

Article - Natural Resources
Section 8-803(c), (d), and (e), respectively to be
Section 8-803 (e), (f), and (g), respectively
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

BY adding

Article - Natural Resources
Section 8-803(c) and (d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article 25 - County Commissioners

52.

(a) The boards of county commissioners of the several counties in the State of Maryland shall have jurisdiction, power, and authority to establish public drainage associations in their respective counties, and to locate and establish ditches, drains, or canals, and to cause to be constructed, straightened, widened or deepened any ditch, drain or watercourse for the purpose of [draining wet, swampy or overflowed lands or lands subject to overflow;] ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING WATERSHED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, and it is hereby declared that such drainage shall be considered a public benefit and conducive to the public health, convenience and welfare.

53.

Whenever a petition signed by not less than one third of the landowners or by the owners of not less than one third of the land in a [contiguous body of wet, swampy or overflowed land] WATERSHED is filed with the clerk of the board of county commissioners of the county in which all or any part of such body of land is located, setting forth that such body of land, described in such a way as to convey an intelligent idea of its location, [is subject to overflow or too wet for cultivation,] IN NEED OF DRAINAGE FOR OPTIMAL CROP PRODUCTION and that the public benefit or utility, or the public health, convenience or welfare would be promoted by draining or ditching the same, or by changing or improving the natural watercourses, and asking for the establishment of a public drainage association for such purposes, it shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners forthwith to appoint a board of drainage viewers, to be composed of three or more judicious and impartial citizens, residing in the vicinity of the [said