



**CALVERT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: | March 3, 2008
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**Agriculture Commission Announces
“Horse Owners Guide to Good Pastures” Seminar**

PRINCE FREDERICK, MD – March 3, 2008 – Are you a horse owner struggling to establish or maintain good pasture? Have your hay costs skyrocketed? This seminar, sponsored by the Calvert County Agriculture Commission and the Calvert Soil Conservation District, will focus on the key elements of good horse pastures – including the best way to control weeds, guidelines for seeding, renovating and maintaining pastures, new developments in pasture grasses and technical and financial assistance for improving pastures and reducing the need for hay.

The seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 18, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 p.m., at Courthouse Square, Planning Commission Hearing Room, 1st floor, 205 Main Street, Prince Frederick, Md., and will be helpful for horse owners whether they have one horse or fifty.

Speakers include Elmer Dengler, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Grazing Specialist and Dr. Lester Vough, forage systems management consultant, Southern Maryland Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D).

Seminar attendees can enter a free raffle to receive up to five acres of a new variety of perennial summer forage planted by the Calvert Soil Conservation District as a grazing demonstration project. All attendees will receive free handouts and pasture sticks. Light refreshments will be served.

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The seminar is free, but advance registration is required. For questions or to register, call Craig Mask or Jennifer Snoddy, Calvert Soil Conservation District, at 410-535-1521 ext.3.

Calvert Soil Conservation District provides assistance with planning, designing and applying for incentive and cost share programs for installing conservation practices on Calvert County farms.

The Calvert County Agriculture Commission acts as an advisory board to the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners on issues that affect the County’s farming industry, promotes the continuance of viable farming industries in the County and works to develop new agri-businesses. For more information, visit www.calvertag.com.

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For media information, contact the Calvert County, Maryland, Department of Economic Development at 410-535-4593, 800-331-9771 or 301-855-1880; send an e-mail to info@ecalvert.com or visit the Agriculture Commission Web site at www.calvertag.com.