

2024 Policy Tours

Please, use this link to go back into the registration site to sign-up. You must sign yourself up! Space is limited on all tours. Below are the available tours:

Monday, July 29, 2:15-5:15 p.m. 2-5 p.m.

1. Agriculture Policy Tour to Gotham Greens AND Boordy Vineyard Winery

FIRST STOP: Gotham Greens is a 100,000 sq. ft greenhouse, built on the former Bethlehem Steel Mill located in Sparrows Point. This new indoor hydroponic farm produces 6 million heads of butter lettuce, romaine, basil and other leafy crops a year

- Registrants for this tour must register in advance, sign a confidentiality agreement, and
- All are required to wear hairnets and beard nets.
- Jewelry shall be confined to a plain wedding band (no earrings, necklaces, or stones).
- All items shall be removed from shirt pockets before entering the facility.
- All are required to disclose whether they have come from other gardens, farms, or greenhouses within the past week.
- Anyone with boils, sores, infected wounds or exhibiting signs of foodborne illness is not permitted to enter the facility.)
- Attendees must sign a confidentiality agreement which will be sent in advance. Public sector attendees have priority to attend which will be sent in advance.

SECOND STOP: Boordy Vineyard Winery and Tasting Room. Their first wines were bonded in 1945. Since 1980, this family-owned concern has been growing grapes on the same land to craft fine, award-winning wines in Maryland.

2. Sparrows Point / Wind Energy Tour

Sparrows Point Steel, (formerly Bethlehem Steel) is the proposed site of a long-term monopile production facility being developed as Maryland's first permanent offshore wind turbine factory. Please note

- This tour is 45 minutes long and will span 1.5 miles over compacted dirt and uneven terrain. Further, conditions could be hot, dusty, and windy. Please take this into consideration if you would like to take this tour. Also please note:
- PPE is required, heavier footwear is encouraged, sneakers acceptable, <u>NO</u> sandals allowed. Some steel-toed shoes are available but are limited in size and number. Hard hats will be provided.
- Participants must sign a waiver in advance. Waivers will be emailed when you register and must be returned by July 22nd!

3. Port of Baltimore Tour 1

This tour will include a visit to Seagirt Marine, and Dundalk Marine Terminals to view container and roll-on/roll-off cargo. You must sign-up no later than one business day in advance. **Please note:**

- There are two port tours, please register for only one.
- There is no citizenship requirement.
- You must bring an official, government-issued, photo ID (driver's license or passport).
- Yellow vests will be provided and worn.
- Attendees should wear comfortable, closed-toe walking shoes.
- Photography is mostly restricted, please follow directions of the tour leader.

The Council of State Governments · Eastern Regional Conference 63rd Annual Meeting and Regional Policy Forum



2024 Policy Tours

Tuesday, July 30, 2-5 p.m.

1. Health Policy Tour

Visit the Baltimore Healthy Start Program. See how they support children, mothers, and families to assure a positive, sustainable future, reduce high rates of infant and mother mortality and morbidity from conception through pregnancy, from birth to early childhood and beyond. Hear from key stakeholders about how this program began, the depth and breadth of its services, how it is sustained, and the outcomes it has achieved.

2. Housing Tour

Join the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development for a bus tour of recent housing developments and initiatives throughout the city.

3. Education Tour - 21st Century School Buildings Program

For over a decade, Baltimore City Public Schools has been working in partnership with the state to renovate or replace aging school buildings. The initiative aims to modernize schools to improve health and safety conditions and enhance the learning environment for Baltimore students. In addition to increasing health, safety, and learning outcomes for students, the new buildings provide recreational and resource hubs for the local community. Participants will visit two nearby schools – one before and one after construction. A representative from the program will guide attendees through the schools and provide program background on the bus.

4. Workforce Development in Technology Tour

Workforce development is key to the success of businesses and local communities. On this tour of Amazon's Baltimore fulfillment center, you will learn about Amazon's \$1.2 billion investment in workforce development across the U.S, including the Career Choice program, which pre-pays tuition for degrees and skills training. You will also meet team members at the heart of Amazon's operations, experience the customer order fulfillment journey and witness innovative robotics technology in action.

- Please wear comfortable walking shoes, protective rubber shoe coverings will be provided and must be worn.
- Attendees will walk about 1 mile during this tour and be on their feet for 75 minutes.
- This tour is only open to government officials and government staff.

5. Port of Baltimore Tour 2

This tour will include a visit to Seagirt Marine, and Dundalk Marine Terminals to view container and roll-on/rolloff cargo. You must sign-up no later than one business day in advance. **Please note:**

- There is no citizenship requirement.
- You must bring an official, government-issued, photo ID (driver's license or passport).
- Yellow vests will be provided and worn.
- Attendees should wear comfortable, closed-toe walking shoes.
- Photography is mostly restricted, please follow directions of the tour leader.