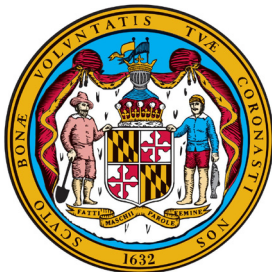


THE
RURAL
LEGACY
PROGRAM



Annual Report Fiscal Year 2009
(July 1, 2008 thru June 30, 2009)





RURAL LEGACY PROGRAM– FISCAL YEAR 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Legislative Requirement for the Annual Report

This is the eleventh Annual Report on the progress of the Rural Legacy Program pursuant to Section 5-9A-07(g) of the Rural Legacy law. This report covers the time period from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 (FY 2009) and includes the eleventh cycle of grant applications submitted on February 7, 2008. The Rural Legacy Board (RLB) is required to report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on: (1) the financial status of the Program for the preceding fiscal year, including the amount of grants encumbered and disbursed; (2) the number of applications received; (3) the number and location of Rural Legacy Areas designated, and (4) the Program's progress in contributing to land preservation efforts. This report is intended to satisfy these requirements based upon the Rural Legacy Program statistics for FY 2009 and the grants applied for during that fiscal year.

Background

Maryland's Rural Legacy Program was established by the General Assembly to protect the State's natural resources, farms, forests, and other sensitive environmental areas while maintaining the viability of resource-based economies and the proper management of tillable and wooded areas. The Program provides funds to local governments and land trusts to purchase conservation easements and property in fee simple in designated Rural Legacy Areas. The Program is focused on a community-up approach to land preservation, stressing partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and non-profit land trusts. Counties are encouraged to initiate other land conservation measures to build upon the land preservation accomplishments achieved through Rural Legacy Program funds.

Rural Legacy Program Criteria

The Rural Legacy Program is a strategic land conservation program based on private, local, state and federal governmental partnerships. The statutory criteria which is the basis for designation of Rural Legacy Areas and funding awards includes analysis of a wide range of natural and cultural resources, availability of a variety of tools to accomplish conservation, strength of public and private partnerships and support of land use mechanisms.

Rural Legacy Program Staff and Sponsors continue to insure adherence to the Rural Legacy statute. The Program has encouraged local land conservation initiatives by promoting partnerships between state and local governments with nonprofit land trust organizations.

Strategic Conservation

The Rural Legacy Program is consistent with Governor Martin O'Malley's "Smart, Green & Growing" strategic planning effort and Chesapeake Bay restoration initiative by focusing land conservation in designated areas to reduce negative impacts on the State's natural and agricultural resources.

Governor O'Malley commitment to land conservation was underscored this year through the newly created GreenPrint Maryland. GreenPrint Maryland is a first in the nation web-enabled map showing the relative ecological importance of every parcel of land in the State. Combining color-coded maps, information layers, and aerial photography with public openness and transparency, this valuable new tool applies the best environmental science and geographic information systems to the urgent work of preserving and protecting environmentally critical lands today.

The Rural Legacy Program ecological targeting efforts are consistent with GreenPrint efforts... "to strategically target and protect the most ecologically valuable areas in Maryland." The important efforts of GreenPrint keeps critical portions of Maryland as ecologically sound as possible, ensures a healthy population of plants and animals, keeps our State beautiful, and ensures the protection of lands for our children before they are consumed by sprawling development... all of which mirror the goals of the Rural Legacy Program. Using tools like GreenPrint, the Rural Legacy Program is able to more effectively target land conservation decisions today, while building a base for sustainable growth and land preservation decisions into the future.

Furthermore, conservation under the Rural Legacy Program meets the standards set for land conservation policy including:

- A focus on the most strategic lands to protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries as well as the most significant natural and agricultural resources.

The law states that the Program "is established to enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry, and environmental protection... while maintaining the viability of resource-based land usage and proper management of tillable and wooded areas through accepted agricultural and silvicultural practices for farm production and timber harvests." The emphasis on resource protection in the Program's statutory criteria combined with the Program sponsors' grassroots knowledge of regionally significant areas throughout the State; ensure that Rural Legacy Areas and acquisitions represent strategic conservation of resources. Easement requirements include Soil and Water Quality Plans and riparian buffers to ensure water quality benefits. In addition, Forest Management Plans are required that also contribute to the protection of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

- Application of the best scientific information and technology to identify resource lands that are important, the potential threats to these lands, and the areas in which preservation goals can be maximized.

Proposed Rural Legacy Areas and specific properties proposed for conservation under Rural Legacy Program grants are analyzed under the Green Infrastructure Assessment. Proposals are also reviewed for consistency with the Strategic Forestland Assessment and for specific water quality benefits, for example, the watershed restoration potential as identified in the Unified Watershed Assessment. Pertinent statistical data is also obtained through State agency land conservation databases in order to target areas for preservation where the maximum return on investment will be achieved.

- Establish a process for collaboration and coordination among state and local land conservation programs to identify geographic and natural resource areas.

Proposed applications for designation and funding are reviewed by all of the State agencies involved in land conservation including the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture and the Department of Planning. The Rural Legacy Advisory Committee, an eleven-member multi-disciplinary committee appointed by the Governor and the Rural Legacy Board (Secretaries of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Planning), represent a coordinated and collaborative approach to review and propose Rural Legacy Areas for designation and grant recommendations.

Rural Legacy Program Advisory Committee and Board

The FY 2009 Rural Legacy Advisory Committee members and their area of representation on the Committee included:

Bruce W. Fleming, Non-Profit Environmental Organizations
Torrey C. Brown, M.D., Non-Profit Land Conservation Organizations
John H. Colton, Forestry Industry
Edward A. Halle, Jr., Maryland Environmental Trust
Elizabeth E. Jones, Property Owners
Vera Mae Schultz, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Gary W. Mackes, Parks & Recreation
Samuel M. Pierce, Municipal Corporations
(Vacant), Minerals Resource Industry
Frederick L. Tutman, Agriculture Industry
Randall P. Worthington, Sr., Business Organizations

The FY 2009 Rural Legacy Board members included:

Secretary John R. Griffin, Maryland Department of Natural Resources,
Chairman of the Rural Legacy Board

Secretary Richard E. Hall, Maryland Department of Planning

Secretary Roger L. Richardson, Maryland Department of Agriculture

Program Progress and Accomplishments in FY 2009

The Rural Legacy Program supports the goals the O'Malley Administration through focused land preservation in designated Rural Legacy Areas where it will make the greatest difference in enhancing the State's Green Infrastructure in order to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay and protect the State's natural and agricultural resources. Rural Legacy Program conservation easements require the appropriate best management practices and management plans as well as establishing and maintaining riparian buffers on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. This year, in order to derive even greater benefits to Maryland's waterways, Program Sponsors were encouraged whenever possible to negotiate a minimum of 100 foot riparian buffers into easement terms.

In FY 2009, over 3,563 acres were preserved in Rural Legacy Areas throughout the State. As of June 30, 2009, the Rural Legacy Program had preserved a total of 62,479 acres of Maryland's most scenic landscapes and critical natural resources that support the State's resource based industries.

Rural Legacy Areas represent a targeted strategy of land conservation through local and State partnerships. Creating a Rural Legacy Area is an effort by county governments, land trusts and landowners to protect what is collectively regarded as the best of Maryland's concentrated natural, cultural, and agricultural resources. Communities and local governments desiring to protect working farms and forests, support the local resource based economy, and conserve natural resources and open space are able to do so through Rural Legacy Program grants.

Stewardship of Rural Legacy easements is a priority of the Administration. In order to protect the State's fiscal investment, Rural Legacy Sponsors are required to monitor Program properties to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the conservation easement. Site visits must be performed at a minimum of once every three years. Monitoring reports are submitted to the Program and any violations are documented and corrective actions are taken. In FY 2009, 47 Program easements were monitored to ensure that conservation practices are being followed and maintained on Rural Legacy Program easements.

The Financial Status of the Program

Since the Program's inception in FY 1998 through FY 2009, the General Assembly has appropriated a total of \$214,714,299 to the Program including \$129,290,401 in transfer tax funds, \$80,423,898 in General Obligation Bonds, and \$5,000,000 in supplemental general funds. All of these funds have been awarded by the Rural Legacy Board and encumbered by the Board of Public Works as grants to Rural Legacy Program Sponsors. In FY 2009, the General Assembly appropriated \$13,467,626 for Rural Legacy Program grants.

Funding Reallocation

At the end of FY 2008, the Long Green Valley Rural Legacy Area had funding remaining unexpended from a prior year grant. The Sponsor for the Area did not anticipate that they would be able to bring any projects to settlement to expend these funds. Therefore, in order to comply with grant termination requirements, the unexpended funds totaling \$43,081.74 were reallocated from the Long Green Rural Legacy Area.

FY 2009 Grant Applications Received

Applications are submitted on a yearly basis by Rural Legacy Program Sponsors -- local governments and land trust organizations. Applications include requests for grant funding, Area boundary expansions and proposed new Area designations. In February 2008, twenty-seven applications requesting a total of \$158,545,949.38 were submitted for FY 2009 grants. One application requested an expansion of an existing Rural Legacy Area.

FY 2009 Grant Applications Reviewed

In an effort to be consistent with Governor O'Malley's plan to focus all State land preservation efforts on the same technological platform and to provide a method of evaluating land for purchase or easement, Agency Staff provided the Advisory Committee with statistical data derived from various environmental databases and analyses for their use in determining recommendations for FY 2009 grant awards. These rankings were used to determine numerical values to assess resources and priority funding areas where grant funding would make the greatest impact in furthering Governor O'Malley's land conservation initiatives as well as the goals of the Program:

1. Preserve critical habitat for native plant and wildlife species.
2. Support natural resource based economies like farming, forestry, tourism and outdoor recreation.
3. Establish greenbelt of forests and farms around rural communities to preserve their cultural heritage and rural character.
4. Protect riparian forests, wetland, and greenways to buffer the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries from pollution runoff.

This statistical data and information was provided to assist the Advisory Committee in their formulation of their recommendations regarding grant funding and to give a methodology to Rural Legacy Sponsors on how grant funding was determined and distributed. With \$13.5 million to award for FY 2009 the following was the main focus for awards:

1. Areas with various criteria including natural and ecological resources, green infrastructure, land use, water quality benefits and protection of the Chesapeake Bay watershed;
2. Areas located in targeted focus and/or high development pressure areas;

RURAL LEGACY PROGRAM - Fiscal Year 2009 Applications

Area Name		County	Area Acres	Protection Goal acres	Protection Goal %	Undeveloped Land acres	Undev. %	Protected Land acres	Prot. %	2009 Acquire acres	Ave. Cost per acre*	Grant Request
Agricultural Security Corridor	Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	CA DO CE KE TA	43,935	28,801	65.55%	41,557	94.59%	18,163	41.34%	4,891	\$5,618.00	\$14,000,000.00
Anne Arundel	Anne Arundel Co	AA	32,421	20,000	61.69%	26,222	80.88%	12,507	38.58%	250	\$17,600.00	\$3,000,000.00
Baltimore Co Coastal	Baltimore Co	BA	14,711	10,177	69.18%	12,780	86.87%	8,451	57.45%	452	\$15,588.00	\$4,393,576.00
Bear Creek	Garrett Co	GA	31,437	10,000	31.81%	28,638	91.10%	5,311	16.89%	1,000	\$4,117.00	\$4,117,000.00
Calvert Creeks	Calvert Co	CV	20,527	15,971	77.80%	19,669	95.82%	13,100	63.82%	194	\$14,209.00	\$2,105,000.00
Carrollton Manor	Carrollton Manor Land Trust & Frederick Co	FR	38,265	22,950	59.98%	31,634	82.67%	8,509	22.24%	894	\$5,715.00	\$5,004,408.00
Coastal Bays	Worcester County	WO	26,110	20,000	76.60%	25,660	98.28%	13,600	52.09%	500	\$2,850.00	\$1,000,000.00
Dividing Creek	Somerset/Worcester Co, TNC	SO, WO	23,000	17,250	75.00%	22,770	99.00%	3,825	16.63%	760	\$2,755.00	\$2,100,000.00
Fair Hill	Cecil L T & Cecil Co	CE	16,045	12,034	75.00%	12,514	77.99%	8,011	49.93%	375	\$8,360.00	\$3,010,000.00
Foreman Branch	Queen Anne's Co	QA	7,078	6,512	92.00%	6,866	97.00%	5,217	73.71%	1,078	\$8,500.00	\$9,163,000.00
Gunpowder	Gunpowder Valley Conservancy	BA	13,432	9,150	68.12%	8,909	66.33%	4,640	34.54%	500	\$7,875.00	\$3,975,000.00
Huntersville	Patuxent Tidewater L T & St. Mary's Co	SM	8,357	4,850	58.04%	6,941	83.06%	3,300	39.49%	429	\$9,052.00	\$3,459,732.38
Lands End	Queen Anne's Co	QA	10,394	6,236	60.00%	9,459	91.00%	2,543	24.47%	1,737	\$10,000.00	\$17,370,000.00
Little Pipe Creek	Carroll Co	CR	24,942	20,000	80.19%	20,914	83.85%	12,253	49.13%	639	\$5,695.00	\$2,000,000.00
Long Green Valley	Long Green Valley Conservancy	BA	25,252	14,856	58.83%	14,655	58.04%	7,389	29.26%	300	\$8,400.00	\$2,520,000.00
Manor	The Manor Conservancy	BA, HA	28,434	24,169	85.00%	25,139	88.41%	14,197	49.93%	293	\$6,325.00	\$1,658,397.00
Mattapany	Patuxent Tidewater L T & St. Mary's Co	SM	13,703	8,200	59.84%	10,886	79.44%	2,206	16.10%	794	\$12,277.00	\$7,922,501.00
Mid-Maryland Frederick	Frederick Co	FR	26,351	17,267	65.53%	23,426	88.90%	10,641	40.38%	1,285	\$5,100.00	\$5,175,000.00
Mid-Maryland Washington	Washington Co	WA	42,873	23,300	54.35%	38,127	88.93%	17,017	39.69%	1,232	\$4,750.00	\$3,913,835.00
Nanticoke	TNC, TCF, Dorchester	DO	21,250	16,800	79.06%	20,613	97.00%	11,136	52.40%	592	\$3,860.00	\$2,100,000.00
North Calvert	Calvert Co	CV	10,515	6,833	64.98%	9,672	91.98%	4,861	46.23%	100	\$14,209.00	\$1,052,500.00
Patuxent Prince George's	Prince George's Co	PG	34,984	26,238	75.00%	29,592	84.59%	15,286	43.69%	328	\$12,000.00	\$3,280,000.00
Piney Run	Land Preservation Trust	BA	32,320	23,819	73.70%	25,826	79.91%	15,540	48.08%	750	\$7,500.00	\$6,636,000.00
Quantico Creek	Wicomico Co	WI	13,637	5,000	36.66%	9,137	67.00%	4,560	33.44%	1,000	\$3,300.00	\$3,330,000.00
Upper Patapsco Watershed	Carroll Co	CR	14,148	8,450	59.73%	13,566	95.89%	4,085	28.87%	410	\$6,840.00	\$2,000,000.00
Zekiah Watershed	Charles Co	CH	31,000	21,700	70.00%	26,000	83.87%	6,178	19.93%	550	\$7,300.00	\$4,000,000.00

Expanded Applications (E=Expanded area)

Lower Deer Creek (E)	Harford Co	HA	66,701	33,434	50.13%	54,646	81.93%	30,079	45.10%	3,355	\$15,540.00	\$40,260,000.00
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TOTALS: 671,822 24,688 \$8,345.74 \$158,545,949.38

* Average cost per acre includes land and transactional costs

(acquire acres) (Ave. per acre costs)

Applications submitted Feb. 7, 2008

3. Areas having all previous grant funding expended; and
4. Areas with properties identified and ready to begin negotiations with landowners.

Based on the review of the Grant Applications submitted, statistical data and criteria provided, the Committee made recommendations to the Rural Legacy Board for FY 2009 grant funding.

FY 2009 RLA Expansion Request

In their FY 2009 Application, Harford County, the Sponsors from Lower Deer Creek Rural Legacy Area, requested an expansion of the Area's existing boundary lines. The Sponsor also requested that the name of the Rural Legacy Area be changed to "Deer Creek" to reflect the additional acreages that the expansion would include if the boundary was expanded. The requested expansion would increase the size of the Rural Legacy Area from 40,092 acres to 66,701 acres to include the northern portion of the watershed. The new Area would connect the existing Lower Deer Creek Rural Legacy Area and the Manor Rural Legacy Area, creating a preservation belt from the Susquehanna River to Baltimore County. The expansion area includes properties along Deer Creek, which are highly susceptible to development.

The Advisory Committee found that the expanded Area allows for the preservation of a large block of land with environmental, historical, and water quality benefits. The Rural Legacy Board agreed with the decision of the Rural Legacy Advisory Committee and approved the Area boundary expansion as well as the name change to the Deer Creek Rural Legacy Area.

Award of FY 2009 Funds

The Rural Legacy Advisory Committee's recommendations for FY 2009 Grant distribution were based on review of the applications and through the use of an objective scoring approach in which a scoring matrix ranked various criteria based on the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Planning, and Department of Agriculture database information. The criteria included: Natural and Working Resources, Planning and Land Use, Leveraging, Ability to Administer and other factors such as stewardship, need for funding, and unique circumstances that would enhance or hinder an Area's ability to spend grant funding.

The Advisory Committee recommended that the top 11 Areas receiving the highest rankings were to receive awards at the \$1 million level, unless there were two Rural Legacy Areas in the same local jurisdiction. In that case, the second Rural Legacy Area in the jurisdiction was recommended to receive \$500,000. The next six Areas on the ranking list were recommended to receive \$500,000, with the balance of the remaining funds to be granted to the Carrollton Manor RLA for a specific project that the Sponsor had requested funding.

The Rural Legacy Board agreed with the Rural Legacy Advisory Committee's FY 2009 grant allocation recommendations, with the exception of recommendation to award funds to the Carrollton Manor Rural Legacy Area. The Rural Legacy Board felt that the Mid-Maryland Washington Rural Legacy Area should receiving funding this year as the Carrollton Manor Rural

Legacy Area was not in the top ranked Rural Legacy Areas in the scoring matrix review. The Rural Legacy Board approved granting the remaining balance of funds to the Mid-Maryland Washington Rural Legacy Area as the Area ranked higher on the scoring matrix than the Carrollton Manor Rural Legacy Area.

The Rural Legacy Board awarded the FY 2009 grants to eighteen of the twenty-seven applicants:

Rural Legacy Area	County	FY 2009 Grant Award
Agricultural Security Corridor	Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent and Talbot	\$1,000,000
Bear Creek	Garrett	\$500,000
Coastal Bays	Worcester	\$500,000
Deer Creek	Harford	\$500,000
Dividing Creek	Somerset and Worcester	\$1,000,000
Foreman Branch	Queen Anne's	\$1,000,000
Gunpowder	Baltimore	\$500,000
Huntersville	St. Mary's	\$500,000
Lands End	Queen Anne's	\$500,000
Little Pipe Creek	Carroll	\$1,000,000
Mid-Maryland Frederick	Frederick	\$1,000,000
Mid-Maryland Washington	Washington	\$460,700
Nanticoke	Dorchester	\$1,000,000
Patuxent Prince George's	Prince George's	\$500,000
Piney Run	Baltimore	\$1,000,000
Quantico Creek	Wicomico	\$1,000,000
Upper Patapsco	Carroll	\$500,000
Zekiah Watershed	Charles	\$1,000,000

The Board of Public Works approved the FY 2009 Grant Awards and Rural Legacy Area boundary expansion as outlined above at the January 7, 2009 Board of Public Works meeting.

FY 2010 Grant Applications Received

In February 2009, twenty-eight applications requesting a total of \$135,764,180 were submitted for FY 2010 grants. These applications included one application for a proposed new Rural Legacy Area and one request for an expansion of the existing Rural Legacy Area boundary. This year, Sponsors/Applicants submitting grant applications for FY 2010 funds, were encouraged to propose potential projects that support public access, local food supply, and highest standards of conservation practices.

RURAL LEGACY PROGRAM - Fiscal Year 2010 Applications

Area Name	Sponsor	County	Area Acres	Protection Goal acres	Protection Goal %	Undeveloped Land acres	Undev. %	Protected Land acres	Prot. %	2010 Acquire acres	Ave. Cost per acre*	Grant Request
Agricultural Security Corridor	Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	CA DO CE KE TA	43,381	28,801	66.39%	24,209	55.81%	19,172	44.19%	2,959	\$5,618.00	\$14,000,000.00
Baltimore Co Coastal	Baltimore Co	BA	14,711	11,768	79.99%	6,335	43.06%	8,535	58.02%	200	\$12,360.00	\$1,900,000.00
Bear Creek	Garrett Co	GA	31,437	10,000	31.81%	25,000	79.52%	6,437	20.48%	1,000	\$4,300.00	\$4,300,000.00
Calvert Creeks	Calvert Co	CV	20,527	15,971	77.80%	6,399	31.17%	13,270	64.65%	194	\$14,209.00	\$2,105,000.00
Carrollton Manor	Carrollton Manor Land	FR	38,265	23,140	60.47%	17,098	44.68%	9,462	24.73%	579	\$5,627.00	\$3,334,753.00
Coastal Bays	Worcester County	WO	26,110	20,000	76.60%	12,200	46.73%	13,600	52.09%	500	\$2,850.00	\$1,000,000.00
Deer Creek	Harford Co	HA	66,701	33,582	50.35%	34,636	51.93%	32,065	48.07%	1,517	\$15,540.00	\$23,608,014.00
Dividing Creek	Somerset/Worcester Co,	SO, WO	23,000	17,250	75.00%	19,035	82.76%	3,965	17.24%	712	\$2,800.00	\$2,000,000.00
Fair Hill	Cecil L T & Cecil Co	CE	16,045	12,034	75.00%	7,808	48.66%	8,237	51.34%	365	\$8,569.00	\$2,100,000.00
Foreman Branch	Queen Anne's Co	QA	7,078	6,441	91.00%	1,743	24.63%	5,394	76.21%	564	\$7,000.00	\$4,125,660.00
Gunpowder	Gunpowder Valley	BA	13,432	9,150	68.12%	9,080	67.60%	4,738	35.27%	300	\$7,875.00	\$2,362,500.00
Huntersville	Patuxent Tidewater L T	SM	8,357	4,850	58.04%	5,027	60.15%	3,300	39.49%	429	\$9,052.00	\$2,796,791.00
Lands End	Queen Anne's Co	QA	10,394	6,236	60.00%	7,851	75.53%	2,543	24.47%	1,951	\$10,000.00	\$21,749,366.00
Little Pipe Creek	Carroll Co	CR	24,942	20,914	83.85%	8,069	32.35%	12,845	51.50%	1,500	\$2,000.00	\$3,000,000.00
Long Green Valley	Long Green Valley	BA	25,252	14,856	58.83%	17,856	70.71%	7,456	29.53%	300	\$8,000.00	\$2,520,000.00
Manor	The Manor Conservancy	BA, HA	28,434	24,169	85.00%	12,644	44.47%	14,444	50.80%	239	\$6,325.00	\$1,434,000.00
Mattapany	Patuxent Tidewater L T	SM	13,703	8,200	59.84%	11,497	83.90%	2,385	17.40%	1,759	\$10,917.00	\$7,352,680.00
Mid-Maryland Frederick	Frederick Co	FR	26,351	17,267	65.53%	8,018	30.43%	10,665	40.47%	1,285	\$5,000.00	\$3,657,500.00
Mid-Maryland Washington	Washington Co	WA	42,873	23,300	54.35%	24,191	56.42%	14,788	34.49%	393	\$5,500.00	\$2,260,000.00
Nanticoke	TNC, TCF, Dorchester	DO	21,250	17,000	80.00%	9,920	46.68%	11,330	53.32%	592	\$3,850.00	\$2,000,000.00
North Calvert	Calvert Co	CV	10,515	6,833	64.98%	4,731	44.99%	4,971	47.28%	100	\$14,209.00	\$1,052,500.00
Patuxent Prince George's	Prince George's Co	PG	34,984	26,238	75.00%	18,370	52.51%	16,614	47.49%	136	\$14,000.00	\$3,280,000.00
Piney Run	Land Preservation Trust	BA	32,320	23,819	73.70%	15,911	49.23%	16,408	50.77%	500	\$7,500.00	\$3,950,000.00
Quantico Creek	Wicomico Co	WI	13,637	5,000	36.66%	4,089	29.98%	4,746	34.80%	750	\$3,300.00	\$3,330,000.00
Upper Patapsco Watershed	Carroll Co	CR	14,148	11,884	84.00%	9,113	64.41%	4,453	31.47%	692	\$2,167.00	\$1,500,000.00
Zekiah Watershed	Charles Co	CH	31,000	21,700	70.00%	18,082	58.33%	7,918	25.54%	550	\$6,800.00	\$4,000,000.00

New and Expanded Applications (N=New, E= Expanded Area)

Mountain Ridge (N)	Allegany County	AL	14,224	11,379	80.00%	14,224	100.00%	n/a		3,009	\$3,004.00	\$9,045,416.00
Anne Arundel South (E)	Anne Arundel Co	AA	32,521	20,000	61.50%	13,353	41.06%	12,869	39.57%	200	\$17,600.00	\$2,000,000.00

TOTALS:			685,592							23,275	\$7,713.29	\$135,764,180.00
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* Average cost per acre includes land and transactional costs

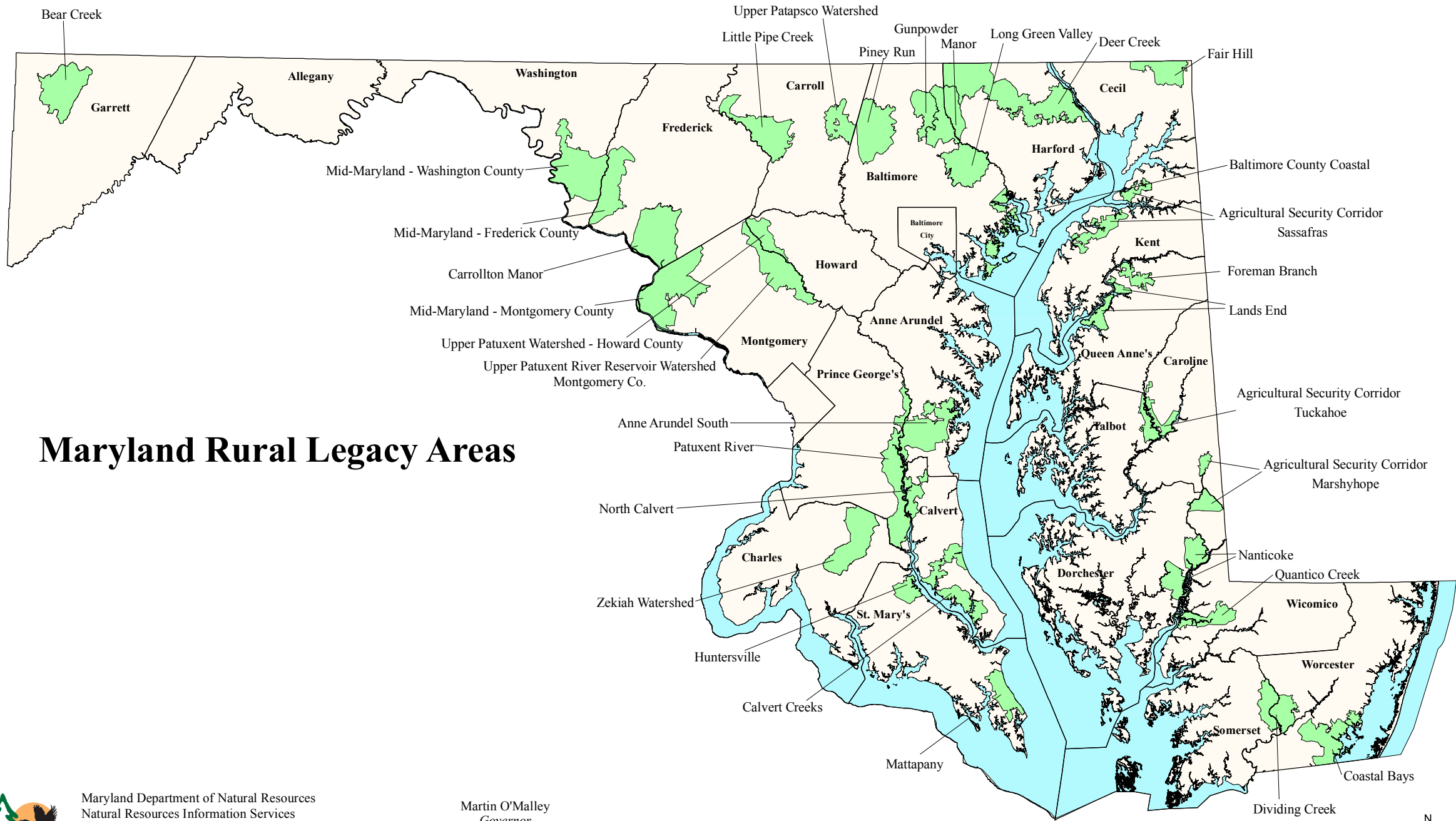
(acquire acres) (Ave. per acre costs)

Applications submitted Feb. 10, 2009

Designated Rural Legacy Areas

Rural Legacy Areas are located in 22 of Maryland's 23 counties. The existing Areas cover 763,051 acres of Maryland's most significant natural resource, agricultural, open and scenic lands. To date, there are 30 designated Rural Legacy Areas in Maryland:

Rural Legacy Area	Counties	Sponsor
Agricultural Security Corridor	Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Talbot	Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
Anne Arundel South	Anne Arundel	Anne Arundel County
Baltimore Coastal	Baltimore	Baltimore County
Bear Creek	Garrett	Garrett County
Calvert Creeks	Calvert	Calvert County
Carrollton Manor	Frederick	Carrollton Manor Land Trust
Coastal Bays	Worcester	Worcester County
Deer Creek (formerly Lower Deer Creek)	Harford	Harford County
Dividing Creek	Somerset, Worcester	Somerset County, Worcester County, The Nature Conservancy
Fair Hill	Cecil	Cecil Land Trust
Foreman Branch (formerly Chino Farms)	Queen Anne's	Queen Anne's County
Gunpowder	Baltimore	Gunpowder Valley Conservancy
Huntersville	St. Mary's	Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust, St. Mary's Co.
Lands End	Queen Anne's	Queen Anne's County
Little Pipe Creek	Carroll	Carroll County
Long Green Valley	Baltimore	Long Green Valley Land Trust
Manor	Baltimore and Harford	The Manor Conservancy
Mattapany	St. Mary's	Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust, St. Mary's Co.
Mid-Maryland Frederick	Frederick	Frederick County
Mid-Maryland Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery County
Mid-Maryland Washington	Washington	Washington County
Nanticoke	Dorchester	The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, Dorchester County
North Calvert	Calvert	Calvert County
Patuxent – Prince George's	Prince George's	Prince George's Soil Conservation District
Piney Run	Baltimore	The Land Preservation Trust
Quantico Creek	Wicomico	Wicomico County
Upper Patapsco	Carroll	Carroll County
Upper Patuxent – Howard	Howard	Howard County
Upper Patuxent - Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery County
Zekiah Watershed	Charles	Charles County



Maryland Rural Legacy Areas



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
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 410-260-8753 or 1-877-620-8DNR x8753
 dnr.maryland.gov
 DNR August 2009

Martin O'Malley
Governor
 Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor
 John R. Griffin
Secretary



Summary

Strong interest in the Program continues as shown by the number of applications for the FY 2009 grant cycle for Rural Legacy Areas. As in previous years, the amount requested far exceeds the available grant funds. Over the eleven application cycles (FY 1998 through FY 2009), there have been \$1.14 billion in requests for \$214.71 million in available grant funds.

The goal of the Rural Legacy Program is to preserve 225,000 acres of land. At the end of FY 2009 the Program has conserved over 62,479 acres. Sustained funding will be needed to support local governments and land trusts to meet the goal of conserving the Rural Legacy Areas throughout the State. This partnership of local government, land trusts, landowners and the State of Maryland continues to make a substantial commitment of supporting the preservation of the State's most valuable agricultural, natural, open space resources and scenic landscapes.

Acknowledgements:

The Rural Legacy Program Staff would like to acknowledge the Rural Legacy Advisory Committee, the Rural Legacy Board and the Staffs of the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Planning and Department of Agriculture for their dedicated work on behalf of the Rural Legacy Program. The Rural Legacy Program efforts further Governor O'Malley's vision for a "Smart, Green & Growing" Maryland. It is through the Rural Legacy Program's targeted objectives, the State's open space land is preserved, the health of the Chesapeake Bay and water quality to our waterways is improved, our resource-based economies thrive, and our wildlife, cultural heritage and natural resources are protected from urban sprawl...a legacy to be passed on to all Maryland citizens and future generations to come.

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TTY users call via the MD Relay

Martin O'Malley, Governor
John R. Griffin, Secretary

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