

FALL UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2026

Membership Enrollment

As a new year begins, so does a new year of membership. As the Maryland Agriculture Teacher Association strives to support all Maryland Ag Teachers our goal is that all Maryland Ag Teachers are members of the Maryland Agriculture Teachers Association.

Membership Registration
bit.ly/4fqzVaw



Updates in this Issue:

Updates from NAAE

- National Teach Ag Day
- Applying to be an NAAE Committee Member
- NAAE Convention 2026
- Region VI Conference Survey April 2027

Updates From MATA

- Fall Advisor Meeting @ COLT
- Fall Social
- Membership Incentive Program

Resources

- Sub Plan Resources
- Classroom Resources From Lancaster Farmer
- Planning for National Convention
- SAE Resources

Updates from National FFA

- FFA Advisor Updates from Bethany and Emily
- New Resourcees
 - My SAE Plan
 - FFA at the Bell



SAVE THE DATE

2027 Summer Ag
Teachers
Conference
July 6th - 8th, 2027
Cecil County, MD



NAAE UPDATES

0+
IDEAS

80+
WORKSHOPS

40+
EXHIBITORS

150+
COHORT PD ATTENDEES

2026 NAAE Conference

December 1-5, 2026 | New Orleans, Louisiana

- Join us in New Orleans, Louisiana this year and experience the premier aged professional development event of the year: the 2026 NAAE Convention. Find the piece to your professional development puzzle in over 80 different aged specific professional development workshops or network with your peers from across the nation. There is no better way to invest in yourself as a professional! You won't want to miss it!

<https://www.naae.org/convention/>

National Teach Ag Day Thursday Sept. 17th, 2026

Join us for the NAAE #TeachAg Breakout 2.0 Challenge! NAAE is excited to bring back the #TeachAg Breakout Challenge with an all-new Breakout 2.0 experience! This interactive activity helps students explore the skills and rewards of becoming an agricultural educator while competing with programs from across the country. The change will take place on National #TeachAg Day, Thursday, September 17, 2026. Click [here](#) to register your students.

2026 National #TeachAg Celebrating Planning Guide

As you prepare for National #TeachAg Day, be sure to check out the [2026 National #TeachAg Day Celebration Planning Guide](#)! Designed to help you create a celebration that reflects your unique style and vision, this guide is packed with ideas to help you make the most of the week leading up to National #TeachAg Day and the celebration itself. Whether you're continuing favorite traditions or trying something new, you'll find inspiration and resources to help make your event a success.

#TeachAg Interactive Student Notebook

Looking for resources you can use year-round in your classroom to help spread the #TeachAg message? Check out our [#TeachAg Interactive Notebook](#)! This free resource is filled with activities and worksheets to get your students thinking about a career in agricultural education.



2027 Region VI Conference

Feedback Survey

Delaware is seeking some feedback for the region VI conference. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey before the deadline.

Link to Survey:

<https://forms.gle/CFrLqFySyWHnd1on9> Requested Date for Input: Friday, August 14, 2026

NAAE Committee Member and Leadership Applications

We are currently seeking members for 2027-2029

NAAE regional representatives for each of our five committees.

Applications for 2027-2029 NAAE Committee regional representatives are due on September 15, 2026. [Apply here.](#)



MATA UPDATES

Fall Updates

- MATA is actively working with MAEF to approve an updated MOU
- All awards and checks have been issued for 2026 Awards Season
- Upcoming Meeting Dates:
 - September 15th - 6:30pm
 - October 13th - 6:30pm
 - November 17th - 6:30pm
 - December 15th - 6:30pm
 - Jan 19th - 6:30pm
 - Feb 16th - 6:30pm
 - March 16th - 6:30pm
 - April 20th - 6:30pm
 - May 18th - 6:30pm
 - June 15th - 6:30pm



Fall MATA Social



MATA
Fall Social

Join us for a tour of J Bar W Ranch in Union Bridge, MD afterwards joins us a Liberty Road Seafood for All You Can Eat Crabs.
We Hope to See You There!!

OCTOBER 10TH, 2026
Start at 11am
at J Bar W Ranch
10530 Green Valley Rd, Union Bridge, MD 21791

Liberty Road Seafood - 12pm
10524 Liberty Rd, Frederick, MD 21701

RSVP HERE:
<https://forms.gle/B4reQdQn3ZJ64aqf6>





Fall Advisors Meeting @ COLT

Join Us on Saturday October 31st, 2026 at 1pm for our Fall Meeting.

MATA
MEMBERSHIP
Incentive Program

The following is a proposal set forth by the MATA Board as a means to increase membership and participation in the Maryland Agriculture Teachers Association, as well as the National Association of Agriculture Educators and participation in Region VI activities:

- Must be a current MATA member and have dues paid as of the Summer Conference meeting in order to be eligible to receive incentives offered by the MATA.
- Attend 2 (two) out of the 3 (three) following MATA or NAAE meetings:



Get Involved

Check Out the MATA Membership Incentive Programs

<https://mata-md.org/membership>





TEACHER RESOURCES

Sub Plan Resources

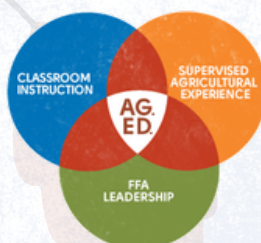
As you are completing those emergency lesson plans at the beginning of the year or preparing for fall field trips? Keep in mind some awesome resources to help you with your sub plans.

- MATA Educators Resource Page - <https://mata-md.org/educator-resources>
- Ag Explorer - <https://agexplorer.ffa.org/resources/>
- FFA Blue 365 - <https://www.ffa.org/blue365/>
- AFNR Value Chain Lessons - <https://dev-ffa-dot-org.pantheonsite.io/value-chain-lessons/>
- National FFA Educator Resources - <https://dev-ffa-dot-org.pantheonsite.io/my-toolbox/instructor/educator-resources/>
- SAE for All Educator Resources - <https://saeforall.org/educator-resources/>
- National Council for Agriculture Education Educator Resources - <https://agteacherresources.org/>

Maryland Agriculture Teachers SAE for All Virtual Training

Get update and understand SAE's better. Participate in Maryland Ag Teacher SAE for All virtual training.

<https://mata-md.org/md-sae-for-all-training>



Lancaster Farming Free Teacher Resources

Lancaster Farming is starting another year of Classroom News, which provides critical thinking questions paired with our stories that ag teachers can use in their classrooms for free. The first set of stories for this school year is available at

lancasterfarming.com/classroom-news.

Here are this week's stories:

[New App Lightens the Load of Weighing Cattle](#)
[Susquehanna Waldorf School Garden Cultivates Produce and Life Skills](#)
[El Nino to Bring Warmer, Wetter Fall Ahead for Farmers](#)
[No Exploding Cows: Composting Animals the Right Way](#)

Registering and Planning For National Convention

- Step 1 - Record your CDE/LDE, Speak Ag, National Chapter, Etc. Required Events - <https://ffa.app.box.com/s/v8iehyiwazftcv8rtlp9md3f24eqosll>
- Step 2 - Map Out Your Interest - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BWCEVsuW6WZnWHLdcca1AW8rsBoNF_aFrQOuUy3Uxlw/edit?usp=sharing
- Step 3 - Create a Schedule
 - Create an excel calendar
 - Use an website with an App like Team Up - <https://www.teamup.com/> (It's Free!)
- Step 4 Register - <https://convention.ffa.org/registration/>
 - Early Bird Registration Rate
 - \$95 per person
 - Early bird registration opens at 6 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, Sept. 9 and ends at 7:59 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, Sept. 30.
 - Standard Registration Rate
 - \$115 per person





FFA AMBASSADOR UPDATES

Message from Your Ambassadors

Hello! We are Emily Muller and Bethany Meyers. We are ag teachers and FFA Advisors at Winters Mill and at Hancock. We are honored to serve you this year as your National FFA Teacher Ambassadors. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything!

SAE For ALL - NEW “FFA at the Bell” Videos

- Kick off class with “The SAE Spark,” a quick FFA at the Bell video launching September 17! Designed as an engaging bell ringer, this short video introduces students to SAEs and gets them thinking about how their own interests, experiences, and goals. It’s an easy way to start the conversation, build excitement, and get students thinking about the possibilities of SAE, all in just a few minutes.- [Click Here!](#)

We Want to Hear From YOU!

We would love any and all feedback you provide! Please let me know what you do or do not like so I can continue to better serve you this year!



Don't forget I want your feedback! Fill out the Maryland Teacher Ambassador Feedback Form today! [Link Here!](#)

New Resource: My SAE Plan

Check out the new “My SAE Plan” resource designed to help students explore and plan their Foundational SAE within an agricultural focus area. Resources are currently available for Animal Systems, Agricultural Education, and Agribusiness Systems. These student-friendly tools guide students in connecting their interests, career exploration, and Foundational SAE experiences to an area of agriculture that interests them. - [Click Here!](#)

