



Fall Newsletter

GROWING THE URBAN TREE CANOPY: TODAY'S MARYLAND URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY COMMITTEE

By Cheryle Franceschi, MUCFC member

Forestry and volunteerism have always been an integral part of natural resource management in Maryland. This level of environmental stewardship reached new heights in 1943 with the creation of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. The Boards were originally established to assist the Maryland Department of Natural Resources's Forest, Park and Wildlife Service with the promotion of rural forest management of privately owned woodlands. Each of Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City have a Forestry Conservation District Board. During the late 1980s going into the 1990s, the "Forestry Boards" as they are often called, expanded their focus to include Urban Forestry issues. Then in 2003, a subcommittee sprouted. (Cont. Page 3)

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

By Anne Gilbert, MD Forest Service

The Southern Maryland Sierra Club has received multiple grants over the last few years to support their ongoing Native Parks Planting project. Their projects leverage funding from multiple sources to plant and maintain native tree plantings in more than five parks in three counties. (Cont. Page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Southern MD Sierra Club	2
Save on a new tree this fall	2
Flood Resistant Natives.....	3
Spotted Lanternfly.....	4
Maintenance Corner	4
Tree FAQ.....	5
Donate to MUCFC	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Successful grant project example
- Tree planting tips
- Spotted Lanternfly facts



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT CONT.

Grant funding pays for tree stakes and guywire as well as tree watering bags. Watering bags remain for the first three years and will then get reused at another planting. MUCFC particularly likes this project because the Sierra Club are investing in the ongoing maintenance of the trees and investing in items that can be

reused from year to year and for multiple plantings.

Other projects funded by the MUCFC grant program include arboretum tree identification tags; Emerald Ash Borer educational signage about tree removal, treatment, and replacement; community food forests and reforestation efforts. □

Left: Young budding arborist helping load trees for planting in St. Mary's County in 2020.

“MUCFC particularly likes this project because the Sierra Club are investing in the ongoing maintenance...”

“We are really proud that over 60 friends and neighbors took time out of their weekend to volunteer with us to plant 13 trees in 4 different St. Mary's County Parks!... Families playing at the playground thanked us for adding beauty, color, shade and bird habitat to our playgrounds. It was an amazing end to a long season of preparation and we are energized to keep the momentum going and continue plantings like this next year.”

Southern Maryland Sierra Club Fall 2018 Grant Report; a requirement of receiving funding from a MUCFC grant.

SAVE ON A NEW TREE THIS FALL

As Marylanders, we take pride in our State and our natural world. We understand the value of stewardship and the importance of a sustainable future, and are committed to working together to create a smarter, greener State.

Planting trees is one way that everyone can contribute to our shared vision. Trees provide ecological, economic and quality of life benefits – protecting air and water quality, reducing energy costs, increasing property values and beautifying neighborhoods and highways.

This coupon is worth \$25 off the purchase of one tree with a retail value of \$50 or more at all participating retail nurseries and garden centers.—36 throughout the state. The discount is taken at the register at the time of the sale. One coupon must be filled in for each tree purchased.

List of participating nurseries:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/nurseries.aspx>

Print your coupon:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/Print-Your-Coupon.aspx>





Youth assisting with guywire at St. Mary's County public park planting event.

GROWING THE URBAN TREE CANOPY CONT.

Today, those offering their times and talents on that subcommittee— *The Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee*, fondly known as MUCFC, are from various career backgrounds with an interest in growing the urban tree canopy from the ground up. Each February and July, MUCFC accepts grant proposals. Awards up to \$1,000 are available per project. Projects have to be in open green spaces and by volunteer-based groups/committees. Over the years, there have been 336 applications, requesting \$268,130.75. Of those seeking funding, 258 grants were administered worth \$232,810.78.

As of October 2021, MUCFC received 13 grant applications from 12 counties. Of those projects, a total of \$8,262.10 went to organizations directly involved in putting trees in the ground. Those young community trees and post-planting educational programs are outreach with a direct investment in the urban tree canopy. A little better quality of life for the people and wildlife of the communities served with the help of small grant distributions.

As the saying that goes, “no good deed goes undone” and MUCFC, along with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources sponsors and reviews a program that does just that for individuals. The PLANT award which stands for **P**eople **L**oving **A**nd **N**urturing **T**rees.

Started in 1991, the Maryland PLANT program branched out from a cooperative effort between the Maryland Community Forest Council (MCFC) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. As communities and organizations throughout the state became more involved in the urban tree canopy, MD DNR officials noticed that recognition was missing for the smaller groups overlooked by the national programs. An effort was made to give thanks to the people responsible for single projects, yearly events, developmental designs, and ongoing restorations from within the urban tree canopy. (Cont. Page 5)

FLOOD RESISTANT NATIVES

Mountain Zone

- Black Willow** (tolerates mildly brackish water, .5 ppt salinity)
- Hackberry** (occasional flooding)
- Swamp Rose** (3" floodwaters)
- Red Chokeberry** (infrequent flooding, tolerates salt spray)
- Smooth/Hazel Alder** (3" floodwaters)
- Buttonbush** (36" floodwaters)

Piedmont Zone

- Black Willow** (tolerates mildly brackish water, .5 ppt salinity)
- Sweetbay Magnolia** (moderately tolerant of salt spray)
- Hackberry** (occasional flooding)
- Swamp Rose** (3" floodwaters)
- Red Chokeberry** (infrequent flooding, tolerates salt spray)
- Smooth/Hazel Alder** (3" floodwaters)
- Buttonbush** (36" floodwaters)

Coastal Plain Zone

- Black Willow** (tolerates mildly brackish water)
- Sweetbay Magnolia** (moderately tolerant of salt spray)
- Northern Bayberry** (brackish water; 20 ppt salinity)
- Summersweet** (moist to saturated soil)
- Hackberry** (occasional flooding)
- Buttonbush** (36" floodwaters)
- Wax Myrtle** (brackish water; 10 ppt salinity)
- Inkberry** (moderately tolerant of salt, wet to moist soils)
- Red Chokeberry** (infrequent flooding, tolerates salt spray)
- Virginia Sweetspire** (6" floodwaters)
- Swamp Rose** (3" floodwaters)
- Marsh Elder** (brackish water; 15 ppt salinity)
- Smooth/Hazel Alder** (3" floodwaters)
- Groundsel Bush** (6" floodwaters/ brackish water; 15 ppt salinity)

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/pages/forests-flood-buffers.aspx>

FOOD PLANTS OF THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Here is a listing of some of the many plants on which spotted lanternfly has been found feeding. Please keep in mind that this is not a complete listing of plants that could be affected, because there is still research being done.

- Almond
- Grape
- Peaches
- Apple
- Hickory
- Pine
- Apricot
- Hops
- Plum
- Basil
- Horseradish
- Sycamore
- Blueberry
- Maple
- Walnut
- Cherry
- Nectarine
- Willow
- Cucumber
- Oak

It should also be noted that the spotted lanternfly has been found on other crops, such as corn, soybeans, and alfalfa, although there has been no observed feeding on these plants.

<https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/pages/spotted-lantern-fly.aspx>

FALL MAINTENANCE CORNER

Proper Planting Steps:

1. Carry tree by the pot—not by the trunk
2. Remove truck and branch packaging and tags
3. Only prune damaged or dead branches at time of planting
4. Remove excess soil to expose the truck flare
5. Cut problematic roots that are beginning to encircle the root ball
6. Dig a hole the same depth as the root ball and 2-3 times as wide.

Better to high than too deep

7. Backfill with same soil
8. Water area completely
9. Mulch in a 2-4 inch layer without touching the trunk.

Find more in the US Forest Service's Tree Owner's Manual— <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Documents/TreeOwnersManual.pdf>

Spotted Lanternfly in adult form July through December.



REPORT SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Info from : <https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/pages/spotted-lantern-fly.aspx>

The spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is a planthopper which is native to China, India, and Vietnam, but has also spread to Korea around 2006. It was detected in Pennsylvania in 2014.

Adult form is present in Fall. Light gray egg masses are laid in late Fall. They are laid on nearly anything flat and should be removed, placed in a sealed bag, crushed and disposed in the bag in the garbage.

Spotted lanternfly causes damage to plants in two different ways. The nymphs and adults feed on plants using their piercing mouthparts to suck fluids from the stems or leaves. This has been shown to cause stunted growth, localized damage, reduced yields, and, in extreme cases, even death of the plant. Additionally, as the spotted lanternfly feeds, it excretes a sugary substance called honeydew. This honeydew, in addition to being attractive to ants, wasps, and other insects, is readily colonized by sooty mold, which can cause parts of the plants to become blackened, reducing photosynthesis and affecting the quality of the plants. Report to DontBug.MD@Maryland.gov

TREE FAQ

What kind of tree should I plant?

Your decision to plant a tree should start with an objective: do I want a flowering tree, do I need shade for my home or business, a living screen from adjacent properties? Then determine which trees will meet your objective and thrive in the planting site conditions. Visit the site selector planting tool or consult with a local arborist or nursery.

Where should I plant my tree?

Always know what your tree will look like when it is mature. How tall and wide will it grow? Is enough space available for the tree when it grows up. Will it be too close to my house or driveway? Will it grow over onto my neighbor's property? Will it grow into a power line? Remember: Look up, down and all around to check the planting site.



Tree planted in a Calvert County Park

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/requently-Asked-Questions.aspx>

“Numerous studies have demonstrated that trees bring investment in communities that are beneficial to human health.”

GROWING THE URBAN TREE CANOPY CONT.

There are four PLANT award levels; namely, Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Green. These awards celebrate community leadership, organizational creativity, and environmental stewardship.

For the younger Urban Community Forester, MUCFC offers three learning opportunities. The Maryland Junior Forest Ranger Patch can be earned by completing activities found on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources website under “Patch Program.” Requirements are organized by grades k-12 and the number of activities needed to earn the patch. Budding 5th grade artists get the opportunity to display creative works each year during the statewide Arbor Day Poster Contest. Posters are judged first at the county level, and then move onto the next round of evaluation done by MUCFC and compete at the statewide level. The top three winners receive trees to be planted at their schools. For those high school students interested in exploring careers in natural resources, there is a one-week program in partnership with Allegany College of Maryland that usually runs in July. Unlike most camps, the Natural Resources Careers Camp (NRCC) offers

participants hands-on field experiences along with classroom instruction from industry professionals. Opportunities to interact with software program like GIS, GPS, and other field simulation tools are presented for learning the ins-and-outs of natural resources management.



Numerous studies have demonstrated that trees bring investment in communities that are beneficial to human health. Tree-lined streets attribute to reduce speed and help guide driver awareness. Trees planted in Maryland's Urban Tree Canopy provide cleaner air, quality water, reduce heat islands and bring about community revitalization. Action based knowledge programs and project funding offered by MUCFC are ever greening the Urban Canopy, one tree in the ground at a time. □

MUCFC MEMBERS

Wayne Lucas – Chair, Landscape Architect/Arborist/Tree Care Expert, Prince George's Department of Public Works

Megan Carr – Vice Chair, Urban Forester, City of Baltimore, Forestry

Dawn Balinski— Treasurer

Rebecca Feldberg - Secretary, Consulting Arborist

Frederick Johnson— Park Manager I, Prince George's County Parks

Cheryle Franceschi— Producer, Por Eco Productions, One Idea/Dos Languages

Jeanne Kavinski - Arborist, Pope Farm Nursery, M-NCPPC/Montgomery Parks

Agnes Kedmenecz— Woodland Stewardship Educator, UMD Extension, Wye Research & Education Center

Wanda MacLachlan - Grants Lead, Area Educator, Residential Landscape Management, University of Maryland Extension

Augie Mahar— Distribution Program Manager, Vegetative Management, BGE

Jason Sprouls— Community Forestry Program Manager, Neighborhood Design Center

Kristin Taddei - Forest Conservation Planner Coordinator, Montgomery County Planning Department

Marian Honeczny— Supervisor, Urban & Community Forestry, Maryland Forest Service

Julie Mawhorter—USDA, US Forest Service Rep

Anne Gilbert – DNR Liaison, Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator—Central Region, Maryland Forest Service

LEARN MORE

The Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC) is a volunteer group of citizens, professionals, and government officials united to protect and enhance Maryland's forest ecosystems. MUCFC is a sub-committee of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. The primary functions of the Committee are to promote and coordinate the Maryland Community PLANT Award Program that officially recognizes communities planting and caring for trees, and to administer Grants to schools and communities through their local Forestry Boards that promote planting and care of trees.



Learn more about applying for a MUCFC Grant online:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mucfcgrant.aspx>



2020 Food Forest Project in Prince George's County partially funded by MUCFC.

DONATE TODAY

Help support MUCFC's work throughout Maryland by donating today.

Visit the Maryland's Forest Conservancy District Boards Donations page and click the PayPal **"Donate"** button:

<http://www.marylandforestryboards.org/donations.cfm>

Be sure to specify MUCFC or Urban Canopy in the special instructions section of the payment form.