



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Office of Resource Conservation

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Joseph Bartenfelder, Secretary
Steven A. Connelly, Deputy Secretary

Conservation Grants Program

The Wayne A. Cawley, Jr. Building
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
www.mda.maryland.gov

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

410.841.5864 Baltimore/Washington
410.841.5950 Fax
800.492.5590 Toll Free

Dear Maryland Cover Crop Farmer:

The Maryland Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce that the 2022-2023 Cover Crop Sign-Up runs from July 1 to July 18, 2022. We hope you will apply for our grants to plant cover crops this year. Here are a few tips to help you through the application process.

- **Mail-in registration runs July 1 through July 18, 2022. Please download an application from this webpage.** Mail your completed application to the local soil conservation district by July 18, 2022. You will find a directory of soil conservation districts on this webpage. Applications must be postmarked by July 18, 2022. You can also drop off your application at your local soil conservation district by the July 18, 2022 deadline.
- **You must be in compliance with Maryland's nutrient management regulations to receive our grants.** Please indicate on your application that you have submitted a 2021 Annual Implementation Report (AIR) to the Nutrient Management Program. Check the box on line 7 of the application and provide the legal name of the farm operator/owner for whom the plan was written under box 8. Check the box on line 9 and attach a completed Current Nutrient Management Plan Certification Form. This form must be signed by the farm operator and the person who prepared the plan. Download the form from this webpage.
- Here are some additional tips to help you complete the application. Steps correspond with those listed on the application:
 - Step 1** – Provide the total number of acres you plan to plant in cover crops.
 - Step 2** – Choose the incentives you want and provide the number of acres associated with each incentive. Please note that the aerial planting incentive and incorporated planting method incentive cannot exceed the total base acres.
 - Step 3** – A seed test is required for home-grown seeds. Cost-share of \$15 per sample is available. Multiply the number of samples by \$15.
 - Step 4** – Enter the number of acres you plan to enroll in the Extended Season incentive option—up to 500 acres. Multiply this number by \$10. Add the base payment, incentives, seed test cost-share, and extended season dollar amount together to get a total cost-share amount.
 - Step 5** – Sign your application. We cannot process your application without a signature.

We look forward to helping you plant your cover crop. If you need help with your application, assistance is only a phone call away. A directory of soil conservation districts is posted on this webpage. You can also contact the department's Conservation Grants office directly in Annapolis, 410-841-5864 or Salisbury, 410-677-0802, ext. 3.

Happy Planting!

The MDA Conservation Grants team and your local soil conservation district