

**“MARYLAND’S FORESTS  
GREAT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY”  
AGENDA**

**Regional Informational Meetings co-hosted by MFA & Maryland Tree Farm Program**

**Date: Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Location: Wisner Hall- Kings Landing Park 3255 Kings Landing Road Huntingtown, MD**

**Objective: To share information, build understanding, and strengthen relationships with members and local leadership to foster collaboration and strategic thinking about the future of forestry in Maryland**

11:30	Sign-in begins. Lunch is served as people arrive.
12:00	Introductions around the room. Please state your name, organization, or interest in forestry.
12:05	Welcome – MFA President- Joe Hinson and Acting Maryland State Forester- Kenneth Jolly give MFA and Tree Farm updates.
12:20	Maryland Forestry Overview- Anne Hairston-Strang, PhD., Associate Director Maryland Forest Service and Dan Rider, Forest Stewardship & Utilization Program Manager, DNR Anne will speak about the Forest Action Plan and how rebuilding forest markets can address forest health issues identified in the plan. Dan will speak about the most current IMPLAN Analysis. You will gain an understanding of how vital forestry is to the state and local economies.
12:45	Maryland Forestry Economic Adjustment Strategy- Phil Gottwals, ACDS Phil and his team have spent over a year working on a plan to serve as a roadmap for recovery for the forest products industry. Learn about the strategies, initiatives, and actions identified in the plan.
1:45	Break
1:55	Making Wood Energy Projects in Maryland a Reality- speakers Bill Miles, AFI, and Wade Haerle, Agribusiness and Energy Program Manager - Maryland Department of Commerce Learn about the size and scale of wood energy projects our partners are looking to develop. Wood energy systems create markets for underutilized forest products to produce green energy, improve forest stands, and create jobs.
2:15	Sustainable Forest Management- Craig Highfield, Director, Forests Program Director- - Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Craig will speak about why forests are the highest and best use for protecting our watersheds, how trees must be managed, and how keeping working forests conserves forestland and makes it less prone to development.
2:45	Forestry Initiatives in Southern Maryland- Shelby Watson, Director Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC) Shelby will discuss several projects that she has underway to help promote forestry in Southern Maryland and beyond.
3:00	Meeting Adjourned.