



NEWSLETTER



HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Volume 25, Issue 4

September 2015

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Message to Members

By: *Howie Feaga, President Howard County Farm Bureau*

Well here we are at the end of summer already. Where did it go? Just a few months ago we wanted it to warm up and then we wanted it to dry up, and now we want it to rain. All in all it has been a pretty good summer; but I do look forward to fall. Cool breezes, leaves turning colors and the anticipation of what kind of winter will we have.

I hope all of you got a chance to visit the Howard County Fair. It is always good to see everyone in a friendly competitive spirit. This year's fair was the 70th fair, and it was one of the best. I would like to congratulate Jackie Bauer (daughter of Ricky and Leslie Bauer) for winning the Howard County Miss Farm Bureau contest this year. She is also accompanied by Peyton Hereth, our Little Miss Farm Bureau, and Anthony Poston, our Future Farmer. They are all going to be great representatives for Farm Bureau and Agriculture. Thanks to Katelyn Johnson, last year's Howard County Miss Farm Bureau; she did a great job.

We have a lot of work ahead of us this fall; with the need to set policy for Maryland Farm Bureau and then the Zoning Regulations that will be brought back to see if we are allowed to do small Composting and Mulch Processing on our farms.

We will also need to watch any new legislation that will be aimed at us for the next session in Annapolis. Our convention will be held in Ocean City and Maryland Farm Bureau turns 100 years old this year. Where did the time go? I hope you all can come to our "Breakfast for Dinner" on the 17th of September, we will also have our Policy meeting in October at our annual Business meeting which you are all invited to attend. We will also have our Annual Dinner Meeting in November, and then the Convention in December. Wow 100 years, I wonder what the farmers that started Farm Bureau would think of us today. I hope we have progressed along as well as they had hoped when their first few years were over and where will we be in another 100 years? Howard County Farm Bureau is 93 years old and we are doing well, and I hope you are all happy with the job we are doing.

I want to thank Rhonda Winkler for all her hard work and determination to make this year's "Junior Showmanship" program another great success. She and the volunteers did a great job!!! Rhonda is also the Membership Chairman and this year Howard County made its goal for membership. Great job Rhonda!!!

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So like I always say “keep your plow in the ground, we’re all pulling for you”

--Howie Feaga, President Ho. Co. Farm Bureau

Howard County Agri-Business Breakfast

By: ***Maura Cahill, Breakfast Program
Coordinator***

The next Howard County Agri-Business “**Breakfast for Dinner**” will take place on **Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Dining Hall of the Howard County Fairgrounds. Please mark this new date on your calendar and plan to join us! *Remember this is an *Evening* event.

Peggy Eppig, with Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation, has been invited to be the guest speaker for this event. Peggy has done work in natural resources education development and farm-based education training and development. She also serves as the state lead for the Aldo Leopold Foundation educational programs in Maryland. In her “other life” she is an agricultural and conservation historian, with an emphasis on early 20th century. Peggy will be speaking, starting at 7:30 on the topic of Farm Based Education Training and Development, so make sure you attend this Agri-Business Breakfast!

Please **RSVP by noon, Monday, September 17th** by calling either Charlotte Mullinix, at **410-489-4510** or Martha Clark at **410-489-5152**.

The cost is \$10.00 per person, payable at the door. We hope to see you on Thursday, **September 17th** at the next Howard County Agri-Business “Breakfast for Dinner”!

MASCD Awards

By: ***Kristal McCormick,
Education Outreach / Conservation Planner
Howard Soil Conservation District***

The Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD) recognized Howard Soil Conservation District and Howard County’s agricultural outreach efforts with five awards for 2014 activities.

The first award Howard Soil Conservation District received was for “Outstanding Newsletter”.



Keith Ohlinger, received the 2014 “Outstanding Associate” award. This award is for an Associate Supervisor who has made a significant contribution to any phase of District activities.

Keith Ohlinger became an Associate Supervisor to the Howard Soil Conservation District Board in 2013.

The Ohlinger family has a small farm in Woodbine. There he raises heritage breeds of beef cattle, sheep, pigs, turkeys, chickens, ducks and rabbits as well as bees. He uses what the land has to offer, managing it, along with his animals, to create the optimal scenario without chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Keith has installed keylines to manage the land using the available water. He uses intensive rotational grazing for the livestock. And has planted fruit and nut trees and shrubs where fallen fruit and nuts supplement animals’ diets.

Keith is always looking to educate himself and is also willing to share his knowledge with others. He has kept current with the ever changing Food Safety Modernization Act from FDA. Keith is a certified composter. He served as alternate representative of the Howard Soil Conservation District on Howard County's Task Force to Study Mulching, Composting and Wood Processing. Keith's farm was a stop on the Legislative Tour in 2013. Keith is always willing to help however possible. He represents the District, and our mission, in a positive manner.

Our newest Supervisor, Justin Brendel, received the 2014 "Outstanding Contributions by a New Supervisor" award. This award is for a new supervisor who has made unique and/or outstanding contributions deserving of special recognition.

Justin Brendel began serving as an Associate Supervisor in 2014 but within a few months took on the role of Supervisor. Though his family ties run deep in Howard County, Justin, his wife Amy and their children lived in Illinois for a few years, helping run the portion of the family farming operation located out there. Prior to heading to Illinois, Justin served as a Director for the Howard County Farm Bureau. Justin also recently served on the Howard County Mulch Task Force. In addition to farming, and his involvement in and support of the farming community, Justin and his brother operate an excavating business, Level Land, Inc.

Though Justin's time with the District hasn't been long, we see our future with him as a Supervisor promising. His grandfather, William P. Brendel, served on our Board for almost 50 years. Justin is just starting his journey with the Howard Soil Conservation District.

Ken Clements received the 2014 supervisor "Special Achievement" award. This award is for a supervisor who has made significant contributions in program activities in areas deemed special by the Awards Committee.



Ken Clements has been an active part of the Howard Soil Conservation District (HSCD) Board of Supervisors for more than a decade, starting as an Associate Supervisor in 2001 and becoming a Supervisor in 2006. In 2011, Mr. Clements assumed the responsibilities of Treasurer for the HSCD Board of Supervisors.

As treasurer, Mr. Clements has delved into the details of the District's budget and finances. He actively monitors investments, improving the rate of return on the few certificates of deposit owned by the District. His efforts have improved the District's financial position, helping the District Supervisors feel comfortable in making financial decisions that are in line with the mission and purpose of the HSCD.

Outside of his role with the District Mr. Clements implements many of the best management practices that the District promotes including stream fencing, alternative watering sources, warm season grass plantings and rotational grazing for his beef cattle as well as riparian forest buffers and a grade stabilization structure.

Over the years Mr. Clements has provided the use of his property and its facilities for the District's Cooperator Dinner, an event to acknowledge the cooperator of the year and an opportunity for farmers to network and catch up with one another.

In 2014 Mr. Clements led the District in its efforts to purchase their own building. These efforts included researching and obtaining a loan, overseeing all necessary steps associated

with the purchase and renovation of the building.

Mr. Clements's leadership has improved the business acumen of the District and elevated the District in the eye of the customers that use District services. His efforts are noteworthy, greatly needed and worthy of recognition.

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The final award that Howard Soil Conservation District received was second place for the "Outstanding District".



Congratulations Howard County Farm Bureau Contest Winners!!!

Miss Howard County Farm Bureau

Jackie Bauer

Little Miss Howard County Farm Bureau

Peyton Hereth

Howard County Future Farmer

Anthony Poston



Agronomic Crop Insect Update

*By Joanne Whalen
DE Extension IPM Specialist
jwhalen@udel.edu*

Alfalfa Continue to sample for potato leafhoppers on a weekly basis. We continue to find adults and nymphs in fields. Although both life stages can damage alfalfa, the nymphs can cause damage very quickly. Once plants are yellow, yield loss has already occurred. The treatment thresholds are 20 per 100 sweeps on alfalfa 3 inches or less in height, 50 per 100 sweeps in 4-6 inch tall alfalfa and 100 per 100 sweeps in 7-11 inch tall alfalfa.

Small Grains We continue to find barley and wheat fields that were not treated with economic levels of armyworms. If you have not treated, be sure to sample fields and check all labels for the days between applications and harvest (pre-harvest interval).

Soybeans Be sure to sample seedling stage beans for bean leaf beetles, grasshoppers, and thrips.

(I) Grasshoppers: Population levels are starting to increase in the earliest emerged no-till full season fields. As barley is harvested and soybeans are planted, these fields will be especially susceptible to attack by grasshoppers which can cause stand loss. If stand reductions are occurring from plant emergence to the second trifoliolate, a treatment should be applied. Although no precise thresholds are available, a treatment maybe needed if you find one grasshopper per sweep and 30% defoliation from plant emergence through the pre-bloom stage.

(II) Bean Leaf Beetle: As a general guideline, a treatment may be needed for bean leaf beetle if you observe a 20 – 25% stand reduction and/or 2 beetles per plant from cotyledon to the second trifoliolate stages. These treatment thresholds should be reduced if bean pod mottle virus is present in your area or you suspected virus the previous season.

(III) Thrips: Thrips can feed and reproduce on the leaves and buds of soybean seedlings. Their feeding creates bleached-out lesions along the leaf veins and gives a silvery/bronzed appearance to the leaf

surface when damage is severe. These insects are very small (less than a tenth of an inch) and are torpedo shaped. While thrips always occur on seedling stage soybeans, it is only during outbreak years that they cause concern. In particular, during dry weather and on earlier planted full-season soybeans, thrips populations can explode when plants are growing slowly. Under these circumstances thrips injury will occasionally kill seedlings. Other stressors, such as nutrient deficiencies and herbicide injury, can add to thrips damage and cause plant loss. Yellowing can occur from thrips but there are also a number of other factors that can cause yellowing so it is important to scout fields to identify what is causing the yellowing. Although no precise thresholds are available, as a general guideline, treatment may be needed if you find 4-8 thrips per leaflet and plant damage is observed.

4-H Photography Contest

The results are in for the 4-H Photography Contest! Thank you to all of the participants who sent in entries, the pictures are all great!

4-H members submitted photos depicting life on the farm. **Congratulations** to the winners and finalists!

First Place: Jackie Bauer



Second Place: Ellie Feaga



Announcements

❖ Maryland State Fair - Dipping Ice Cream

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

The Maryland State fair (Aug 28th-Sept 7th) is here! We need volunteers to help dip ice cream on **September 7th**! If you can help any time between **11am and 5pm** that would be very helpful and much appreciated!

For more details please contact **Michael Calkins** at **(443)744-7256** or clakins16@gmail.com

❖ Barn Owls

We're looking for Barn Owls and we need your help! The Girl Scouts of Central Maryland's Caitlin Dunbar Nature Center, located in Ellicott City is starting a project to provide Barn Owls with nesting sites. Barn Owls used to be very common in our state but their numbers are in sharp decline now. We want to start this in Howard County. We have had a little success already in Montgomery County. Nesting boxes can be placed in old Silos, on Barns or out buildings or on a pole or tree. The old Silo, especially one with a roof, is preferred. We will work with you, the landowner, to overcome any installation concerns. The Silo option is non-invasive. Meaning there is no permanent attachment to the building.

If this interests you please contact Billy "BoxTurtle" Heinbuch at boxturtle@gscm.org or call 443.740.0639

Thank You!!

❖ State Young Farmers Fundraiser

* Check out the attached Form for Maryland Farm Bureau's Night at Camden Yards Orioles Fundraiser!

See Details on Attached Flyer!

Calendar of Events

2015

SEP 17 HOWARD COUNTY AGRI-BUSINESS "BREAKFAST FOR DINNER"

Place Dining Hall, Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD
Time 7:00 p.m.

SEP 13 MARYLAND YOUNG FARMERS FUNDRAISER

Place Camden Yards, Baltimore MD
Time 1:35 p.m.

OCT 01 FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

Place Dining Hall, Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD
Time 7:00 p.m.

OCT 03 AGNR OPEN HOUSE

Place University of MD Central Maryland
Research and Education Center, Clarksville
Facility, 4240 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott
City, MD
Time 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
*For Information visit:
www.agnropenhouse.umd.edu

NOV 19 HOWARD COUNTY AGRI-BUSINESS "BREAKFAST FOR DINNER"

Place Dining Hall, Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD
Time 7:00 p.m.

JAN 21 HOWARD COUNTY AGRI-BUSINESS "BREAKFAST FOR DINNER"

Place Dining Hall, Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD
Time 7:00 p.m.

MAR 17 HOWARD COUNTY AGRI-BUSINESS "BREAKFAST FOR DINNER"

Place Dining Hall, Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD
Time 7:00 p.m.

[NOTE]: Some programs require pre-registration and/or a fee. For programs sponsored by University of Maryland Extension, if you need special assistance to participate, please contact the



MARYLAND FARM BUREAU NIGHT

Sunday, September 13th at 1:35 p.m. vs. Kansas City Royals

Upper Reserve (Sections 316-356, rows 13-25): \$13*

****\$5 of every ticket sold will benefit the Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers****

*There is an additional 10% service charge per ticket.

For any questions or accessible seating, please call 888.848.BIRD (2473) and ask for the Ticket Services team.

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

1. Click on the link below
2. Select a quantity of tickets
3. Create a Baltimore Orioles ticket account
4. Purchase and print your tickets

<http://www.orioles.com/tix/farm>

Tickets posted for re-sale are subject to cancellation. Offer is NOT valid at the Box Office.