



Maryland's 2024 Conservation Buffer Initiative

Accepting Applications January 29 - March 8, 2024

Maryland's **Conservation Buffer Initiative** offers attractive incentive payments, easy sign-up, and a range of management options for farmers who want to plant streamside buffers on their farms to improve the health of local streams and the Chesapeake Bay.

2024 Program Highlights

Additional incentives for planting riparian forest buffers are available again this year. These payments are on top of the \$4,000 or \$4,500 per acre offered for installation. They include:

- A one-time, \$1,000/acre signing bonus to plant a streamside forest buffer.
- Up to \$330/acre/year to help cover costs associate with maintaining forest buffer viability and health for the first 5 years of the contract.

Buffer Payment Rates

Buffer Type	Adjacent Land Use	Payment for New Establishment (Per Acre)	Payment for Existing (Per Acre)
Grass	Pasture	\$1,500-\$2,500	None
Trees	Pasture	\$4,500	None
Grass	Cropland	\$1,000-\$2,000	\$500
Trees	Cropland	\$4,000	None

Please apply for this program at your local soil conservation district. To visit our website, scan the QR code with your mobile device or go to bit.ly/MDA_Buffer

