



## ***Maryland DNR-Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry FY 06 Final Progress Report***

### **Specific emerging priorities**

The Chesapeake Executive Council signed Riparian Forest Buffer Directive No. 03-01 in December 2003. This expanded riparian buffer directive "...recognizes that urban tree canopy cover offers stormwater control and water quality benefits for municipalities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and can extend many riparian forest buffer functions to urban settings." And commits to, among others, the following goals:

- By 2010, work with at least 5 local jurisdictions and communities in each state to complete an assessment of urban forests, adopt a local goal to increase urban tree canopy cover and encourage measures to attain the established goals in order to enhance and extend forest buffer functions in urban areas; and
- Encourage increases in the amount of tree canopy in all urban and suburban areas by promoting the adoption of tree canopy goals as a tool for communities in watershed planning.

In 2006, two communities (our State capital, Annapolis, and our largest city, Baltimore) are scheduled to have adopted an Urban Tree Canopy Goal. We hope to assist these communities in implementation and to recruit at least one additional participant.

#### **STATUS: Complete.**

1. **The Baltimore City UTC report was issued on January 19, 2006. On March 28, 2006, the city announced a UTC goal of doubling the city's UTC from 20% to 40% by 2036.**
2. **The Annapolis UTC report was issued on June 7, 2006. On June 20, 2006, the city announced a UTC goal of increasing UTC from 41% to 50% by 2036.**
3. **On February 2, 2006, the Mayor and Council of Cumberland agreed to participate in the UTC goal setting process.**
4. **On March 20, 2006, the Baltimore County Executive agreed to participate in the UTC goal setting process.**

## Methodology/Timeline

1. Fulfill statutory obligations as noted
  - a. US Code Title 16, Chapter 41, Sec 2105
    - i. Comply with grant terms
      1. 10/20/06: CARS report submission
        - a. **STATUS: Complete.**
      2. 10/20/06: National Information Center data (list of subgrant recipients, location and purpose) submission
        - a. **STATUS: Not complete. This did not occur as the existing UCF Grant reporting utility was reported by USDA as not appropriately functional (was not used and had no practical utility) and was scheduled to be replaced by the CARS grant reporting utility.**
      3. 10/20/06: Two-page State program accomplishment submission.
        - a. **STATUS: Complete.**
      4. Complete and close out existing subgrants
        - a. Continue work on City of Annapolis Strategic Urban Forests Assessment (FFY 04 UCF Inner City; contract term ends 12/31/06)
          - i. **STATUS: Ongoing. The city has requested, and has been granted, three contract extensions. The final extension expires June 30, 2008. To date, \$14,673.00 of the \$100,000 grant has been expended.**
        - b. Continue to assess trees as needed using TRU (Tree Radar Unit) contract with TREERADAR, Inc.
          - i. **STATUS: Complete**
            1. **DNR issued *Assessment of certain trees on the grounds at the Government House in Annapolis, MD* to Department of General Services on August 1, 2005.**
            2. **DNR issued *Assessment of 30" diameter pecan tree on the grounds at the Banneker Historical Park & Museum in Catonsville, MD* to Mr. Steven Lee, Banneker Historical Park & Museum and Baltimore**

**County Department of  
Recreation & Parks on  
November 15, 2005.**

3. **Assessed (trunk and root scans) a 68" tulip poplar on the grounds of St. James School for the school on January 25, 2006 (no report issued).**
  4. **DNR issued *Assessment of five linden trees on College Avenue adjacent to the Miller/James Senate Office Buildings in Annapolis, MD* to Maryland Department of General Services on June 26, 2006.**
  5. **Assessed a 51" white oak in the median strip of MD 2 @ MD 648 in Arnold, MD on June 19, 2006 (no report issued).**
  6. **Assessed a 24" red oak @ 187-189 Duke of Gloucester in Annapolis, MD on June 19, 2006 (no report issued).**
- b. NATURAL RESOURCES: TITLE 5. FORESTS AND PARKS: SUBTITLE 4. TREES AND FOREST NURSERIES: PART IV. URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY. §§ 5-424 - §§ 5-427.
- i. Provide technical and financial assistance to local governments and non-profits in the management of forests and trees in urban and community areas to improve their health, vigor, and composition.
    1. **STATUS: Complete. Technical Assistance was provided to communities with a total population of 3,967,365. \$0 in Financial Assistance was provided as our State Special Fund resources had funding of \$0 and an appropriation of \$0 in FY '06.**
- c. NATURAL RESOURCES: TITLE 5. FORESTS AND PARKS: SUBTITLE 4. TREES AND FOREST NURSERIES: PART III. TREE EXPERTS §§ 5-415 - §§ 5-423
- i. Administer the licensing program, including training, examination, and enforcement.
    1. **STATUS: Complete. The Department renewed 670 licenses and issued 102 new licenses for a total of 772 licenses. Activity revenues were \$20,364.00 and expenditures were \$1,640.40. There were 284**

**examinees with 74 passing for a pass rate of 28.35%. Another 28 licenses were issued under SDB 123 (the “grandfathering” law). Seventy-seven complaints were investigated; 39 complaints against licensed persons and 38 complaints against unlicensed persons. 75 of the 77 cases have been closed. In FY 06, the tree expert law was amended to provide a “grandfathering” provision effective for a 13-month period.**

- d. **NATURAL RESOURCES: TITLE 5. FORESTS AND PARKS: SUBTITLE 4. TREES AND FOREST NURSERIES: PART I. ROADSIDE TREES. §§ 5-401 - §§ 5-411**
  - i. Administer the permitting program, including training, examination, and enforcement.
    - 1. **STATUS: Complete. Two-hundred and fifty-three Blanket permits (89 to public agencies) were issued and 832 Project permits were issued (278 to public agencies). Roadside tree permits generated \$336,610 in revenue. Training was conducted at least once in each region of the state. Two investigations were conducted, neither of which resulted in criminal prosecution.**
- e. **NATURAL RESOURCES: TITLE 5. FORESTS AND PARKS: SUBTITLE 16. FOREST CONSERVATION. §§ 5-1601 - §§ 5-1613**
  - i. Administer the program, including: provision of technical assistance; biennial review of local programs; review of State and federal projects and associated plantings; and, expenditure of fee-in-lieu mitigation funds.
    - 1. **STATUS: Complete. The State Program reviewed 45 projects containing 1,345.9 acres. 17 FCPs were approved with 45.8 acres of clearing and 73.7 acres of long-term protection (2.5 acres of planting). Revenues to the Fund were \$58,979.92, and expenditures from the Fund were \$0.00. Biennial reviews of 26 local programs were completed. One-hundred and four local programs had adopted programs, 10 local programs were under State Program review, 20 were exempt from compliance, and 9 were not exercising planning & zoning authority. Local programs reviewed 1,932 activities subject to compliance (1,042 were exempt) with 4,761 acres approved for clearing and 2,700 acres placed in long-term protection (1,257 acres of planting).**

- f. NATURAL RESOURCES: TITLE 5. FORESTS AND PARKS:  
SUBTITLE 1. IN GENERAL: § 5-103. Reforestation.
  - i. Administer the program, including review of projects and associated plantings and expenditure of fee-in-lieu mitigation funds.
    - 1. **STATUS: Complete. Five projects were reviewed under the Reforestation Law. Thirty-six acres were cleared, 0 acres were conserved, and 75 acres were planted. Resulting net acres of forest (clearing-planting) was 39. No fees were collected by the Fund, and no fees were expended from the Fund.**



---

Date 2/13/08