



# Trees for Streams and Slopes Grant

## Did you know?

Trees help stabilize soil, reduce erosion and stormwater runoff, and absorb nutrients. This helps preserve—and can even improve—the quality of streams, rivers, and the Chesapeake Bay. Tree canopies provide shade which can mitigate stream temperatures during the summer, helping fish populations thrive.

As of 2022, the trees in Calvert County prevent more than 80 million gallons of stormwater runoff from reaching our waterways every year!

## How does this program work?

Landowners outside of the Critical Area who have steep slopes (15% or greater), a stream, or wetlands on or adjacent to their property that lack adequate forested buffer can apply for a grant to plant trees and shrubs in these areas. Planning & Zoning recommends completing planting projects in either the spring or the fall.

Applications are accepted on a continual basis and awarded based on Planning & Zoning discretion and the availability of funds. Simply send a completed application and required documents to Calvert County Planning & Zoning!

After project completion, the applicant sends in copies of receipts and pictures of the plantings. Planning & Zoning reserves the right to inspect the project one year after completion, and again every 3 years thereafter. Failure to complete or maintain the planting area will require the applicant to reimburse Planning & Zoning.

## Who can apply?

Property owners who have a stream, wetlands, or steep slopes that have no or sparse tree cover.



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## Application

Applicant Name:

Telephone:

Email Address:

Property Address:

Property Acreage:

Acreage to be Planted:

Please attach a map of the entire property with the proposed planting area marked and labeled, a photograph of the proposed planting area, a price quote for the proposed plantings, as well as a planting plan and maintenance plan that include the following:

Planting plan requirements:

- All plants must be planted on steep slopes, or within 75 feet of a stream or wetlands;
- Plantings should consider a mix of canopy and understory trees found on Calvert County's [native plant list](#);
- Planting plans must include a minimum of 5 species;
- Large native shrubs may not exceed 50% of the total plants proposed;
- Suggested sizes are 2-3-gallon potted plantings for best survivability, however, bareroot seedlings are fine as long as they're protected from grazing by tubes;
- Planting space must envision mature growth;
- Plantings may not be planted in utility right-of-ways; and
- Trees must be appropriately distanced from the following:
  - at least 45 feet from an overhead utility line;
  - at least 15 feet from a paved surface or structure;
  - at least 15 feet from a water or sewer line; and
  - at least 20 feet from a septic tank or on septic field.
- Before digging, property owners must consult Miss Utility (1-800-257-7777).

Maintenance plan requirements:

- Installation and removal of protective devices (e.g., anti-deer tubes) if applicable;
- A watering schedule that considers the hot summer months;
- A plan for controlling invasive species; and
- A long-term commitment for tree replacement.



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The County does not guarantee survival of plantings. Any trees or shrubs lost shall be replaced at the property owner's expense for the first 2 years.

Copies of receipts for all costs associated with the proposed project, as well as photographs of the completed planting must be submitted upon project completion.

The proposed project area must be maintained as forest in perpetuity. The County reserves the right to inspect the project one year after initial planting, and every 3 years thereafter.

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Applicant Signature

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Date

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Department Signature

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Date