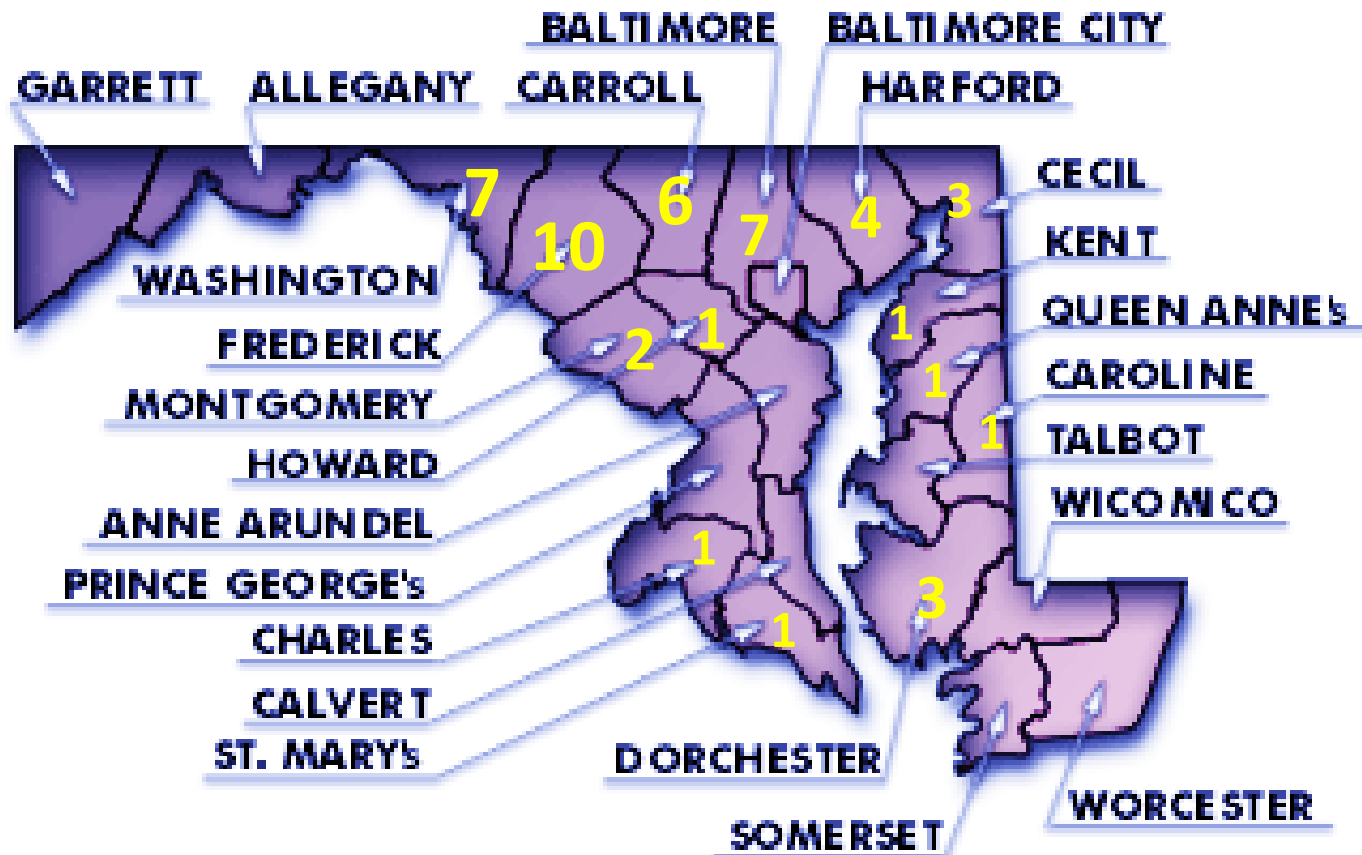


Housing Concerns for H2A Temporary Agricultural Workers

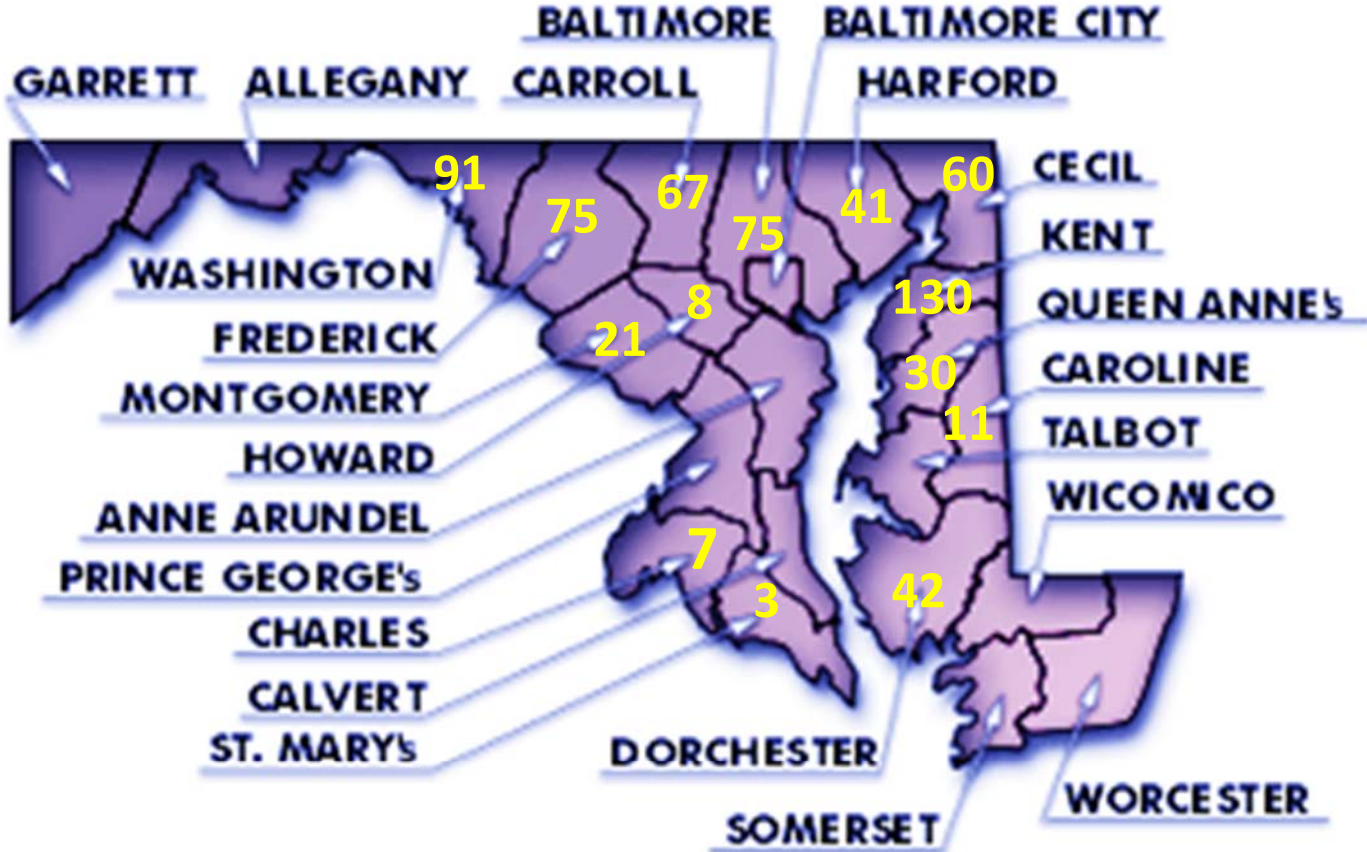
Rural Services &
Agricultural Programs
MD DLLR

Map by number of H2A farms throughout Maryland



47 agricultural employers are conducting business in **13** Maryland counties. *All are required* to meet housing regulations which might *differ* by county for the Federal H2A visa program. At least **6** farms are requesting multiple job orders (average 2 orders).

Map by number of H2A employees



There are a total of 661 H2A employees scheduled to date

H2A Temp Ag Worker Program

- Job must be temporary or seasonal in nature
- Visa application
- ***Housing inspection/permit***
 - Water inspection
 - Fire Marshall inspection
- First Aid certification

Relevant Housing Concerns

- Sprinkler systems
- Storm water management plan
- At least one year to receive permit for 6 workers
- Permit Costs vary
- Impact Fees (school, library, fire station zones)
- Trailers (problematic process)

Additional Concerns

- Heating system required for seasonal activity during summer
- Entrance aprons required off a main road
- Ratio of land and type of rights
- Cannot have more than 8 unrelated people
- Need for comprehensive process

Discussion

- H2A employers are prohibited by law to charge for rent and utilities for housing
 - Job must last 10 months or less
- Tenant versus Temporary Agricultural Worker
 - Definitional term or exception to policy
- Questions/Suggestions?

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