



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-18

National Agriculture Day

WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day was created in 1973 to recognize and celebrate America's agriculture industry and to increase public awareness of agriculture's vital role in society; and

WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day theme "Growing a Climate for Tomorrow" encourages every American to understand and appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant, and affordable products; and value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, Charles County is home to 382 working farms and more than 46,000 acres of farmland that enrich residents with the production of fresh and local food and the preservation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, agriculture alone provides approximately \$2 million dollars in tax revenue along with more than 1,000 jobs to Charles County; and

WHEREAS, the Charles County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board was appointed in 1978 to advise on county priorities for agricultural preservation in order to protect this valuable industry and the productive land necessary to sustain it; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission is a visionary and guiding force for agriculture; aids new and transitioning farmers in Maryland to be prosperous, viable, and sustainable; and is a source for farm innovation in Southern Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Charles County Farm Bureau is recognized as the leading voice of the County's farmers and supports the development of sensible agriculture policy; and is a strong advocate for safe, environmentally responsible and economically sound food and fiber production; and

WHEREAS, the entire agriculture industry helps feed the world, fuels the economy, is this nation's number one export, and is vitally important to sustaining a healthy economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim March 19, 2024, as **National Agriculture Day** in Charles County and call upon all residents to join in acknowledging and honoring farmers and the agriculture industry for the role they have in ensuring that our County's farming heritage and culture will continue.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, MA, *Vice President*
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, MS.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
District 3



Attest:

Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners