



## CALVERT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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# News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** | September 21, 2007  
**Contact:** Danita Boonchaisri, Marketing & Communications Specialist  
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### **Free New Farm Equipment Available Through USDA**

*Save Money on Pesticide and Fertilizer Expenses*

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – September 21, 2007** – Are rising input costs causing you to lose profit from your crops? Sky-rocketing fuel, pesticide and fertilizer costs are a good reason to minimize their use.

Through a grant provided by the United States Department of Agriculture, farmers can receive a \$3,000 piece of farm equipment that will decrease the use of these inputs, virtually free. The 2008 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) will provide incentive payments for purchasing farm equipment that is easy to use, and reduces the amount of fertilizer, pesticide and fuel needed to grow crops.

On Friday, October 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., the Calvert Soil Conservation District, in coordination with the Calvert County Agriculture Commission, will sponsor a seminar on this cost-saving program. Speakers from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, Calvert Soil Conservation District, and various manufacturers will explain the equipment and how to obtain it and how to save money growing your crops with its use.

The seminar will be held in the Planning Commission Hearing Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 205 Main Street, Prince Frederick, Md. Light refreshments will be served.

The seminar is free, but advance registration is required. For questions or to register, call Craig Mask or Jennifer Snoddy, Calvert Soil Conservation District, at 410.535.1521 ext.3.

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The Calvert County Agriculture Commission acts as an advisory board to the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners on issues that affect the County's farming industry, promotes the continuance of viable farming industries in the County and works to develop new agri-businesses.

Calvert Soil Conservation District provides planning, technical support and cost share assistance for installing conservation practices on Calvert County farms.

For more information, contact the Calvert County, Maryland, Department of Economic Development at 410.535.4583, 800.331.9771 or 301.855.1880; send an e-mail to [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com), or visit the Agriculture Commission Web site at [www.calvertag.com](http://www.calvertag.com).

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