



**FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
**OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE**

Jessica Fitzwater  
*County Executive*

*Katie Stevens, Director*

# *News Release*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## **Frederick County Agriculture Innovation Grant Program Opens** *Applications will be accepted through October 31*

FREDERICK, Md. – Farmers interested in expanding or diversifying their operations are encouraged to apply for funding through Frederick County’s acclaimed Agriculture Innovation Grant Program. Applications for the Fall 2024 grant cycle will be accepted from October 1 through October 31, 2024.

“Investing in agricultural innovation is vital to supporting our local farmers, preserving our rich agricultural history, and deepening our commitment to sustainability,” said County Executive Jessica Fitzwater. “These grants will empower farmers to innovate and grow while ensuring that our agricultural sector continues to thrive for generations to come.”

Launched in 2021, the Agriculture Innovation Grant Program was established to bolster the economic viability of the county’s agricultural industry. To date, the program has awarded over \$1.5 million to 64 agricultural projects, creating more than 150 full-time and 190 part-time jobs. Each year, \$250,000 is allocated for the grant program and distributed to awarded applicants across two grant cycles.

Agriculture Innovation Grants of \$5,000 or more are available to crop and livestock producers, value-added producers, agricultural cooperatives, seafood processors, and primary and secondary timber products processors. Funds may be used for research and development, production buildings, major fixtures, or processing facilities. Grants are competitive, with applications reviewed and scored by a committee based on established metrics.

For more information on the program or to apply, visit the Frederick County Office of Agriculture’s website at <https://frederickcountymd.gov/8678/Agricultural-Innovation-Grant>. If you require a printed application, contact Becca Tucker at 240-739-2013 or via email at [RTucker1@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:RTucker1@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

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