

# Marsh Grasses Available



The Emergent Grasses Program is a County supported effort between the Department of Inspections and Permits and the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Through this program, county residents with qualifying living shoreline or other tidal projects can receive appropriate Emergent Marsh Grasses for planting in marsh areas free of charge.

County personnel will conduct a field visit to evaluate site conditions, which can occur prior to application submittal so that we can assist in the initial project planning.

Although the emergent grass plantings do not require permits, any additional work along the shoreline does require that permits be obtained prior to beginning work. Cutting or clearing of any vegetation (including tree limbs) within 100 feet of tidal waters is prohibited without an approved Vegetation Management Plan.

The Emergent Marsh Grass program currently provides two types of grasses. *Spartina alterniflora*, or smooth cordgrass, is ideal for areas between normal low and high tides. *Spartina patens*, also called salt marsh hay, lives in the area above high tide. Types of plants are determined by position on the shore, with respect to tides and salinity.

Please contact the Forestry Office at 410-222-7441 for plant descriptions, recommended spacing, and other information.

Department of  
Inspections and Permits  
Forestry Division  
2664 Riva Road  
Annapolis MD 21401

