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Protecting tiny, endangered Frosted Elfin Butterfly | page 4



A Quarterly Newsletter Providing Comprehensive News and Information for the Maryland Forest Industry and the Landowners that support sustainable forestry practices.

The CrossCut

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A message from Joe Hinson, President

It's the Little Things that Tend to Get You

Mark Twain once observed, "No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session". Although that was over a century ago, truer words were never spoken. Whatever caused him to say it remains alive and well in our current political system. Or at least sometimes it feels that way.

You know, we never see a bill that says "ban logging" or otherwise obviously targets our industry and forest landowners. Such blatant and drastic measures seldom get very far. Sometimes you wish it were that simple. At least we'd clearly know just who our enemies were. But, in truth, the average legislator's opinion on logging or the forest industry seems to be, at worst, a rather noncommittal expression of support. I think they are sincere and don't believe any legislator stays home at night and sticks pins into a logger voodoo doll.

But that doesn't mean we can't be just as dead from a thousand cuts, even if not maliciously inflicted. We've seen a few examples. Last year, there was a bill that ultimately passed which requires the DNR to identify areas like "irreplaceable natural area," "unique natural community," or "pristine example of a native ecosystem type" on state lands and then determine ways to protect them. While I can't argue with the



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Joe addresses the attendees at the Forestry Day in Annapolis this past Jan. 31st at Governor Calvert House.

objectives I would argue that the state already does this through its planning process. We stood alone in opposition.

Now there is a legal obligation for the DNR to complete the identification and prescription process in a manner that meets both the letter of the law and the intent of the legislature in passing it. And, because the law now requires it, their efforts are open to arguments over the timeliness and adequacy of that process. For anyone who may view whatever the state does as falling a little short of perfection, the courthouse is open for business, with the plaintiff free to ask that forest management be enjoined on state lands until the state satisfactorily completes the job. Trust me, I've seen it happen before on national forest lands to the extent that something like 75% of the mills in Idaho closed over a ten-year period.

Continued on page 9



MARYLAND FOREST SERVICE NAMES 2023 ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

The judging is complete for the 2023 Arbor Day poster contest, sponsored by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Maryland First Lady Dawn Flythe Moore joined Maryland Department of Natural Resources Secretary Josh Kurtz and a panel of forestry experts to review submissions and award three Maryland schools with tree plantings this spring.

Posters are first judged on a county level and the winner from each county is forwarded to the Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee to be included in the annual contest. Students created this year's posters using various artistic techniques, illustrating this year's contest theme, "Trees Are Terrific...and Cool Our Communities!" Addilyn Centineo, of Eldersburg, Carroll County won first place and her school will receive 15 trees for planting. Second place, with a prize of 10 trees, was awarded to Daisy Vargas-Martinez of Pittsville, Wicomico County. Emma Secrist of Accident, Garrett County won third place and a prize of five trees.



Maryland Clean Energy Center Receives Grants to Explore Biomass Opportunities

In partnership with The Alliance for Green Heat, MCEC was awarded a grant to host two educational tours to New Hampshire and Vermont by the Rural Maryland Council. During the tours, participants visit facilities currently using thermal wood energy, speak with environmental groups and facility managers, and observe the states' sustainable forest management practices. Following both tours, case studies will be published on their webpage.



The first tour was completed in March. MFA Board Member, Danny Sines was part of the group that visited various facilities, including greenhouses, public schools, state government buildings, manufacturing plants, and a factory where wood chips are generated. Upon his return, Danny had this to say, "it was amazing to see firsthand how biomass markets are contributing to forest health, efficiently replacing fossil fuels and providing economic benefits. I can see how similar projects in Maryland would be beneficial, upon my return I reached out to local leaders. We need projects on the ground that will help inspire others to choose wood as green energy."

The next tour will be geared toward an audience of elected officials and is planned to take place in November.

MCEC is also working in partnership with the Western MD RC&D to produce a Maryland Wood Fuel Supply Chain Analysis. This analysis will determine how much wood is available, which forests are in the greatest need of sustainable management, as well as future projections for forest health based on varying levels of thermal wood energy usage. The study will help facilities determine where they will get their wood supply from and the potential tonnage available, as well as assist loggers in determining where their services are in the highest demand. Ultimately, the goal of this analysis is to provide information that will lead to increased confidence to switch from fossil fuels to renewable energy and stronger economic growth for the logging and forestry sectors. The analysis is expected to be completed by June 2023. The Maryland Forests



COURTESY OF MAURA ROSS



Fröling Energy Wood Chips

Association is providing match funding for these projects. **Learn more about biomass energy for Maryland:** <https://www.mdcleanenergy.org/biomass-maryland/>.



Executive Director's Message

Beth Hill, beth@mdforests.org

Representing You On All Levels!

I'm proud of the work that our organization is doing to promote and protect our members across all levels of government. Already this year we were actively engaged in Maryland's Legislative Session, held the Frederick County Forum, and participated in the American Loggers DC Fly-In. One of the strengths of our organization is presenting common-sense solutions to problems that somehow become over complicated. One example of that approach was advocating for the repeal of the 12% federal excise tax that is applied to the sales of heavy trucks, semitrailer chassis, and tractors for highway use. This tax is the highest excise tax levied by the federal government and can easily add \$15K-\$30K to the cost of new equipment. This cost is not only bleeding companies dry but also serves to discourage them from investing in new fleets with better emissions and fuel efficiency. Isn't this a much better step in the right direction than mandates for all-electric trucks that have no infrastructure in place to charge them? After visiting with Congressman Andy Harris he agreed and signed on as a co-sponsor of the bill. We will keep you updated on the progress of this and other issues we are tackling, but we need your support, to continue being a political force to increase both our visibility and build a broader understanding of forest management.

Current members should be receiving renewals in the mail soon, as always we appreciate your support! If you aren't a current member but are following us, you see the good work that we are doing, and I hope you consider joining our organization. You can do so at any time by visiting our website: <https://www.mdforests.org/join-mfa>. As always reach out to me with any questions or concerns. I'm here to help!

-Beth



ALC Executive Director and Beth Hill at the 2023 Congressional Fly-In

Secretary Kurtz tours Forestry Operations on the Shore

On April 14th, MFA assisted with a tour of the forest products industry on the Eastern Shore for DNR Secretary Josh Kurtz and key members of his staff including Acting State Forester Anne Hairston-Strang. The tour consisted of stops that highlighted various wood manufacturing facilities and several logging techniques. Wildlife enthusiasts and conservation groups shared success stories while pointing out why markets are needed for management to happen!

MFA looks forward to continuing to build on our working relationship with the department by exploring opportunities that lead to long-term forest conservation and retention that benefit not only our members but all Marylanders by providing clean air, fresh water, wildlife habitat, and wood products. We are all in this together!

We thank Easton Timber & Mat, Millville Lumber, Paul M Jones Lumber Company, Tony DiPaolo, Franklin Eure, John Long, GFR Forestry Consultants, The Nature Conservancy MD/DC, Eastern Shore Forest Products, and everyone at the DNR for participating in the tour!



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Upcoming Events

THE MARYLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION HOSTS A LIVE WEBINAR THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.

1 PM

For more information visit: <https://marylandforestryfoundation.org/index.cfm?event=webinar-series>

STATEWIDE SPRING TURKEY SEASON
April 19 - May 24

LEAD MARYLAND IS SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR CLASS XIII
Fellows will participate in 2024 - 2025. Applications are accepted from June 1 through October 1, 2023. Applications forms are available at leadmaryland.org

NATURAL RESOURCES CAREER CAMP (NRCC)
July 23 - 29

2023 MARYLAND LAND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE
October 4 - 5
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Annapolis

2023 ALC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Tuesday, Oct. 3
8:00 AM
Friday, Oct. 6
10:00 PM

Sunday River Ski Resort
15 South Ridge Road
Newry, ME, 04261



Protecting tiny, endangered Frosted Elfin Butterfly a big challenge with forest management

Kristian Jaime | Salisbury Daily Times

The diminutive Frosted Elfin Butterfly is not commonly known to the general public, but this endangered insect is the reason behind some big forest management and conservation efforts.

Although only the size of a nickel, the brownish species performs its adult flight in April and May in Maryland. It lays its eggs singly on the leaves of the wild lupine. Caterpillars hatch out a few weeks later and feast upon the flowers and fruits of the lupine.

The loss of butterfly habitat to development and succession, the natural tendency of habitats to change from one state to another, are the primary reasons why conservation efforts are already underway. That means clearing areas of trees on certain Eastern Shore forest land in order for the lupine to grown in ideal conditions, open land that can receive a great deal of sun.

In so doing, a market has developed for lumber products used in almost all consumer goods from mattresses to agriculture to small consumer items.

“It is a state-endangered species as well as a globally rare species,” said Jennifer Selfridge, invertebrate ecologist for the Natural Heritage Program at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. “It has very specific habitat requirements, which is why it’s not really thriving anywhere. They are also a very important pollinator species. Lupine grows in areas of possible disturbance like trees growing, so that requires forest management practices.”



Mike Schofield, Maryland Forest Service forest manager, left, Alexander Clark, assistant forest manager, Rob Winsor, Procurement Eastern Shore Forest Products and Joe Hinson, vice president of Maryland Forests Association, Inc., March 3, 2023, near Snow Hill, Maryland.

That often means mowing and clearing trees, which can draw the ire of members of the public who are unaware such measures are common practices. Forest management also uses controlled burns to keep areas open and free of large vegetation.

“If those areas are not actively managed, they will revert to a closed canopy forest and those host plants will no longer be able to grow. If too many of those lupine habitats are lost, then there’s not many places where the species like the butterfly can go,” Selfridge said.

Managing forest growth a constant challenge

Keeping the forest from its natural tendency to expand when unchecked is no small task. Neither is clearing small amounts of acres and allowing some companies to make use of the felled trees. The pines in question are used to produce goods for heating, construction and even components of some plastic goods.

Mike Schofield, forest manager for the Maryland Forest Service of the Department of Natural Resources, knows all too well that conservation, logging and trail development for nature enthusiasts across the state are all part of the same efforts.

“The public sees here a trail, but what this is a logging route. Recreation doesn’t pay enough money to build a nice trail like this, it’s the timber industry that makes the best recreational trails. This entire area was all logged and it’s not as wild as people think it is,” Schofield said while walking on a cleared path near the Pocomoke forest area.



Trees have been cleared to allow for the growth of the native Wild Lupine to support the endangered Frosted Elfin Butterfly March 3, 2023, near Snow Hill, Maryland.

According to Schofield, removing some species of pine is just the first step in ensuring the future of other oak and grass species otherwise pushed out.

That also means many lupine species can get a foothold and welcome back healthy numbers of the endangered butterfly species.

“We have to wait every couple of years (to clear the area), because once you burn everything off, it takes a few years for more vegetation to grow in. Keep doing that long enough and it will become an oak savannah. We burn it in small sections and it backs very slow and then we do another section. It’s a very low flame,” Schofield said.

The number of Frosted Elfin Butterflies is slightly rebounding with these conservation efforts, and it is a positive sign for continued forest management.

“Much of what the Maryland Natural Heritage Program does is geared toward studying and protecting habitats which support rare plants and animals which contribute to the biological diversity of Maryland,” the Department of Natural Resources said in a statement.

A successful first “Forestry Day in Annapolis”!

On January 31st, MFA and the MD-DE Society of American Foresters held the first-ever “Forestry Day in Annapolis” to provide a means for the forest community to communicate with legislators and exchange ideas and information on emerging issues relevant to our sector.

The event was held at the Governor Calvert House. We had 100+ people in attendance. The audience included over 18 legislators, agency representatives, allied organizations, and staff from both the offices of Congressman Andy Harris and Senator Ben Cardin. The attendance and interaction far exceeded our expectations!

The day began with a legislative breakfast and a warm welcome from MFA’s Executive Director, Beth Hill. Senator Jack Bailey (District 29) served as the keynote speaker giving remarks on the benefits of sustainable forestry management and the difference between conservation and preservation based on his own personal experience working in the woods. Following his speech, MFA recognized Former Delegate Jim Gilchrist (District 17) as Legislator of the Year, Donna Dear & Paulette Greene as Landowner of the Year, and Francis Smith with the Maryland Forest Service received the Above & Beyond Award.

The remainder of the day was filled with informative presentations. Gary Allen with the Maryland Forestry Foundation and Joe Hinson, MFA Board President, kicked it off with a policy and current issues update. Charlotte Davis, Executive Director of the Rural Maryland Council, then presented her tips for communicating and working with legislators. Forestry issues are truly bipartisan issues, as every Marylander benefits from the clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat, and products our forests provide. Our vision states: The Maryland Forests Association envisions a future in which vibrant forests are maintained throughout the State, providing diverse economic and environmental benefits to all.

Following a break, Matt Hurd with SAF served as the “Opportunities, Challenges, and Technology” panel moderator. Maura Ross with the Maryland Clean Energy Center presented on the opportunity to utilize woody biomass as green energy. Tim O’Hara from the Forest Resource Association spoke about the potential challenges the sector could face with the listing of the Northern Long Eared Bat, and Professor “Bing” Hu, the founder of Inventwood, introduced the audience to a variety of sustainable wood products he’s developed in his lab at the University of Maryland.

We thank everyone who attended for taking the time out of their busy schedules to let their voice be heard! Remember, there is power in numbers in Annapolis, so we look forward to hosting similar events in the future and hope to see you there!





Frederick County Zoning Overlay Discussions Continue

In February, MFA, with assistance from the Maryland Forest Service, hosted the Frederick Forest Forum, a gathering of forestry experts and stakeholders, with the purpose of exploring the current status and conditions of forests and forest-based businesses in Frederick County. The program

featured keynote presentations about different aspects of forests in the County and the State, and panels with local Frederick participants discussing, respectively, the local forest-based economy, forest conservation programs and opportunities, and county regulations as they affect timber harvesting. The Forum was very well attended by stakeholders representing various interests including forest landowners, forest operators, environmental advocates, and government officials (county, state, and federal).

The Frederick Forest Forum was timely because in Frederick County, a new zoning ordinance for the Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape area plan is under review by the Frederick Planning Commission. The original proposal which includes more restrictive timber harvesting permitting procedures along with prohibitive land uses and building design standards was remanded back to the Planning Commission last October by the County Council after it approved the written area plan.

The Planning Commission has discussed the zoning ordinance, or “Overlay,” at two public meetings in February and March, and will be looking at a second revision on April 19th. The revised proposal discussed at the March 15th meeting had removed the timber harvesting provisions in favor of potential regulations to be considered county-wide. MFA has submitted comments on the Sugarloaf Overlay that, among other things, noted that existing state and county regulatory requirements already adequately protect water quality and other resources, the regulations would add significant cost by necessitating detailed mapping and inventories, would restrict all tree-cutting in streamside buffers, and would obligate the Frederick Forestry Board to expand its scope without any commitment of funding or formal regulatory authority.



Once the Planning Commission drafts a new Overlay proposal, it will undergo further review by the Frederick County Council before a vote is scheduled. MFA plans to submit further comments and participate in hearings.

MFA Celebrated Arbor Day in Annapolis

On April 5th, we celebrated the 140th Arbor Day in Maryland by being a part of the event recognizing the Grove Family, longtime MFA members as Tree Farmers of the Year, and Luke Marcek as Tree Farm Inspector of the Year in Annapolis. Native Redbud seedlings were distributed to all members of the Maryland General Assembly and the Board of Public Works.

We loved hearing Governor Wes Moore talk about planting more trees to expand green spaces and encouraging Marylanders to learn more about the care and cultivation of Maryland’s forests.



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Beech Leaf Disease

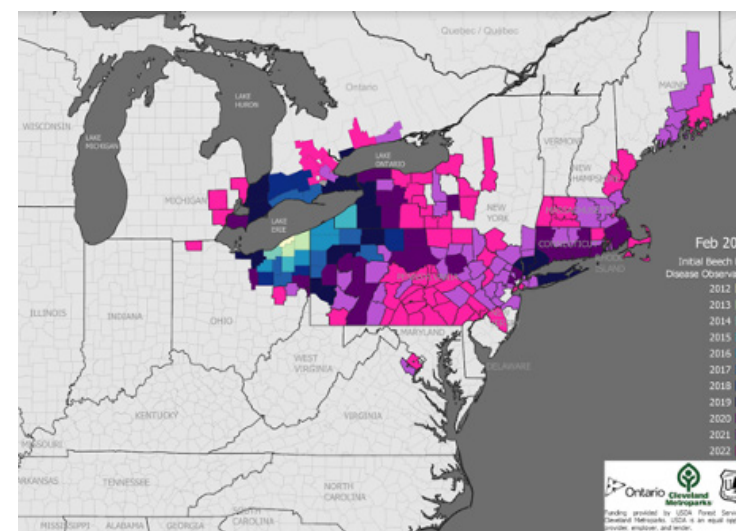
John Hooven | UMD Extension

As if we need another calamity in the forest, let alone another affecting beech trees, be on the lookout for beech leaf disease (BLD). Beech leaf disease is caused by a non-native nematode, a subspecies of a nematode species native to Japan, *Litylenchus crenatae mccannii*. BLD is a foliar disease affecting leaves of beech trees causing mortality in 2 to 7 years. BLD was first documented in 2012 after it was discovered affecting leaves of American Beech, *Fagus grandifolia*, of trees in Lake County in northeastern Ohio.

Our native beech as well as non-native varieties, such as European beech that is commonly used in landscaping and in gardens, are susceptible to BLD. Maryland Department of Agriculture, Forest Pest Management section, has been actively surveying forests statewide for the disease since 2019. While the disease has not yet been documented in Maryland, it has been documented in neighboring Pennsylvania counties of western Maryland and two counties in northern Virginia adjacent to southern Maryland.

The nematodes increase in numbers as they infect leaves throughout the growing season. Affected leaves exhibit a unique banding, or darkening, of the leaf area between the veins. Symptoms progress from leaf banding to shrinkage in leaf size as well as heavy banding and a crinkling leather texturing of the leaf. As the damage progresses, over the years, leaf buds will be aborted and premature leaf drop will occur. All size of beech trees in the forest can be affected but younger trees in the understory are more susceptible.

Leaves showing the characteristic banding are best seen from underneath looking up into the canopy of the trees. If observing saplings closer to the ground, the leaf can be turned over to view its bottom side. The banding that BLD exhibits is quite distinct.



Nematodes overwinter in the buds of the next season’s leaves and continue to affect the developing leaves. There is currently no known treatment to address BLD though studies continue to seek treatments.

It is unknown how the nematodes are being spread to affect new trees. Avoid spreading leaves, twigs, soil, branches, seedlings and similar material from infected areas. As a precaution, disinfect footwear with a solution of bleach and water immediately after walking through stands of infected trees. Avoid contacting areas of infected vegetation to help prevent spread to unaffected trees. Please report any suspected findings of beech leaf disease to Maryland Department of Agriculture Forest Pest unit by email at fpm.mda@maryland.gov, or call 410-841-5870.

“Beech Leaf Disease.” Forest Health, Insects & Diseases. Ohio Department of Natural Resources. <https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/forestry/forest-health/insects-diseases/Beech-leaf-disease>. Accessed 2/22/23.

“Beech Leaf Disease.” New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/120589.html>. Accessed 2/22/23.

“Beech Leaf Disease.” Pest Alert, USDA U. S. Forest Service. March, 2022.

Reed, Sharon E.; Greifenhagen, Sylvia; Yu, Qing; Hoke, Adam; Burke, David J.; Carta, Lynn K.; Handoo, Zafar A.; Kantor, Mihail R.; Koch, Jennifer. 2020. Foliar nematode, *Litylenchus crenatae* ssp. *mccannii*, population dynamics in leaves and buds of beech leaf disease-affected trees in Canada and the US. *Forest Pathology*. 50(3): e12599. 9 p. <https://doi.org/10.1111/efp.12599>.

Photos courtesy of NY DEC. Map courtesy of USDA – USFS.



Greetings forest stewards, loggers, associated colleagues and friends!

My name is John Hooven. I am the new Maryland and Delaware Master Logger Program Coordinator and Forest Stewardship Educator for University of Maryland Extension. My physical office is on the eastern shore at the Wye Research and Education Center in Queenstown, MD. However, you can say my office is wherever the forests are as my responsibilities cover the entire state of Maryland.

I graduated from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, with a degree in forest ecosystem science, in December, 2021. But I spent 21 years previously as a commercial facilities and project manager. How did I wind up here? I was born and raised in the pine barrens of southern New Jersey. In 2015, I volunteered for the NJ Woodland Stewards Program where I learned that I could actually make a living working in the woods. I continued to absorb what free educational resources that I could. I also took University of Maryland Extension's The Woods in Your Backyard program. Meanwhile, I went back to college part-time, paid off my bills, and enrolled in a full-time Society of American Foresters accredited university program to become a forester.

I was first employed professionally by NY Department of Environmental Conservation as a forest health technician in the summer of 2021. Show me fungi or moss growing on a tree, and I get excited! I was employed by Maryland Forest Service in May, 2022, as the Somerset County project forester. I loved cruising and writing forest stewardship plans for woodland owners. But I felt my skillset would be better utilized to serve you, the forest woodland owners and forest enthusiasts in the region, by bringing you relevant and useful science-based knowledge of the forestry field.

I look forward to working with you!

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President's Message Continued...

I've talked with the bill's sponsor and he gets our point and promised to weigh in if we run into issues, which we appreciate. Time will tell. But there are other, far more subtle ways in which the legislature, perhaps unknowingly, can do us in. Consider the effort to eliminate woody biomass for qualifying for "renewable energy credits" from the state's strategy to achieve renewable energy goals. MFA led the charge to form a coalition to unite nearly 50 organizations representing forestry, agriculture, environmental, and economic development sectors across the state in opposition because we know that biomass can play a role in reaching environmental goals and supporting energy independence all while improving forest health and local economies.

A related measure implies "green energy" is only that from solar or wind, not biomass or anything that must be burned to generate heat or power. Such a measure would create a big stepping stone toward removing biomass from the renewable energy strategy, an open goal of a few in the state.

Finally, there was a measure that says if you create, use, or import into the state "packaging materials" such as wooden pallets, plastic wrap, strapping, or the like, you then own the responsibility for what happens with it. This includes large recordkeeping requirements as well as substantial payments to state and local governments to cover the costs of administering the program and disposing of any waste.

A perusal of the list of bills probably wouldn't show some of these measures as detrimental to the forest industry. But as they say, you never hear the shot that kills you. The result is the same. Our only response is to heed the saying of other wise people, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." It's unclear who said it first or when, but it's just as applicable as Mark Twain's warning. I guess that's our job. MFA will continue to have a voice and presence in Annapolis representing the interests of all of our members.

Your Membership Matters!

The Maryland Forests Association relies on the support of our members and sponsors to fund our organization and allow us to be the voice for Maryland forestry. **Please help make 2023 another successful year for membership!**

We are counting on you to renew your membership and ask that you invite your friends, family and colleagues to join us as a collective voice for Maryland forestry. Last year, your contributions helped us boost our scholarship, career camp, and general funds. Help us exceed our 2023 goals and consider a contribution in addition to your membership renewal.

We are working harder than ever to serve you better and represent Maryland's forestry industry. We cannot do this work without your support. Please look out for membership renewal letters and you can also renew online at mdforests.org. Thank you!



Your Support Makes a Difference!

2023 Membership Rates:

- Student – \$10
- Forestry Board Member – \$20
- Landowner/General Public – \$35
- Natural Resources Professional – \$60
- Hunting & Recreational Clubs – \$80*
- Businesses/Agencies/Education/Organizations – \$150
- Loggers/Haulers \$250
- Sawmill/Primary & Secondary Wood Product Manufactures – \$350

** Insurance fees must be paid directly to the insurance company, MFA processes membership only.*

Sponsor Membership Rates

MFA offers three levels of Annual Sponsorship, starting at \$600. Each level provides an membership with MFA plus additional advertising benefits.

Visit mdforests.org to learn more.

The Maryland Climate- Smart Ag Project Seeks Input from Forest Community

Maryland producers know their operations better than anyone. And they also know that changing weather and environmental patterns affect their bottom line. This project is producer-focused. It brings stakeholders (producers, technical service providers, researchers, organizations, and policymakers) together to develop and share science-based strategies and techniques. This will ensure Maryland farms and forests can adapt to changing conditions and remain resilient and profitable for the future. The Maryland Climate-Smart Ag Project is coordinated by the University of Maryland's Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, located at the Wye Research and Education Center. Project Coordinator Terry Nuwer seeks to connect with stakeholders throughout Maryland to gain their input regarding their on-farm observations related to changing weather and environmental conditions. Producers are encouraged to pose questions, suggest ideas for research and farm demonstrations, and identify their "decision-making" process for adopting new practices for their operations. Outreach will seek out all segments of agriculture (horticulture, viticulture, horse and livestock, poultry, agronomic crops, aquaculture, and forestry), including urban and small specialty farms and new and traditionally underrepresented groups. Information will be communicated via email and social media with informational updates tailored to each ag sector. In addition, producers can provide input via future listening sessions, surveys, and emails. A portal through which producers can seek information is under development. The project's research team will examine current climate research pertaining to Maryland agriculture and identify gaps in our knowledge and research that need to be addressed.

Community input will play a key role in identifying these knowledge gaps. This project will submit a report in June of 2024 to the Maryland Legislature that provides the following:

- a science-based description of expected changes to agricultural production and pest pressure statewide;
- a summary of research, policy, and programs as they currently stand;
- recommendations to inform the enhancement of state-level agriculture-centered policies and procedures for climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- a network of experts who will continue research and generate solutions for producers, and;
- a network of stakeholders who will receive the updates and share feedback on their experiences.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- BE HEARD on what you are experiencing and trying, plus your questions and opinions.
- Access to science-based knowledge of:
 - What changes to expect in your specific operations and locations;
 - Tools/methods/ideas to utilize;
 - Upcoming policy discussions and possible funding sources to maintain/increase your bottom line.
- Solutions to ensure your profitability and resiliency.
- The opportunity to be part of an ongoing feedback and information-sharing loop with researchers and policymakers.



WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Contact Terry Nuwer, Project Coordinator

410-827-6202 ext. 8

tnuwer@umd.edu

go.umd.edu/MdClimateSmartAg

Join The Conversation
go.umd.edu/MdClimateSmartAg



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We welcome your company news and updates or columns with your professional insight. Email any submissions you may have for the next edition of *CrossCut* to beth@mdforests.org.