

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



2022 CATOCTIN & FREDERICK DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- One local student earned top honors in the poster contest at the MASCD Summer Meeting. **Hope Rice** of Sabillasville Environmental School earned 1st place Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts poster in the 4th-6th grade division!
- Maryland Department of Agriculture's (MDA) **Manure Injection and Transport** programs provided **\$250,598.48** in assistance to help district cooperators inject **1622 acres** with manure and transport **4,560 tons** of manure from fields with high phosphorus to fields where phosphorus was needed.
- **The Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS)** Program provided **\$459,495.00** in cost share assistance to cooperators in the Catoctin District to assist with the installation of various best management practices.
- Frederick County Farmers enrolled **27,706 acres** in MDA's Cover Crop program which provided **\$1,247,193.00** in assistance to help offset the cost of purchasing seed and planting small grains that provide winter cover but are not harvested.
- Frederick County cooperators received nearly **\$2,698,266.09** in payments for completed contracts through NRCS programs including: **EQIP, AMA, RCPP, and CSP**.
- The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) distributed over **\$5,048,890.67** to Frederick County cooperators enrolled in programs such as **CFAP, CFAP2, CRP, MAL, DMC, WHIP, FSFL, ARC/PLC**.
- With both state and federal funds we installed **362 BMPs**.
- Planners wrote conservation plans covering **10,376 acres**.
- The Frederick District awarded the 2022 George A. Nicholson, Sr. Memorial Scholarships to: Abigail Beckman and Alana Baye.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) IMPLEMENTED IN THE CATOCTIN & FREDERICK DISTRICTS:

Qty:	Unit:	BMP:
15	No.	Waste Storage Structures
6.9	Acres	Grassed Waterways
14	No.	Roof Runoff Structures
10,372	Feet	Streamside Fencing

Qty:	BMP:
36	Watering Facilities
40.9 Acres	Prescribed Grazing
53 Acres	Riparian Forest Buffer

SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL IN THE CATOCTIN & FREDERICK DISTRICTS:

Qty:	Type:
730	Sediment & Erosion Control Plans
2392.92	Approved Sediment Control Acres
29	Forest Harvest Permits

Qty:	Type:
639	Grading Permits
34	Pre-Construction Meetings
409	Site Inspections

2023 CATOCTIN COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR—VALLEY-HO FARM, THE DERR FAMILY

Chris and Jamie Derr operate Valley-Ho Farm in Middletown, MD where they milk Holstein cattle, raise replacement heifers, and row crops. Over the past 10 years, the Derr's have made great efforts to protect and preserve the natural resources on their dairy farm. In doing so, they have shared the benefits of conservation efforts with other farmers and the public. Fencing, a watering trough, and a roofed heavy use area protect a stream and increase options and opportunities to maximize grazing while maintaining healthy, productive pastures. To protect the soil in the win-



ter months, the Derr family plants cover crops. Liquid and solid manure storage facilities help to effectively manage manure nutrients to the benefit of crops and the environment. The Derr's commitment to conservation serves not only the farm, but the Middletown Valley, Catocin watershed, and all of their downstream neighbors.



CATOCTIN SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ben Sowers, Chairman
 John Falkenstein, Vice Chairman
 Adam Holter, Treasurer
 John Orłowski, Assistant Treasurer

Eric Arnold, Supervisor
 Bill Brennan, Associate
 Rene Grossnickle, Associate
 Wes Shafer, Associate

2022 COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR - THE RIPLEY FAMILY

Join us in congratulating the Ripley Family of Ripleyvale Farms as the 2022 Frederick Soil Conservation Districts Cooperator of the Year. The Ripley's raise replacement dairy heifers and grain crops on over 400 acres. They have continuously worked with the Soil Conservation District for many years and with their most recent projects, have addressed all of the identified resource concerns on their farm. In 2022 they installed a waterway, roofed heavy use area, and manure storage. All of the streams located on their property are fenced. Currently, the Ripley Family is working on converting their crop ground to pasture with the goal of retiring marginal pastures.



The Ripleys prioritize conservation and have instilled this value in their children and now grandchildren. Their conservation efforts provide benefits beyond the farm gates.



FREDERICK SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Hipkins, Chairman
Robert Black, Supervisor
Diane Flickinger, Vice Chairman

Bobby Myers, Treasurer
Barron Burch, Assistant Treasurer
Brian Sweeney, Associate

SABILLASVILLE ENVIROMENTAL SCHOOL—HARVEST DAY

In October some of the District staff attended Harvest Day at the Sabillasville Environmental School– a school that uses a classical curriculum with a focus on environmental science and agriculture.

Here you can see students learning how to ribbon soil to assess soil texture; Mark, one of our technicians, demonstrating to students how to ribbon soil; and Marshall, one of our planners, teaching students all about roots and what they do for our soil!



SOIL SMART FARM TOUR

In September, along side the Frederick County Farm Bureau and Horizon Farm Credit, we hosted the Soil Smart Farm Tour for its second year. The tour invites local and state legislators, County Executive Jessica Fitzwater, and many others to your four farms that represent the agricultural diversity throughout Frederick County. Stops were made at Chestnut Hill Farm & Market in Smithsburg, Shrivvers Meats in Emmitsburg, Brookfield Pumpkins in Thurmont, and finished out the day at Glamourview Creamery in Walkersville.



Catoctin Soil Conservation District
92 Thomas Johnson Drive, Suite 230
Frederick, Maryland 21702-4300

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U. S.
Postage
PAID
Permit #184

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT STAFF



District Staff:

Heather Hutchinson, District Manager
Steve Leatherman,
Asst. Dist. Mgr/Urban Tech.
David Huffer, Urban Technician
David Stonesifer, Urban Technician
Kendra McAfee,
Soil Conservation Coordinator

NRCS Staff:

Brent Cammauf, District Conservationist
Grace Garst, Soil Conservationist
Andrew Zimmerman, Soil Conservationist
Cara Green, Soil Conservationist
Teala Ficks, CNMP Planner
Barry Feaga, Soil Technician
Mark Buccholz, Soil Technician
Marshall White, RC& D Planner
Matt Drury, Civil Engineering Technician
Sean Daly, Civil Engineering Technician



MDA Staff:

Holly Boyer, Conservation Planner
Emily Doney, Conservation Planner
William Rawlings, Conservation Planner
Cassidy Marquis, Conservation Planner
Kaitlyn Fuss, Conservation Planner
Jason Watt, Engineering Technician
Mark Freese, Technician
Chris Zawitoski, Technician
Peter Hatchett, Technician