

## Sources of Information and Guidance for Forest Stewards

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Forestland can be managed for a variety of benefits, including timber, wildlife, recreation, and soil and water conservation. If you are like most forest owners, you have a limited amount of time to spend working with your property.

There are many agencies, organizations, and individuals available to help the Maryland forest owner. Some provide information, some offer professional assistance, and some even offer

financial assistance. Learning who these sources of information and assistance are and what each can do for you is the most important step you can take in the management of your forestland. If you take advantage of these resources, the success of your forest management experience will increase immeasurably.

This publication describes services offered to private forest owners by public agencies and private organizations in Maryland.

### Professional Forestry Assistance

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources—Forest Service.** This State agency coordinates the Maryland Forest Stewardship



Program, which is a cooperative effort by resource professionals to encourage stewardship of private nonindustrial forests. The program includes developing a forest stewardship plan. The companion Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) provides a means of accomplishing active forest management practices through a financial assistance program. Foresters from this agency will spend a limited amount of time “on the ground” with individual landowners providing advice and assistance to promote forest stewardship. There is at least one forester in each county. Requesting a visit from the local forester is a wise first step in any forest management program. The forester will ask you to prioritize your objectives, whether for wildlife, timber, soil and water conservation, or natural heritage. The forester will do a forest inventory and develop a forest stewardship plan for your property that addresses your objectives.

If wildlife and natural heritage are your objectives, Department of Natural Resources personnel with expertise in these areas can help write your stewardship plan. The forester can help you implement the plan and assist in laying out access or fire protection roads, marking noncommercial timber stand or wildlife habitat improvement cuts, and planning tree planting operations.

There is a charge for most services provided by the Forest Service. If timber harvesting or more time-consuming management planning is necessary, the forester will provide a list of registered professional foresters who can spend the time necessary to do the work. Be sure to use only registered consultants to ensure that you get quality services.

The forester can tell you how your forest stewardship plan can be used to assess your forestland for taxation purposes at its value for forestry use rather than its development value. Significant reductions in property taxes can be realized by enrolling in a Forest Conservation and Management Agreement with the State or by submitting an approved forest management plan to the county assessor. The forester also can provide information about special incentive programs that will pay a portion of the cost of various management practices to meet timber, wildlife, and other objectives.

The Forest Service operates the Preston Tree Nursery, which provides hardwood, pine tree,

and shrub seedlings for reforestation and wildlife habitat enhancement to Maryland citizens. A free nursery catalog is available by calling 1-800-873-3763.

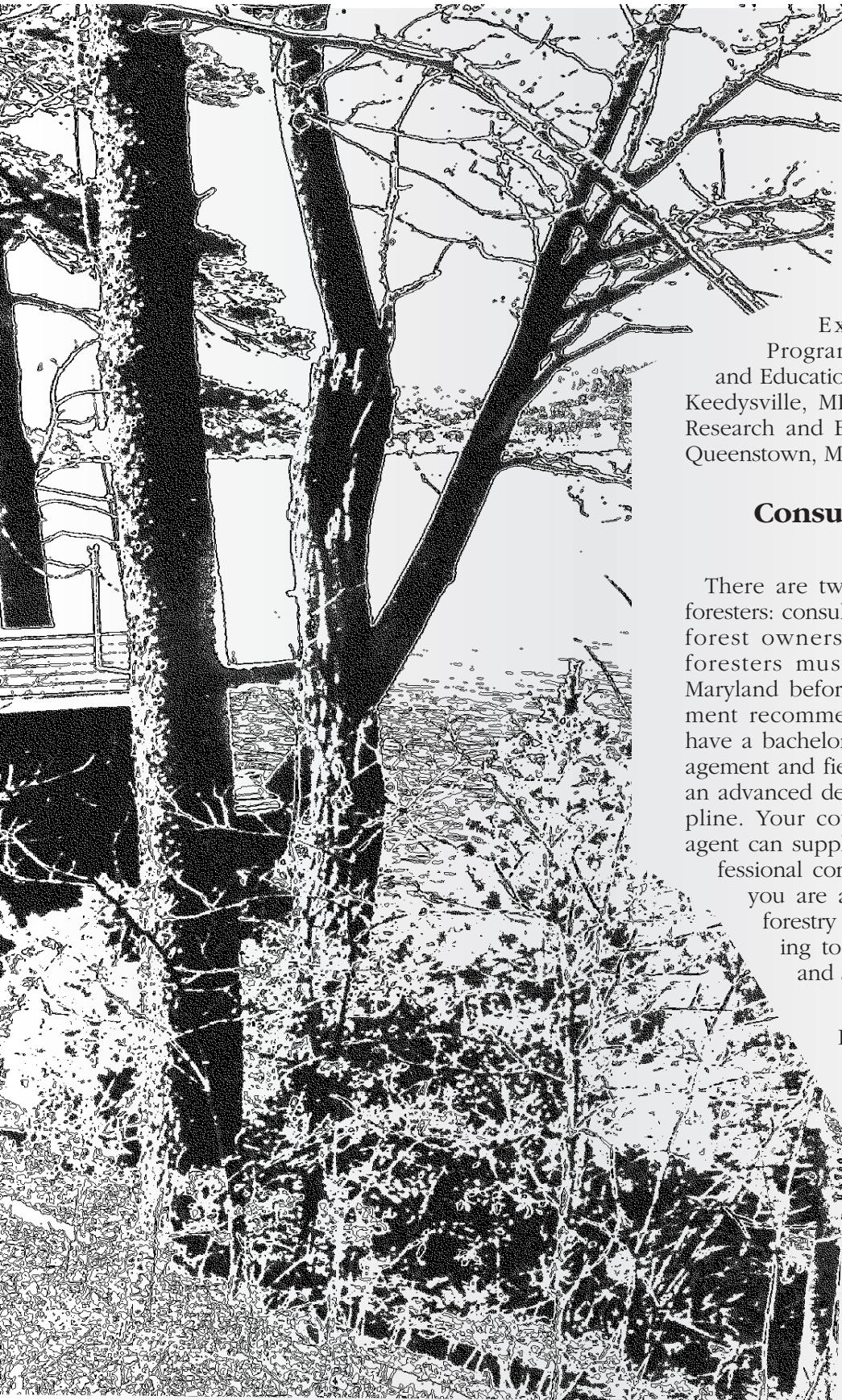
This agency provides State coordination of an excellent resource for forest stewardship and environmental education titled Project Learning Tree (PLT). The project provides an environmental education manual designed for students ranging from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade, with additional high school modules. PLT is endorsed by the Maryland Forest Service, environmental organizations, and forest industry. For more information about Project Learning Tree, contact the PLT Director, Maryland Forest Service, Tawes State Office Building, Room E-1, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-3776.

The Forest Service also sponsors “Tree-Mendous Maryland,” which provides opportunities for individuals, groups, and businesses to work together to “re-green” the State through a variety of programs.

To contact the forester in your county, look in the blue pages of the telephone directory under “State Government, Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service,” or contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service, Tawes State Office Building, Room E-1, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-3776.

**Maryland Cooperative Extension Service (MCES).** This educational agency is part of the University of Maryland System. It is the link between University researchers and the public. Extension has an office in every county with county agents available to answer questions and provide information on forestry- and wildlife-related topics. There are also Extension natural resources specialists who provide forest and wildlife educational programs. Extension offers workshops, field days, and short courses, and publishes a variety of educational bulletins and leaflets. Extension also offers a variety of natural resources programs for youth.

Publications include “Branching Out”, a free quarterly newsletter for forest owners, as well as a variety of publications in the “Woodland Management, Wildlife Management, and Wildlife Damage Management” series. A number of videotapes are available for purchase and some can be borrowed.



To contact your county Extension agent, look in the blue pages of the telephone directory. Listings vary, but usually can be found under "County Government, Extension Service" or "County Government, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland." To contact an Extension natural resources specialist, call or write Extension Natural Resources Programs, Western Maryland Research and Education Center, 18330 Keedysville Road, Keedysville, MD 21756, (301) 432-2735 or Wye Research and Education Center, P.O. Box 1691, Queenstown, MD 21658, (410) 827-8056.

### **Consulting and Industrial Foresters**

There are two types of private, professional foresters: consulting and industrial. To ensure that forest owners are well advised, all private foresters must be licensed by the State of Maryland before they can make forest management recommendations. All licensed foresters have a bachelor's degree in forest resource management and field experience. Many have earned an advanced degree in forestry or a related discipline. Your county forester or local Extension agent can supply you with a list of licensed professional consulting and industrial foresters. If you are approached by someone offering forestry services, protect yourself by asking to see his or her State certification and seal number.

#### **Consulting foresters.**

Independent consulting foresters work for forest owners, managing and marketing products from the forestland in the best interest of the landowner. Most consultants offer a range of forest and wildlife management and marketing services, including timber appraisals, marketing assistance, preparation of forest management plans, timber stand improvement operations, forest pest management assistance, and information on activities that

qualify for government cost sharing. The consultant's fee may be based on the amount of time required to perform a job, the acreage of forest involved, or a percentage of the gross income received for wood product sales that they oversee. Several consultants should be contacted to obtain cost estimates and to make sure you feel comfortable with the relationship.

**Industrial foresters.** Industrial foresters manage and buy timber from forestland owners near their mills. Most offer professional marketing services if you sell your timber to their employer. Some larger companies offer cooperative forest management services similar to those of public foresters in exchange for the opportunity to have first bid on timber to be harvested. Their services are usually not charged directly to the landowners but are incorporated into the price received for the timber.

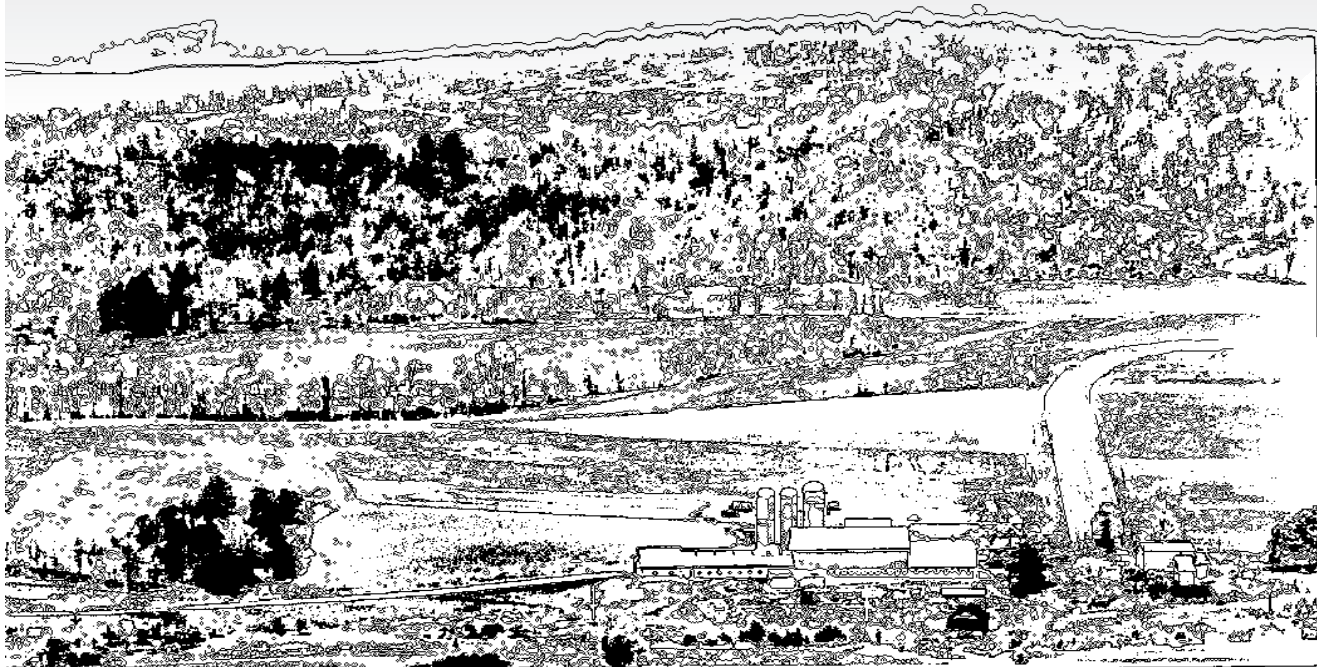
### **Wildlife, Fisheries, Botany, and Recreation Consultants**

These professionals provide assistance in managing various plant and animal species and in identifying ecologically significant areas such as wetlands. They work with landowners to develop management plans that meet the landowner's environmental and economic objectives. Some forestry consultants listed in the registered professional foresters' list are qualified in these areas.

However, others are not. Consultants can best be located by making inquiries to State agencies, private organizations, and private firms that work in these areas. A specialist who is a qualified expert in wildlife, wetlands, botany, fisheries, or recreation can qualify for cost sharing under the Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP). Your State forester can tell you if the specialist will qualify.

## **Federal Agencies**

**Farm Services Agency (FSA).** [*Formerly the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).*] This agency is a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and will pay a portion of the cost a forest owner incurs in implementing certain forest management practices. In most cases, the practice must be maintained for a minimum of 10 years by the landowner. The Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) complements the Forest Stewardship Program (FSP), which is coordinated by the Maryland Forest Service. SIP furnishes landowners with partial funding (up to 65 percent of the cost) to implement practices recommended in their forest stewardship plans. SIP practices include planting riparian buffers to protect water quality and provide wildlife habitat, implementing timber stand improvement practices, reforestation, improving wildlife and fish habitat, and building



recreation trails. To be eligible, the practice must be part of a forest stewardship plan approved by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service. For more information on SIP, contact the Maryland Forest Service (see above) and request a brochure on SIP.

Another program administered through FSA is the Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP), which provides cost sharing for tree planting and erosion control measures. Landowners can be reimbursed for 50 to 75 percent of the cost of tree seedlings, preparing a site for planting, planting the seedlings, and weed control. Timber stand improvement practices eligible for cost sharing under ACP include thinning, pruning, or releasing desirable trees; and preparing a site for natural reseedling of desirable tree species. The Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) is similar to ACP, but FIP is designed to increase sawtimber growth, and it is limited to productive forestland in stands of at least 10 acres. Look for FSA under "United States Government, Department of Agriculture" in the blue pages of the telephone directory. For more information, contact Maryland State FSA, 8335 Guilford Road, Suite E, Columbia, MD 21046, (410) 381-4550.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).** [*Formerly the Soil Conservation Service (SCS).*] The NRCS provides technical assistance to forest owners through county conservation districts. NRCS has mapped the entire State of Maryland for soil types and can provide information, including a soils map, on characteristics and their potential management problems or limitations. In most counties, soil surveys that include county soils maps are available to help owners assess forest productivity for timber growing, erosion and windthrow hazard, equipment limitation, expected seedling mortality, site indices of important tree species, and trees adapted for planting on different sites. The NRCS also assists forest owners with access-road location, grade stabilization, and water-control structures to meet timber harvest regulations. Assistance with abandoned mine reclamation is also available.

NRCS works closely with the soil and water conservation districts throughout the State. A landowner can become a district cooperater by signing an agreement to conserve soil and water resources. Several districts sell tree and shrub seedlings to landowners, and some districts have equipment, such as tree planters, that can be rent-

ed by forest owners.

Look for NRCS under "United States Government, Department of Agriculture" in the blue pages of the telephone directory. For more information, contact the Maryland Natural Resources Conservation Service, 339 Revell Highway, Suite 302, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 757-0861.

**Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).** This branch of USDA offers loans or loan guarantees to establish forestry practices such as Christmas tree production, thinning, pest control, and fire protection; to purchase farm and forestry equipment and materials, and to pay for labor; to buy, improve, or enlarge farms and farm buildings; and to develop commercial recreation facilities. To be eligible, landowners must earn a substantial portion of their income from a family farm and be unable to obtain reasonable credit terms and rates from private sources. Look for FmHA under "United States Government, Department of Agriculture" in the blue pages of the telephone directory.

**USDA Forest Service (FS).** The Forest Service provides national leadership to forest landowners, operators, processors of forest products, and urban forestry interests. Its mission is to supply a continuing flow of natural resource goods and services to help meet the needs of the nation and to contribute to the needs of the international community. In Maryland, the majority of services offered by the Forest Service are directed through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).** This Federal agency protects and enhances our nation's land, air, and water systems to the fullest extent possible under the laws enacted by Congress. The agency encourages the prevention of pollution and deals with problems of air and water pollution; management of solid and hazardous wastes; and the regulation of pesticides, toxic substances, and some aspects of radiation. The agency has 10 regions. Maryland is in region three, with its office located at 841 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19107, (215) 597-9814. EPA strives to formulate and implement actions that lead to a compatible balance between human activities and the ability of natural systems to support and nurture life. For more information, contact the Public Information Center, (PM-211B), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street,

SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 260-2080.

**Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).** Organized under the Department of the Interior, this is the lead Federal agency in the conservation of the nation's migratory birds, endangered species, certain mammals, and sport fish. The Ecological Services branch provides technical assistance for restoring or creating wetlands and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat. Financial assistance for certain practices, such as wetlands restoration, is available to qualifying landowners. The FWS is responsible for enforcing a number of environmental regulations, including the Clean Water Act and other pollution discharge regulations. For more information, contact the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service, 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 573-4559.

## Other State and County Agencies

**Critical Area Commission.** Special regulations of forestry and other activities apply within the "critical area," which is defined as land within 1,000 feet of tidal portions of the Bay and its tributaries. Contact your local jurisdiction planning and zoning commission or the Critical Area

Commission for specific critical area requirements that may apply. For more information, contact the Critical Area Commission, 45 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-2426.

**Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA).** MDA administers regulations that pertain to production agriculture. The department inspects and certifies Christmas trees that will cross state lines to ensure that there are no insects or diseases present. They also administer the gypsy moth spray program for the State. For more information, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 841-5700.

**Maryland Department of the Environment—Water Management Administration.** [*Formerly the Maryland Department of Natural Resources—Water Resources Administration.*]

This agency handles permits for nontidal wetlands activities, waterway crossings, ponds, mining, and water appropriations. Some forestry activities require a permit to work in nontidal wetlands and waterways. This agency can provide technical assistance for landowners and handles inspection and enforcement of logging oper-



ations. In some counties, inspection and enforcement responsibilities are handled by a county agency. For more information, contact the Maryland Department of the Environment, Water Management Administration, Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Division, Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-3841.

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources—Bureau of Mines (BOM).** BOM administers regulations that govern surface and deep mining activities and reviews surface mining permit applications, including reclamation plans. A few special programs provide funds to reclaim or restore land and water resources adversely affected by past coal mining practices. BOM foresters who work on reclamation projects can offer advice on reforestation methods for such areas. For more information, contact the Maryland Bureau of Mines, 160 South Water Street, Frostburg, MD 21532, (301) 689-6978.

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources—Natural Heritage Program.** This program was established in 1979 to identify the State's significant natural areas and to set priorities for their protection. The Natural Heritage Program maintains inventories on all rare, endangered, and threatened species and on unique natural communities. Ecologists work with private forest owners to protect and provide information on these species and communities. For more information, write to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Program, Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call the program at (410) 974-3195.

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources—State Forests and Parks.** This agency administers more than 240,000 acres of public land throughout the State of Maryland and offers many special services including historic reenactments, Volunteer Ranger, Volunteers in the Parks, Junior Rangers, Outdoor Adventures, Scales and Tales Program, and the Maryland Conservation Corps. The Scales and Tales Program uses injured, rehabilitated animals for educational purposes. For a fee, they will visit your group (\$75 for 50 individuals, \$1 each over 50). Historic reenactments can also be brought to your group (fee charged). For more information, contact Maryland State Forests and Parks, Tawes State Office Building, Room E-3, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-3771. For more information on the Scales and Tales Program, call (410) 922-8825.

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources—Wildlife Division.** The Wildlife Division provides advice and information on all aspects of wildlife biology and management, including habitat improvement, backyard wildlife management, nuisance animals, wildlife damage management, injured and orphaned wildlife, and hunting-related questions. In most cases, wildlife biologists will work cooperatively with the county forester to integrate wildlife management recommendations into a forest stewardship plan. There are a number of special wildlife programs that apply to private lands, although availability of the programs varies by county. Some of these involve cost-share assistance or management recommendations for specific species.

The Division has publications and programs available on a variety of subjects related to wildlife. Publications include the "Maryland Fish and Wildlife News," published quarterly and available by subscription, which provides in-depth coverage of state wildlife issues and activities. The Division coordinates training opportunities for Project WILD, an environmental education activity manual for teachers. The Wild Acres Program provides information on backyard wildlife management to residential owners.

This agency works cooperatively with the USDA-APHIS (Animal and Plant, Health Inspection Service) program to provide information on nuisance animal control to Maryland citizens. For more information, call 1-800-442-0708. To contact the wildlife biologist in your county, look in the blue pages of the telephone directory under "State Government, Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division," or contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, Tawes State Office Building, Room E-1, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-3195.

**Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&D).** This program helps communities expand economic opportunities through wise use and development of natural resources. RC&D is a locally organized and directed program of rural development carried out by the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Technical and financial help for natural resource development is provided to multicounty areas that agree to sponsor the program. For more information, contact one of the following RC&D offices listed here by region:

Eastern Shore RC&D  
8133 Elliot Road  
Easton, MD 21601, (410) 822-9481

Southern Maryland RC&D  
303 Post Office Road, Suite B4A  
Waldorf, MD 20602, (301) 870-7138

Western Maryland RC&D  
Top Flight Airpark  
18450 Showalter Road, Suite 111  
Hagerstown, MD 21742, (301) 733-2973

### **County Soil and Water Conservation**

**Districts.** All land areas in Maryland are located within a Soil and Water Conservation District (with the exception of Baltimore City), which most often follows county boundaries. These Conservation Districts are run by volunteer boards that work closely with NRCS and Maryland departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources personnel to carry out conservation programs for soil, water, forests, wildlife, and related natural resources. They also receive staffing assistance from these organizations. Some districts sell tree seedlings and offer educational opportunities for landowners and youth. Your local conservation district office is located with the local NRCS office. For the telephone directory listing, see the entry for NRCS under "Federal Agencies" in this publication. You can also contact the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCSD). See the entry under "Associations" in this publication.

## **Associations**

**American Tree Farm System.** This nationwide program is sponsored by private forest industry to encourage private forest owners to produce trees for forest products and other forest benefits. The Tree Farm Program provides forest landowners with management assistance to produce continuous crops of trees; and improve wildlife habitat, watershed protection, outdoor recreation, and aesthetic values. Forest owners with a forest management plan developed by a state or private forester can apply to the Tree Farm Program for Pioneer Tree Farm status. If the landowner implements the plan by the first five-year inspection, the property is declared a Certified Tree Farm, and the landowner receives a Tree Farm certificate and sign to post on their property. The owner also receives a complimentary 1-year subscription to "American Tree Farmer" magazine, as

well as bulletins from the Maryland Tree Farm Committee on educational opportunities. Landowners of Certified Tree Farms are eligible to compete in the American Forest Foundation (AFF) series of county, state, regional, and national Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year contests. In addition, all tree farmers are invited to conferences, field days, tours, and seminars sponsored by the state committee. For more information, contact your local forester or the American Forest Foundation, 1250 Connecticut Ave. NW., Suite 320, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 463-2455.

### **Forest Landowners Association (FLA). [Formerly the Forest Farmers Association.]**

This grassroots organization of large and small timberland owners has active members in every state in the South, including Maryland. It is the only organization created specifically to speak for Southern timberland owners at the local, regional, and national level. Membership includes a subscription to "Forest Landowners" magazine, which is published six times per year. Members are also eligible for low-cost liability insurance for lease hunting on their properties. For more information, contact the Forest Landowners Association, P.O. Box 95385, Atlanta, GA 30347, (404) 325-2954.

### **Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards (County Forestry Boards).**

County forestry boards were established by legislation in 1947 to promote sound forest management practices and to promote conservation of Maryland's forest resources. They are sponsored by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service, and are made up of volunteers appointed by the Governor. The county forester acts as secretary for each county board. The board provides leadership for a broad range of forestry projects, such as tree plantings, establishing school forests, forestry tours, a summer forest conservation camp for youth, and other community activities involving tree planting and forestry practices. These boards have responsibility for approving forest management plans in the Critical Area (within 1,000 feet of tidal areas of the Chesapeake Bay). For more information, contact the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards, Tawes State Office Building, Room E-1, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 974-3776, or your local service forester in the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service.



**Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD).** This nonprofit organization represents the 23 conservation districts at the State level in matters concerning legislation, regulations, and program development. MASCD also interacts, on behalf of the districts, with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). For more information, contact MASCD, 53 Slama Road, Edgewater, MD 21037.

**Maryland Christmas Tree Association, Inc. (MCTA).** This organization promotes the Christmas tree industry in Maryland by providing opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences and to plan cooperative efforts in the production and marketing of Christmas trees. MCTA provides information, holds field tours, and publishes a newsletter. For more information, contact the Maryland Christmas Tree Association, Inc., 826 Spring Dale Road, New Windsor, MD 21776, (301) 875-0272.

**Maryland Forests Association (MFA).** This association is a nonprofit citizens' organization for people interested in trees, forests, and forestry. The association promotes wise, multiple-use forest management to achieve long-term sustainable productivity of forestland, natural resources, fish, and wildlife. MFA is actively involved in legislative issues pertaining to forestry and provides

information on forest management, marketing, and taxes. MFA publishes "Crosscut," a quarterly newsletter; hosts two logger and forestry field days annually; conducts tours for legislators and public officials; and holds State and regional meetings of its members. For more information, contact the Maryland Forests Association, P.O. Box 599, Grantsville, MD 21536, (301) 895-5369.

**Maryland Chapter of the National Walnut Council.** This State-level association is part of the National Walnut Council and offers educational meetings and field tours for anyone interested in the production and marketing of walnut trees for wood and nuts. A small membership fee includes a quarterly copy of the "Walnut Council Maryland Chapter Newsletter." For more information, contact the Maryland Chapter of the National Walnut Council, 17343 Bakersville Road, Boonsboro, MD 21713, (301) 739-7743.

**National Woodland Owners Association (NWOA).** This is a nationwide organization of nonindustrial private forest owners. NWOA is independent of the forest products industry and forestry agencies, and works with all organizations to promote nonindustrial forestry and the best interests of forest owners. Members receive the "National Woodlands" magazine and the "Woodland Report." An introductory visit from a



certified professional forester is available in most states. For more information, contact the National Woodland Owners Association, 374 Maple Ave, E., Suite 210, Vienna, VA 22180, (703) 255-2700.

## Land Trusts, Conservancies, and Alliances

**Maryland Environmental Trust (MET).** This organization is part of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. It was created in 1967 to protect Maryland's farmland, forestland, wildlife habitat, and historic sites through voluntary programs. MET offers four cooperative programs. The Trust works with landowners to develop conservation easements to protect open space; helps citizen groups form and operate local land trusts; and offers land trusts technical assistance, training, and grants for land protection projects and participation in the Maryland Land Trust Alliance. Its rural historic village protection program solicits voluntary easement agreements from landowners to protect open space surrounding Maryland villages. The Trust's Keep Maryland Beautiful Program focuses on environmental educa-

tion projects. For more information, contact the Maryland Environmental Trust, 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD 21032, (410) 514-7900.

**Maryland Land Trust Alliance (MLTA).** This alliance is an informal coalition providing leadership for the more than 40 local land trusts throughout the State. Two meetings are held each year to provide training and communication among the local land trusts. For a list of local land trusts or more information, contact the local land trust coordinator at MET, 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD 21032, (410) 514-7900.

**The Nature Conservancy (TNC).** This nonprofit organization is dedicated to preserving plants, animals, and natural communities by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. TNC assists people interested in protecting natural areas for future generations: providing habitat for threatened and endangered species; demonstrating commitment to conservation; avoiding capital gains tax appreciated assets; securing lifetime income; and planning estate tax saving. For more information, contact The Nature Conservancy, 2 Wisconsin Circle, Suite 300, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, (301) 656-8673.



## Other Resources

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.** This quasi-governmental organization provides nonbiased, nontechnical information about Chesapeake Bay programs to the public, provides opportunities for citizens to participate in the development of public policy affecting the Bay, and promotes the wise use and management of the Bay's resources. The "Bay Journal" is a free publication to inform the public about issues and events. To be added to the mailing list or for more information about the Alliance, contact the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, 6600 York Road, Suite 100, Baltimore, MD 21212, (410) 377-6270.

**Environmental Education Centers.** These centers are located throughout the State and can be an excellent source of information for a wide range of environmental concerns. For more information about centers in your area, contact the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE), c/o King's Landing, P.O. Box 722, Huntingtown, MD 20639, (410) 535-2960.

**National Arbor Day Foundation.** This non-profit organization sponsors the Tree City USA Program designed to make communities more aware of the importance of trees in their environment. They provide information and educational materials, including education kits, videos, a newsletter, and various other publications. Members can buy trees and shrub seedlings for

conservation purposes. For more information, contact the National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, (402) 474-5655.

**National Wildlife Visitor Center.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service operates the National Wildlife Visitor Center (opened in 1995) as an educational center for schools and all citizens. Located in Laurel, Maryland, adjacent to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, the Visitor Center offers interactive displays, wildlife viewing areas, and educational programs. For more information, contact the National Wildlife Visitor Center, Patuxent Environmental Science Center, 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD 20708, (301) 497-5766.

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# Services

## ORGANIZATIONS

	Technical Assistance	Forest Management Preparation and/or Review	Conservation Planting Materials	Financial Assistance	Estate Planning Information	Service Fee	Fish and Wildlife Management	Information and Referral Services	Environmental Regulation	Research Coordination and Support	Monthly/Quarterly Publications	Educational Programs
<b>Professional Forestry Assistance</b>												
<b>Maryland DNR—Forest Service</b>	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		•		•
<b>Maryland Cooperative Extension Service</b>					•		•	•		•	•	•
<b>Consulting foresters</b>	•	•			•	•	•					
<b>Industrial foresters</b>	•	•	•	•			•	•		•		
<b>Wildlife, fisheries, botanical and recreation consultants</b>	•	•				•	•					
<b>Federal Agencies</b>												
<b>USDA Farm Services Agency</b>				•				•				
<b>USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service</b>	•		•	•			•	•				
<b>USDA Farmers Home Administration</b>				•								
<b>USDA Forest Service</b>	•			•	•			•		•		
<b>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</b>	•							•	•	•		
<b>USDI Fish and Wildlife Service</b>	•	•					•	•	•	•		
<b>Other State and County Agencies</b>												
<b>Critical Area Commission</b>	•	•							•			
<b>Maryland Department of Agriculture</b>	•							•	•	•		
<b>Maryland Department of the Environment—Water Resources</b>	•							•	•			
<b>Maryland DNR—Bureau of Mines</b>	•		•					•	•			
<b>Maryland DNR—Natural Heritage Program</b>	•							•	•			
<b>Maryland DNR—State Forests and Parks</b>								•				•
<b>Maryland DNR—Wildlife Division</b>	•	•		•			•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Resource Conservation and Development Councils</b>	•			•				•				•
<b>County Soil and Water Conservation Districts</b>	•	•	•					•	•			•
<b>Associations</b>												
<b>American Tree Farm System</b>	•	•	•				•	•			•	•
<b>Forest Landowners Association</b>					•			•			•	
<b>Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards</b>		•						•	•			•
<b>Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts</b>							•	•				
<b>Maryland Christmas Tree Association, Inc.</b>								•			•	•
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<b>Land Trusts, Conservancies, and Alliances</b>												
<b>Maryland Environmental Trust</b>					•			•				
<b>Maryland Land Trust Alliance</b>					•			•				
<b>The Nature Conservancy</b>					•			•			•	