Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc.



Promoting the understanding and appreciation of the importance of agriculture in our daily lives.

Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc.

Agriculture in Education in Maryland



Briefly About MAEF

- o Established in 1989 nonprofit. non-governmental
- o Lead by a 25 member Board including 3 exofficio members:
 - MD State Department of Agriculture Supt. of Schools
 - University of MD College Park Provost
 - MD Department of Agriculture Secretary







Briefly About MAEF

Mobile Science Classrooms
Farm Based Education
High School/Post Secondary
Grants, Facilitation, Advocacy

Teacher Training Workshops Career Discovery Maryland FFA



- Currently
- 52 High School Programs
- 1 Combination Middle/High School (Hancock)
- 1 Middle School (Hereford)



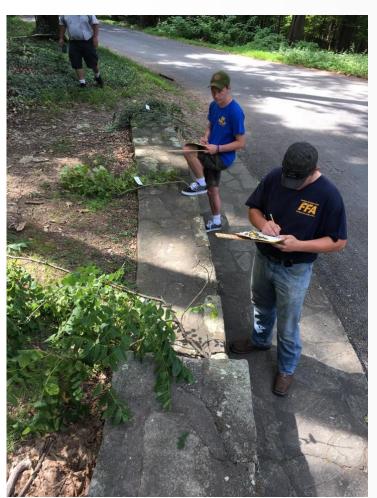


Maryland FFA

49 Chapters in 19 Counties and Baltimore City
Over 2,400 student members

Counties Without Formal Ag Programs:

- Allegany (discussions ongoing future programs)
- Charles (recently dropped their program)
- **Howard** (will be starting a new program in 2018-2019 School Year!)
- **Somerset** (will be re-opening the Ag program with the completion of the new Tech Center)



CTE

High school agriculture programs are recognized by MSDE under Career and Technology Education

High school credits earned are CTE credits and not science credits



Hot Topics

Urban Agriculture

Environmental Literacy

Outdoor Experiences







Hot Topics 2015 Legislative Task Force

- Student Resources
- Teacher Professional Development
- Career Discovery
- Expand High School Programs .



Hot Topics

2016 Legislation Passed

- Encouraging Maryland school systems to have at least one high school agriculture program
- Del. McKay & Senator Bates

Hot Topics

Environmental Literacy - became part of COMAR 2011

- Outdoor field-based environmental experience (at least one)

- Inventory and utilize environmental education service





Hot Topics

Current Legislation - HB 870

Ambitious bill that defines Agricultural Education in Maryland and requests funding for support of teacher professional development, extended contracts, FFA Affiliate membership for all agricultural education students and more.



Summary

- Not Required with the exception of 4th grade history, agriculture is not required to be taught in the Maryland public schools
- Integrating Agriculture taking advantage of the opportunities within the environmental literacy guidelines
 - for outdoor, off campus and community experiences.
- Why not Agriculture Literacy as a requirement for graduation?
- Advocacy continued advocacy for Ag Literacy at all levels
- appears to be making inroads toward a more formal Ag





