

# Peach Cobbler

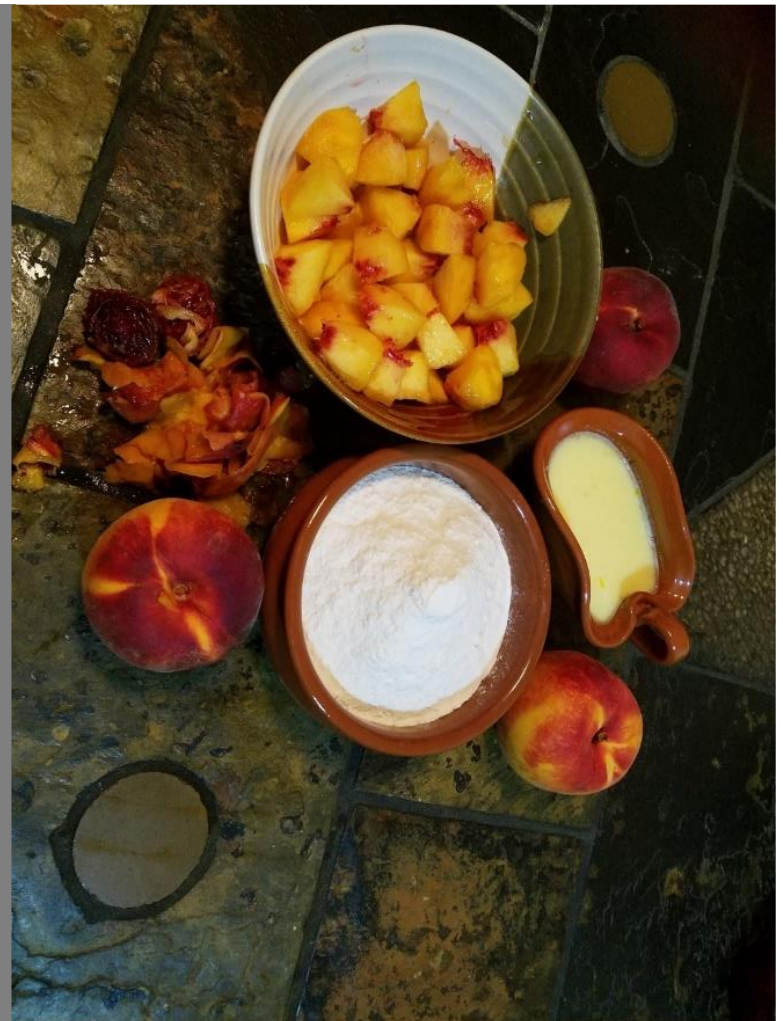


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## SPRING 2022

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- Repair and Recovery
- Volunteers and Visitors
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## Throwback Titbits: *Spring 2019*

By March, the snow from the late January snowstorm had melted; but there was a huge amount of downed tree limbs in the storage and veggie garden area as well as the test house access path which had to be cleared. The backhoe continued to have starting issues; so we ended up removing the starter assembly and taking it home. We then disassembled and cleaned everything and purchased a new starter and were fortunately able to fix the backhoe. Alan volunteered to man the table of the beekeeping club at the Thurmont fest in April. We attended an auctioning event by Cochran and had an interesting day with Patches. We ended up purchasing some gardening tools, ladders, pots and Alan bid and won a good amount of beeswax. We also used Krano oil to disconnect a busted hose pipe that ended up having broken connector threads. April as usual was spent doing a lot of housekeeping around the fruit tree areas, weeding and mulching the veggie garden and planting some veggies. Alan was also able to move the pile of excess dirt leftover from the veggie garden work down to the mulching area to help flatten the land there. Towards the end of April we were able to start back with construction work and flattened the floor after the mess we had created whilst filling up the foundation trench. We also flattened and put down asphalt and sand in the bathtub area. We also moved all the concrete rubble and purchased a couple of rubber mats to help prep the test house area for further building. We also picked up wooden logs and a couple of old telephone poles – both of which turned out to be a waste of time since we haven't had much use for them.



# Throwback Titbits cont....





## Construction Corner

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Our first major piece of beautiful work gone completed this season and that was laying out the wooden rounds for the test path. The work involved cleaning up the path that we had prepared a few seasons ago, coating all the dried rounds with a water repellent, laying them down and then filling the gaps with white marble stones. This was followed by flattening and weeding the dirt on either side and planting scotch and irish moss along the length of the path. We also started cobbing and have started putting down lintels on some of the windows – hex, study and kitchen. We have also put in the framing and supports for the porch that will go above the front window. The front door arch has finally gone in with chicken wiring. We also put down chicken wire on the inside of the hex window and cobbled it in for a nice curved finish.



# Construction Corner cont....





# Horticultural Haven

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We did a lot of clearing of undergrowth near the well/cookout/mixing areas as well as some fallen trees from the main house area. This resulted in a few stashes of wood logs and twigs that we are piling up in the well as well as behind the test house for building fires in the future. We have decided to try planting some fruit trees again; but have approached another local nursery called plantpath to get bare root trees. The guy there was very helpful and informative, and we ended up buying 2 butternuts, 2 mulberries, one beast hazelnut, one grand traverse hazelnut, 2 Hardy pecans and two persimmons - all of which we protected with plastic tubing kits. Alan put down the hardy banana and fig tree that we had obtained through Nextdoor and sprayed fungicide on the grape and plum tree. We also did some major clearing of fallen trees and undergrowth at the front of the land including the stone wall; though a lot remains to be done. Girija worked on the veggie garden when Alan had gone to UK to visit his parents. Though we don't plan on planting anything, it helps to keep the upkeep of the garden so that it progressively improves every year.



# Horticultural Haven cont...





## Repair and Recovery

We have had further storms that caused a little more damage to the roof and water collection on the roof tarp and some leaks onto the bond beams. We managed to drain the water and remove the fallen tree limbs and relay the tarp properly to minimize any further leaks.







# Volunteers and Visitors

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We have located a new farm very close to our land and got the chance to visit them and check out their goats and their store at the farmer's market. We even saw baby goats and giant Flemish bunnies that another farmer had brought to the market. We have been putting the trail camera looking down on the test house path after we finished the paving and it has been catching a lot of activity including deer, cats, giant rabbits, wild turkey, opossums and racoons.



# Volunteers and Visitors cont...



CAT



Crow Conference



Wild Turkey



Opossum



Racoon



# Tracking with Tech

We did a lot of outreach and have lined up some contractors - plumbing, excavating, septic to come to the land over the next few months to help understand and plan the work for the main house. We are also in discussion with the county planning officer and he has agreed to a pre-planning meeting in May/June timeframe. The good news is that we were able to contact the septic authority in the permits office and confirmed that our perc continues to be valid and we do not need a BAT septic system for our land.

## PHONE LISTING FOR SEPTIC CONTRACTORS

The following list includes companies who prepare water table and percolation test holes and/or install septic systems. Please be advised that is only a partial list of excavators - distribution of this list by the Well and Septic Section in no way indicates preference or endorsement of any company included in this list.

- \*\* Indicates companies who prepare percolation test holes
- # Indicates companies who prepare infiltrometer tests for sand mounds
- + Indicates companies certified to install sand mound septic systems

J. Maurice Carlisle\*\* # +  
19700 Barnesville Road  
Dickerson, MD 20842  
(301) 428-8599

Environmental Septic &  
Waste Services, Inc.\*\*  
Vernon King  
P.O. Box 466  
Damascus, MD 20872  
(301) 253-1400

Farm & Home Excavating  
Bill Ingram  
901 Driver Road  
Marriottsville, MD 21104  
(410) 442-2139 office  
(410) 984-0189 cell

Fogle's Septic Service\*\* +  
580 Obrecht Road  
Sykesville, MD 21784  
(410) 795-5670

J.V. Harrison +  
4717 Old Washington Road  
Sykesville, MD 21784  
1-(866) 766-7292

Hatfield's Equipment \*\* +  
P. O. Box 519  
Annapolis Junction, MD  
(301) 490-4289

Exploratory Test Log  
Hammond Excavating  
Angelo Hammond  
3321 Hipsley Mill Road  
Woodbine, MD 21797  
(301) 674-2988

King & Sons, LLC  
8605 Augusta Farm Lane  
Laytonsville, MD 20882  
(301) 924-4218

Frank Lawrence  
6430 Mountindale Road  
Thurmont, MD 21788  
(301) 898-5310 office  
(301) 748-6944 cell

Level Land, Inc.  
Justin Brendel  
P.O. Box 100  
Lisbon, MD 21765  
(410) 489-5206

Leonard Moxley\*\* #  
P.O. Box 82  
Damascus, MD 20872  
(301) 253-1082 office  
(301) 606-7412 cell

National Trench  
Craig Nash  
P.O. Box 452  
Smithsburg, MD 21783  
(240) 217-2216

Oak Hill Construction\*\* # +  
16910 Oak Hill Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20905  
(301) 440-6422 cell  
(301) 421-4155 office

Pickles Services  
Mike Picarella  
10701 A McKinstry Mill Rd  
New Windsor, MD 21776  
(301) 514-7938 pickleservices@aol.com

R & P Backhoe Services  
P.O. Box 254  
Clarksburg, MD  
(301) 963-8012

Reise Enterprises, Inc.\*\* #  
Jim Reise  
P.O. Box 505  
Damascus, MD 20872  
(301) 948-6974 office  
(301) 928-3941 cell

South Carroll Backhoe  
4410 Salem Bottom Road  
Westminster, MD 21157  
(410) 875-4197

W/Out  
County  
Only PER