

Conservation and Natural Resources Summary

	Actual FY 15	Original Budget FY 16	Adjusted Budget FY 16	Budget FY 17	% Change From Orig. FY 16	% Change From Adj. FY 16
Extension Office of Carroll County	\$463,870	\$473,110	\$473,110	\$474,430	0.28%	0.28%
Gypsy Moth	8,250	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Soil Conservation District	486,383	399,970	404,290	418,820	4.71%	3.59%
Weed Control	44,538	40,000	40,000	41,000	2.50%	2.50%
Total Conservation and Natural Resources	\$1,003,041	\$943,080	\$947,400	\$964,250	2.24%	1.78%

Mission and Goals

Conservation and Natural Resources is a group of various State agencies in a funding partnership with Carroll County. There is no inherent relationship between these budgets. They are combined for presentation purposes only.

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' wellbeing and the quality and quantity of natural resources
- Control and eliminate threats to our natural resources

Highlights, Changes, and Useful Information

- With 79 projects completed, the Carroll County Soil Conservation District had more Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program projects completed in FY 15 than any other County. Frederick, with 31 projects completed, had the next highest number.
- Weed Control charges for services but does not bill the County for spraying County right-of-way along roads.

Extension Office of Carroll County

Description	Actual FY 15	Original Budget FY 16	Adjusted Budget FY 16	Budget FY 17	% Change From Orig. FY 16	% Change From Adj. FY 16
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	463,870	473,110	473,110	474,430	0.28%	0.28%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$463,870	\$473,110	\$473,110	\$474,430	0.28%	0.28%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

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

Contact

Jeff Meyers, Area Extension Director (410) 386-2760
 Cheryl Hill, Business Services Specialist (410) 386-2760
 Sheree Lima, Management and Budget Project Coordinator
 (410) 386-2082
<http://extension.umd.edu/carroll-county>

Mission and Goals

Enhance the quality of life for people and communities by disseminating unbiased research-based educational information.

Description

University of Maryland Extension (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 45% of the cost of operations.

There are seven educators and one Nutrient Management Advisor based in the Carroll County Office that provide educational programming and materials, services and consultations for the community. There is also a Business Services Specialist, two 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 and Natural Resources	Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Program	Nutrient Management
Nutrition Education Program	
Home Horticulture and Master Gardener Program	

Program Highlights

In FY 15:

- The 4-H Youth Development Educators supported 35 community-based 4-H Clubs with 794 youth enrolled and tied with Montgomery County for the largest 4-H community club program in Maryland.
- The Agriculture Agent provided 1,641 contacts. The agent works with small and large agriculture operators to provide unbiased, research-based information in the area of production, enterprise management, cost containment and new and innovative crop/animal development.
- Family and Consumer Sciences, Healthy Living Environments Educator continues to develop, deliver and evaluate programming for Carroll County through 1,150 contacts.
- The Nutrition Educator provided 13,389 educational contacts in the community to assist individuals and families with making healthy food and lifestyle choices.
- The Home Horticulture Educator provided 12,800 educational contacts on home and garden topics; over 8,600 contacts were provided by Master Gardener volunteers.
- The Nutrient Management Advisor had 350 contacts with producers to discuss new Maryland Department of Agriculture regulations and prepared nutrient management plans for 16,460 acres of Carroll County agricultural land.

Gypsy Moth

Description	Actual FY 15	Original Budget FY 16	Adjusted Budget FY 16	Budget FY 17	% Change From Orig. FY 16	% Change From Adj. FY 16
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	8,250	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$8,250	\$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. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

Bob Tatman, Program Manager

Maryland Department of Agriculture (301) 662-2074

**Sheree Lima, Management and Budget Project Coordinator
(410) 386-2082**

http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/gypsy_moth_program.aspx

Program Highlights

In FY 16 FPM plans to:

- Conduct more than 500 gypsy moth egg mass surveys on private, State and County lands.
- Place and monitor traps to check for the presence of Sirex wood wasp and walnut twig beetle.

Mission and Goals

To serve the citizens of Maryland by protecting forest resources from insects and diseases, both native and invasive, through environmentally and economically sound pest management.

Goals include:

- Protect high-value forest and landscape trees in urban and rural areas from losses due to insects and disease
- 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 to avoid unnecessary costs associated with their protection
- Successfully complete gypsy moth pest-management activities where economically and environmentally feasible

Description

The Forest Pest Management Section (FPM), part of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, conducts several activities to monitor, assess and control tree disease or insect infestations that affect the health of Maryland forests. FPM provides advice on forest insects and diseases and manages Gypsy Moth and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestations in forest habitats.

The Gypsy Moth program has proactively conducted a cooperative suppression program since 1982. FPM employs three Entomologist and six Inspectors, plus a Program Manager and Administrative Officer II. There are three field offices throughout the State.

Surveys typically take place each fall followed by spraying in the spring. Spraying historically generates and drives the bulk of expenses in this budget.

Soil Conservation District

Description	Actual FY 15	Original Budget FY 16	Adjusted Budget FY 16	Budget FY 17	% Change From Orig. FY 16	% Change From Adj. FY 16
Personnel	\$246,396	\$257,480	\$261,490	\$269,330	4.60%	3.00%
Benefits	179,341	79,440	79,750	87,090	9.63%	9.20%
Operating	60,646	63,050	63,050	62,400	-1.03%	-1.03%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$486,383	\$399,970	\$404,290	\$418,820	4.71%	3.59%
Employees FTE	6.00	5.63	5.63	5.63	-----	-----

Note: FY 15 Actuals include a health and fringe allocation. The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

**Charles E. Null, Jr., Carroll Soil Conservation District
Manager (410) 848-8200 Extension 3**

**Sheree Lima, Management and Budget Project Coordinator
(410) 386-2082**

<http://www.carrollsoil.com/>

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 Memorandums of Understanding with Carroll County Government and the Maryland Department of Agriculture
- Various State and Federal Cost Share Programs
- Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation and Rural Legacy Programs
- Maryland Pond Law
- Maryland Soil Erosion Control Regulations
- Grading and Sediment Control Ordinances of Carroll

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 Board of Supervisors, and was originally created by referendum in 1944. The CCSCD is one of 24 members of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCSD), which serves as the voice for the soil and water conservation districts and 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 FY 15, farmers in Carroll County completed 79 soil conservation capital projects, with assistance of \$756,690 from the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share Programs (MACS). Carroll's 79 projects were by far the most completed in the State as the next closest was Frederick County with 31.
- In 2014 - 2015, Carroll farmers entered into 126 contracts to cover 25,700 acres through the Winter Cover Crop Program.

Budget Changes

- A 3.0% salary increase is included in FY 17.
- Benefits increase due to retirement cost.

Positions

Title	Type	FTE
<i>Secretary</i>	Part-time	0.63
<i>Soil Conservation Grants Coord.</i>	Full-time	1.00
<i>Soil Conservation Planner</i>	Full-time	3.00
<i>Soil Conservation Technician</i>	Full-time	1.00
Total		5.63

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 Federal and State employees within the CCSCD but they do not receive County funding.

Weed Control

Description	Actual FY 15	Original Budget FY 16	Adjusted Budget FY 16	Budget FY 17	% Change From Orig. FY 16	% Change From Adj. FY 16
Personnel	\$260	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	44,278	40,000	40,000	41,000	2.50%	2.50%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$44,538	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$41,000	2.50%	2.50%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

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

Contact

Peter Rupp, Maryland Weed Control Specialist

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Sheree Lima, Management and Budget Project Coordinator

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http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/noxious_weeds_in_md.aspx

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Carroll County Weed Control Program is to assist farmers and other landowners in the reduction and control of noxious weeds on their properties.

Goals include:

- Educate the public about noxious weeds, the environmental importance of the control, and the economic impact they can have on agriculture
- Respond to public inquiries and complaints regarding noxious weed infestations
- Advise and assist landowners in the development of a control and eradication program to enable them to comply 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
- Assist land owners with the control and eradication of noxious weeds in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service

Description

The Carroll County Weed Control Program is operated in cooperation with 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 the 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 cost of funding the Carroll County Weed Control Program.

Program Highlights

- During the 2015 growing season, the noxious weed spray program generated \$2,950 in revenues from private properties and \$48,120 in revenues from other State and County agencies.
- In 2015, spraying to reduce noxious weed infestations on County roads and County properties alone was valued at approximately \$16,110.
- Over 500 on-site inspections were made to identify weed infestations and to determine appropriate control methods and techniques, resulting in the mowing of approximately 650 acres to control noxious weeds.

Budget Changes

Operating increases due to spraying of noxious weeds. This is offset by an increase in revenue.