

Southern Maryland Tobacco Barns Working Group
Action Plan
August 24, 2005

I. Goal: Develop a title and framework for the initiative

- Clarify the role of partners, including but not limited to county preservation planners, heritage tourism organizations, Preservation Maryland, the National Trust, the National Park Service
- Choose a easily identifiable name for the Southern Maryland Tobacco Barns initiative as a whole
- Develop a webpage as a central repository of information about Southern Maryland Tobacco Barns
- Consider producing a logo that reflects the initiative as a whole

II. Goal: Establish the Tobacco Barn Restoration Fund

- Thank Rep. Hoyer for securing Save America's Treasures money
- Announce SAT grant to the public
- Consult with MHT, NTHP, and NPS regarding the receipt and distribution of SAT money
- Develop a plan for raising matching funds
- Develop Guidelines and Procedures and an application for the Fund
- Establish a selection committee
- Use new and existing surveys to establish significance and urgency of potential applicants

III. Goal: Develop a public policy agenda that addresses the variety of threats facing tobacco barns

- Survey existing public policy that impacts tobacco barns at the local, state, and federal level
- Determine the most effective existing policies
- Identify deficiencies at the local, state, and federal level
- Prioritize potential policy solutions
- Develop model language for new policies
- Develop a comprehensive strategy for the implementation of new policies

IV. Goal: Raise awareness of tobacco barns and develop a heritage tourism strategy

- Create a poster that publicizes tobacco barns and their connection to Southern Maryland's agricultural heritage
- Create a National Register Itinerary for tobacco barns, and/or
- Create a cohesive tour brochure that can be distributed at heritage sites throughout Southern Maryland

V. *Goal: Complete a Multiple Property Designation Form for tobacco barns and nominate important barns to the National Register*

- Prepare an RFP for consultant services
- Apply for MHT non-capital grant funds for consultant's fees
- Identify a source of funding for a grant match
- Select a consultant for the MPDF
- Select a consultant for National Register nominations

VI. *Goal: Create an Information Clearinghouse to disseminate resources regarding technical support, tax benefits, and funding*

- Gather information for clearinghouse
- Determine outlets for dissemination, including but not limited to extension service, farm bureau, local government, and the internet
- Produce paper and electronic materials
- Post information to tobacco barns webpage