in Maryland, 2011-2012!

Please contact Beth for more information:

Bethany Mathie
Great Kids Farm Educator
Office of Learning to Work
410-744-1096
bmathie@bcps.k12.md.us

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

Greenfire

Historical Society of Harford County

Join agricultural historians and social studies teachers for a screening of *Greenfire* and ag history speaker presentation. The film documents Aldo Leopold's life and times from boyhood through the mid-1940s when agricultural conservation became a nationwide initiative. Learn how Harford County became the literary center of the land movement and how, through the journal *The Land*, key authors including Leopold influenced generations of farmers, conservationists, foresters, and agronomists. Friday, August 16 at the HSHC Archives, 7pm.

More information on www.harfordhistory.net **or call** 410-838-7691

Leopold Education Project Professional Development

MAEF is taking requests from environmental and nature centers for fall/winter 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

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

Shelburne Farms Summer Institute

Shelburne Farms, Vermont

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

Little Summer Poem Touching the Subject of Faith
Every summer
I listen and look
under the sun's brass and even
in the moonlight, but I can't hear
anything, I can't see anything-
not the pale roots digging down, nor the green stalks muscling up,
nor the leaves
deepening their damp pleats,
nor the tassels making,
nor the shucks, nor the cobs.
And still,
every day,
the leafy fields
grow taller and thicker-
green gowns lifting up in the night,
showered with silk.
And so, every summer,
I fail as a witness, seeing nothing-
I am deaf too
to the tick of the leaves,
the tapping of downwardness from the banyan feet-
all of it
happening
beyond all seeable proof, or hearable hum.
And, therefore, let the immeasurable come.
Let the unknowable touch the buckle of my spine.
Let the wind turn in the trees,
and the mystery hidden in dirt
swing through the air.
How could I look at anything in this world

and tremble, and grip my hands over my heart?

What should I fear?

One morning

in the leafy green ocean

the honeycomb of the corn's beautiful body

is sure to be there.

- Mary Oliver