

W E L C O M E

Maryland/Virginia Agricultural
Marketing Professional Staff

MD-VA
AMPS
2021



September 28—30

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 28

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express
20260 Goldenrod Ln, Germantown, MD 20876

3:00pm: Check-in

6:00pm: Welcome Reception & Networking

Wednesday, September 29 **Montgomery County**

Breakfast at the hotel, depart at 8:15a.m.

9:00a.m. - 10:30a.m. Tour [Rockhill Orchard & Woodbourne Creamery](#)

10:45a.m.-12:15p.m. Tour [Laytonsville Turf Farm](#)—Sod Harvesting Demonstration

12:30p.m.– 2:00p.m. Tour [Lone Oak Farm Brewery](#)—Farm Alcohol Operation & Barley Malting
Lunch provided—discussion and resource share

2:15p.m.– 3:15p.m. [Agriculture History Farm Park](#)—One stop shop for ag community |
Education initiatives

4:00p.m.- 5:30p.m. [Wyndham Oaks](#)—Equestrian Operation

5:45p.m. –8:00p.m. [Tour Windridge Vineyard](#)
5:45p.m.—please purchase yourself some wine & enjoy charcuterie while
you await the 6:00pm tour
7:00p.m. *Dinner* | Remarks from local legislators

Return to Hotel

Thursday, September 30 **Howard County**

Breakfast at the hotel, depart at 8:15a.m.

9:00a.m. Tour [BioEnergy Devco](#)
[Maryland Food Center Authority](#)

10:30a.m. Tour [Maryland Innovation Center](#)

12:30p.m. [Manor Hill Tavern](#)
Lunch provided—discussion and resource share

2:00p.m. Tour [Clark's Elioak Farm](#)

3:30p.m. Tour [Manor Hill Brewery](#)

5:30p.m. [Heron's Meadow Farm BLTeas](#)

Return to Hotel

Friday, October 1 **Montgomery County**

Breakfast at the hotel, depart at 8:15a.m. by personal car or walking

9:00a.m. Tour [Montgomery College](#)—Environmental, Horticulture and Sustainable
Agribusiness

LOCATION ADDRESSES

If anyone would prefer to drive/carpool

Tuesday, September 28

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express
20260 Goldenrod Ln, Germantown, MD 20876

Wednesday, September 29 Montgomery County

- 9:00a.m. [Rockhill Orchard & Woodbourne Creamery](#)—28600 Ridge Rd, Mt Airy, MD 21771
- 10:45a.m. [Laytonsville Turf Farm](#)—5225 Damascus Rd # B, Gaithersburg, MD 20882
- 12:30p.m. [Lone Oak Farm Brewery](#)—5000 Olney Laytonsville Rd, Olney, MD 20832
- 2:15p.m. [Agriculture History Farm Park](#)—18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855
- 4:00p.m. [Wyndham Oaks](#)—19301 Bucklodge Rd, Boyds, MD 20841
- 5:45p.m. [Windridge Vineyard](#)—15700 Darnestown Rd, Darnestown, MD 20874

Thursday, September 30 Howard County

- 9:00a.m. [BioEnergy Devco & Maryland Food Center Authority](#)
7801 Oceano Ave., Jessup, MD 20794
- 10:30a.m. [Maryland Innovation Center](#)—6751 Columbia Gateway Dr., Columbia 21046
- 12:30p.m. [Manor Hill Tavern](#)—3733 Old Columbia Pike, Ellicott City 21043
- 2:00p.m. [Clark's Elioak Farm](#)—10500 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City 21042
- 3:30p.m. [Manor Hill Brewery](#)—4411 Manor Ln., Ellicott City 21042
- 5:30p.m. [Heron's Meadow Farm BLTeas](#)—1596 Daisy Rd., Woodbine, MD 21797

Friday, October 1 Montgomery County

Breakfast at the hotel, depart at 8:15a.m. by personal car or walking

- 9:00a.m. [Montgomery College](#)—20200 Observation Dr Germantown, MD 20876

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

THE AG RESERVE: WHAT IS IT?

The Agricultural Reserve was created in 1980 and is one of the County's 21 policy master planned areas. This section of the County encompasses 93,000 acres (1/3 the county's land area) and is specifically zoned to encourage agricultural uses. In a County as urbanized and populated (1.051 million) as Montgomery, the Ag Reserve is a unique and valuable resource that:

- ◇ Promotes cleaner air
- ◇ Eliminates impervious surfaces to reduce water runoff and improves regional water quality
- ◇ Yields local food production
- ◇ Bestows tax benefits upon landowners for donated and purchased easements and helps to maintain a properties agricultural assessment for tax purposes
- ◇ Helps reduce greenhouse gas
- ◇ Provides wildlife habitats
- ◇ Contributes to scenic vistas & rural open space
- ◇ Creates recreational opportunities such as biking, hunting, fishing, and horseback riding



Artwork: Tina Thieme Brown

THE AG RESERVE: ZONING & PRESERVATION

The functional Master Plan for the Preservation of Agriculture and Rural Open Space was developed in 1980. This Ag Reserve zone reduced development from 1 house per every 5 acres to 1 house per every 25 acres. However, because zoning can be changed, this did not place long term protections on the land. Therefore, other tools to accomplish long term preservation were put in place—perpetual easements.

There are different types of preservation easements, some more restrictive than others:

- ◇ [Montgomery county Agricultural Easement](#) (AEP) Established in 1987, this program gives the County the ability to purchase agricultural land preservation easements
- ◇ [Transfer Development Rights](#) (TDR) Development rights are transferred from the Ag Reserve to designated growth areas closer to public services.
- ◇ [Purchase of Development Rights](#) (PDR)
- ◇ [Building Lot Termination](#) (BLT) May be sold directly to developers for use in designated receiving areas
- ◇ [Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation](#) (MALPF) purchases agricultural preservation easements that forever restrict development on prime farmland and woodland
- ◇ [Maryland Environmental Trust](#) (MET) providing direct assistance, information and innovative tools to ensure the ongoing stewardship and public concern for the natural, historic, and scenic resources of the state
- ◇ [Maryland Rural Legacy Program](#) (RLP) provides funding to preserve large, contiguous tracts of land and to enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry and environmental protection while supporting a sustainable land base for natural resource based industries.

The goal, provided there were enough funding, would be to have all of the acres eligible for preservation under the most restrictive easement. Thus far, over 70,000 acres have been protected through some type of preservation easements. However, only 22,747 of those acres are under the most restrictive easement. There is much work still to be done.

As the population increases, so do the already immense pressures to develop the ag reserve.

How can you help? Educate yourself and others about the importance of the Ag Reserve. Support the local farmers. Vote for elected officials who understand and appreciate the value of agriculture.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Wednesday, September 29

Rockhill Orchard & Woodbourne Creamery

John and Mary Fendrick, the owners of Rock Hill Orchard & Woodbourne Creamery grew up as “city folk” but had fond memories of growing vegetables as children which eventually led them toward a life in agriculture. In 2010 they purchased Rock Hill Orchard, a beautiful orchard with an on-farm market. Their operation offers its customers pick your own and agritourism opportunities while enjoying an authentic farm experience. The Fendricks also operate Woodbourne Creamery, Montgomery County's only "Cow to Cone" ice cream shop and dairy. Their A2A2 Guernsey cows eat grass year round and are milked by a robot on a the cow's schedule! The milk is pasteurized to make ice cream at the dairy and sold along with delicious milk and the other farm products at the on site farm market. The milk isn't even homogenized or separated and nothing is added in, so they sell only sell A2A2 Guernsey creamline milk and creamline chocolate milk.

Laytonsville Turf Farm

Laytonsville Turf Farm offers more than 300 acres of sod, most of which is Maryland Department of Agriculture certified. Their Tall Fescue blends, the latest turf type, are cut fresh daily and designed to excel in this area. They offer 600 square foot on each pallet but will also custom cut according to actual square footage. They sell to landscapers, contractors and homeowners. The farm stays in operation year round, even through the winter months if weather allows.

Lone Oak Farm Brewery

Lone Oak is not just a brewery at a farm. Rather, it's a farm with a brewery. It's 28.66 acres of bucolic fields and streams, a pond and wide open spaces. It's wildflowers and wildlife. It's crops – barley and hops – and berries and hay. It's bees raised to produce honey. It's sunsets and a majestic, pre-Civil War oak tree. It's our brewhouse – carefully built, piece by piece by world-class craftsmen, using local lumber for the porch posts, beams, and bar. It's a tap room that feels like home. A little bit of all of this is infused in each pint of Lone Oak's craft beer.

Ag History Farm Park (AHFP)

The AHFP, located on a 400 acre farm, is the office home to federal, state and local agricultural agencies that work seamlessly to provide a one-stop shop for the County's ag community. In addition to providing technical and other assistance, these agencies engage in various education initiatives such as: [Close Encounters with Agriculture](#), a STEM program for MCPS High School teachers, [Envirothon](#), [Mobile Science Lab](#), and High School outreach.

Wyndham Oaks

Maryland's Premier Dressage & Boarding Stable located in Montgomery County's historic horse country. Designed by a well known architect and professionally managed by full time staff, the state-of-the art equestrian facility offers: Olympic-sized indoor and two outdoor arenas; Patio and lounge overlooking arenas; Light, airy barns with cathedral ceilings and skylights; Exterior dutch doors and windows in every stall. Wyndham Oaks is the first equestrian facility in Montgomery County to become a FSCAP Certified farm, recognizing exceptional stewardship of the land!

Windridge Vineyards

Windridge Vineyards is a family-owned farm winery dedicated to producing premium estate grown wines. Situated on the Piedmont plateau of Maryland, the three vineyard sites have been carefully chosen for their unique geology and microclimates. Over 50 years of family farming has guided these selections and underpins our commitment to craft exceptional and distinctive wine. As both farmers and oenophiles, they see wine as fundamentally an agricultural product that should reflect the unique terroir of the vineyard from which it comes. The family has been farming in Montgomery County since 1959 and believe that farmers are the first conservationists and have a responsibility to preserve the land and the environment for future generations. They take a holistic approach based on our diversity of farming experiences – ranging from row crops to honey bees – to minimize their footprint on the land.

HOWARD COUNTY

Thursday, September 30

Maryland Food Center Authority

The MFCA is dedicated to combining the very best in public and private efforts in planning and developing regional food industry facilities throughout Maryland. New and revitalized ventures under the MFCA's jurisdiction continue to generate employment and economic benefits throughout the State of Maryland. It's goal is to examine the development and distribution needs of Maryland's food industry, and the most effective use of the Authority's development and management resources to meet those needs.

BioEnergy Devco

Bioenergy Devco (BDC) uses anaerobic digestion to recycle organics once destined for incineration or already crowded landfills. This process creates renewable energy and healthy living soils.

Maryland Innovation Center

The Innovation Center is a product of County and State-wide initiatives to develop technology, cyber, and innovation communities in the Baltimore-Washington Corridor. Combining in-house expertise with established technology and business leadership resources, the Center's focus is on giving entrepreneurs what they need to move to the next level. The space includes a 150+ person conference space, 63,000 square feet, and 4 floors of business support.

Historic Ellicott City

Ellicott City is an unincorporated community and the county seat of, Howard County. Its population was 65,834 at the 2010 census, qualifying it as the largest unincorporated county seat in the country. Ellicott City is a charming historic community located just west of the city of Baltimore, within the valley of the beautiful Tiber and Patapsco Rivers. The city is best known as the home of the United States' oldest surviving train station, which was constructed as the terminus for the B&O Railroad line in 1830. The city is home to more than 70 eclectic shops, galleries, restaurants, salons and museums.



Clark's Elioak Farm

Clark's Elioak Farm has been a part of Howard County agricultural sector Since 1797. Today, it is a must see agritourism venue that includes farm produce, a petting farm and an enchanted forest. The farm offers a venue for birthday parties, educational tours and special events.

Manor Hill Brewery

Manor Hill Brewery is situated on the Marriner family's 54-acre working farm in Ellicott City. Brewery operations began in June of 2015, making Manor Hill Brewing Howard County's first farm brewery. Today, it is Maryland's largest farm brewery by production. The head brewer uses high quality seasonal ingredients to craft hand-made beers from original and unique recipes. We believe strongly in supporting local and practicing sustainability and work to achieve these values whenever possible.

Heron's Meadow Farm BLTeas

Heron's Meadow Farm, located in Western Howard County, is Maryland's first tea farm. Home to BLTeas, LLC and MudPi Studios, Heron's Meadow Farm is host to many inspirational views, wildlife, flavorful teas, and handcrafted stoneware pottery. Visitors to the farm can sample some of our teas, shop for their new favorite mug from the mug tree, view our tea fields, and walk through herb gardens. Or simply relax on the patio and watch the blue herons, hawks, deer, foxes, and other wildlife. Whether it's a new tea to try or a new stoneware creation on display in the pottery studio, there is always something exciting happening at Heron's Meadow Farm.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Friday, October 1

Montgomery College—Environmental Horticulture and Sustainable Agribusiness Certificate Program

The certificate program is designed for persons interested in pursuing a new career as well as for green industry employees seeking additional professional development. Graduates will be prepared for employment opportunities in sustainable landscape operations, public and private gardens, landscape design and construction, grounds management, turf management, nurseries, environmental and stormwater management or apply earned credits toward an AAS in landscape technology. Special courses in the curriculum focus sustainable and organic food production and environmental management and sustainability.

This curriculum provides training with entry level skills, upgrading of existing skills, and preparation for further training in the areas of horticulture, food production, and environmental management. Special topic courses in the curriculum focus sustainable and organic food production and environmental management and sustainability.

Selected courses have been approved by the Maryland Department of Agriculture to prepare horticultural professionals for pesticide application certification in Category III (Turf and Ornamentals), Category V (Aquatic), and Category VI (Right of Way and Weed). For more information, contact the Landscape Technology advisor.

Upon completion of the certificate students will be eligible to earn the Maryland Certified Professional Horticulturist (CPH) certificate from the Maryland Nursery, Landscape, Greenhouse Association (MNLGA).



Photo: Montgomery College website

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR
CONFERENCE SPONSORS, WITHOUT YOUR
SUPPORT, THIS YEARS' TOUR WOULD NOT HAVE
BEEN POSSIBLE.

