

## Maryland's Conservation Buffer Initiative

Applications Accepted Through March 10, 2023

Now in its third year, Maryland's Conservation Buffer Initiative is a pilot program that offers attractive incentive payments, easy sign-up and more management options for farmers who want to plant streamside buffers on their farms to improve the health of local streams and the Chesapeake Bay.

## **WHAT'S NEW IN 2023**

Additional incentives for planting riparian forest buffers are available this year. These payments are on top of the \$4,000 or \$4,500 per acre offered for installation. To encourage more tree planting, the new incentives include:

- A one-time bonus payment of \$1,000/acre to install forest buffers.
- Up to \$330/acre/year to help cover costs associated with maintaining forest buffer viability and health for the first 5 years of the contract.

Buffer Payment Rates			
Buffer Type	Adjacent Land Use	Payment for New Establishment (Per Acre)	Payment for Existing (Per Acre)
Grass	Pasture	\$1,500-\$2,500	None
Trees	Pasture	\$4,500	None
Grass	Cropland	\$1,000-\$2,000	\$500
Trees	Cropland	\$4,000	None

Download your application from the website at:

bit.ly/MDA\_Buffer