

# Howard Ag



Howard County  
Department of  
Planning and Zoning



Economic Development Authority



*A multi-agency newsletter serving the agricultural community*

## Local Farms Grow Healthy Communities

"Local Farms Grow Healthy Communities" is the theme for this year's Farm City Celebration. Activities for the event will kick off with County Executive Ken Ulman and Dairy Farmer David Patrick exchanging jobs on September 23, 2008. Activities will continue over the next two weeks at different venues across the county with the final activities being held on October 4, 2008.

This year's theme focuses on the importance of having farms in your communities for healthy living for all. Farms hosting activities will also be promoting the "best management practices" they use daily on their farms to help the environment.



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## Forest Conservation Easement Opportunities for Farms

Howard County, through the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Department of Recreation and Parks, has set up the new Private Forest Conservation Establishment (PFCE) program. The PFCE program is designed to create forest conservation easements on private properties. Properties with agricultural land preservation easements, donated conservation easements and preservation parcels are prime candidates for this program. The goal of the program is to plan and implement reforestation on a maximum of 50 acres in one or more forest conservation easements. The program will not only benefit the environment by protecting streams and other sensitive areas and creating wildlife habitat, but may also provide an opportunity for monetary compensation to property owners.

The Department of Recreation and Parks will be responsible for site selection, development of forest conservation plans, preparation and recordation of forest conservation easement plats and agreements, site preparation, installation of forest plantings and management of plantings for a two year period. Forest conservation plans will conform to the Howard County Forest Conservation

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We would like to thank our sponsors and farms participating in this year's event. They include Comcast, Howard County General Hospital, Howard County Antique Farm Machinery Club, Howard County Economic Development Authority, Howard County Farm Bureau, Howard County Government, Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, Howard Soil Conservation District, University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Maryland Life Magazine, Howard County Library, Howard County Conservancy, Indigo Ink, MidAtlantic Farm Credit, Rapid

Sign of Maryland, Air View Farm, Barklay Law Offices, Clark's Elioak Farm, Howard County Beekeepers Association, Howard Bank, Howard County Tourism, Maryland Cooperative Extension-Howard County Office, Tridelphia Lake View Farm, Days End Horse Rescue Farm, Circle D Farm, Maple Dell Farm, and Sharp's at Waterford Farm.

So mark your calendars and look for the event schedule and locations within this publication as you don't want to miss out on this year's Farm City Celebration! Any questions please call Kathy Zimmerman, Agricultural Marketing Specialist at 410-313-6500.

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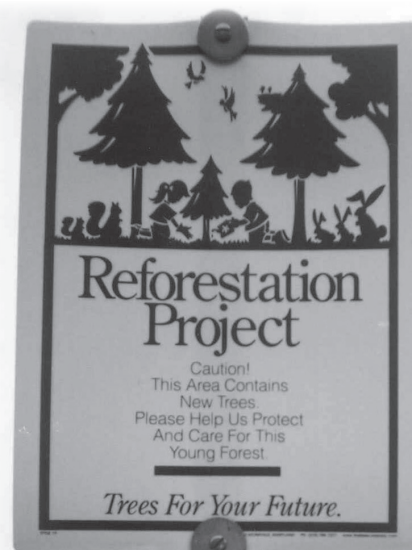
Manual. Forest conservation easements are in perpetuity.

To be considered for the PFCE program, properties must be ten acres or larger. Forest conservation planting sites must be one acre or larger. Areas enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Wetland Reserve Program, or compensatory mitigation under Section 404 and/or 401 of the Clean Water Act are not eligible for this program, as with any area under federal or state programs that provide funds for similar tasks. Planting on properties that are encumbered by an agricultural land preservation easement must comply with the County's policy for forest planting on such easements.

Sites will be chosen to maximize water quality and habitat benefits, based on the following criteria:

- Meet or exceed minimum stream or wetland buffer requirements
- Located in stream headwater areas
- Located in the Patuxent Reservoirs water supply watershed
- Expand existing forest areas to increase forest interior habitat
- Connect adjacent forest areas to create wildlife corridors

For more information and to see if your property qualifies for this program contact Megan Handshu at (410)313-6205 or [MHandshu@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:MHandshu@howardcountymd.gov).



A reforestation project along Md. Route 144 just east of Daisy Rd. in the Woodbine/Lisbon area benefits the environment by providing a buffer to the adjacent stream.

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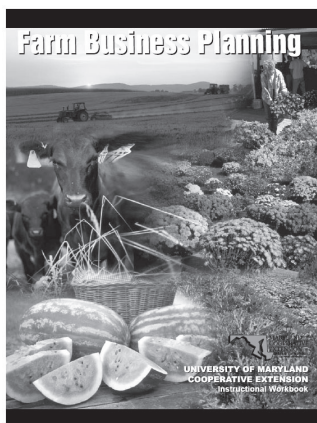
## Farm Plan Workbook

A new workbook that takes farmers through the process of writing a business plan is available through University of Maryland Extension program. It is important to have a strong business plan for a farm to look at future growth and development.

The workbook asks simple questions, and the farmer can write in the areas provided. When completed, the book serves as an outline for a farm business plan, including the Executive Summary, Mission & Goals, Background Info, Farm Strategy, S.W.O.T. (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis, Marketing Strategy and Plan, Enterprise Analysis and Plan, Financial Plan, Implementation Strategy, Human Resource Plan, and Resource Inventory.

The book was developed by Extension Educators Ben Beale, St. Mary's County, and Shannon Dill, Talbot County, with Dale Johnson, Extension Specialist in Farm Management.

The workbook is available at the Extension Office or by visiting <http://agmarketing.umd.edu/Pages/FarmBusinessPlanWorkbook.pdf>. Also mark your calendars as the Agricultural Marketing Program of the Howard County Economic Development Authority and the Howard County Cooperative Extension will be hosting a regional meeting on "Writing Your Own Farm Business Plan" on February 26, 2009 at the Howard County Extension Office. More information will be coming soon!



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## 2009 Central Maryland Women In Agriculture Forum

Save the date for Thursday, March 5, 2009. The Agriculture Marketing Program of Howard County Economic Development Authority will be hosting the next Central Maryland Women in Agriculture Forum at the Howard County

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## Learn How to "Go Green" in Your Neighborhood

*University Open House Features Family-Friendly Fun and Education*

Do you know...

- Where your food comes from?
- What makes a green roof green?
- The do's and don'ts of composting?
- How to make your home environment healthier?
- What exotic pests are invading Maryland?
- How to cultivate a lush lawn without harming the Chesapeake Bay?

Get answers to these and other burning questions—while having a blast—at a free Open House hosted by the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The family-friendly event will take place Saturday, October 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain or shine) at the Clarksville facility of the college's Central Maryland Research and Education Center near Ellicott City.

Interactive exhibits, fun-filled activities and entertainment will include:

- Hay wagon tours;
- Bluegrass music;
- Pedal tractor obstacle course;
- Bumble bees and a butterfly garden;
- Herb demonstration;
- Farm animals, reptiles and insects;
- Master Gardener 30th anniversary cake-cutting and "plant clinic";
- Door prizes and food; and
- Much more!

For more information or directions, call 301-596-9330 or 800-342-2507, or go to [www.agnopenhouse.umd.edu](http://www.agnopenhouse.umd.edu).

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Fairgrounds.

This is an opportunity for women from the region to learn about new marketing techniques, growing their farm business and developing a strong business plan from other women. Plan on attending and even sharing some of the successes you have had in your own farm business. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters. Any questions or other topic ideas you may contact Kathy Zimmerman at 410-313-6500.

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## Calendar of Events

### September

- 8 Agricultural Land Preservation Board, 7:30 PM, Howard County Fairgrounds, Joy Levy, 410-313-5407
- 13 Wonder Walk: Grasses, 10:00 AM, Howard County Conservancy
- 23 Howard County Farm-City Celebration, Ends Oct. 4
- 26-28 Howard County Farm Heritage Days, Living Farm Museum, West Friendship, MD
- 28 5th Annual Rural Heritage Days, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wye Research & Education Center, Queen Anne's County 4-H Park, Barbara South, 410-827-6202



### October

- 4 Howard County Conservancy Fall Festival, 1:00-4:00 PM
- 9-12 Maryland Woodland Stewards Training, Camp Pecometh, Centreville, MD, Nevin Dawson, 410-827-8056
- 14 Agricultural Land Preservation Board, 7:30 PM, Howard County Fairgrounds, Joy Levy, 410-313-5407

### November

- 6 Economic Development Authority Agricultural Committee Meeting, Hebb House, 10:00 AM, Kathy Zimmerman, 410-313-6500
- 11 Restaurant-Growers Meeting, Gateway Building, Columbia, MD, 2:00 PM, Kathy Zimmerman, 410-313-6500
- 10 Agricultural Land Preservation Board, 7:30 PM, Howard County Fairgrounds, Joy Levy, 410-313-5407

### March

- 5 Central Maryland Women in Agriculture, Howard County Fairgrounds, Registration: 10:00 AM, Kathy Zimmerman, 410-313-6500

## Jane Lawton Farm to School Program

### *Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week September 22 – 26, 2008*

A new initiative being implemented by the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Maryland State Department of Education and other organizations and individuals will bring more Maryland-grown products to school lunch rooms and help educate students about where their food comes from, how it is produced, and the benefits of a healthy diet. The Jane Lawton Farm to School Program, so named in honor of the late Maryland House of Delegates member Jane Lawton of District 18, Montgomery County, was created during the 2008 Session of the Maryland General Assembly and SB 158 Farm-to-School Program – Activities and Promotional Events, sponsored by Senator Jamie Raskin, was signed into law by the Governor in May. In addition to facilitating the procurement of local Maryland produce for school menus, the bill also creates a Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week to promote Maryland agriculture through school meal and classroom programs and interaction between students and local farmers.

In 2008, Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week will be held September 22nd through September 26th with a kickoff event tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 23rd at Takoma Park Middle School in Montgomery County. The program will also provide educational materials for teachers to integrate into their lessons to help students make the connection between their lunch menus and the agricultural process. Thus far, Montgomery, Cecil, Carroll, Howard and Anne Arundel Counties are planning to feature local products in their menus during Homegrown School Lunch Week, and other school systems have expressed interest in participating.

There are many ways that you can become involved or participate in the program by creating new learning opportunities, building Farm to School relationships, supplying local products to schools, promoting the program and becoming a partner. For more information on the Jane Lawton Farm to School Program and where to find Maryland-grown food products, visit [www.marylandfarmtoschool.org](http://www.marylandfarmtoschool.org) or call 410-841-5770.

# New Maryland Online Farmers Market Created

*Fresh, locally-grown food just a click away at [foodtrader.org](http://foodtrader.org)*

A new way for consumers to buy the freshest food Maryland farms have to offer is now just a click away. Foodtrader.org is a new, free, virtual farmer's market that lets small independent Maryland farms create an instantaneous listing that describes the fresh foods they have to sell, the price and the location. Since going live July 15th, listings from more than 20 farms have included specialty cuts of meat, fruits and vegetables of all types, flowers, honey, dairy products, and even soap made from goat's milk.

This new service ([www.foodtrader.org](http://www.foodtrader.org)) was created by the University of Maryland's Environmental Finance Center (EFC), a unit of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, just in time for National Farmer's Market Week (August 3-9).

Joanne Throwe, EFC's Associate Director, said the new website is not only available to any consumer, but to any Maryland business or institution. She said the site already has the support of the Maryland Restaurant Association and is consistent with the Maryland Department of Agriculture's "Buy Maryland's Best" initiative. She said she hopes a variety of other institutions, such as universities, community colleges, public and private schools, and hospitals and nursing homes, will avail themselves of this opportunity to easily access fresh and nutritious food directly from Maryland farmers.

"Anything you typically find at a farmer's market can now be found on our website," she said. "We are encouraging Marylanders to buy more local food and support our farms. Plus, we're helping to bolster the economic viability of our working agricultural lands in the state. That's a heritage

this state can't afford to lose." At a time when rising fuel prices are making the long distance transportation of food more expensive and amid growing concern about the vehicle emissions that contribute to climate change, "buy local" programs have suddenly become more popular.

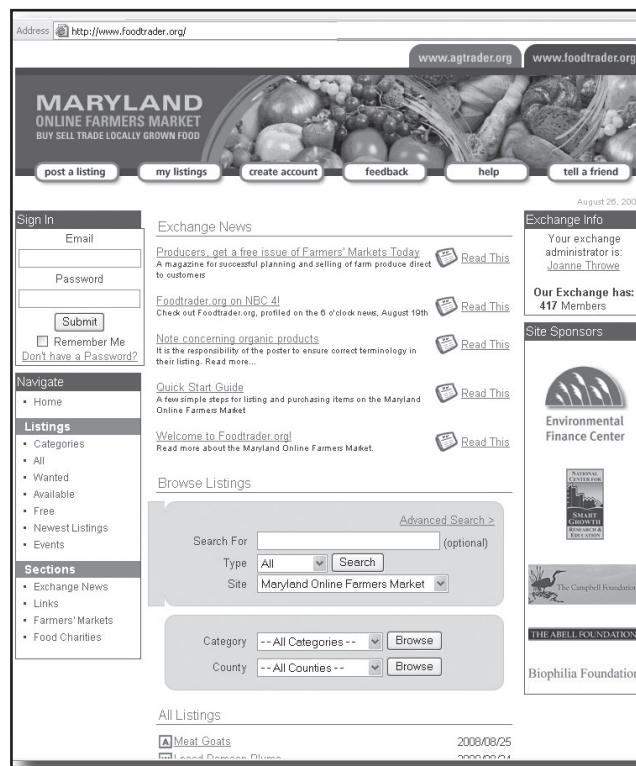
"Buying directly from Maryland farms just makes good economic sense," said Dr. Gerrit Knaap, director of the National Center for Smart Growth. "We have some of the best quality food you could ever want, right here in Maryland." One important aspect of the foodtrader.org website is that it includes a category for charities. Farmers can receive tax deductions for donations that

they make to the Maryland Foodbank. Consumers can also make a food pantry donation and receive a deduction. (See the "Food Charities" section of the website for more details.) In addition to buying what farmers are offering to sell on [www.foodtrader.org](http://www.foodtrader.org), consumers can also make individual requests online for a particular item desired when it becomes available. All payment arrangements are made between farmer and consumer.

This new online farmer's market is an extension of another popular EFC website, [www.Agtrader.org](http://www.Agtrader.org), which is frequently used by farmers to buy, sell and trade agricultural resources.

Both of these websites are easy to use and allow traders to quickly register and then post their products anytime they wish without having to fill out forms. Pricing and delivery are left up to buyer and seller to work out. Foodtrader.org is a secured website that will be monitored and maintained by the Environmental Finance Center staff. All information is kept private.

The website was developed with support from the Keith Campbell Foundation, the Abell Foundation, and the Biophilia Foundation. For more information about Foodtrader.org, contact Joanne Throwe at (301) 405-5036 or at [jthrowe@umd.edu](mailto:jthrowe@umd.edu).



# Schedule of Events for Howard County Farm-City Celebration

Green numbers (1) following the times correspond to farm locations on the map on the reverse side.

Please note:  
Some activities may require a fee and/or parental supervision. Some activities may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Schedule and events subject to change.

## Tuesday, September 23

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
11:15 – 11:45 am **Story Time @ the farm**  
12:15 – 12:45 pm **Story Time @ the farm**  
*Presented by Howard County Library*  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"Play Partners" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages infant - 23 months*  
7:00 pm  
**"Pajama Time" Farm City Special Theme**  
Howard County Library – Central Library

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"Play Partners" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages infant - 23 months*  
Howard County Library – Elkridge Branch

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"Play Partners" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages Infant-23 months*  
Howard County Library – Glenwood Branch

10:00 am  
**"3,2, FUN" Farm City Special Theme (with craft)** *Ages 2-3*  
1:30 pm  
**"Just for Me" Farm City Special Theme (with craft)** *Ages 3-5*  
4:30 & 6:45 pm  
**"Picture Book Parade" Farm City Special Theme (with craft)** *Ages 2-5*  
Howard County Library – Savage Branch

4:30 & 6:45 pm  
**"Scarecrow Stories"**  
*Ages 5-9*  
Howard County Library – Miller Branch

## Wednesday, September 24

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"All Together Now" Farm City Special Theme**  
Howard County Library – Central Library

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"Just For Me" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages 3-5*  
Howard County Library – Elkridge Branch

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"Picture Book Parade" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages 2-5*  
Howard County Library – Miller Branch

10:00 & 11:00 am  
**"Play Partners" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages Infant-23 months*  
Howard County Library – Savage Branch

## Thursday, September 25

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
11:15 – 11:45 am **Story Time @ the farm**  
12:15 – 12:45 pm **Story Time @ the farm**  
*Presented by Howard County Library*  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am and 11:00 am  
**"All Together Now" Farm City Special Theme**  
Howard County Library – East Columbia Branch

10:00 am  
**"Picture Book Parade" Farm City Special Theme (with craft)**  
*Ages 2-5*  
Howard County Library – Savage Branch

10:30 am  
**"Picture Book Parade" Farm City Special Theme**

*Ages 2-5*  
Howard County Library – Glenwood Branch

2:00 pm  
**"Goats Galore" – Pet a real goat from Clark's Elioak Farm**  
*Ages 3 & Up*  
Howard County Library – Central Library

2:00 – 6:00 pm  
**Howard County Farmers' Market**  
Howard County Library – East Columbia Branch

7:00 pm  
**"Pajama Time" Farm City Special Theme**  
Howard County Library – Central Library

7:00 pm  
**"Pajama Time" Farm City Special Theme (with craft)**  
Howard County Library – Savage Branch

## Friday, September 26

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (4)  
**Howard County Farm Heritage Days**  
*\$5.00 admission fee, ages 12 and above; \$2.50 for seniors 55 & up*  
Howard County Living Farm Heritage Museum,  
12985 Frederick Road, West Friendship

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am **"Picture Book Parade" Farm City Special Theme (with craft)**  
*Ages 2-5*  
Howard County Library – Savage Branch

10:30 am & 11:30 am  
**"Play Partners" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages infant - 23 months*  
Howard County Library – Central Library

## Saturday, September 27

8:15 – 9:30 am (1)  
**2nd Annual Healthy Howard Family Walk**  
*Co-sponsored with Howard County Health Dept. Call 410-313-6295 for more info.*  
Clark's Elioak Farm

9:00 am – 12:30 pm  
**Howard County Farmers' Market**  
Howard County Library – Glenwood Branch

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (4)  
**Howard County Farm Heritage Days**  
*\$5.00 admission fee, ages 12 and above (see Friday, September 26 for location)*

9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
**Howard County Tourism "Red Tent" @ Farm Heritage Days**  
*Info. about the limitless attractions and activities in Howard County. Blossoms of Hope info.*

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
**Farm City Celebration Weekend: Storytimes Pumpkin Patch Opens**  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am – 5:00 pm (6)  
**Fall Farm Festivities**  
Sharp's at Waterford Farm

10:30 am & 11:30 am  
**"All Together Now" Farm City Special Theme**  
Howard County Library – Central Library

11:00 am – 4:00 pm (2)  
**Fall Festival**  
*\$5 for families, \$2 for adults, \$1 for children under 12. Children under 6 are free*  
Days End Farm Horse Rescue

## Sunday, September 28

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (4)  
**Howard County Farm Heritage Days**  
*\$5.00 admission fee, ages 12 and above (see Friday, September 26 for location)*

10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
**Howard County Farmers' Market**  
Oakland Mills Village Center

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
**Pumpkin Patch Open**  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am – 5:00 pm (6)  
**Fall Farm Festivities**  
Sharp's at Waterford Farm

## Monday, September 29

10:00 am & 11:00 am  
**"All Together Now" Farm City Special Theme**  
Howard County Library – Elkridge Branch

**"3,2, FUN" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages 2-3*  
Howard County Library – Glenwood Branch

## Tuesday, September 30

10:00 am – 4:00 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open (1)**  
11:15 – 11:45 AM **Story Time @ the farm**  
12:15 – 12:45 PM **Story Time @ the farm**  
*Presented by Howard County Library*  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am & 11:00 am  
**"Play Partners" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages infant - 23 months*  
Howard County Library – Glenwood Branch

## Wednesday, October 1

10:00 am – 4:00 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open (1)**  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am & 11:00 am  
**"Picture Book Parade" Farm City Special Theme**  
*Ages 2-5*  
Howard County Library – Miller Branch

## Thursday, October 2

10:00 am – 4:00 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open (1)**  
11:15 – 11:45 am **Story Time @ the farm**  
12:15 – 12:45 pm **Story Time @ the farm**  
*Presented by Howard County Library*  
Clark's Elioak Farm

2:00 – 6:00 pm  
**Howard County Farmers' Market**  
Howard County Library – East Columbia Branch

## Friday, October 3

10:00 am – 4:00 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open (1)**  
Clark's Elioak Farm

## Saturday, October 4

9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
**Howard County Farmers' Market**  
Howard County Library – Glenwood Branch

10:00 am – 4:00 pm (1)  
**Teddy Bear Farm Visit/Pumpkin Patch Open**  
*Teddy Bear contest and donation to Howard County General Hospital Pediatric Department*  
Clark's Elioak Farm

10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
**Open House**  
Central Maryland Research and Education Center  
Clarksville Facility, 4240 Folly Quarter Road,  
Ellicott City, MD

10:00 am & 5:00 pm (6)  
**Fall Farm Festivities**  
Sharp's at Waterford Farm

10:00 am – 5:00 pm (7)  
**Pick-Your-Own Pumpkins, Hayrides, Fall Activities**  
Triadelphia Lake View Farm

11:00 am  
**Iron Bridge Hounds rides through Sharp's at Waterford Farm**

1:00 – 4:00 pm (5)  
**Howard County Conservancy's Fall Festival**  
*A fun-filled afternoon of family activities honoring Miss Jean Worthley from Hodge Podge Lodge (410) 465-8877*



# **SUPPORT LOCAL AGRICULTURE**

## **Howard County Agriculture Logo Promotion Program Partner Application**

**— \$35 Annual Registration Fee** must accompany this application. Checks should be made payable to:  
Howard County Economic Development Authority.

## Promotion Partner Application for 2008

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY/ORGNIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ WEBSITE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES OFFERED:

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Your participation makes this program possible. You can make a difference.

### Promotion Partners:

- Have use of the Howard County Agriculture logo, logo stickers, and promotional poster.
- Are featured in publications, web promotions, and Howard County Fair promotion
- Participate in the Agricultural Marketing Program database listed on our web site and available to buyers
- Support Youth Ag Entrepreneur Grant
- Have access to joint advertising opportunities
- Receive marketing support
- Receive announcements of upcoming marketing events and industry news

## **Thank you for your support**

Return completed application and membership fee to:  
Howard County Economic Development Authority, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 500  
Columbia, Maryland 21046 410-313-6500

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*A multi-agency newsletter serving the agricultural community*

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Howard County  
Department of  
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Economic Development Authority



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Howard County Economic Development Authority  
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