





A Farmer's Guide to Environmental Permits



**Your quick reference to
environmental permits
needed on the farm**

Maryland State Soil Conservation Committee



Prepared by the

Maryland State Soil Conservation Committee

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Maryland Department of the Environment

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

University of Maryland Extension

USDA Farm Service Agency

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts

Maryland Agricultural Commission

These cooperating agencies' programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, handicap, religion, age, or national origin.



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Why Do I Need A Permit?

Maryland farmers play a key role in preserving water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. With 2 million acres of land under cultivation, farming activities can have a direct impact on water quality throughout the state.

In Maryland, a system of licenses, permits, and approvals has been developed to minimize negative impacts of agricultural activities on water quality. These state authorizations—required by law for certain agricultural activities—are issued by the Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources.

This handbook provides a quick reference to help you determine when a permit is needed, how the permitting process works and where to go for help. Keep in mind that some projects require multiple permits and that in some cases, federal and local authorities may require separate approvals.

Although this booklet focuses on state authorizations, we have also included the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 404 Permit, a commonly needed federal approval. To simplify the complex permit network, a checklist of possible approvals needed for agricultural activities is included in the center of this guide.

There are several things that you can do to help speed up the permit process. First, work with your soil conservation district to determine the most cost-effective way to handle a project, with minimal environmental impact. Sometimes a small change in a project design or plan can eliminate the need for a permit.

Avoid delays by applying as early as possible and making all permit applications at the same time. When completing a permit application, make sure you have answered all questions and included any maps, drawings or plans that are required. Applications lacking signatures, fees, and other pertinent information can be delayed for days, or in some cases, weeks.

Remember, you are not alone in the permit process. Your local soil conservation district can help you get through the process and provide you with advice and assistance on all permitting requirements—federal, state, and local. A list of soil conservation district offices is provided at the end of this guide.

In addition, the Maryland Department of the Environment's Regulatory Services Coordination Office can provide you with assistance. The office can be reached by calling 800-633-6101.





#1 Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Permit

Medium or large animal feeding operations that propose to discharge pollutants, including but not limited to manure, poultry litter or process wastewater to waters of the state are required to apply for a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit from MDE. CAFOs are animal feeding operations with 37,500 or more animals per flock of chickens with dry manure handling; 25,000 or more laying hens with dry manure handling; 200 or more dairy cattle; 300 or more cattle (including heifers); 750 or more swine weighing more than 55 pounds; or 3,000 or more swine weighing less than 55 pounds. The regulations also include limits on the number of horses, veal, cattle, sheep, lambs, ducks and turkeys.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Land Management Administration • Solid Waste Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 605
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101 or 410-537-4423

Download Instructions, AFO Size Chart and Notice of Intent

www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/LandPrograms/Solid_Waste/cafo/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Work with your SCD to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to MDE immediately if you fall under the CAFO definition or within 90 days of being designated as a CAFO along with a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP). Your SCD will work with you to develop this plan which manages the production, handling, storage and/or treatment of all nutrients on the farm, from feed to manure.
2. MDE will review the NOI and the CNMP and then notify you in writing of coverage under the general permit. A site visit may be requested.
3. A comment period is provided. A public hearing may be held.
4. A final decision is made on the permit.

Processing Time 180 days.

Duration Registration under the general permit is valid for the life of the current general permit. The permit is reviewed every five years. The current permit expires November 30, 2014.

Fees Waived by MDE until further notice.

#2 Animal Feeding Operation (MAFO) Permit

Large animal feeding operations (AFOs) that do not propose to discharge pollutants to waters of the state are required to apply for a Maryland Animal Feeding Operation (MAFO) permit from MDE. An AFO is a feedlot or facility where animals are confined, fed and maintained for at least 45 days in any 12 month period. Feed is brought to the animals, which do not graze or otherwise seek nourishment in pastures or fields. AFOs are classified by MDE as small, medium or large. A small or medium AFO may also be designated as a MAFO and require a permit if MDE determines that it poses a risk to water quality.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Land Management Administration • Solid Waste Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 605
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101 or 410-537-4423

Download Instructions, AFO Size Chart and Notice of Intent

www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/LandPrograms/Solid_Waste/cafo/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Work with your SCD to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to MDE immediately if you fall under the MAFO definition or within 90 days of being designated as a MAFO.
2. Submit to MDE either a federal Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) or a state nutrient management plan that is integrated with a Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan (SCWQP) showing how you plan to protect water quality.
3. MDE will review the NOI and the plans and notify you in writing of coverage under the general permit. A site visit may be requested.
4. Although there is no requirement for holding a public hearing for MAFOs, there is an opportunity for public review and comment.

Processing Time 180 days.

Duration Registration under the general permit is valid for the life of the current general permit. The permit is reviewed every five years. The current permit expires November 30, 2014.

Fees None.

#3 Animal Waste Storage Structure Construction Notification

Required if you plan to construct an animal waste or manure storage structure.

Agency to Be Notified

Maryland Department of the Environment
Land Management Administration • Solid Waste Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 455
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Work with your SCD to complete a construction notification form for MDE explaining the type of structure you plan to build and its location on your property. A property sketch, zoning and surrounding land use considerations, design specifics, construction schedule and animal units (including the kind and number of livestock served) should be included.
2. Submit this information to MDE by certified/return receipt mail. MDE does not issue confirmations, so keep your certified/return mail receipt as proof of submittal.

Processing Time Not applicable.

Fees None.

#4 Aquaculture Permit

Aquaculture facilities are regulated to minimize environmental impacts, protect the genetic integrity of native fish species, prevent aquatic disease outbreaks and avoid the accidental introduction of exotic species. Operators of new aquaculture facilities may also be required to obtain additional permits. See checklist on pages 18-19. A Water Column Lease from the Maryland Board of Public Works may also be required for culture in tidal waters of the state. This permit is intended to license commercial aquaculture operations.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fisheries Service Aquaculture Permit Coordinator
Tawes State Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-8317

Download Requirements and Application

www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/recreational/hatchery/aquaculture.html

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit a completed application to DNR along with a location map, description of culture operation, a solid waste management plan and sketch of facility. Plans for treatment and entrapment systems for hybrid or nonnative species must be included.
2. DNR will visit the site to check for compliance with state aquaculture regulations.
3. A final decision is made on the permit.

Processing Time One month.

Fees None.

Duration Five years, renewable. The permittee is required to report production to the Fisheries Service annually.

#5 Construction Activity Approvals

Required if you plan to create an impervious area on your property that disturbs 5,000 sq. feet or more of land. New buildings, driveways or parking areas constructed on your property may require this approval. If your project disturbs one acre or more of land, you may also be required to submit a Notice of Intent to MDE.

Approval Authority

Stormwater management approval authority or the SCD.

Download Notice of Intent

www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/AFO-NOI-09.pdf

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Contact your local SCD to determine the proper authorizations needed.
2. You will be required to obtain an approved Stormwater Management Plan for the project. In addition, the farm's Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan (SCWQP) will need to address how you plan to prevent sediment from leaving the construction site.
3. The SCD will walk you through the application process and coordinate any additional authorizations required by the local government or MDE.
4. A site visit may be performed. Landowners will need to provide the SCD with a sketch of the proposed project.

Duration Up to five years depending on the project.

Processing Time 30 to 45 days.

Fees Vary, depending on the jurisdiction.

#6 Critical Area and Coastal Bays Requirements

The Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area law provides special protection for Maryland's shorelines. All farms located within the Critical Area—the the 1000-foot strip of land around the shorelines of the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Coastal Bays and their tidal waters—must develop and implement a Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan (SCWQP) approved by the local soil conservation district. The following agricultural activities are prohibited by law within the Critical Area and Coastal Bays Watershed:

1. Diking, draining, or filling of wetlands, unless mitigation is accomplished.
2. Clearing forests with grades of more than 15 percent.
3. Clearing forests located on certain highly erodible soils.
4. Land clearing which adversely affects water quality, plants, and wildlife habitat.
5. Clearing existing natural vegetation within 100 feet of tidal waters or wetlands.
6. Feeding or housing livestock within 50 feet of tidal waters.

For more information, contact your local soil conservation district.

#7 Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit

Required for discharges of more than 10,000 gallons of clean water a day (as a monthly average), or any volume of discharge of waste/wastewater to surface or groundwater. Agricultural activities which may require this permit include aquaculture, crop irrigation, and facilities that process agricultural products on-site such as those making cheese or jam.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Industrial and General Discharge Permits Division
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 455
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/water_permits/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application along with a facility map to MDE. Application forms are available by calling 1-800-633-6101 or visiting MDE's web site at www.mde.state.md.us. Your SCD and University of Maryland Extension agent can assist you in preparing your application. (A nutrient management plan and animal waste management system information will be required for animal operations.)
2. MDE may inspect the site to determine if the facility qualifies for a general permit.
3. For some permits, a comment period is provided. A public hearing may be required.
4. A final decision is made on the permit.

Processing Time Five months or more.

Application Fee \$0 - \$20,000, depending on volume, type of industry and use.

Duration One to five years, depending on the discharge volume.

#9 Nutrient Applicator Voucher

Farmers who own or manage agricultural land and apply their own nutrients to ten or more acres are required to attend a two-hour education program on nutrient application once every three years.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Nutrient Management Program
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5959

Download Training Schedule

www.mda.state.md.us/resource_conservation/nutrient_management/programs.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. University of Maryland Extension schedules free training at locations throughout the state.
2. Contact your local Extension office for a training schedule/registration information.
3. Complete the two-hour, MDA-approved education course in a satisfactory manner.

Processing Time Participants will receive their voucher at the conclusion of the training session.

Duration Three years. Renewable upon completion of a two-hour MDA-approved education course.

Fees None.

Special Note to Farmers: *A nutrient applicator voucher does not allow you to apply nutrients for hire or qualify you to develop a nutrient management plan.*

#10 Nutrient Management Consultant Certificate/License

Certification is required if you provide nutrient management plans or recommendations to others or apply nutrients to agricultural land for hire. All firms, agencies or individuals providing farmers with state-approved nutrient management services must also be licensed by MDA. **Note:** *Farmers who plan to write nutrient management plans for their own operations should see Nutrient Management Requirements for Farm Operators.*

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Nutrient Management Program
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5959

Download Training/Exam Schedule

www.mda.state.md.us/resource_conservation/nutrient_management/programs.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. You must have at least one year of experience in nutrient management planning and/or a degree or academic certificate in an agriculturally related area acceptable to MDA.
2. Submit a completed application to MDA with the \$50 fee. (*government agencies exempt*)
3. Pass the nutrient management examination.
4. An optional two-day *Fundamentals of Nutrient Management* training course is offered prior to the exam and includes an overview of the areas covered. Check the website for registration information.

Processing Time Certification cards will be mailed to successful candidates approximately one month after the exam.

Duration One year for first time issue. Renew certificate by completing six hours of approved continuing education credits during the first year and 12 hours of continuing education credits every three years thereafter. Renewable with a \$50 fee after the first year and a \$150 fee for the three year term thereafter. Training must be organized or approved by MDA.

License Fee Ranges from \$50-\$100 depending on the type of business. (*government agencies exempt*)

#13 Pest Control Applicator Certificate

Required if you plan to offer or apply a general or restricted use pesticide to someone else's property.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulation Section
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5710

Download Requirements

www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/pesticide_regulation/index.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. You must have one year of experience working with pesticides and/or a degree or academic certificate acceptable to MDA.
2. Submit a completed application to MDA.
3. Certificates are issued in conjunction with a Pesticide Business License (*See Approval #16*).
4. Pass the MDA examination with a score of 70 percent or better. Tests are given bimonthly.

Processing Time Two weeks.

Certificate Fee \$75.

Duration Valid July 1—June 30. Renewable yearly for a \$75 fee with verification of annual recertification training. Add \$25 for each additional pesticide category.

#14 Pest Control Consultant Certificate

Required if you offer or supply technical advice or supervision, perform pest inspections and identifications, or recommend a specific pesticide to control pests in or on the water, air, land, plants, structures, or animals.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulation Section
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5710

Download Requirements

www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/pesticide_regulation/index.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. You must have one year of experience working with pesticides and/or a degree or academic certificate acceptable to MDA.
2. Submit a completed application to MDA.
3. Certificates are issued in conjunction with a Pest Control Consultant License (*See Approval #16*).
4. Pass the MDA examination with a score of 70 percent or better. Tests are given bimonthly.

Processing Time Two weeks.

Certificate Fee \$75.

Duration Valid January 1—December 31. Renewable yearly for a \$75 fee with verification of annual recertification training.

#15 Pesticide Applicator Certificate (Private)

Required before you purchase or apply a restricted use pesticide to your property or leased property to produce agricultural commodities such as fruits, vegetables, or nursery stock. An examination is given as part of this authorization to ensure adequate knowledge of pest control and product restrictions.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulation Section
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5710

Download Information

www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/pesticide_regulation/index.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Call your county Extension office for test study materials.
2. Pass the MDA examination with a score of 70 percent or better. Check with your county for test dates. Tests are also given on request at MDA.

Processing Time Two weeks.

Certificate Fee \$7.

Duration Three years, renewable with a \$7 fee and verification of recertification training during the final year of a valid certificate.

#16 Pesticide Business License/Pest Control Consultant License

Required for all businesses engaged in commercial pesticide applications or recommendations. Each business must employ at least one certified commercial applicator or pest control consultant.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulation Section
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5710

Download Information

www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/pesticide_regulation/index.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit a completed application to MDA with a \$150 fee.
2. Submit an original certificate of insurance showing amounts of general liability coverage.

Processing Time Two weeks.

License Fee \$150.

Duration Valid from January 1—December 31. Renewable yearly for a \$150 fee with certificate of insurance and employment verification for at least one certified applicator or pest control consultant.

#17 Pesticide Dealer Permit

Required if you plan to sell or distribute a restricted use pesticide.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulation Section
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-5710

Download Information

www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/pesticide_regulation/index.php

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit a completed application to MDA.
2. Agree to sell restricted use pesticides only to individuals who can produce a valid Pesticide Applicator Certificate.

Processing Time One week.

Application Fee \$25.

Duration One year, from January 1—December 31. Renewable with a \$25 fee.

#18 Pond Approvals

State approval is required for all ponds planned in Maryland. Generally, a pond that does not affect Class III natural trout waters may be exempted from state approval and authorized by the local SCD if it has less than 640 acres of drainage area, an embankment that is less than 20' high, and is a low-hazard structure, whose failure is unlikely to cause loss of life or property damage. A federal U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit and Water Quality Certification may also be required.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration • Dam Safety Division
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 445
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/water_permits/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Work with your local SCD to determine if a permit is necessary.
2. Submit a completed joint federal/state permit application to MDE's Regulatory Services Coordination Office.
3. If the pond meets certain criteria, it may be exempted from the state permit process. However, a Nontidal Wetlands Permit may be required, depending on the location of the proposed pond. (*See Approval #8*)
4. If a permit is necessary, an opportunity for a public hearing is provided.
5. A final decision is made on the permit.

Processing Time Six months or more.

Fees May be subject to a permit application fee.

Duration Construction must begin within two years of permit issuance.

#21 Surface Mine Permit/License

To ensure proper development of the state's mineral non-fuel resources and adequate land reclamation, authorization is required for excavation activities in excess of one acre that result in the off-site transport of minerals. Any non-fuel earthen material—including sand, gravel, stone, clay and topsoil—is considered a mineral.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Land Management Administration • Mining Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 655
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/assets/document/permit/MDE-LMA-LIC007.pdf

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit a completed application to MDE. Sites less than five acres do not require engineer-designed site plans, but mining activities are limited to 30,000 tons per year.
2. Obtain sediment control approval from your SCD and other necessary local approvals.
3. An opportunity for public hearing may be provided.
4. A final decision is made. A license is issued to the mine operator. A permit is issued to mine a site.
5. Contact the mining program for assistance with the application.

Processing Time Two months; three to six months, if a public hearing is required.

Fees Bonding/ \$1,250 per acre; License/\$300; Permit/\$12 per acre, per year, plus one-time \$30 per acre reclamation fee for new acreage.

Duration Licenses are renewed yearly for \$150. Permits are issued for up to five years.

#22 Tidal Wetlands License/Permit

Tidal wetlands are open waters and marshes influenced by the rise and fall of the tide. Because of the importance of wetlands, a permit, license or other approval is required for any work that may change a tidal wetland. Agricultural activities that may require this authorization include dredging, drainage ditches, tide gates, and mosquito ditch maintenance.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration • Wetlands and Waterways
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/water_permits/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit a joint federal/state application to MDE's Regulatory Services Coordination Office. Copies will be distributed to all appropriate agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
2. A site inspection may be performed.
3. An opportunity for public comment is provided for projects with significant impact. A public hearing may be held.
4. A final decision is made on the permit/license.

Processing Time A minimum of sixty days. Processing time varies with project complexity.

Fees None.

Duration Three years.

#23 Toxic Materials Permit

Required if you plan to apply toxic substances to manage aquatic life in state waters. Examples include mosquito, fish, aquatic wetland weed or algae control.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Land Management Administration
Industrial and General Discharge Permits Division
Montgomery Park Business Center
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 455
Baltimore, MD 21230-1708
1-800-633-6101

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/water_permits/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Submit a completed application to MDE. Include precautions you will use to protect downstream water users.
2. MDE gives the application to DNR for review.
3. A final decision is made on the permit.
4. In emergencies, limited permits for some chemicals may be obtained from your SCD in one to three days.

Processing Time One month.

Fees None.

Duration One to five years.

#24 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act regulates the discharge of dredged, excavated, or fill material in wetlands, streams, rivers, and other U.S. waters. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal agency authorized to issue Section 404 Permits for certain activities conducted in wetlands or other U.S. waters. Depending on the scope of the project and method of construction, certain farming activities may require this permit. Examples include ponds, embankments, and stream channelization. A general permit gives the state the lead for some 404 permits, enabling this function to be handled during the state permitting process. Contact your SCD for more information.

Issuing Agency

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203
410-962-3670

Exemptions

Certain agricultural activities are exempt from Section 404 Permit requirements and do not require notification. However, you should obtain confirmation that your project is exempt before beginning the activity. To be exempt, the activities must be part of an ongoing farming operation and cannot be associated with bringing a wetland into agricultural production or converting an agricultural wetland to a non-wetland area. For specifics, contact your SCD.

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Work with your SCD to prepare your application. Include project plans, maps, and other pertinent information.
2. To speed up the permit process, state and federal permits are processed jointly. Applications for 404 Permits should be submitted to MDE's Regulatory Services Coordination Office. MDE will distribute your application to the proper federal authorities for review.

Processing Time 45-90 days. Longer for complex projects.

Application Fee None. \$10 or \$100 in some cases.

Duration Three to five years.

#25 Water Appropriation and Use Permit

Required if you plan to withdraw 10,000 gallons or more of water a day based on an annual average withdrawal from surface or underground waters for agricultural activities. Depending on the complexity of the activity, you may be required to obtain a well construction permit, Tidal Wetland License and Permit or Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permit. Permit holders are required to report water use to MDE annually.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration • Water Supply Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 445
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101 or 410-537-3714

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/water_permits/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Work with your SCD to complete the application and obtain local land-use zoning approvals.
2. Submit a completed application to MDE along with a project map or plat and an explanation of the water use. Additional information required may include location of the intake (stream name), method of withdrawal, the number of wells, approximate depth of wells, type of irrigation system, number of irrigated acres, type(s) of crop(s), and number and type(s) of animals. A certification of notification to contiguous neighbors should also be included.
3. A site inspection may be performed.
4. If the requested quantity is more than 10,000 gallons per day, you will be required to notify contiguous neighbors.
5. A comment period is provided for requests of more than 10,000 gallons per day. A public hearing may be held.
6. A final decision is made on the permit.

Processing Time 90 days to 18 months.

Fees None.

Duration Twelve years maximum with a review every three years.

#26 Waterway Construction Permit

Required before construction can begin on any project—such as fill, build-ings, bridges, or culverts—that changes the course, current or cross-section of a stream or its 100-year flood plain. Agricultural activities that may require this permit include ponds and dams. A general permit may allow BMPs such as livestock crossings, drainage outlets and spring developments if certain guidelines are met.

Issuing Agency

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration • Wetlands and Waterways Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430
Baltimore, MD 21230
1-800-633-6101

Download Application

www.mde.maryland.gov/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/water_permits/index.asp

How to Apply and What to Expect

1. Check with your local building permit office to determine your area's requirements.
2. Work with your SCD to develop project designs and determine if the project is authorized by a general waterway construction permit or Regional Letter of Authorization for agricultural BMPs. If so, your SCD will notify MDE.
3. If your SCD determines that a permit is necessary, submit a completed joint state/federal application to MDE's Regulatory Services Coordination Office. The application will be forwarded to other agencies, as required. Include construction plans, project description, construction sequence and design computations.
4. A site inspection may be performed by the MDE project manager. A comment period is provided and a hearing may be held.
5. A final decision is made on the permit.

Processing Time Two to six months.

Fees None.

Duration Five years. Construction must begin within two years of permit issuance.

Addendum: Internet Resources

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Home Page

www.mda.state.md.us

Regulatory Information Center

http://www.mda.state.md.us/news_room/reg_center.php

Pesticide Regulation

www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/pesticide_regulation/index.php

Nutrient Management Program

www.mda.state.md.us/resource_conservation/nutrient_management/index.php

Financial Assistance Programs

www.mda.state.md.us/resource_conservation/financial_assistance/index.php

Maryland Department of the Environment

Home Page

www.mde.state.md.us

Permits

<http://www.mde.maryland.gov/permits/index.asp>

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Home Page

www.dnr.state.md.us

Aquaculture

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/recreational/hatchery/aquaculture.html>

University of Maryland Extension

Agricultural Nutrient Management Program

<http://anmp.umd.edu/>

Addendum: Soil Conservation Districts

This guide provides general information on permits which may be required for certain agricultural activities. It is not a substitute for applicable federal, state, or local regulations, or a waiver of permits, licenses, or approvals required by law. Because regulations may change over time, contact your soil conservation district for the most up-to-date information. In addition, the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts provides valuable information on soil conservation and water quality issues at www.mascd.net.

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|-------------------|----------------------|
| Allegany | 301-777-1747, ext. 3 |
| Anne Arundel | 410-571-6757 |
| Baltimore County | 410-666-1188, 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 | 301-334-6951 |
| Harford | 410-838-6181, ext. 3 |
| Howard | 410-489-7987 |
| 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

State Soil Conservation Committee

Maryland Department of Agriculture

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway

Annapolis, MD 21401