



REVITALIZING RURAL MARYLAND

A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR COMMUNITIES



*Prepared by
Preservation Maryland
with the support of the
Rural Maryland Council*



RMC
Rural Maryland Council



INTRODUCTIONS

Revitalizing communities is complex and challenging work. For rural communities, the work often comes with even greater obstacles and hurdles to overcome. The creation of this rural resource guide is Preservation Maryland's latest effort to support this critical work.

The organization's longstanding work in rural regions of the state was the inspiration for compiling this guide. Having seen projects and efforts stall due to a lack of resources or awareness of available support, the goal of this guide is to connect communities to the tools and resources they need to succeed and to identify useful case studies from which communities can draw inspiration and assistance.

This guide's creation was made possible thanks to the generous financial support of the Rural Maryland Council. The Rural Maryland Council brings together citizens, community-based organizations, federal, state, county and municipal government officials as well as representatives of the for-profit and nonprofit sectors to collectively address the needs of Rural Maryland communities. Although many may think of Maryland as an urbanized state – fully 75% of its counties are considered by the state to be rural and struggle with the challenges of revitalization and redevelopment encountered in more traditionally rural states and regions.

As a statewide preservation organization representing a state with over 75% of its jurisdictions working to redevelop, revitalize and renew in a rural climate we are pleased to have had the opportunity to compile and curate this guide. Growing smart and saving our irreplaceable historic resources will only succeed if communities have the tools and resources they need. It is our hope that this guide fills a portion of that resource gap – and gives rural Maryland an even greater opportunity to succeed.

Any static guide is only as good as the information available at the time it was produced and while every effort was made to include as many resources as possible, no single guide can claim to be completely exhaustive. While we have attempted to include as much relevant information as possible, readers should visit preservationmaryland.org to stay up to date on the latest revitalization resources and information to help with projects in their communities. The organization's weekly podcast, PreserveCast, also often features case studies from rural communities that are working to preserve, interpret and promote their historic resources and is a must-download for anyone working on these issues.


Together, we can revitalize rural Maryland!

Nicholas A. Redding

Executive Director, Preservation Maryland

Rural Maryland

Scenic view of Maryland's enduring rural historic, natural, and cultural landscape.



The Rural Maryland Council (RMC) provides a venue for members of agriculture and natural resource-based industries, health care facilities, educational institutions, economic and community development organizations, for-profit and nonprofit corporations, and government agencies to cross traditional boundaries, share information, and address in a more holistic way the special needs and opportunities in Rural Maryland.

To accomplish our mission, the RMC administers two grant programs, the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund and the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund. These grant programs were born out of the frustration experienced by a number of rural-serving nonprofit organizations and community colleges who had difficulty obtaining adequate, much needed programmatic or special projects funding. Unlike their counterparts operating near or in the urban centers, nonprofits operating in rural communities typically lack access to public sector or private sector philanthropic opportunities. Moreover, given the economic distress found in the rural regions of the State, many local governments do not have the financial wherewithal to address these important developmental needs. Consequently, a serious resource deficit existed where, in many instances, the need had been the greatest.

The RMC's goals are to foster the stewardship of Maryland's natural resources and cultural heritage, support the development and growth of vibrant economies in Rural Maryland, and encourage healthy, connected communities throughout Rural Maryland through convening of stakeholders, education, public relations, and advocacy.



Charlotte Davis

Executive Director, Rural Maryland Council

This ca. 1835 unique seven-sided structure served as one of the first toll houses along the National Road.

This ca. 1835 unique seven-sided structure served as one of the first toll houses along the National Road.





HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE GUIDE

This resource guide is divided into specific categories of support:

- grants and loans
- tax credits
- technical assistance programs
- county-specific information
- case studies

Often, before beginning a project a thorough review of all potentially useful resources is a good first step. This guide is designed to assist with that step and to provide an at-a-glance level of information on the key programs that support redevelopment and revitalization in rural Maryland. Depending on your project, the next step may involve digging deeper on the specific program's website or by connecting with someone in your community who may have more information. The case studies show how it can all come together in the form of a project – and while not every aspect of the case studies may apply to your effort they tend to underscore the diverse funding streams that make it happen and the tenacity that anyone must have to pull off this work in rural communities.

More case studies and information is available online at our website:
preservationmaryland.org.

We also moderate the Maryland Preservation Forum, an interactive Facebook group which can be found at: *facebook.com/marylandforum*.

Be sure to keep in touch and let Preservation Maryland know if you encounter any challenges along the way – we are always willing to help connect projects to available resources. Also, be sure to let us know of your victories; your project could end up being a case study in the next guide or on our website's blog:
preservationmaryland.org/news.

This guidebook was developed under a grant from the Rural Maryland Council, an independent agency of the State of Maryland. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Preservation Maryland and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the Rural Maryland Council or the State of Maryland.

Inclusion in this resource guide does not constitute the endorsement of any company, service, program, agency, organization or product by Preservation Maryland or the Rural Maryland Council. Anyone seeking grants, financial support or the services of any entity listed in this guide is strongly encouraged to request additional information, qualifications, and quotes before selecting and/or compensating any entity. Preservation Maryland and its affiliates do not provide tax, legal or accounting advice. This material has been prepared for informational purposes only, and is not intended to provide, and should not be relied on for, tax, legal or accounting advice. You should always consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisors before engaging in any transaction.



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FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Grants & Loans

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) awards grants to projects that address one or more of the five goals identified by ARC in its 2016–2020 strategic plan and that can demonstrate measurable results. Typically, ARC project grants are awarded to state and local agencies and governmental entities such as economic development authorities, local governing boards such as county councils, and nonprofit organizations such as schools and organizations that build low-cost housing.

Potential applicants should contact their state ARC program manager to request a pre-application package. The local development district serving the county in which the project is located may provide guidance on a project's eligibility for funding and assistance in preparing a grant application.

A small number of grants are awarded through Requests for Proposals (RFPs), sometimes as grant competitions. These grant RFPs are posted on the ARC website as they are issued.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
www.arc.gov/funding/ARCGrantsandContracts.asp

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants

To assist in the redevelopment of brownfields—abandoned, idled or under-used property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by contamination—the Environmental Protection Agency can provide grants to assist in the assessment and clean-up of such sites, including capitalizing of revolving loan funds for clean-up. Historic industrial sites may be brownfields.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
www.epa.gov/brownfields

Burnside Bridge

The historic Burnside Bridge on the Antietam Battlefield in Sharpsburg is one of the state's most iconic structures and is a major heritage tourism destination.



The Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) is a quasi-public agri-business and financial intermediary development organization that bring together resources from the federal state and local government, as well as the private sector, to assist Maryland's farming, forestry and seafood businesses with an eye towards enhancing the profitability and sustainability of these important rural industry sectors.

Maryland Resource-Based Industry Financing Fund Loan (MRBIF)

The Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) is a quasi-public agri-business and financial intermediary development organization that bring together resources from the federal state and local government, as well as the private sector, to assist Maryland's farming, forestry and seafood businesses with an eye towards enhancing the profitability and sustainability of these important rural industry sectors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.marbidco.org/loans/mrbif.html

Maryland Vineyard Planting Loan Fund (MVPLF)

The Maryland Vineyard Planting Loan Fund has been established by the Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation to help meet the unique financing needs of Maryland's rural landowners wanting to plant vineyards and develop wineries. This program makes available low-interest loans of at least \$10,000 to qualified applicants. The requested loan relates to the installation of new vineyards, including, but not limited to, the prepping of land for vineyard installation, purchase of vines, vineyard equipment and supplies. This program is supported by the Maryland Wineries Association and the Maryland Grape Growers Association.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.marbidco.org/loans/mvplf.html



Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program

The Next Generation Program allows the Maryland Vineyard Planting Loan Fund to provide a qualified beginner farmer, and possibly other, applicants with a farm down payment to help meet the equity requirements of a commercial lender, as a bank would be making a mortgage loan towards assisting with the farm purchase too.

Through the Next Gen Program, MARBIDCO will pay up to 51% of the Fair Market Value of the farmland up to \$500,000 with these funds being provided as a down-payment at a real estate settlement, and with MARBIDCO taking an option on a farmland preservation easement purchase. After the land purchase, the applicant will have several years to sell a permanent conservation easement on the farmland to a rural land conservation program, thus extinguishing the development rights on the property forever. The funding from selling the easement shall then be used to repay MARBIDCO for the down payment assistance plus a 3% fee to help the program continue in the future. If the applicant cannot sell the permanent easement within the specified timeframe, the option will be exercised for no additional money to grant the easement to the default easement holder, either the county agricultural land preservation program, or a private rural land trust MARBIDCO selects at the end of the option period.

An interested applicant should start by consulting their respective county agricultural land preservation staff to discuss the subject farm property and its potential for a future permanent conservation easement. The applicant will also need a contract of sale for the subject farm property with at least a 6 month term to allow for the process to be approved, a provision for the return of the down payment to the applicant in the event the Next Gen Program funding is not approved, and a farm business plan.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.marbidco.org/land/nextgen.html

Franz Farm

Franz Farm is part of a collection of railroad and agricultural structures in the Linwood National Register Historic District.

Rural Business Energy Efficiency Improvement Loan Fund (RBEEIL)

This Loan Fund offers low-interest micro loans for energy efficiency projects undertaken by food or fiber producers or processors implementing the recommendations of a third-party energy auditor. The minimum loan amount is \$2,500 and the maximum loan amount is \$30,000. Loan advances may not exceed the cost of actually making the improvements minus any grant incentive funding received for a project. A credit score of at least 650 is required with no bankruptcies filed within the last seven years. Loans made under this program are unsecured and only the personal guarantees of the borrowers and/or businesses would be required. Loans will be fully amortized with terms not exceeding the anticipated savings payback period with at least 1 to 1 ratio on the annual energy savings payback. A letter of referral from a commercial lender is required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.marbidco.org/loans/rbeeil.html

Rural Business Energy Efficiency Program

This program facilitates the purchase of equipment or technology related to lowering business-related energy consumption. Farm or rural businesses may apply for a grant of up to 10% (not to exceed \$1,000) of the cost of purchasing and installing equipment or technology related to lowering business-related energy consumption. A copy of a report provided by a qualified third-party energy consultant is required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.marbidco.org/business/rbee.html

Rural Business Equipment and Working Capital Fund Loan (RBEWC)

The RBEWC Loan Fund offers moderate-cost loans to agriculture and resourced-based industry firms and producers for working capital and equipment purchases. For this program, MARBIDCO will work jointly with another participating public-sector lender agency to fund a food or fiber production or processing project that involves one or more Maryland resource-based businesses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.marbidco.org/loans/rbwc.html



MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION (MALPF)

If you are the owner of eligible farmland and/or woodland, MALPF can help you by purchasing an agricultural preservation easement on your property. This can help ensure that your property remains agricultural in perpetuity. The amount that MALPF will pay for your easement is your asking price or the difference between the appraised fair market value of the land and its agricultural value, whichever is less. Depending on where you live in Maryland, the value of your property, and your asking price, the Foundation has in recent years paid from \$800 to more than \$10,000 per acre for agricultural preservation easements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mda.maryland.gov/Pages/Agland_Preservation_Foundation.aspx

MARYLAND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (MD C-PACE)

MD-PACE is a statewide partnership between PACE Financial Servicing and the Maryland Clean Energy Center to build a statewide Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program. The MD-PACE program allows counties in Maryland to join a statewide standard C-PACE program at no cost. A major benefit to having a statewide administrator is that it allows participants in the C-PACE market to adhere to a standardized set of rules across county lines and enables scale.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mdcleanenergy.org/mdpace

Pemberton Hall

This barn is associated with the historic property of Pemberton Hall dating to the mid-1700s and now operated as a museum and park.



The Maryland Department of Commerce is the state's primary economic development agency. The Department works to stimulate private investment and create jobs by attracting new businesses, encouraging the expansion and retention of existing companies, and providing workforce training and financial assistance to Maryland companies. The agency also promotes the state's many economic advantages and markets local products and services at home and abroad to spur economic development and international investment, trade and tourism.

ADVANCE Maryland

ADVANCE Maryland, in partnership with the National Center for Economic Gardening, is a program for second-stage entrepreneurs that helps businesses address their unique challenges and identify new opportunities. Economic Gardening is a grow-from-within strategy targeting existing growth companies and offering them critical strategic information customized to their needs. This information can be key to propelling the company to its next phase of growth. ADVANCE Maryland is Maryland's adaptation of Economic Gardening.

ADVANCE Maryland provides a research team that analyzes information in five key areas; your core strategy, market dynamics, qualified sales leads, innovation and temperament. The research team mines sophisticated databases and leverages a number of high-end business development tools related to search engine optimization, social media marketing, and geographic information systems. The team will work closely with selected companies to identify the scope and goals of their research.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/advance-maryland

ExportMD Program

The ExportMD Program helps to offset some of the costs of international marketing by small and mid-sized companies in Maryland. Maryland companies that receive an ExportMD award are eligible for up to \$5,000 in reimbursement for expenses associated with an international marketing project. The program is funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Eligible expenses are any expenses related to an international marketing initiative including trade show fees, airfare, translation of brochures and website development. Companies that do not qualify for the ExportMD program may still receive other forms of assistance through the Maryland Office of International Investment and Trade.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/exportmd-program



Maryland Economic Adjustment Fund (MEAF)

MEAF assists small businesses with upgrading manufacturing operations, developing commercial applications for technology or entering into and competing in new economic markets. Eligible businesses include manufacturers, wholesalers, service companies, and skilled trades. Funds can be used for working capital machinery and equipment, building renovations, real estate acquisitions and site improvements. Funding assistance through MEAF is available to small businesses across the state.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/meaf

Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund (MEDAAF)

A flexible and broad-based program, MEDAAF funds grants, loans and investments to support economic development initiatives. Uses include business attraction and retention, infrastructure support, brownfield redevelopment, arts and entertainment districts, daycare, revolving loan funds and local strategic planning. Projects must be within Priority Funding Areas and eligible industry sectors. Awards are made on a competitive basis.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/medaaf

Maryland Nonprofit Development Center Program and Fund - Nonprofit, Interest-Free, Micro Bridge Loan Account (NIMBL)

This interest-free, micro bridge loan program and fund supports the operations of nonprofit entities. The program is administered by the Maryland Nonprofit Development Center and the Maryland Department of Commerce. The program provides short-term financing support to qualifying nonprofit entities between the award date of a government contract and the actual receipt date of those awarded funds.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[commerce.maryland.gov/fund/maryland-nonprofit-development-center-program-fund-nonprofit-interest-free-micro-bridge-loan-account-\(nimbl\)](http://commerce.maryland.gov/fund/maryland-nonprofit-development-center-program-fund-nonprofit-interest-free-micro-bridge-loan-account-(nimbl))

State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)

SSBCI is a component of the federal Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 that created \$1.5 billion in direct funding of state credit enhancement programs. Within the act, Maryland is allocated a total of \$23 million available in three installments subject to performance. These funds must target an average borrower size of 500 employees or less and loans averaging \$5 million.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/ssbci

Commercial Community Solar

Maryland Commercial Community Solar allows Maryland businesses to purchase subscriptions for energy from community solar arrays, gaining similar economic advantages as having solar modules directly on the roof of their business. The program provides a monetary incentive for Maryland business who wish to purchase the energy benefits of the array.

For most Maryland businesses, the incentive matches the incentive provided to commercial entities under the Commercial Clean Energy Grant Program. Subscriptions must be to a community solar array within the subscriber's electric utility service area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/Community-Solar.aspx

Commercial and Industrial Grant Program

The C&I Program provides grant awards to commercial, industrial, and nonprofit enterprises in Maryland's commercial and industrial sector to assist with energy efficiency projects that will reduce their electricity consumption by at least 15%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/incentives/empowermdcigp.aspx

Data Center Energy Efficiency Grant Program

The Maryland Energy Administration is seeking innovative energy efficiency solutions to reduce electrical usage in data centers and improve overall Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) in existing data centers. The competitive program is open to any commercial, state/local government, or nonprofit data center located or being constructed within the state of Maryland with an overall data floor facility size of at least 2,000 square feet. For the purposes of this Program, a data center is defined as a facility used to house only computers, server and networking systems, IT components, and supporting infrastructure.

Grant awards are expected to range from \$20,000 to \$200,000 per eligible project, subject to funding availability. Grants are designed to cover up to 50% of the net customer cost (up to \$200,000), after other incentives and grants have been applied, for innovative and cost-effective energy efficiency solutions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/incentives/DCEEG.aspx



Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program

The Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program provides eligible borrowers with loans that typically range from \$50,000 to \$500,000 to identify and install energy conservation measures and improvements in their facilities. Borrowers can then use the cost savings generated by added improvements as the primary source of revenue for repaying the loans. This neutral budget impact makes the Lawton Loan Program an attractive financing opportunity for interested organizations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/Govt/pages/janeelawton.aspx

Kathleen A. P. Mathias Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program

Subject to funding availability, this program will provide grants on a competitive basis to farms or businesses in the agriculture sector to cover up to 50% of the cost of eligible energy efficiency upgrades, if applicable, after all other incentives have been applied.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/incentives/MathiasAg.aspx

MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION - RESIDENTIAL

The mission of the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) is to promote affordable, reliable and cleaner energy for the benefit of all Marylanders. To achieve its mission, MEA advises the Governor, General Assembly on matters relating to energy policy. MEA administers grant and loan programs to encourage clean energy technologies in all sectors of Maryland's economy: residential, commercial, agricultural, and transportation.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ALL MEA RESIDENTIAL GRANTS AND LOANS, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/default.aspx

Clean Burning Wood and Pellet Stove Grant Program

To help Maryland homeowners invest in clean energy, the Maryland Energy Administration provides grants for clean burning wood and pellet stoves that displace electric, non-natural gas fossil fuel heating systems or old woodstoves at incentive levels outlined in the chart below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/incentives/woodstoves.aspx

Maryland Home Energy Loan Program (MHELP)

The Maryland Energy Administration and the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) are partnering to provide loans of up to \$20,000 at a 9.99% interest rate to Maryland property owners interested in improving the energy efficiency of their homes. The Maryland Home Energy Loan Program is designed to complement existing utility rebates to help homeowners overcome the up-front cost barriers associated with whole-house energy efficiency upgrades.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/incentives/mhelp.aspx

Residential Community Solar

Maryland Residential Community Solar program allows Maryland residents to purchase subscriptions for energy from community solar arrays, gaining the same economic advantages as having solar modules directly on their residence. In support of this program, the Maryland Energy Administration developed the Residential Community Solar Grant Program. The program provides a monetary incentive for Maryland residents who wish to purchase the energy benefits of the array. For most Maryland residents, the incentive matches the incentive provided to homeowners under the Residential Clean Energy Grant Program. Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) residents who subscribe to a community solar array under an ownership model are incentivized at a higher rate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/Community-Solar.aspx

Mackall Road Barn

Tobacco barns, like this one in Calvert County, are part of the historic and cultural landscape of rural Maryland.

Combined Heat and Power Grant Program

The Maryland Energy Administration's Combined Heat and Power Grant Program will provide grants to encourage the implementation of CHP technologies in eligible commercial, industrial, institutional, and critical infrastructure facilities including healthcare, wastewater treatment, and essential state and local government facilities, and to encourage the implementation of CHP technologies that leverage biogas/biomass as a fuel source.

Individual grants range in size from up to \$425/kW to up to \$575/kW, based on the size of the CHP system, with a maximum per project cap of \$500,000, subject to funding availability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/MEACHP.aspx

State Agency Loan Program

Established in 1991, the State Agency Loan Program (SALP) provides loans to state agencies for cost-effective energy-efficiency improvements in state facilities. SALP has been used to upgrade lighting, controls, boilers, chillers, and other energy equipment in state buildings and facilities.

State agencies pay zero interest with a 1% administration fee for SALP loans, which typically range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. Loan repayments are made from an agency's fuel and utility budget, based on the avoided energy costs of the project. As loan repayments are made, new SALP loans can be awarded each fiscal year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/govt/Pages/stateloan.aspx

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (DHCD)

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) works with partners to finance housing opportunities and revitalize great places for Maryland citizens to live, work and prosper. DHCD has programs for homeowners and renters, businesses and business owners, communities, and investors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ALL DHCD PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT:

<http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Community Development Block Grant Program

Community Development Block Grant Program funds help strengthen Maryland's communities by expanding affordable housing opportunities, creating jobs, stabilizing neighborhoods and improving overall quality of life.

Units of general local government in non-entitlement counties with a population of less than 200,000 and non-entitlement cities and towns of less than 50,000 population are eligible to apply. Multiple jurisdictions may jointly apply for funds. Other entities, public or private, may be a sub-recipient of the eligible local government.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/CDBG.aspx

Maryland's Fresh Food Financing Initiative

Maryland's Fresh Food Financing Initiative is aimed at increasing access to healthy foods in underserved areas termed food deserts. It is designed to provide flexible financing, through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Neighborhood BusinessWorks program, for the start-up, rehabilitation or expansion of businesses and nonprofits, with a particular emphasis on those that will source fresh food from Maryland farmers to designated Food Deserts Areas and Sustainable Communities. Fresh Food Financing applicants must be located in a designated Food Desert Area or Sustainable Community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/freshfood/default.aspx

Local Government Infrastructure Financing Works

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Development Administration issues bonds, on behalf of counties, municipalities and/or their instrumentalities, to finance projects that serve the community at large.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

<http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/lgif/default.aspx>

Main Street Maryland Program

Main Street Maryland is a comprehensive downtown revitalization program created in 1998 by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The program strives to strengthen the economic potential of Maryland's traditional Main Streets and neighborhoods.

Using a competitive process, Main Street Maryland selects communities who have made a commitment to succeed and helps them improve the economy, appearance and image of their traditional downtown business districts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/programs/MainStreet.aspx

THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)

The Department of Natural Resources leads Maryland in securing a sustainable future for our environment, society, and economy by preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing Maryland's natural resources and public lands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ALL DNR PROGRAMS, PLEASE VISIT:
dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/about_dnr.aspx

Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund

The Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund is seeking to fund the most cost-effective, efficient nonpoint nutrient, and sediment reduction project proposals in geographic targeted areas of Maryland. The Trust Fund encourages projects that will achieve the greatest reduction per dollar invested.

Funding is available to local governments and non-governmental organizations, including bi-county agencies, counties, municipalities, forest conservancy district boards, soil/water conservation districts, resource conservation and development councils, academic institutions and nonprofit organizations having a demonstrated ability to implement non-point source pollution control projects.

Individual private or commercial landowners; consultants, contractors, and other for-profit entities with demonstrated restoration experience are encouraged to apply in partnership with an entity identified above.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
dnr.maryland.gov/ccs/Pages/funding/trust-fund_grants.aspx

ALLEGANY COUNTY

Downtown Cumberland

Historic downtown Cumberland boasts an array of historic commercial architecture, local businesses, and a pedestrian mall.

Innovative Technology Fund

The Innovative Technology Fund is a partnership between the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the University of Maryland, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The fund and partnership allows for the continual acceleration of Bay restoration through the development of new technologies. At the 2007 Chesapeake Bay Program Executive Council meeting, the State of Maryland and the EPA agreed to promote investments in technologies that could accelerate Bay restoration efforts.

The Innovative Technology Fund is available to any Maryland company. The award ranges from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/ccs/Pages/funding/intechfund.aspx

Rural Legacy Program

The Department of Natural Resources Rural Legacy Program protects Rural Legacy Areas, which are regions rich in a multiple of agricultural, forestry, natural and cultural resources that, if conserved, will promote resource-based economies, protect greenways, and maintain the fabric of rural life.

The Rural Legacy Program provides the focus and funding necessary to protect large contiguous tracts of land and other strategic areas from sprawl development and enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry and environmental protection through cooperative efforts among state and local governments and land trusts. Protection is provided through the acquisition of easements and fee estates from willing landowners and the supporting activities of Rural Legacy Sponsors and local governments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/land/Documents/RuralLegacy/rlp_grants_manual_april_2009.pdf

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST (MHT)

The Maryland Historical Trust is the state agency dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. Through research, conservation and education, the Maryland Historical Trust assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage. Part of the Maryland Department of Planning, the Maryland Historical Trust serves as Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ALL MHT PROGRAMS, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov



African American Heritage Preservation Program

The African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP) was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 2010 to provide capital grants to assist in the preservation of buildings, sites, or communities of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland. The AAHPP is administered as a partnership between the Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC).

The AAHPP provides grants of up to \$100,000 per project per year. All applicants except for nonprofit organizations are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/grants_africanamerican.shtml

Historic Preservation Capital Grant Program

The Capital Grant Program promotes the acquisition, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic properties in Maryland. Eligible properties are limited to those which are listed on or eligible for the Maryland Register, either individually or as a contributing structure within a district.

The program provides grants of up to \$100,000 per project per year. All applicants except for nonprofit organizations are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/grants_capital.shtml

Certified Local Government Program (CLG)

The Certified Local Government Program recognizes counties and municipalities that have made a special commitment to preservation. This commitment includes, but is not limited to, establishing a qualified historic preservation commission to designate and review historic properties. MHT awards 10% of its annual allocation from the federal Historic Preservation Fund via sub-grants to CLG projects and educational opportunities each year.

CLGs may request up to \$1,000 for Historic Preservation Commissioner and staff training each year. CLGs may request up to \$25,000 for non-capital projects that advance the CLG's efforts to protect and preserve historic, archaeological and cultural resources. Individual awards generally range from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/grants_clg.shtml

Cultural Resources Hazard Mitigation Planning Program

The Maryland Historical Trust's Cultural Resources Hazard Mitigation Planning Program is aimed at protecting historic places, archaeological sites, and cultural landscapes from the effects of natural hazards, such as flooding, wind, and coastal erosion.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/grants_hazardmitigation.shtml

Historic Preservation Loan Program for Capital Projects

The Maryland Historical Trust Historic Preservation Loan Program was established by the General Assembly in 1973 as a vehicle to encourage the preservation of historic properties statewide.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/loans.shtml

Maryland Heritage Areas Program

The Maryland Heritage Areas Program provides dollar-for-dollar matching grants to nonprofit organizations and government entities for capital and non-capital projects located within a Certified Heritage Area.

Non-Capital grants range from \$5,000 up to \$50,000, and Capital grants range from \$5,000 up to \$100,000. Eligible projects must have a heritage tourism component or contribute to research that will directly inform a heritage tourism product.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas.shtml

Non-Capital Historic Preservation Project Grants

Non-Capital grants are available to nonprofit organizations and local governments for research, survey, planning and educational activities involving architectural, archaeological or cultural resources.

Individual Non-Capital grant awards generally range from \$5,000 to \$75,000. The maximum Non-Capital grant award is \$75,000. Applicants are encouraged to include itemized components, especially on large projects. For grants to local jurisdictions, a dollar-for-dollar match is required of the grant recipient.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/grants_noncap.shtml



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE BOND BILLS

The Maryland General Assembly is empowered by the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) to assist those requesting funding from the General Assembly for capital projects through the submission of bond bills. The manual provides a summary of the basic eligibility requirements and evaluation criteria, the legislative process, and the schedule for bond bill consideration by the General Assembly.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

mgaleg.maryland.gov/pubs-current/current-bond-bill-submission-guidelines.pdf

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS (NEA)

Our Town Grants

Organizations may apply for creative place-making projects that contribute to the livability of communities and through strategies that leverage arts, culture, and/or design toward achieving community goals. The Our Town program offers support for projects in two areas:

Projects in Arts Engagement, Cultural Planning, and Design. These projects should represent the distinct character and quality of their communities. These projects require a partnership between a nonprofit organization and a local government entity, with one of the partners being a cultural organization. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000.

Projects that build knowledge about creative place-making. These projects are available to arts and design service organizations, and industry, policy, or university organizations that provide technical assistance to those doing place-based work. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.arts.gov/grants/apply-grant/grants-organizations

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH)

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is an independent federal agency created in 1965. It is one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States. NEH serves and strengthens our republic by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans. The Endowment accomplishes this mission by awarding grants for top-rated proposals examined by panels of independent, external reviewers. NEH grants typically go to cultural institutions, such as museums, archives, libraries, colleges, universities, public television, and radio stations, and to individual scholars.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.neh.gov

Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants

The mission of this Challenge Grants program is to strengthen the institutional base of the humanities by enabling infrastructure development and capacity building. Grants aim to help institutions secure long-term support for their core activities and expand efforts to preserve and create access to outstanding humanities materials. Applications are welcome from colleges and universities, museums, public libraries, research institutions, historical societies and historic sites, scholarly associations, state humanities councils, and other nonprofit humanities entities. Grant awards range from \$1 to \$750,000

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/infrastructure-and-capacity-building-challenge-grants

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

Preservation Assistance Grants help small and mid-sized institutions—such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, cultural organizations, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities—improve their ability to preserve and care for their significant humanities collections.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-assistance-grants-smaller-institutions

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

The Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections program helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting sustainable conservation measures that mitigate deterioration, prolong the useful life of collections, and support institutional resilience: the ability to anticipate and respond to natural and man-made disasters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/sustaining-cultural-heritage-collections

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately funded nonprofit organization, works to save America's historic places. The Trust's mission is to protect significant places representing our diverse cultural experience by taking direct action and inspiring broad public support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATIONAL TRUST, PLEASE VISIT:

savingplaces.org



Bartus Trew Providence Preservation Fund

Grants from the Bartus Trew Providence Preservation Fund are designed to encourage preservation at the local level by providing money for the acquisition, maintenance, and preservation of historic landmarks and memorials on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. These grants enable local groups to respond proactively to a preservation challenge by providing funding for property acquisition, bricks-and-mortar preservation, and technical assistance, while building public awareness of the value of preserving the Eastern Shore's unique heritage. The late Bartus Trew, a long-time resident of Chestertown, Maryland, and owner of historic Providence Plantation, provided a generous gift to the National Trust for Historic Preservation which established the Bartus Trew Providence Preservation Fund.

Approximately \$70,000 is available annually for awards. Grant applications in the range of \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be accepted.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

forum.savingplaces.org/build/funding/grant-seekers/specialprograms/bartus-trew

Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors

The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors provides nonprofit organizations and public agencies grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 to assist in the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

forum.savingplaces.org/build/funding/grant-seekers/specialprograms/cynthia-woods-mitchell-fund

National Trust Preservation Funds

The National Trust Preservation Funds include funds that provide two types of assistance to nonprofit organizations and public agencies: matching grants from \$500 to \$5,000 for preservation planning and educational efforts, and intervention funds for preservation emergencies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

forum.savingplaces.org/build/funding/grant-seekers/preservation-funds

Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation

The Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation provides nonprofit organizations and public agencies grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 for projects that contribute to the preservation or the recapture of an authentic sense of place.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

forum.savingplaces.org/build/funding/grant-seekers/specialprograms/favrot-fund

Peter H. Brink Leadership Fund

The Peter H. Brink Leadership Fund helps to build the capacity of existing preservation organizations and encourages collaboration among these organizations by providing grants for mentoring and other peer-to-peer and direct organizational development and learning opportunities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

forum.savingplaces.org/build/funding/grant-seekers/specialprograms/brink-fund

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park Service (NPS) is a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Since 1916, the National Park Service has been entrusted with the care of national parks in the United State. The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service safeguards these special places and shares their stories with more than 275 million visitors every year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nps.gov/index.htm

American Battlefield Protection Program – Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) promotes the preservation of significant historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil. The goals of the program are to protect battlefields and sites associated with armed conflicts that influenced the course of our history, to encourage and assist all Americans in planning for the preservation, management, and interpretation of these sites, and to raise awareness of the importance of preserving battlefields and related sites for future generations.

One way that ABPP meets its mission is through Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants that are awarded to state and local governments seeking fee simple acquisition of eligible Revolutionary War, War of 1812, or Civil War battlefield land, or for the acquisition of permanent, protective interests and easements in Revolutionary War, War of 1812, or Civil War battlefield land.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nps.gov/abpp/grants/grants.htm



Save America's Treasures Grants

The Federal Save America's Treasures (SAT) grants program began in 1999 and helps preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections that convey our nation's rich heritage to future generations of Americans. Since 1999, grants funds totaling \$315,152,000 was awarded to 1,287 recipients.

SAT grants provide preservation and/or conservation assistance to nationally significant historic properties and collections. Grants will be awarded through a competitive process and require a dollar-for-dollar, non-Federal match, which can be cash or documented in-kind.

Resources must be either individually listed as a National Historic Landmark or on the National Register of Historic places or contributing to a National Historic Landmark or National Register district.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nps.gov/preservation-grants/sat

PRESERVATION MARYLAND

Since 1931, Preservation Maryland has worked to protect the places, stories and communities in Maryland that matter. As a nonprofit organization, it works with partners across the state to accomplish this important mission and protect the best of Maryland. The organization is dedicated to preserving Maryland's historic buildings, neighborhoods, landscapes and archaeological resources through outreach, funding, education and advocacy.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT PRESERVATION MARYLAND'S WORK AND PROGRAMS, PLEASE VISIT:

preservationmaryland.org

Heritage Fund Grant Program

The Heritage Fund grant program is a cooperative effort of Preservation Maryland and the Maryland Historical Trust to provide direct assistance for the protection of historical and cultural resources in Maryland. The program supports innovative and demonstrative projects that can be successfully replicated to meet Maryland's historic preservation needs.

Applicants must be nonprofit organizations or municipal entities and historic sites, buildings, districts, objects, and archaeological resources are all eligible for funding. Eligible projects fall into three general categories: education and research, planning and feasibility, and repair and rehabilitation. This is a reimbursable grant program where the minimum grant is \$1,000 and the maximum grant is \$10,000 with two funding rounds per year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.preservationmaryland.org/programs/heritage-fund-grants

RURAL MARYLAND COUNCIL

The Rural Maryland Council (RMC) brings together citizens, community-based organizations, federal, state, county and municipal government officials as well as representatives of the for-profit and nonprofit sectors to collectively address the needs of Rural Maryland communities. RMC provides a venue for members of agriculture and natural resource-based industries, health care facilities, educational institutions, economic and community development organizations, for-profit and nonprofit corporations, and government agencies to cross traditional boundaries, share information, and address in a more holistic way the special needs and opportunities in Rural Maryland.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RMC, PLEASE VISIT:
rural.maryland.gov

Pemberton Hall

The Pemberton Hall Foundation stewards the ca. 1741 main house and surrounding property as a way to preserve and interpret Maryland's colonial history.

Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund Grant

MAERDAF grants supports small and agricultural businesses with enhanced training and technical assistance, and rural nonprofit organizations that promote statewide and regional planning, economic and community development, and agricultural and forestry education. The historic maximum grant amount is \$30,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

rural.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2013/10/MAERDAF-FY2018-Guidelines-and-Criteria.pdf

Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund Grant

The Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund supports the Rural Maryland Council's activities and the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) which provides capacity-building funds to rural nonprofit service providers. It also supports the states' five regional councils, regional infrastructure projects, rural entrepreneurship development, rural community development, and rural health care organizations. The average grant amount awarded in FY 2017 was \$46,305.62.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

rural.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2013/10/FY17-RMPIF-Report-to-GA.pdf

SOUTHERN MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (SMADC)

SMADC provides vision, support and research in terms of education, grants, marketing and promotion as it incubates new farm and food industries. As new farm economies are being formed, SMADC helps to streamline regulations and reduce obstacles. With Maryland FarmLINK, SMADC is building an online farming community to share ideas, announce training opportunities, provide resources, and be a source for selling, leasing, and or farming land in the state.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

smadc.com/index.html

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Certified Development Company Guaranteed Loan Program - Section 504 Loans

These guaranteed loans can be used for modernizing, renovating, or converting existing small business facilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/loans-grants

Small Business Guaranteed Loans - Section 7(a) Loans

These guaranteed loans can be used for renovation of business facilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/loans-grants

TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR WESTERN MARYLAND

State Lottery Terminal Fund (SLoT)

The State Lottery Terminal Fund, under Maryland law, provides for 1.5% of the proceeds generated from video lottery terminals or slots to be contributed to the SLoT account to be distributed to small, minority and women-owned businesses. At least 50% of the SLoT allocations will be deployed to targeted businesses located within a 10 mile radius of the five casinos—Hollywood Casino Perryville, Ocean Downs in Worcester County, Maryland Live! in Anne Arundel County, Rocky Gap Casino in Allegany County, and Horseshoe Casino in Baltimore City. The other 50% will be available to small, minority and women-owned businesses located throughout Maryland. Loan amounts range from \$10,000 to \$500,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.tccwmd.org/programs/summit-financing-solutions/slot-fund.html

Western Maryland Revolving Loan Fund

The Western Maryland Revolving Loan Fund Program is a pool of money granted by federal and state entities for the purpose of making loans to save or create jobs. Borrowers repay loans and the money is returned to the RLF to make other loans. In that manner, the RLF becomes an ongoing or revolving financial tool. Loan amounts range from \$10,000 to \$400,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.tccwmd.org/programs/summit-financing-solutions/revolving-loan-fund.html

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
- RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Business & Industry Loan Guarantees

This program bolsters the availability of private credit by guaranteeing loans for rural businesses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees/de

Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/de

CHARLES
COUNTY

Mount Aventine

This mid-19th century manor house, with an historic view of the Potomac River, is located in Chapman State Park and open to visitors.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

This program pays landowners for grass and/or tree buffers around wetlands. Payments can be substantial and are for permanent or 5 to 15-year periods.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[*www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/index*](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/index)

Farm Service Agency Farm Loans

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution, or other lender. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed, and supplies. Loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[*www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index*](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index)

Multi-Family Housing Loan Guarantees

The program works with qualified private-sector lenders to provide financing to qualified borrowers to increase the supply of affordable rental housing for Low-to Moderate-Income individuals and families in eligible rural areas and towns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[*www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/multi-family-housing-loan-guarantees/de*](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/multi-family-housing-loan-guarantees/de)

Rural Business Development Grants

This program is a competitive grant designed to support targeted technical assistance, training and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small and emerging private businesses in rural areas which will employ 50 or fewer new employees and has less than \$1 million in gross revenue. Programmatic activities are separated into enterprise or opportunity type grant activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[*www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants/de*](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants/de)

Single Family Housing Direct Home Loans

Also known as the Section 502 Direct Loan Program, this program assists low- and very-low-income applicants obtain safe and sanitary housing in eligible rural areas by providing payment assistance to increase an applicant's repayment ability. Payment assistance is a type of subsidy that reduces the mortgage payment for a short time. The amount of assistance is determined by the adjusted family income.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[*www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-direct-home-loans/de*](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-direct-home-loans/de)



Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program

This program assists approved lenders in providing Low-to Moderate-Income households the opportunity to own adequate and safe and sanitary dwellings as their primary residence in eligible rural areas. Eligible applicants may build, rehabilitate, improve or relocate a dwelling in an eligible rural area. The program provides a 90% loan note guarantee to approved lenders in order to reduce the risk of extending 100% loans to eligible rural homebuyers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-guaranteed-loan-program/de

Single Family Housing Repair Loans & Grants

Also known as the Section 504 Home Repair program, this provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve or modernize their homes or grants to elderly very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants/de

Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program

This program provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/de

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)

This program provides a 75% cost share for establishing a minimum 1 acre wildlife habitat. It also provides cost share for spraying Phragmites in wetlands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/whip/

Wetland Reserve Program

This federal program pays landowners to restore and/or create wetlands on their property. Easements on wetlands are for 30 years or permanent. Additional moneys from private sources may also pay for wetlands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/wetlands/

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

This program can be used for easement purchases of tidal wetlands and associated uplands for acquisition, restoration or enhancement of wetlands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalGrants



HARFORD
COUNTY

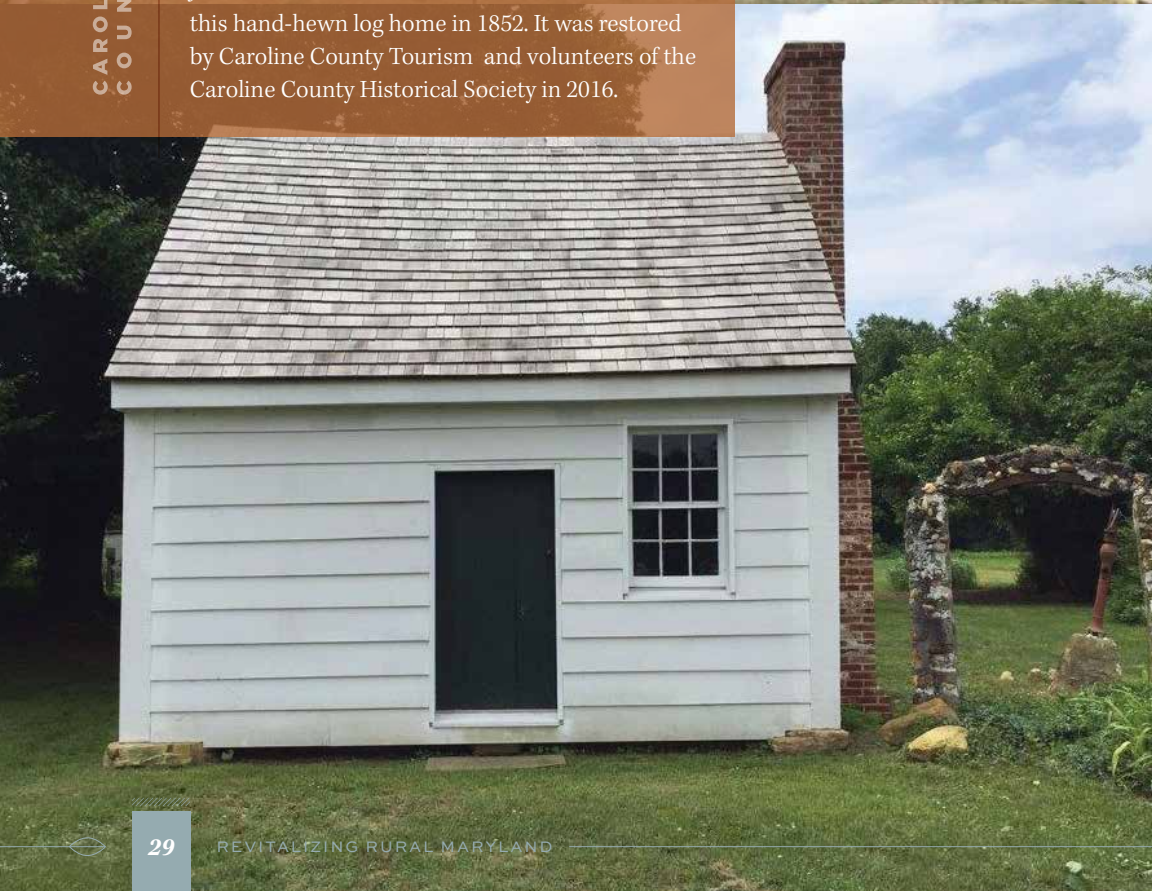
Liriodendron

This ca. 1835 Palladian mansion was built in Bel Air for a founding member of the Johns Hopkins Medical College and is now an events facility.



Webb Cabin

James Webb, a free African-American farmer, built this hand-hewn log home in 1852. It was restored by Caroline County Tourism and volunteers of the Caroline County Historical Society in 2016.



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Brownfields Tax Incentive

The Brownfields Tax Incentive provides incentives including tax credits, loans and grants for the redevelopment of eligible brownfield properties in participating jurisdictions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/brownsfields-tax-credit

Maryland Wineries and Vineyards Tax Credit

This program provides an income tax credit for qualified capital expenses related to a Maryland winery or vineyard.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/wineries-and-vineyards-tax-credit

One Maryland Tax Credit

Businesses that invest in an economic development project in a qualified distressed county and create at least 25 new full-time jobs may qualify for up to \$5.5 million in state income tax credits. Qualified distressed counties are Allegany, Dorchester, Somerset, Worcester. Project tax credits of up to \$5 million are based on qualifying costs incurred in connection with the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation and installation of a project. Start-up tax credits of up to \$500,000 are available for the expense of moving a business from outside Maryland and for the costs of furnishing and equipping the new location in Maryland. The credit can be carried forward 14 years and is refundable, subject to certain limitations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/one-maryland-tax-credit

Research and Development Tax Credit

Businesses that have qualified R&D expenditures in Maryland may qualify for two state income tax credits; the Basic R&D Tax Credit and the Growth R&D Tax Credit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

commerce.maryland.gov/fund/programs-for-businesses/research-and-development-tax-credit



Clean Energy Production Tax Credit

The Clean Energy Production Businesses Tax Credit offers Marylanders a state income tax credit for electricity generated by qualified resources of \$.85/kwh, and \$.50/kwh for electricity generated from co-firing a qualified resource with coal. These credits can be claimed over a period of five years. Annual tax credits cannot exceed one fifth of the initial credit certificate issued by the Maryland Energy Administration.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/Incentives/CleanEnergyTaxCredit.aspx

MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION - RESIDENTIAL

Bioheat Tax Credit Program

The statute provides for a \$.03/gallon tax credit up to \$500 for individuals and corporations that purchase bio-heating oil for the purpose of space and water heating. The statute defines bio-heating oil as at least 5% biodiesel derived from the Environmental Protection Agency Approved Feedstocks or accepted under 42 U.S.C. 7545(o) as per the U.S. EPA Renewable Fuel Standard 2 (RFS2) and the accompanying regulations under 40 C.F.R. Part 80 for diesel fuel replacement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/incentives/bioheatGrant.aspx

Energy Storage Tax Credit Program

The program is designed to encourage the deployment of energy storage systems in Maryland. The program is available to eligible residential and commercial taxpayers who have installed a qualifying energy storage system on their residential or commercial property in Maryland. The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) may award up to \$750,000 in energy storage tax credits on a first come, first served basis while funding is available. MEA is currently reserving \$225,000 for residential taxpayers and \$525,000 for commercial taxpayers. If either of the reserved funding allocations become oversubscribed, eligible applicants will be placed onto a waitlist as long as funding remains in the other funding allocation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

energy.maryland.gov/business/Pages/EnergyStorage.aspx

Conservation Easement Program - Conservation Property Tax Credit

This program encourages the donation of conservation easements and gives participating landowners, a 15 year property tax credit on unimproved land under easement to the Maryland Environmental Trust. Conservation easements generate credits against state income tax liability. Credits are more powerful incentives than deductions because they represent a direct offset against tax due rather than a reduction of the income against which tax is assessed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/tax_benefits.aspx

Conservation Easement Program - State Income Tax Credit

This program encourages the donation of conservation easements and gives landowners a state income tax credit in return for the donation of easement to the Maryland Environmental Trust or the Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation

The maximum credit is \$5,000 per year. The remainder of the credit based on the appraised value of the easement, may be carried forward for up to 15 years for a maximum credit of \$80,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/met/Documents/PDFs/taxbenefits_info.pdf

Forest Conservation Program

This program works to minimize the loss of Maryland's forest resources during land development by making the identification and protection of forests and other sensitive areas an integral part of the site planning process. Landowners must agree to manage their forest land according to a management plan that is prepared for the property. Land in the agreement is generally reduced and frozen at a low agricultural rate. The Forest Conservation and Management Agreement (FCMA) establishes the length of the agreement and the responsibilities of both the owner and the Department of Natural Resources. The FCMA must be drawn up for a minimum of 15 years; it can be extended. A memorandum of the FCMA and any subsequent changes are recorded at the county courthouse.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programapps/fcmp.aspx



Maryland Income Tax Modification for Reforestation & Timber Stand Improvement

This program provides a modification to personal income taxes for initiating forest management practices such as timber stand improvement and reforestation. Applicant must own between 10 and 500 acres of forest land. Practices may qualify for deducting double the cost from their state tax liability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programapps/tax.aspx

Tree-Mendous Maryland

This program encourages Marylanders to plant, care for and maintain trees to help restore and protect the natural environment, in particular, our greatest natural resource, the Chesapeake Bay. Donations of the purchase of native trees for public land planting to the program through Gift of Trees or otherwise can be claimed as a tax deduction.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/treemendous/default.aspx

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Maryland Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program

The Maryland Historical Trust is the state agency dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. Through research, conservation and education, the Maryland Historical Trust assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage. Part of the Maryland Department of Planning, the Maryland Historical Trust serves as Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Maryland Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program

For the past 17 years this state tax credit program has played a key role in community revitalization by supporting the rehabilitation and reuse of underutilized historic properties across the state. The program is credited with rehabilitating about 4,400 historic buildings and creating some 25,000 jobs since its implementation in 1996. The state's investment of about \$350 million has reached into all of Maryland's 23 counties and the City of Baltimore.

In Maryland, owners of certified historic structures are potentially eligible for to earn a 20 percent state income tax credit on qualified rehabilitation expenditures. Known collectively as the Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit program, there are three specific historic rehabilitation tax credits currently available in Maryland:

Homeowner Tax Credit: This credit is for owner-occupied historic homes. Homeowners are potentially eligible for a state income tax credit equal to 20 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenditures. The credit is capped at \$50,000 in a 24-month period and must have a minimum of \$5,000 of eligible expenses to qualify. These credits are also refundable. This is a true tax credit and there is currently no limit to the amount of homeowner tax credits available in any given year.

Small Commercial Tax Credit: This rehab tax credit is designed for smaller commercial projects like Main Street-sized projects. Small commercial rehabilitations are defined as projects that do not exceed \$500,000 in total qualified rehabilitation expenses and are not used for more than 75 percent residential rental purposes. The credit is capped at \$50,000 in a 24-month period and must have a minimum of \$5,000 of eligible expenses to qualify. This program is currently capped at \$4 million worth of tax credits available per year.

Competitive Commercial Tax Credit: Larger, income-producing, commercial rehab projects are potentially eligible to earn a state income tax credit that is equal to 20 percent of eligible rehabilitation expenses for substantial rehabilitation projects capped at \$3 million per project. Substantial rehabilitation projects are defined as projects with eligible expenses that exceed the greater of the adjusted basis value of the structure or \$25,000. These highly competitive tax credits are annually appropriated and are currently capped at \$9 million available for the entire state for the fiscal year.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS)

20% Rehabilitation Tax Credit

The Federal historic preservation tax incentives program (the 20% credit) is jointly administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Department of the Treasury. The 20% rehabilitation tax credit applies to any project that the Secretary of the Interior designates a certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. The 20% credit is available for properties rehabilitated for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but it is not available for properties used exclusively as the owner's private residence.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/about-tax-incentives-2012.pdf



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES

MARYLAND PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (MD-PTAC)

MD-PTAC opened its doors in 2002 in an effort to assist the Defense Logistics Agency's Procurement Technical Assistance Program in expanding the number of businesses capable of participating in government contracting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.mdptac.org

NATIONAL BARN ALLIANCE

The National Barn Alliance is a national nonprofit organization coordinating preservation efforts to save America's historic barns. The mission of the organization is to provide national leadership for the preservation of America's historic barns and rural heritage through education, documentation, conservation, and networking. The Alliance offers a number of publications and a barn repair and rehabilitation toolkit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

barnalliance.org

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Technical Preservation Services

The National Park Service through their Technical Preservation Services develops historic preservation policy and guidance on preserving and rehabilitating historic buildings, administers the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program for rehabilitating historic buildings, and sets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Available online are dozens of case studies, Preservation Briefs and Preservation Technical Notes about specific treatments to historic properties.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

<https://www.nps.gov/tps/education/online-pubs.htm>

PRESERVATION MARYLAND

Since 1931, Preservation Maryland has worked to protect the places, stories and communities in Maryland that matter. As a nonprofit organization, it works with partners across the state to accomplish this important mission and protect the best of Maryland. The organization is dedicated to preserving Maryland's historic

buildings, neighborhoods, landscapes and archaeological resources through outreach, funding, education and advocacy.

Preservation Maryland provides services across the state in the following ways: technical assistance to property owners, organizations, and municipalities; administering the Heritage Fund Grant Program (page 21); increasing capacity of regional organizations; engaging in planning issues; assisting grassroots efforts; supporting government agencies; and providing resources and fostering dialogue.

TO CONTACT PRESERVATION MARYLAND, PLEASE VISIT:

preservationmaryland.org/contact

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

The Maryland Historical Trust is the state agency dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. MHT staff provides consultation to parties applying for state historic preservation grants (page 15) and historic tax credits (page 33).

FOR A MHT STAFF DIRECTORY, PLEASE VISIT:

mht.maryland.gov/stafflist.shtml

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

ACEP provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. Under the Agricultural Land Easements component, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps American Indian tribes, state and local governments and non-governmental organizations protect working agricultural lands and limit non-agricultural uses of the land. Under the Wetlands Reserve Easements component, NRCS helps to restore, protect and enhance enrolled wetlands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep/

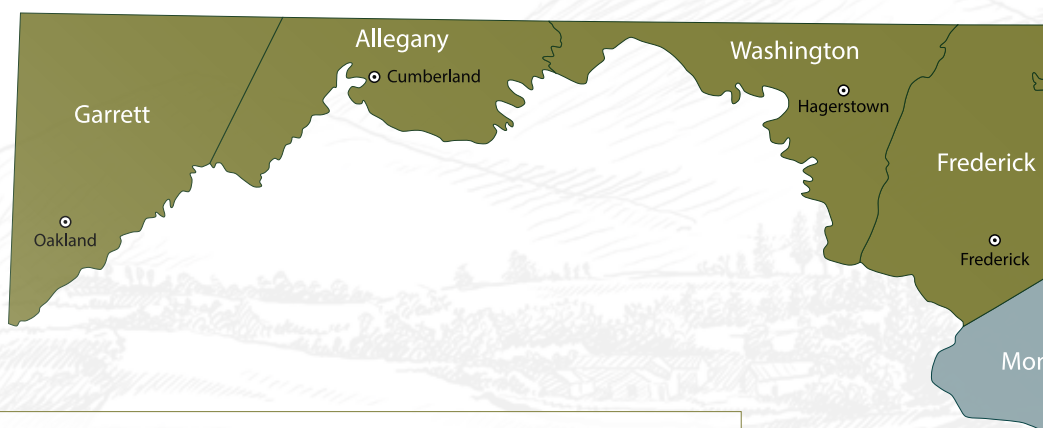
Maryland Conservation Planning Resources

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's principal agency for providing conservation technical assistance to private landowners, conservation districts, tribes, and other organizations. NRCS delivers conservation technical assistance through its voluntary Conservation Technical Assistance Program (CTA). CTA is available to any group or individual interested in conserving our natural resources and sustaining agricultural production in this country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/md/technical/cp/?cid=nrcs144p2_025660





OFFICIAL RURAL MARYLAND COUNTIES

In Maryland, eighteen of the state's twenty-four counties are defined as rural counties. Rural jurisdictions share common characteristics that set them apart from their suburban and urban counterparts with specific economic, conservation, and preservation needs. This resource guide was prepared by Preservation Maryland with the support of the Rural Maryland Council to assist Maryland's rural property owners identify resources to sustain and support Maryland's rural economies, landscapes, and historic resources.

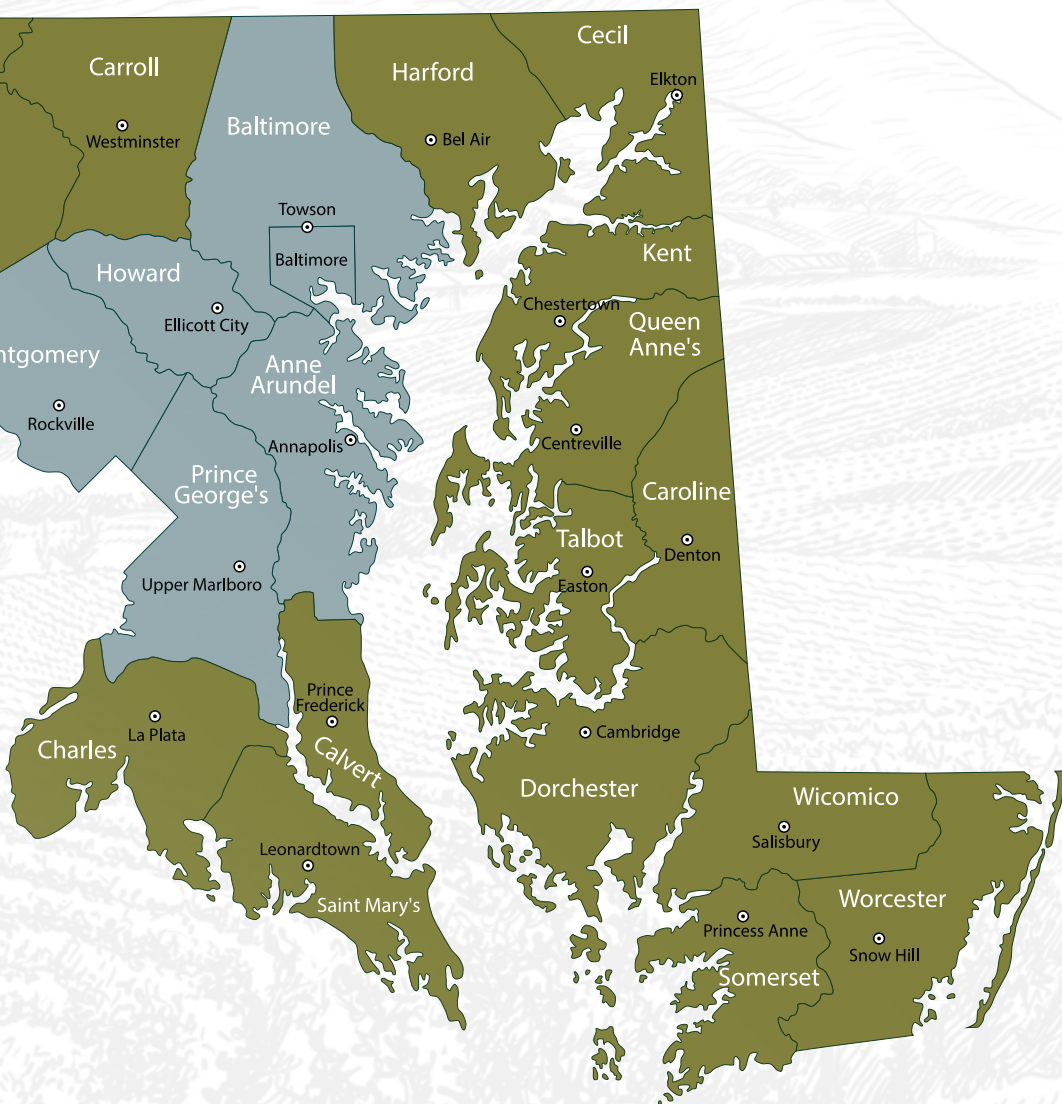
MAP KEY:



Rural Maryland Counties



Suburban/Urban Maryland Counties



COUNTY SPECIFIC RESOURCES

ALLEGANY COUNTY

Allegheny County Historical Society

info@gordon-robertshouse.com
(301) 777-8678

Gordon-Roberts House
218 Washington Street
Cumberland, MD 21502

gordon-robertshouse.com/historical-society

Allegheny County Department of Economic and Community Development

(301) 777-5967

701 Kelly Road
Cumberland, MD 21502

alleganyworks.org

Cumberland Historic Preservation Commission

(301) 759-6442

City Hall
57 North Liberty Street
Cumberland, MD 21502

Frostburg Historic District Commission

(301) 689-6000

P.O. Box 440
31 Broadway
Frostburg, MD 21532

CALVERT COUNTY

Calvert County Historic District Commission

(410) 535-1600

City Services Plaza Building
150 Main Street
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Calvert County Historical Society

cchadmin@calverthistory.org
(410) 535-2452

70 Church Street
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

www.calverthistory.org

Calvert County Office of Economic Development

info@ecalvert.com
(410) 535-4583

Courthouse Square
205 Main Street, Second Floor
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

www.co.cal.md.us

North Beach Historic Preservation Commission

(410) 257-9618

P.O. Box 99
North Beach, MD 20714

CAROLINE COUNTY

Caroline County Historical Society

Museum of Rural Life
info@carolinehistory.org
(410) 479-2055

16 North Second Street
Denton, MD 21629

www.carolinehistory.org

Denton Historical and Architectural Review Commission

(410) 479-3625

Town Hall
4 North Second Street
Denton, MD 21629

Ridgely Historic District Commission

ridgely@dmv.com
P.O. Box 710
1 West Railroad Avenue
Ridgely, MD 21660

CARROLL COUNTY

Carroll County Economic Development

(410) 386-2070

225 North Center Street, Suite 101
Westminster, MD 21157

carrollbiz.org

Carroll County Historic District Commission

(410) 386-2030
225 North Center Street
Westminster, MD 21157

Historical Society of Carroll County

(410) 848-6494 ext. 200
210 East Main Street
Westminster, MD 21157

hsccmd.org

Sykesville Historic District Commission

town@sykesville.net
(410) 795-8959
7547 Main Street
Sykesville, MD 21784

Westminster Historic District Commission Planning and Development

(410) 848-9000
56 West Main Street, Suite 1
Westminster, MD 21158

CECIL COUNTY

Cecil County Historic District Commission Planning and Zoning

(410) 996-5220
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Suite 2300
Elkton, MD 21921

Cecil County Office of Economic Development

(410) 996-8465
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Suite 2700
Elkton, MD 21921
www.ccgov.org/government/economic-development

Charlestown Historic District Commission

(410) 287-6173
P.O. Box 52
241 Market Street
Charlestown, MD 21914

Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

(410) 885-5298
Town Hall
P.O. Box 205
108 Bohemia Avenue
Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Elkton Historic Architectural Review Committee

(410) 398-4999
100 Railroad Avenue
Elkton, MD 21921

Historical Society of Cecil County

(410) 398-1790
135 East Main Street
Elkton, MD 21921
cecilhistory.org/index.html

Port Deposit Historic Area Preservation Commission

townhall@portdeposit.org
(410) 378-2121
Town Hall
64 South Main Street
Port Deposit, MD 21904

CHARLES COUNTY

Charles County Department of Economic Development

(301) 885-1340
10665 Stanhaven Place, Suite 206
White Plains, MD 20695
www.meetcharlescounty.com

Charles County Historic Preservation Commission

(301) 396-5815
Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management
P.O. Box 2150
La Plata, MD 20646

Historical Society of Charles County

info@charlescountyhistorical.org
P.O. Box 2806
La Plata, MD 20646
www.charlescountyhistorical.org

La Plata Historic District Commission

(301) 934-8421
P.O. Box 2268
305 Queen Anne Street
La Plata, MD 20646

DORCHESTER COUNTY

Cambridge Historic Preservation Commission

(410) 228-1955
1025 Washington Street
Cambridge, MD 21613

Dorchester County Economic Development Office

info@choosedorchester.org
(410) 228-0155
104 Tech Park Drive
Cambridge, MD 21613
choosedorchester.org

Dorchester County Historical Society

dchs@verizon.net
(410) 228-7953
Museums & Gardens of Dorchester County
1003 Greenway Drive
Cambridge, MD 21613
www.dorchesterhistory.com

East New Market Historic District Commission

enmtownhall@gmail.com
(410) 943-8112
P.O. Box 24
East New Market, MD 21631

FREDERICK COUNTY

Frederick City Historic Preservation Commission

(301) 600-1499
City Hall Board Room
101 North Court Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Frederick County Historic Preservation Commission

(301) 600-1102
Winchester Hall
12 East Church Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Frederick County Office of Economic Development

info@discoverfrederickmd.com
(301) 600-1058
118 North Market Street
Frederick, MD 21701
www.discoverfrederickmd.com

Historical Society of Frederick County

(301) 663-1188
24 East Church Street
Frederick, MD 21701
www.frederickhistory.org

New Market Historic Preservation Commission

hdc-arc.chair@townofnewmarket.org
(301) 865-5544
Town Hall
39 West Main Street
New Market, MD 21774

GARRETT COUNTY

Garrett County Department of Economic Development

economicdevelopment@garrettcountry.org
(301) 334-1921
Frederick A. Thayer III Courthouse
203 South Fourth Street, Room 208
Oakland, MD 21550
www.gcedonline.com

Garrett County Historical Society

info@garrettcountrymuseums.com
(301) 324-3226

107 South Second Street
Oakland, MD 21550

[www.garrettcountrymuseums.com/
historicalsociety.html](http://www.garrettcountrymuseums.com/historicalsociety.html)

HARFORD COUNTY

Bel Air Historic Preservation Commission

(410) 638-4550
705 Churchville Road
Bel Air, MD 21014

Harford County Community & Economic Development

(410) 638-3045
15 S. Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
(410) 638-3059
2021-D Pulaski Highway
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
[www.harfordcountymd.gov/2474/Community-
Economic-Development](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/2474/Community-Economic-Development)

Harford County Historic Preservation Commission

zoning@harfordcountymd.gov
(410) 638-3103
220 South Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014

Havre de Grace Historic District Commission

(410) 939-1800
711 Pennington Avenue
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

Historical Society of Harford County

info@harfordhistory.org
(410) 838-7691
143 North Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
www.harfordhistory.org

KENT COUNTY

Chestertown Historic District Commission

office@chestertown.com
(410) 778-0500

118 North Cross Street
Chestertown, MD 21620

Historical Society of Kent County

director@kentcountyhistory.org
(410) 778-3499
P.O. Box 665
301 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620
www.kentcountyhistory.org

Kent County Historic Preservation Commission

(410) 778-7474
400 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21260

Kent County Office of Economic Development

econdev@kentgov.org
410-810-2168
400 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620
www.kentcounty.com/business

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

qachsociety@gmail.com
(410) 449-0092
P.O. Box 62
Tucker House
124 South Commerce Street
Centreville, MD 21617
www.qachistory.org



SOMERSET COUNTY

Princess Anne Historic District Commission

(410) 651-1818

Town Hall
11786 Beckford Avenue
Princess Anne, MD 21853

Somerset County Historical Society

moreinfo@somersetcountyhistoricalsociety.org
(410) 651-2238

Teackle Mansion
P.O. Box 181
11736 Mansion Street
Princess Anne, MD 21853

www.somersetcountyhistoricalsociety.org

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development

(301) 475-4200 ext. 1400
23115 Leonard Hall Drive
Leonardtown, MD 20650
www.co.saint-marys.md.us/ded

St. Mary's County Historic Preservation Commission

(301) 475-4200 ext. 1549
P.O. Box 653
23150 Leonard Hall Drive
Leonardtown, MD 20650

St. Mary's County Historical Society

smchsdirector@md.metrocast.net
(301) 475-2467
Tudor Hall Tudor Hall
P. O. Box 212
41680 Tudor Place
Leonardtown, MD 20650 - 0212
stmaryshistory.org

TALBOT COUNTY

Easton Historic District Commission

(410) 822-2525
14 South Harrison Street
Easton, MD 21601

Oxford Historic District Commission

townoffice@goeaston.net
P.O. Box 339
Oxford, MD 21654

St. Michael's Historic District Commission

(410) 745-9535
Town Office
P.O. Box 206
St. Michael's, MD 20650

Talbot County Economic Development

ecodev@talbotcountymd.gov
(410) 770-8174
talbotworks.org

Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission

(410) 770-8030
215 Bay Street, Suite 2
Easton, MD 21601

Talbot Historical Society

(410) 822-0773
Mary Jenkins House
30 South Washington Street
Easton, MD 21601
www.hstc.org

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Hagerstown Historic Preservation Commission

(301) 739-8577 ext. 138
1 East Franklin Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Washington County Department of Economic Development

edcinfo@hagerstowndc.org
(240) 313-2280

100 West Washington Street, Suite 1401
Hagerstown, MD 21740

hagerstowndc.org

Washington County Historic Preservation Commission

Department of Planning and Zoning
(240) 313-2430

100 West Baltimore Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Washington County Historical Society

info@washcomdhistoricalsociety.org
(301) 797-8782

135 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

www.washcomdhistoricalsociety.org

Washington County Historical Trust

info@wchistoricaltrust.org
P.O. Box 2021
Hagerstown, MD 21742

WICOMICO COUNTY

Preservation Trust of Wicomico

(410) 742-4059

P.O. Box 4695
Salisbury, MD 21803

www.preservationtrustwicomico.org/home.html

Salisbury Wicomico Economic Development

(410) 749-1251

One Plaza East Building
100 East Main Street, Suite 501
Salisbury, MD 21801

swed.org

Salisbury Historic District Commission

srobins@salisbury.md
(410) 548-3100

Government Office Building, Room 301
125 North Division Street
Salisbury, MD 21804

Wicomico County Historic District Commission

Government Office Building, Room 301
P.O. Box 870
125 North Division Street
Salisbury, MD 21803

Wicomico County Historical Society

(410) 860-0447

P.O. Box 573
Pemberton Historical Park
Pemberton Drive
Salisbury, MD 21801

WORCESTER COUNTY

Berlin Historic District Commission

(410) 641-4143

Town Hall
10 William Street
Berlin, MD 21811

Snow Hill Historic District Commission

hill@snowhillmd.com
(410) 632-2080

103 Bank Street
Snow Hill, MD 21863

Worcester County Economic Development

chooseworcester@co.worcester.md.us
(410) 632-3112

100 Pearl Street, Suite B
Snow Hill, MD 21863

chooseworcester.org

Worcester County Historical Society

(410) 632-2600

P.O. Box 111
Snow Hill, MD 21863



CASE STUDIES

The following case studies, offer a narrative explanation of some of the projects that have utilized rural-specific funding sources to rehabilitate and operate historic sites, preserve open space, and offer education and interpretation of the rural life in Maryland. The funding amounts are generalized and additional funding may have been associated with each project. For additional information about each project, please contact the primary organization.

BARN AGAIN: EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT AT THE EVERGREEN HERITAGE CENTER

Nestled in the hills of Allegany County, the Evergreen Heritage Center preserves early American history from a time when the first European settlers migrated westward to mountain land rich in natural resources.

On the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties since 1976 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2015, the Evergreen property is historically significant in terms of its contribution to the successful settlement of Western Maryland; beginning circa 1780 when Edward Grimes migrated west from Frederick and built a farm on four 50-acre Military Lots awarded to him for his Revolutionary War service. By 1794, Mr. Grimes was one of the first County Commissioners in the newly formed Allegany County and his son-in-law was operating the area's first sawmill.

Two other County Commissioners subsequently owned the property: William Ridgeley, who filed the first layout of the town of Frostburg and fostered the partnership between the B&O Railroad and the C&O Canal, and George Winter who operated one of the area's first woolen mills and a nearby inn on America's first National Road. After the Civil War, the property was acquired by the Trimble family and became part of one of the area's largest farms at over 1,100 acres, and was given the name Evergreen for the fledgling evergreen trees planted there. All five of these families facilitated the growth of Allegany County, the state of Maryland, and in terms of commerce and transport, the new United nation.

Today, the former property of Edward Grimes serves as the Evergreen Heritage Center. In partnership with local schools, businesses, outreach organizations, and other members of the community, the Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation owns and maintains the building and provides quality hands-on education programs. In 2015 the organization received the Richard A. Johnson Award for education excellence from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. The Center was also honored by the Maryland Department of Planning with a 2015 Maryland Sustainable Growth Award for its work in leveraging an historical property for the benefit of the community while serving as a living example of best practices in conservation and preservation.

The Evergreen Barn retains and displays many of the typical vernacular architectural features of an 18th century Colonial-style bank barn including hand-hewn broad-axed beams and an open forebay. The barn's exterior includes an upper barn with a hay wagon and hand-cranked fanning mill – both of which date to the barn's continued use in the late 1800s. The lower barn was used as stables and historic harnesses still hang on the wall.

Funding

The Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation planned to restore the historic barn to provide new and accessible space for their growing field trip programs (they serve over 4500 school-age children annually) as well as larger all-ages public events. Visits to the Evergreen Heritage Center emphasize experiential education often in the Evergreen Barn itself. The Foundation's vision for the building is to create a multi-purpose structure that will use the lower level barn stables to create a farm museum while using the upper level to provide a rustic venue for classes and events.

Barn Again

The Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation received a Maryland Sustainable Growth Award in 2015 for reusing and utilizing their historical property for the benefit of the community.



Project Phases

Phase I – Assessment: Historic structures consultant Douglass C. Reed, structural engineers from Keast & Hood, and architects from Cho Benn Holback & Associates assessed the structure and worked to determine viable reuse strategies that addresses safety and programming needs, while being sensitive to the fabric of the 200-year-old structure. The estimated cost of this phase was \$51,000.

Phase II – Documentation: Guided by the reports completed in Phase 1, a set of detailed architectural drawings were measured and drafted that illustrates the historic property and recommend repairs and reuse programs. The estimated costs of this phase was \$21,000.

Phase III – Repairs: Following the guidance of the professionals in Phase 1 and the drawings developed in Phase 2, Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation contracted to complete the needed barn repairs and adaptive reuse reprogramming of the space. The estimated costs of this phase was \$304,000.

Funding for the Evergreen Heritage Center was compiled from a wide variety of sources, including: the Appalachian Regional Commission (\$22,000, see page 1), the Community Trust Foundation (\$119,000), Preservation Maryland (\$5,000, see page 21), the Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation (\$168,000), the Rural Maryland Council (\$11,000), and the France-Merrick Foundation (\$50,000).

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EVERGREEN HERITAGE CENTER FOUNDATION AT:
www.evergreenheritagecenter.org

MARYLAND MAIN STREET: HOW THE TOWN OF BERLIN BECAME AMERICA'S COOLEST SMALL TOWN

When you walk down the streets of the Town of Berlin on Maryland's Eastern Shore, you are walking through history. A traditional path used by Assateague and Pocomoke Indians was traced to create Philadelphia Post Road that later became South Main Street. There are over 40 commercial buildings in the Town's National Register Historic District, spanning two centuries of architecture. Today, the Town of Berlin maximizes it's history, historic commercial architecture, and small business offers as a premiere stop for tourists to Maryland's Eastern Shore by implementing the Main Street Program.

The Main Street Maryland Program is a comprehensive downtown revitalization program created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and established in Maryland in 1998 by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The program strives to strengthen the economic potential of Maryland's traditional main streets and neighborhoods. Nationally, Main Street organizations that make up the Main Street Network have rehabbed more than 251,000 buildings, produced \$61.7 billion in investment, and created 528,557 jobs.

Berlin Main Street is a true success story. Residents and visitors walk along tree lined streets past art galleries, antique shops, clothiers, restaurants, and the restored Atlantic Hotel – among many other treasures. Berlin's historic Main Street and special character has been acknowledged by its must-see reputation from Marylanders and tourists alike. In fact, in 2014, Berlin, Maryland was recognized by Budget Travel as the “Coolest Small Town in America.”

Funding

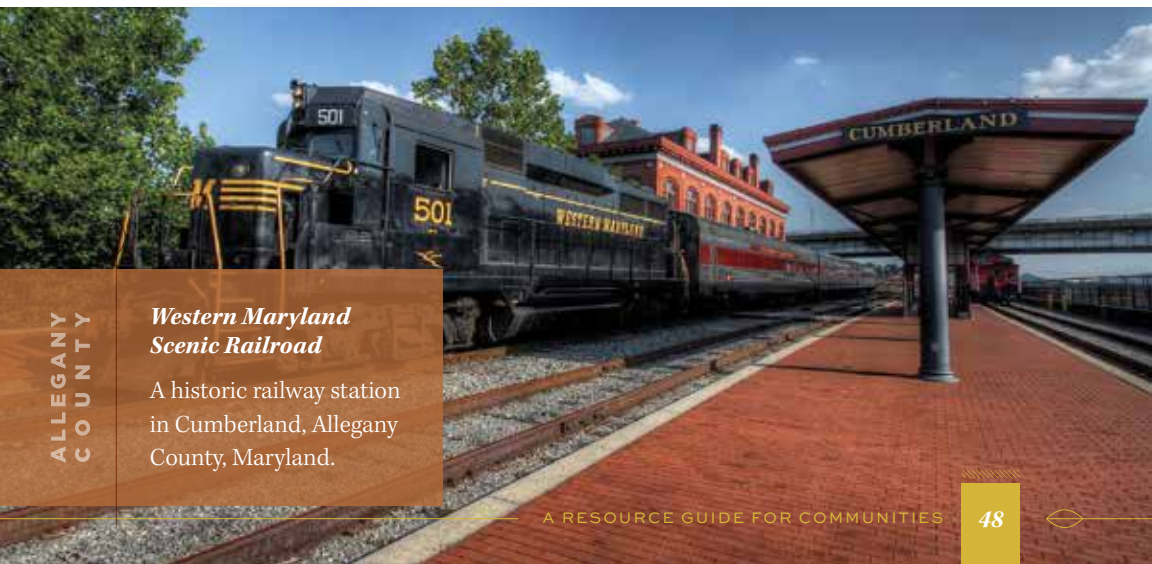
While following the major tenants of the Main Street Program, Berlin is unique in that their Main Street program is run by the Town of Berlin, and not as a private nonprofit. The expenses for Main Street Berlin are worked into the Economic and Community Development budget with additional funding raised by sponsorship and external grants.

In 2017, the Main Street program received approximately \$129,500 worth of funding from a diverse variety of sources, including: a municipal line item (\$72,000) Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Legacy Program (\$50,000, see Page 11); sponsorships (\$7,500); and the Town of Berlin (\$72,000).

LEARN MORE ABOUT BERLIN MAIN STREET AT:
www.berlinmainstreet.com

ON TRACK: HOW THE WESTERN MARYLAND SCENIC RAILROAD FUELS REGIONAL HERITAGE TOURISM

Tucked in the Allegheny Mountains, the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad is a recreational railroad experience that follows the historic main line of the Western Maryland Railway that connected Cumberland, Maryland with Frostburg, Maryland and Connellsville, Pennsylvania.



The Western Maryland Railway was chartered in 1853 by the state of Maryland to compete with the B&O Railroad. The railway was intended to begin in Baltimore and make its way through Cumberland, up to the Pennsylvania border. However, it lacked the capital to reach the targeted Pennsylvania border and by 1899, still had not connected with Cumberland. Fortunately, the railroad fell into the hands of the Gould family, famous for their contributions to many railroads, in 1902, and finally reached Cumberland in 1906. By 1913, the railroad had enough out-of-state capital pouring into its infrastructure which allowed the Western Maryland Railroad to build the grand Cumberland station that still stands today. Ironically, the Western Maryland Railway eventually fell into the hands of the B&O Railroad in the early 20th century, and was closed in the 1970s. After the railroad was closed in the 1970s, it lay vacant until the state of Maryland and Allegheny County opened the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad in 1988.

The experience for historic riders and now, recreational tourist riders, begins at the Western Maryland Station in Cumberland. The historic station dates to the 1910s and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is an anchor building in the Canal Place State Heritage Area. Now it serves riders, with historical museum exhibits and tourist orientation before boarding the train.

The tour follows the former Western Maryland Railroad right-of-way and then joins the old Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad terminating in downtown Frostburg, Maryland - a distance of about twelve miles. In Frostburg, the train stops to allow passengers off to explore downtown Frostburg. The return trip begins with a turn on turntable before heading back to historic Cumberland.

The Western Maryland Scenic Railroad offered this unique historic experience to over 30,000 riders in 2017 and annually generates over \$1.8 million in economic activity for Allegheny County. Along with regular rides, the Railroad offers and operates special trips like Murder Mystery Trains and holiday runs such as the Polar Express and Santa Express apart from their standard tours. Additionally, they offer daily transportation between Cumberland and Frostburg through their cab rides, caboose rentals, and even offer tourists to ride alongside the train on the Allegheny Highlands Trail for hiking and biking.

Funding

The Western Maryland Scenic Railroad is owned and operated by the Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority under the Maryland Heritage Areas Program, which is governed by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and administered by the Maryland Historical Trust.

General operations of the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad is funded, part by annual support from Allegany County (\$140,000), the State of Maryland (\$160,000-\$200,000) and a variable amount from the Hotel-Motel Tax from Allegany County. Additional support comes from CSX, the National Railroad Historical Society and other private donors.

Currently, the Railroad is restoring a Baldwin Locomotive Works passenger car from 1949 for future use on the tracks. It was the company's last commercially built steam locomotive and was previously on display at the B&O Museum of Baltimore. Restoration is supported by a grant from the state of Maryland (\$400,000) and funds raised by the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad Foundation (\$800,000).

ENGAGING A DIVERSE PAST: PRESENTING THE SLAVE NARRATIVE AT SOTTERLEY PLANTATION

Sotterley Plantation in St. Mary's County, Maryland, is one of the only tidewater plantations open to the public – and is significant in terms of its contributions to history and also to its current inclusive approach to interpreting that history.

In the early 1700s the land measured 4,000 acres as part of a land grant and by the 1780s, it is estimated that there was an population of at least 93 enslaved persons that worked in the production of tobacco and gain and raising livestock. The plantation house is dates to the first quarter of the 18th century and is situated overlooking the Patuxent River. The house has experienced several alterations and the property itself has been a host to many auxiliary structures essential to the operations of the plantation, including slave cabins, brick warehouses, meat house, corn crib, barns and outbuildings.

The property and its white owners prospered until after the Civil War when such a plantation-style economy, dependent on slave labor, no longer make the plantation profitable. Sotterley, like many of the plantations in Southern Maryland was forced to retool their existence and adapt to a new economy and times. The land was parceled and sold to Herbert L. Satterlee, the Sixth Governor of Maryland and son-in-law of J.P. Morgan. Sotterley was maintained and restored by members of the Satterlee family—including during the preparation and operations as a public house museum in 1961 – until 1993 when the property was entirely turned over to the Historic Sotterley, Inc., a nonprofit foundation.

Inclusive History

Historic Sotterley, Inc. has invested in restoring the last remaining slave cabin on the historic plantation property and is now telling their authentic 300-year history.

Today, the mission of Historic Sotterley, Inc. is to preserve, research, and interpret the remained 895-acres of Sotterley Plantation's diverse cultures and environments, and to serve as a public educational resource. Since 2009, Sotterley has spent nearly \$4 million on renovations, operations, research and new programming. The majority of funding comes from admission fees, grants, memberships, sponsors, and events.

Specifically, Historic Sotterley, Inc. has embarked on restoring and interpreting the remaining slave cabin on the property that dates to the 1830s. It measures 16 feet by 18 feet, no bigger than the kitchen in most modern homes, and it is said that between nine and twenty people lived in it at a given time. The interior is interpreted with a rough sleeping pallet, replicas of the fish and fatback slabs, and a rough-hewn ladder that leads up to a loft.

This authentic depiction of the lives of the enslaved, was completed with assistance from a descendant of those that were enslaved at Sotterley, Agnes Kane Callum among other documentation, research, and experts. The rehabilitated slave cabin was included in tours of Sotterley in 2017. The honest interpretation about Sotterley owners participating in the international slave trade, brings into focus the lives of those who came directly to Sotterley from Africa to be enslaved, as well as the lives of those whose lives were lost during that terrible journey.

Funding

The total restoration costs of the slave cabin to date has approached \$190,000. The restoration began in 1998 when Sotterley received grants from the Maryland Historical Trust (\$36,000) and Preservation Maryland (\$5,000, see page 21) to stabilize the slave cabin, conduct archaeology, and install a perimeter drain.

In 2009, the cabin went through a more thorough restoration with grants from 1772 Foundation (\$30,000) and Preservation Maryland (\$5,000, see Page 21). This project included providing electric to the cabin for security monitoring, addressing drainage and grading, exterior log and siding work, and masonry work on the firebox and chimney. The cedar shingle roof was also replaced in 2011 after small trees fell on the slave cabin roof during Hurricane Irene.

In 2013, Sotterley received a grant from the Maryland Historical Trust's African American Heritage Preservation Program (see Page 15) to restore the historic corn crib and also create their first permanent exhibit (\$100,000). In 2014, Sotterley received additional funding from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority (see Page 16) and the United States Federation of Friends of Museums to create an exhibit in the slave cabin, with in-kind support (\$12,000).

In recognition of their investment and commitment to telling an authentic and inclusive 300-year story, Historic Sotterley, Inc., received a Maryland Preservation Award for Excellence in Public Programming from the Maryland Historical Trust in 2018.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HISTORIC SOTTERLEY, INC., PLEASE VISIT:
www.sotterleyplantation.com



REVITALIZING RURAL MARYLAND: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR COMMUNITIES

This resource guide was prepared by Preservation Maryland with the support of the Rural Maryland Council. Preservation Maryland is Maryland's first and largest nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the state's historic buildings, neighborhoods, landscapes, and archaeological sites: preservationmaryland.org.

To access this report online, please visit: preservationmaryland.org/ruralreport

The guidebook was designed in Thurmont, Maryland by Alyssa Fritz: alyssafritzdesign.com.

PHOTO CREDITS

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