

January 31, 2025

FSCD Fee Increase

The Frederick County Soil Conservation District (FCSCD) is increasing review fees and implementing a small pond review fee effective February 3, 2025.

The current fee structure has been in place since 2009 and is no longer adequate to meet our financial obligations. Going forward we will review the fee structure annually so that you may expect smaller and more regular adjustments.

Soil Conservation Districts are a political subdivision of the state and their responsibilities are defined in the Agriculture Article, § 8-101 - § 8-705, Annotated Code of Maryland. Consistent with Agriculture Article § 8-311, the FCSCD submitted the proposed fee system to Frederick County Government (FCG) for consideration. The proposed resolution was heard by FCG County Council on December 17, 2024. A notice of public hearing, held on January 7, 2025, was published in the Frederick News Post on December 28, 2024 and January 4, 2025. At the January 21, 2025 FCG County Council meeting, the Council voted to approve the proposed fee schedule.

In addition to the erosion and sediment control review fee adjustment, a fee is being implemented for small pond review. During the 2024 legislative season, the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 196, cross-filed as House Bill 1465, and signed by Governor Moore on May 9, 2024, authorizing Soil Conservation Districts to recommend a fee system, for enactment by the local governing body, to cover the cost of reviewing small pond plans.

The initial small pond review fee includes an optional meeting with the District Engineer as we have found that many meetings are requested following the first rounds of comments. If you have questions regarding the new fee system, please reach out to the District Manager.

The below fee schedule will go into effect on February 3, 2025.

E&S Review	Fee
Minor Grading	\$78.00
Forest Harvest	\$78.00
Submission Fee	\$130.00
Major Grading/Ac	\$130.00
Final Review Fee	\$390.00
Inspector Required Red Line Revision	\$390.00

Small Pond	Fee
Small Pond Review – Initial submission and 1 hour meeting	\$800.00 (per pond)
Small Pond resubmission	\$300.00 (per pond)
Small Pond As-Built	\$650.00 (per pond)
Small Pond As-Built resubmission	\$200.00 (per pond)



Heather Hutchinson
District Manager