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OWINGS MILLS

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For immediate release

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Note: Series Producer Joe Ligo is available for interviews. In addition, Feb. 22 episode photos and the series logo are available at <https://bit.ly/36ljj2H>.

MPT series *Maryland Farm & Harvest* visits Carroll, Howard, and Montgomery counties during season-ending episode on February 22

OWINGS MILLS, MD – Maryland Public Television's (MPT) popular original series [Maryland Farm & Harvest](#) will feature farms and locations in Carroll, Howard, and Montgomery counties as part of a harvest-themed episode at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22. During the current season's first episode, *Maryland Farm & Harvest* visited three farms to observe the spring planting process. Now, the series returns to the same locations to observe the fall harvest. Viewers can watch on MPT-HD and online at mpt.org/livestream.

The episode marks the conclusion of *Maryland Farm & Harvest's* ninth season on MPT. The series will return with new episodes for its 10th season in the fall.

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.



With introductions filmed at **MD-Delight Dairy in Westminster**, the February 22 episode features these segments:

- **Harvesting Corn at Carroll Mill Farm (Howard County).** The episode begins with a return to **Carroll Mill Farm in Ellicott City**, where farmer Ricky Bauer has been working with Maegan Mullins of [Willard Agri-Service](#) on his corn crop. Joanne Clendining recaps the process of planting the field in the spring, then explains how the crop grew over the summer. Now in November, it's time to harvest. While Ricky prepares his combine harvester, Maegan explains how farmers can tell when

the corn is ripe and ready. After examining crop damage from deer, the harvest begins. The outside rows have suffered some losses due to deer, but as Ricky moves toward the inside of the field, the corn is healthy and strong. Viewers follow along with the harvest, as load after load of corn is taken back to grain bins where it will be stored before being sold for livestock feed.

- **Harvesting Seedless Watermelon (Carroll County).** Farmer Carville Mace is working hard at [Foxleigh Farm in Taneytown](#) to bring in the last of the watermelon harvest. With a quick recap of how the farm planted its fields in June with this iconic summer fruit, viewers see just how much the melons have grown. Carville explains the importance of knowing when a watermelon is ripe, which he can sense by tapping the fruit and listening to it. Each plant produces four or five watermelons. As the day goes on, Carville, his family members, and farmhands pick wagonloads of melons, which are then washed and sold at stores and the family farm stand.
- **The Way it Works: Farm Equipment Road Safety.** In this segment, series producer Joe Ligo highlights the mechanical side of agriculture. Harvest time is a busy season for farmers and they often have to drive large equipment on public roads as they travel from field to field. Joe shares some important traffic safety tips for drivers, detailing what to do when they come across a large farm vehicle on the road.
- **The Local Buy: Harvesting Hydroponic Lettuce (Montgomery County).** Several months ago, Al Spoler visited [Bella Vita Farm in Brookeville](#) where he learned how they grow greens in a high-tech aquaponics system that doesn't use any soil. Now, Al has returned to bring in the harvest of delicious lettuce he helped plant weeks before. Farmer Amy Falcone shows Al the harvesting process and then shares interesting ways to prepare these healthy greens. The recipes can be found at mpt.org/farm.

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 13 million viewers have tuned in to *Maryland Farm & Harvest* since its 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, Washington, D.C., and nearby Delaware.

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](https://www.facebook.com/MarylandFarmHarvest) and [@mdfarmtv on Twitter](https://twitter.com/mdfarmtv).

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 Cornell Douglas 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.

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.