



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

# **Commission for the Innovation and Advancement of Carbon Markets and Sustainable Tree Plantings**

**March 11, 2022**  
Regular Meeting



# Meeting Agenda

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- **2:00-2:10pm** - Welcome and updates
- **2:10-2:30pm** - Communications strategy update
- **2:30-2:50pm** - Overview of DNR implementation strategy
- **2:50-3:20pm** - Open discussion and questions
- **3:20-3:30pm** - Public comment period



# Draft Work Plan and Timeline (Meetings on Fridays – 2-3:30pm)

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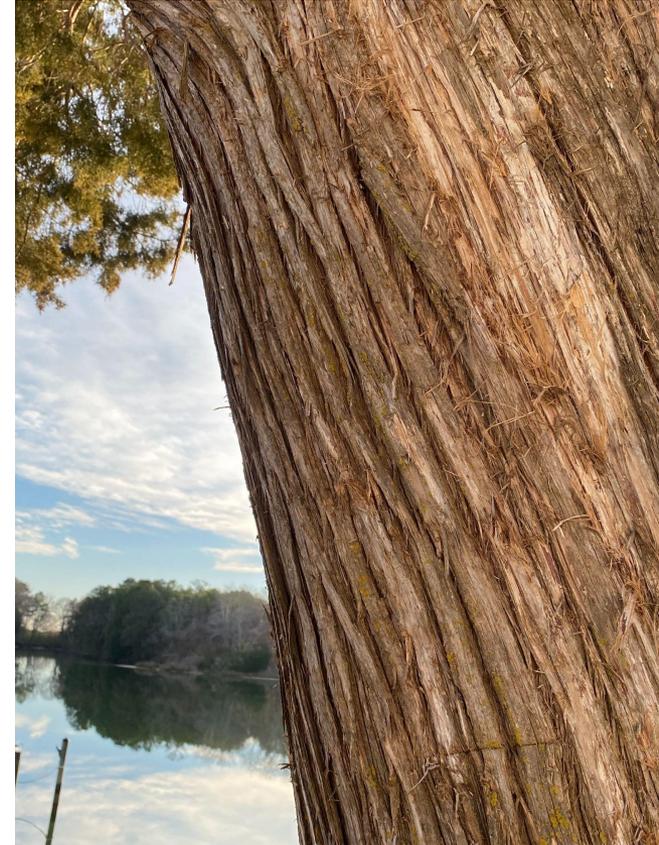
- **February 11**
  - MDA Implementation Strategy
  - CBT Urban Tree Program Plan
- **March 11**
  - Communications plan/update
  - DNR Implementation Strategy
- **April 8**
  - MDE Tree Accounting and Quantifying Carbon
- **April 12 - End of Legislative Session**
- **May 6**
  - MDE and Invited Speakers: Intro to Carbon Markets and the role of the State
- **May 27**
  - MDE and Invited Speakers:
    - Private financing
    - Clean Water Commerce Act
    - Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund
    - Environmental Impact Bonds
- **June 17**
  - MDOT and DNR:
    - Tree mitigation for transportation projects



# Outreach and Communications

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- Prioritization of Tree Growing Plan
- Focus on *Communication Pillars*
  - Definition of audience
  - Tools to support engagement
  - Metrics of success
- Additional needs as identified
- Interagency implementation





# Communication Tools

Maryland.gov

Search

MDE DNR MDA CBT HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED TRACKER TREE SPECIES HOW TO GROW A TREE

**MARYLAND SMT INITIATIVE**

Help us grow a tree for EVERY Marylander

We can all appreciate the benefits of being tree planters and stewards. Trees improve the environment as well as aiding our common cause of a cleaner Chesapeake Bay. They also provide tangible benefits for wildlife and for us and for future generations to come as these trees grow and the state canopy spreads.

Let's Get to Work




**CHECK OUR GALLERY - SEE OUR PROGRESS**  
Plantings planned for seven counties over the next few weeks. Join in!

**Tree planting scheduled for Maryland Arbor Day**  
2/24/2022

**Get discounts for trees purchased from Maryland partner Nurseries for planting efforts**  
3/5/2022

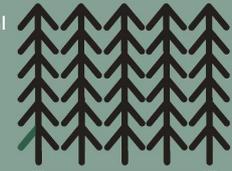
**Maryland launches new tracking map showing state's progress towards growing 5 million trees**  
6/29/2022

**MDE, DNR and MDA kick off joint effort with partners to grow trees in Maryland**  
8/16/2022

More News and Events

**Reaching the state's carbon mitigation goal**

Planting in underserved urban communities will be a key focus. The state also is working to optimize plantings to realize multiple co-benefits including enhanced pollinator and wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, improved air and water quality, and reducing urban heat island effects. This work supports the state's ambitious climate mitigation goals, where the 2030 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan (GGRA) lays out a pathway for achieving a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 relative to a 2008 baseline. These efforts also build on Maryland state government's leadership in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and the U.S. Climate Alliance, as well as ongoing restoration work through the Chesapeake Bay Program.




**How do Trees Help?**



**How can I get Involved?**



**TreeMendous Maryland**

**Human Trafficking GET HELP**

National Human Trafficking Hotline - 24/7 Confidential

1-888-375-7888

24/7

More Information

**Customer Service Promise**

The State of Maryland pledges to provide constituents, businesses, customers, and stakeholders with friendly and courteous, timely and responsive, accurate and consistent accessible and convenient, and truthful and transparent services.

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100 Community Plaza, Colesville, MD 21032  
301-591-7000 (Voice) or 301-591-7001 (TDD)  
410-697-9700 or 800-731-1111 to place a call through Maryland Relay





# Implementation Leads

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- **Maryland Department of Natural Resources**
  - Technical assistance tree planting/management
  - 13 new contractor positions and expanded program funding

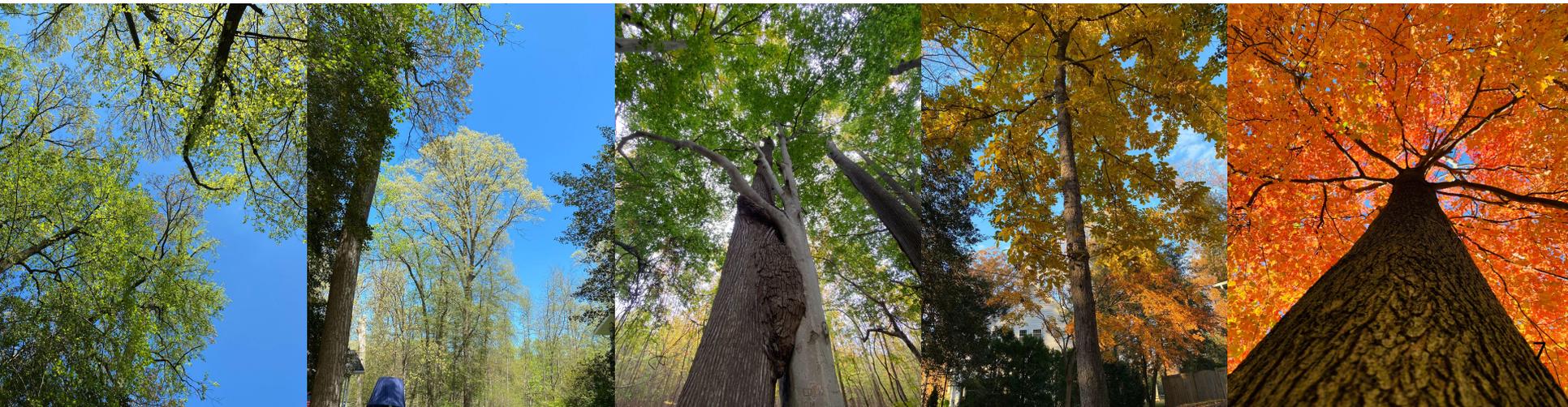




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# Questions and Discussion

Commission Members and Implementation Leads





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# Public Comment Period

Please add name and affiliation in the chat box and we will take comments in the order received.



# Staff Contact

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Rachel Lamb, PhD

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Climate Change Program

Maryland Department of the Environment

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# State Ethics Commission

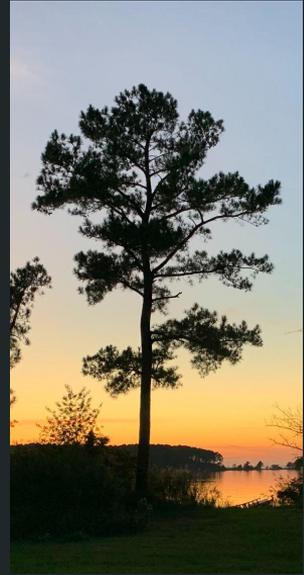
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- Members serving on another board or commission should note on their 2021 statement, Schedule X, that they also serve on the Markets and Trees Commission
- Those who have not filed and serve only on the Markets and Trees Commission, should file for this Commission only using Form #2 marked *Boards and Commissions*
- <https://efds.ethics.maryland.gov>



Maryland  
Financial Disclosures

# 5 Million Trees Strategy



Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
March 11, 2022



# Staff Presenting

Philip R. Hager, Assistant Secretary, Land Resources

Anne Hairston-Strang, Ph.D, Acting State Forester

Marian Honeczy, Urban and Community Forestry Supervisor

Iris Allen, Chesapeake Watershed Forester



# DNR's Role in Maryland's 5 Million Trees Effort

Work with our designated partners (MDA, MDE and CBT) to plant and grow 5 Million Trees.

Work with other organizations including local governments, non-profit organizations and other entities to provide guidance, technical assistance, trees, and other assistance for tree planting and maintenance activities to achieve goal of 5 million trees.

Enhance and expand existing Forestry planting and maintenance programs and develop new programs.



# DNR's Role in Maryland's 5 Million Trees Effort

- Technical assistance
- Expand tree seedling
- Increase capacity
- New planting programs
- Maintenance
- New partners and markets
- Coordination



# Technical Assistance through 13 New Positions

- One Assistant Nursery Manager
  - Seedlings and seed collection
- 12 Tree Planting Specialists
  - Placed statewide, serve both urban and rural areas
  - Job duties:
    - Outreach and planning
    - Planting and maintenance
  - Anticipated start date July 1, 2022
- Seeking a diversity of talent
  - Reflecting the geographic and demographic composition of the state



# Increase Capacity of Existing Programs

- Marylanders Plant Trees
- Tree-Mendous
- Gift of Trees
- Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee Grant Programs
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Healthy Forest, Healthy Waters
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)



# Getting to 5 Million Trees

- Increase output of existing programs
- Develop new tree planting programs
- Enhance collaboration with other organizations
- Build upon success



# Challenges and Opportunities

- Landowner Interest - Greatest limiting factor
  - 5MT funds have 15 year agreement and constraints
  - Not intended for harvest
  - Need to develop and foster long-term relationships to plant, grow, maintain trees
- Maintenance challenges with shifting ecology: weather, invasive species, weed competition, deer browse, more
  - Strategies *Under Development*
    - Expand volunteer opportunities
      - New Maryland Tree Stewards Program
      - Coordinate with *conservation partners*
    - Exploring opportunities for regional contract tree care crews after turnkey contracted maintenance ends
- Partner opportunities for outreach



# Opportunities and Challenges

- Ramp-up time needed to increase tree supply and trained contractors
  - Increases in smaller tree stock available sooner
- Building a solid foundation through staff training and community connections
  - Training and mentoring program under development
- Potential Partner and Funding Opportunities
  - Will seek funding options and pursue as they are identified



# Partnerships to Leverage Efforts and Funds



AND MORE!



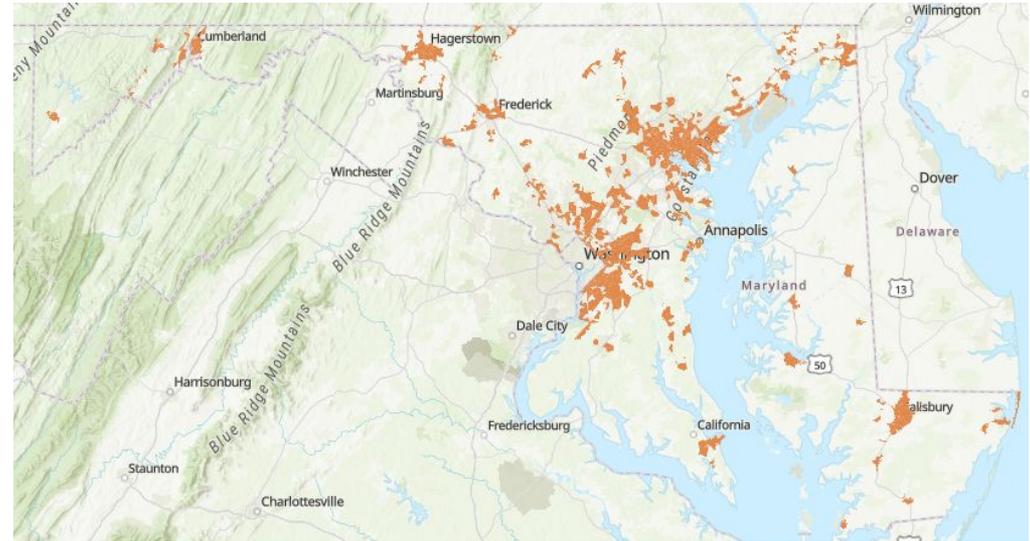
BALTIMORE  
**TREE TRUST**



**American  
Forests™**

# Coordinated Map Development for Urban Underserved Definition and Equity Data

- Supports CBT and other grant applicants
  - [Map of underserved areas](#)
- Data layers sourced from DHCD
- Reviewed by MDP
- Separately displays income, unemployment, mapped housing projects, and mapped redlined areas



# Partner Coordination

- Coordinate tracking with MDE
  - Update DNR's tracking mechanisms
- MDA Ag Land Planting
  - Incentive Coordination
  - Tree Planting Opportunity Analysis excludes prime ag soils
  - CREP and other farm areas outside of cropped acres



A photograph of a young tree nursery or field. In the background, a dense line of trees with green foliage is visible under a clear blue sky. The middle ground is filled with numerous young trees, each protected by a white, cylindrical sleeve. The foreground is dominated by tall, thin grasses with reddish-brown and green stalks, interspersed with small white wildflowers. The overall scene is bright and natural.

Thank you!