

Landowner Case Study: Jason Leavitt



Property Details



Location:
Calvert County



Property Type:
Farmland



Conservation Program:
Maryland's Rural
Legacy Program



Acres Protected:
215

The Leavitt family has farmed the land at Wilson Dowell Farms for four generations, with a fifth on the way. What began as a tobacco and small grain operation has evolved into a livestock farm producing pasture-raised meats and grass-fed beef.

Jason was one of the first in Calvert County to enroll in Maryland's Rural Legacy Program, administered by the Department of Natural Resources. The conservation easement on 215 acres allows the Leavitts to receive compensation while maintaining agricultural activities and permanently protecting themselves from development pressures. Jason worked with the Department of Natural Resources to tailor the easement language to fit his farm's specific needs. He says "this flexibility is essential to make the program work for farming families."

"Farmland is finite and expensive to acquire, and land is being swallowed up by developers. Preservation opportunities help ensure new farmers have options for agricultural land use as current farmers age."



For more information on the Southern Maryland Conservation Alliance and land conservation programs in Southern Maryland, please visit acltweb.org/smca.



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