

DISTRICT WINS TOP HONORS

The Prince George's Soil Conservation District (PGSCD) won the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation District's prestigious MidAtlantic Farm Credit Outstanding District Award for 2012. Districts are judged on overall programs including performance, accomplishments, conservation implementation and education and outreach activities.

In 2012, urban staff was involved with the implementation of the new MDE guidelines for Sediment and Erosion Control and Storm Water Management Regulations. This required a complete revision of the District's "Sediment and Erosion Control Pond Safety Reference Manual". The manual assists engineers in the preparation of sediment and erosion control plans for development throughout the County and ensures consistency in plan submissions. The District maintains one of the most efficient review processes in the State maintaining an average 3 day turnaround. Agricultural staff exceeded the Chesapeake Bay WIP II milestone goals for conservation application. District staff served on numerous committees, spoke at various public functions and participated in outreach events including the Envirothon, Arbor Day, County Fair and the District's 41st Annual Awards Dinner.

PGSCD is the only District in Maryland to administer local and state agricultural land preservation programs. Utilizing over \$1.25 million in Rural Legacy Grant funds, the District preserved 134.5 acres of farmland bringing the total area preserved in Prince George's County Maryland to 4132 acres.

To better service customers, the District also developed a new website: www.pgscd.org.

Pictured accepting the award are District supervisors James Edelen, Pete Parreco, Cal Steuart-Chairman, and Raymond Watson. Mr. Bruce Yerkes of MidAtlantic Farm Credit presented the award.

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