

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

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## Garrett County Ag Newsletter

**AgFS**

Agriculture & Food Systems

## February 2024

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### UME Garrett Welcomes Andrea Uphold



Andrea Uphold joins University of Maryland Extension as the Nutrient Management Advisor for Garrett and Allegany Counties. Andrea graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Animal & Nutritional Sciences as well as Agribusiness Management & Rural Development.

She is actively involved on her family's dairy farm and maple syrup operations and has been certified in writing nutrient management plans for 10 years.

Please contact the extension office at 301-334-6960 if you are in need of a nutrient management plan.

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### Extension Workforce Development Summer Internship Open for Garrett County

Extension's Workforce Development Summer Internship is providing multidisciplinary and leadership skills to address complex socio environmental issues across agriculture and natural resource disciplines. Applications are open for Garrett County Summer 2024. Undergraduate students from certification programs, 4-year and 2-year institutions are invited to apply. Visit <https://go.umd.edu/extensioninternships> to learn more and to apply.



## Creating Leadership and Professional Development through Extension Internships

About Internship

extension.umd.edu

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## Appalachian Farm and Food Alliance



A new non-profit organization with the mission of facilitating collaboration between agricultural and food system service providers to educate the public and provide solutions for food insecurity through the creation of a resilient, sustainable, and equitable food and agriculture system across the region has been formed in Garrett County. We are looking for people who want to get involved in this vital work. The Appalachian Farm and Food

Alliance (AFFA) will serve individuals and organizations by providing technical assistance and utilizing the non-profit status to apply for funding for local projects. While a core structure has been developed, we need additional leadership to help make this a great organization. We are holding the first meeting of the AFFA on February 12th at 6 pm at the Garrett County Health Department conference room on the first floor. This is a hybrid meeting so you are welcome to join us on the first floor of the Garrett County Health Department or virtually. To learn more information about the AFFA visit <https://garrettcountyfood.com/infrastructure/>.

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## Upcoming Agronomy Meeting



University of Maryland will be partnering with Freedom Ag and Energy in Oakland to hold an Agronomy Meeting March 7th at the Pleasant Valley Community Building. More info will be coming. If you have questions or to register, contact Freedom Ag and Energy at 301-334-3121 or the Extension Office at 301-334-6960. Pesticide Recertification and Nutrient Management Credits will be offered

for WV and MD.

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# Healthy Soils Workshop and Grant Opportunity for Farmers



Maryland Department of Agriculture will be partnering with University of Maryland Extension to host a Healthy Soils Workshop in Garrett County mid March. The workshop will help farmers better understand soil health and practices that can be implemented on farms to improve soil health. MDA is also accepting applications for its Healthy Soils Competitive Fund. The grants can provide up to \$50,000 to farmers who want to adopt a range of soil health or agroforestry practices. The fund aims to support farms who are ineligible for other programs. To learn

more go to [mda.maryland.gov](http://mda.maryland.gov) and search for Soil Health Information or contact Nick Miller at 410-841-5866.

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## Join The Conversation



### **Maryland Climate-Smart Agriculture Project: Have Your Say**

Are you seeing the impacts of more extreme weather patterns on agriculture operations in Maryland? A new survey released by the Hughes Center in support of the [Maryland Climate-Smart Agriculture Project](#) (MDCSA) aims to capture this information and more.

If you are a Maryland farmer, waterman, shell stock producer, technical service provider or Extension agent, we invite you to participate in the survey.

The Maryland Climate-Smart Agriculture Project (MDCSA) is farmer-focused, bringing together producers, technical service providers, researchers, organizations, and policymakers to develop and share science-based strategies and techniques. The MDCSA aims to ensure that Maryland farms and farmers can adapt to changing conditions and remain resilient and profitable in the future as it continues to see increased weather-related impacts from factors like heavy rains, extended dry periods and extreme temperature shifts.

MDCSA is coordinated by the University of Maryland's Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, located at the Wye Research and Education Center. Project Coordinator Terry Nuwer will connect with agricultural stakeholders throughout Maryland with a survey at grower meetings and trade shows to gain their input regarding their on-farm observations related to changing weather and environmental conditions.

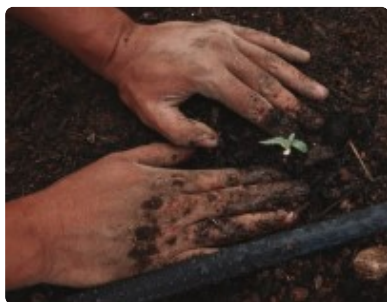
**Your input as a farmer, waterman, shell stock producer, technical service provider, Extension agent, value chain partner, or part of a trade organization in this survey is needed. Whether the farm is above or below water, under covering or out in the soil, in a mountain forest or the coastal plains, a six-house broiler farm or an equine operation, each voice matters. Producers are encouraged to pose questions, suggest ideas for research and farm demonstrations, and identify their decision-making process for adopting new practices for their operations.**

The survey will be available electronically or in person, on paper and tablet. You can access the survey [HERE](#), but you can contact Terry Nuwer at [tnuwer@umd.edu](mailto:tnuwer@umd.edu) for a print-ready copy. Taking the survey enters you into a giveaway for a chance to win one of ten \$100 Amazon gift cards.

[Take Our Survey.](#)

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## Farmer Stress Survey



A Northeast Extension work group is collecting information about farm stress and mental well-being. We are asking that you complete the survey to provide us with accurate information to better serve our agricultural community. It is anonymous and will only take about 15-20 minutes.

Farmers & ranchers, farm workers, foresters, aquaculture and marine producers and others who live in rural communities and those who work in agriculture related industries are invited to participate in a short survey about stress and mental health.

Participants who complete the survey are eligible to be entered in a drawing for a Gift Card. One person will be selected randomly from each state in the Northeast region to receive a \$50 Amazon gift card.

For more information and to participate, click on the link below. The survey is open through April, 2024 and the Gift card drawing in May.

[Take the Survey](#)

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## Statewide Agriculture Newsletters



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**Fruit & Vegetable News**

Newsletters from UME offer informative, researched-based information that the reader can put into practice. Informative articles include crop production, disease information, animal science, and upcoming programs. Take a closer look at the newsletters listed below.

The **Agronomy News** is a statewide newsletter for farmers, consultants, researchers, and educators interested in grain and row crop forage production systems. This newsletter is published once a month during the growing season and will include topics pertinent to agronomic crop production. Subscribers will receive an email with the latest edition.

[Agronomy News](#)

The **Fruit & Vegetable News** is a timely publication for the commercial vegetable and fruit industry available electronically from April through October. Published by the University of Maryland Extension Agriculture and Food Systems team.

[Fruit & Vegetable News](#)

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## Update AG Client Contact Information

Please [click here](#) to update your contact information and to stay updated on everything agriculture-related in Garrett County and the tri-state area.

**CONTACT US**



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## UME Garrett County Agriculture & Food System

**William Lantz, Principal Agent**  
Agriculture & Food System  
[wlantz@umd.edu](mailto:wlantz@umd.edu)

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Except for Observed Holidays

[Faculty/Staff Directory](#)



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**Email:** [rcvetnic@umd.edu](mailto:rcvetnic@umd.edu)

**Website:** <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county/>



Agriculture & Food Systems

**Location:** 1916 Maryland Hwy., Suite A, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550

**Phone:** 301-334-6960

**Office Hours:** M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm excluding holidays

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/4HGarrettCoMD>

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University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact us at least two weeks prior to the event at 301-334-6960.

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**Roberta Cvetnick**

Roberta is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters