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For immediate release

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Note: Series Producer Joe Ligo is available for interviews. In addition, Nov. 16 episode photos and the series logo are available at <https://bit.ly/3mXfvug>.

MPT series *Maryland Farm & Harvest* visits Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties and Washington, D.C. during November 16 episode

OWINGS MILLS, MD – OWINGS MILLS, MD – Maryland Public Television's (MPT) popular original series [*Maryland Farm & Harvest*](#), now in its ninth season, will feature farms and locations in Baltimore, Montgomery and Prince George's counties and Washington, D.C. during a new episode airing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 16. A season nine preview is available at youtube.com/watch?v=EPhiyv-96_s.

The weekly series takes viewers on a journey across the Free State, telling interesting stories about the farms, people, and technology required to sustain and grow agriculture in Maryland, the number one commercial industry in the state.

Joanne Clendining, who has earned two Emmy® awards from the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for her work on *Maryland Farm & Harvest*, returns as host. She is joined by Al Spoler, who handles duties for each episode's *The Local Buy* segment.



With introductions filmed at [Hooper, Inc.](#), a farm equipment dealer in **New Windsor (Carroll County)**, the November 16 episode features the following segments:

- **The Brood X Cicadas of 2021 (Montgomery and Baltimore counties)** The *Maryland Farm & Harvest* team travels to Laytonsville in Montgomery County to meet with University of Maryland entomologist Paula Shrewsbury, as she shares with viewer the science behind the 17-year cicadas' re-emergence and her passion for the unique insects. At [Playtime Pastures](#) in Woodstock, Baltimore County, farmer Jamie Condon shares a similar affinity for cicadas because of the protein-packed snack they provide her free-range chickens. On the other hand, cicadas prove problematic for other aspects of Maryland agriculture such as new tree production. Back at [Ruppert Nurseries](#) in Laytonsville, Farm Operations Manager Nick Graves goes into detail about

the damage done to young trees as a result of the cicadas' summer visit.

- **African American Farmers (Prince George's County and Washington, D.C.).** Despite historical oppression and abuse faced by African American farmers in years past, Gail Taylor has chosen to write her own narrative to cultivate a brighter future for agriculture. [Three Part Harmony Farm](#), run by Gail in northeast Washington D.C., is an example for what current and future generations of Black farmers can accomplish. She's aligned herself with like-minded individuals to form the [Black Dirt Farm Collective](#), which strives to redefine the relationship that Black people have with agriculture. The collective recently purchased 24 acres of land in Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, to create a space to help grow and inspire new generations of Black farmers.
- **The Local Buy: Beets at Common Root Farm (Montgomery County).** Segment host Al Spoler visits [Common Root Farm](#) in **Derwood**, where farm staff is busy harvesting a variety of vegetables. Ryan Kalivretenos focuses on cultivating a variety of colorful beets with benefits that support a health immune system. Cristin Coop of [Coop's Soups](#) in Olney sources the fresh beets grown at the Common Root Farm to create delicious and nutritious beet soup. Cristin explains the ingredients that go into her beet soup and then Al gets a taste. A beet soup recipe will be available for viewers at mpt.org/farm.

Maryland Farm & Harvest airs on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on MPT-HD and online at mpt.org/livestream. Encore broadcasts are available on MPT-HD Thursdays at 11 p.m. and Sundays at 6 a.m. Each episode also airs on MPT2/Create® on Fridays at 7:30 p.m.

More than 10 million viewers have tuned in to *Maryland Farm & Harvest* since its fall 2013 debut. The series has traveled to nearly 400 farms, fisheries, and other agriculture-related locations during its first eight seasons, covering every Maryland county, as well as Baltimore City, and Washington, D.C.

Past episodes can be viewed at video.mpt.tv/show/maryland-farm-harvest/, while episode segments are available on the series' YouTube channel at youtube.com/c/MarylandFarmHarvest/featured. Engage with the show on social media [@MarylandFarmHarvest on Facebook](#) and [@mdfarmtv on Twitter](#).

The Maryland Department of Agriculture is MPT's co-production partner for *Maryland Farm & Harvest*. Major funding is provided by the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board.

Additional funding is provided by Maryland's Best, Rural Maryland Council, Maryland Agricultural Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (Marbidco), a grant from the Maryland Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Program, MidAtlantic Farm Credit, The Douglass Cornell Foundation, Maryland Soybean Board, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Wegmans Food Markets, Maryland Nursery, Landscape & Greenhouse Association, The Maryland Seafood Marketing Fund, Maryland Farm Bureau, and The Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment.

Other support comes from Mar-Del Watermelon Association and Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation.

SYNOPSIS OF NOV. 16 EPISODE—

Join host Joanne Clendining as she explores local Maryland farms. Learn how the 2021 cicada swarm impacted tree farmers. Meet a group of returning generation African American farmers. Then, Al Spoler meets a farmer who shares his love of beets during *The Local Buy* segment.

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About Maryland Public Television

Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service member offering entertaining, educational, and inspiring content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices. A state agency, it operates under the auspices of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission. MPT creates local, regional, and national content and is a frequent winner of regional Emmy® awards. MPT's commitment to educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through instructional events and Thinkport.org. MPT's year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources on a wide range of topics. For more information visit mpt.org.