

Century Farm Program

Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410.841.5882

General Information

PURPOSE

To recognize Maryland's agricultural heritage of farm families who have operated the same farm for a century or longer.

BENEFITS

Each family will be invited to participate in an awards ceremony conducted by the Secretary of Agriculture; receive a certificate signed by the Governor and Secretary of Agriculture; be listed on the **Century Farms** plaque at the Maryland Department of Agriculture; and receive a sign suitable for posting on the farm. (*Families eligible for listing in the State or National Registers of Historic Places receive additional benefits; see section.*)

CRITERIA

- The farm must be owned by the same family for at least 100 consecutive years to the date of the application; the farm must be lived on, or actually farmed by, a descendent of the original owner.
- The farm must consist of at least ten acres of the original holding, and gross over \$2,500 annually from the sale of farm products.
- Applications must include copies of legal descriptions, found in the deeds, abstracts or tax statements, which indicate consecutive ownership.

PROCESS

- Applications are available by contacting the Maryland Department of Agriculture at the address or phone on left, or from your local extension office.
- Applicant completes and submits entry to the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Attn: Century Farm Program, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401. A family may apply at any time throughout the year.
- The Century Farm Committee will review all applications and approve eligible entries. The Secretary of Agriculture will certify approved applications, and recognize families annually. Applications will be held in state archives for future research by historians.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any further questions about the program, please contact MDA at 410.841.5882. *Do not include this sheet with the completed application.*

CENTURY FARM HISTORIC STRUCTURES AWARD (OPTIONAL)

If your farm includes historic buildings or structures, you may apply for a special Century Farm Historic Structures Award. A farm qualifies if it has four standing buildings (house, barn, granary, chicken coop, etc.) or structures (windmill, corral, etc.) that are more than 100 years of age and have not been significantly altered.

Check here if you are applying for the Century Farm Historic Structures Award

Please attach current photographs of all qualifying farm buildings or structures and label with name of building and date of construction. Copies of historic photographs may be included.

STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTERS OF HISTORIC PLACES

The State and National Registers are lists of properties acknowledged by the Government as worthy of recognition and preservation for their significance in American history and culture, and are administered locally by the Maryland Historical Trust. Benefits of listing include formal recognition that a property is of significance; consideration in the planning for federally and state assisted projects and surface coal mining permits; eligibility for state and federal income tax benefits (investment, donation and rehabilitation); eligibility to apply for federal and state grants or loans for preservation projects.

Check here if you would like information on State and National Registers of Historic Places

AUTHORIZATION/NOTARY

I (We), _____
state that the above statements are true and correct with regard to the land noted. Furthermore, I(we) grant the Maryland Department of Agriculture to use any material submitted in or with this application, in any printed material, media presentation, or other information prepared for public dissemination.

Signature of Applicant(s)

STATE OF MARYLAND, County of _____, to wit: I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this _____ day of _____, 20_____, before me, a Notary Public in and for the State aforesaid, personally appeared _____, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she/they executed the same for the purposes therein contained. AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

Century Farm Application

(Please Print)

NAME OF PROPERTY

Current Name: _____

Other Names Used: _____

LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

Legible copy attached with legal description of land from deed, abstract or tax statement.

APPLICATION PREPARED BY

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Relationship to Owner: _____ Date Submitted: _____

COMMITTEE ACTION

- Application is recommended for Century Farm Program
- Application is recommended for Century Farm Historic Structures Award
- Application does not meet Program criteria due to: _____

Signature of Committee Date

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

- Entered into the Century Farm Program
- Granted the Century Farm Historic Structures Award
- Not accepted and application to be returned to petitioner

Secretary of Agriculture Date

Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401
410/841-5882

PROPERTY INFORMATION

1. Property Owner: _____
 Address: _____
 County: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
 Names for Certificate/Plaque: _____

2. Date your ancestors originally obtained property: _____
 Family member who currently lives on and/or farms property: _____

3. List all family owners, beginning with the first owner, to present:
NOTE: Documentation must show continuous linkage of ownership, *i.e.*, conveyance information listed in your deed(s).

Date of Transfer	Name	Relationship to You	Legal Description enclosed (✓)

4. Does the farm gross over \$2,500 annually in the sale of farm goods? Yes _____ No _____

5. Number of Acres in the Farm:
 Originally: _____ Currently: _____
(Refer to your deed(s) for this information)

6. What was the original, and is the current, land use of the property?

Land Use	Original	Current	Comments (optional)
Crop Land	_____ %	_____ %	
Development	_____ %	_____ %	
Floodplain/Wetlands	_____ %	_____ %	
Pasture	_____ %	_____ %	
Woodland	_____ %	_____ %	
Other: _____	_____ %	_____ %	

(Continue on back as necessary)

Historical Information

Information you add to this form will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data or stories concerning the farm and nearby area.

1. Was your family the first owner/settler on the land? _____
2. How did your family originally obtain the land? Gift Homestead Purchase Will
 Other, please explain: _____
3. If purchased, from whom? _____

4. What was the cost of the land per acre? _____
5. How many acres were in the original parcel? _____
6. Where was the first family owner born? _____
7. Where did he/she live prior to moving onto the farm? _____
8. Did the first owner farm the land? _____
9. Did he/she engage in any trades or occupations other than farming? _____

10. How many children did he/she have? _____
What were the children's names and where did they move? (List below)

11. List the names and dates of any tenant farmers who operated the farm: _____

12. Describe any archeological resources that have been found on the property: _____

13. Is the original home or any portion of it, or other original buildings, still standing or currently in use? _____

14. When was the present home built? _____

15. List and briefly describe all buildings on the farm, and provide an approximate date of construction: _____

16. What crops have been grown on this farm? _____

17. What types of livestock have been raised on the property? _____

18. For what other agricultural uses has the farm been utilized? _____

19. List the name and date initiated of any programs developed on the property (i.e., Soil and Water Conservation, Forestry Management, Critical Areas, Best Management Practices, Ag Land Preservation, etc.):

20. Current crops grown on the farm and agriculture programs participated in by the owner(s), i.e. CREP, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program (MALPF), etc., as well as other related information and interesting historical facts: _____

(Attach additional sheets as necessary)