

Conservation and Natural Resources Summary

	Actual FY 14	Original Budget FY 15	Adjusted Budget FY 15	Budget FY 16	% Change From Orig. FY 15	% Change From Adj. FY 15
Extension Office of Carroll County	\$446,164	\$465,050	\$465,050	\$473,110	1.73%	1.73%
Gypsy Moth	4,305	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Soil Conservation District	520,284	423,860	404,880	399,970	-5.64%	-1.21%
Weed Control	40,898	35,740	35,740	40,000	11.92%	11.92%
Total Conservation and Natural Resources	\$1,011,651	\$954,650	\$935,670	\$943,080	-1.21%	0.79%

Mission and Goals

The common mission of these agencies is to protect and conserve the County's natural resources.

Goals include:

- Support Carroll County's agriculture industry
- Protect and take actions to preserve the County and State valuable natural resources
- Promote public awareness and education to maintain and improve residents' well-being and the quality and quantity of natural resources
- Control and eliminate threats to our natural resources

Highlights, Changes, and Useful Information

- The agencies under Conservation and Natural Resources are primarily State agencies that have a funding partnership with the County. These agencies are not bound together by any formal structure and are grouped together for presentation purposes.
- With 92 projects completed, the Carroll County Soil Conservation District had more Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Programs completed in FY 14 than any other County. The next closest County was Kent with 65.
- Weed Control charges for services but does not bill the County for spraying County right-of-way along roads.

Budget Changes

- Weed Control increases due to spraying of noxious weeds. This is offset by an increase in revenue.
- Soil Conservation decreases due to employee turnover and operating expenses held flat.

Extension Office of Carroll County

Description	Actual FY 14	Original Budget FY 15	Adjusted Budget FY 15	Budget FY 16	% Change From Orig. FY 15	% Change From Adj. FY 15
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	446,164	465,050	465,050	473,110	1.73%	1.73%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$446,164	\$465,050	\$465,050	\$473,110	1.73%	1.73%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

Jeff Meyers, Area Extension Director (410) 386-2760
 Cheryl Hill, Business Services Specialist (410) 386-2760
 Christian Roop, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082
<http://extension.umd.edu/carroll-county>

Mission and Goals

Enhance the quality of life for people and communities by disseminating unbiased research-based educational information.

Description

University of Maryland Extension (UME) is a statewide, non-formal education system within the college of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. UME educational programs and problem-solving assistance are available to citizens and are based on the research and experience of land grant universities such as the University of Maryland, College Park. The County funds approximately 45% of the cost of operations at the UME Carroll County Office with the State primarily funding the rest.

There are seven educators and one Nutrient Management Advisor based in Carroll County Office that provide educational programming and materials, services and consultations for the community. There is also a Business Services Specialist, two Administrative Assistants, one Clerk Typist, and an Information Technology Assistant who provide the administrative support for the office. An Area Extension Director provides administrative oversight and direction for the Carroll, Frederick, and Howard County offices, and approximately 35% of the Director's time is based in Carroll County.

UME provides solutions in the community by providing timely, research-based information through educational programs and materials in the following areas:

Agricultural & Natural Resources	Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development	Environmental Sciences
Family Development	Nutritional Sciences
Community Development and Leadership	

Program Highlights

- The Nutrient Management Advisor prepared nutrient management plans for 16,409 acres in FY 14.
- In FY 14, the 4-H Youth Development Educator made contact with 5,631 young people ranging from 5 to 18 years of age. This included 35 community based 4-H Clubs with over 900 members enrolled.
- In FY 14, 230 youths participated in 4-H Camp, 7,500 4-H members entries were judged, and 714 members showed their exhibits at the 2014 Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair.
- The Nutrition Educator provided 5,755 Educational contacts in the community to assist individuals and families with making healthy food and lifestyle choices.
- The Home Horticulture Educator provided at least 40 hours of initial training for each of the 13 new Master Gardeners. Trained Master Gardeners provide volunteer hours in Carroll County through special programs in schools, senior centers and other community venues.

Budget Changes

Operating increases due to telephone and postage costs.

Gypsy Moth

Description	Actual FY 14	Original Budget FY 15	Adjusted Budget FY 15	Budget FY 16	% Change From Orig. FY 15	% Change From Adj. FY 15
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	4,305	30,000	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$4,305	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	0.00%	0.00%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

Bob Tatman, Program Manager
Maryland Department of Agriculture (301) 662-2074
Christian Roop, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082
http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/gypsy_moth_program.aspx

Mission and Goals

To serve the citizens of Maryland by protecting forest resources from insects and diseases, both native and invasive, through environmentally and economically sound pest management.

Goals include:

- Protect high-value forest and landscape trees in urban and rural areas from losses due to insects and disease
- Provide pest identification and pest-management advice to County and private forest owners and managers, in a timely manner, in order to prevent the loss of affected forest and landscape tree resources and to avoid unnecessary costs associated with their protection
- Successfully complete gypsy moth pest-management activities where economically and environmentally feasible

Description

The Forest Pest Management Section (FPM), part of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, conducts several activities to monitor, assess and control tree disease or insect infestations that affect the health of Maryland forests. FPM provides advice on forest insects and diseases and manages Gypsy Moth and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestations in forest habitats.

The Gypsy Moth program has proactively conducted a cooperative suppression program since 1982. FPM employs three Entomologist and six Inspectors, plus a Program Manager and Administrative Officer II. There are three field offices throughout the State.

Surveys typically take place each fall followed by spraying in the spring. Spraying historically generates and drives the bulk of expenses in this budget.

Program Highlights

In FY 15:

- FPM plans to conduct greater than 500 gypsy moth egg mass surveys on private, State and County lands.
- Placed and monitored 30 purple prism traps to check for the presence of the Emerald Ash borer.
- Placed and monitored traps to check for the presence of the Sirex wood wasp and Walnut twig beetle.
- Conducted numerous visual surveys to detect Thousand Canker Disease of walnut trees.

Soil Conservation District

Description	Actual FY 14	Original Budget FY 15	Adjusted Budget FY 15	Budget FY 16	% Change From Orig. FY 15	% Change From Adj. FY 15
Personnel	\$262,214	\$268,820	\$251,200	\$257,480	-4.22%	2.50%
Benefits	197,171	91,990	90,630	79,440	-13.64%	-12.35%
Operating	60,899	63,050	63,050	63,050	0.00%	0.00%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$520,284	\$423,860	\$404,880	\$399,970	-5.64%	-1.21%
Employees FTE	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	-----	-----

Note: FY 14 Actuals include a health and fringe allocation. The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

**Charles E. Null, Jr., Carroll Soil Conservation District
Manager (410) 848-8200 Extension 3
Christian Roop, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082
<http://www.carrollsoil.com/>**

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Carroll County Soil Conservation District (CCSCD) is to promote natural resource conservation to all citizens through leadership, education, funding and technical assistance.

Goals include:

Continued implementation and fulfillment of the following agreements laws, ordinances, and regulations:

- The Soil Conservation District Law
- The 1984 Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement
- The Memorandums of Understanding with Carroll County Government and the MD Department of Agriculture
- Various State and Federal Cost Share Programs
- MD Agricultural Land Preservation and Rural Legacy Programs
- MD Pond, Toxic Materials, and Sewage Sludge Laws
- MD Soil Erosion Control Regulations
- Grading and Sediment Control Ordinances of Carroll
- Sewage Sludge Management requirements

Description

The CCSCD is located at the Carroll County Commerce Center, 698 J Corporate Center Court, Westminster, MD. It is a political subdivision of the State that is governed by a Board of Supervisors, and was originally created by referendum in 1944. The CCSCD is one of 24 members of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCSD), which serves as the voice for the soil and water conservation districts and State legislative issues.

The district represents local concerns, problems, policies and procedures in the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources.

Accordingly, the district has the duty of assisting in the prevention and control of soil erosion, sediment control, and the proper use of land.

Program Highlights

- In FY 14, farmers in Carroll County completed 92 soil conservation capital projects, with assistance of \$768,259 from the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share Programs (MACS). Carroll's 92 projects were by far the most completed in the State as the next closest was Kent County with 65.
- In FY 14, Carroll farmers entered into 130 contracts to cover 26,171 acres through the Winter Cover Crop Program.

Budget Changes

- The decrease from FY 15 Original to Adjusted is due to employee turnover.
- A 2.5% salary increase is included in the FY 16.
- Benefits decreases due to OPEB allocations.

Positions

Title	Type	FTE
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Full-time	1.00
<i>Secretary</i>	Full-time	1.00
<i>Soil Conservation Planner</i>	Full-time	3.00
<i>Soil Conservation Technician</i>	Full-time	1.00
Total		6.00

While the County funds the salaries and benefits of six employees, the District is a separate governmental partner that hires and supervises its own staff. There are Federal and State employees within the CCSCD, but they do not receive County funding.

Weed Control

Description	Actual FY 14	Original Budget FY 15	Adjusted Budget FY 15	Budget FY 16	% Change From Orig. FY 15	% Change From Adj. FY 15
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%
Benefits	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Operating	40,898	35,740	35,740	40,000	11.92%	11.92%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%
Total	\$40,898	\$35,740	\$35,740	\$40,000	11.92%	11.92%
Employees FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-----	-----

Note: The Adjusted Budget includes budget changes made during the year. Ongoing mid-year changes have been annualized for comparison purposes.

Contact

Peter Rupp, Maryland Weed Control Specialist
(301) 600-1586

Christian Roop, Budget Analyst (410) 386-2082

http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/noxious_weeds_in_md.aspx

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Carroll County Weed Control Program is to assist farmers and other landowners in the reduction and control of noxious weeds on their properties. These weeds threaten the productive land of farmers and causes unsightly and unwanted problems in lawns and homeowners' gardens. Thistles, Johnsongrass, shatter cane, and multi-flora rose have been declared prohibited noxious weeds in Maryland, and the Maryland Noxious Weed Law states they must be controlled by anyone owing or managing land within the State.

Goals include:

- Educate the public about noxious weeds, the environmental importance of the control, and the economic impact they can have on agriculture
- Respond to public inquiries and complaints regarding noxious weed infestations
- Advise and assist landowners in the development of a control and eradication program to enable them to comply with the Maryland Noxious Weed Law
- Provide spray services to landowners for noxious weed control
- Assist the County Roads Department with the control and eradication of noxious weeds on County right-of-ways and County property
- Assist land owners with the control and eradication of noxious weeds in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service

Description

The Carroll County Weed Control Program is operated in cooperation with Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). A Carroll County Weed Advisory Committee is appointed by the County Commissioners to represent the County in the development of guidelines and procedures within the framework of the State law.

A Weed Control Coordinator is also employed on a permanent part-time basis under the direction and supervision of the Maryland Department of Agriculture to identify and survey noxious weed infestations.

During a typical growing season, several hundred individuals are contracted by the Coordinator concerning the methods and techniques available for controlling and eradicating noxious weed infestations. A spray service is available on a fee basis as an additional option for controlling and eradicating noxious weeds, and revenues generated from this service help offset the cost of funding the Carroll County Weed Control Program.

Program Highlights

- During the 2014 growing season, the noxious weed spray program generated \$4,862 in revenues from private properties and \$56,190 in revenues from other State and County agencies.
- In 2014, spraying to reduce noxious weed infestations on County roads and County properties alone was valued at approximately \$15,790.
- Over 500 on-site inspections were made to identify weed infestations and to determine appropriate control methods and techniques, resulting in the mowing of approximately 650 acres to control noxious weeds.
- Responded to forty general public complaints about noxious weed infestations. A review of noxious weed complaints received in 2014 found that 60% of the public's 2013 complaints had been successfully resolved and did not repeat in 2014.

Budget Changes

Operating increases due to spraying of noxious weeds. This is offset by an increase in revenue.