

## The County Extension Advisory Council

In each county and Baltimore City, the Extension Advisory Council (EAC) serves an important role by supporting the programs of the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service. The EAC advises the county Extension faculty on matters pertaining to the needs of clientele and assists in establishing priorities in all program areas: agriculture and natural resources, home economics, 4-H and youth, marine advisory, and community resource development and energy.

**The county Extension Advisory Council also assists Extension faculty and staff by:**

- Establishing fiscal policies to receive, disburse and account for all government and private funds associated with the county's Extension activities.
- Helping to inform the public about Extension programs, activities and accomplishments.
- Providing information to governmental agencies about Extension programs and fiscal matters.
- Electing representatives from the county council to the State Extension Advisory Council, which assists the director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service.

County EAC membership consists of two or three representatives from each of the program areas relevant to the county program. (Some counties do not have Extension programs in marine advisory or community resource development.)

### Membership Guidelines

- The county Extension director is responsible for establishing the Extension Advisory Council.
- The number of council members varies from county to county depending upon the number of program areas functioning in the county. Each program subcommittee will elect one representative from its group to serve on the EAC. When vacancies exist, the program subcommittee is responsible for electing a replacement representative. If membership in a program subcommittee ends while a person is serving on the EAC, the term can be completed. Terms are of 3-year duration.
- The membership of each Extension Advisory Council should reflect the total Extension program and the demographics of the county. The county Extension director is responsible for maintaining an appropriate membership balance and may appoint as many as three members at large to assure minority and sex representation.

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Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of Maryland, College Park, and local governments, Thomas A. Fretz, Director of Maryland Cooperative Extension, University of Maryland.

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