



***Happy New (School) Year!*** *The Buzz is now in PDF format and archived on the MAEF website at [www.maefonline.com](http://www.maefonline.com). We publish on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of the month during the school year, and on the 1<sup>st</sup> only for June, July, and August. We welcome news about your agriculture and natural resources events, courses, workshops, grants and funding opportunities, as well as news about upcoming conferences! The Buzz now travels to the inboxes of over 475 recipients who share the news with their schools and organizations throughout the Mid-Atlantic. Thank you for your enthusiasm and news! We love hearing from you!*

### **The Evergreen Heritage Center**

**September 8:** Forest Ecosystems. What is an ecosystem and how do we know if it's healthy? Learn how a forest ecosystem functions and changes over time. Explore the interrelationships of trees, plants, soil, water, and wildlife. This workshop will also include a "woodland safari" to discover the "critters" that depend on a healthy ecosystem. Attendees will also learn how to measure their "carbon footprint" and understand its impact on the environment.

Tours of the Evergreen Museum and Barn will also be offered on both days for a requested donation of \$5 per person. For more information, please visit [www.evergreenheritagecenter.org](http://www.evergreenheritagecenter.org), call 301-687-0664, or email [foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org](mailto:foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org).

### **Montgomery College Landscape Technology Program!**

The video says it all! These classes start September 5th. Please share this with your students, parents, alumni, Master Gardner's and others in the community who may benefit from or be interested in developing skills in these areas. For further information about the Landscape Technology Program of Montgomery College contact Steve Dubik: 240-567-7803/ [Steve.dubik@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Steve.dubik@montgomerycollege.edu)  
<http://youtu.be/AXQF2Kky-5g>

## **USDA Find Your Farmer Interactive Map**

Follow the link below to USDA's page on their Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food interactive map and resources to find regional farms and farmers markets!

[http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=KYF\\_COMPASS](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=KYF_COMPASS)

## **Educational and Training Opportunities in Sustainable Ag (USDA)**

Published in June, this invaluable resource is available online at:

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/pubs/edtr/EDTR2012Colleges.shtml>

Updated regularly throughout the year, the 2012 Directory has been published since 1988 by the Alternative Farming Systems Information Center (AFSIC) and is made available through the USDA. "The U.S. institutions in this directory were selected based on their curricula or programs offering curricula, degrees, education and training, or information in organic, alternative, or sustainable agriculture. Inclusion of an institution does not imply a recommendation by AFSIC. A forthcoming supplement to this directory will identify international institutions that offer training in sustainable agriculture." (USDA webpage)

## **Streamside Restoration Challenge**

Maryland's Stream Restoration Challenge is a competitive grant program open to local governments and non-government organizations to establish 1,000 acres of stream-side forests by 2015. For this challenge, the State and its partners will make available \$6 million to plant forested stream buffers with the goals of improving Bay water quality and creating opportunities for middle and high school students to engage in service-learning and environmental literacy activities. <http://dnr.maryland.gov/trustfund/streamchallenge/>

## **Cecil College Horticulture Club "Livable Landscapes"**

Free and open to the public, Livable Landscapes lectures and book signing will be held Saturday Sept. 15, 2012 starting at 10am at the Cecil College North East Campus technology Building Room 106. Join Horticulture Club members and faculty of the Cecil Horticulture Science program for two lectures. Dr. Sylvan Kaufman presents "*The 8 Elements of a Conservation Landscape*" and K.C. Warawa and Tom Stewart "*Living Shoreline Grant and Site Management/ North East Isles Community*." Refreshments, exhibits and a plant sale are included! Contact Dr. Veronica Dougherty at [vdougherty@cecil.edu](mailto:vdougherty@cecil.edu) for more information!

**Be sure to check out the Cecil College Horticulture Science program!**

<http://www.cecil.edu/Programs/Academic-Areas-of-Interest/Horticulture/>

The Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc.  
Sept. 1, 2012

### **Farm-Based Education Association Webinar Sept. 11, 1-2pm!**

Join members of the Farm Based Education and Farm to School Communities across the country to discuss how to develop educational experiences on farms and in gardens that reflect classroom curricula goals. We'll discuss strategies for developing lessons and activities that reflect classroom curriculum and meet standards. You'll learn how to frame educational experiences as a part of a curriculum framework and we will walk through some sample activities. The webinar will also include information about the new Common Core Standards and recommended resources for you to take next steps!

<http://www.farmbasededucation.org/events/webinar-food-farm-nutrition-curriculum-connections#.UDtOCvH77UM>

SPACE IS LIMITED: Reserve your webinar seat now!

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

### **Farm Based Education Association Maryland Network Meeting, Nov. 17!**

Join fellow farm-based educators on Saturday November 17 at Hard Bargain Farm in Accokeek, Maryland for our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Network Gathering. Interested in starting an agriculture education program at your center or on your farm? Come along and visit with our (small but growing) group of dedicated ag educators who are making a big difference in the field of environmental, food and nutrition, and ag literacy for Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware students! Contact me for more information or to sign up for this FREE gathering! [peppig@maefonline.com](mailto:peppig@maefonline.com) (Flyer attached to this email) Join the Farm-Based Education Association for FREE at [www.farmbasededucation.org](http://www.farmbasededucation.org) and be sure to join the MD Network!

### **Shelburne Farms Workshop in Vermont, Oct. 21-23!**

If you are just starting to explore the possibilities of opening your farm for education, or looking for new ideas for your program, this is the workshop for you. Discover exciting, hands-on ways to develop agricultural education programs for school groups with kid-tested, easy-to-use activities from PROJECT SEASONS, a collection of teaching ideas developed by teachers and agriculture educators over the past 20 years. Shelburne Farms' farmyard, dairy, gardens, and forest will be our campus with the Education Center as our hub. Topics include marketing your farm program to schools and the community, creating a safe farm environment for the public, and meeting teachers' needs. \$200 (includes all materials & meals). Scholarships available. Limited accommodations for additional fee. Register with Susie Marchand, 802-985-0326, [smarchand@shelburnefarms.org](mailto:smarchand@shelburnefarms.org)

### **Community College of Baltimore County Horticulture Program Is Growing!**

“For those desiring to enter the industry, CCBC’s comprehensive program addresses the need to understand how to manage land and water resources, focusing on lessening our impact on the earth’s ecosystem. Graduates will gain thorough knowledge and practical experiences in three areas of horticulture: landscape design, installation, and maintenance; turf and grounds maintenance; and the broader emphasis on sustainable landscapes.” Wowza! Thanks Brad for the great listing of Spring 2013 classes (attached to this email)! These include Landscape Design and Horticulture Business Management to name a few!

### **Job Posting: MAEF Mobile Lab Teacher for Southern Maryland**

Join the Mobile Ag Science Lab Team at Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation! Our Mobile Labs travel around the state and provide a week’s worth of agriculture and natural resource science education, grades K-5 to hundreds of schools statewide. At this time, Southern Maryland is in need of an on-board teacher to provide hands-on science lessons to our young audiences in a fully equipped lab and classroom. Call Diana Tyler, Outreach Program Coordinator at 410-939-9030 or email [dtyler@maefonline.com](mailto:dtyler@maefonline.com)

### **Mobile Labs Booking for 2012-2013!**

Our three Mobile Science Labs are almost ready to begin their cross-state odyssey for the 2012-2013 school year! These have been booking since March, and there are a few weeks still available. See our website [www.maefonline.com](http://www.maefonline.com) for more information and call or email Diana Tyler to reserve!

### **School Garden Wizard – A Great Planning Resource for Teachers!**

This web-based school garden planning resource is chock full of practical resources to help your school or department pitch, plan, and grow a functional, multi-use school garden. Designed to be a team-intensive approach that is student driven, managed for success, this site provides everything inspirational, practical, and possible. A great resource for the many schools in the planning stages of using a school garden to incorporate E-Lit, cross-curricular and multi-disciplinary teaching & learning!

[www.schoolgardenwizard.org](http://www.schoolgardenwizard.org)

**Aware**

When I opened the door  
I found the vine leaves  
speaking among themselves in abundant  
whispers.  
My presence made them  
hush their green breath,  
embarrassed, the way  
humans stand up, buttoning their jackets,  
acting as if they were leaving anyway, as if  
the conversation had ended  
just before you arrived.  
I liked  
the glimpse I had, though,  
of their obscure  
gestures. I liked the sound  
of such private voices. Next time  
I'll move like cautious sunlight, open  
the door by fractions, eavesdrop  
peacefully.

- Denise Levertov