



RMC
Rural Maryland Council



Quarterly Newsletter



Photo: John Hartline (Executive Director, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland) and Charlotte Davis (RMC Executive Director) presenting Senator George Edwards the Rural Champion Award at the RMC annual meeting on December 1, 2021. Photo Credit: Edwin Remsburg

Message from the Chair

Greetings!

Believe it or not, Spring is almost here. The council has been very busy with the 2022 Maryland General Assembly Legislative session. The RMC Legislative Committee is currently meeting every Monday to discuss and monitor bills throughout the session. The Maryland Senate is now open for in-person committee hearings and members of the public now have access to seating in committee rooms. The Maryland House of Delegates is open to the public but all committee hearings are virtual. The state of Maryland is currently operating under Level I - Normal Operations in response to the coronavirus pandemic. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy! For more information on the COVID - 19 Pandemic in Maryland, please visit the website [here](#).

In December, we held our Rural Summit "Redefining Resilience and Recovery" on Wednesday, December 1, and Thursday, December 2, 2021. The event was very successful and I would like to thank everyone who attended for just one day or on both days. We look forward to holding our next summit in 2023!

Our annual meeting and 2021 Rural Impact Award ceremony were held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Annapolis, MD. Highlights from the meeting included an overview of upcoming events and activities for 2022 and honoring advocates for rural Maryland communities.

This year, five awards were presented for the 2021 Rural Impact Award Ceremony:

- **Rural Community Development Award** was awarded to the Town of Rising Sun in recognition for their dedication and creativity to improve the quality of life for their community.
- **Rural Volunteer Award** was awarded to Elizabeth Anne Glotfelty and the Honorable Craig Mathies, Sr. for their leadership, dedication, and noteworthy volunteer achievement beyond the call of one's professional duties to help improve their community. Elizabeth Anne Glotfelty passed away in September 2021 leaving behind a legacy of charitable works that will benefit the community for decades.
- **Rural Economic Development Award** was awarded to the Frederick Innovative Technology Center, Inc. (FITCI) for their leadership, dedication, and noteworthy achievement to help improve economic development opportunities in rural communities.
- **Rural Champion Award** was received by Senator George Edwards and Senator Guy Guzzone for their outstanding leadership and public service in advocating for policy solutions to greatly benefit rural communities.

For more information about the meeting, please visit our website [here](#).



Photo: Screenshot of Delegate Eric Luedtke, Maryland House of Delegates speaking to attendees at the RMC Virtual Winter Quarterly Executive Board meeting on January 28, 2022.

Our Winter Quarterly Executive Board meeting and Legislative Luncheon was held on Friday, January 28, 2022, from 12 p - 2 pm virtually. RMC Committee updates and events for the new year were shared. Delegate Eric Luedtke was our featured guest speaker and shared an update on employment and broadband availability in Maryland. Ms. Jinhee Kim, University of Maryland Extension was also a guest speaker and talked to attendees about the University of Maryland's Farm stress program. View a recording of the meeting [here](#).

Save the Date! Our Spring Quarterly Executive Board meeting will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022, 12 pm - 2 pm. A location is to be determined. Register to attend [here](#).

As always, we strive every day to continue to improve the quality of life for our rural Maryland communities. I hope everyone has a wonderful and prosperous new year!
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Hartline". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John Hartline
Chair

Message from the Executive Director

The 2022 Maryland General Assembly Legislative session reconvened on Wednesday, January 12, 2022. The Rural Maryland Council has received full funding for the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget. We would like to thank Governor Larry Hogan for his support and for including \$3 million in additional appropriations.

Events

[RMC Legislative Committee Meeting](#)

3/21/2022
2 pm - 3 pm

[RMPIF Committee Meeting](#)

3/22/2022

Rural Maryland Day was held virtually this year on Thursday, February 10, 2022. Legislators met with rural constituents and stakeholders to discuss the opportunities and initiatives available in rural Maryland communities. The event was very successful and I want to thank everyone who joined us. View a special video from the Governor that was shared on Rural Maryland Day [here](#).

On Maryland Day March 25, 2022, the Rural Maryland Council will host a Grab & Go lunch for legislators at Lawyers Mall 11:30 am - 1 pm in Annapolis, MD. The event will be sponsored by the Maryland Broadband Cooperative, MARBIDCO, Southern Maryland Agriculture Development Commission, MidAtlantic Farm Credit, Maryland Department of Agriculture, and the Maryland Heritage Areas Coalition. The bag lunch will come from Caroline County's Chesapeake Culinary Center and will include locally produced foods. Last year was our first year hosting this event and we hope to have a great turnout.

During the month of February, [Volunteer Maryland](#) and the Rural Maryland Council hosted successful virtual information sessions. During these sessions, attendees assessed the needs of their volunteer program and discovered resources that could help support their volunteer program. In addition, the Rural Maryland Council provided details on grant opportunities that support matching funds for qualifying applicants.

The 2021 Partners for Rural America conference was held virtually due to the ongoing global pandemic on October 14-15, 2021. The two-day conference included special guest speakers and panels on the challenges currently facing rural America. View video presentations from the conference [here](#).

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. At the bottom of this newsletter is a list of rural-focused COVID-19 links and resources for you and your business. Have a safe and blessed new year! If the Council or I can ever be of any assistance, please contact me at charlotte.davis@maryland.gov or (410) 841-5774.

Sincerely,



Charlotte Davis
Executive Director

10 am - 1 pm

[MAERDAF/RMPIF Grant Review Board Meeting](#)

3/24/2022

1 pm - 2 pm

[RMC Executive Committee Meeting](#)

3/25/2022

1 pm - 3 pm

[Maryland Day](#)

3/25/2022

11:30 am - 1 pm

[RMC Legislative Committee Meeting](#)

3/28/2022

2 pm - 3 pm

[RMC Legislative Committee Meeting](#)

4/5/2022

2 pm - 3 pm

[RMC Spring Quarterly Executive Board Meeting](#)

4/8/2022

12 pm - 2 pm

Committee Updates



RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee

The RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee will meet on Friday, June 24, 2022, 10 am - 12 pm via zoom.

To learn more about the



RMC Legislative Committee

The RMC Legislative Committee will meet on Monday, March 21, 2022, 2 pm - 3pm via zoom.

To learn more about the RMC Legislative

RMC In the News

[TCCSMD Connects Businesses And Job Seekers Through Annual Hiring Event](#)

November 16, 2021

[Upcoming rural summit to focus on resilience, recovery](#)

November 28, 2021

[New Guide Explores the Importance of Forestry in Maryland](#)

December 6, 2021

[Rural Summit unites leaders to recover from](#)

RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee, please contact the RMC at rmc.mda@maryland.gov

Committee, please contact the RMC at rmc.mda@maryland.gov.

[COVID pandemic](#)
December 27, 2021

[Rural communities to come back quicker, stronger and better, say summit speakers](#)
December 30, 2021

[Maryland Farm & Harvest Visits Calvert And St. Mary's Counties During January 18 Episode](#)
January 15, 2022

[Catoctin Furnace Historical Society Receives \\$40,000 in Grant Funding from the Rural Maryland Council](#)
January 27, 2022

[Advocate says USDA funds will help rural Maryland's agriculture diversify](#)
February 21, 2022

Community Links

Rural Maryland Foundation

Check out what's happening in rural Maryland...

Training Opportunities & Conferences

- [Farm Stress Management Trainings](#) - University of Maryland Extension-Farm Stress Management - April 2022
- [MATRC Summit](#) - Mid -Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center - April 24 -26, 2022

Awards and Grants

- [Grant Call for Proposals](#)- Maryland Community Health Health Resources Commission - Proposals due on March 22, 2022
- [Unsolicited Grant Opportunity](#) - The Campbell Foundation - Applications due on March 31, 2022
- [Specialty Block Crop Grant](#) - Maryland Department of Agriculture - Applications due April 6, 2022

Programs and More

- [SpeedSurvey New Website](#) - State of Maryland
- [Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program](#) - United States Department of Agriculture
- [Resource Guide for Rural Entrepreneurs to start and grow businesses](#) - United States Department of Agriculture

Email: rmc.mda@maryland.gov to share links to your events and programs.



**Rural Maryland
Foundation**

The Rural Maryland Foundation will meet on Thursday, June 2, 2022, 1 pm - 2 pm via zoom.

To learn more about the Rural Maryland Foundation or to become a member, please visit the website at ruralmdfoundation.org.

COVID-19 Resources

The links below are for general and specific rural COVID-19 information. The following resources can also be found on our regularly updated [website](#).

- [COVID-19 Resources Useful for Rural People and Communities](#) - The Aspen Institute
- [COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#) - United States Department of Agriculture
- [Opioid Treatment Program Guidance for Patients Quarantined at Home with the Coronavirus](#) - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- [Mental Health during the Coronavirus Pandemic](#) - Maryland Health Connection
- [COVID-19 Health Crisis: Financial Relief Guide for Marylanders](#) - Maryland Department of Labor
- [Maryland COVID -19 Crisis Support Program](#) - Maryland Department of Health
- [Coronavirus Resources for Maryland Resources](#) - Maryland Department of Health
- [Updates from Governor Hogan's Office](#) - Maryland Governor's Office

MAERDAF Spotlight - Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum awarded more than \$30,000 in grant funds



MAERDAF
Maryland Agricultural Education &
Rural Development Assistance Fund



Photo: Pictured at the recent graduation of Stephen North from the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum's Shipwright Apprenticeship Program, from left, are Richard Bodorff, Chair of CBMM's Board of Governors; Kristen Greenaway, CBMM's President & CEO; Henry Stansbury, an Emeritus member of CBMM's Board; Nancy Appleby, a member of CBMM's Board of Governors; Charlotte Davis, Executive Director of the Rural Maryland Council; Stephen North, CBMM's newest Associate Shipwright; Jennifer Kuhn, CBMM's Shipyard Education Programs Manager; and Bob Zimberoff, Eastern Shore Apprenticeship Navigator for the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Program. – Contributed Photo

The Rural Maryland Council awarded the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michael's, Maryland a more than \$30,000 grant to support its Shipwright Apprentice Program.

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to preserving the history and environment of the Chesapeake Bay Region. The goal of the 20-year Shipwright Apprentice Program is to provide 8,000 hours of real work experience, as well as leadership and management skill development. Throughout the program, apprentices gain a working knowledge that includes skills such as joinery techniques, ship repair, and construction.

For more information about the program, please visit cbmm.org.

Special Feature - 2021 Rural Summit



Photo: Governor Larry Hogan speaking to attendees at the 2021 Rural Summit at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. Photo Credit: Edwin Remsburg

The 2021 Rural Summit "Redefining Resilience and Recovery" was held on Wednesday, December 1, and Thursday, December 2, 2021, at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. This two-day conference featured numerous noteworthy national and statewide guest speakers. They included Xochitl Torres Small, USDA Under Secretary for Rural Development; Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan; Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot; and Whitney Kimball Coe, director of National Programs at the Center for Rural Strategies, who championed the message of strength and leadership in rural communities.

With COVID-19 measures in place, attendees were more than ready to resume face-to-face engagement safely and rural Marylanders feel they have what it takes not only to fully recover from the pandemic but also to lead the state's recovery efforts.

The summit included 16 breakout sessions covering a variety of topics related to agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, community development, economic development, and health care, as well two plenary sessions — one on broadband and a legislative review which featured a panel of state legislators.

Video recordings and PowerPoint Presentations from the Summit are available to view on our website [here](#).

Rural Maryland Council is an independent state agency and Maryland's federally designated State Rural Development Council under the United States Department of Agriculture's National Rural Development Partnership. Our mission is to bring together federal, state, county, and municipal government officials as well as representatives of the for-profit and nonprofit sectors to identify challenges unique to rural communities and to develop and implement policy solutions. As a collaborative partnership, the RMC operates under the guidance of a 40-member Executive Board, in a nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory manner.

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