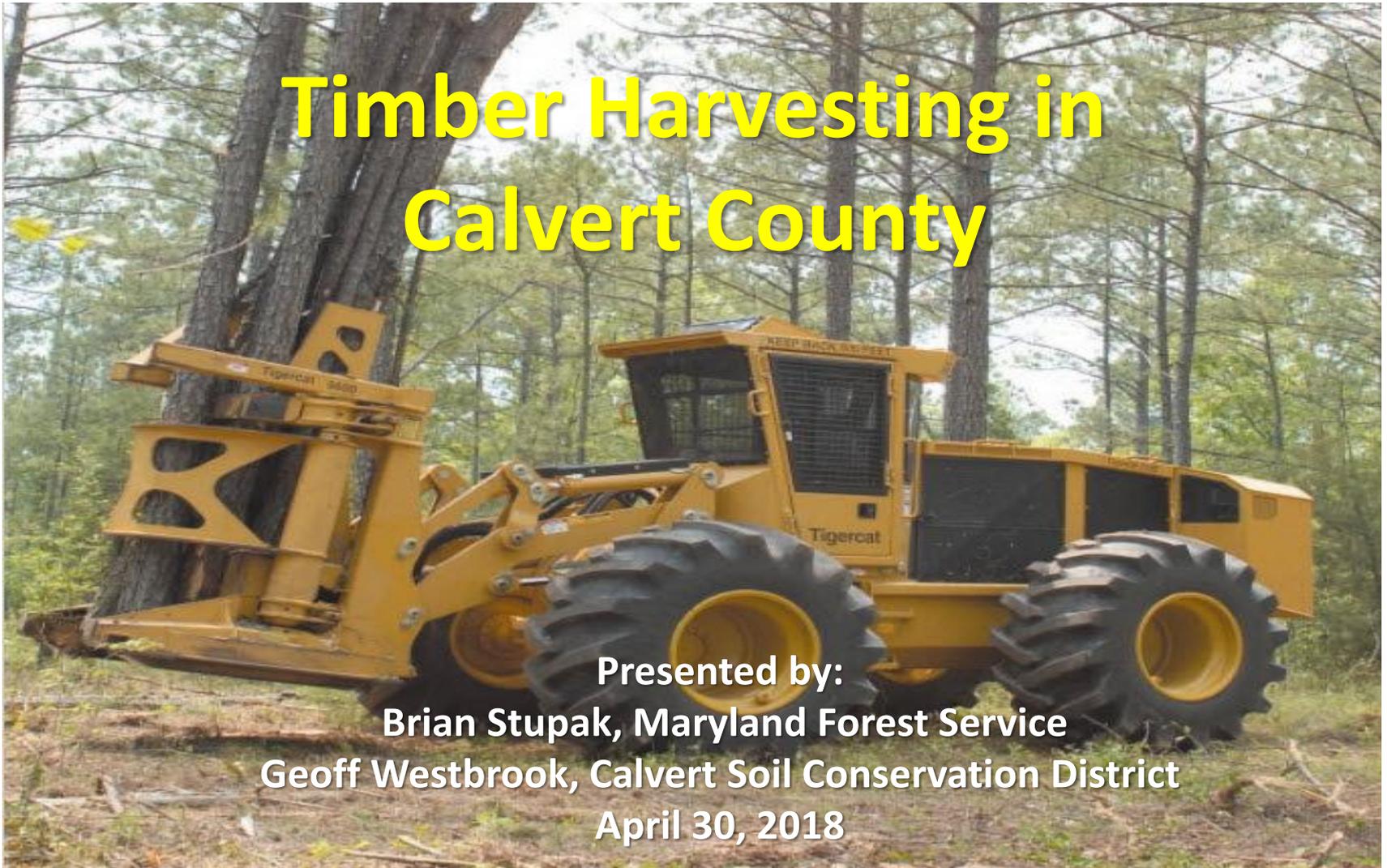




Timber Harvesting in Calvert County

Presented by:
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Geoff Westbrook, Calvert Soil Conservation District
April 30, 2018





Overview



The purpose of this presentation is to:

- Provide a brief overview of the timber harvest process in Calvert County.
- Present a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on timber harvesting to be posted on the Environmental Commission website.



Rules, Regulations & Agencies



2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

December 2011

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration
in association with
Natural Resources Conservation Service
and
Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts

Maria O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
Bakere M. Samuels, Secretary

1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21236
410-537-3800
www.mde.state.md.us

MDE

2015 Maryland Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Standards and Specifications for Forest Harvest Operations

Maryland Department of the Environment
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
and the State Soil Conservation Committee

1800 Washington Boulevard | Baltimore, MD 21236-1718 | www.mde.maryland.gov
410-537-3800 | 800-433-6101 | TTY Users: 800-735-2258
Larry Hogan, Jr., Governor | Boyd K. Rothbard, Jr., Governor | Ron Osmolke, Secretary

CPB Case No. _____

Calvert County Forest Conservation Program Commercial Forestry Declaration of Intent

Tax I.D. #:	Election District:	Tax Map:	Grid:	Parcel:
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Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I (we), the owners of the real property located at _____ as described as _____ hereby declare my (our) intention to continue and/or place into commercial forestry use the above property, in accordance with the provisions of the Calvert County Forest Conservation Program and COMAR 06.19.01.04, for a period of at least five (5) consecutive full taxable years following this date. (Attach sketch map of parcel and portion of parcel to be harvested and covered by this Declaration of Intent. Also, attach Forest Management Plan if available.)

This declaration grants an exemption for commercial forestry activities under the Calvert County Forest Conservation Program. If the land does not remain in commercial forestry use, the Owner must notify the Calvert County Department of Community Planning and Building. If the Owner makes application for an activity regulated under the Forest Conservation Program, on all or part of the parcel within the five (5) year period, Calvert County shall require the Owner to meet the requirements of the Calvert County Forest Conservation Program. Any forest area under the Forestry Declaration of Intent, whether harvested or not, will be considered as forest in application of the requirements.

I (we) declare that this declaration, including any accompanying forms and statements, has been examined by me (us) and the information contained herein, to the best of my (our) knowledge, information, and belief, is true, correct and complete.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____
 _____ Date _____
 Notary Seal _____

Commercial Forestry Declaration of Intent
Updated August 2012

Page 1 of 1
PAZ Form No. FC-102



Maryland
Department of the Environment





Rules & Regulations



In reality the rules and regs have more to do with soil erosion control and maintaining water quality.

Most people think that the rules and regs are directed specifically at which trees can be cut.





The Permit Process



In Calvert Co. the only permit required for a timber harvest is a Sediment & Erosion Control Plan (SECP).



Prepared by a forester licensed in the State of MD



Reviewed by the Calvert Soil Conservation District (SCD) and MD Forest Service (MFS)



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Enforced by the MD Dept. of the Environment (MDE)



Licenses



Loggers must possess two certifications in order to log:

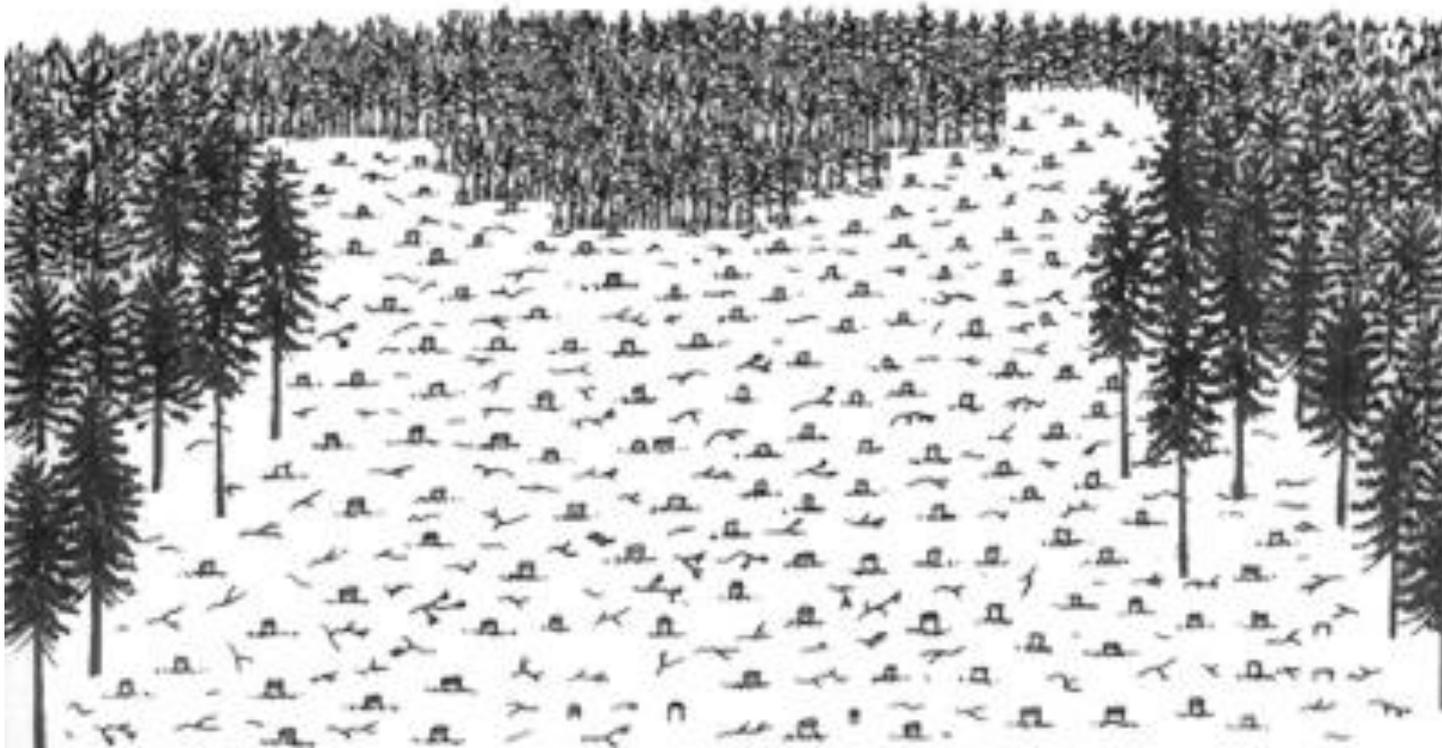
1. Forest Product Operator's license (issued by MFS)
2. Best Management Practices (BMP) Training Certification "Forest Harvest Green Card" (issued by MDE)



Harvest Types



Clearcuts



Removal of all trees within a sale boundary.



Harvest Types



Select Harvest



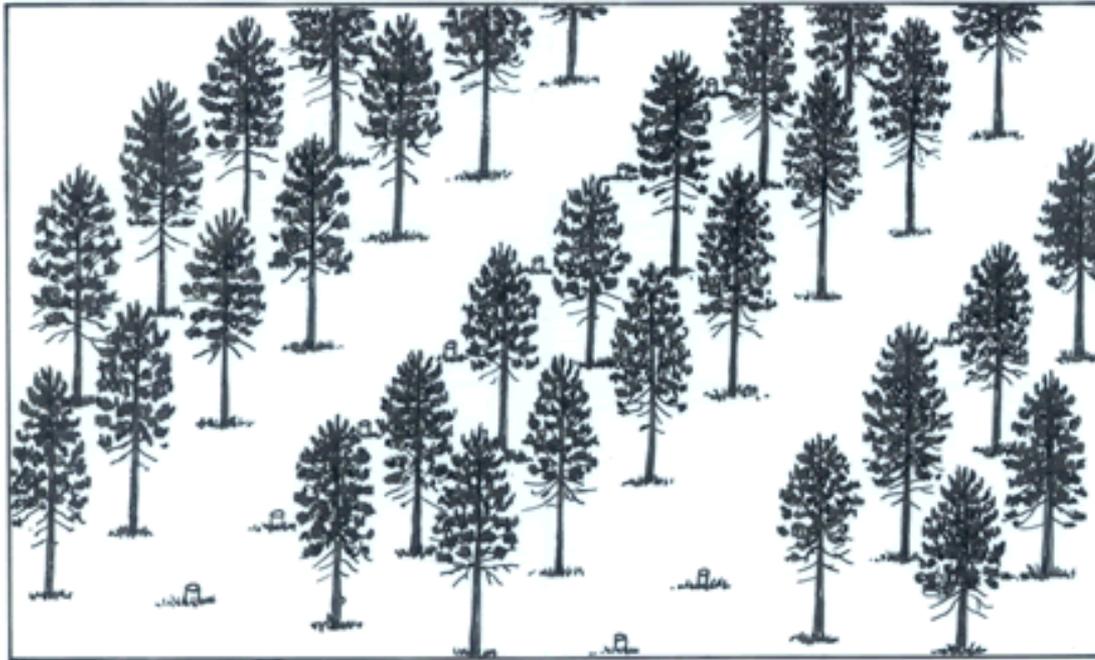
Removal of ~25 – 50% of the trees within a sale boundary.



Harvest Types



Row Thinning



Removal of every 3rd or 4th row and every 3rd or 4th tree in the remaining rows.



Critical Area



- Timber harvesting is allowed in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.
- Critical Area law (NR Article §8-1801 – 8-1817) requires additional measures to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.
- A Critical Area Timber Harvest Plan must be prepared by a licensed forester and be reviewed by the Calvert Forestry Board.





Open Space



- Forest Conservation law (NR Article §5-1603) requires local govts. to develop a forest conservation program.
- Timber harvesting is allowed in open spaces/forest retention areas (Calvert Co. Ordinance 8-3.04 (S)).
- A Forest Management Plan and a Timber Harvest Plan must be prepared by a licensed forester and be reviewed by the Calvert Forestry Board.





The Permit Process



- The SECP does not dictate what type of timber harvest is used (clearcut, select cut, row thinning, etc.) in most settings.
- However, in streamside management zones (SMZs) and in the Critical Area, the amount of trees to be left behind is set by regulations and described in the SECP.



The Permit Process



- Once the SECP is reviewed and approved by the MFS and SCD, a copy is provided to the Calvert Planning & Zoning Dept., the landowner, logger and consultant forester for their records.
- The logger/operator may proceed with the harvest at their convenience.
- The SECPs are good for two years from the date of approval.



The Permit Process



- Adjacent landowners are not required to be notified of a pending timber harvest.
- Setback distances from property lines are not required.





Damages – Who pays?



Damages to roads, structures and timber trespass are paid for by the logger or landowner harvesting the timber.





Skid Trails & Slopes



- Skid trails are limited to a max of 20%.
- Can be used on slopes $\geq 25\%$ if additional erosion control practices are installed.
- While skid trails have slope limits, trees can be cut on slopes $\geq 25\%$ and then winched to a flatter slope to be skidded.





Post Harvest Cleanup



- After the harvest has been completed the skid trails are stabilized according to specs.
- Landings are backdragged.
- Tree tops and debris are removed from any streams.





Forest Regeneration



- Replanting of timber harvests is not required, except for the Pine Reforestation Law.
- The area will regenerate naturally or can be planted by the landowner voluntarily.





Conclusion



Questions?