

Montgomery County 2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Montgomery Countryside Alliance (MoCoAlliance.org)



Greetings!

Thanks for taking the time to take MCA's survey. The Agricultural Reserve is a bold and successful land use program that serves as a model for other metro areas. The Reserve makes up one-third of the county and voters are invested in its continued protection and vibrancy. All candidate responses received by ***May 17th at 9pm***** will be posted unedited and in full on our website (mocoalliance.org), linked on our social media and sent to our thousands of local supporters. You are unable to save this form, but can cut and paste. If you'd like to download a word doc of the questions you'll find one here:

<https://bit.ly/3Mpg1ex> Questions? info@mocoalliance.org. Thanks again for your time. (pictured above: Tomatoes and Cherries at Rocklands Farm, Blueberries at Farm at Home)

Personal Information:

First Name

Last Name

What Office Are You Seeking in the 2026 Election?

Where Can Voters Learn More About Your Positions Or Contact Your Campaign?

Type here...



Please Answer the Following Questions- responses will posted in their entirety and will not be edited. There are no word limits but please try to be consise.

(pictured above: One Acre Farm)

Please share 3 sentences that help us to know you better:

When we recently surveyed residents throughout the County, they shared that their top priority was a lack of government transparency - How can Montgomery County ensure transparency in their legislative and land use decision making? How would you grade current public engagement? Do you support re-establishing the Office of the People's Counsel?

Do you believe that the way that local government branches (executive, legislative and planning), and state entities currently interact can be improved? If so, what steps would you take to bring better collaboration?



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"Golden Hour on the Potomac" - Erik Pedersen

Source water protection is a priority for County residents. Rural residents are served by wells drawn from a federally designated Sole Source Aquifer. What specific actions will you take to protect groundwater quality and ensure a sustainable supply of drinking water for residents, farms and businesses? And what do you propose with regard to protecting the Potomac River, a drinking water supply for more than 5 Million people in the Washington DC metropolitan area. Given increasing drought conditions, growing data center water consumption, and projections that the Potomac River may not meet future demand, how will you plan for a water-constrained future? What policies or investments would you prioritize during your term?

Type here...

What role can the Ag Reserve play in helping our County address Climate Change? Do you have plans to bolster the county's funds to address climate change, i.e. expanded grant making, review of energy tax structure for high energy consumers such as data centers?



Do you support the long planned closure of the trash incinerator in Dickerson? Please provide some details as to why or why not. (pictured above: Shepherd's hey Farm)

Should Montgomery County host hyperscale Data Centers? If so, what zoning standards and regulations should be established? Have we gathered all the necessary information to make an informed decision at this time?



Forests are a key tool for climate protection and protecting public health. How would forest protection and control of non-native plant species factor into your administration's goals? (Picture above - Wib Middleton)

Type here...



Where do you stand on synthetic turf playing fields for school and community use?



Challenges to current and future farmers are increasing. The average age of County producers is 59. The cost of leasing farm acreage (60% of farms are leasing) is skyrocketing while a diverse new crop of farmers struggle to afford farmland. Have you got any plans for how the County can help keep the industry healthy and promote expansion– with an understanding that resilience depends on local food and fiber production? (Pictured above: Afrithrive Farm)

Type here...

Submit