



## CALENDAR

### Frederick Public Schools Science Fair

March 21st  
Walkersville High School  
9:30 am - 1:00 pm

Josie Richie to present  
her Honey Project in the  
morning, will be on display.

The Science Committee  
has proposed the following  
speakers for March and  
April.

March 4th Meeting

**FCBA Volunteer:**  
**Mike Turrell: *Pheromones  
in the Beehive***

April 1st Meeting

**Invited Speaker: Marc  
Hoffman: *Queen Rearing/  
Breeding***

April TBD

NewBees Field Day!

### Nature Fest

April 25th  
Catocin Creek Nature  
Center

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

## Committee Activities & Updates

### Auditing Committee

The Auditing Committee comprised of Darlene Donaldson and David Maloney performed its annual review of the club's financial records in the presence of club Treasurer Jens Anderson and submitted its report to the BOD on January 24, 2015. In summary, the Auditing Committee found that the financial records of the FCBA are in order.

### Science Committee

The Science Committee will propose the following speakers for March and April.

**March** - Mike Turrell: *Pheromones in the Beehive*

**April** - Marc Hoffman: *Queen Rearing/ Breeding*

### Newsletter Committee

FCBA Newsletter will be published 3 times a year electronically. (March, June, September)

Submissions will be asked for prior to publication and all submissions whether solicited or not are welcome. As are any suggestions or requests for content.

### Bylaws Committee

Nothing to report.

### Public Relations Committee

Nothing to report.

## Next Meeting



### Our State Apiary Inspector: Cybil Preston

Please register your hives!  
And please consider donating  
what you can to the **Apiary  
Inspectors Fund.**

Office of Apiary Inspector

Md. Dept. of Agriculture

50 Harry S Truman

Annapolis, Md. 21401

(410) 562 3434

## ***Register Your Hives (It's Free!) and Please Consider Donating to the Apiary Fund***

Below is an important message excerpted from an email sent by the Maryland State Beekeepers Association (MSBA)

Dear MSBA Board Members and County Club Presidents:

You are probably aware that painful budget cuts at the state level are being felt in the Apiary Inspection Program at a critical time.

Be assured that we know this, are working on the issue, and plan to reverse them with your help.

This note is intended to do four things:

- Give you the most accurate information from the source(s);
- Explain the origin of the cuts and the likelihood of future threats;
- Share MSBA's strategy to reverse these cuts and prevent them in future; and
- Engage your local organization to protect local beekeeping.

### **What we know:**

On Friday, the Apiary Inspection service was informed that the contract inspectors' hours would be cut for the balance of the fiscal year, which ends June 30th. Based on previous years, the "Winter" period is perceived as the quietest for the contract inspectors and the least likely to impact commercial and sideline apiculture. All of us know, however, that the number of hives that need to be moved for pollination and the number of nucs that need to be inspected for sale during this period make it anything BUT quiet, which has been pointed out to Plant Protection (the agency that includes Apiary Inspection). In speaking with the Acting Director, I do believe they understand this: they said on an "as needed" basis the contract inspectors would be called in to help with these tasks. I personally have misgivings about this plan. They also intend to bring Apiary Inspection back to strength July 1 "for the busy summer months." (What follows is my opinion) I believe that they want this sincerely, but they weren't able to protect us now, and we will not get back anything we do not fight for.

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## What happened, and what is coming:

The budget cuts that have been applied to Apiary Inspection are a result of the 2% across-the-board cuts enacted at the end of the O'Malley administration. But before getting partisan, please note that incoming Governor Hogan has promised an additional haircut. WHAT THAT MEANS TO US is that the Maryland Department of Agriculture will HAVE EVEN LESS to spend on July 1. Our Apiary Inspector had no data to defend us against the cuts, because Apiary Registrations are essentially flat and donations to the Apiary Inspectors fund are low. There is literally NO evidence from the Maryland beekeeping community that we are here and that we care.

## What we are doing and what we can do:

MSBA has worked with the Maryland legislature in previous years, and we immediately reached out to Delegate Kathy Afzali of Frederick, who sponsored the Honey Standard Bill in the House, received the Free State Beekeeper Citizenship award that year, and remains an energetic friend of Maryland beekeeping. We are also reaching out to the Maryland Farm Bureau for advice on how to proceed and possibly access their resources. The facts that I have shared above are confirmed by work done by Del. Afzali's staff on our behalf. The Maryland Department of Ag is now aware that the MSBA is watching, that the House of Delegates is concerned, may soon hear from the Farm Bureau, and is planning on sending representatives to our Saturday meeting to explain events and take questions. I will be continuing to communicate with our allies based on what we hear on Saturday.

## We cannot protect the Apiary Inspection Service if we continue to operate in the current manner.

We need to register the apiaries of Maryland, or we will lose this service. Even if we survive this time.

If our beekeepers cannot be moved to register their apiaries for free, they cannot be expected to benefit from a free Inspection service. Those of us with substantial apiary operations know that the service given is worth hundreds of dollars at critical moments, and even sideliners get access to expertise it would take them years to acquire.

Please tell your members what they are about to lose, and realize what it means for your clubs if you NO LONGER HAVE a local inspector in future years.

How to reach non-members: from teaching in local clubs, we know that many students get bees and never come to another meeting: please consider emailing or hard copy mailing students from previous years to inform THEM of what is about to happen, and explain what it means.

## Events



**Nature Fest**  
OPEN HOUSE EVENT

Saturday, April 25, 2015  
10:00-4:00 PM

Catoctin Creek Nature Center  
2929 Sumantown Road • Middletown, MD 21769

Join us as we celebrate Earth Day at Catoctin Creek Park. This year we will be offering a wide variety of free outdoor program activities throughout the day and a sneak peak to our exciting summer nature programs here at the park.

Live Animals  
Nature Walks  
Archery Sessions

Silent Auction  
Campfire Activities  
Park Conservation Projects

For more information: 301-600-2051  
Recreator.com  
catoctincreek.blogspot.com

DOCS  
in the park

Frederick County Nature Center

*This year, "Nature Fest" will be on Saturday, 25 April, from 10:00 to 4 pm.*

*There is a sign up form to reserve an area.*

### *Nature Fest - 2014*



*Dave Maloney represented us very well at the Catoctin Creek Nature Center Nature Fest last year. It is a fun day, and we should have a few more people there. More information at the meeting.*

*Visit Frederick County Master Gardeners for Seminars and Plant Sales beneficial to our bees and other pollinators.*

### **Annual Master Gardener Plant Sale**

Saturday, April 25, 9 am - 4 pm

Frederick News Post Building

Hundreds of plants, including many that are native to our area

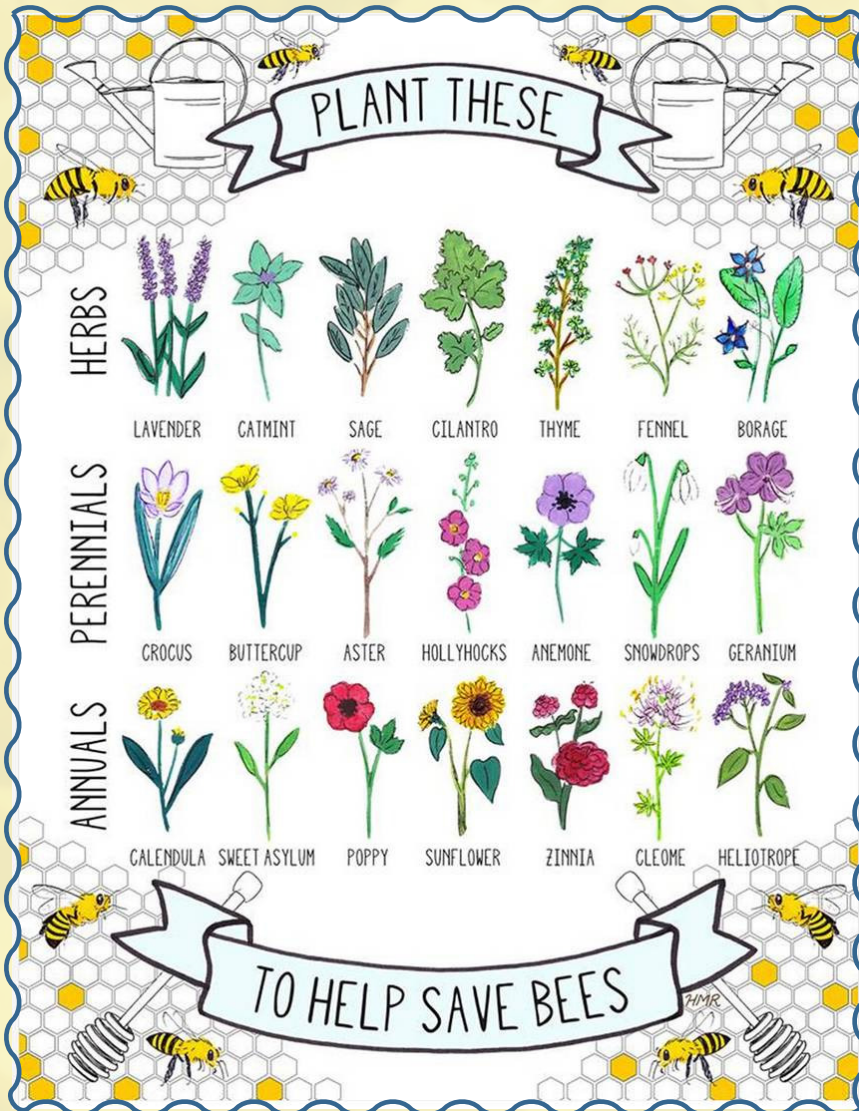
### **Attracting Pollinators and Birds with Native Plants**

Saturday, March 7, 10 am- Noon

It's surprisingly easy to create outdoor spaces, large or small, that use native plants to attract and sustain bees, butterflies and birds.

*Spring is Just Around the Corner. . .*

*“Bee” prepared and plant some bee-friendly flowers. . .*



<http://www.hannahrosengren.com/help-save-bees.html>

### Local sources for Neonicotinoid-free and Organic plants...

#### U. S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

Annual native plant sale very early spring (March); check website for dates and times

3501 New York Ave, NE, Washington DC 20002-1958, 202-245-4521

#### BLACK HILL REGIONAL PARK – MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Annual native plant sale in April held by Friends of Black Hill; check website for date

20926 Lake Ridge Dr, Boyds, MD 20841, 301-663-3416

#### COMMON MARKET

Organic Co-op. Offers organic plants and seeds in spring

5728 Buckeystown Pike, #1-B, Frederick, MD 21704

#### KPHILLIPS ENTERPRISES

Jefferson, MD, Vendor at West Frederick Farmers' Market, 301-371-7728

#### SUN NURSERIES

Use IPM. Only spray selected plants as needed. Must inquire at time of purchase if plant has been treated

14790 Bushy Park Rd, Woodbine, MD 21797, 410-442-2090, 301-854-6107

#### SURREYBROOKE NURSERIES

No sprays.

8610 Baltimore National Pike, Middletown, MD 21769, 301-371-7466

#### THANKSGIVING FARMS

Grow all their own stock; organic

1619 Buckeystown Road, Adamstown, MD 21710, 301-662-1291

## Recipes using Honey . . .



### Orange Marmalade Chicken Breasts

from kitchen of Darlene  
Donaldson

6 chicken  
breasts

1 lg. orange,  
peeled and  
sectioned

1/2 c.  
pineapple  
chunks, drained

Basting Mixture

1/4 c. orange marmalade

1/4 c. honey

1 tsp. ginger

Place chicken breasts in 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish and cover with basting mixture. Bake 40 minutes uncovered in 350 degrees, basting occasionally. Add orange and pineapple. Bake 20 minutes longer (don't turn).



## Recipes for Bees . . .



### Pollen Patties

from kitchen of  
<http://boobeehoney.com/>

Note: Pollen patties attract hive beetles, so ideally you want the bees to consume the patty within 3 days. Best not to put more than one patty in the hive at one time, unless you have a very strong hive and minimal problems with hive beetles.

### Ingredients

1 cup pollen substitute

1/2 cup sugar syrup (1:1 or 2:1)

1/4 tsp HoneyBHealthy

### Instructions

Mix together, you want the consistency of play-doh

Pull off a piece no larger than a golf ball

Place between two sheets of wax paper or parchment and roll into patties about a 1/4 inch thickness

Leave patty between wax paper and cut excess paper around edges.

Use the edge of a knife to cut rows of small slits across the top and bottom so the bees can have easy access without having to remove the paper. The paper keeps the patty from breaking up and falling between the frames. The girls will eat right through it.

Lay directly on top of the frames above the brood and remove the top layer of wax paper



1/4 cup honey

1/4 cup spicy mustard

1/4 cup butter or coconut oil melted  
(I use coconut oil healthier)

Little bit salt and pepper

Mix all together and brush onto chicken with skin on I use drum sticks or thighs Makes enough for about 12 sticks or thighs.

Bake at 425. For 45 min



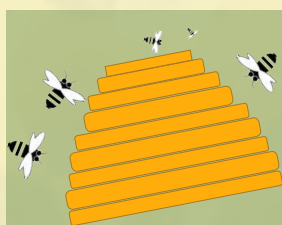
### Honey Coconut Chicken

from kitchen of Jens  
Andersen

## Did You Know . . .

### There is a Patron Saint of Bees & Beekeepers?

<http://www.druidry.org>



In Ireland, Saint Gobnait, also known outside of Ireland as Saint Abigail and Saint Deborah, is the patroness of beekeeping. Interestingly her feast day is the 11th of February. She was said to be a great healer using honey in her remedies. Legend tells us that an angel appeared to her and said that she would find her rightful place, her resurrection place where she would dwell for the rest of her life, where she saw nine white deer. In one story she threw hives of bees at thieves and the air became brown with bees to see them off. In another she changed bees into soldiers and a hive into a brass helmet. Perhaps because of her associations with winning battles, she has been compared to Deborah the Prophetess, whose name means 'bee' in Hebrew. The root of which is an ancient Chaldean word meaning both 'bee' and 'word'.

### Interesting Facts about bees...

<http://matteroftrust.org/>

The male honey bee, the drone, has a grandfather but no father.

Honey bees have been producing honey from flowering plants for about 10-20 million years.

Honey bees contribute 8 to 10 billion dollars to the U.S. economy yearly.



*People take different roads seeking fulfillment and happiness. Just because they're not on your road doesn't mean they've gotten lost.*

~ Dalai Lama XIV

commons.wikimedia.org

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