

USDA MUSEUMS AND VISITOR'S CENTERS

ARS National Visitor Center

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Agricultural Research Service, USDA
Beltsville, MD

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/nvc/index.html>

The ARS National Visitor Center is located in the historic Beltsville Log Lodge. The building was constructed in 1936-37 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and was used by the CCC as a recreational hall until 1942. Walking through the Log Lodge is an educational experience. There is much to be learned from the exhibits and displays featuring captioned photographs of microscopic animals, scientists in their laboratories, insects, and many other research topics.

National Arboretum

Washington DC

<http://www.usna.usda.gov/Information/historymissn.html>

Established in 1927 by an Act of Congress, the Arboretum is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service. The arboretum's mission is to serve the public need for scientific research, education, and gardens that conserve and showcase plants to enhance the environment. There are 446 acres with 9.5 miles of winding roadways and hundreds of thousands of specimens. Annual Visitation is 500,000 to 600,000.