

Soils and Soil Survey in Maryland

2011 Maryland Soil Survey Work Planning
Conference

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Aims of the MD Soil Survey Work Planning Conference

- Update the Maryland Partnership on the status of soil survey in Maryland
- Explain the priorities and responsibilities of the National Soil Survey Division, Regional Soil Survey Offices, and MLRA Soil Survey Offices
- Introduce staff involved with soils and soil survey in Maryland

Aims of the MD Soil Survey Work Planning Conference

- **Provide basic training on the soils of Maryland, soil mapping concepts, and Web Soil Survey**
- **Introduce other tools for working with soils data and identify training needs**
- **Identify user needs and priorities with respect to future soil survey updates and information needs**

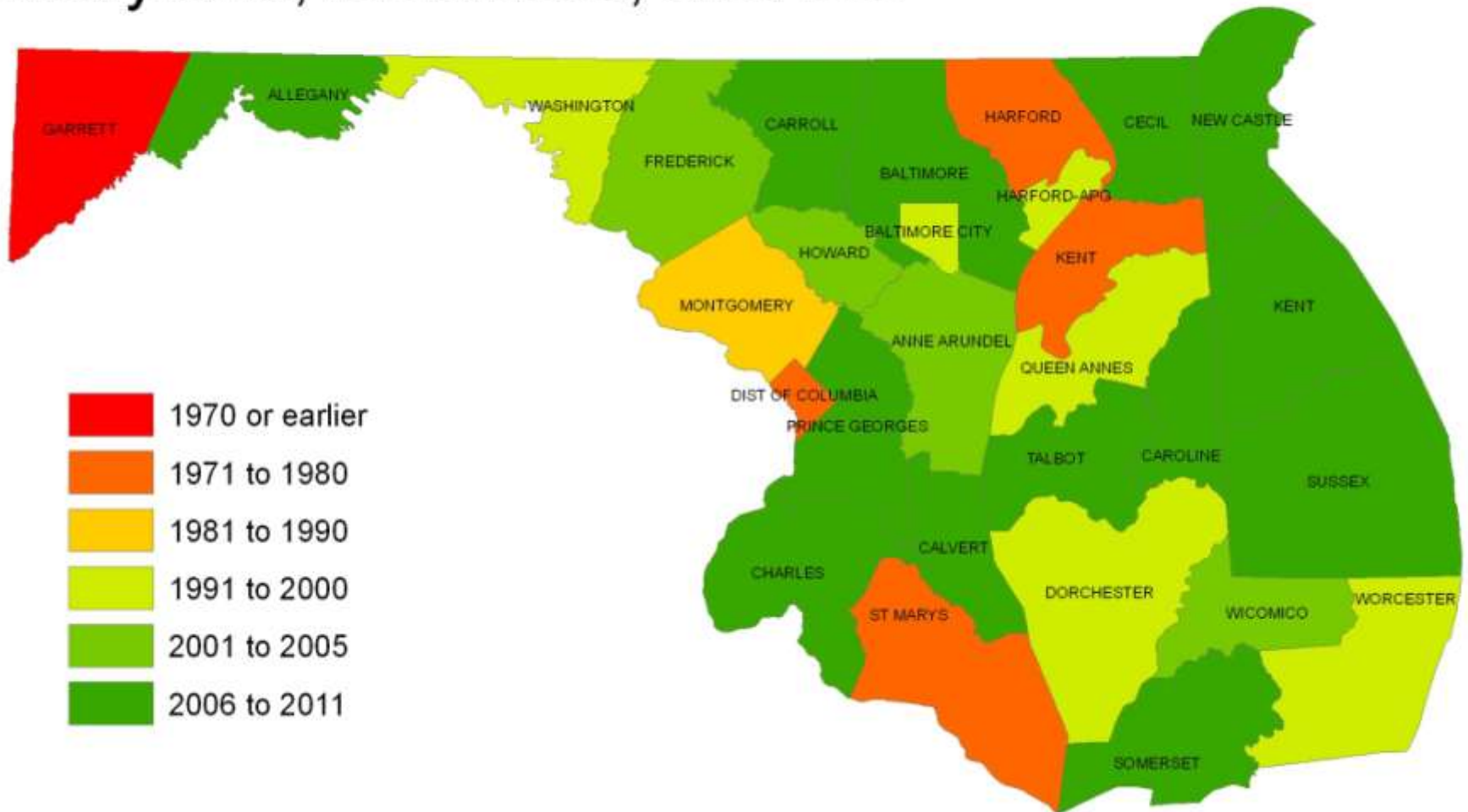
How the WPC will Work

- **Morning Presentations**
 - Soil Survey Operations and Organization
 - Introductions to the Soil-landscapes of Maryland, soil mapping concepts, and Web Soil Survey
- **Afternoon Break Out Sessions**
 - **A: Soil Tools and Training Needs**
 - **B: Soil Survey Priorities and Information Needs**
 - **Ag and Environment Folks – A first, then B**
 - **Engineering, Health, Military, Transportation, Planning, University – B first, then A**

Status of MD Soil Surveys

- **100% digital coverage of Maryland**
 - In 2009, digital data was provided for the first time for Allegany, Cecil, Talbot, and Prince George's Counties
 - In 2010, digital data was provided for the first time for Baltimore and Caroline Counties and a significant update was posted for Carroll County
 - In 2011, a significant update was posted for Calvert County

Soil Survey Correlation Dates: Maryland, Delaware, and DC



Maryland Soils Staff

- **Soils staff housed in Maryland has decreased from a high of 18 to 7**
- **State Soils Staff (Annapolis)**
 - State Soil Scientist
 - Assistant State Soil Scientist
 - Resource Soil Scientist*
 - GIS Specialist
- **MLRA Soil Survey Staff (Frederick)**
 - MLRA Soil Survey Office Leader
 - MLRA Soil Scientists (2)

**Located in Easton*

Frederick MLRA SSO

- **Northern Piedmont**
- **Responsible for soil surveys in parts of Frederick, Carroll, Baltimore, Harford, Cecil, Montgomery, and Howard Counties, Baltimore City, and Washington DC**
- **Also responsible for portions of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey**

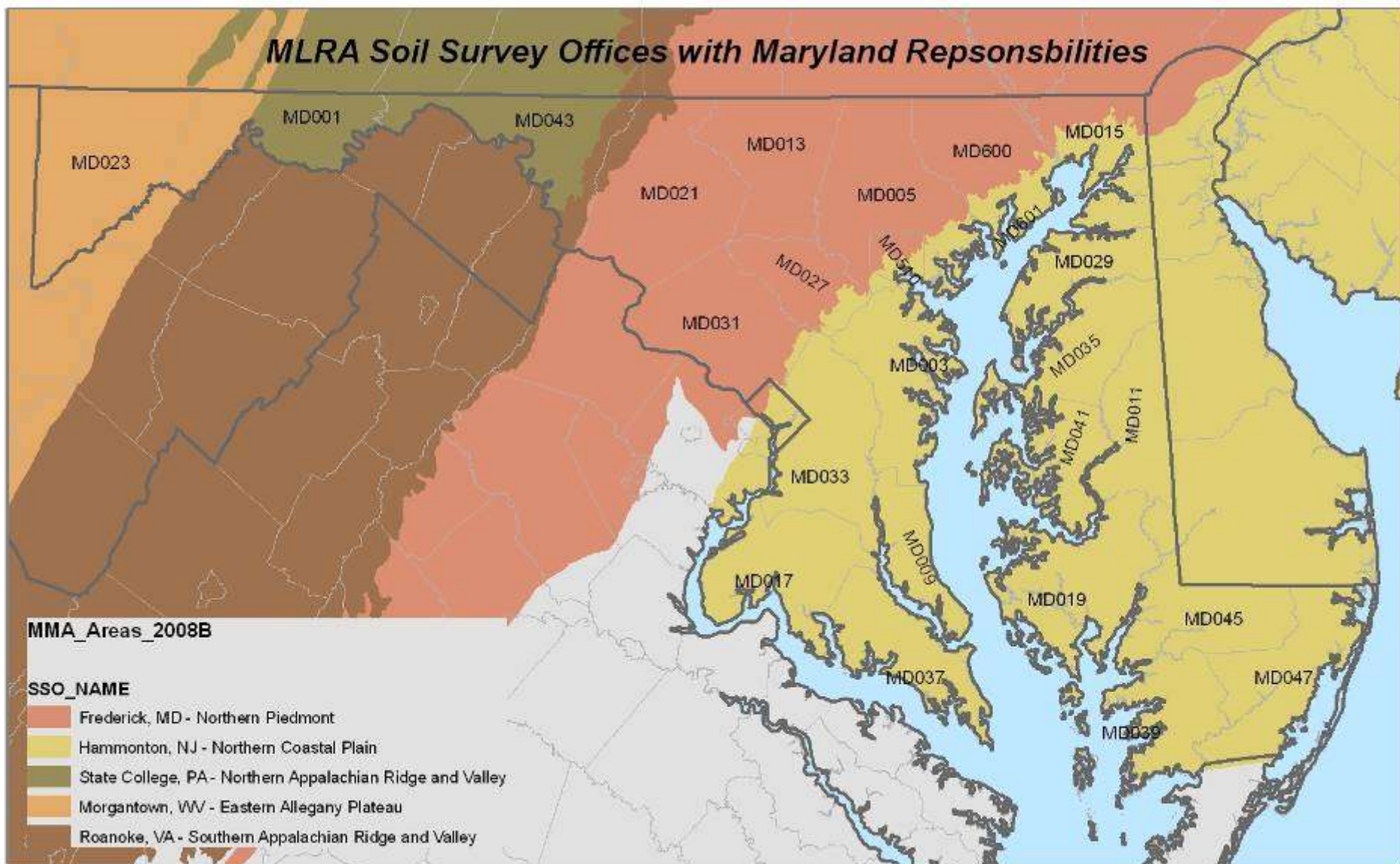
Other Staff with Responsibilities in Maryland

- **MO-13 Regional Soil Survey Office**
 - Morgantown, WV
- **Morgantown, WV Soil Survey Office**
 - Eastern Allegheny Plateau
 - Garrett and part of Allegheny Counties
- **State College, PA Soil Survey Office**
 - Northern Appalachian Ridge and Valley
 - Parts of Allegheny and Washington Counties

Other Staff with Responsibilities in Maryland

- **Roanoke, VA Soil Survey Office**
 - Southern Appalachian Ridge and Valley
 - Parts of Washington and Frederick Counties
- **Hammonton, NJ Soil Survey Office**
 - Northern Coastal Plain
 - Anne Arundel, Calvert, Prince George's, Charles, St. Mary's, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset Counties
 - Parts of Cecil, Harford, Baltimore, Howard, and Montgomery Counties, Baltimore City, and Washington DC

MLRA Soil Survey Offices with Maryland Responsibilities



Maryland Activities 2009-2010

- **Soil Survey Activities**
 - Completed outstanding soil survey reimbursable agreements
 - Implemented the MLRA Soil Survey Reorganization
 - Developed and implemented first MLRA SSO long range plan and project plans
 - Rapid Carbon/Soil Property Assessment

Maryland Activities 2009-2010

- **Technical Soil Services Activities**
 - Soil survey trainings for local governments, Soil Conservation Districts, and a variety of other organizations
 - Onsite investigations for NRCS and SCD cooperators
 - Database maintenance and preparation for national calculations for K, T, HSG, and other soil properties
 - Development of custom data layers and interpretations
 - Education and outreach through Envirothons and Land Judging contests

Priorities for 2011

- **Complete the Rapid Carbon Assessment**
- **Complete data population and calculations for K, T, HSG, WEG, I, and corrosion**
- **Condense the Coastal Plain data mapunit data set by linking all map units to a common set of data map units**
- **Develop priorities and project plans for 2012**

2011 National Cooperative Soil Survey Conference

- May 22-26, 2011 in Asheville, NC
- Theme is Interpreting the Inventory in a Digital World
- For more information, see the conference website at
 - http://soils.usda.gov/partnerships/ncss/conferences/2011_national
- Or, the letter in your MD WPC packet

2013 National Cooperative Soil Survey Conference

- In 2013, the NCSS conference will come to the Northeast Region
- Maryland is the proposed host state
- Exact dates and location TBD

Questions

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