

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



☎ 410-398-4411, EXT 3

📍 105 CHESAPEAKE BLVD, SUITE B3  
ELKTON, MD 21921

🌐 [WWW.CECILSCD.COM](http://WWW.CECILSCD.COM)

✉ [CECILSCD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CECILSCD@GMAIL.COM)



## District Manager Message

In 2022, it finally felt that Cecil Soil Conservation District was getting back to our normal activities as well as adding several new opportunities to spread the word of locally led voluntary conservation. Technical Assistance requests remained high at the District as Cecil County farmers and landowners continue to show their interest and commitment to installing and utilizing Best Management Practices (BMPs) to enhance the county's soil health and provide superior water quality for our community. These practices not only benefit our Chesapeake Bay but also benefit the aquatic and other wildlife which reside within local watersheds. Cost share opportunities have never been better, and we commend all those with whom we work with for their passion in conserving our natural resources. District staff and I look forward to 2023 to work through challenges and seize the opportunities that this year will undoubtedly provide.



Partnerships have always been extremely important to the operation of the District. This year was a very busy year, and we couldn't have done it without our partners.

So to all of you,  
we say....

Thank  
You!

**Visit**

**<https://www.cecilscd.com/partnerships>**

## Best Management Practices Installed

# 250

Access Road	540 Ft.
Animal Trails/Walkways	3,476 Ft.
Conservation Cover	40.21 Ac.
Conservation Crop Rotation	385.3 Ac.
Contour Farming	80.8 Ac.
Cover Crop	18,735.7 Ac.
Critical Area Planting	8.75 Ac.
Critical Area Planting Construction	7.3 Ac.
Fence	5,986 Ft.
Forest Harvest Management	22.10 Ac.
Forest Buffer on Watercourse	255 Ft.
Grade Stabilization Structure	5 No.
Grassed Waterway	7.38 Ac.
Heavy Use Area Protection	0.65 Ac.
Hedgerow Planting	4,452 Ft.
Lined Waterway or Outlet	192 Ft.
Livestock Pipeline	4,054 Ft.
Nutrient Management	923.6 Ac.
Prescribed Grazing	40 Ac.
Residue & Tillage Management	923.6 Ac.
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	34.18 Ac.
Roof Runoff Structure	16 No.
Storm Water Runoff Control	23 No.
Storm Water (Agricultural) Management Treated	65.2 Ac.
Streamside Exclusion Fence ( Grass & Trees)	14,449 Ft.
Subsurface Drain	1,281 Ft.
Underground Outlet	5,334 Ft.
Waste Storage Structures	6 No.
Waste Recycling	50.6 Ac.
Watering Facility	8 No.
Wetland Creation and Restoration	6 Ac.
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	12.6 Ac.

# Agricultural Conservation

## MACS Annual Programs 2022

Maryland Agricultural Cost Share Capital (Structural Practices)	
MACS Applications	19
MACS Funding	\$232,100.00
2021-2022 Cover Crop Applications	90
2021-2022 Cover Crop Claims	\$1,596,748.00
Manure Transport	\$ 52,215.00
Manure Injection/Incorporation	\$102,200.00

## Federal Conservation Financial Assistance

Federal Statewide Funding	\$10,310,388.00
Federal Funding for Cecil County	\$ 637,125.00
Number of Contracts	11

## Conservation Planning & Agricultural Practices

Conservation Planned Acres	4,618
Conservation Plans	28
New Cooperators	22

## Technical Assistance

In 2022, CSCD received 72 technical assistance requests serving 7,398 acres.



## Urban Conservation

Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Reviews	322
Erosion & Sediment Control Plans Approved	195
Acres Impacted	1,740
Forest Harvest Plans Reviewed & Approved	16

## Agricultural Conservation

Agricultural Pre-Construction Meetings	6
Agricultural Storm Water Management and/or E & S Inspections	47

# Cecil Soil Conservation District

## Social Media

In a world where technology is always advancing, the Cecil Soil Conservation District (CSCD) is constantly working to improve our ability to communicate important information to the farmers and citizens of Cecil County and beyond.

Our website, Facebook Page, and YouTube Channel work together to educate and inform.

The District offers educational videos on Best Management Practices, Past and Present Cooperator Videos, and other video productions showcasing the CSCD's education and outreach.



**Website - 5,683 visitors**



**Facebook**

**Reached 18,509**

**Visits 2,251**

**161 Likes**



**YouTube - 1,217 visits**

## Education and Outreach

The year 2022 offered many opportunities to educate our farmers as well as the community. In April, CSCD presented to over 50 farmers along with students from the School of Technology during Ag Day at the Dupont Farm in Elkton. The event hosted speakers sharing tips for cover crop planting and new agricultural technology. Wings Aerial shared a presentation on the benefits of the aerial seeding of cover crop. Students from the Cecil School of Technology's Agricultural Science Program assisted in planting a tree buffer on the property and learned the benefits of buffers on water quality. The event was used to examine multiple cover crop test plots and compare the results of planting a variety of cover crop mixes and their resulting effects on soil health.



### Healthy Soils

#### Cover Crop Option #2

Crimson Clover

Rye

Forage Radish

#### Sponsored by:

Ewing Bros.

P. DuPont Foundation

Cecil Soil Conservation District

Scheeler Seeds



Cecil  
LAND TRUST

# Aerial Cover Crop Seeding and No Till

In September of 2022, CSCD staff had the pleasure to witness and document some of the first aerial cover crop seeding north of Elkton. CSCD sponsored the planting of several test plots with a mix of cereal rye, crimson clover, and turnips on a field with a standing soybean crop. CSCD also sponsored an additional no till planting with rye and wheat on other fields for comparison. These fields will be showcased in the spring of 2023 during Ag Day at the Dupont Farm. CSCD hopes to share the results and obtain feedback from farmers on their own aerial seeding. CSCD found a significant increase in aerial seeding in the northern part of the county as a result from Wings Aerial Applicators presenting this past spring.



 **Cecil Land Trust** · [Follow](#)

10h · 

So excited to have the seeding done, on our demonstration plots at our CLT Fairview Farm, by Wings Aerial. This was sponsored by our partner, Cecil Soil Conservation District. You don't always associate technology with farming, but it has come so far! It truly is amazing!



## Education and Outreach (continued)

In May, the CSCD staff and Board of Supervisors hosted a legislative Ag Tour for County Executive Danielle Hornberger and members of Council. The route took the tour group along the southern portion of the county, showcasing various Best Management Practices including Grade Stabilization Projects, Wildlife Plantings, and Agricultural Stormwater Management. Tour stops included Holly Hill Nursery, Tidal Creek Growers, and Ordinary Point Farm, where the group was able to enjoy a nice lunch with a beautiful water view.





## Education and Outreach (continued)

Cecil Soil Conservation District is always looking for opportunities to share our vision with others. CSCD participates in the Ag Showcase and Children's Day at the Cecil County Fair, the Cecil County Wade - In, sponsored by the Cecil County Department of Public Works, Earth Day at Rising Sun Elementary, Career Day at the Cecil County School of Technology, and sharing some treats with children from the Kiddie Academy during Halloween.



# Cecil County School of Technology



Each year, CSCD works with partnering agencies and the agricultural community to educate students from the Cecil County School of Technology's Agricultural Science Program. Topics include advances in farming, and students take a tour of the Kilby Farm. Owner/operator Ben Flahart has worked hard over the years investing in practices that not only benefit his farm but also provide positive impacts on the environment. Students are able to tour the farm to see the implementation of Best Management Practices firsthand.

---

## Conservation Education Teacher of the Year Rachael Coffey



Cecil Soil Conservation nominated Rachael Coffey from the Cecil County School of Technology for the Maryland Association of Conservation District's (MASCD) "Conservation Education Teacher of the Year". Rachael was selected from a statewide pool of nominees and was honored at MASCD's Annual Meeting in Cambridge, MD. Rachel is the Agricultural Sciences Instructor at the Cecil County School of Technology and has been teaching for over 12 years. Her passion for agriculture, the environment, and conservation made her the perfect candidate for the award. The Cecil Soil Conservation District thanks her for her service and commitment to educating the county's youth on agriculture and conservation.

# Envirothon and Fair Hill Nature Center

CSCD was very pleased to hold Envirothon Spring & Fall training and final competition once again at the Fair Hill Nature Center. It was exciting to have an increase in participants from the local high schools for the upcoming 2023 program. Envirothon participants learn and compete at the county, state, and North American Level. Students compete on topics including Soils, Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatics and a fifth topic. This year, students focused on "Waste to Resources". Rising Sun High School took home the top prize on the county level and went on to the state competition. Students were glad to be back in the outdoor classroom. CSCD would like to thank the Department of Natural Resources, Fair Hill Nature Center and our Sponsors who make this event possible.



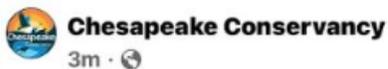
Cecil Soil Conservation District partners with the Fair Hill Nature Center to administer the Fourth Grade Soils Program. This program provides environmental education to all elementary schools located in Cecil County. In 2022, there were approximately 1,000 students who participated in the program. A few of our District staff have offered to volunteer and present at the Nature Center in 2023.



# AG Tour for the Chesapeake Conservancy

In the fall of 2022, the CSCD hosted an Agricultural BMP Tour for staff from the Chesapeake Conservancy, Center for Watershed Protection, Maryland Sea Grant, and Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology. The educational tour provided a better perspective and understanding of specific Best Management Practices and the challenges associated with locating and installation on the Agricultural Landscape.

The tour included stops at several working dairy farms, including this year's Leopold Award Winner, Long Green Farms. Other stops included farms highlighting stream restoration, CREP plantings, cover crops, and covered Heavy Use Areas. CSCD is very pleased that our Ag Tours are becoming a popular request and looks forward to hosting more to share the incredible environmental and water quality work of Cecil County Farmers.



**Chesapeake Conservancy**

3m · 🌐

Chesapeake Conservancy traveled up to Cecil County, MD for a farm tour to learn how conservation practices can support agriculture while reducing impacts to nearby streams.

Thanks to [Cecil Soil Conservation District](#), [NRCS](#) and [Cecil Field Office](#) for hosting and our partners at the [Center for Watershed Protection](#), [Maryland Sea Grant](#) and [Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology](#) for joining!



# 2022 VOL. 78



## Board of Supervisors

Bruce Yerkes, Chairman  
William Ewing, Vice-Chairman  
Van Funk, Treasurer  
Victor Priapi, Member  
Jonathan Quinn, Member  
Alice Crothers, Associate

## County Staff

Chris Brown, District Manager  
Mari McNinch, Soil Conservationist  
Ryan Fisher, Soil Conservationist  
Patty Pierce, Administrative Assistant  
Tracey Rach, Financial Coordinator

## MDA Staff

Dan Polite, Engineering Technician  
Jessica Zebley, Engineering Technician  
Andrew Sipe, Soil Conservation Technician  
Josh Fitzgerald, Soil Conservation Technician  
Lauren Gilbert, Soil Conservation Technician  
Sean McCandless, Soil Planner  
Ivan Tokash, Soil Planner

## USDA/NRCS Staff

Rob Weaver, District Conservationist  
William Metcalf, Soil Conservationist  
Elizabeth Jamison, Program Support Specialist  
Christopher Davidson, Civil Engineer Technician