

# Conservation and Natural Resources Summary

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	Actual FY 09	Original Budget FY 10	Adjusted Budget FY 10	Recomm Budget FY 11	% Change From Orig. FY 10	% Change From Adj. FY 10
Extension Office of Carroll County	\$450,362	\$452,600	\$452,600	\$452,600	0.00%	0.00%
Gypsy Moth	24,656	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Soil Conservation	310,105	333,100	333,100	337,900	1.44%	1.44%
Weed Control	29,637	29,700	29,700	29,700	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Total Conservation and Natural Resources</b>	<b>\$814,760</b>	<b>\$845,400</b>	<b>\$845,400</b>	<b>\$850,200</b>	<b>0.57%</b>	<b>0.57%</b>

## 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 and take actions to preserve 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

## Highlights, Changes and Useful Information

- The agencies under Conservation and Natural Resources are primarily State agencies that have a funding partnership with the County. These agencies are not bound together by any formal structure, and are grouped together for presentation purposes.
- As these are primarily State agencies, they have been affected by State cuts over the past few years, including hiring freezes, furloughs, and other reductions in aid and support.
- In FY 11, the Johnson Grass Grant, provided to the Counties by the State to partially offset weed control costs, has been eliminated.

## Budget Changes

In FY 11 operating budgets are generally held flat or reduced from FY 10.

# Extension Office of Carroll County

Description	Actual FY 09	Original Budget FY 10	Adjusted Budget FY 10	Recomm Budget FY 11	% Change From Orig. FY 10	% Change From Adj. FY 10
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	450,362	452,600	452,600	452,600	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$450,362</b>	<b>\$452,600</b>	<b>\$452,600</b>	<b>\$452,600</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
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

**Christine Lothen-Kline, Area Extension Director  
(410) 386-2760**  
**Gregory Keller, Budget Specialist (410) 386-2082**

## Mission and Goals

The mission of the University of Maryland Extension (UME) is to provide accessible, unbiased expert knowledge that people can use to improve their economic stability, their quality of life and community, and the environment in which they live.

## Description

UME is a statewide, non-formal education system within the college of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. UME educational programs and problem-solving assistance are available to citizens and are based on the research and experience of land grant universities such as the University of Maryland, College Park. The County funds approximately 40% of the cost of operations at the UME Carroll County Office with the State primarily funding the rest.

There are eight educators and two Nutrient Management Advisors based in the Carroll County Office that provide educational programming and materials, services and consultations for the community. There are also three Administrative Assistants, one Clerk Typist and an Information Technology Assistant who provide the administrative support for the office. An Area Extension Director provides administrative oversight and direction for the Carroll, Frederick, and Howard County offices, and approximately 35% of the Director's time is based in Carroll County.

UME provides solutions in the community by providing timely, research-based information through educational programs and materials in the following areas:

Agricultural & Natural Resources	Environmental Sciences
Nutrient Management	Leadership
Home Horticulture / Master Gardener Program	4-H Youth Development Education
Family & Consumer Sciences	Family and Community Development

For more information on the Extension Office of Carroll County, please refer to: <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/carroll>.

## Program Highlights

- Nutrient Management Advisors have prepared plans for over 132,500 acres, which represents over 90% of the county's agricultural acreage. The approximate 142,000 acres (50%) of Carroll County devoted to agricultural enterprises produced a gross income that exceeded \$87,400,000 for County farmers in 2009.
- The Home Horticulture Educator provided forty-five hours of training to each of the fourteen new Master Gardeners and directly assisted over 3,100 county citizens. In 2009, 109 trained Master Gardeners contributed 6,050 hours of volunteer time, and at the independent sector's assigned hourly wage of \$20.25 for volunteers, their contribution was valued at an estimated \$112,513.
- The 4-H Youth Development Educators reached 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 2009, there were 42 community based clubs with 932 youth enrolled. These 4-H members created and submitted a total of 18,256 exhibits at the 4-H/FFA Fair. Additionally, 459 volunteers donated over 28,000 hours to the 4-H Youth Development Program, and their time was valued at an estimated \$567,000.
- In 2008, the Nutrition Educator provided 10,185 educational contacts to food stamp eligible clients. The Food Supplement Nutrition Education Program (FSNE) is 100% funded through a grant to UME from the USDA.
- A program known as CORE, which stands for Carroll Outdoor Research and Extension Center, has recently started on the Gesell property. A garden and modified greenhouse are used for working with developmentally disabled adults in the "Grow It, Eat It" program several times a week February through mid-November that teaches where food comes from, how to grow it, and how to prepare fresh produce.

## Budget Changes

In FY 11 there are no salary increases and operating budgets are generally held flat or reduced from FY 10.

# Gypsy Moth

Description	Actual FY 09	Original Budget FY 10	Adjusted Budget FY 10	Recomm Budget FY 11	% Change From Orig. FY 10	% Change From Adj. FY 10
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	24,656	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$24,656</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
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 its Forest Pest Management (FPM) section that is within the Office of Plant Industries and Pest Management operating unit. FPM is responsible for detecting, monitoring, assessing, and controlling tree diseases and insect infestations, including gypsy moth and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, both of which affect the health of Maryland trees and forests.

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 09, funding was 52% State, 20% County, and 28% Federal through cost share grants with the USDA Forest Service.

## Program Highlights

- FPM conducted 1,124 surveys in Carroll County and 10,573 statewide in the fall of 2008. The total number of acres assessed statewide was 737,944.
- Carroll County's average cost per survey in the fall of 2008 was \$13.07, significantly lower than the statewide average of \$25.48.
- In the spring of 2009, 609 acres were treated in Carroll County.
- 100% of treated areas were protected from Gypsy Moth damage in Carroll County and statewide.
- Statewide the estimated losses prevented in treated areas were \$20.2 million for the spring spaying in 2009.

## Budget Changes

In FY 11 there are no salary increases and operating budgets are generally held flat or reduced from FY 10.

# Soil Conservation District

Description	Actual FY 09	Original Budget FY 10	Adjusted Budget FY 10	Recomm Budget FY 11	% Change From Orig. FY 10	% Change From Adj. FY 10
Personnel	\$250,880	\$272,600	\$272,600	\$277,400	1.76%	1.76%
Operating	59,225	60,500	60,500	60,500	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$310,105</b>	<b>\$333,100</b>	<b>\$333,100</b>	<b>\$337,900</b>	<b>1.44%</b>	<b>1.44%</b>
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  
Gregory Keller, Budget Specialist (410) 386-2082**

## Mission and Goals

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

### Goals include:

Continued implementation and fulfillment of the following agreements, laws, ordinances, and regulations:

- 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

## Description

The CCSCD 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 CCSCD is one of 24 members of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD), which serves as the voice for the soil and water conservation districts on state legislative issues.

The district represents local concerns, problems, policies and procedures in the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources. Accordingly, the district has the duty of assisting in the prevention and control of soil erosion, sediment control, and the proper use of land.

## Program Highlights

- In 2009, 103 MACS capital projects were completed with a payment amount of \$638,055 and 111 Cover Crop applications on 13,987 acres generated \$643,449.
- In 2009, 96 farmers implemented a total of 310 BMPs.
- A Carroll County team won the 2009 MD Envirothon, which is sponsored by the MASCD, and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Canon Envirothon at the national level. The Envirothon is a problem-solving natural resource competition that tests teams of high school students on their knowledge of a state's natural resources, including soils, forestry, wildlife, water, and a current environmental issue.
- A Carroll County farm outside of Westminster received the honor of hosting the Arbor Day Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) agreement signing in April of 2009 because Carroll is one of the leading counties in the state for CREP participation and for conservation practices. The CREP signing was an agreement to funnel \$198 million in federal funds to the state over the next 15 years. Those in attendance included the USDA and MDA Secretaries of Agriculture and the Governor of Maryland.

## Budget Changes

- The difference in Personnel between actual expenditures in FY 09 and the Original and Adjusted FY 10 Budgets was due to a vacant position. The position is still vacant.
- In FY 11, there are no salary increases and operating budgets are generally flat or reduced from FY 10. The 1.44% overall increase is due to the State's employee pension system required rate raise.

## 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
<b>Total</b>		<b>6.00</b>

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 CCSCD, but they do not receive County funding.

# Weed Control

Description	Actual FY 09	Original Budget FY 10	Adjusted Budget FY 10	Recomm Budget FY 11	% Change From Orig. FY 10	% Change From Adj. FY 10
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	29,637	29,700	29,700	29,700	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,637</b>	<b>\$29,700</b>	<b>\$29,700</b>	<b>\$29,700</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
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

**Peter Rupp**

State of Maryland Weed Control Specialist (301) 600-1586  
Gregory Keller, Budget Specialist (410) 386-2082

## 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.

### 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.

## Description

The Carroll County Weed Control Program is operated in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). A Carroll County Weed Advisory Committee is appointed by the County Commissioners to represent the County in the development of guidelines and procedures within the framework of State law.

A Weed Control Coordinator is also 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.

During a typical growing season, several hundred individuals are contacted by the Coordinator concerning the methods and techniques available for controlling and eradicating 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.

## Program Highlights

- During the 2009 growing season, the noxious weed spray program generated over \$6,600 in revenues from private properties.
- A reserved fund balance was setup up in FY 09 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. Not including the 2009 growing season, this fund has allowed the County to retain an additional \$11,300.
- In 2009, spraying to reduce noxious weed infestations on County roads and County properties alone was valued at over \$31,100.
- Over 547 on-site inspections were made to identify weed infestations and to determine appropriate control methods and techniques, resulting in the mowing of 960 acres to control noxious weeds.
- Eight of the thirty-seven complaints received during 2009 were also received in 2008. Since there were 35 public complaints in 2008, this indicates the program successfully resolved 77% of the complaints in the year they were made.

## Budget Changes

- In FY 11, there are no salary increases and operating budgets are generally flat or reduced from FY 10.
- Due to State budget reductions, the MDA is unable to contribute its \$3,250 Johnson Grass Grant that helps offset the cost of this program. FY 11 is the second consecutive year this grant funding has been cut to the counties.