

Conservation and Natural Resources Summary

	Actual FY 07	Original Budget FY 08	Adjusted Budget FY 08	Budget FY 09	% Change From Orig. FY 08	% Change From Adj. FY 08
Cooperative Extension	\$402,952	\$432,740	\$432,740	\$452,600	4.59%	4.59%
Gypsy Moth	20,893	20,000	30,000	30,000	50.00%	0.00%
Soil Conservation	315,600	336,000	342,880	353,180	5.11%	3.00%
Weed Control	25,328	30,220	30,220	29,700	-1.72%	-1.72%
Total Conservation and Natural Resources	\$764,773	\$818,960	\$835,840	\$865,480	5.68%	3.55%

Mission and Goals

The mission of Conservation and Natural Resources is to protect the county and state's valuable natural resources, promote public awareness and education to improve the quality and quantity of natural resources, and facilitate the comprehensive and effective management of Landscape and Forest Conservation Ordinances.

Budget Changes

- The difference between the FY 08 Original Budget and FY 08 Adjusted Budget for Soil Conservation is primarily due to an increase in rent expense in connection with moving to a new office location.
- The difference between the FY 08 Original Budget and FY 08 Adjusted Budget for Gypsy Moth is due to increased spraying for gypsy moths.
- The 1.72% decrease in FY 09 for the Weed Control budget is primarily due to the one-time expenditure in FY 08 for replacement of tires for spray truck.

Highlights, Changes and Useful Information

- 917 acres in Carroll County were treated to protect against Gypsy Moth damage in 2007.
- On a weekly basis, the team at the Cooperative Extension provides current research-based information to the gardening public in the Carroll County area. The team also provides pertinent information on personal financial management and nutrition for lower income families.

Cooperative Extension

Description	Actual FY 07	Original Budget FY 08	Adjusted Budget FY 08	Budget FY 09	% Change From Orig. FY 08	% Change From Adj. FY 08
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	402,952	432,740	432,740	452,600	4.59%	4.59%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$402,952	\$432,740	\$432,740	\$452,600	4.59%	4.59%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. On-going mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

Bryan Butler, County Extension Director (410) 386-2760

Robin Hooper, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082

Mission and Goals

The mission of the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service is to support Maryland's agriculture industry, protect the state's valuable natural resources, enhance the well-being of its residents, and foster the development of stable communities, families and citizens. Extension works toward this mission by utilizing the resources of the University of Maryland and other Universities to provide research-based educational programs, materials, and activities to the citizens of Carroll County.

Description

Maryland Cooperative Extension Service (MCES) is an off-campus branch of the University of Maryland. Federal, State and local governments fund this service in all counties.

Extension Educators work primarily in the following areas:

Agriculture profitability	Life skills for youth
Environmental stewardship	Family issues
Home horticulture	Financial management
Human nutrition and food safety	Forest and wildlife management
Leadership development	

For more information on Cooperative Extension Service, please refer to: <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/carroll>.

Program Highlights

- MCES has regional specialists (paid totally from State funds) who are available at all times to help the facility and staff with problems and concerns of Carroll County businesses and citizens.
- In Carroll County, Cooperative Extension has ten Extension Educators who teach and provide educational programming, materials, activities and consultations for the County's citizens. The funding that is provided by the

County is matched with State and Federal dollars to fund the faculty members and the support staff.

- Cooperative Extension has three full-time Educators who work with youth programs involving animal, plant and human sciences.
- The Extension Office employs two full-time educators to work with landowners in the area of nutrient management. They demonstrate the proper amount of chemicals and fertilizer to produce the best crop, pasture and lawn with the least waste of nutrients.
- Agriculture Educators work with small groups and individual farm families to provide information in the areas of production, enterprise management, cost containment and new innovative crop/animal development techniques. Over 156,000 acres (54%) of Carroll County are devoted to agriculture enterprises, producing a gross income of over \$100,000,000 for County farmers.
- A Home Horticulturist provided fifty-eight hours of training for fifteen new Master Gardeners. New volunteers and the Master Gardeners who were trained in previous years now total 105 and have contributed 3,500 hours of volunteer time to teach both citizen and students in County schools.
- The 4-H Youth Development Educators have contacted over 4,000 youth aged 5-18 with a variety of educational programs. Educators have reached 11% of Carroll's eligible youth.
- Family and Consumer Science Educators have reached nearly 3,600 food stamp eligible individuals through 175 nutrition education programs.
- On a weekly basis, the team provides current research-based information to the gardening public in the Carroll County area. The team also provides pertinent information on personal financial management and nutrition for lower income families.

Gypsy Moth

Description	Actual FY 07	Original Budget FY 08	Adjusted Budget FY 08	Budget FY 09	% Change From Orig. FY 08	% Change From Adj. FY 08
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	20,893	20,000	30,000	30,000	50.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Grand Total	\$20,893	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	50.00%	0.00%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. On-going mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

Mary Ellen Setting, Assistant Secretary of MDA
(410) 841-5870

Robin Hooper, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082

Mission and Goals

To protect rural and urban forest and landscape tree resources from adverse effects of insects, diseases and other pests through environmentally sound pest management.

Goals include:

- Successfully complete gypsy moth pest management activities where economically and environmentally feasible.
- Provide pest identification and pest management advice to State and private forest owners and managers in time to avoid loss to, and unnecessary cost to protect affected forest and landscape tree resources.

Description

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) coordinates the Gypsy Moth program. The department's responsibilities include detecting, monitoring and assessing forest insect and disease situations relevant to the diverse forest and landscape tree resources of Maryland. The program has proactively conducted a cooperative gypsy moth suppression program since 1982. The County reimburses the State a portion of the cost.

Program Highlights

- 917 acres in Carroll County were treated to protect against Gypsy Moth damage in 2007. 99.6% of the treated areas were protected from Gypsy Moth damage.
- Losses prevented in treated areas are estimated at \$24.36 million for the State and \$620,480 for Carroll County.

Soil Conservation District

Description	Actual FY 07	Original Budget FY 08	Adjusted Budget FY 08	Budget FY 09	% Change From Orig. FY 08	% Change From Adj. FY 08
Personnel	\$275,794	\$295,120	\$288,000	\$294,300	-0.28%	2.19%
Operating	39,806	40,880	54,880	58,880	44.03%	7.29%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$315,600	\$336,000	\$342,880	\$353,180	5.11%	3.00%
Employees FTE	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. On-going mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

**Charles E. Null, Jr., Carroll Soil Conservation District
Manager (410) 848-8200 Extension 3
Robin Hooper, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082**

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Carroll Soil Conservation District is to promote natural resource conservation to all citizens through leadership, education, funding and technical assistance.

Goals include:

- Prepare 87 soil conservation and water quality plans covering 3,100 acres. Revise 86 plans covering 9,000 acres.
- Assist 124 different farmers in applying Best Management Practices (BMP's) with 506 BMP's installed.
- Involve 300 landowners with 9,500 acres in the Farm Service Agencies Programs, Agriculture Preservation, Farm Bill and Agricultural Marketing Transition Act plans.
- Bring 300 acres into the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.
- Complete 500 plan reviews and 100 plan approvals for urban soil erosion and sediment control.
- Continue the sponsorship of a tree seedling sale and the Carroll Envirothon for high school students.

Description

The Carroll County Soil Conservation District is located at the Carroll County Commerce Center, 698 J Corporate Center Court, Westminster, MD. It is a subdivision of the State, created to address local concerns, problems, policies and procedures in the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources. The district assists in the prevention and control of soil erosion, sediment control and the proper use of land.

Program Highlights

In 2007, seventy-one new soil conservation plans covering 3,568 acres and thirty-five revised plans on 3,950 acres were completed.

Budget Changes

- The 7.29% increase in operating is primarily due to increased rent expense.

Positions

Title	Type	FTE
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Full-time	1.00
<i>Secretary</i>	Full-time	1.00
<i>Sediment Control Planner</i>	Full-time	1.00
<i>Soil Conservation Planner</i>	Full-time	2.00
<i>Soil Conservation Technician</i>	Full-time	1.00
Total		6.00

The County provides funding that covers the salaries and benefits of six district employees. The district is a separate entity from the County and acts as the employer providing all hiring and supervision of its staff. Within the Carroll Conservation district, there are additional Federal and State employees who do not receive County Funding.

Weed Control

Description	Actual FY 07	Original Budget FY 08	Adjusted Budget FY 08	Budget FY 09	% Change From Orig. FY 08	% Change From Adj. FY 08
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	23,903	30,220	30,220	29,700	-1.72%	-1.72%
Capital Outlay	1,425	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$25,328	\$30,220	\$30,220	\$29,700	-1.72%	-1.72%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. On-going mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

H. Leroy Sellman, III, State of Maryland Weed Control Specialist (410) 841-5871
Robin Hooper, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082

Mission and Goals

To assist farmers and other landowners in the control and reduction of noxious weeds (thistles, Johnsongrass, shattercane, multi-flora rose) on their properties. The Weed Control program educates the public about noxious weeds and the environmental importance of their control, as well as the economic impact to agriculture. The program advises and assists landowners so they can comply with Maryland Noxious Weed Law.

Goals include:

- Educating the public about noxious weeds and the importance of their control to the environment, as well as the economic impact to agriculture.
- Responding to public inquiries and complaints regarding noxious weed infestation.
- Cooperating with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to assist land owners with the control and eradication of noxious weeds in government program grounds.
- Providing spray services to landowners for noxious weed control.

Description

The Carroll County Weed Control Program is operated in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The State contributes \$4,000 to help offset the cost of this program. The Carroll County Weed Advisory Committee is appointed by the County Commissioners to represent the County in developing guidelines and procedures within the framework of State law. A Weed Control Coordinator is employed on a permanent part-time basis to identify and survey weed conditions under the direction and supervision of the Maryland Department of Agriculture. During a typical growing season, several hundred individuals are contacted concerning ways to control and eradicate noxious weed infestations. A spraying service is available for a fee.

Program Highlights

- During the 2007 growing season, the noxious weed spray program generated more than \$10,000 in revenue from private properties.
- Spraying on County roads and County properties to reduce noxious weed infestations was performed and valued at \$18,005.
- Over 380 on-site inspections were made to identify weed infestation and to determine appropriate control methods and techniques, resulting in the mowing of 950 acres to control noxious weeds.
- During 2007 there were 30 complaints from the public. Seven of these complaints were also received in 2006, indicating that approximately 80% of complaints are successfully resolved in the year they are made.

Budget Changes

The 1.72% decrease in operating is primarily due to the one-time expenditure in FY 08 for replacement of tires for spray truck.