



Class XII toured a nursery operation in Wicomico County

MISSION

LEAD Maryland Foundation, Inc. is dedicated to identifying and developing leadership to serve agriculture, natural resources, and rural communities.

“ In Garrett County, we had the opportunity to hear from a local town mayor which left me excited to delve deeper into government relations and policy at our future seminars. I do not have much experience in that area but realize the impact it has on not only our daily lives but our industry as well. Having a strong understanding will not only make me a better citizen but advocate for agriculture as well.

- LEAD CLASS XIII FELLOW

“ I give so much of the credit for my professional career to LEAD Maryland. The listening skills, conflict management, discussion skills and understanding...But mostly, it's the network or sources we were introduced to during our seminars that have really opened doors for me.

- LEAD MARYLAND ALUMNI FELLOW

JOIN US

LEAD Class XIV Fellows will participate in 2026 – 2027. Applications are accepted **JUNE 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 2025.**

APPLY HERE: leadmaryland.org

LEAD Maryland Foundation, Inc. – a 501(c)(3) non-profit – thanks the many individuals, organizations, and agencies supporting the Foundation through grants, contributions, donations, fees, and non-cash gifts and services.

Visit leadmaryland.org to learn more.

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SEEKING FELLOW APPLICANTS

CLASS XIV
2026 - 2027



APPLICATIONS OPEN BY JUNE 2025
DEADLINE TO APPLY: OCT. 1, 2025

Apply online: leadmaryland.org

20 TO 25 PEOPLE WILL BE SELECTED AS CLASS XIV FELLOWS

Program participants, Fellows, will:

- Participate in a series of multi-day seminars throughout Maryland and Washington, D.C. in 2026 – 2027;
- Complete a travel study tour – destinations for previous classes include: Netherlands, Cuba, Brazil, China, Estonia and Russia, Vietnam, Chile, South Africa, India, Poland, Spain, Panama, and Portugal;
- Pay a \$5,500 fee (tuition), payable in installments. Many Fellows secure sponsorships or scholarships.

Visit leadmaryland.org – Class XIV information will post by June 2025:

- Link to web-based application form
- Applicant reference form
- Class calendar and program description
- Participation expectations
- Fee (tuition) payment details
- Scholarship opportunities



LEAD Maryland Class XIII Seminar in Garrett County

LEAD FELLOWSHIPS PROVIDE:

- Public issues education;
- Personal growth and leadership development opportunities;
- Communications and problem-solving skills training;
- Support, direction, and resources to help emerging leaders succeed in serving agriculture, natural resources, and rural community sectors;
- Opportunities to learn more about Maryland and meet and network with leaders throughout the state.

“ A leader becomes a great leader with experience. That’s where LEAD Maryland comes into play. As one of the youngest fellows, I grew as a person over those two years and continue to grow both personally and professionally with everything I learned in LEAD Maryland.

- LEAD MARYLAND ALUMNI FELLOW

“ Post LEAD, I spend more time listening to find middle ground. LEAD has helped me to see things from all sides of viewpoints.

- LEAD MARYLAND ALUMNI FELLOW



LEAD Maryland Class XIII



Class XII studied in Panama

LEAD seeks a diversity of applicants with careers, services, or interests in:

- Production agriculture - rural, suburban, or urban agriculture;
- Natural resources, forestry, aquaculture, or other natural resource-based industries;
- The environment and conservation;
- Food: processing, sourcing, distribution, marketing, safety, services, and retail;
- Rural communities, services, and rural development; and
- Business, communications, education, government, science, technology, finance, non-profits, land use, and others within or serving agriculture, natural resources, and rural communities.

“ ...true leadership involves lifting each other up and connecting one another to vital resources and information. By embracing our differences and focusing on shared goals, I’ve learned the importance of collaboration and mutual support in driving collective progress and fostering a resilient community.”

- LEAD CLASS XIII FELLOW