



Maryland DNR-Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry FY 04 Final Progress Report

Inner City Items:

1. Objectives – City of Annapolis
 - a. Promote the use of biological stormwater reduction techniques in urban areas.
 - i. **STATUS: Completed.** Proceedings from the Chesapeake Bay Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee's Urban Tree Canopy Workshop (STAC Publication 04-005) released in September 2004. MD DNR served as event Chair. Met with representatives of PA, VA, and the Chesapeake Bay Program to develop guidelines for implementation of the Urban Tree Canopy goal setting process.
 - b. Set an urban forest canopy goal by 2004, including present condition and target enhancement (ex. 200 acres, 5%, etc.)
 - i. **STATUS: Completed.** Report published June 2006: <http://www.ci.annapolis.md.us/upload/images/government/depts/environ/UTC.pdf>. City UTC goal announced June 2006: <http://www.ci.annapolis.md.us/headlines.asp?ID=9012> Increase UTC from 41% to 50% by 2036.
 - c. Obtain hardware and software
 - i. **STATUS: Completed.** \$6,457.40 in hardware and software currently invoiced for.

5-Year Plan Items:

DNR UCF GOAL 1: Increase or enhance awareness and understanding of Urban & Community Forestry among external customers.

OBJECTIVE 1 Develop a comprehensive UCF education and outreach program that addresses a variety of audiences

A. WORKSHOPS

- I. Institute and conduct Continuing Education training events for Forest Conservation Act Qualified Professionals.

that collapsed due to a sinkhole. The sinkhole is believed to be a result of old coal mining practices.

- V. Ensure that volunteers at tree planting events have the qualifications and capacity to follow through on short and long term maintenance).
 - i. **STATUS: This did not occur.**

C. OUTREACH

I. Revise UCF portion of MD DNR-FS website; include:

- a. Information on existing programs; **STATUS: Complete**
 - i. Maryland Community Forest Council
 - ii. Revitalizing Baltimore
 - iii. TREE-MENDOUS
 - iv. Tree City USA
 - v. PLANT
 - vi. Forest Conservation Act
 - vii. Reforestation Law
 - viii. Roadside Tree Law
 - ix. Tree Expert Law
- b. General information on tree planting and care; **STATUS: This did not occur**
 - i. TREE-MENDOUS tree care manual on-line
- c. Information about the benefits of urban forests; **STATUS: Complete**
 - i. Forest Health Report information
 - ii. Roadside Tree FHM data
- d. On-line downloadable/printable forms for all programs; **STATUS: Partially complete.**
 - i. Maryland Community Forest Council membership application
 - ii. Gift of Trees cards
 - iii. TREE-MENDOUS Tree Order form
 - iv. Tree City USA application
 - v. Tree City Growth Award application
 - vi. Tree Line USA application
 - vii. PLANT Community application
 - viii. Forest Conservation Qualified Professional Application
 - ix. Forest Conservation Manual Worksheets and Details
 - x. Reforestation Law Request for Site Review
 - xi. Roadside Tree Permit Applications (RTI, RTM, RTPA)
 - xii. Tree Expert test application packet

- e. Lists (Qualified Professionals, Licensed Tree Experts, PLANT Communities, etc.); **STATUS: Complete**

GOAL 2: Provide integrated delivery of services to increase and protect forest canopy cover in urban areas.

OBJECTIVE 1 Evaluate all existing services for potential and mechanics of integration

- I. Revise the Roadside Tree Care Expert test; implement the new test.
 - i. **STATUS: Complete spring 2005.**

OBJECTIVE 3 Contact and recruit one local jurisdiction with Planning & Zoning authority per region per year.

- ii. Coordinate Large-Scale Watershed Grant (Monocacy / Antietam) with major urban jurisdictions: Hagerstown and Frederick. (Use GIS tools to assess / prioritize urban buffer / greenway planting sites - 2000; use volunteers, contracts, partners, to plant as planned with available funds - 2001 - 2004).
 - i. **STATUS: Acquired remote sensing data and interpreted imagery. Both Frederick (\$49,480.40) and Hagerstown (\$50,233.25) completed their tree planting grant projects. Both declined to adopt Urban Tree Canopy goals.**

GOAL 3: Build partnerships with community forestry stakeholders.

- ii. Identify partners via Forest Conservation local program biennial reviews.
 - i. **STATUS: Complete. Completed compilation of minutes for biennial reviews of local Forest Conservation Programs in Kent and Worcester Counties and Easton.**
- iii. Participate in Maryland Electric Reliability Tree Trimming Council with the MD Public Service Commission and the State's six electric utilities.
 - i. **STATUS:**
 - 1. **Attended MERTT meeting July 2004. Issues included review of Public Service Commission's Order No. 79159, IN THE MATTER OF THE ELECTRIC SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS DUE TO HURRICANE / TROPICAL STORM ISABEL AND THE THUNDERSTORMS OF AUGUST 26-28, 2003.**

2. **Attended MERTT Council (DNR, PSC and utilities) quarterly meeting in Forestville in October 2004. Topics included possible tree-related legislative agenda items by the utilities for the '05 session.**
 3. **Participated in the MERTT Council quarterly meeting in Annapolis. Primary agenda item was review of the draft for the Council's report to the Public Service Commission related to Order 77132. The Council will submit its report to the PSC in June.**
- iv. Consider developing regional tree associations to facilitate greater MCFC participation State-wide.
 - i. **STATUS: Did not occur.**
 - v. Continue efforts to strengthen the connection between MD DNR-FS and MDA Forest Pest Management.
 - i. **STATUS: Ongoing. IN FY 04, cooperated with MDA Forest Pest and USDA FS on 04-DG-11244225-033, Emerald Ash Borer Tree Replacement Voucher Program.**
 - vi. Continue to assist the USDA-FS in developing the Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry.
 - i. **STATUS: Ongoing. In FY 04, cooperated with MACUCF on 04-CA-11244225-166, Tree Risk Assessment Workshop. Mailed over 370 copies of the USDA-FS' CD-Rom "Urban Tree Risk Management: A Community Guide to Program Design and Implementation" to elected and appointed officials on a mailing list of 157 municipal officials provided by Maryland Municipal League. In May 2005, co-sponsored a Tree Risk Assessment workshop in Salisbury, with the USDA-Forest Service and the Delaware Center for Horticulture.**
 - vii. Continue to assist the University of Maryland in implementing the Urban Forestry degree program.
 - i. **STATUS: Ongoing. In September 2004, taught "Your Guide to Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Urban and Community Forestry Program" to Intro to Urban Forestry class.**

OBJECTIVE 2 Develop a list of opportunities of cooperative projects.

- ii. Use fee-in-lieu for match grants.

- i. **STATUS: Complete. In FY04 approved 10 grants total \$33,577 from Reforestation Law and Forest Conservation fee-in-lieu funds.**

OBJECTIVE 3 Facilitate implementation of five projects.

- i. Complete Internet / GIS Roadside Tree Permit process / utility distribution mapping project w/MERTT, PPR, Penn State (2005 [RST]).
 - a. **STATUS: This project did not begin until FY 05.**
- ii. MD DNR / SHA cooperative roadside tree management project, using GIS, population density, land use, and traffic count data to assess potential risk and prioritize work.
 - a. **STATUS: Did not occur.**

GOAL 4: Encourage the internal support and enhancement of UCF programming within the DNR.

OBJECTIVE 3 Develop better reporting guidelines for UCF.

- i. Dissemination and implementation of Roadside Tree Access Database.
 - a. **STATUS: Complete.**
- ii. Insure that all DNR-FS field staff accurately credit / code UCF time on federal hard cards.
 - a. **STATUS: Complete.**
- iii. Obtain ISA CEU approvals for DNR-Forest Service events. Disseminate to in-house personnel, esp. Certified Arborists.
 - a. **STATUS: Complete.**

OBJECTIVE 4 Train Forest Service staff in methodology and techniques related to UCF.

- i. Internal training regarding tree care.
 - a. **STATUS: In August, October, and November 2004, conducted Using Pocket PC/GIS for Natural Resources Management Workshops at four locations around the state. Conducted Tree Risk Assessment workshops as noted above.**

Difficulties encountered/lessons learned

Difficulties encountered

The goals and objectives in this annual narrative were taken from the goals and objectives in the required, approved 5-year program plan. The reasons that certain objectives in this report were not completed include the following:

- The 5-year plan was overly ambitious;
- The 5-year plan was created at the program level where there is limited control over program activity and direction;
- This was the final year that the 5-year plan was in effect, and during that 5-year period we had:
 - o Two State Foresters;
 - o Four agency Secretaries;
 - o A new Governor, who for the first time in 36 years represented a change in party occupying the Governor's Mansion with a consequent sea change in agency direction;
 - o A continual cycle of annual budget reductions throughout the period; and.
 - o A 33% reduction in UCF staff throughout the period.

Lessons learned

The subsequent required, approved, 5-year plan is limited to core mission activities and legislative mandates that are anticipated to survive regardless of changes as noted above.



Date 2/13/08

Signature of Authorized Official