

The Wholesome Meat Advisory Council was established pursuant to the Maryland Wholesome Meat Act (Chapter 618, Acts of 1968). It was originally created for a period of three years to provide broadened representation in policy determinations with regard to meat inspection in the State, but its existence was extended indefinitely by Chapter 66, Acts of 1971. All members are appointed by the Governor from representatives of the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Baltimore City Health Department, the Maryland Farm Bureau, the Maryland Agricultural Commission, the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, the Maryland Frozen Food Locker Association, Inc., and four from the slaughtering and processing industry. One ex officio member is designated by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Council advises the Secretary on adopting rules and regulations relating to meat inspection and the establishment of protection standards (Code Agriculture Article, sec. 4-105).

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

Chairperson: Samuel C. Linton, Jr., 1980

Ex officio members: Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., *Secretary, Maryland Department of Agriculture*; William S. James, *State Treasurer*

Appointed members: T. Allan Stradley, 1979; Constance Lieder, *Secretary, Maryland Department of State Planning*, 1979; George S. Wills, 1979; Franklin Dill, 1980; F. Grove Miller, 1980; William E. Burall, 1981; Bradford Reeves, 1981; Charles Zepp, 1981.

Alan R. Musselman, *Executive Director*

Parole Plaza Office Building
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 269-2185

The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation was created by Chapter 784, Acts of 1977. The Foundation is governed and administered by a Board of Trustees composed of the State Treasurer and the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, both of whom

serve as ex officio members, and nine at large members from the State who are appointed by the Governor, at least five of whom must be farmer representatives from different areas of the State and one non-farm representative, who is a representative of the Department of State Planning. The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees is appointed by the Governor from among the nine at large trustees. The Foundation employs an Executive Director appointed by the Secretary upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees at large.

The principal responsibility of the Foundation is to implement the Agricultural Land Preservation program promulgated in the Agriculture Article secs. 2-501 through 2-515 of the Maryland Code Annotated.

The intent of the program is to preserve productive agricultural land and woodland in Maryland, to provide for the continued production of food and fiber, to curb the extent of urban sprawl, and to protect agricultural land and woodland as open space.

The program is voluntary on the part of landowners and dependent upon the cooperation of local governments, which appoint five-member Agricultural Preservation Advisory Boards.

Landowners may initiate the creation of Agricultural Preservation Districts in which subdivision and development are restricted for at least five years by agreement with the Foundation. The creation of a District results in the protection of normal agricultural activities and eligibility of landowners to make application to sell a development rights easement. The Foundation may acquire easements based upon the availability of funds as allocated by the counties, in accord with a competitive formula provided by law and subject to local recommendation and appraisal. Easements acquired are effective for at least twenty-five years.

In addition, the Foundation may receive by gift, devise, bequest, or grant easements in gross or other rights to restrict the use of agricultural land and woodland (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-501 through 2-515).