



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

Steven A. Silverman  
*Director*

MEMORANDUM

December 16, 2011

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)

FROM: Jeremy V. Criss, Agricultural Services Manager  
Department of Economic Development

SUBJECT: Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Please be advised that the Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at the Upcounty Regional Services Center, 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown, in Room A at a NEW TIME of 7:00 p.m.**

The meeting agenda is on the next page.

The other attachments for our meeting will be posted on the Agricultural Service web site next week. Due to the County's paper reduction mandate, please print these attachments out and bring them with you to the meeting.

See you on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

\*Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If you need other services or aids to participate in this activity, please call 301-590-2810

e:aacDecembermtg2011(aac11)

Agricultural Services Division

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[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices)

## **Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda -December 20, 2011**

1. Introductions: If needed
2. Approval of the AAC Minutes from October 18, 2011. (See Attachment A.)  
Please note the November 15, 2011 AAC meeting was cancelled due to the Annual MCFB.
3. Status of the Horticultural Green Industry Work Group ZTA. (See Attachment B.)  
November 16, 2011 meeting with Council Members Rice and Floreen  
December 21, 2011 meeting with the County Executive
4. Follow-up discussion of the proposed UME-AED staffing plan and meetings from the November 1, 2011 meeting. The Dean met with the County Executive on November 17, 2011. The Dean would like to meet with the agricultural community again after the holidays. (See Attachment C.)
5. County Council Bill 29-11 Boards, Committees, and Commissions-Sunset and Consolidation sponsored by George Leventhal. The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee recommended the Bill should not be enacted and the Full Council supported this recommendation. (See Attachment D.)
6. New Appointments to the Agricultural Advisory Committee- We need two farmer representatives to replace Tom Linthicum and Gene Walker. The Rustic Roads Advisory Committee also needs a farmer representative to replace Fred Lechluder. (See Attachment E.)
7. Follow up from the December 5, 2011 Public Hearing with the Montgomery County Delegation on 2012 Bills- MC 7-12 Septic Easements (HB 536) and MC 16-12 Enforceability of Recorded Covenants for Ag activities and structures on TDR Easement Properties- MCFB Resolution No. 1. (See Attachment F.)
8. **Farmland Preservation Update:**  
  
The BLT program serialized the first BLT-001 and the easement settlement is scheduled. Two additional BLT easement settlements are scheduled after the new year. Totals-3 BLT easement settlements-308 acres-7 BLTs terminated-Average cost \$245K/BLT.  
The AEP program easement purchase period after the holidays-\$1,600/acre Base AEP price.
9. FY 2013 Operating Budget – Recommendation reduction of general fund is 1.9% and equates to \$120,000 for the DED. Agricultural Services share of the reduction is pending.
10. Bill 8-11 Excise Tax on Disposable Carryout Bags-Effective January 1, 2012-a bag provided for perishable items or at the point of sale at a seasonal events such as farmers market, street fair, yard sale or by occasional retailer are all exempt. This would include on-farm markets.  
(See Attachment G.)
11. Application for Rezoning in Bethesda to remove TDR receiving area. (See Attachment H.)
12. The next meeting of the AAC is scheduled for Tuesday January 17, 2012 at 7:00 pm  
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