



Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation Office

Within Planning & Land
Management Department

As of October 20, 2025

Accomplishments

- #1 in Maryland for number of acres preserved
- #2 in US for acres preserved through easement purchase (as of 2020)
- Top 5 in US for similar programs administered by local governments
- 2021 Maryland Sustainable Growth Award for Preservation and Conservation



Responsibility Highlights

- Code Chapter 159 Agricultural Land Preservation
- Code Chapter 160 Right to Farm
- Administration of four voluntary, permanent land preservation programs
- Support and facilitate Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board

Ag Pres Programs Available in Carroll County

- Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) Program
- Carroll County Easement Purchase Program
- Rural Legacy Program
- Critical Farms Program (MALPF)

50% of Carroll County's land mass is in agricultural use



Carroll County ranks **1st** in Maryland for number of acres preserved



Agriculture is Carroll's **#1** industry



Carroll County aims to preserve **100,000** acres of farmland minimum
Carroll expects to reach **80,000+** acres permanently preserved in 2024



Every **\$1** invested in Ag Pres stimulates \$1.80 - \$2.00 in economic benefit to community



Carroll County ranks **3rd** in Maryland for production of sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk



Carroll County ranks **1st** in Maryland for number of cut Christmas tree farms with **20** farms



Carroll County ranks **#3** in the state for sales of milk from cows



Carroll County ranks **2nd** in the U.S. for number of acres preserved through easement purchase
More than **725** farms are preserved in Carroll County



Ag products sold in Carroll County valued at **\$110 million** annually



Ag Pres Story

- Interactive story and maps
- Facts, history, accomplishments, photos, etc.



Carroll Ag Pres Story Scan Me

<https://arcg.is/1fGWW8>

Cont@ct Us

Program Manager—JP Smith, Jr.

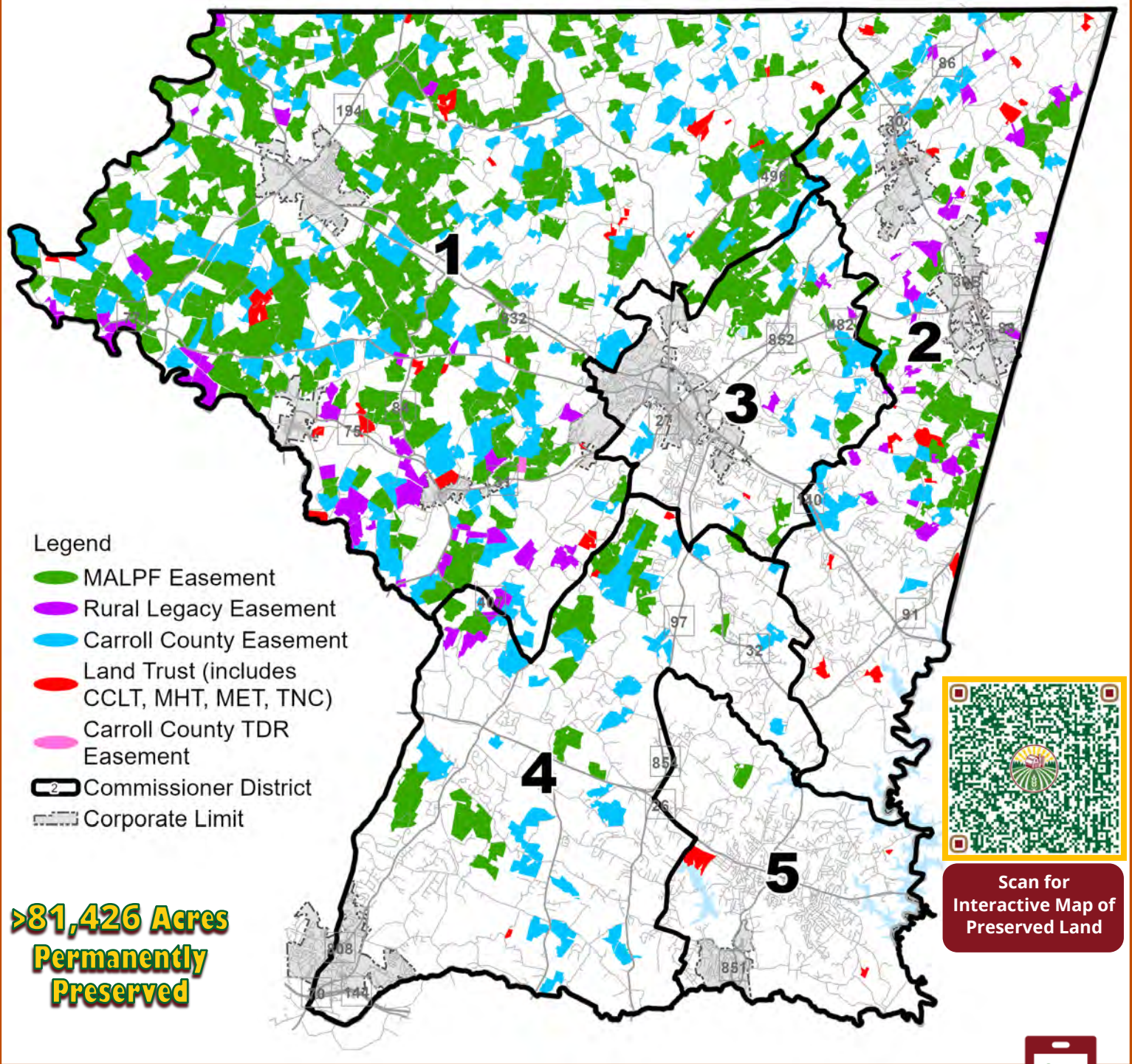
↳ Coordinator—Jackie Roque

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Agricultural Land Preserved (as of 10/16/2025)



Program	Acres	# of Farms
MALPF (includes Critical Farms)	47,357	422
Carroll County	25,980	239
Rural Legacy	5,527	71
Land Trusts, Conservancies, Other	2,562	49
TOTALS	81,426	781

Note: Data as of October 16, 2025. Colors correspond to map, Land Trust acreage includes 1 TDR easement of 52 acres.

