

This summer offers many reasons to get outside and go green

My Green Montgomery

Tue 7/11/2017 2:11 PM

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## Get on board the Energy Express with Public Libraries and DEP

### Workshops for kids are all summer long

As part of the summer reading program, "Build a Better World/Construye un Mundo Mejor," DEP and Public Libraries are partnering to host free Energy Express workshops for elementary students.

During each workshop, kids will learn the basics of renewable energy (solar + wind) and then build their own renewable energy powered device: a SunZoon Lite Solar Car or a Wind Generator II. Learn more at the [Energy Express website](#) and sign up for a workshop at your local library

through the [MCPL website](#).



## Greening of a Park: Kemp Mill Urban Park gets a makeover

You're invited to the grand reopening of Kemp Mill Urban Park on Wednesday, July 12th from 6pm - 8:30pm. The Park underwent a renovation that incorporates innovative design and landscaping to benefit the environment and make for a beautiful and enjoyable park.

The July 12th celebration will feature family-friendly activities such as pop-up tennis, lawn games, as well as nature-themed activities. DEP will be there too! [Learn more about the Kemp Mill renovation and opening.](#)



## Montgomery County facilities are moving towards energy independence

Last week, Montgomery County celebrated the completion of the largest solar project at a County Facility to date. The Montgomery County

Correctional Facility now features two ground-mount and one rooftop array and is expected to produce 3.5 million kilowatt hours of electricity each year, enough to provide more than 60% of the electricity used by the facility.

This project is part of a larger initiative to install solar on other County properties, moving the County significantly closer to independence from both the power grid and the rising cost of electricity. [Learn more.](#)



## A step closer to 70%: The County opens a new mixed paper recycling facility

The new addition to the Recycling Facility processes approximately 200 tons of paper/cardboard per day, which is sorted and baled. The baled paper is sent domestically and internationally to be recycled into reusable materials such as cereal boxes, printer paper, paper bags, cardboard boxes and pizza boxes.

The opening of the new facility makes it possible for the County to capture the revenue of the baled paper sales, which is used to offset the operations and programming costs. [Learn more.](#)

**Green Living**



## Take a tour of Montgomery County Farms

For the 28th consecutive year, the Montgomery County Office of Agriculture will give County residents a firsthand look at the beauty, value and importance of the many farms that exist right in their midst.

**The Montgomery County Farm Tour and Harvest Sale**, which happens July 22-23, allows visitors to take self-guided tours of 17 farms in Montgomery County. Producing everything from strawberries to beer, organizers say these farms—many of which are situated in the County's 93,000-acre agricultural reserve—are an important part of the County's past and present. [Learn more.](#)

**If you do one thing...**



**Try Meatless Mondays for a month**

Going green doesn't always mean making big changes. One little change is to modify our diet. For the next month, challenge yourself to have **Meatless Mondays**.

You could also go a step further and start doing **Meatless and Milkless Mondays**, or days when you eat totally vegan. You can even get others in on the fun and challenge your friends, family, or coworkers to join you.

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## Community Calendar

### **Rachel Carson Historical Talk**

**Tues, July 11: 7:15pm - 9:00pm**

Hosted by Friends of Sligo Creek at Veterans Plaza in Silver Spring. Learn how Rachel Carson promoted conservation from within the federal government with historian Mark Madison. [Learn more.](#)

### **Reopening of Kemp Mill Urban Park**

**Wed, July 12: 6pm - 8:30pm**

The opening celebration will feature family friendly activities and informational tables (DEP will be there!). 1200 Arcola Avenue, Silver Spring

### **Montgomery County Farm Tour & Harvest Sale**

**Sat, July 22 - Sun, July 23**

Choose your own adventure! There are 17 farms you can tour on Saturday and 13 on Sunday. They include PYO farms and animal sanctuaries. [View the map and plan your weekend.](#)

### **Nature Matters: Wild Edibles of the Mid-Atlantic**

**Wed, July 26: 6:45pm - 8:15pm**

Evening presentation by Montgomery Parks with NY Times bestselling author Tim MacWelch. [Learn more.](#)

### **Montgomery County Agricultural Fair**

**Fri, Aug 11 - Sat, Aug 19**

The Ag Fair is a great way to spend the day with the family. From the arcade and fair rides to the educational booths and farm animals, there is something for everyone. Make sure to stop by the DEP booth near Chilly Mall.



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