

About Us



WMREC is connected to the University of Maryland College Park through the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources. Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) and University of Maryland Extension (UME) faculty and staff are located at the Center. Frank Allnutt is the Center Director and manages the research facilities.

The Maryland Rural Enterprise Development Center is an outreach of the University of Maryland Extension, headquartered and maintained at WMREC. It is a one-stop shop for the latest and most successful business development innovations and support for Maryland's agriculture and natural resources enterprises. If you are currently, or would like to be, an agricultural/natural resources entrepreneur, we invite you to explore this site. You will find many resources presented in a variety of ways including our Distance Learning page which lists podcasts on the latest topics.

• W M R E C •

Western Maryland Research & Education Center



Online Resources

Western Maryland Research & Education Center

<http://agresearch.umd.edu/wmrec>
<http://extension.umd.edu/wmrec>

Agricultural Marketing

<http://extension.umd.edu/agmarketing>

Natural Resources Programs

<http://extension.umd.edu/woodland>

Sheep & Goat Programs

www.sheepandgoat.com
www.sheep101.info
<http://mdgoatattest.blogspot.com>
<http://mdsheepgoat.blogspot.com>

Farm Business Management Programs

<http://extension.umd.edu/farmmanagement>

Maryland Rural Enterprise Development Center

<http://extension.umd.edu/mredec>

Small Fruit & Viticulture

<http://extension.umd.edu/smallfruit>

College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

www.agnr.umd.edu

Kids Growing w/Grains



Since 1994, the Kids Growing with Grains program has been held at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center in Keedysville, Maryland (Washington County). Schools with mostly urban populations are invited to come to WMREC for a day of learning. For most of the audience, this is their first trip to a farm. Students participating in the all-day field trip visit four different "stations" to learn about grain production, consumption, and nutritional benefits. This program is a collaborative effort between Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Maryland Extension, Maryland Farm Bureau, and volunteers.

For more information on our programs, contact:

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*An outreach of the
University of Maryland
through Research & Extension*

<http://agresearch.umd.edu/WMREC>



COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE &
NATURAL RESOURCES

Equal opportunity employer and equal access programs

The Western Maryland Research and Education Center (WMREC) lies nestled in the foothills of Maryland's South Mountain range. Established in 1977 by the University of Maryland, the 500-acre center is located near Keedysville, Maryland. The property consists of wooded and open lands, perfect conditions for the range of research conducted.

The Center Director coordinates the facility, equipment, and four staff members needed for research projects conducted at the facility by the Departments of Entomology, Plant Science & Landscape Architecture, Environmental Science & Technology, Animal & Avian Sciences, and University of Maryland Extension.

Research conducted at WMREC includes corn hybrid and small grain variety improvement trials, pasture management and rotational grazing, animal health, perennial weed control, cropping systems, integrated pest management (IPM), tree and small fruit, pumpkin variety trials, mobile high tunnel food crops, hops, and nutrient management. In addition, the enology laboratory supports Maryland's growing wine industry.

The facility cooperates with agricultural industry representatives, USDA, Maryland Department of Agriculture, and county Extension educators.



Agricultural Marketing – Ginger Myers (gsmyers@umd.edu)

The Agricultural Marketing Program provides support to farm, food, and forestry enterprises through professional assistance in marketing and business development plans. Publications, one-on-one assistance, seminars, and networking opportunities are designed to enhance the economic viability of all Maryland agricultural and natural resource enterprises. Ms. Myers is director of the Maryland Rural Enterprise Development Center (MREDC) and has been since its inception in February 2009. MREDC is a web resource containing the latest information on the most popular and profitable rural enterprises.

Farm Management – Dale Johnson (dmj@umd.edu)

Farm Management Extension programs work to improve the business management skills of Maryland agricultural producers and entrepreneurs. Increased productivity and profitability, as well as measuring and fulfilling long-term goals, are accomplished through workshops, seminars, and individual on-farm consultations. Mr. Johnson also is an integral part of the Backyard Poultry research and Extension program.

Natural Resources – Jonathan Kays (jkays@umd.edu)

The Woodland Stewardship Education Program develops educational programs that help citizens better manage their forest and wildlife resources. Specific programs include forest stewardship workshops/short courses; forest wildlife volunteer outreach programs (Maryland Woodland Stewards and Woods in Your Backyard); deer damage management; development of natural resource income opportunities, the use of biosolids to grow forest trees, GPS training, and youth natural resources.

Sheep & Goats – Susan Schoenian (sschoen@umd.edu)

Educational programs related to production and marketing of sheep and goats for meat, dairy, and fiber are conducted for commercial producers, small and part-time producers, lifestyle farmers, rural landowners, students, and 4-H members. Many programs are multi-county and/or multi-state. In 2006, a pasture-based meat goat performance test was implemented at WMREC.

Small Fruit & Viticulture – Joe Fiola (jfiola@umd.edu)

This research and education program addresses the demands of the rapidly expanding fruit industry, including grapes, small fruit, and tree fruit. The program addresses basic beginner production questions, supports the existing industry to improve production, quality, and profitability and also researches and demonstrates cutting-edge production systems and practices for the state. Emphasis is on supporting opportunities in the value-added, agro-tourism industries, including alternative fruit crops and the grape and wine industries.

