



**NATIONAL PLANT BOARD
2008 NATIONAL MEETING**

AUGUST 10-14, 2008

Holiday Inn Select
155 Holiday Drive
Solomons, Maryland 20688
410.326.6311

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT (May 12, 2008)

The Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Eastern Plant Board, PPQ-MD, and the **National Plant Board** cordially invite you to attend and participate in the 2008 National Plant Board Meeting in Solomons, Maryland from Sunday through Thursday, **August 10th through 14th, 2008**. Meeting dates for the General Session are Monday through Wednesday, August 11th through 13th, 2008. The deadline for returning registration forms is **Monday, July 7th, 2008**.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Select Conference Center and Marina in Solomons, Maryland. Attendees need to make their own reservations by using the direct booking link available on NPB Website*, or calling **1-888-HOLIDAY (888.465.4329)**. Request rooms that are reserved for the 2008 National Plant Board Meeting, **Group Rate P40**. Reservations should be made by **Friday, July 11th, 2008** to obtain the group rate. The room rates are \$88.00 plus tax. Upgrades are available at a discounted rate. **Please make your reservations early.**

LOCATION:

The picturesque island town of Solomons, Maryland is located in historic Calvert County where the Patuxent River meets the Chesapeake Bay. This quiet waterfront fishing village is a great place from which to explore the Southern Maryland region. Recreational opportunities include boating, fishing, collecting fossil shark's teeth on nearby beaches, and visiting many local attractions such as the Calvert Marine Museum (very close to the hotel) and Calvert Cliffs State Park.

MEETING REGISTRATION:

Full registration is \$350.00. Guest registration is \$100. One-day registration is available upon request. Please return your registration forms (attached) by **Monday, July 7th, 2008**. Make checks payable to the "National Plant Board" and note "2008 NPB meeting" in the memo. A **late fee of \$50.00** will be added to any registration postmarked after **Monday, July 7th, 2008**. The agenda will be posted on the NPB Website* as it is developed.

MEALS:

Included in registration:

- Continental Breakfast - Monday through Wednesday
- Lunch - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
- Dinner - Tuesday banquet, a genuine Maryland Crab Feast, guaranteed to get messy!

TRANSPORTATION:

Baltimore Washington International and Reagan National airports are both within a 90-minute drive of the hotel. Details on ground transportation will be posted on the NPB Website*.

FIELD TRIP:

A field trip to the United States National Arboretum in Washington D.C. is included in the registration. In addition to learning about phytosanitary measures at this ARS research and teaching facility, we will go on a guided walking tour of the grounds (please note any special

requirements on the registration form.) Water-lilies, hibiscus, crapemyrtles, and hydrangeas are typically in bloom in August. You will also be able to visit the many collections of year-round interest.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

We are hoping to coordinate some activities during the week for travel companions, and before or after the meeting for attendees. Please check the NPB Website* for updates. For planning purposes, please indicate your interest on the registration form.

EXHIBITS:

Exhibit space is available upon request, subject to availability. Please indicate your interest and anticipated needs (table, electricity, etc...) on the Registration Form.

WEATHER AND ATTIRE:

August in Maryland is **hot and humid**, normal historical MAX 85.1, MIN 63.9, **AVG 74.5**, PCP 3.74". Afternoon thunderstorms are common. Dress will be casual – shake out your aloha shirts and khakis and bring your sneakers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

*National Plant Board: www.nationalplantboard.org/meetings/index.html#npb

NOTE: Please check this Website regularly for updates and additional information. This announcement will be the only mailed correspondence for the meeting.

- Holiday Inn Select: <http://solomonsmd.hiselect.com/>
- Solomons MD: <http://www.sba.solomons.md.us/>
- U.S. National Arboretum: <http://www.usna.usda.gov/>
- Calvert Marine Museum: <http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/>
- Calvert Cliffs State Park : <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/calvertcliffs.html>
- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Chesapeake Biological Laboratory: <http://www.cbl.umces.edu/>
- Calvert County Tourism <http://www.ecalvert.com/content/tourism/index.asp>

We look forward to your attendance at our annual meeting!
Please contact us if you have any questions.



holkoca@mda.state.md.us

CONTACT:

phone: 410.841.5920
fax 410.841.5835



halletdc@mda.state.md.us