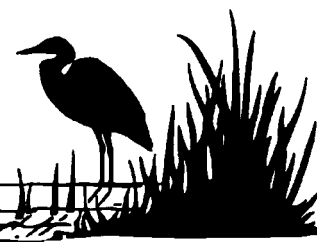


PARTNERSHIP PRESS

Maryland Conservation



Spring 2010 Volume 17, Issue 2

75 YEARS OF CONSERVATION, JON HALL, STATE CONSERVATIONIST, MARYLAND NRCS

This year, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will celebrate its 75th anniversary. It's a special time for all of us – for our fellow employees, for our conservation partners and for the thousands of co-operators who have been a part of the most ambitious and successful private lands conservation endeavor in the history of the world.

Established in 1935 as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), the NRCS has evolved into the largest private lands technical agency in the federal government. In April of that year, the U.S. Soil Conservation Act became law. Then, in 1937, the SCS initiated the soil conservation district concept whereby the agency worked through state-created conservation districts made up of local farmers. The act gave locally appointed directors the authority to establish and manage local soil and water conservation efforts. The federal government, in turn, cooperated by granting the districts equipment and technical assistance. This arrangement left local areas with the authority to shape conservation projects, but provided federal funding to undertake those projects.

Working side-by-side with private landowners and our partners, the NRCS has become the nation's preeminent provider of technical and financial conservation assistance on working lands.

The 75th anniversary is a historic landmark for the nation – and for the world. And it's a good time to remember that each of us plays a critical role in continuing this living legacy of conservation.

Throughout the year, we will take some time to reflect back on our rich, 75-year history of helping people help the land. I hope we do so with a sense of pride. But more importantly, I hope each of us will look forward to the future with a renewed sense of purpose and a humble sense of responsibility.

The generations that follow us in the next 75 years may not remember our individual names or even our specific contributions to the cause. But through our collective work in conservation, surely they will know that we cared – and endeavored to make a positive difference on the land.

Happy 75th!

MESSAGE FROM MASCD PRESIDENT, CAL STEUART

On April 1st, Prince George's Soil Conservation District (SCD) was the proud host of a meeting of Southern Maryland farmers, district representatives and agricultural groups with Congressman Steny Hoyer who brought USDA Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to our neighborhood. After comments by Secretary Buddy Hance and Congressman Hoyer, the audience was given an opportunity to ask questions. Topics included were the Chesapeake Bay program, estate tax, buy local and food safety, the current financial problems in the dairy sector, and trade with Cuba. Secretary Vilsack wrapped up the session with his thoughts on these issues and an important reminder about the role of agriculture, each farmer feeding 150 people and he noted other statistics from the recent farm census. It was a great opportunity for our region's farmers to meet with the Secretary. Prince George's SCD has new office space with ample room for meetings of this kind. We open the invitation to you to visit and hold your meeting here.

As districts in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, we have been elevated to national recognition and scrutiny. Everyone is watching because we are seen as the leaders in what will eventually happen across the nation. As such, I approved travel for Lynne Hoot to attend the NACD Executive Director's retreat in Olympia, Washington later this month. I felt that with a new CEO for NACD and the Bay on the agenda, she should attend to provide the other states with an update on our activities and to gain a better understanding of how other states are dealing with water quality issues.

This national recognition for the Chesapeake Bay Program resulted in a resolution at the annual meeting asking NACD to have a position housed at the EPA Program headquarters in Annapolis. As a result of this resolution, Lynne Hoot joined Jeff Eisenberg, CEO NACD, Rich Duesterhaus, NACD, JC Berger and John Peterson from Virginia and Robert Baldwin and Mike Brown from Delaware to meet with Jeff Lape current EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Director and his soon to be replacement, Jim Edward. The discussion was very encouraging and EPA said that if NACD

(Continued on page 6)

SINE DIE REPORT BY LYNNE HOOT, MASCD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As the bells rang and confetti fell on the 2010 Legislative Session on April 12th, I am pleased to report that the results were good for soil conservation districts and agriculture. In the final hours, with great support from Senator Mac Middleton and Delegate Norm Conway (plus many others), the legislature passed a bill to give some relief from estate tax to Maryland farmers. Although not total a total elimination, the legislation establishes a four-year pilot program that allows a family three years to defer the estate tax and another three to pay back the owed tax. This allows a family more time to put the land into preservation or find other ways to protect the land from sale.

(Continued on page 7)

PERSONNEL NOTES

NRCS WELCOMES...

NRCS has recently hired three full-time staff who will develop Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) for Maryland farmers. CNMPs can provide the basis for requesting cost-share assistance through NRCS financial assistance programs, and implementation of planned practices will help producers to comply with the Maryland Department of the Environment's water quality permit requirements for livestock and poultry operations. All three CNMP Planners bring extensive Nutrient Management experience to the CNMP development process. Each of the planners will be located on the Eastern Shore, but will provide assistance as needed elsewhere in Maryland. The three planners are:

Erin Dorsey, CNMP Soil Conservationist, Wicomico County. Prior to coming to NRCS, Erin was working with the University of Maryland Department of Environmental Science and Technology's Agriculture Nutrient Management Program. She served as Regional Nutrient Management Specialist. Erin will serve Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester Counties.

Christy Brown, CNMP Soil Conservationist, Talbot County. Prior to coming to NRCS, Christy was the Coordinator and Nutrient Management Advisor for the University of Maryland's Agriculture Nutrient Management Program. Christy was formerly with NRCS as a Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) participant in Delaware. Christy will serve Talbot and Dorchester Counties.

Stephen Kraszewski, CNMP Soil Conservationist, Queen Anne's County. Prior to coming to NRCS, Stephen served as a Nutrient Management Advisor for the University of Maryland Extension, Talbot County. Stephen also has prior NRCS experience in NY where he held a STEP Biological Science Technician position with the USDA Plant Materials Center in Big Flats. Steve will serve Upper Shore and Western Shore counties.

NRCS also welcomes:

Jessica Brewer, Career Intern Soil Conservationist, Kent County. Jessica joins NRCS with previous experience as a Planner with Washington County Soil Conservation District. She holds an Associate's degree in Natural Resources and Wildlife Technology and a B.S. in Environmental Analysis and Planning.

Edward Burns, Farm Bill Specialist for CSP, WHIP, and AMA, State Office. Ed comes to Maryland from NRCS California where he served as an Area Biologist working in Dixon, CA. He begins 5/23/2010.

Brent Cammauf, Soil Conservationist, Frederick County. Brent comes to Maryland from NRCS Pennsylvania where he previously served as a Soil Conservationist for Franklin County in Chambersburg, PA.

Kim Whitman, Engineer. Kim will be joining NRCS in June as a full-time engineer. You may have met Kim last summer or over the winter break when she was working in Annapolis as a NRCS Student Engineer.

Eric Woodland, Biological Science Technician, PMC. Eric has worked as an Office Management Assistant Student in Anne Arundel. He is still a student.

NRCS BIDS FAREWELL TO...

Corey Brink – Corey was reassigned from Frederick County to NRCS Vermont in January.

Michael Combs – Mike is leaving Queen Anne's for the NRCS office in his home county in Virginia.

Heather Foley – Heather is leaving Carroll County for NRCS New Hampshire, where she'll be closer to her family.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

2010 NACD/AUXILIARY PHOTO CONTEST

The 2010 NACD/Auxiliary Photo Contest is open to amateur photographers who are residents of the United States or its territories. Participants can enter as many as five photos total each year.

Each photo has to fit in one of the four natural resource or conservation photo categories: Conservation Practices, Close Up Conservation, Conservation in Action, and Agriculture and Conservation Across America.

NACD has provided required entry instructions that provide a complete description of how to submit photographs, accepted photo formats, judging, use of the photos and prizes. Please follow these instructions and guidelines carefully to ensure eligibility in the contest and note changes in the process for submission of jpegs of photos via email.

For more information on awards, categories, and entry guidelines, please contact Susan Schultz at 317-326-2952 or by email at stewardship@nacdn.net or visit <http://nacdn.net.org/education/contests/photo/>.

NARROW DITCH BUFFER PILOT PROGRAM

Dorchester Soil Conservation District in cooperation with the Wicomico Soil Conservation District, the University of Maryland, Nanticoke Watershed Alliance and the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network is excited to be part of a grant offering new practices to farmers. This grant will allow the Districts to work in a small sub-watershed and offer cost-share and rent for vegetated strips between 10 feet and 30 feet.

Currently the only program offering money to buffer ditches is the CREP program, which also has a wildlife component and requires a minimum width of 35' along ditches. The grant as

(Continued on page 5)



MARYLAND 2011 CHESAPEAKE BAY MILESTONES

Royden Powell distributed information about modifications to Maryland's two year milestones for improving water quality. Milestones were established in 2009 to accelerate implementation of measures to reduce nutrients in two year increments. Maryland established 27 measures and 17 of them increased implementation of specific agricultural BMPs.

The original Milestone goal for cover crop implementation was 460,000 acres by the end of calendar year 2011. This was recently revised to 325,000 acres of cover crop. State agencies have worked to amend milestone actions to address the nutrient reduction shortfall. There was a 600,000 pound nitrogen gap in reaching the 2 year nitrogen reduction target of 3.75 million pounds by reducing the cover crop goal.

New state milestones include 100,000 acres of precision agriculture, 150,000 acres of continuous no-till, expanding wetland restoration/creation goal on private lands from 700 acres to 1,000 acres and accounting for urban nutrient management compliance on acres regulated by MDA. Powell discussed challenges related to tracking the agronomic practices. Agronomic practices such as precision agricultural management strategies or continuous no-till are not captured by Conservation Tracker.

Additional discussion by SSCC members ensued related to tracking voluntary BMPs. MDA has applied for grant support to assist in developing a methodology for collecting this information. Rice inquired about use of NASS or FSA for data collection of voluntary BMPs. Powell noted overtures had been initiated but there are some database challenges for these agencies to track BMPs.

COVER CROPS

2010/2011 (MDA) Cover Crop Program guidelines and eligibility were recently presented to SSCC for finalization. Some program changes for the 2010/2011 program include increased incentive payment for spring manure and rye to \$10/acres and kill-down date changed to March 15 to be consistent with NRCS, priority watersheds expanded. The sign-up dates are June 21-July 15. NRCS is offering cover crop funding through CBWIO and EQIP at \$51/acre for either traditional or commodity. MDA incentives may be added to NRCS enrolled traditional acres. NRCS sign up is ongoing and may be closed by June when federal funds are fully committed. MDA has approximately \$15 million to support the 2010/2011 Cover Crop Program.

Traditional Cover Crop Payment Options	No-Till	Conventional	Broadcast w/light tillage/ Minimum Tillage or Vertical Tillage	Aerial	Broad-cast Stalk Chop
Base Payment	\$40/acre	\$40/acre	\$40/acre	\$45/acre	\$40/acre
Plant by October 1, <i>add:</i> <i>or</i> Plant by October 15, <i>add:</i>	\$20/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$0	\$0
Plant fields where manure was used in fall, <i>add:</i> <i>or</i> Plant fields where manure was used in spring, <i>add:</i>	\$0/acre	\$5/acre	\$5/acre	\$0	\$0
Plant in field with previous corn or vegetable crop, <i>add:</i>	\$5/acre	\$5/acre	\$5/acre	\$5/acre	\$5/acre
Plant rye, <i>add:</i>	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre
Farm located in targeted watershed, <i>add:</i>	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre	\$10/acre

*MACS base payment for commodity is \$25/ac and eligible for rye incentive of \$10/ac

MDA is also enhancing outreach that will garner increased participation. Powell discussed with SSCC setting county targets to increase participation. Handouts were provided showing enrollment over the past few years compared to fall certification as a percent of implementation for each county. Recognizing that the majority of eligible acres are on the Eastern Shore, MDA did some preliminary calculations using goals of 37% of eligible cropland acres for Eastern Shore counties and 29 percent of eligible cropland acres in other counties in the rest of the state to reach 325,000 acres statewide. SSCC was in support of establishing these goals and they were presented at MDA regional SCD meetings in April and early May.

It was suggested that advertising with a banner at grain elevators may be a good venue for reaching new participants. Other suggestions included SCD sponsoring special informational meetings. Yerkes suggested using existing winter farm meetings to promote cover crops. In response to these suggestions, MDA developed preliminary factsheets explaining the program in February, 2010 and attended agricultural meetings over February and March or made the information available for distribution. Advertising in April will feature both MDA and NRCS opportunities for cover crop incentives. MDA will also conduct its annual mailing of program information and postcard reminders to previous program participants in May and June.

SSCC



Report

Information from the State Soil Conservation Committee

NOTES

INTERAGENCY MOU AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY ENFORCEMENT

Royden Powell discussed the status of the Agricultural Water Quality Enforcement Agreement among MDE, MDA and SSCC. Previous MOUs were developed in 1986 and 1997. Efforts to update the MOU beginning in 2007 were delayed because of delays in NPDES regulatory process for CAFOs and reorganization of program responsibilities at MDE.

Powell reported that MDA and MDE planned to sign a letter of agreement creating a "rapid response" team to deal with NOI based complaints. MDE has also expressed a preference to modify the MOU into a procedural instrument rather than agreement.

Hoot expressed a concern that SCDs need to continue to have a defined role and as such should be part of any discussion. Steuart said he was concerned that MDE's avoidance of an agreement instrument may translate to a policy to avoid any 'encumbrance' that could restrict their actions independent of input or cooperation with agricultural agencies.

Hoot indicated that SCD involvement protected farmers from complaints that had no technical merits. Hawk said SCDs need to receive notice when MDE is responding to a complaint, regardless of who ends up on site during inspection.

Yerkes suggested that additional discussion was warranted once a draft "procedures" document was forthcoming. Powell said he would brief the Secretary about SSCC concerns.

MARCELLUS SHALE - NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES

MDE is working with DNR to determine legal and permit issues related to drilling in state parks or forests into Marcellus shale. As with private properties, land ownership is not the same as mineral rights.

The multi-use doctrine of some public lands combined with budget issues may result in a perception of mining as new revenue source. It is unclear how this issue might also impact MALPF easements especially as horizontal drilling from non-easement property can access minerals under easement property.

There are four (4) MDE permit applications pending for drilling on private property in Maryland. Resource issues include groundwater appropriations, saline waste material and its disposal and land disturbance. Herb Sachs, MDE representative, noted that in Pennsylvania

they have removed the authority for SCDs to review sediment and erosion control on shale mining sites. Also Pennsylvania cities have been selling portions of their permitted water allocations to mining entities.

Robert Tjaden, Extension, noted that western MD agricultural agents Lantz and Bender have organized an educational program for landowners related to leasing issues for Marcellus Shale drilling.

NUTRIENT APPLICATION TO TURF

During review of legislation to limit phosphorus application to lawns (HB50) this year, the current rate of allowable nitrogen fertilization for turf of 4#N/1000 square feet (equivalent to state average for a corn crop) was brought to light. This application rate is consistent with the University of Maryland guidelines.

State Soil Conservation Committee members are concerned that this fertilization rate may not be reflective of current state obligations to reduce nutrient loading to local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. They voted to request that the University of Maryland review current turf recommendations to assure they are protective of water quality as well as agronomic plant requirements.

APPOINTMENTS

The following supervisor appointments were made:

- Ann Collier – Caroline SCD
- Greg Dell – Carroll SCD
- Charles Rice – Charles SCD
- Wade Butler – Montgomery SCD
- James Woodburn – St. Mary's SCD
- John Rinehart – Washington SCD

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the SSCC will be held at 9:30 am on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

NARROW DITCH BUFFER PILOT PROGRAM

(Continued from page 2)

written and approved will allow the Districts to pilot a three-year program where they will be able to pay planting cost-share and rent that is comparable to the CREP Buffers. Operators have a choice of width ranging from 10' to 30'. The plantings will have the same choices as normal CREP in terms of plant choices, however there will be more flexibility in the maintenance of these areas as long as the grass is maintained taller than 6-8".

Initially Dorchester will be focusing on a small sub-watershed around the Finchville intersection asking the owners and operators to consider participating for three-years. In areas where the cropland is more productive it is difficult to justify a wide buffer. Dorchester SCD is hopeful that the opportunity for more flexibility in management and narrower width will encourage participation in areas that they have not had success before. For more information, please contact Dorchester SCD at 410-228-5640 x3.

UPDATE ON MASCD GRANT ACTIVITIES

Maryland Soybean Board Grant—Farm Stewardship Certification and Assessment Program (FSCAP)

The FSCAP Project has two components. One focuses on reducing the number of outstanding Certified Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) by commissioning two certified nutrient management planners to work with the Somerset and Worcester Soil Conservation Districts to develop a total of 20 CNMPs. MASCD will pay 75 percent cost-sharing for the development of each CNMP. To date, 13 of the 20 CNMPs have been developed and approved by the soil conservation districts. The original FSCAP project created an Agricultural Conservation Stewardship Certification Standard (ACSCS) and will provide recognition to those farmers that meet the certification standard. The first farm stewardship certification evaluation takes place in Washington County on May 7th.

NRCS CIG Grant—CNMP Workshops Project

The Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMP) Workshops Project has two components. One is to present four workshops dealing with pertinent issues involving CNMPs. The other is to pay seven soil conservation districts on the Eastern Shore to complete 80 CNMPs by August 30, 2010. The first workshop was held on January 6, 2010 in partnership with NRCS and MDA to train the Eastern Shore SCDs to complete the conservation component of a CNMP. To date, 14 CNMPs have been completed. Plans are underway to develop a workshop for Vietnamese poultry growers to present CAFO, MAFO, CNMP and routine maintenance issues entirely in Vietnamese, the first such workshop of its kind in Maryland.

NFWF Grant—Eco-Trading Project

Seven Maryland SCDs and three Delaware conservation districts have completed training to inform farmers of the rules and eligibility criteria for the Maryland Nutrient Trading Program and carbon trading and to use web-based tools to determine individual farmer's potential to participate in trading. Each district has a goal of 20 farmers to conduct the individual interview and have them complete a survey to register their opinions on trading.

MARYLAND GRAIN PRODUCERS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board has announced that it will award four deserving students enrolled in a Maryland or out-of-state institution with \$4,000 scholarships. Funded with Maryland grain checkoff funds, the scholarships provide financial support to students interested in pursuing a career in agriculture. The scholarships will be awarded to Maryland residents who are enrolled in or accepted by a four-year institution and working toward a BS degree, or students enrolled in or accepted by a two-year institution with an agricultural program.

The selections will be based on agricultural background, family farm involvement, financial need, grade point average, agriculture related studies, career goals, and extra curricular activities. Applicants or the applicant's immediate family must be involved in the production of grain. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2010. For an application, call Lynne Hoot at 410-956-5771 or visit www.marylandgrain.com.

EVENTS

2010 SWCS INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Join your colleagues in St. Louis for the 65th annual international conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The conference, to be held July 18-21, includes workshops, concurrent sessions, symposia, posters, plenary sessions, and technical tours designed to raise the awareness of conference participants to recent developments in the science and art of natural resource conservation and environmental management. The 2010 conference will take place at the Hilton at the Ballpark in downtown St. Louis. More information can be found at http://www.swcs.org/en/conferences/2010_annual_conference/.

MARYLAND COMMODITY CLASSIC, JULY 22, 2010

The Maryland Grain Producers Association (MGPA) and the Maryland Soybean Board (MSB) will host the Maryland Commodity Classic on Thursday, July 22, at the Queen Anne's 4-H Park in Centreville. Morning tours at the Wye Research and Education Center will highlight soybean and grain checkoff funded research projects. Grant funded projects, including the Envirothon, will also be on display at the 4-H Park.

The afternoon business meeting and program features Matt Roberts, recognized Grain Marketing Specialist from the Ohio State University, Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics, Columbus, Ohio. The event will close with the famed Crab Feast, Pork and Chicken Barbecue. Tickets are available for \$10 each for entry prior to 2:00 p.m. (\$20 after 2:00 and no entry after 3:00 p.m.) Event sponsorships are now being accepted. For more information, contact MGPA at 410-956-5771.

EVENTS CONT'D**2010 NACD LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE , JULY 17-21, 2010, DC**

NACD is eager for conservation leaders from across the nation to join us in Washington, D.C. for the 2010 Summer Board Meeting and Legislative Conference, slated for July 17-21, 2010. The popular annual event will allow NACD members to learn more about policy issues impacting conservation at both local and national levels. The Conference will be held at the Washington Court Hotel, conveniently located within walking distance of Union Station, the U.S. Capitol Building and the National Mall. This year's exciting program includes informative speakers, meetings with your members of Congress, and an open house at NACD's Headquarters office. The meeting kicks off with a Sunday reception and will include a service project on Wednesday so be sure to arrange your travel plans to include the fun! NACD will also have their 4th annual Capitol Hill Congressional Reception, allowing members to network with Congressional staff. For more information visit: <http://www.nacdnet.org/events/legconference/>. MASCD will be making Congressional visits during this event.

MASCD VISITING CONGRESS—JULY 20, 2010

As part of the NACD Legislative Conference, MASCD will be visiting Maryland's Congressional offices. All members of Maryland's Conservation Partnership are encouraged to attend the Legislative Seminar, but if you prefer, you can just join the group heading to Washington, DC for the day on Tuesday July 20, 2010 to visit Maryland's 10 Congressional members or their natural resource staff.

District supervisors and staff are encouraged to attend. If there is enough interest, transportation will be provided from Annapolis. If you are interested or concerned about technical assistance, TMDLs, the Chesapeake Bay, NRCS funding, or endangered species—join the team and make a difference. Those interested in attending should call Lynne Hoot (410-956-5771 or lynnehoot@aol.com) to arrange transportation and to receive preparatory information.

MASCD ANNUAL MEETING , JULY 27-28, 2010

The MASCD Annual Meeting will be held on July 27-28, 2010 at the Holiday Inn at Solomons. This two-day meeting which will be hosted by the Southern Maryland Area will be full of vital information for soil conservation districts and members of the Conservation Partnership. A draft agenda is listed below but watch the MASCD website for more information.

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

- 9:30 a.m. – Board of Directors Meeting
- 10:45 a.m. – Area Meetings
- 12:00 p.m. – Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – Opening Session
- 3:15 p.m. – DM, DC, Past Leaders, and SSCC
- 5:30 p.m. – Evening Social
- 6:30 p.m. – Banquet and Endowment Auction

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

- 7:00 a.m. – Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. – Technical and Administrative Committee meetings
- 12:00 p.m. – Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – General Session
- 2:30 p.m. – Board of Directors
- 3:30 p.m. – Adjourn

MASCD PRESIDENT, CAL STEUART (CONT.)

could provide the salary for the district representative, EPA would provide office space, computer and all administrative support. NACD will seek grants and investigate other funding options including if the six Bay states can contribute to support the position. Lynne Hoot stated that if NACD is able to accomplish this, it is very important that the individual hired is technically knowledgeable about district activities but must be someone who is outgoing and assertive as she sees the new role being more political in nature while ensuring that EPA has a good understanding of the role of soil conservation districts. As a side, Lynne was encouraged to learn that both Jeff Lape, who heads to the national EPA Headquarters in the next few weeks, and Jim Edward worked for the Soil Conservation Service in their early careers.

I believe that the new Conservation Tracker program MDA developed will play a significant role for agriculture in the Bay program. I encourage districts to capitalize on this new tool and keep it up to date inputting as much data on agricultural BMPs as is known. I also encourage MDA to move quickly to expand Conservation Tracker to receive all farm BMP data, whether or not it meets NRCS standards and specs, so we can demonstrate what agriculture has done and to seek EPA approval on nutrient and sediment efficiency standards for the non-NRCS standard BMPs.

At the March MASCD Board of Director's meeting in Annapolis, Wes Messick presented a draft Partnership MOU that he had been working on with Charlie Conklin and his committee (Charlie, Wes and John Swaine). There was general agreement that the draft MOU between districts and our partners looked good but it was agreed that each SCD be given an opportunity to review it and make comments. If you haven't already done so, can you please send comments back to Charlie Conklin or Jim Newcomb by May 15th. It is hoped that this can be finalized at the Annual meeting.

Obviously with all the discussion on TMDLs, Chesapeake Bay, Stormwater Management, Environmental Site Design and District MOUs, we have no shortage of topics to fill our agenda at the upcoming MASCD Annual meeting July 27 and 28th at the Holiday Inn at Solomons. As part of the event, Elmer Weibley is again organizing an auction during the banquet to raise funds for the MASCD Environmental Education Endowment Fund; I encourage you to submit items of great value for this event. In the meantime, let Lynne Hoot or me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns – and if you are silent until then, I look forward to seeing you in July.

SINE DIE REPORT *CONT'D**(Continued from page 1)*

On the budget front, Soil Conservation Districts and the Office of Resource Conservation fared extremely well in the FY2011 budget. Most notable is that the legislature maintained the \$400,000 for the seven new employees established by the Ag Stewardship Act of 2006. We have Delegate Norm Conway to thank for his diligent support of the districts. This strong support also replaced \$1.9 million for MARBIDCO, which had, like the seven positions, been slated for elimination bringing their budget back up to \$2.75 million (again as determined in the 2006 Ag Stewardship legislation). MACS funding in the capitol budget was finalized at \$10 million and funding for cover crops stands at \$15 m with \$9.52 million coming from the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund and \$5.6 million from the Bay Restoration Fund (any remaining BRF unspent after 5/1/11 will revert back for wastewater treatment activities). Language calling for the governor to provide for 110 field positions for soil conservation districts in the annual budget remains intact. The Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust fund was funded with \$22.5 million, so grant funds may be available to districts through this program. Funding for land acquisition programs was approved through bond sales providing Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program with \$17.814 million (\$10 m of which is for FY 2010), Rural Legacy—\$16.95 m and Program Open Space—\$65.18 m.

There were several other bills that were of interest to the soil conservation districts, several were agricultural in nature and many were of interest because of our urban activities. Please give me a call if you have any questions. Below is a synopsis of these bills, more information can be obtained from the legislative web site: <http://mlis.state.md.us/>.

Soil Conservation Issues

HB 296 State Government - State Soil - Sassafras Soil. This bill was given an unfavorable report in the Health and Government Operations committee. MASCD supported this legislation.

HB 943 & SB 311 Chesapeake Conservation Corps. As passed this bill establishes the Chesapeake Conservation Corps Program within the Chesapeake Bay Trust to: provide young adults with meaningful service opportunities and promote, preserve, protect, and conserve the environment. The bill establishes several provisions relating to the funding of the Corps Program, including a requirement that for fiscal 2011 through 2015, \$250,000 annually from the Environmental Trust Fund (ETF) within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) be provided to the Chesapeake Bay Trust for specified projects. There is the opportunity for these individuals to work in the soil conservation district offices. MASCD supported this legislation.

HB 974 Nutrient Trading - Voluntary Agricultural Nutrient Credit Certification Program. This bill enables the Department of Agriculture to verify, certify and register agricultural nutrient credits to support voluntary nutrient trading activities. MASCD supported this legislation.

HB 647 Department of Natural Resources - Conservation Service Opportunities - Procurement Exemption. This bill allows DNR to enter into negotiations with non-profit organizations to provide grants to carry out conservation activities without having to go through the state procurement process.

Stormwater

HB 964, HB 1125, HB 1408, HB 1409, HB 1480, SB 420, SB 1082: Several bills were introduced to delay the implementation date of the Stormwater Management Improvement Act of 2007. Delegate Maggie McIntosh, chair of Environmental Matters asked the Department of the Environment to work with stakeholders to come up with an acceptable solution and to get regulations approved before the end of the session or else she would facilitate legislation. As a result, MDE established new regulations to provide developers with existing projects underway with additional time to get their projects completed under the current stormwater rules. MASCD took no position on this legislation.

HB 999 & SB 686 Watershed Protection and Restoration Act.

These bills would have established a stormwater remediation fees on existing properties to retrofit stormwater problems. Both died in committee.

Fertilizer and Sludge

HB 813 Agriculture - Sludge - Timing of Winter Application. Had this bill passed it would have required MDA to prepare regulations for winter sludge application that are essentially the same as for manure. MDA and MDE had already initiated action to limit winter sludge application and will move forward through the regulatory process. MASCD supported this legislation.

HB 50 Agriculture - Specialty Fertilizers - Low Phosphorous Fertilizer. This bill failed on the senate floor, had it passed it would have lowered the P content in lawn fertilizers from the maximum of 5% passed in 2009 to 0.5%.

HB 621 Agriculture - Commercial Fertilizer – Surcharge. This bill was withdrawn, had it passed it would have added a \$5 per ton surcharge to commercial fertilizer that was not low phosphorus.

HB 930 & SB 359 Agriculture - Fertilizers and Pesticides - Release Reporting. This bill did not pass out of either ENM or EHEA. Had it passed it would have established a new field by field – application by application reporting system for pesticides and fertilizer use.

Bay Restoration Fund

HB 62 & SB 1122 Environment - Payment of Cost Differential - Nitrogen Removal Technology. This bill requires MDE, in 2010 to 2012, to use Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) funds to pay 100% of the cost difference between a conventional on-site sewage disposal (septic) system and one that utilizes best available technology (BAT) for nitrogen removal for a homeowner required to replace a failing system in the Critical Area. The bill also expresses legislative intent that MDE may use an economic means test to determine the financial assistance awarded to a homeowner for the cost difference between a conventional septic system and one utilizing nitrogen removal technology, except for failing systems in the critical area covered under the bill.

(Continued on page 8)

SINE DIE REPORT *CONT'D***General Ag Issues**

HB 421 Department of Agriculture - Advertising Agricultural Products as Locally Grown - Regulatory Authority. This bill gives MDA the authority to establish a definition of locally grown with input from farmers and other stakeholders.

HB 953 & SB 859 Agriculture - Commercial Feed - Arsenic Prohibition. This bill would have eliminated the use of food additives in poultry that include arsenic. There was no action on either bill in committee.

SB 69 Woodland Incentives Program - Prohibition on Use of Federal Funds – Repeal. This bill allows federal funds to be used as co-cost share with state funds up to 100% of the cost of a project.

SB 90 Secretary of Agriculture - Farm Quarantine. This departmental bill authorizes the Secretary to establish a farm quarantine and issue orders to control or restrict the use of farmland, crops, livestock, poultry, or a farm product existing on a farm that has been exposed to or contaminated by a radiological or chemical toxic material or agent or is infected or infested with a disease or pest. The bill also establishes quarantine notice requirements; provisions to allow landowners, tenants, or animal owners to request an alteration of a quarantine or order; additional powers of the Secretary; and enforcement provisions.

SB 198 Farmer's Markets - Raw Agricultural Product Sales - Producer Mobile Farmer's Market License. This bill prohibits local jurisdictions from requiring a license for the sale of raw agricultural products in a farmer's market and requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish a producer mobile farmer's market license.

SB 199 Seasonal Farmer's Market Producer Sampling License. This bill authorizes a county to establish a seasonal farmer's market producer sampling license for a producer to prepare and offer samples of a farm product at a farmer's market under guidelines prepared by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

SB 858 Maryland Winery Modernization Act. This bill establishes a farmer's market permit and expands the scope of operations and activities of a Class 4 limited winery licensee.

Wildlife

HB 246 Allegany County and Garrett County - Deer Hunting on Private Property – Sundays. This bill expands Sunday bow hunting in Allegany and Garrett Counties.

SB 978 & HB 851 Talbot County - Deer Hunting on Private Property – Sundays. This bill expands Sunday bow hunting in Talbot County.

SB 259 & HB 502 Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties - Deer Hunting. The Senate version passed over to the House and was significantly amended. The amendments in the House were not accepted by the Senate so the bill died; it would have provided additional flexibility to combat deer problems in Southern Maryland. Language was included in the budget bill calling on DNR to evaluate ways to manage the deer population on public lands in Southern Maryland.

Environmental Issues

HB 351 & SB 462 Chesapeake Bay Restoration Consumer Retail Choice Act of 2010. These bills calling for a 5¢ charge on plastic bags received no action in either committee.

HB 356 Forest Product Operators - Standards, Procedures, and Enforcement. This bill establishes forest product operator's license within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

HB 474 & SB 278 Smart, Green, and Growing - Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission. This Administration bill repeals the Task Force on the Future for Growth and Development in Maryland and establishes a Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission to be staffed by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP).

HB 475 & SB 285 Smart, Green, and Growing - The Sustainable Communities Act of 2010. This Administration bill reestablishes the Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program as the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program, extends the program's termination date through fiscal 2014, requires the Governor to include an appropriation to the commercial program in fiscal 2011 through 2014, and alters eligibility requirements for the program. The bill also makes several changes to other State programs, including the Community Legacy and Neighborhood Business Development Programs.

HB 606 & SB 361 Natural Resources - Local Forest Conservation Funds - Use of Money. These bills repeal the provision that if the local funds paid into the Local Forest Conservation Funds are not spent in two-years they are returned to whoever paid the fee.

SB 513 & HB 1257 Natural Resources - Vessels - No-Discharge Designation for Maryland Waters. These bills would have made the Bay a no-discharge area for boats. The Senate version was amended to a study but no House action occurred on either bill.

HB 1352 & SB 914 Forest Conservation Fund - Contribution Rates - Priority Funding Areas. This bill alters the amount paid into the State Forest Conservation Fund so projects inside a Priority Funding Area (PFA) pay less than if outside a PFA, (30¢/sq ft in a PFA and 36¢ in a non PFA).

Energy

HB 801 Electricity - Net Energy Metering – Credits. This bill extends the timeframe for receiving net metering benefits in excess of use.

SB 569 & HB 827 Biomass and Biofuels - In-State Production Incentives. These bills were promoted by the Chesapeake Bay Commission to advance biofuels in Maryland, neither bill passed.

SB 277 & HB 471 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Solar Energy. This Administration bill increases the percentage requirements of the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards (RPS) that must be purchased from Tier 1 solar energy sources each year between 2011 and 2020.

SB 355 & HB 701 Energy Companies - Net Energy Metering - Payment for Accrued Generation Credit. This bill alters the net energy metering program by changing the way an eligible customer-generator may accrue credits from excess generation from a kilowatt-hour (kWh) basis to a dollar basis.

Budget language was added to require the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program to prepare a report on renewable energy policy recommendations on agricultural easements (along with the Maryland Energy Administration) and a report on Marcellus Shale extraction on agricultural easements.

CIVIL RIGHTS

NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE REVIEW MAY 24 – 28, 2010

The Civil Rights Compliance Staff will be reviewing the following MD Offices: Maryland State Office, Anne Arundel & Prince George's, Carroll, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Talbot, and Wicomico.

Please make sure you have the required posters. The 230 files are updated and there is a current position description and EDP for each NRCS staff member in the office. If you need assistance, contact chair Joe Kraft, 301-695-2803 or any Civil Rights Advisory Committee (CRAC) member. For guidance, visit <http://www.md.nrcs.usda.gov/about/civilrights.html>.

Meeting Schedule:

July 7, 2010, Worcester County
October 6, 2010, Charles County, RC&D
January 5, 2011, Maryland State Office

Host a Meeting: The Civil Rights Advisory Committee is looking for three offices to host a meeting next year. If you have an underserved population that you are working with or an interesting program, project or outreach activity that you would like to showcase, let the CRAC know, we would like to see what you are doing. Call any CRAC member to arrange to host a meeting. If we do not hear from you, you will get a call from us.

Position Vacancies: The following Special Emphasis Program Manager (SEPM) positions are vacant: Asian, Pacific Islander; Gay Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender; there is a "Member at Large" position vacant. If you are interested in serving on the CRAC, call any member or inform your supervisor of your interest.

Position Descriptions: During recent reviews it has been brought to our attention that some staff members have misplaced their position description or do not have a current copy of the position description. Please take a moment to check the status of position descriptions for you and your staff. If you do not have a position description, talk to your supervisor or contact Holly Marken, 443-482-2938, and she can provide you with a copy for your files.

Why and How to Display Posters: A portion of the field office compliance reviews deals with the display of required posters and how to display them. During field office reviews, we find that posters are scattered throughout the field office in break rooms, a hallway or behind a door and often not displayed in a central location easily viewed by program participants and staff. Basically the requirement is simple, any federally-assisted or federally-conducted programs are to be ad-

ministered in accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the CR Act of 1964. In other words it is the law to display the required posters to ensure every participant knows their rights and to prevent discrimination. You can find a detail explanation of the policy in the General Manual Section 230 Part 405 "Civil Rights Compliance in Program Delivery". Below is a portion of Part 405 outlining policy and major authority. As for displaying the posters, the bullet below is taken from the Civil Rights division page relating to "Required Posters".

The Civil Rights posters below are to be prominently displayed in all offices where there is an NRCS presence. The posters are to be placed where they can be viewed by employees and customers. Please be advised that these required posters should be displayed in a specific size: 11" width x 17" height. This size requirement relates to a problem where the text of the poster becomes small and almost unreadable when the poster is printed in a typical printer's print size of 8.5" x 11". Very few organizations have printers capable of printing the required size for displaying the posters. The Internet copies of the posters are shared for the purpose of reference rather than for printing and display. A good place to display the posters would be in the reception area of the office or in a client room with other program information.

Part 405 – Civil Rights Compliance in Program Delivery

Subpart A - General

405.0 Purpose and Scope

This subpart provides policy and guidance on Civil Rights (CR) requirements in administering program activities provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are provided equal access and equal opportunity to participate in programs receiving Federal financial assistance. All persons eligible to participate in NRCS programs must be informed of NRCS' equal opportunity policy and encouraged to participate.

405.1 Policy

A. It is the policy of NRCS that all Department of Agriculture (USDA) federally-assisted and federally-conducted programs are to be administered in accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the CR Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, Executive Order (EO)s, Department of Justice (DOJ) regulations enforcing nondiscrimination requirements, and Departmental rules and regulations. Compliance with the policies ensures access of program delivery to customers without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital and family status, political beliefs, parental status, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

B. NRCS is to use positive examples of program participation by minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and other individuals protected by Federal nondiscrimination law. This may be in the form of pictures and other visual and audio public information materials.

C. No person shall be subjected to reprisal or harassment because he or she filed a discrimination complaint, participated in or contributed to the identification, investigation, prosecution, or resolution of a CR violation.

D. Any person or specific class of individuals or minority groups who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in any NRCS program or activity may personally, or through a designated representative, file a complaint.

(Continued on page 10)

CIVIL RIGHTS

(Continued from page 9)

405.2 Major Authorities

A. Statutory

- (1) Title VI of the CR Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d-2000d-4, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin.
- (2) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681-1686, which prohibits discrimination based on sex.
- (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 794, which prohibits discrimination based on disability.
- (4) Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 42 U.S.C. 6101-6107, which prohibits discrimination based on age.
- (5) Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974, Title VII of the Consumer Protection Act of 1974 (as amended), Section 701 of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974, Public Law 93-49, 15 U.S.C. 1691.
- (6) CR Restoration Act of 1987, Public Law (PL) 100-259, as amended, CR Act of 1991, PL 102-166.
- (7) Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12101.
- (8) Title VIII of the CR Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, 42 U.S.C. 3601.
- (9) Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended by the Food Stamp Improvement Act of 1994, 7 U.S.C. 2011.

For the General Manual Section 230 part 400, visit: <http://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/RollupViewer.aspx?hid=16975>

TRAINING

DISTRICT OFFICIAL TRAINING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

NACD recently announced a new recognition program to stress the importance of training for conservation district officials. The program will recognize states that develop and conduct state training programs for district officials meeting the minimum training elements as identified by NACD and the National Association of State Conservation Agencies.

The program initially started as a pilot project referred to as the "accreditation project." Thanks in part to a lot of hard work by the National Association of State Conservation Agencies, it has evolved into a program that recognizes states for their emphasis on training. The program also facilitates sharing of training and information nationally as states participate.

Partnering with NACD on this project, NASCA has posted training modules on their website for those states interested in off-the-shelf training. NACD and NASCA encourage states to utilize and share training materials that have been developed. The various training resources, as well as a self-assessment checklist of the minimum training elements, are available at http://www.nascanet.org/Index/DO_Training_Checklist.php.

FUNDAMENTALS OF NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE SET FOR JUNE 1 AND 2

A two-day Fundamentals of Nutrient Management Pre-Certification Training Class will be held June 1 and 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the lower level conference rooms at the Maryland Department of Agriculture's (MDA) headquarters, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis.

The course provides participants with an overview of areas covered by the Maryland Nutrient Management Certification Exam scheduled for August 6.

Topics include state nutrient management regulations, nutrient management principles, basic soil science, and soil fertility recommendations. Call MDA at 410-841-5959 for a registration form or more information.

ENVIROTHON

MARYLAND TEENS GEAR UP FOR FIRST ROUND OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPETITIONS

Across Maryland, teenagers are grabbing their binoculars, pulling on their waterproof boots, and brushing up on their knowledge of soils as they gear up to take part in the first round of competitions leading up to the 2010 Canon Envirothon, North America's largest and most prestigious natural resources event for high school students.

Students participating in the Envirothon have been studying the state's natural resources for the past year. They have learned from the experts how to identify and categorize living resources, perform soil surveys, estimate wood yield from trees, and solve other complex natural resource issues.

Teams are tested in five areas: soils, aquatics, wildlife, forestry and environmental issues. The county team with the highest cumulative total wins their local competition and advances to the Maryland Envirothon, scheduled for June 24-25, at the William S. Schmidt Outdoor Education Center in Prince George's County.

The winner of the Maryland Envirothon represents the state at the 2010 Canon Envirothon. More than 300 of the brightest teenagers from across the United States and Canada will participate in this rigorous competition slated for later this summer at the University of California, Fresno.

For a complete list of county Envirothon competition dates and locations, visit the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation District's web site at www.mascd.net/envirothon.

For more information on the Canon Envirothon, visit: <http://www.envirothon.org/>

PARTNERSHIP

KENT SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COOPERATORS' DINNER

If a man's success is measured by the number of friends he has, then W. Frank (Barney) Barnes, Jr. is indeed very successful. March 10, 2010 marked a very special night for the Kent County producer. With friends and family in attendance, Barney received the honor of 2009 Cooperator of the Year Award from the Kent Soil & Water Conservation District.

The Annual Cooperators' Dinner, attended by 158 people, started with a social hour of mingling and a review of community displays including the SassafRAS River Association and Maryland's Nutrient Management Program. The evening continued as Stephanie Nordhoff, Kent County Farm Bureau Princess gave the invocation. Good food provided by the Frank M. Jarman Post 36 American Legion ladies and good fellowship were enjoyed by all.

Nancy Metcalf, District Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, presented the "Year In Review". Numbers showed once again how committed Kent County farmers are to the conservation of our natural resources.

Guest speaker, Earl F. (Buddy) Hance, uplifted the audience with his praise for local producers. He pledged his willingness as the Secretary of Agriculture to provide any assistance he could to help continue the hard work and dedication of Kent County landowners.

District Manager, Karen Miller, introduced the Cooperator of the Year presentation which showcased Barney's farm and poultry operation. Barney, a third generation farmer, tills 200 acres of prime farmland which is located on Bay Shore Road outside of Fairlee. He has approximately 9,600 feet of shoreline along the headwaters of Fairlee Creek. The farm consists of 115 acres of cropland, 73.3 acres of woodland and 8.8 acres at the homestead.

Barney has participated in cost-share programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Conservation Reserve Program, and the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-share Program. With the help of these programs he has installed an ag waste structure, a composting facility, concrete pads at both ends of all 4 chicken houses, 34.2 acres of wildlife habitat, 29.2 acres of cool season grass conservation cover, 3 ponds, 4.5 acres of riparian herbaceous cover, .5 acres of filter strip, 1 grade stabilization structure, 2.6 acres of grassed waterways, 765 feet of cropland terrace and 110 feet of underground outlet.

In 1995 Barney signed on with Perdue Farms and now with the help of his sons Craig and Brian, operates four poultry houses and turns out 609,000 chickens a year. In answer to heavier regulations on manure operations, Barney now has a Compre-

hensive Nutrient Management Plan to insure the safe utilization and disbursement of the chicken manure from his poultry operation. Barney is truly committed to the conservation of his farmland and three years ago was accepted in the Ag Land Preservation Program. It is because of this continuous commitment that W. Frank (Barney) Barnes, Jr. was selected as the 2009 Cooperator of the Year.

Presenters on hand to help celebrate Barney's accomplishments included Buddy Hance, with a Governor's Citation and Jon Hall, State Conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service with a plaque. Congressional Aide, Michael Thomas, from Congressman Frank Kratovil's office provided a Certificate of Recognition and Kent Soil & Water Conservation District Chairman, S. Wickes Westcott presented Barney with a plaque and sign for his farm noting him as the 2009 Cooperator of the Year recipient.

Barney was all smiles as he accepted these and congratulations from each of the presenters. Wife, Kaye, sons Craig and Brian and sister Pat Spencer as well as other family members and friends were on hand. Barney explained about the twists and turns that life had given him and how each had brought him to his present place. Later he was heard saying this is an award that he has always wanted. We think it was worth the wait. Congratulations Barney! The honor sits well on your shoulders.



Karen Miller, District Manager of the Kent Soil & Water Conservation District; S. Wickes Westcott, Chairman of the Kent Soil & Water Conservation District; W. Frank (Barney) Barnes, Jr. 2009 Cooperator of the Year; Brian Barnes, Craig Barnes, Kaye Barnes and Craig's girlfriend Jennifer Thomas.



Earl F. (Buddy) Hance, Secretary of Agriculture making a presentation to W. Frank (Barney) Barnes, Jr. as the 2009 Cooperator of the Year. The people in the picture from left to right are Earl F. (Buddy) Hance, Secretary of Agriculture, W. Frank (Barney) Barnes, Jr. 2009 Cooperator of the Year, Kaye Barnes, Brian Barnes, Craig Barnes, and Craig's girlfriend Jennifer Thomas.

Future Dates to Remember	
May 20	SSCC Meeting, Annapolis
June 17	SSCC Meeting, Annapolis
June 1-2	Nutrient Management Training
June 24-25	2010 State Envirothon, William Schmidt Center, Brandywine, MD
June 25	MACCA August Exam Registration Deadline
July 17-21	NACD Legislative Conference, Washington, DC
July 20	MASCD Congressional Visits
July 18-21	Soil and Water Conservation Society's Annual Conference, Missouri
July 22	Maryland Commodity Classic, Centreville
July 27-28	MASCD Annual Meeting, Solomons
July 27	SSCC Meeting, Solomons
August 1-7	2010 Canon International Envirothon, CA
August 6	Nutrient Management & MACCA Exams

Maryland Conservation

PARTNERSHIP PRESS



is a quarterly newsletter published for and about the members of Maryland's Conservation Partnership: MD Department of Agriculture, MD Association of Soil Conservation Districts, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Farm Service Agency, Maryland Cooperative Extension, and the State Soil Conservation Committee.

The deadline for articles is January 30, April 30, July 30 and October 30. Please direct comments or questions to the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts at 410-956-5771.

The members of the Conservation Partnership prohibit discrimination in their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-5964 (TDD). Agencies in the Maryland Conservation Partnership are equal employment opportunity employers.

PARTNERSHIP PRESS ONLINE

The Partnership Press newsletter is posted on www.mascd.net. In an effort to conserve, if you prefer to receive the quarterly newsletter by email, please email MdAgric@aol.com.



MASCD
 53 Slama Road
 Edgewater, MD 21037-1423
 410-956-5771
www.mascd.net

BULK PERMIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 ANNAPOLIS, MD
 PERMIT NO. 188