# FREE RFID TAGS & TAGGERS AVAILABLE FOR PRODUCERS



The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is offering **FREE RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) Tags & Taggers** to Maryland cattle and swine producers.

**RFID TAGs:**
➢ Improve disease traceability in Maryland and the U.S.,
➢ Improve the ability of Maryland producers to move livestock nationally and internationally,
➢ Allow producers, market operators, exporters, and veterinarians to identify animals easily using electronic wands that record identification information without touching the animal, and
➢ Meet interstate movement requirements - all livestock moving interstate must be identified using "Official Identification", which includes RFID tags.

All producers requesting tags must **register their premises** with MDA to obtain Official Identification tags. **Producers who already have a premises registration** – please provide address information on the provided premises registration form so we can confirm we have the correct, updated premises registration.

## TO ORDER TAGS – *as easy as 1,2,3!*

1. Fill out the "Premises Registration Form" and "Tag Request Form", attached here and also available online at: https://mda.maryland.gov/AnimalHealth/Documents/Free%20Tags%20Rev.pdf,

2. Email your completed forms request to animal.disease.traceability@maryland.gov, or

3. Mail your completed forms request to: **Animal Health Program, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401**.

Producers can always order tags at cost by contacting vendors listed here: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/AIN_device_list.pdf.

I hope you will take advantage of this offer to try out how RFID tags may benefit your business and help us all respond rapidly to any disease threat in Maryland livestock. If you have more questions regarding this offer or any animal disease traceability matter, please contact us at 410-841-5810.