



Inside this issue:

NFWF CREP Grant 1

Kudzu Bug 1

Cover Crop Planting 2

NRCS Local Workgroup 2

From the Roost 3

New Regulations for Sheep and Goats 3

***National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant
CREP Incentive for Nanticoke Watershed***

Dorchester County Soil Conservation staff should be able to provide assistance to landowners in late October, with regard to this incentivized CREP grant. The nutrient incentive payment will be tied to riparian forest buffers and wetlands to reduce sediment and nutrient loadings, targeting two areas: locally the Nanticoke watershed (Wicomico/Dorchester) and Frederick County. The targeted areas also support improved fish and wildlife habitat benefiting brook trout and other coldwater species and/or anadromous fishes. The grant is an effort to increase participation in key areas to enhance environmental performance and cost effectiveness. The pilot program will provide training, assistance, outreach materials, and mapping tools to local soil conservation districts and land preservation partners.

The Nitrogen Incentive Payment (NIP) payment will be straightforward and easy to understand, however the NIP will be higher for those who chose permanent conservation easements. A perpetual Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) easement is a written legal agreement between the landowner and the State of Maryland in which there is an acquired permanent interest in the land to install or maintain conservation practices to protect water quality and natural resources. The overall goal is to enroll or re-enroll with long term protection approximately 650 acres of riparian forest buffers and wetlands to assist with reduction in nutrient loadings to improve water quality, wildlife habitat, and help meet Maryland's Chesapeake Bay TMDL and Watershed Implementation goals.

Watch out for New Soybean Pest the Kudzu Bug, late May to November

This Asian pest can now be found in eight Maryland counties including Dorchester. Adult kudzu bugs are similar in size to lady beetles (3.5 to 6 mm in length), with mottled brown colors, and they give off an odor similar to stink bugs when disturbed. The bug feeds on the vascular tissue of stems and leaves. University of MD staff ask that you report the location of kudzu vine patches and

bug sightings in fields or clusters on homes in the spring and fall at www.mdkuzubug.org.

Source: UMD Dept. of Entomology Flyer.

Photo by Russ Ottens, University of Georgia.



Crop Report

Deadlines:

Dec. 15th—Small Grain & Cover Crop

*** Remember when you drop or add a farm, please notify the USDA Farm Service Agency @ 204 Cedar Street, Suite 202 in Cambridge MD.**

Nov. 18th—EQIP Local Workgroup and RCPP sign-up Deadline.

Dec. 16th—General EQIP deadline.

2016/17 Cover Crop Planting Dates and Planting Rates

PLANTING DATES AND PLANTING RATES:

Approved Cover Crop Varieties	Seeding Rate Per Acre*		Base Payment for Traditional Cover Crop Only	Statewide Planting Period for Traditional and Com- modity Program**	Aerial Planting Dead- lines	BCSC and BCCP Planting Dead-
	Bushels	Pounds				
Canola/Rape(Brassica)	0.16	8	\$30.00***	08/15-09/15	09/15	09/15
Forage Radish		10	\$45.00	08/15-09/15	09/15	09/15
Spring Oats	3.00	96	\$45.00	08/15-10/01	10/01	10/01
Barley	2.50	120	\$45.00	08/15-10/15	10/01	10/15
Rye	2.00	112	\$55.00	08/15-11/05	10/01	10/15
Triticale	2.00	112	\$45.00	08/15-11/05	10/01	10/15
Wheat/Speltz	2.00	120	\$45.00	08/15-11/05	10/01	10/15
Ryegrass	0.83	20	\$45.00	08/15-10/01	10/01	10/01
Crimson Clover(as part of mix)		20	\$45.00****	08/15-10/01	10/01	10/01
Hairy Vetch(as part of mix)		25	\$45.00****	08/15-10/01	10/01	10/01
Winter Peas(as part of mix)		60	\$45.00****	08/15-10/01	10/01	10/01

* Aerial and Aerial Ground applications require a 25% increase in the seeding rates listed above.

** Seeding may begin on 08/15/2016 for all planting options.

*** Please note that the base payment for planting canola/rape is \$30.00

**** Mixes using Legumes are only eligible for a \$45/ac flat rate, no additional incentives apply

Did you Know?

George Washington Carver was an American botanist and inventor, who developed techniques to improve soils depleted by repeated plantings of cotton. Together with other experts he encouraged farmers to restore nitrogen to their soils by practicing systematic crop rotation with alternated plantings of sweet potatoes or legumes such as peanuts.

NRCS offering EQIP Local Work Group Funding Pool of \$100,000

Maryland NRCS is offering for second year, approximately \$100,000 for Dorchester Soil Conservation District (DSCD) to provide financial assistance to help producers address local resource concerns through EQIP conservation practices. This locally led DSCD workgroup may identify up to four priority resource concerns that consider the natural resource conservation needs and legislated programs available. This EQIP local funding provides the district an opportunity to

support smaller or niche conservation practices that don't normally rank high enough for funding and focus on local priorities. This year the local workgroup identified four practices to focus on, they are: amendments for the treatment of ag waste, restoration and management of rare/declining habitats, mulching, and hedge-row planting. If you have a project in mind that focuses on one of the four practices formerly mentioned, do not wait until last minute to come in

and apply for EQIP funding as staff will need a completed application (Form NRCS-CPA -1200), to establish or update farm records with the Farm Service Agency, and submit all other required information to the local NRCS field office prior to the November 18th deadline. Information is available on line at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip>.

From the Roost by Cathy Scott

Hey Poultry Growers!! Here at DSCD we try our best to keep you up to date on what's going on with poultry in our state. As many of you know we are here to help all we can with your permits and paperwork to keep you in compliance. At this time of year we realize the focus is turning to harvest and then Nutrient Management Plans. However, please keep in mind if you are a MAFO or CAFO it is your responsibility to see that the MD Department of Environment (MDE) has an updated copy of your Nutrient Management Plan. We are able to scan and email these for you directly to MDE, at your request, and supply you with a receipt that it has been received.

As I have discussed with many of you, as a producer you are required to keep records of inspections of your swales and drainage components located on the poultry operation, as well as inspections of manure sheds. Producers have been hearing both weekly and quarterly timeline requirements. To clear up this confusion I have talked with an MDE inspector and here is what I was told. As of August 1, 2016 weekly inspection is required for swales, drainage and poultry waste storage structures/manure sheds, as well as documentation indicating that the inspection was conducted as required under the MDE permit. I suggest you also; inspect your composter at this time as well. Look for broken boards, holes in the tin, wet spots; openings at ground level where water could come in, or manure could leak out. Please make note of inspections and any repairs on a calendar or in notebook as part of your weekly inspection. If you need guidance in this please contact our office and we will guide you through the process and or repairs. Inspection documents and noted repairs must be provided to the MDE poultry inspector when the inspection is conducted.

Also note that the General Discharge Permit for Animal Feeding Operations has been updated. The updated version is located on the MDE web page www.mde.state.md.us (Maryland Permit No 14AFA) and is available at our office.

It has come to our attention that there is an increasing issue with turkey buzzards, black vultures and bald eagles around poultry operations in Maryland. This is concerning due to disease issues, as well as housekeeping. If your farm is having problems with these wild birds please consult with us, we have contacts and can provide assistance in effort to control this issue, so it does not become a major problem.

It is our hope and mission to keep all Dorchester farms in compliance and in good standing with the Maryland Department of Agriculture and MDE. Please feel free to contact us any time with questions or problems concerning small or large flocks. Wishing you a Happy Flock!!!



MARYLAND FARM & HARVEST

**Season 4
begins**

Tuesday,

**November 15,
2016**

at 7 pm.

on

Maryland

Public

Television

New Legislation adopted for Sheep and Goats to prevent spread of "Scrapie" in MD

The State of Maryland has adopted State animal health requirements for sheep and goats to prevent the introduction or spread of Scrapie, a degenerative disease affecting their central nervous system. Except for an animal moving to immediate slaughter, a person may not import an animal into Maryland unless the animal originates from a flock in a

Scrapie consistent state or from a flock enrolled in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program. Owners must have identification for each animal and keep and retain official identification records for 5 years to allow tracing the animal to it's flock of origin. The only exceptions are: 1) Animal never leaves the premise (place) of birth and has not

commingled with other animals 2) Less than 18 months of age and has not lambed, is not pregnant, and is moving for immediate slaughter, or born in or entering Maryland and moving directly for sale to an approved tagging site, provided the animal is accompanied by an owner-hauler statement. More information can be found at COMAR 15.11.18.

**Image of Agriculture
Symposium**

**The Many Faces of MD
Agriculture**

Saturday,

November 19, 2016

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

College Park Marriott

Admission \$ 50.00

Web: imageofagriculture.com



Dorchester Soil Conservation District

204 Cedar Street, Suite 200
Cambridge, Maryland 21613

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Dorchester Soil Conservation District Employees

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John Willey, Engineer Technician
James Staats, Soil Conservation Planner
Robert Herbert, Technician
Leslie Warfield, Secretary

MDA Employees

Charles Bradford, Technician
Cathy Scott, Soil Conservation Planner
Brittini Rideout, Soil Conservation Planner

NRCS Employees

Teresa Kampmeyer, NRCS District Conservationist
Eugene Jones, Soil Conservationist
Bianca Soto, Soil Conservationist
Jennie Powell, Soil Conservation Technician (Regional)

DSCD—Board of Supervisors

William M. Giese, Jr. - Chairman
Jason M. Spicer - Treasurer
Dale O. Collins
Terry Nuwer
Larry R. Scott, Jr.

Function of the Conservation District

The function of the Conservation District is to take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water, and related resources.

The Dorchester Soil Conservation District was organized on March 27, 1942 as a political subdivision of the State of Maryland.

We are an equal opportunity employer.

If interested in serving as Supervisor or Associate Supervisor contact Karen Houtman by email at karen.houtman@maryland.gov.