How to Use Maryland's Manure Matching Service

Registration forms are available by calling toll free, 1-855-6MANURE or visiting MDA's web site at www.mda.maryland.gov/manure. Registration forms also are available at soil conservation districts and University of Maryland Extension offices. Participants should indicate whether they want to send or receive the manure.

Additional Assistance

Maryland's Manure Transport Program provides cost-share assistance of up to $20 per ton to help farmers cover the cost of transporting manure. Receiving or sending farms are eligible. To enroll in this program, contact the local soil conservation district.

Maryland's 24 Soil Conservation Districts

Allegany	301-777-1747, ext. 3
Anne Arundel	410-571-6757
Baltimore County	410-527-5920, ext. 3
Calvert	410-535-1521, ext. 3
Caroline	410-479-1202, ext. 3
Carroll	410-848-8200, ext. 3
Catoctin	301-695-2803, ext. 3
Cecil	410-398-4411, ext. 3
Charles	301-934-9588, ext. 3
Dorchester	410-228-5640, ext. 3
Frederick	301-695-2803, ext. 3
Garrett	301-334-6950, ext. 3
Harford	410-838-6181, ext. 3
Howard	410-313-0680
Kent	410-778-5150, ext. 3
Montgomery	301-590-2855
Prince George's	301-574-5162, ext. 3
Queen Anne's	410-758-3136, ext. 3
St. Mary's	301-475-8402, ext. 3
Somerset	410-651-1575, ext. 3
Talbot	410-822-1577, ext. 3
Washington County	301-797-6821, ext. 3
Wicomico	410-546-4777, ext. 3
Worcester	410-632-5439, ext. 3

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Office of Resource Conservation

Manure Matching Service
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
Toll Free: 1-855-6MANURE
www.mda.maryland.gov/manure

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MDA 15.06.15
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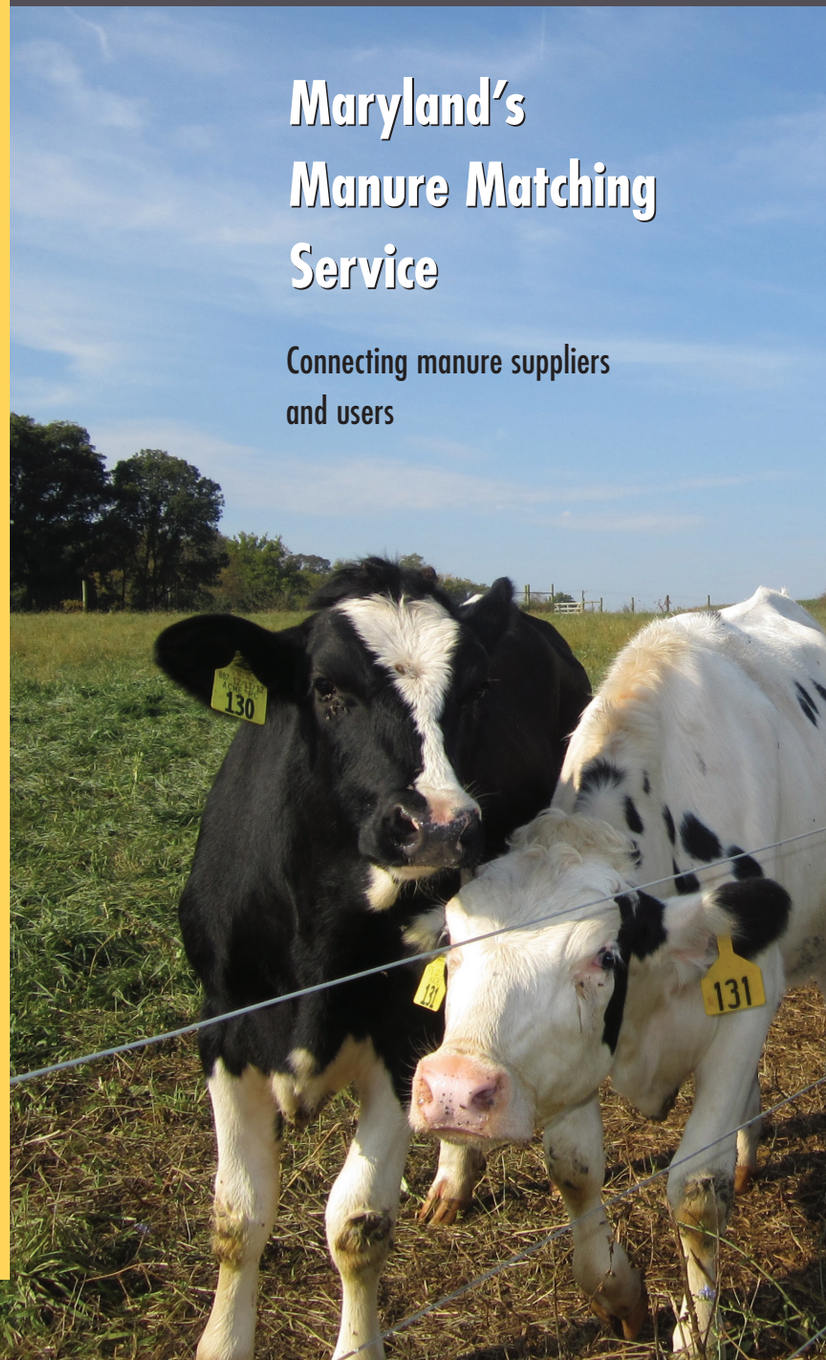
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Office of Resource Conservation

Maryland's Manure Matching Service

Connecting manure suppliers and users



Maryland's Manure Matching Service connects farmers who have excess animal manure with companies or individuals that can use the manure as a valuable resource.

Authorized by the Water Quality Improvement Act, the Service helps farmers manage manure resources, comply with nutrient management regulations, and protect water quality in streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. The Service is voluntary, free and available to both sending and receiving operations.

How the Service Works

Maryland's Manure Matching Service is available to all types of animal producers with excess manure, including poultry, dairy, beef, hog and horse operations. Producers register with the Service by providing information about the type of manure available, nutrient value, condition and price. The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) provides this information to potential recipients based on location, nutrient and timing needs. This helps ensure a match that meets the needs of both sending and receiving farms.

The Value of Manure

Manure is widely recognized as a valuable nutrient resource and soil amendment. While MDA sets no specific dollar value on manure, it encourages farmers to look at its economic benefits. Manure has numerous agronomic values as well. These include the ability to improve soil tilth and retain moisture, while providing valuable micronutrients to crops.

A nutrient management plan is used to determine the amount of manure that can benefit a receiving farm's crop management system. Changes in management techniques will be spelled out in this plan. A manure analysis should be performed to determine the nutrient content of the manure and help participants negotiate a fair price. Receiving farms will need the results of this analysis to determine the amount of manure they can utilize. Other factors for both parties to consider in establishing a price include loading, transportation and spreading costs.

Alternative Uses for Manure

Maryland is committed to supporting and investing in alternative uses for manure, including fertilizer manufacturing, composting and manure-to-energy projects that provide multiple benefits including renewable energy, sustainable, profitable farms, and improved water quality.