



Plant a Forest Grant

Information Sheet

Did you know?

Trees are extremely important to both the ecology and economy of Calvert County! Trees help stabilize soil and remove many common air pollutants like carbon monoxide and particulate matter. Trees provide vital habitat to a wide variety of animals including 277 species of birds! The shade from trees help cool our Town Centers during the summer and can lower utility bills.

As of 2022, the trees present in Calvert County store more than 5 million tons of carbon. The same trees also remove more than 7 million pounds of other air pollutants every year!

How does this program work?

Landowners who want to establish or increase forested land on their property can apply for a grant to plant trees. 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?

Landowners who have at least ¼ acre of contiguous unforested land they would like to convert to forest 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, photographs 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:

- The planting project must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ acre (10,890 sq. ft) of contiguous land and achieve a minimum density of 100 trees per acre spaced at least 15 feet apart;
- Plantings must consist of a mix of canopy and understory trees found on Calvert County's [native plant list](#);
- Bareroot seedlings must be protected from grazing by tubes;
- Planting plans must include a minimum of 5 species;
- 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;
- 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 lost shall be replaced at the property owner's expense for the first 2 years.

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.

Applicant Signature

Date

Department Signature

Date