



Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties
August 1, 2024



Garrett County Business Development Grant Opportunities

Garrett County Business Development is currently accepting applications for the **FY2025 Small Business Marketing Grant**. The purpose of the Small Business Marketing Grant Program is to aid in the promotion of small, non-agriculture businesses with 25 or fewer employees based in Garrett County, Maryland. Any for-profit, non-agriculture business with 25 or fewer employees based in Garrett County and with a physical in Garrett County, Maryland is eligible to apply.

For more information on grant instructions and guidelines and to download application documents, follow [this link](#).

Applications will close on Friday, September 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Garrett County Business Development is currently accepting applications for the **FY2025 Agricultural Marketing Grant**. The purpose of the Agriculture Marketing Grant Program is to aid in the promotion of agriculture-based businesses located in Garrett County, Maryland. Any farm, farm business, farm-related business, or farm-related organization or association based in Garrett County, Maryland is eligible to apply.

For more information on grant instructions and guidelines and to download application documents, follow [this link](#).

Applications will close on Friday, September 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM



Maryland Energy Administration Announces Request for Information for Upcoming SolarAPP+ Implementation Program

The [Maryland Energy Administration](#) has opened a Request for Information (RFI) for the upcoming [FY25 SolarAPP+ Implementation Grant Program](#). This federally-funded incentive program will provide grants to Maryland's Counties and Municipalities to help pay the costs of implementing the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) [SolarAPP+ streamlined solar permitting software](#). The Maryland Energy Administration is particularly interested in receiving feedback from County and Municipal governments, but the RFI is open to responses to all stakeholders and the general public.

The Maryland General Assembly passed the Brighter Tomorrow Act ([Chapter 595, 2024 Acts of Maryland, S.B. 783](#)) earlier this year, which includes a requirement that all authorities having jurisdiction over solar energy system permitting adopt streamlined solar permitting software. The Maryland Energy Administration has determined that the SolarAPP+ software meets the requirements of the Brighter Tomorrow Act, and will provide grants through the Program to Counties and Municipalities to help pay the costs of implementing the software.

Interested parties are encouraged to respond to the [SolarAPP+ Implementation Grant Program RFI](#). A link to the RFI is also available on the [SolarAPP+ Implementation Grant Program webpage](#). Responses are due to MEA no later than 3:00 P.M. ET, Friday, August 9, 2024.

Please contact SolarAPP.MEA@Maryland.gov with any questions, and a member of the MEA Clean Energy and Resilience Team will be happy to assist.



How To Create A Cybersecurity Compliance Checklist

August 14, 2024
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

For more details and to Register, follow [this link](#).

Mastering Facebook Ads for Small Businesses

August 15, 2024
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

For more details and to Register, follow [this link](#).

Visit the [SBDC Training Calendar](#) for more Event Opportunities