



**Maryland
Department of Agriculture**

Office of Resource Conservation

Conservation Grants Program
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
mda.maryland.gov



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Improve Your Yields  Protect The Bay
Plant Cover Crops This Fall
Maryland's 2016-2017 Cover Crop Sign-up

Welcome
Cover Crop Farmers

Improve Your Yields Protect The Bay

Plant Cover Crops This Fall

Maryland's 2016-2017 Cover Crop Sign-up

Congratulations on your decision to plant cover crops this fall. The Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program welcomes you as one of nearly 2,000 cover crop farmers who are working to protect local waterways, reduce soil erosion and increase the productivity of their crop fields.

It's time to begin planning your cover crop program. Please review the planting information and payment schedule so that you'll be ready to plant this fall.

To help create diversity and give farmers more planting options, cover crop mixes containing crimson clover, Austrian winter peas or hairy vetch may be mixed with the following grains: ryegrass, barley, rye, wheat, or triticale. The seeding rate is 60 percent cereal grains and 40 percent legumes or radish. The species with the earliest planting date determines the planting deadline. Mixes containing rye do not qualify for the \$10/acre rye incentive.

COVER CROP PLANTING DATES AND RATES

Cover Crop	Seeding Rate Per Acre*		Traditional Cover Crop Base Payment	Maryland Planting Period
	Bushels	Pounds		
Barley	2.50	120	\$45	8/15-10/15
Canola/Rape (Brassica)	0.16	8	\$30	8/15-09/15
Forage Radish		10	\$45	8/15-09/15
Rye	2.00	112	\$55	8/15-11/05
Ryegrass	0.83	20	\$45	8/15-10/01
Spring Oats	3.00	96	\$45	8/15-10/01
Triticale	2.00	112	\$45	8/15-11/05
Wheat/Speltz	2.00	120	\$45	8/15-11/05
Clover (as part of mix)		15	\$45**	8/15-10/01
Vetch (as part of mix)		18	\$45**	8/15-10/01
Winter Peas (as part of mix)		60	\$45**	8/15-10/01

*Aerial and aerial ground seeding rates must be increased by 25 percent.

**Legume mixes are not eligible for additional incentives.

TRADITIONAL COVER CROP INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

Plant by October 1, 2016:
Add a \$10-\$20/acre early planting bonus

Plant by October 15, 2016:
Add a \$5-\$10/acre early planting bonus

Plant rye (no mixes): Add \$10/acre

MAXIMUM PAYMENT AMOUNT: \$75/ACRE

HARVESTED COVER CROP PAYMENT OPTIONS

Plant by November 5, 2016: \$25/acre

Plant rye as the cover crop: \$35/acre

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

All cover crops must be planted by November 5, 2016 and certified with the soil conservation district by November 14, 2016 to qualify for payment.

FIND A CONTRACTOR TO PLANT YOUR COVER CROP

Visit mda.maryland.gov or contact your soil conservation district for a list of contractors who can plant cover crops in your fields this fall.

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	410-228-3733, 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	410-621-9310
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's 2016-2017 Cover Crop Program is funded by the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund and the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund. Additional conditions and restrictions may apply.