



Calvert County NEWS

175 Main Street
Courthouse
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
Phone: 410-535-4583 • 301-855-1880
www.co.cal.md.us

Board of Commissioners
Gerald W. Clark
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Danita Boonchaisri, Marketing/Communications Specialist
410.535.4583 Email: danitab@co.cal.md.us

Mark Volland, Public Information Specialist
410.535.4583 Email: vollanrm@co.cal.md.us

Training Program to Cultivate Good Agricultural Practices for Fruit and Vegetable Producers

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – Jan. 19, 2012 – The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the University of Maryland (UMD) will conduct training for fruit and vegetable producers who want to learn more about implementing good agricultural practices. Farmers are invited to learn about the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) program at a training session to be held Wednesday, Feb. 22, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Calvert County Fairgrounds, 140 Calvert Fair Drive, in Barstow.

Training session topics include:

- Why a GAP program is for **ALL** fruit and vegetable producers;
- How implementing a GAP program can assist producers;
- The basics of GAP including water quality and wildlife issues, compost/manure use, worker hygiene and basic sanitation, and;
- MDA/UMD programs to assist producers in implementing a GAP program.

The training registration fee is \$20 per person which includes lunch and training materials.

The GAP training for fruit and vegetable producers is sponsored by the Calvert County Sustainable Agriculture Work Group, the Calvert County Agriculture Commission and the

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Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

To RSVP call 410-535-1600, ext. 2337, or email penfieca@co.cal.md.us. For a registration form, visit www.calvertag.com. In case of cancellation due to inclement weather, please call 410-535-4583 to hear a recording on the status of the workshop.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to approximately 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, utilities, light manufacturing and administrative services.