

SUPPORT AND PROTECT LOCAL AGRICULTURE!

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FARM BUREAU, INC.



JOIN TODAY



If You:

Like to eat
Like open space
Support locally produced food
Support a healthy Chesapeake Bay
Want access to member discounts
Support preserving farms and farmland
Support protecting the environment
Work in the Agriculture Sector
Are a farmer
Want better access to policymakers

**Then... you should be a member
of Prince George's County
Farm Bureau!**

Farm Bureau is a grass roots, non-profit organization that lobbies on behalf of farmers and the agricultural community every day. If you can't keep up with every county, state and national piece of legislation, you can't afford not to be a Farm Bureau member!

In addition to member benefits such as discounts on equipment, office supplies, travel and restaurants, you will be supporting the 'voice of agriculture' locally and nationally!



2025 Prince George's County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

Dan Donohue, President

Elizabeth Robinson, Vice President

Secretary/Treasurer

Jennifer Cross

District 1 Directors

Adam Miller and Brad Miller

District 2 Directors

Mary Honablew and Wade Hampton

At-Large Directors

Chris Parker, Joes Walzel and Brian Wort

Women's Leadership Committee Chair

Mariya Walzel

Young Farmer Committee Chair

Jenna Jones

**Our Mission is to strengthen and grow
Prince George's County
agriculture.**



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FARM BUREAU, INC.

13501 Molly Berry Rd Brandywine, MD 20613

301.579.6552 | PGCFB@yahoo.com | PGCFB.org

**Together we keep our nation's FOOD, FIBER and RENEWABLE FUEL SUPPLY
SAFE, SUSTAINABLE and SECURE.**

The Prince George's County Farm Bureau is working to build a relationship with the growing Urban farming community in the County and by supporting the National Urban Farm Festival, that just had its second annual event. One of our Board members, Liz Thompson is the force behind the festival and operates The Garden International in Beltsville an urban mushroom farm that has evolved into an agriculture innovation company.

Our past President- Phil Miller operates Miller Farms in Clinton that grows a variety of vegetables and nursery items & transitioned from tobacco in the 1970s. The farm has been in the Miller family since 1879. Another former President, Chris Parker previously served at the State level on the Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and his family has farmed in the Piscataway for generations.

We have conducted information meetings for our members, where we have had representatives from the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA,) Farm Service Agency (USDA) and the University of Maryland-Extension.

To expand awareness of agriculture in the County we started a Farm and Family Day two years ago where we had representatives from the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, farm machinery displays, chickens, rabbits, pony rides and vendors, many selling local produce and meats. Baden VFD partnered with us, and we were able to hold this event at no charge to the public.

A related topic to agriculture is the amount of woodland in the county and enhancing the management to benefit forest owners, strengthen our soil and water resources and generate income from good logging practices. Prince George's County has more stringent requirements for loggers and charges a \$5,000 bond & is slow to refund the money after the job is completed and has passed final inspections. That results in many loggers not wanting to take on work in the County.

Regards for economic development, this spring the Director of Agricultural Service for Montgomery County and the Director of Agriculture Business Development, Howard County Economic Development Authority started conversations about a livestock processing facility in the central part of the state. They are thinking of Montgomery, Howard, Prince George's, Frederick and Anne Arundel counties. The Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) has expressed an interest with possible financing and grants. There is a need for a facility that has USDA inspection program. There are few USDA processing facilities, the two nearest are in Carroll County and Baltimore City. There is usually a 6-to-8-month lead time to get beef processed. I would also submit that if Prince George's County participated in this venture that it could also be a job training program with the Prince George's Community College for skilled butchers and related skills.

Personally, I usually take 6 to 8 bovines to Aberdeen for USDA processing and rent a freezer trailer from the Farm Bureau after the meat is fully processed. The Farm Bureau was able to acquire the freezer trailer through a program of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission. It's a 118-mile trip one way to Aberdeen from Accokeek, if a facility was south of Baltimore it would be very beneficial.

It is my understanding that a Request for Proposal to conduct a feasibility study to consider establishing a facility in Prince George's County that would process agriculture products is being planned. The intent would be to provide food in underserved areas in the county, county institutions and be another way for producers to sell their products. The Farm Bureau would be supportive of this initiative.

On May 29th the Maryland Department of Agriculture is sponsoring a Value Added/Agri-tourism roundtable at the Prince George's County Soil Conservation District office, 10a.m. – 12 noon.

Thank you.

Dan Donohue, Pres.- Prince George's County Farm Bureau, Inc.
16401 Old Marshall Hall Rd, Accokeek, MD 20607
Cell# 301.641.8770/e-mail: dadonohue@hotmail.com

Maryland 2025 Policy Book

<https://mdfarmbureau.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025-State-Policy-bb.pdf>

