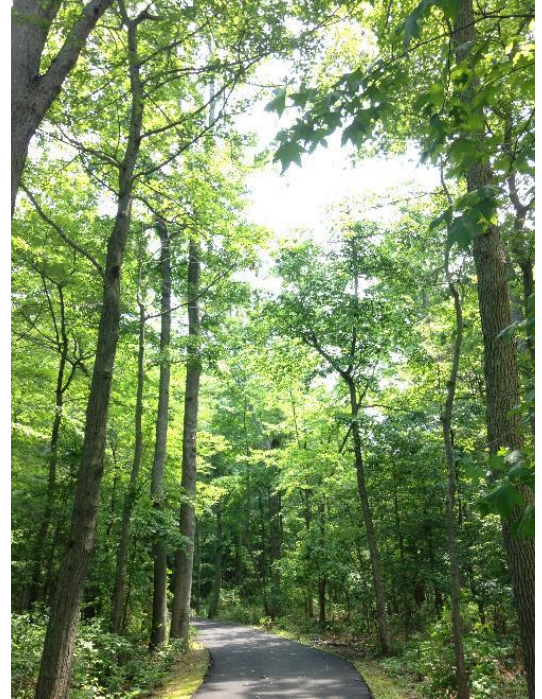


# MD Forest Service Programs & Resources

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

June 28, 2023





# Preserving the Landscape, Restoring and Protecting the Forests

- Financial and Technical Resources
- Landowner Assistance
- Economic Impact



# Assistance Programs

- Woodland Incentive Program
- Forest Stewardship Planning
- Forest Legacy
- Seed Collection



# Five Million Trees

Established by HB 991, Tree Solutions Now Act, in 2021

5 Million Trees by 2031

- **Additional** to tree planting projected in 2019 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Draft Plan (current programs)
- Native trees
- Funding started July 1, 2022, \$15 million/year

**Rural:** New Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program signing bonus, up to \$1,000/acre for new riparian forest buffers

**Urban:** 10% to underserved areas

- Chesapeake Bay Trust new Urban Forestry Program (\$10 million annually in grants)



# 10% to Underserved Urban Areas

**500,000 trees** to Underserved Areas

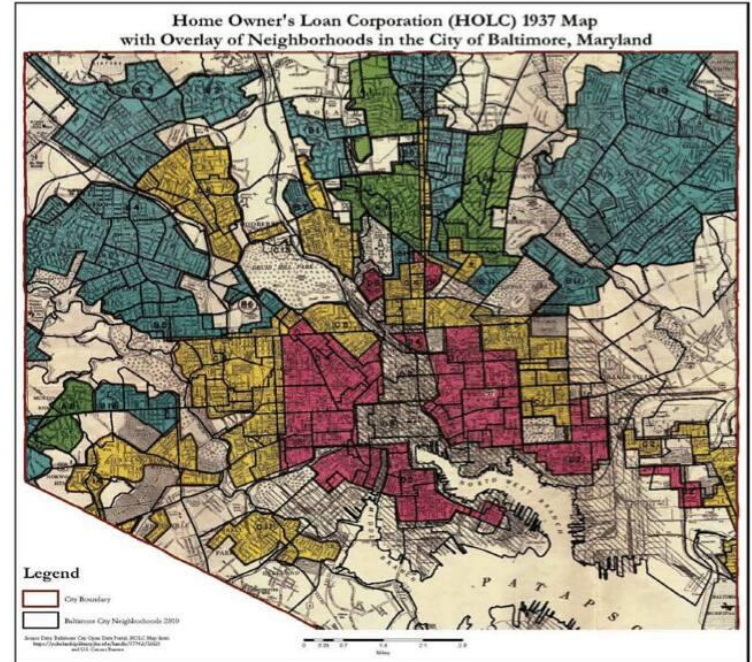
Census-designated Urban area

With other qualifying factor

- Historic Redlined Areas
- Above-average unemployment
- Median household income below 75% of State median income
- DHCD housing project

**Prioritize local organizations** for grant awards

Engage local individuals, groups, or businesses to implement and maintain



# Statewide Coordination

## ➤ **Maryland Department of the Environment**

- 5 Million Trees Program Coordinator – tracking (with TMDL, GGRA)
- Commission for the Innovation and Advancement of Carbon Markets and Sustainable Tree Plantings

## ➤ **Department of Natural Resources**

- 13 Contractor Positions
- Trust Fund support for tree planting

## ➤ **Chesapeake Bay Trust**

- Urban Forestry Program
- Grants for trees to Underserved Areas

## ➤ **Maryland Department of Agriculture**

- CREP forest buffer signing bonuses



# Underserved Areas As Defined by the 2021 Tree Solutions Now Act


# Mapping Products

Find address or place

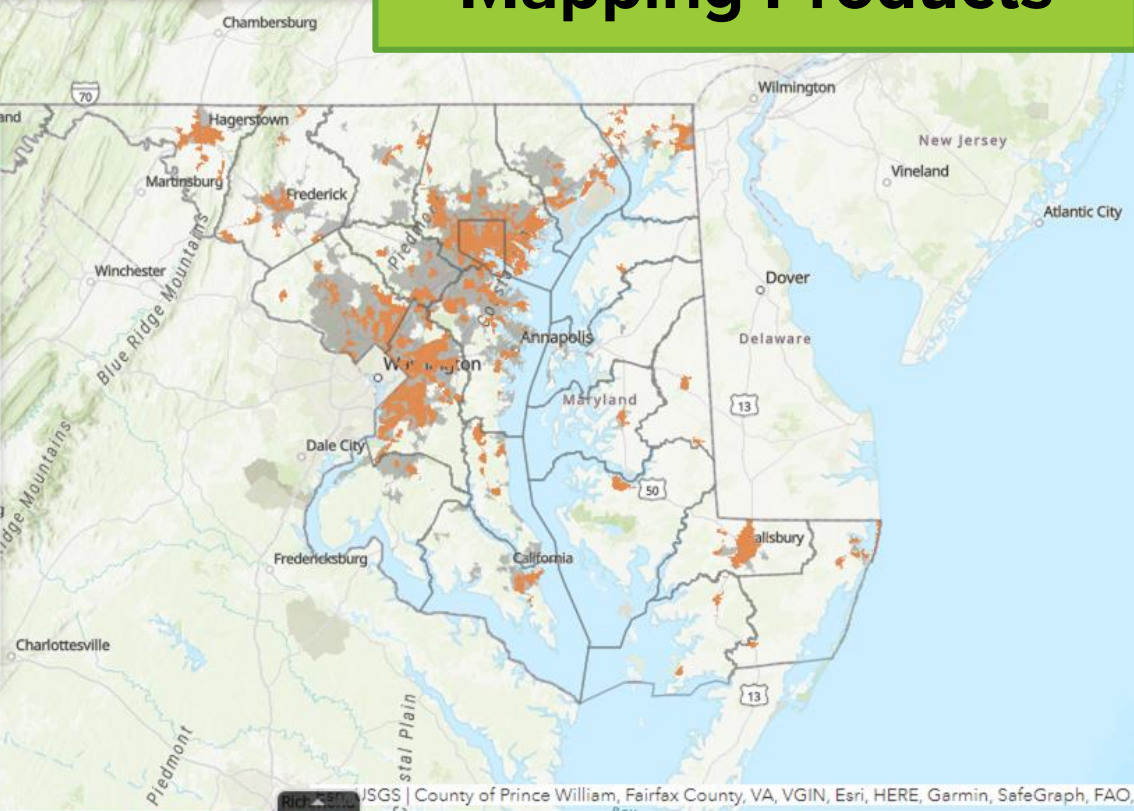
Map navigation icons: Home, Full Screen, Print, Measure, Rotate, Layers

## About

This map displays areas qualifying for funding through HB991's Urban Trees Program, administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, by meeting the bill's definition of "Underserved" (orange areas on map).

Click on the layers list icon  to turn on/off the different layers that were used to determine the qualifying areas. The redlined areas displayed only show the current extent of digitally mapped neighborhoods that were rated as "hazardous" by the Home Owners Loan Corporation in Maryland. Other areas in Maryland have been redlined but the data may not be currently available in a digital, spatial format.

The bill defines "Underserved Area" as an urban area, as delimited by the United States Census Bureau that also meets at least one of the





# Eligible Costs

- Site preparation
- Labor
- Planting materials
- Maintenance
- **Landowner incentives or signing bonuses**



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

- Provide **technical assistance** for growing 5 million trees
- Expand **tree seedling supply** at Ayton State Nursery
- **Increase capacity of existing** tree planting programs
- Create **new planting programs** that complement existing programs- gap fillers
- Build **community of care for growing trees** to maturity - maintenance
- **Leverage state investments** with new partners and markets to expand outreach and funding
- **Coordinate** with partners



# Growing Maintenance Strategies

- Expanding **volunteer** opportunities
  - New Maryland Tree Stewards Program (w/ACB)
  - Riparian Rangers training held in MD (ACB)
  - College volunteer groups held spring & fall events
- **Contracting** Regional Tree Care Crews
  - Regionally contracted, seeking to attract investment in starting or expanding a tree business
  - Private land management capacity in invasive species control and tree care
- Link to workforce development and natural resource career pathways



# Existing Planting Programs/Opportunities- Rural

## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- HB 991 adds \$1,000 per acre bonus for new forest buffers



## Healthy Forest, Healthy Waters

- Partnership of Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland Forestry Foundation, & MD Forest Service technical support
- Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Trust Fund



## Woodland Incentive Program (WIP)

- Forest management cost-share program includes tree planting
- Administered by Maryland Forest Service

## Other federal programs

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- IRA Urban and Community Funding



# Existing Planting Programs- Urban

## Marylanders Plant Trees

- Coupon for \$25 off a native tree

## Tree-Mendous

- Low-cost containerized trees for public land

## Gift of Trees

- Purchase a tree in honor of someone

## Lawn to Woodland

- Planting trees on private lawns
- Turnkey, with 2 years of care

## Backyard Buffers

- ~25 free seedlings for private landowners

## Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee Grant Programs



# MET & 5MT - Partnership in Action



# Tracking Tree Planting Projects Statewide



Maryland's Five Million Trees Initiative

[About](#) [Get Involved](#) [Register Trees](#) [Resource Library](#) [FAQs](#) [Gallery](#) [Contact Us](#)

## Register Your Trees Survey

Register your newly planted trees here. Depending on the number of trees planted, use either the Point or Polygon buttons below and fill out the survey to have your trees counted towards the 5 million goal.

[See our statistics and data policies](#)

### Point

For 10 or fewer trees near each other, use this survey. Simply place a point centrally located to the newly planted trees using GPS location or by selecting on the map.

[Explore](#)

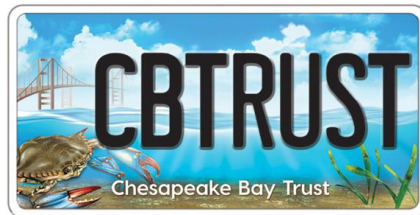
### Polygon

For more than 10 trees near each other, use this survey. Simply draw a polygon around the planting area after finding the location using GPS or by the address.

[Explore](#)

**[MDE.MARYLAND.GOV/5MTREES](https://MDE.MARYLAND.GOV/5MTREES)**

# Partnerships to Leverage Efforts and



AND MORE!



BALTIMORE  
**TREE TRUST**



**American  
Forests**<sup>TM</sup>



