

Land Acquisition & Planning Capital Budget



FY 2022 Capital Budget - \$220.6 million

- Program Open Space Stateside - \$48.2 million
 - Baltimore City Direct Grant - \$6 million
- Program Open Space Local – \$53.4 million
- Rural Legacy Program - \$20.0 million
- Community Parks and Playgrounds – \$5.0 million
- Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure - \$85.0 million
- Federal Funds - \$3 million (estimate)

Program Open Space Stateside



- Established in 1969.
- Preserves natural areas for public recreation and watershed and wildlife protection across Maryland through the acquisition of fee simple land and conservation easements.
- Fee simple purchases are managed by DNR as State Parks, Forests, and Wildlife and Fisheries Management Areas.
- Primarily funded with State property transfer tax revenue.



POS Stateside Scorecard



Scorecard is used to evaluate potential POS Stateside Acquisitions.

“Land” (*Ecological Value*)

+

“People” (*Enhancing Public Access and Recreational Opportunities*)

Accomplishments



- POS Stateside has preserved approximately 350,000 acres.
- Recent projects provide both conservation and recreation benefits:
 - 672 acre former Bay Club golf course in Worcester County - **Chesapeake Forest Land.**
 - 212 acre former Naslanco golf course in Worcester County - **Pocomoke State Forest.**
 - 522 acre Turneill property in Charles County - **Pope's Creek WMA.**
 - 2,009 acre North Hills property in Garrett County - **Wolf Den Run State Park.**
 - 906 acre Hollywood One property in Harford County - **Stoney Demonstration Forest.**

Program Open Space Local



- Established in 1969, POS Local provides financial and technical assistance to counties and municipalities for the planning, acquisition, and/or development of recreation land or open space areas.
- Primarily funded with State property transfer tax revenue.
- DBM allocates POS Local funds annually to every county and Baltimore City according to a formula.

Accomplishments

- POS Local funds have been used to fund approximately 6,600 local park and recreation projects.
- Acquisition projects funded through POS Local have protected approximately 50,000 acres.



Community Parks and Playgrounds



- First funded in FY 2002
- Provides **flexible grants to municipal governments to respond to the unmet need for assistance to rehabilitate, expand or improve** existing parks, create new parks, or purchase and install playground equipment.
- Funding comes from General Obligation bonds included in the capital budget.
- Accomplishments:
 - Approximately 800 projects funded.
 - Approximately \$80 million in grant funds provided.



Rural Legacy Program



- Established in 1997
- a grassroots program that **protects working farms and forests** through the purchase of conservation easements to support Maryland's resource-based economy.
- According to statute, the program is funded with State property transfer tax revenue and General Obligation Bonds.
- A property must be located within a designated **Rural Legacy Area**.
- There are 32 locally-designated **Rural Legacy Areas**, with at least one Rural Legacy Area in every county in the State.

Rural Legacy Program



Accomplishments:

- Over 111,000 acres protected to date
- Designation of the new Harriet Tubman Rural Legacy Area in 2018.



CREP Permanent Easement Program



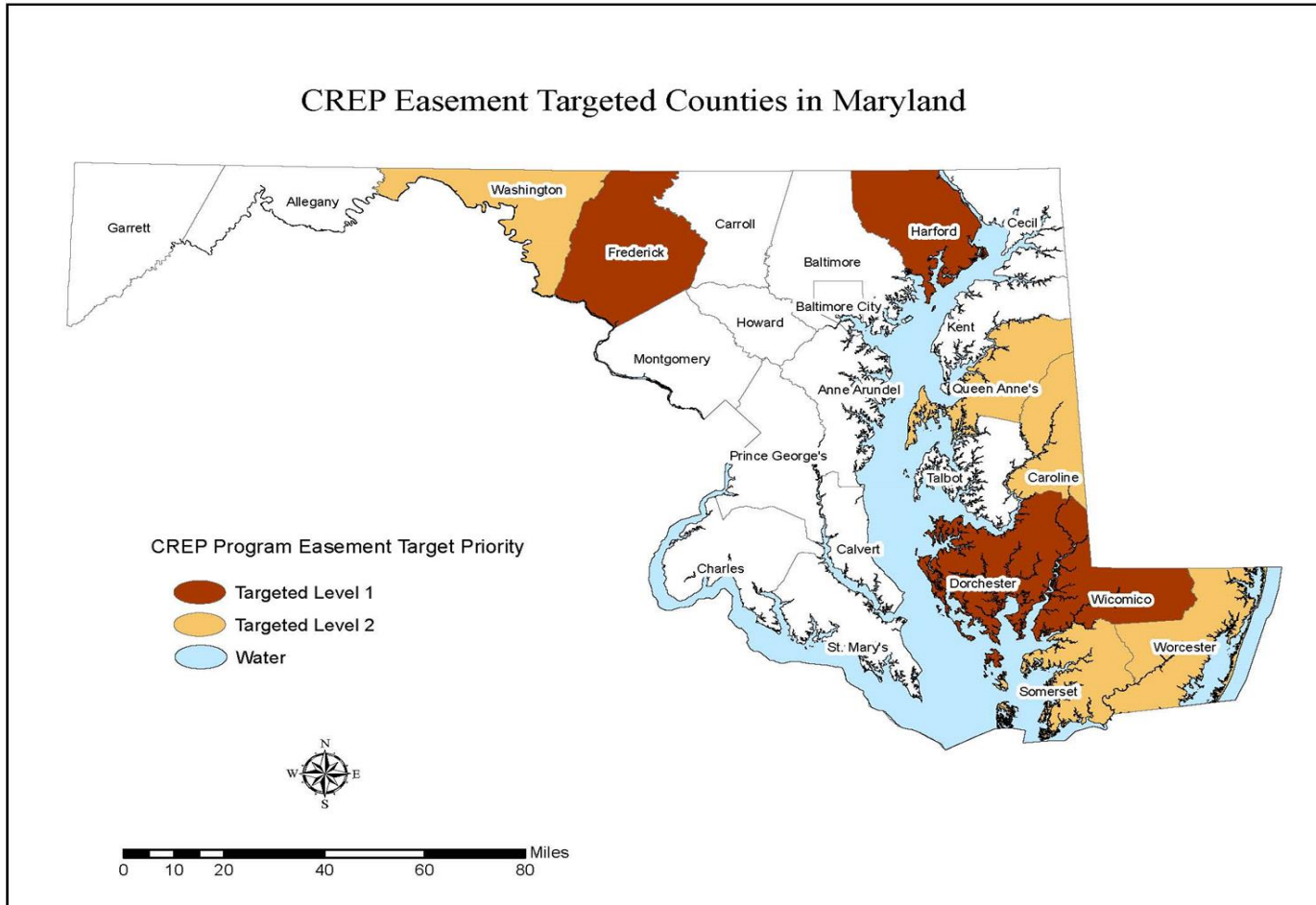
Two-tiered program to improve water quality and wildlife habitat by compensating farmers for removing highly erodible cropland and marginal pastureland from production and implementing BMPs:

1. Landowner enters into 10-15 year Federal CREP/CRP contracts with the Farm Service Agency (USDA).
1. In targeted counties, these landowners may then choose to make their contract practices permanent by selling a CREP conservation easement to the State.

CREP Permanent Easement Program



CREP Easement Targeted Counties in Maryland



CREP Permanent Easement Program



- Program is targeted to areas where conservation will have the greatest impact - watersheds with highest ecological value and high phosphorus and nitrogen loading.
- Over 11,800 acres protected to date.



Land and Water Conservation Fund



- Administers the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the State of Maryland.
 - provides 50/50 matching grants to state and local governments for the purpose of acquiring and/or developing public outdoor recreational areas and facilities.
 - 416 projects funded in Maryland since 1965.
- Prepares the State's Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPRP), including providing technical assistance to local governments in the preparation of their Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plans (LPPRPs).

