



STATE OF MARYLAND AGRICULTURE

House of Delegates: Environment & Transportation Committee

Secretary Joe Bartenfelder
January 24, 2019



AGRICULTURE IN MARYLAND



- ***12,300 farms***
- ***2 million acres***
- ***Average farm size = 165 acres***
- ***\$8.25 Billion Industry***
- ***\$3 Billion Value Added***



MISSION STATEMENT



Our Vision Is...

to achieve excellence in programs and in services that preserve and protect agricultural resources and the environment, promote profitable agriculture and consumer confidence, and enhance the quality of life for all Marylanders.

Our Mission Is...

to provide leadership and support to agriculture and the citizens of Maryland by conducting regulatory, service, and educational activities that assure consumer confidence, protect the environment, and promote agriculture.

DEPARTMENTS & PROGRAMS



I. Marketing, Animal Industries & Consumer Services

- Agricultural Marketing
- Animal Health
- Food Quality Assurance
- Maryland Horse Industry Board
- Maryland Agricultural Fair Board
- State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
- Weights & Measures

II. Plant Industries & Pest Management

- Plant Protection & Weed Management
- Turf & Seed
- Pesticide Regulation
- State Chemist
- Mosquito Control
- Forest Pest Management

III. Resource Conservation

- Nutrient Management Program
- Resource Conservation Operations
- Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share Program (MACS)

IV. Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF)



OFFICE OF MARKETING, ANIMAL HEALTH & CONSUMER SERVICES



MARYLAND'S BEST



*Promoting Maryland
Farmers and Watermen*

2019 Food & Beverage Expo

*Blue Catfish Purchasing
Initiative*



HORSE INDUSTRY – ECONOMIC IMPACT



ECONOMIC IMPACT *of the Horse Industry In Maryland*



#MDHorse



RACING: *\$572 million*



COMPETITION: *\$270 million*



RECREATION: *\$382 million*



EQUINE THERAPY: *\$8.4 million*





OFFICE OF PLANT INDUSTRIES AND PEST MANAGEMENT



PALMER AMARANTH



Result of HB 515 (2018) - Palmer Amaranth Summer Study


Addressing Palmer Amaranth Problem

Additional Study Findings

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY



**WANTED:
DEAD • OR • ALIVE**



**THE SPOTTED
LANTERNFLY**

A new invasive insect that seriously threatens Maryland crops, including grapes, apples, peaches, and many others. If you see it...Snap it! Catch it! Freeze it! Send it! And, report it to DontBug.MD@Maryland.gov

mda.maryland.gov/spottedlanternfly

Found in Cecil County

Prevention:

- Survey Program
- Outreach Campaign

POLLINATOR PROTECTION ACT



***Result of SB 198 (2016) -
Pollinator Protection Act***

Implementation

***Address Maryland Reporter
Article***



OFFICE OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION



WIP III – DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION



Fall 2018: Local Engagement

Evaluate & Update Current County Plans

Compile Statewide Plan

Three Primary Goals

- **Fully** account for conservation already implemented
- **Re-verification** based on rule change
- **Address** remaining reduction gap

Plan Exceeds Current Requirements

SOIL HEALTH INITIATIVE



Develop Program

- Soil Health Coordinator
- Advisory Committee
- Identify Practices & Quantify Benefits

Implementation

- Outreach & Education
- Demonstrations & Pilot Projects
 - MDA Biomass Pilot Program
- RCPP Grant



MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION (MALPF)





About MALPF

- **Created in 1977 by the Maryland General Assembly**
- **Governed by Agriculture Article, §2-501 through 2-519, Annotated Code of Maryland**
- **State-County Partnership Program**
- **Easements are perpetual.**

Purpose

- **To preserve productive agricultural land and woodland to provide for the continuing production of food and fiber for the citizens of Maryland.**

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION (MALPF)



Totals for Calendar Year 2018

- **9,416** acres preserved
- **\$36,157,857** public investment
- **72** easements

MALPF Totals (As of Dec. 31, 2018)

- **316,227** acres preserved
- **\$741,959,688** public investment
- **2,327** easements

2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



HB 50 - Department of Agriculture - Maryland Produce Safety Program

SB 25 - Real Property - Conservation Easements, Covenants, Restrictions, and Conditions - Recording Notice

SB 56 - Secretary of Agriculture - Regulation of Poultry to Protect Animal Health and Control Avian Influenza

SB 57 - Agriculture - County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs

SB 58 - Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation - Elimination of District Agreements



THANK YOU!