ANNE ARUNDEL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Heritage Office Complex
2662 Riva Rd., Suite 150, Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-571-6757 • Email: info@aascd.org

AASCD STAFF
John Czajkowski, District Manager
Keli Kirby, Office Manager
Bonnie Griffie, Secretary
Kevin Holland, Senior Soil Conservation Specialist
Heydsha Cordero, NRCS District Conservationist
Aaron McCann, NRCS Soil Conservationist
Eileen Beard, MDA Soil Conservation Planner and Regional Equine Specialist
Joe Superczynski, Senior Agriculture Soil Conservation Specialist
David Scheler, Soil Conservation Specialist
Lou Corones, Soil Conservation Technician
Shelley Hopkins, Soil Conservation Specialist
Paul Hafner, Soil Conservation Specialist
Justin Valkos, Soil Conservation Specialist
WHAT IS A DISTRICT COOPERATOR?

A cooperator is an individual or entity who has signed an agreement with the district to develop and implement conservation practices in their farm operation. Each year, Soil Conservation Districts recognize a “Cooperator” of the Year. In Anne Arundel County, we call this a “Conservationist” of the Year to better represent the achievements that the individual Cooperator (and their family) has made towards conserving natural resources.
WHO DOES SOIL CONSERVATION WORK WITH?

In Anne Arundel County, the Soil Conservation District works with two equally essential areas of our local economy: agriculture and urban development.

Farmers rely on the technical expertise of our district’s engineers and field specialists to design and install best management practices on their farms. Farmers may also benefit from voluntary conservation programs to further protect natural resources in Anne Arundel County.

AASCD also plays a vital role in the prevention of erosion and sediment loss during construction activity. Our Urban Division reviews all sediment and erosion control plans for proposed construction projects in Anne Arundel County and the City of Annapolis.
Our Funding Sources

AASCD is one of 23 soil conservation districts in Maryland. Each district functions independently under a local Board of Supervisors. This ensures that local natural resource issues are addressed. Although AASCD occupies the same boundaries as Anne Arundel County, we are not part of the local county government. Our staff and operating budgets are funded through a combination of federal, state and local assistance.

AASCD Funding by Source:
County: $476,880
State: $6,000
State Grants: $68,370
Local Grants: $56,600
MASCD Grants: $4,170
Fees for Services: $51,300

Total Funding: $663,200

To carry out our mission, we work with a number of local, state and federal agencies including county government offices, the Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency, the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers and state and federal legislators.

OUR PARTNER AGENCIES:
Message from the Board of Supervisors Chair

The AASCD Board of Supervisors meets on the third Wednesday of each month, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Ours is not a “ho-hum” group. We are forward thinking and proactive. We welcome your input for outreach programs, problems that need solutions, and better use of manpower and resources. You are invited to join us at these meetings where we review Farm Plans and hear reports from our urban and rural staff. We also have regular reports from MDA, NRCS, UMD, the Anne Arundel County Ag Marketing Specialist, and our PR consultant. Frequently, we have a guest speaker on a new program or area of interest. Our district board tackles topics of concern from our community, and it is in this area that we want your input. Recently we challenged the county’s 60 Foot Rule, which said that all farm buildings must be more than 60 feet from each other. On proposed Ag Tourism legislation, we originally took a strong position of support, but reversed direction when the bill became untenable. Come to a meeting. I promise you will not be bored.

Milly B Welsh
Chair, AASCD Board of Supervisors

AASCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Milly B Welsh, Chair
Steuart Pittman, Vice Chair
Dave Myers, Secretary
Brian Riddle, Treasurer

John Colhoun, Member
Vaughn Foxwell, Member
Mike Superczynski, Associate Supervisor

In Memory of Herb Sachs, 1935 - 2017

Earlier this year we lost Herb Sachs who served on the AASCD Board of Supervisors for two years. Herb had a long and outstanding career in the State of Maryland. He continued to be a champion for conservation in his retirement as a member of our board. He was one of our district’s strongest supporters for the Envirothon. His insight and wisdom are dearly missed.
WHAT IS AN AGRICULTURAL BMP?

BMP stands for Best Management Practice, which is a conservation tool that farmers use to reduce soil and fertilizer runoff, properly manage animal waste, and/or protect water and air quality on their farms. In addition to making a positive environmental impact, BMPs often improve a farmer’s bottom line by reducing operating costs.
Agriculture Division

The Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District’s Agricultural Services Division provides information and guidance to agricultural landowners in order to protect soil and water resources. Did you know? AASCD will cover the cost of shipping plus a basic soil and organic matter test for District Cooperators. Visit AASCD.org for more information.

**3,852**
NEW ACRES IN 2016
In 2016, the AASCD prepared 50 new Conservation Plans on 3,852 acres across the county.

**31,194**
TOTAL ACRES AS OF 2016
As of 2016, the AASCD has a total of 547 active Conservation Plans which cover 31,194 acres of land across the county.

**119**
BMPs INSTALLED
In 2016, the AASCD installed 119 Best Management Practices (BMPs).

**33**
FARMS ENROLLED IN COVER CROP PROGRAM
AASCD had 33 Cooperators enroll in the Maryland Department of Agriculture Cover Crop Program in 2016.

**9**
FARMS FSCAP CERTIFIED
Nine AASCD Cooperators were certified through the Farm Stewardship Certification and Assessment Program (FSCAP) in 2016.

**$362,700**
COST-SHARE PROGRAM FUNDING
More than $350,000 was invested on Anne Arundel county farms through state and federal cost share programs to increase soil and water health.
Urban Division

The AASCD’s Urban Division plays a vital role in the conservation of soils and in improving water quality by reviewing and approving sediment and erosion control plans for construction activity throughout Anne Arundel County and the City of Annapolis.

Our district office reviews grading plans that show the disturbance, proposed grades and sediment control practices to prevent erosion and sediment laden runoff from leaving the construction site and flowing into the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay.

The Urban Team reviews nearly 3,000 submittals per year. These submittals range from the early planning stages of subdivisions to sediment and erosion control plans for Anne Arundel County and the City of Annapolis for single family dwellings, residential subdivisions, commercial, industrial, mining, landfills, forest harvest, stream restorations, pond retrofits, capital and state projects, along with various modifications and variances.

When time allows, the AASCD Urban Team also offers guidance to help resolve issues homeowners may have with erosion or drainage on their own property, which includes slope subsidence and shoreline stabilization.

WHAT DOES THE URBAN DIVISION DO?

We utilize the guidelines from the Maryland Department of the Environment’s 2011 Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control to ensure the protection of Maryland’s streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.
Education & Outreach

The Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District participates in a variety of programs designed to educate the public in Anne Arundel County and throughout the State of Maryland about the issues facing our natural resources.

**Photos (clockwise from top):** In April, the AASCD hosted a Pasture Walk at The Lead Off Farm in Friendship, MD; every year, the AASCD hosts Leadership Anne Arundel for a tour of the county’s farms and agribusinesses; the AASCD was also a proud sponsor of the University of Maryland’s Soil Judging Team which took first place in the 57th National Soils Competition hosted by Northern Illinois University; The Anne Arundel County Envirothon is one of the AASCD’s highlight events. This year, we had 15 teams from 8 local schools compete in the event.
This year, we are pleased to recognize the Wayson Family of Friendship whose family has lived at Hopewell Farm in Southern Anne Arundel County since before the Civil War. Like many Southern Maryland farms, Hopewell began as a traditional tobacco farm. As Dave and Carol Wayson transitioned the farm away from tobacco, they diversified into new farming business with their children, Donna and Thomas Craig taking leadership roles.

For more than a decade, the Waysons have worked with the Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District to implement best management practices on their farm including grazing management, heavy use areas, watering facilities and cover crops. Donna has also installed an extensive fencing system for the horses as well as water runoff controls on and around the barns and buildings. Hopewell Farm was the 101st farm in Maryland to be certified through the Farm Stewardship Certification and Assessment Program (FSCAP).
PAST “COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR” WINNERS:

1956  Albert McIlveen, Tracy's Landing
1957  Amos H. Ward, Sr., Bristol
1958  William Tydings, Gambrills
1959  John R. O’Neill, Bristol
1960  Oscar F. Grimes, Jr., Davidsonville
1961  C. Edward Moreland, Galesville
1962  Darrell W. Sansbury, Friendship
1963  Osborne Peddicord, Harwood
1964  William W. Zang, Harwood
1965  Clifton H. Wayson, Davidsonville
1966  Nelson R. Crandell, Jr., Lothian
1967  Robert A. Gaug, Crownsville
1968  Joakob Hoellich, Lothian
1969  Richard Forney, Crownsville
1970  Albert R. Ricks, Harwood
1971  Mildred B. Anderson, Gambrills
1972  Howard Gordon, Friendship
1973  Pettebone Brothers, St. Margarets
1974  Yvonne Kirkpatrick-Howat, Edgewater
1975  Arthur R. Owens, Harwood
1976-86 No Cooperators during this time
1987  Henry A. Kinder, Jr., West River
1988  Dennis and Doris Marshall, Lothian
1989  Richard L. and Mary Smith, Lothian
1990  Robert S. “Sammy” and Larry Moreland, Lothian
1991  U.S. Naval Academy Dairy, Raymond Brenneman, Dave Myers, and Pete Peterson, Manager, Gambrills
1992  Francis H. Chaney, II and Nell-Marie Chaney, Lothian
1993  Joan G., Ross E. and Dale H. Moreland, Galesville and West River
1994  Lewis H. and Bryan S. McDonald, Harwood
1995  Earl E. and Jeffrey Griffith, Lothian
1996  Harrell S. Spruill, Annapolis
1997  Walid Y. Ibrahim, Lothian
1998  John M. and Betty Colhoun, Harwood
1999  Maxwell H. and Nancy Covington, Davidsonville
2000  Dr. Emily Wilson and Chris Wilson, Harwood
2001  Robert and Cathy Rossback, Davidsonville
2002  Stephen D. Hopkins and Family, Lothian
2003  Richard Catterton and Family, Harwood
2004  Bill Grimes, Davidsonville
2005  Wayne O’Neill, Lothian
2006  Kevin Windsor, Lothian
2007  Martin Zehner, Jr., Davidsonville
2008  J. Compton Wilson, Friendship
2009  Carol Jahnigen and David Ciccotelli, Lothian
2010  Bill Harris and Peggy Campanella, West River
2011  J. Mark Scioble and Family, Davidsonville
2012  Douglas and Maureen Heimburg, Harwood
2013  No Cooperator this year
2014  Jamie and Sarah Suchoski; Baywood Farms
2015  Ray Greenstreet; Greenstreet Growers
2016  William Ford and Family, Harwood