



**Advanced Biomass Boot Camp**  
**Overhills Mansion, 916 S. Rolling Road, Catonsville, MD**  
**Monday, November 19, 2015 (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)**

*Sponsored by the Maryland Wood Energy Coalition & University of Maryland*

**The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) has just announced its first commercial Wood Energy Grant Program! Learn about this program at the boot camp!**

Wood energy conversion systems have the potential to significantly lower fuel and electricity bills while burning renewable, locally sourced, low-emissions wood fuels. The upfront cost of feasibility studies are often cited as a barrier to project development. By removing this barrier, facility owners will have the information necessary to determine the technical and financial feasibility of converting an existing fuel oil, propane or electric heating system to a wood energy conversion system. MEA will provide grants to conduct wood energy feasibility studies at eligible facilities in Maryland. MEA has partnered with the Maryland Wood Energy Coalition to provide this educational program to educate potential applicants. More information on the Commercial Wood Energy Grant Program is available at:

<http://energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/incentives/woodenergygrant.aspx>

**Why attend this Advanced Biomass Boot Camp?**

**The Advanced Biomass Boot Camp is a focused one-day program for those interested in the grant program to gain in depth exposure to selecting best potential projects and financing opportunities.** Facility owners, managers, planners, administrators, engineers, extension educators, forestry professionals, store retailers, and financial / business managers interested in potentially using biomass to heat commercial facilities should attend to determine if your organization has potential projects for grant funding consideration.

This program will focus on commercial project selection and financing; major barriers to implementation; and assistance provided by the MEA grant. Attendees will obtain insight that can assist in making informed decisions regarding the viability of exploring biomass heating or combined heat and power for their facility.

**Topics covered include:**

- **Details of the MEA Commercial Wood Energy and the Residential Wood Grant Programs;**
- **successful project case studies for commercial wood energy projects in an environment of lower fossil fuel prices;**
- **the components of a feasibility study;**

- **alternative financing options that can provide the capital and mitigate risk for commercial wood energy projects;**
- **the vision for the wood energy industry in the state of Maryland;**
- **and the latest residential wood energy technologies in light of the latest EPA emission regulations.**

Participants will receive materials including case histories of successful projects, links to on-line resources, and other useful references. There will also be plenty of time for questions and answers as well as networking with the presenters. Details will be provided for a March 2016 wood energy tour of a school facility in Northern Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

**To register for the Biomass Boot Camp, complete the attached registration form or visit: <http://agresearch.umd.edu/agroecol>. For questions and additional information, contact Nancy Nunn at (410) 827- 6202, ext. 128 or [nnunn@umd.edu](mailto:nnunn@umd.edu)**

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Organized in April 2010 the Coalition has grown rapidly to include a diverse group of state agencies, nonprofits, and businesses. The Coalition's mission is to advance the responsible use of Maryland's vast supply of woody biomass for clean, affordable thermal energy production. 40% of Maryland energy needs are for heating and cooling and wood is a renewable resource that can be managed sustainably.

The Coalition supports the implementation of small to medium-sized commercial and institutional applications for government, schools, and businesses, as well as residential thermal applications. Clean burning wood technology is being implemented widely in the Northeast and throughout the nation and thanks to updated air quality regulations, Maryland can develop a new industry. For more information on the Coalition contact: Jonathan Kays, 301-432-2767 x323. [jkays@umd.edu](mailto:jkays@umd.edu).



## **Advanced Biomass Boot Camp Finding & Financing Modern Wood Energy Projects**

**Overhills Mansion, 916 S. Rolling Road, Catonsville, MD 21228**

**Thursday November 19, 2015**

**9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

*Category 1 SAF Continuing Forestry Education Credits requested*

**Cost:** \$25 per person include all materials, continental breakfast and lunch.

**Registration:** Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology (see attached form or visit: <http://agresearch.umd.edu/agroecol>).

**Registration Deadline: Friday, November 13, 2015. No refunds will be provided.**

### **Agenda**

**9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9:30 a.m. Welcome and Overview of Maryland's Programs**

**Emilee vanNorden, Biomass Program Manager, Maryland Energy Administration**  
*Introduction of Maryland's biomass incentive programs including the new Commercial Wood Energy Grant Program and the Clean Burning Wood Stove Grant Program for residential stoves.*

**9:55 a.m. The Vision for Wood Energy in Maryland**

**Dan Rider, Wood Utilization Specialist, MD Department of Natural Resources Forest Service**  
*This session will highlight the progress to date in the development of the wood energy industry in Maryland, as outlined in the "Prospectus for Advancing Bio-thermal Energy in Maryland". Highlights including the development of regulations, incentives, and validating sustainable supply as well as challenges for financing wood energy projects will be discussed. This presentation will lay the groundwork for the remaining sessions.*

**10:15 a.m. Break**

- 10:30 a.m. Session 1: Latest Residential Wood Energy Technologies**  
**John Ackerly, President, Alliance for Green Heat**  
**Karen-Harman-Smeltz, Harman Brand Manager, Hearth & Home Technologies**  
**Taylor Myers, President, MF FIRE LLC**  
*Discover what is new for the residential market in light of the latest EPA emission regulations. Hear from those involved in wood and pellet stove incentive and change-out programs, and the challenges of implementing and meeting the new EPA emission regulations.*
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch**
- 12:15 p.m. Session 2: Identifying the Best Project Scenarios**  
**Tom Wilson, Biomass Engineer, Wilson Engineering**  
**Paul Lewandowski, AFS Energy Systems**  
*The presenters will provide advice on identifying project components required for implementation of a successful project based on their personal experiences. The session will include several examples of completed projects.*
- 1:30 p.m. Break**
- 1:45 p.m. Session 3: Financing Successful Projects**  
**Wyatt Shiflett, Finance Director, MD Clean Energy Center**  
**Michael Morris, National Business Development Manager, Schneider Electric**  
**Joel Morrison, Director, Director of the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund**  
*Financing has proven to be the biggest challenge for project implementation. The traditional capitalization model of financing is being used less and less due to tight credit markets. What are the alternatives that are now available to provide necessary capital that also helps mitigate risks without sacrificing all the savings? The presenters will provide information regarding the Performance Contracting model; grant and loan programs; and financing through Treasury Bonds.*
- 3:00 p.m. Session 4: Panel Discussion**  
**Josephine Gilman, Dean of Finance, Garrett County College**  
**Cheryl DeBerry, Natural Resources Business Specialist, Garrett County Office of Economic Development**  
**All speakers from previous sessions**  
*Presenters will provide the background of a current project at Garrett County College. A discussion of the steps incurred to implement projects in Maryland as well as what is needed to be a good candidate for the MD Wood Energy Grant Program. Speakers from all sessions will be engaged in the discussion and address any and all questions from the floor.*
- 3:55 p.m. Closing Remarks**  
**Jonathan Kays, Natural Resource Extension Specialist, University of Maryland Extension**  
*Summary of the day's sessions; details of March 2016 wood energy tour of Northern Bedford County, Pennsylvania School District; and program evaluation.*
- 4:00 pm Adjourn**

## Biomass Boot Camp Registration Form

**The registration cost is \$25 per participant and includes all materials, continental breakfast and lunch. Registration and payment deadline is Friday, November 13, 2015. No refunds will be issued on registrations.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please list the names of all individuals that the enclosed payment covers)

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to the University of Maryland.**

Credit Card type: MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation in a program, please contact Nancy Nunn at (410) 827-8056, ext. 128 or email [nnunn@umd.edu](mailto:nnunn@umd.edu).

Registration form and payment should be mailed, faxed, or emailed to:

The Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc.

Fax: 410-827-9039

Attention: Nancy Nunn

Email: [nnunn@umd.edu](mailto:nnunn@umd.edu)

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