

Conservation and Natural Resources Summary

	Actual FY 08	Original Budget FY 09	Adjusted Budget FY 09	Budget FY 10	% Change From Orig. FY 09	% Change From Adj. FY 09
Cooperative Extension	\$430,119	\$452,600	\$452,600	\$452,600	0.00%	0.00%
Gypsy Moth	26,245	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Soil Conservation	346,105	353,180	332,710	333,100	-5.69%	0.12%
Weed Control	28,427	29,700	29,700	29,700	0.00%	0.00%
Total Conservation and Natural Resources	\$830,896	\$865,480	\$845,010	\$845,400	-2.32%	0.05%

Mission and Goals

The common mission of these budgets is the protection and conservation of the County's natural resources.

Goals include:

- Support Carroll County's agriculture industry
- Protect the county and state's valuable natural resources
- Promote public awareness and education to maintain and improve residents' well-being and the quality and quantity of natural resources
- Control and eliminate threats to our natural resources
- Facilitate the comprehensive and effective management of Landscape and Forest Conservation Ordinances.

Budget Changes

The 5.69% decrease in Soil Conservation from the FY 09 Original budget is primarily due to adjusting a position's salary to the base pay due to turnover in FY 09.

Highlights, Changes and Useful Information

- A new effort called CORE, which stands for Carroll Outdoor Research and Extension Center, has started on the Gesell property. The Gesell property is located off the access road that leads to the parking lot behind the Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Center. Here, a greenhouse will be used for working with developmentally disabled adults in a "Grow It, Eat It" program that teaches where food comes from and how to prepare fresh produce.
- 1,698 acres in Carroll County were treated to protect against Gypsy Moth damage in 2008.
- In 2008, 56 new Soil Conservation plans covering 3,088 acres were completed as well as 26 revised plans encompassing 2,759 acres.
- An on-going reserved fund balance has been setup up to retain the state's half of private shared revenues within Carroll County. This is contingent upon using these funds towards the future joint State/County purchase of a new Weed Control Truck. In the past, the State's half of these revenues would go back into their General Fund. Setting up this fund in FY 09 has allowed the County to retain an additional \$5,000.

Cooperative Extension

Description	Actual FY 08	Original Budget FY 09	Adjusted Budget FY 09	Budget FY 10	% Change From Orig. FY 09	% Change From Adj. FY 09
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	430,119	452,600	452,600	452,600	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$430,119	\$452,600	\$452,600	\$452,600	0.00%	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

Bryan Butler, County Extension Director (410) 386-2760
Gregory Keller, Budget Specialist (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 that is funded by a combination of Federal, State, and individual county governments as well as Baltimore City. The Carroll County Cooperative Extension has eight educators and two advisors who teach and provide educational programming, materials, activities, and consultations for the county's citizens as well as three assistants and an IT specialist who jointly serve as the support staff. One of the Educators works on a specific grant from the USDA concerning food stamp nutrition education, and there are also regional and state specialists (paid from State and Federal funds) who are available at all times to help the facility and staff with the problems and concerns of Carroll County businesses and citizens.

Each Extension Educator and Advisor has a specialization in one or more of the following areas:

Agricultural and Natural Resources	Diet, Nutrition, Health and Food Safety
Nutrient Management	Financial Management
Home Horticulture / Master Gardener Program	4-H Youth Development Education
Environmental Sciences	Family and Community Development

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

Program Highlights

- Nutrient Management Advisors have prepared plans for over 132,500 acres, which represents 90% of the county's agricultural acreage. Over 147,000 acres (52%) of Carroll County is devoted to agricultural enterprises that produced a gross income of nearly \$70,000,000 for County farmers in 2008.
- A Home Horticulturist provided forty hours of training for fourteen new Master Gardeners. Since the program's inception, 117 Master Gardeners have been trained, and in 2008 they contributed 4,700 hours of volunteer time in helping 2,700 county residents, including over 600 children and countless seniors. At the independent sector's assigned hourly wage of \$19.51 for volunteers, their contribution was valued at an estimated \$91,697.
- The 4-H Youth Development Educators contacted over 4,000 youths aged 5-18, or 14% of Carroll's eligible youth in comparison to the 8% state average for eligible youths reached. In 2008, there were 44 community based clubs with 942 youth enrolled. These 4-H members created and submitted a total of 18,984 exhibits at the 4-H/FFA Fair. Additionally, 459 volunteers donated over 28,000 hours to the youth development program, and their time was valued at an estimated \$546,280.
- In 2008, the Nutrition and Food Safety Educator reached over 5,300 food stamp eligible individuals through 216 nutrition education programs.
- In 2008, the Family and Consumer Sciences' agent who focuses on Financial Management for families taught 28 classes and reached over 860 individuals.
- A new effort called CORE, which stands for Carroll Outdoor Research and Extension Center, has started on the Gesell property. Here, a greenhouse will be used for working with developmentally disabled adults in the "Grow It, Eat It" program that teaches where food comes from and how to prepare fresh produce.
- For every dollar spent by Carroll County on Cooperative Extension, it receives approximately \$1.47 in matching funds from the University, the State of MD, and Extension's federal partners.

Budget Changes

Operating expenses are held near or reduced from FY 09 levels. Most budgets, including this one, are either flat or experience an overall decrease.

Gypsy Moth

Description	Actual FY 08	Original Budget FY 09	Adjusted Budget FY 09	Budget FY 10	% Change From Orig. FY 09	% Change From Adj. FY 09
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	26,245	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Grand Total	\$26,245	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	0.00%	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

Tom Lupp, MDA Regional Entomologist
(301) 662-2074

Gregory Keller, Budget Specialist (410) 386-2082

Mission and Goals

To serve the citizens of Maryland by protecting the rural and urban forest and landscape tree resources from the adverse effects of insects, diseases, and other pests through environmentally sound pest management.

Goals include:

- Protect high value forest and landscape trees in urban and rural areas from losses due to insects and diseases.
- Provide pest identification and pest management advice to County and private forest owners and managers in a timely manner in order to prevent the loss of affected forest and landscape tree resources and avoid unnecessary costs of associated with their protection.
- Successfully complete gypsy moth pest management activities where economically and environmentally feasible.

Description

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) coordinates the Gypsy Moth program through the Forest Pest Management (FPM) section that is within the Office of Plant Industries and Pest Management operating unit. The department's responsibilities include detecting, monitoring, assessing, and controlling tree diseases and insect infestations that affect the health of Maryland trees and forests. The most destructive forest pest in Maryland is the gypsy moth.

The Gypsy Moth program has proactively conducted a cooperative suppression program since 1982. FPM employs four entomologists, ten inspectors, a program manager, and an administrative assistant. Field activities are conducted from five regional offices throughout the State, and the headquarters are in Annapolis. In FY 08, funding was 59% State, 30% County, and 11% Federal through cost share grants with the USDA Forest Service.

Program Highlights

- In the fall of 2007, 8,971 surveys covering 514,000 acres were conducted statewide for gypsy moth sites. Carroll's survey cost of \$16.71 per survey was well below the statewide average cost of \$25.48 per survey.
- Statewide 99,222 acres of forest were treated to protect against Gypsy Moth damage in the spring of 2008. 1,698 acres were treated in Carroll County.
- Statewide, 97.2% of the treated areas were protected from Gypsy Moth damage in 2008. 100% of treated areas were protected in Carroll.
- Statewide the estimated losses prevented in treated areas were \$52 million in 2008. Carroll County's estimated losses prevented in treated areas were \$1,154,645.

Budget Changes

Operating expenses are held near, or reduced from, the FY 09 levels. Most budgets, including this one, are either flat or experience an overall decrease.

Soil Conservation District

Description	Actual FY 08	Original Budget FY 09	Adjusted Budget FY 09	Budget FY 10	% Change From Orig. FY 09	% Change From Adj. FY 09
Personnel	\$279,594	\$294,300	\$273,830	\$272,600	-7.37%	-0.45%
Operating	66,511	58,880	58,880	60,500	2.75%	2.75%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$346,105	\$353,180	\$332,710	\$333,100	-5.69%	0.12%
Employees FTE	6.00	6.00	5.00	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
Gregory Keller, Budget Specialist (410) 386-2082**

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Carroll Soil Conservation District (CSCD) is to promote natural resource conservation to all citizens through leadership, education, funding and technical assistance. Concurrently, the district must satisfy the requirements of various laws, ordinances and regulations, including:

- The Soil Conservation District Law
- The 1984 Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement
- The Memorandum of Understanding with Carroll County Government and MD Dept. of Agriculture
- MD Agricultural Cost Share Program (MACS)
- MD Agricultural Land Preservation and Rural Legacy Programs
- MD Conservation Tillage Equipment Income Tax Deduction requirements
- MD Soil Erosion Control regulations and Grading and Sediment Control Ordinances for Carroll
- MD Pond, Toxic Materials, and Sewage Sludge Laws

Goals include:

- Prepare 114 Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans (SCWQPs) covering 5,200 acres. The number of revised plans will total 207 and cover 14,310 acres.
- Assist 87 different farmers in applying Best Management Practices (BMP's) with 366 BMP's installed.
- Involve 300 landowners covering 9,500 acres in the Farm Service Agency Programs, Agriculture Preservation, Farm Bill, and Agricultural Marketing Transition Act plans.
- Bring 250 acres into the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and 750 acres into the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP).
- Complete 500 plan reviews and 100 plan approvals for urban Soil Erosion and Sediment Control programs.
- Continue community involvement and giving by sponsoring a tree seedling sale and the Carroll Envirothon program for high school students, and renting out two no-till Drills and a manure tank injector spreader.

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 political subdivision of the State that is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors, and it was originally created by referendum in 1944. The district represents local concerns, problems, policies and procedures in the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources. Accordingly, the district assists in the prevention and control of soil erosion, sediment control, and the proper use of land.

Program Highlights

- In 2008, 148 MACS capital projects were completed with a payment amount of \$683,092 and 80 Cover Crop applications on 10,443 acres generated \$382,972.
- In 2008, 11 Nutrient Management cost share agreements over 6,347 acres generated \$8,354. The County's 75% adherence rate meant 361 of 482 operators filed their Nutrient Management Annual Implementation Report.
- In 2008, 56 new Soil Conservation plans covering 3,088 acres and 26 revised plans on 2,759 acres were completed.
- In 2008, 96 farmers implemented a total of 310 BMPs.

Budget Changes

- The 7.37% decrease in personnel from the FY 09 Original budget is primarily due to adjusting a position's salary to the base pay due to turnover in FY 09.
- The 2.75% increase in operating is primarily due to an increase in rent that is partially offset by a decrease in required retirement contributions due to lower overall salary expenses.

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

While the County funds the salaries and benefits of six employees, the district is a separate governmental partner that hires and supervises its own staff. There are also additional Federal and State employees within the CSCD, but they do not receive County funding.

Weed Control

Description	Actual FY 08	Original Budget FY 09	Adjusted Budget FY 09	Budget FY 10	% Change From Orig. FY 09	% Change From Adj. FY 09
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	28,427	29,700	29,700	29,700	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$28,427	\$29,700	\$29,700	\$29,700	0.00%	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

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

A Weed Control Coordinator is employed on a permanent part-time basis under the direction and supervision of the Maryland Department of Agriculture to identify and survey noxious weed infestations.

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Carroll County Weed Control Program is to assist farmers and other landowners in the control and reduction of noxious weeds on their properties. These weeds threaten the productive land of farmers and causes unsightly and unwanted problems in lawns and homeowners' gardens. Thistles, Johnsongrass, shattercane, and multi-flora rose have been declared prohibited noxious weeds in Maryland, and the Maryland Noxious Weed Law states they must be controlled by anyone owning or managing land within the State.

During a typical growing season, several hundred individuals are contacted concerning methods and techniques available for the control and eradication of noxious weed infestations. A spray service is available on a fee basis as an additional option for controlling and eradicating noxious weeds, and revenues generated from this service help offset the costs of funding the Carroll County Weed Control Program.

Goals include:

- Educate the public about noxious weeds, the environmental importance of their control, and the economic impact they can have on agriculture.
- Respond to public inquiries and complaints regarding noxious weed infestations.
- Advise and assist landowners on how to control and eradicate noxious weeds in compliance with the Maryland Noxious Weed Law.
- Provide spray services to landowners for noxious weed control.
- Assist the County Roads Department with the control and eradication of noxious weeds on County right-of-ways and County property.
- Cooperating with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to assist land owners with the control and eradication of noxious weeds in government program grounds.

Program Highlights

- During the 2008 growing season, the noxious weed spray program generated more than \$12,000 in revenue from private properties.
- A reserved fund balance has been setup up to retain the State's half of private shared revenues within Carroll County. This is contingent upon using these funds towards the future joint State/County purchase of a new Weed Control Truck. In the past, the State's half of these revenues would go back into their General Fund. Setting up this fund in FY 09 has allowed the County to retain an additional \$5,114.13.
- In 2008, spraying performed on County roads and County properties to reduce noxious weed infestations was valued at \$16,768.
- Over 380 on-site inspections were made to identify weed infestation and to determine appropriate control methods and techniques, resulting in the mowing of 860 acres to control noxious weeds.
- During 2008 there were 35 complaints from the public. Nine of these complaints were also received in 2007, indicating that approximately 70% of complaints are successfully resolved in the year they are made.

Description

The Carroll County Weed Control Program is operated in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. In Fiscal Year 2010, the State will be contributing \$3,250 to help offset the cost of this program.

Budget Changes

Operating expenses are held near, or reduced from, the FY 09 levels. Most budgets, including this one, are either flat or experience an overall decrease.

There is a Carroll County Weed Advisory Committee appointed by the County Commissioners to represent the County in developing guidelines and procedures within the framework of State law.