



THE DISTRICT DIRT

ANNE ARUNDEL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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annearundelscd.org

WINTER 2022-2023

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CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

by John Czajkowski

On October 20th, we hosted our 75th anniversary dinner at the Atrium at Soaring Timbers, located at 610 Bestgate Road. Our District was established on February 21, 1946, but due to COVID, we postponed the celebration until this year. During the welcome, Gary Palmer, Vice Chair of the District Board, gave us insight on the status of agriculture around the world in 1946, just after WWII. The event was catered by Main & Market and entertainment was by Tim Moffett, who goes by Tim the Dairy Farmer. During the event, a PowerPoint presentation showed photos of former employees, farms, and conservation practices from the past. A table was set up to display some of the tools that were used to survey and install conservation practices and to develop a Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans (Farm Plan). Items such as our first published soil survey dating back to 1928 as well as agricultural yearbooks dating back to 1923 were available to browse through. Vaughn Foxwell, Treasurer for the District Board, brought his 1968 pick-up truck to set the mood at the entrance to the Atrium. We want to thank everyone for coming and celebrating our anniversary with us.

John Czajkowski, District Manager, john@ascd.org

Cover photo from AASCD's 75th anniversary dinner with Southern High School FFA students, AASCD Vice Chair Gary Palmer, Maryland Senator Sarah Elfreth (District 30), Southern High School agricultural science and FFA teacher Stacy Eckles, and AASCD Chair Brian Riddle. More photos on page 2.

IMPORTANT DATES

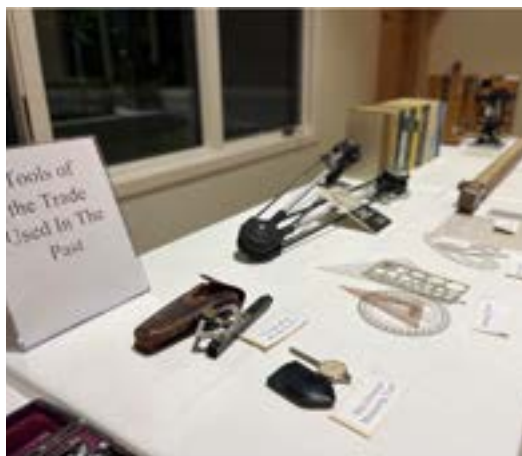
Southern Maryland Forage Conference
January 17, 2023, 8:00AM - 3:30PM
Calvert County Fairgrounds

Taste of Maryland Agriculture
February 2, 2023, 6:30PM
Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland, Arundel Mills
mdagcouncil.com

Southern Maryland Vegetable & Fruit
Production Meeting
February 9, 2023, 8:00AM - 4:00PM
Location TBD

MASCD Winter Meeting
February 9-10, 2023
The Graduate Hotel, Annapolis

Crop Sustainability & IPM Workshop
March 7, 2023, 6:00PM - 9:00PM
UME-Anne Arundel County



Photos from AASCD's 75th anniversary dinner at the Atreem at Soaring Timbers, catered by Market & Main with entertainment by Tim Moffett (bottom left). Senator Sarah Elfreth presented a citation to the Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District (far right) with AASCD Chair Brian Riddle and AASCD Vice Chair Gary Palmer.



USDA NRCS photo by Brandon O'Connor



COVER CROP PROGRAM

by David Scheler

Cover crops are planted at the conclusion of the fall harvest. Cover crops improve soil health, protect the soil from erosion and absorb unused plant nutrients remaining in the soil. Cover crops also protect water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and tributaries.

We had another year of strong participation in the MDA's Cover Crop Program for Anne Arundel County. Twenty-two applications were processed for fall 2022 cover crop planting, which represents 4,578 acres planted in Anne Arundel County. For the Spring of 2023, twenty-three applications have been approved.

Also for 2023, the small acreage cover crop program was created to support urban agriculture. Urban agricultural growers and small farmers who plant 5 or fewer acres are eligible.

All Cover Crop Programs have become popular due to the economic viability of implementing the practice coupled with the environmental benefit of planting cover crop seed mixes or single cereal grains after harvest. Visit mda.maryland.gov or annearundelscd.org to learn more.

David Scheler, Soil Conservation Specialist, david.scheler@md.nacdnet.net



THE REAL FARMSTEWARDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY: PART 2

by Shelley Garrett

Congratulations! You've purchased your farm. And now it's time to get to work to make sure that it lives up to all of your expectations. You've decided to keep just your three remaining horses on property (good riddance, Red Dragon). You need a barn, a riding ring, and pastures. You've already contacted your local Soil Conservation District, so you're all set to go. That's the end of the article, thank you for attending my TED Talk.

In all seriousness, many landowners aren't aware of our office or what our office does to make your plans become reality. I thought I'd take this Part 2 as the opportunity to explain some of the things that may be required to get your property set up for success. It is not as simple as just building your barn once you find a builder, or planning to enroll your farm into agricultural preservation to help fund the mortgage payment. There are steps that have to be taken to ensure you don't end up on the wrong side of Anne Arundel County's Code Compliance division.

For Part 2 of our Farmstewards of Anne Arundel County Series let's start with what is the most important

puzzle piece: the Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan (SCWQP). We briefly touched on this in Part 1 in the Summer 2022 newsletter, but what exactly does the plan do for you? In simple terms, it provides you with an outline to follow the best management practices (BMPs) you can implement on your farm. This includes pasture planting recommendations, fencing layouts, watering facility locations, and proposed barn sites. Obtaining a SCWQP concretizes these practices as being best management practices that can be installed without a grading permit or building permit through Anne Arundel County. While traditional farming practices such as pasture planting and tilling and planting of fields with agricultural crops are allowable by code as farming practices, it is important to have the SCWQP as an additional justification of these practices. Our County is evolving, and not typically towards the education of what farming and agriculture is. Without a SCWQP and a relationship as a Cooperator with the District, work on farms can be construed or misunderstood by neighbors or enforcement divisions.

Your SCWQP will help enforce that what you are doing is in fact an agricultural practice. The Cooperator's Agreement with the District will set you up as being under our umbrella in a sense. If you ever have a problem with receiving a violation or a question regarding your operation, we can help step in.

The SCWQP also opens the doorway to cost share opportunities to install best management practices. These programs include State and Federal programs that range from permanent BMPs such as manure storage structures and roof run off for barns, to agricultural practices including cover crop, pasture planting, and nutrient management plans. These programs can provide funds to landowners to help pay up to 87.5% of the cost of the project. The structural BMPs are surveyed and designed for free by our office. Our engineering team comes out and you point out your proposed location and they hit the ground running to ensure the BMP is build to state and federal requirements to ensure you receive the most funds that you can.

If you plan to build a barn, indoor or outdoor riding ring, the SCWQP is also required to show the proposed location and we help you through the entire application process to receive your approvals from Anne Arundel County. If you already have an existing SCWQP, it must be updated with new or modified locations of agricultural structures each time. This includes run-in sheds that are larger than 64 sq. ft. While I don't want to go too in depth on requirements for agricultural structures such as horse barns, indoor riding rings, hay barns, and outdoor riding rings, you can find all of that information in our 2017 newsletter for agricultural structures and Winter 2021 newsletter for outdoor riding rings. The only update is there is a \$700 application cost.

The SCWQP is also required if you would like to enroll, or have already

Continued on page 4

REAL FARMSTEWARDS...

been enrolled, in preservation programs. SCWQP's are valid for 10 years, so after that decade has passed, please ensure that you update your plan to keep in compliance with program requirements. Barbara Polito's office of Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program is great at reminding you to get a plan updated if it is out of date, but it's important to keep an eye on your expiration date to avoid any conflicts on the back side. We will cover agricultural preservation in future newsletters, but in brief: a property must be a parcel of at least 50 acres, or several contiguous agricultural properties that total 50 acres or more. It is important to remember that if you enroll, this is the sale of the rights for anyone, not just you, to build on the property. So, if you have future plans of houses on the farm for children or grandchildren, be sure to let them know and try to preserve those areas out of the easement.

New to Anne Arundel County code is also agritourism allowances on farms. If you plan to open your property to

the public to be able to experience agriculture, a SCWQP is a requirement for qualification of an Agritourism Certificate of Use. The Agritourism Certificate of Use is required for any property conducting activities that fall under Agritourism definition of: "a business enterprise on a farm related to agriculture or natural resources that is offered to the public or invited groups..." that "...includes fishing; wildlife study; corn mazes; pumpkin patches; harvest festivals; field trips; hayrides; pick-your-own operations; farm tours; food services, including farm to table meals; farm museums; educational classes; and activities or events related to agriculture, historical, cultural, or natural resources, agricultural products, or agricultural skills". This also includes farm stays and farm stores. If your plans for your property fit into this, be sure to get your SCWQP prior to applying through Anne Arundel County.

It's also important to note that Anne Arundel County code is constantly evolving and being amended, and the SCWQP is heavily leaned on

for justification of a property being agricultural by Anne Arundel County government. While a SCWQP is not required on any property, it does create opportunities for farms to expand and an extra blanket of protection for landowners.

To compress all of that information into one take home idea: get your Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan created or updated as soon as possible. There's nothing that we can require or force you to do, and we aren't on the hunt to find something wrong on your property. It's voluntary, but the benefits it unlocks are endless. What do we get out of it? For the District, we use the numbers of acres and best management practices to meet our Watershed and Implementation Program 2025 goals to protect and rejuvenate the Chesapeake Bay and its watersheds. We're here to help you, the soil, and the water. I think we can all agree that without good water and soil our farms, and our communities as whole, will never thrive.

Shelley Garrett, Soil Conservation Specialist, sgarrett@ascd.org



ENVIROTHON

by Joe Superczynski

The Envirothon is an international environmental and natural resource competition for high school students across the United States, Canada, and China. The Envirothon emphasizes five main areas of study: Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and a 5th Issue. The 5th Issue changes every year and addresses a current environmental issue. The current environmental issue for this year is "Adapting to a Changing Climate". Students can be found getting their hands dirty in the soil pit, measuring the basal area of forest, collecting stream samples to determine water quality, identifying wildlife tracks and

many other skills. Students learn these skills directly from environmental and natural resource professionals.

The Soils portion of the test is consistently one of the most challenging parts of the test. Students must learn to identify what position they are on in the landscape, such as upland, terrace or floodplain. They must recognize the parent material of the soil, whether its residual, colluvium, recent alluvium, old alluvium or coastal plain sediments. In the soil pit, they learn to identify the major soil horizons in the soil profile, its structure and the drainage class. Students determine the texture of the soil using the field method and the guide for estimating soil texture by feel. The soil color is described using the Munsell Soil Color Book. Participants also analyze the soil to determine the

pH of the soil using the Hellige-Truog Soil pH test kit. They must also find the slope of the land using a clinometer. Another section of the soil test involves using the web soil survey to find soils information on a specific property. The web soil survey is an online resource that provides information and data on soils across the country.

The Anne Arundel County Envirothon typically has a training session in the fall and another in the spring, with the competition taking place in early spring, at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center in Millersville. The soils training is handled by soil scientists from NRCS as well as employees from the Soil Conservation District. The most recent training was held on November 3rd.

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SHALLOW WATER PONDS

by John Czajkowski

Unlike traditional farm ponds, shallow water ponds are not constructed for irrigation or to support freshwater fish. The main purpose of a shallow water pond is to provide habitat for waterfowl, reptiles, amphibians, and other species that require shallow water. When constructing a shallow water pond a minimum of 70% of the pool area must be eighteen inches or less. The other 30% or less can be deep water if you want to stock it with freshwater fish. Ideally if you would like to manage the water level you should provide the ability to drawdown the water level so you can plant the land that was flooded. Plantings can include annual row crops that would be in conjunction with the rest of the crop field. If managed this way, the water level will be raised again in the fall once the crops are harvested. Shallow areas can also be planted in vegetation such as Golden Millet that provides food for waterfowl.

If you are broadcasting Golden Millet seed, disk and scratch the area to be planted when the water is drawn down and the soil is dry enough to work. Broadcast the millet at a rate of 25 pounds per acre. Flush the area by adjusting the shallow water pond outlet structure. Get the water on and off in a 24-hour period. Once the millet germinates, if there is no rain and the soil is drying, flush again and get the water on and off in 24 hours. Once the plant gets to the 5-leaf stage, put the field in a shallow flood. Let the flooded area dry up and let the plants out of the water for a day or two. Then reflood and keep flooded until the plants mature. If drilling to plant, use a rate of 15 pounds per acre. Depending on your location, Millet is usually planted from mid-July to early September. Find your first frost date and back up 75 days. Go to the University of Maryland Extension

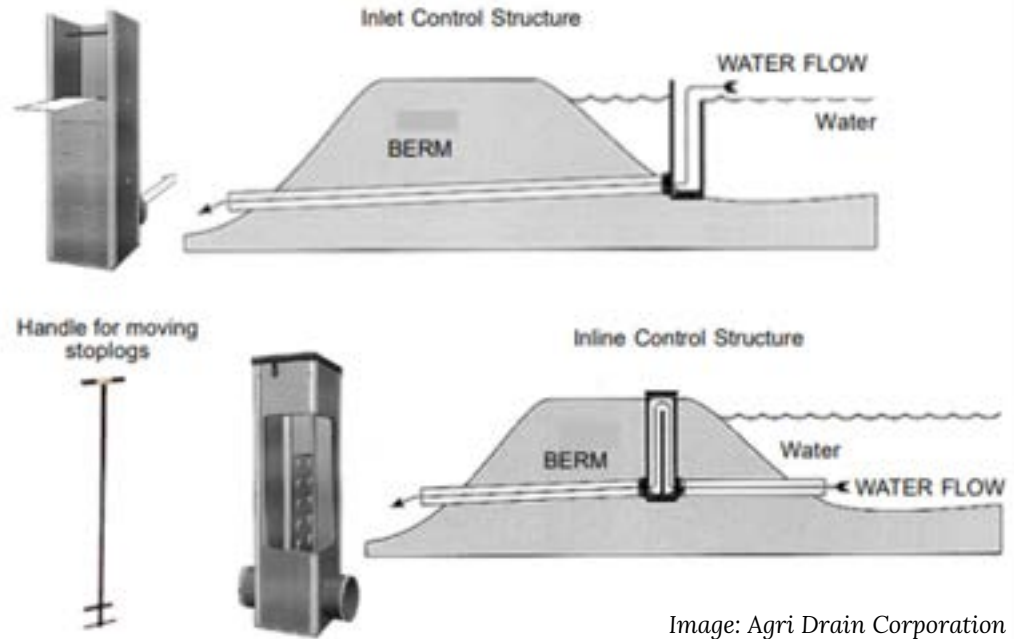


Image: Agri Drain Corporation

website, umd.edu, for Fall Frost or Freeze Dates in Maryland to find your estimated first frost date. The seed is small and only needs to be in the ground 1/8 to 1/4 of an inch. Golden Millet can produce 3,000 pounds of food per acre. Millet has the ability to self-seed, thus providing forage for ducks for a long time.

Japanese Millet is another variety that is planted to attract waterfowl. It should be planted before the shallow water area is flooded in the fall. Millet can handle standing water if the young plants are not completely submerged. Japanese Millet should be planted at a rate of 15-20 pounds per acre.

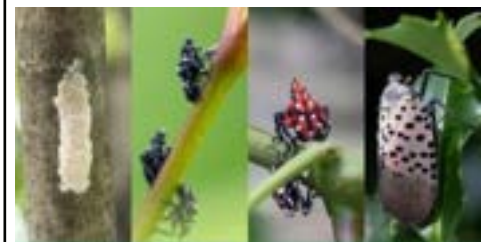
In general, after seed producing plants mature, shallow water areas are flooded to a depth of 1 to 18 inches depending on the species of waterfowl, you are trying to attract. Dabbling ducks require 3-8 inches of water, diving ducks, 8 inches or more, herons and egrets 1-4 inches.

The water level is usually managed by adding or removing boards in the outlet structure. Or you can remove all the boards and let the moisture content of soil be managed naturally by rainfall. Allowing permanent or semi-permanent wet holes creates habitat for amphibians. After the plants have matured in the dry shallow area, the site

can be reflooded to coincide with the arrival of migrant waterfowl. Flooding the area slowly over a period of 2 to 3 weeks allows new areas of food to become available with each change in water depth. Fertilize according to your soil test results. If possible, pesticides should be avoided to prevent harm to wildlife. Woody growth can be managed by mowing or burning, not more than once every two to three years.

Cost sharing is available if you are interested in installing a shallow water structure.

John Czajkowski, District Manager,
john@aascd.org



THINK YOU'VE SEEN THE SPOTTED LANTERN FLY? REPORT IT TO MDA!

Report sightings at mda.maryland.gov. A photograph is required. Only sighting reports should be entered into the online survey. Management questions and complaints should be directed to dontbug.md@maryland.gov.



HEAVY USE AREA (HUA)

by Will Hammond

Heavy use areas are used to reduce soil erosion, provide a stable surface for areas frequently used by animals, and protect or improve water quality. In this case, the area in need of this practice is severely eroded. It also serves as a major thruway for accessing paddocks and the transfer of horses to establish rotational grazing.

Small projects on farms are becoming obsolete for most contractors in the county leaving landowners no option but to tackle it themselves. Amy Posey from Fiddlers Folly farm was no stranger to this and got to work. The ground was extremely compacted and uneven making it tough as a first time project. The use of a tiller, a front loader, and a strong back was needed to create a level base for the pad.

The Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District is adapting to the struggles many farmers are facing. By providing a healthy relationship with our landowners we are able to create a learning experience for future projects. If you are interested in installing a heavy use area, contact our office for information.

Will Hammond, Soil Conservation Technician,
w.hammond@aaascd.org



Installing Heavy Use Area at Fiddlers Folly Farm in Edgewater

ALEI AND HUGHES CENTER LAUNCH ONLINE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION LEASE BUILDER TOOL

The University of Maryland's Agriculture Law Education Initiative and the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc. recently launched the Agricultural Conservation Lease Builder at agleasebuilder.org to aid farmers and farm landowners, throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, create agricultural leases. The Lease Builder is an online tool that guides users through questions about the farm and conservation practices to generate a customized draft lease with suggested provisions to support those practices. The tool is intended to support farmers and farm landowners to protect business interests, encourage environmental stewardship, and support on-farm conservation practices.

The Lease Builder asks for information such as landowner and tenant information, property information, the length of the lease, activities the farmer may practice, and the farm's conservation plan. The tool is free to use, and the entire process should take users less than an hour to complete. After building a draft lease, parties are strongly encouraged to seek individual legal advice prior to execution.

According to Sarah Everhart, Senior Legal Specialist, Agriculture Law Education Initiative, "our hope is that new tool will help both farmers and farm landowners put their handshake agreement into a simple lease document. By referencing specific on-farm conservation practices in the lease, leasing parties can set clear expectations about stewardship and reduce the potential for legal conflict."

In addition to the Lease Builder tool, the site also valuable resources related to on-farm conservation, including information about common conservation practices, cost-share programs, and conservation planning. The Agricultural Conservation Lease Builder was funded by the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment.

The tool can be accessed at agleasebuilder.org. Anyone with questions about the Agricultural Conservation Lease Builder may contact Sarah Everhart at severhart@law.umaryland.edu.

NEED HELP WITH FARM LEASING?

Check out www.AgLeaseBuilder.org



Photo Credit: Jane Thomas, Integration and Application Network (2012)

The **Conservation Ag Lease Builder** is a FREE, new resource for farmers and landowners in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Build your custom farm lease to:

- Protect business interests;
- Incorporate stewardship planning; and
- Implement conservation practices on leased land.

The Lease Builder has easy-to-answer leasing questions, including the selection of common on-farm conservation practices – to generate a customized draft lease with suggested provisions to support those practices.

Funding for the site was made possible by the *Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment*.

For questions about the Lease Builder, contact Sarah Everhart:
severhart@law.umaryland.edu



IS IT GRASS OR GRAIN?

by Keli Kirby

Created by man, it is a plant that does not exist naturally in the wild. It can only survive if planted and protected by humans. It can be turned into flour or syrup, fed to livestock, transformed into ethanol and it can even be used to make plastic.

Scientists believe Indians, living in central Mexico, developed corn over seven thousand years ago. It started from a wild grass called teosinte. Teosinte looked quite different from our corn today. A teosinte ear is only two to three inches long and contains five to twelve kernels. The kernels are small, spaced apart, and encased in hard coating. The hard coating allowed the kernels to survive in the digestive tract of birds and grazing animals for better dispersal in the wild. Not particularly tasty, teosinte is dry and tastes like raw potato.



The grass's evolution to modern day corn was a lengthy process. Farmers noticed that not all the plants were the same. Some plants may have grown larger than others, or maybe some kernels tasted better or were easier to grind. The farmers saved kernels from plants with desirable characteristics and planted them for the next season's harvest. Teosinte cobs became larger over time, with more rows of kernels,

eventually taking on the form of modern corn.

Domestication of corn happened simultaneously across many parts of the world. As Indian populations migrated and settled in various parts of the world, the practice of harvesting corn spread. Early on, partially domesticated maize landed in the southwest Amazon, which was already a hotspot for the domestication of other plants, including rice, squash, and cassava. Maize adopted into farming practices there evolved more quickly than maize grown in Mexico, the point of origin.

It is important to understand how corn adapted to new environments in the past because it continues to be a vital food source today. The domestication of corn has been so successful because of the relationship between people and the plant. This symbiotic relationship has allowed the plant to flourish and become a reliable food source across the globe.

Keli Kirby, Office Manager, kkirby@aacsd.org



RESPOND NOW TO THE 2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity.

Visit nass.usda.gov/AgCensus to complete the survey online



CLEAN WATER BY 2025

by Keli Kirby

For centuries, the Chesapeake Bay has been an essential part of Maryland's identity. The Bay has been an important economic resource for all Chesapeake watershed states. Seafood, recreation, and tourism create significant revenue, supplying jobs and benefiting local economies. After decades of supporting these activities, the water quality of the Bay suffered. Since the 1950's the health of the Bay has been in decline, and by the 1970s aquatic life was quickly disappearing from the Bay's waters.

The Chesapeake Bay has been on Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "dirty waters" list since 1972. The Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load set federally regulated limits of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediments across Bay watershed states to meet EPA's goals. If implemented correctly, the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint would have ensured that by 2025 the Chesapeake Bay would see pollution reductions that would meet the water quality standards and once again make the Bay fishable, swimmable waters as promised by the Clean Water Act of 1972.

Over the past 40 years, billions of dollars have been spent trying to clean up the Chesapeake Bay. Based on the Midpoint Progress and 2018-2019 Milestone reviews, officials have acknowledged the 2025 deadline to restore the Bay will not be achieved. This will not be the first Chesapeake Bay agreement to miss its deadline; the original cleanup agreement was signed by the watershed states and the Environmental Protection Agency in 1983, followed by similar agreements in 1987, 1992, and 2000. To help ensure that states stay on track, interim two-year milestones were set. The EPA is responsible for reviewing the progress of each jurisdiction.



photo by Taylor Cole, Unsplash

Reviewing long-term progress, the major pollutants contaminating the Bay – nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment – have declined significantly since the signing of the 2014 Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint agreement. Initially, great strides were made by upgrading wastewater treatment plants and the difficult tasks, which were hard to regulate, such as reducing polluted runoff from farms, cities, and suburbs, were delayed. The processes in place to date are not enough to reach the 2025 goal of a clean Bay. The most recent milestone review, showed there are factors that were not initially accounted for: climate change as greater precipitation and increasingly severe storms wash more nutrients from the land and into waterways, filling of the Conowingo Dam reservoir on the Susquehanna River which results in more nutrients flowing downstream, and population growth including increased fertilizer sales, increased farm livestock populations, and urban

development.

Even though great strides have been made, it is also apparent there is a long way to go. The 2014 Chesapeake Bay agreement made many improvements over previous agreements demanding more accountability from states. However, it failed to account for dynamic factors. Humans have impacted their environment and it is showing through greater exponential outcomes than historically recorded. To achieve the goal set forth by the Blueprint, additional modifications would need to be made to address additional factors: sectors that are unregulated, failing safeguards, invasive species, and a constantly changing environment. With continued willingness to adapt the current agreement to ever changing conditions, the Chesapeake Bay can once again reach the water quality standards that will allow it to be the pride of Maryland.

Keli Kirby, Office Manager, kkirby@aaascd.org

Agriculture Division

The Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District's Agricultural Services Division provides information and guidance to agricultural landowners in order to protect soil and water resources.

Did you know? Your conservation plan expires every 10 years — find out if it's time to update your plan.



4,369

ACRES PLANNED IN 2022

In 2022, 56 Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans across Anne Arundel county.



\$447,503

STATE & FEDERAL COST SHARE FUNDING

Total Federal Cost Share Programs, \$404,548; Total Cost Sharing MDA Programs, \$42,955

22 FARMERS

Participated in the Cover Crop Program in 2022.

4,818.5 ACRES

Enrolled in the Cover Crop Program in 2022.

\$252,490.00

Cover Crop cost share funding in 2022.

252 BMPS

Total Best Management Practices in 2022.

2023 Program Sign Up Coming Soon!

More than \$400,000 was awarded in federal cost share for conservation projects in 2022 in Anne Arundel County. Of that, \$91,140 was for Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA), \$184,517 for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and \$128,891 for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Sign up for 2023 cost share programs is coming soon. Please contact the Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District office for more information.

Urban Division

Our District plays a vital role in the conservation of soils and in improving water quality by reviewing and approving sediment and erosion control plans for construction activity throughout Anne Arundel County and the city of Annapolis.



URBAN DIVISION BY THE NUMBERS

Total Submittals: 2,500

City of Annapolis Grading Plans: 98

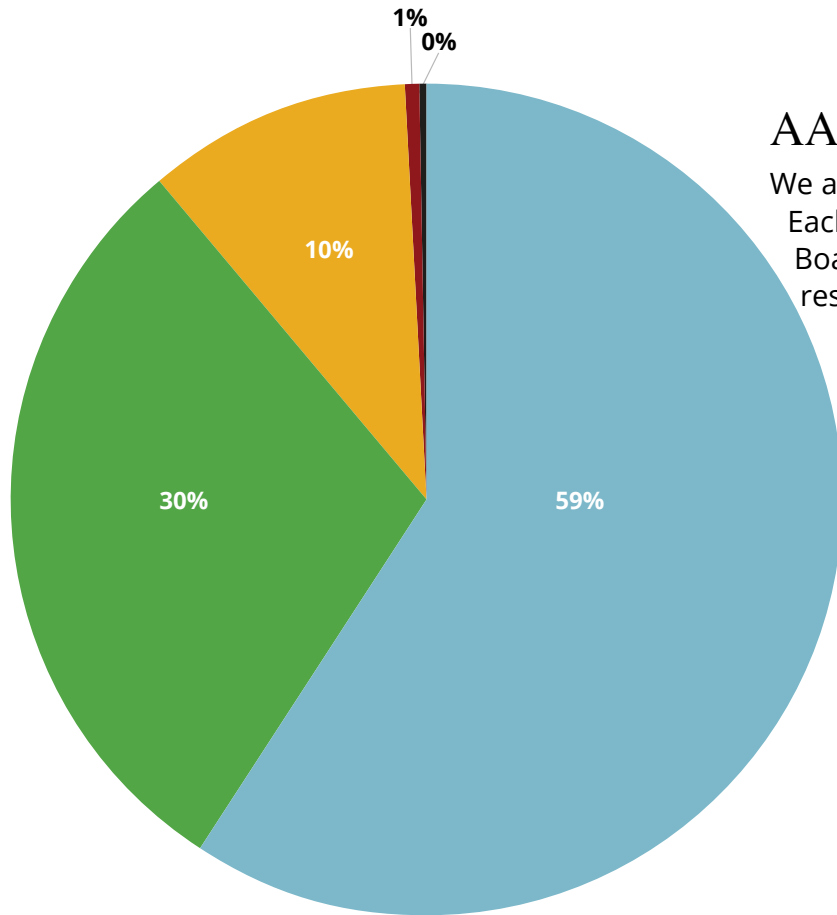
Forest Harvest Plans: 8

Mining Plans: 8

Sediment Control Plans: 1,213

Subdivision-Variance-Other: 117

Average Review Time: 9.7 days



AASCD Funding Sources

We are one of 23 soil conservation districts in Maryland. Each district functions independently under a local Board of Supervisors. This ensures that local natural resource issues are addressed.

- Anne Arundel County: \$512,498.52
- Maryland Department of Agriculture General Fund: \$10,370.00
- Fees for Service: \$179,766.00
- Additional Grants: \$1,026,911.89
- Interest: \$858.00

Our Mission

In agriculture, the District emphasizes the importance of soil conservation and water quality, striving to have voluntary soil and water conservation plans for all working farms. These plans help farmers optimize productivity while safeguarding their surroundings against the potential impact of poor land management. Farmers are advised in areas that include preventing fertilizers and pesticides from draining into nearby tributaries through the use of innovative methods like cover crops and shoreline buffers. The plans also aid farmers with issues related to conservation crop rotation and residue management.

In the area of urban development, the AASCD reviews all sediment and erosion control plans for pending construction projects in Anne Arundel County to ensure that developers take the necessary steps to manage runoff during construction to control soil erosion.

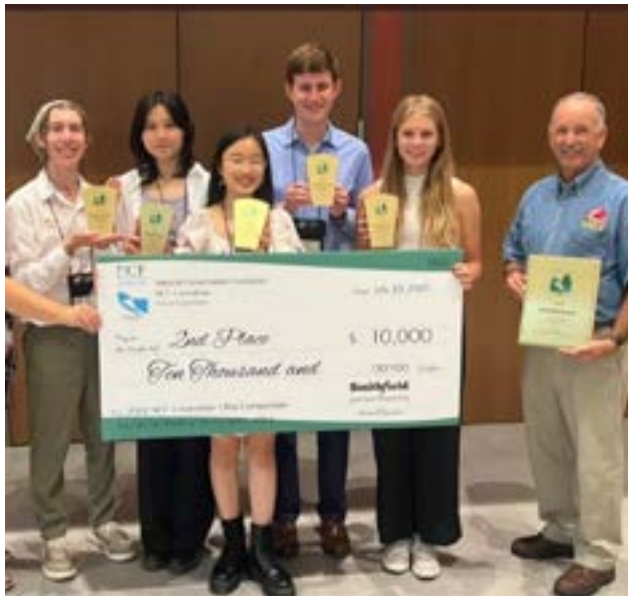
To carry out our mission, we work with a number of local, state and federal agencies including county government offices, the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency, the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers and state and federal legislators.

Our Partners



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION





ENVIROTHON...

It was attended by 105 students, making up 20 teams from 7 schools. The next training is scheduled for March 17th and the competition will be on April 18th.

Last year, Arundel High School won the Anne Arundel County Envirothon and placed 2nd at the state competition. The state competition was held at St. Mary's College in Maryland, and was won by Richard Montgomery High School. Richard Montgomery High School went on to place 2nd at the National Envirothon in Ohio!

Joe Superczynski, Senior Agriculture Soil Conservation Specialist,
joseph.superczynski@md.nacdnet.net

AASCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chair: Brian Riddle

Vice Chair: Gary Palmer

Treasurer: Vaughn Foxwell

Secretary: Dave Myers

Donald Entzian, Member

Christine Catterton, Member

Lisa Barge, Associate

Billy Ford, Associate

Mark Hopkins, Associate

Robert Schaefer, Associate

Mike Superczynski, Associate

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