

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

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

Date: Thursday, September 9th

Location: Edrich Lumber Pavillion- 9512 Old Court Road, Windsor Mill, 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

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| 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 Rob Feldt, Regional Forester- Maryland Department of Natural Resources 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- Katherine Magruder, Maryland Clean Energy Center 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 Programs 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 Central Maryland- Jamie Weaver, Watershed Forester- Maryland Department of Natural Resources Hear about the White Oak Initiative and projects designed to help restore oak on the landscape. |
| 3:00 | Meeting Adjourned. |