

# NEWS RELEASE



Maryland Public Television

11767 Owings Mills Blvd. | Owings Mills, MD 21117 | [mpt.org](http://mpt.org)

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**For immediate release**

**Contacts:**

Michael MacFee | [mmacfee@mpt.org](mailto:mmacfee@mpt.org) | 410-581-4262

Emily O'Donnell | [eodonnell@nevinspr.com](mailto:eodonnell@nevinspr.com) | 443-686-1331

**NOTE:** Interviews with Series Producer Robert Ferrier are available. In addition, episode photos and the series logo are available to download from MPT's Dropbox [HERE](#).

## **150<sup>th</sup> episode of *Maryland Farm & Harvest* visits Frederick, Howard, and Prince George's counties and Baltimore City on February 11**

*After a holiday break, popular MPT series resumes weekly episode premieres through its Season 12 finale on April 1*

**OWINGS MILLS, MD** – [Maryland Public Television's](#) (MPT) original series [Maryland Farm & Harvest](#), now in its 12<sup>th</sup> season, will feature farms and locations in Frederick, Howard, and Prince George's counties and Baltimore City during an episode premiering on Tuesday, February 11. This marks the popular TV series' 150<sup>th</sup> episode since its debut on the statewide public TV network in 2013.

Since then, more than 16 million viewers have watched *Maryland Farm & Harvest* on-air and via MPT's streaming platforms. The series has traveled to more than 500 farms, fisheries, and other agriculture-related locations during its 11-plus season run, covering every Maryland county, as well as Baltimore City and Washington, D.C.



*Maryland Farm & Harvest* airs on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on MPT-HD and online at [mpt.org/livestream](http://mpt.org/livestream). Episodes are also available to view live and on demand using the free [PBS app](#) and MPT's [online video player](#). A preview of the new episode can be found on the series' webpage at [mpt.org/farm](http://mpt.org/farm).

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

With introductions filmed at [Willowdale Farm](#) in **Reisterstown (Baltimore County)**, the February 11 episode features the following stories:

- **Libertas Estates (Frederick and Howard counties)** – After a vineyard became besieged by spotted lanternflies, an unlikely hero waddled to the rescue. Viewers join [Michael J. Raupp, Ph.D.](#), professor emeritus, University of Maryland, on a survey of the spotted lanternfly population around [Lake Kittamaquidi](#) in **Columbia**. Then, James Ewing, farm manager at [Libertas Estates Winery](#) in **Mt. Airy**, shows how he’s been able to limit the presence of the invasive species by enlisting the help of an army of Indian runner ducks.
- **OlaLekan Farm (Prince George’s County)** – From growing ginger to okra, peppers, and other staples, 26-year-old Tolu Igun is on a mission to make fresh and culturally rich foods accessible to her neighbors while fostering a farming community of her own. Having established [Olalekan Farm](#) at the [Urban Farm Incubator at Watkins Regional Park](#) in **Upper Marlboro**, the first-generation farmer and Nigerian immigrant mentors budding farmers hoping to follow in her footsteps.
- **Farm to Skillet: Chef Spike Gjerde (Baltimore City)** – James Beard award-winning chef Spike Gjerde of [Woodberry Kitchen](#) in **Baltimore** leads viewers through the [32<sup>nd</sup> Street Farmers Market](#) in **Waverly**, where he finds rabbit and bacon from [Liberty Delight Farms \(Reisterstown\)](#), peaches from [Black Rock Orchard \(Lineboro\)](#), and purslane and shallots from [One Straw Farm \(White Hall\)](#). With the fresh, locally produced ingredients in tow, Gjerde returns to Woodberry to create a delicious braised rabbit stew. The recipe will be available to download at [mpt.org/farm](#).

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*, serves as series host. She is joined by Al Spoler, host of “The Local Buy” segments, and by a variety of local chefs who serve as guest hosts of the series’ “Farm to Skillet” segments.

Encore broadcasts of *Maryland Farm & Harvest* air on MPT-HD on Thursdays at 11 p.m. and on Sundays at 6 a.m. Episodes also air on MPT2/Create® on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. Past episodes can be viewed on the free [PBS app](#) and MPT’s [online video player](#), while episode segments are available on the series’ YouTube channel at [youtube.com/c/MarylandFarmHarvest/featured](#).

Audiences are invited to engage with the series on social media [@MarylandFarmHarvest on Facebook](#) and [@mdfarmtv on Instagram](#).

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; MARBIDCO; a grant from the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Specialty Crop Block Program; Farm Credit; Maryland Soybean Board; Maryland Nursery, Landscape & Greenhouse Association; Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts; Maryland Farm Bureau; The Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment; Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation; and by the citizens of Baltimore County.

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### **About Maryland Public Television**

Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) member offering entertaining and educational content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices via its [online video player](#) and the [free PBS app](#). A state agency operating under the auspices of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, MPT also produces local, regional, and national programming and frequently earns regional Emmy® awards for its work. MPT’s commitment to educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through its [Maryland Center for Media Literacy & Education](#) and [Thinkport.org](#). MPT’s year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources covering a wide range of topics. More information is available at [mpt.org](#).