

# Notes from Evergreen



## Quarterly Update

- EHC unveils new Heritage Sawmill and Wood Shop
- EHC conducts Healthy Living workshops
- EHC pilots Art in the Schoolyard program

## The New Heritage Sawmill and Wood Shop

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at its spring Open House, the Evergreen Heritage Center (EHC) Foundation unveiled its new Heritage Wood Shop. This project, **funded by the Rural Maryland Council (RMC)**, enabled the EHC Foundation to build a companion to the Heritage Hoop House (a 2100 sq. ft. greenhouse) built last year and funded by the RMC and USDA. The Heritage Wood Shop will provide the EHC Foundation and its partners (including Allegany County Public Schools, Allegany College of Maryland, Frostburg State University, and the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources) with the ability to offer empowering lessons in sustainability by:

- Serving as a **teaching sawmill wood shop** to support experiential learning/training in sustainable forestry practices that strive to maintain forest health, biodiversity, and capacity for regeneration while also meeting society's increasing demand for forest products;
- Demonstrating the **full life cycle of trees** and their role in forest ecology;
- **Training** young people and adults in wood crafts, thereby providing them with useful job skills while educating them as to both **heritage and modern practices**;
- Producing highly **marketable wood products** and wood art which can be supplied to local businesses and contribute to economic development;
- Economically producing, as part of EHC forest management, useful wooden structures, benches, and tables for EHC **outdoor learning stations**.

The photo on the right below shows Josh Gank and Matt Diehl milling logs at the Wood Shop. At top of this page is the finished Sawmill and Wood Shop building. The sawmill was purchased last fall and then used to mill EHC logs, creating the lumber that was used to build the Wood Shop.

For more information call 301-687-0664, visit [www.evergreenheritagecenter.org](http://www.evergreenheritagecenter.org), or email [foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org](mailto:foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org).



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## EHC Garden Workshops

This spring, in partnership with Allegany College of Maryland's Continuing Education program, the EHC conducted a series of Healthy Living Workshops that focused on:

- **Food from the Forest**, in which participants explored the world of crops that thrive in the forest, learned what edible vegetation is hiding in our own backyards, discovered how to grow shiitake and oyster mushrooms, and prepared bags of oyster mushroom spawn to grow at home;
- **Heirloom Crops**, in which participants discovered the history and value of local heirloom crops, learned how to graft apple trees, and received an heirloom plant to care for and grow in their own backyard;
- **Growing Herbs**, in which participants learned how to grow and use herbs for both health and taste buds, helped to build a spiral herb garden, made herbal salves, and received herbs to grow and use at home.

During their workshops, participants also had the opportunity to work in the EHC's Heritage Hoop House (a large high-tunnel greenhouse that was built last year and funded by the **Rural Maryland Council and USDA**).

More workshops are planned for September and October, and will include hands-on lessons in planting, harvesting, and composting. For more information, see page 4 of this newsletter, call 301-687-0664, or visit [www.evergreenheritagecenter.org](http://www.evergreenheritagecenter.org).



*EHC crops in the Hoop House*



*EHC's spiral herb garden*



*Instructors Hana Yoder (left) and Elaine Raesly inoculating logs with shiitake mushroom spores*

## EHC's Environmental Arts Program

This past school year, the EHC continued its work to integrate the arts and sciences as part of programs that annually serve Head Start, elementary, middle, and high school students, as well as college students and teachers. In addition, the EHC expanded its offering dedicated to encouraging participants to explore the outdoor and then capture their observations on canvas. This past year, the program included seven art workshops for the public, two well-attended exhibitions for local artists, and a pilot of an *Art in the Schoolyard* program. *Art in the Schoolyard* was created for Mount Savage School 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who participated in a schoolyard safari (searched for living things and habitats on the school grounds) and then painted pictures of the elements they discovered during their safari adventure. The photos below show the children exploring the schoolyard and then creating large paintings of their discoveries. The EHC Foundation hopes to offer this program in additional schools this coming year.



# EHC's 2014 Summer and Fall Schedule

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**July 7-11:** EHC Science Discovery Summer Camp

**July 14-18:** Teacher Professional Development Workshops

**July 22:** Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation (a day on the EHC Farm)

**August 17:** Paintings from Photographs (Art Workshop)

**September 6:** Preserving the Garden Harvest (Gardening for Health Workshop)

**September 6:** Compost – How to Make and Use It (Gardening for Health Workshop)

**September 7:** Painting Forests and the Trees (Art Workshop)

**September 13:** Energy into Art (a Family Fun workshop)

**October 11:** Frostburg Arts Walk (Exhibition at General Arts Store)

**October 12:** The Great Pumpkin Patch (Art Workshop)

**November 1:** Artists Explore Environments II (Frostburg Exhibition)



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## We Host Events!

Our secluded location eliminates distractions, yet is a short drive away. We are just outside Mount Savage, only 15 minutes from Frostburg and Cumberland. Our green facility can accommodate your meeting or event for up to 50 people. Guests may enjoy tours of the historic Evergreen Museum, barn, and walking trail. Catering services are also available.

For more information, contact us at 301-687-0664 or [foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org](mailto:foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org).

