

NEWS RELEASE

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LEARN ABOUT SOIL HEALTH WITH DR. SARA VIA AT ADKINS ARBORETUM

Microbes in the soil have a huge impact on how plants grow and react to stress situations. It's a wild world down there, and some of the interactions will surprise you! Learn about the importance of soil health on Wed., March 22 when Dr. Sara Via presents [Life Underground: Healthy Soil, Healthy Plants, Healthy Planet at Adkins Arboretum.](#)

Building and maintaining soil health is essential for food production, the conservation of forest and natural areas, and climate-resistant gardening, agriculture and forestry. Learn what healthy soil is, how to know if you have it, and how to build it if you don't. A hands-on demonstration will follow Via's talk.

The program runs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Advance registration is requested at adkinsarboretum.org.

Via is a professor of biology and entomology at University of Maryland, College Park. She is interested in the effects of climate change on agriculture and home gardening, biodiversity and human health. In association with University of Maryland Extension and Maryland Master Gardeners, she works with community groups, high schools and universities to increase awareness of the scientific reality of climate change and to motivate effective action to curb its rapid progression.

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Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve at the headwaters of the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County. Open year round, the Arboretum offers educational programs for all ages about nature, conservation and gardening. For more information, visit www.adkinsarboretum.org or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

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