



# Forest Buffer Conservation in Maryland

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# Conservation Framework: Easements and Acquisition

- Targeted Acquisition- Program Open Space
  - Establishment of buffers usually required for easement purchases
  - POS land usually added to other management units, buffers planted (e.g., St. Inigoes in St. Mary's Co.)
- CREP Permanent Easements
  - Program just extended another 5 years
  - New funding in FY14 for easements targeted in Rural Legacy Areas
- Other easements (MET donated, Rural Legacy, MALPF)
  - Standard easements that include vegetative buffer requirement and link to Forest Management Plan or Soil / Water Conservation Plan

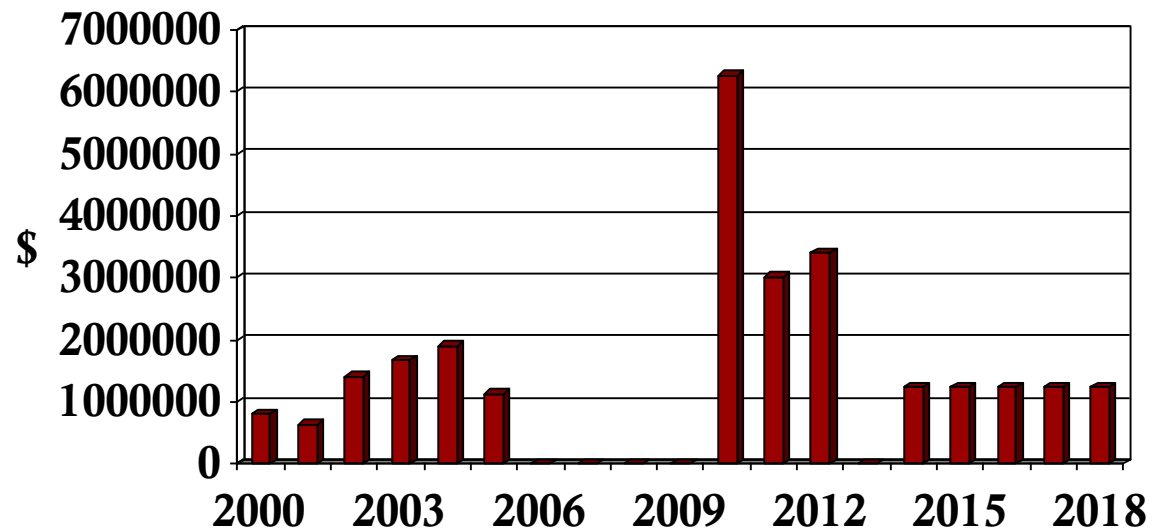
# CREP Easement Progress

**7,732.18** acres  
protected

2012 CREP  
enrollment:  
68,785 acres

Forest and grass  
buffers, plus  
existing forest  
(1:1)

**Easement expenditures: past and  
projected**





# Conservation Framework: Laws and Regulations

- Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Law
  - Within 1000 ft of tidal waters
  - 100 ft buffers within CA, expanded for slopes, wetlands, Habitat Protection Areas
  - New buffer regs: establish buffer w/redevelopment
- Forest Conservation Act (outside CA, except Garrett and Allegany)
  - Priority to conserve and replant buffers
- Planning Rules
  - Sensitive Areas Element requires protection of buffers, usually in zoning, grading, subdivision ordinances
- Nutrient Management Regulations
  - Fertilizer application setback (10 for injection, 35 ft broadcast)