



Summer Newsletter

DIVERSITY IN TREE SELECTION

By Anne Gilbert

What to consider when choosing tree species for your tree planting.

There are so many considerations when choosing trees to plant it is hard to choose which is the most important. I suppose the priority consideration has a lot to do with your goals, but here is one consideration that should move up on your list of priorities: Diversity. Diversity has become a buzzword for good reason.

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2022 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS NATIONAL CONVENTION COMES TO BALTIMORE

By Jeanne Kavinski

A once in a lifetime chance to celebrate Maryland hosting the Society of American Forester's National Convention—the first time in decades!

The 2022 Society of American Foresters (SAF) Convention is coming to the Baltimore Convention Center on September 20th through 24th! This convention highlights the power of collaboration between different types of forestry. Including work done to manage forests and...

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Marylander's Plant Trees Coupon
- Choose diversity for a diversity of benefits.
- Maryland's Big Tree Program



Above: Mom and kids showing off their tree at Harford County's 2022 Arbor Day volunteer planting event and the Harford County Landfill.

DON'T FORGET TO APPLY FOR PLANT FOR 2022 ACTIVITIES

The People Loving And Nurturing Trees Award is recognition for communities who care for their trees. Communities of all types can receive the award— schools, HOAs, parks, local governments, government facilities, scout troops and churches, just to name a few.

Your Community is probably already at one of the four levels of the PLANT Award program. Choose the level you feel best fits your community's activities in the last year. Over time your community can see your program grow, as your award level increases. The reviewing committee will look at your submitted documentation and then award the best fitting level!



The Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee of the Maryland Forestry Boards in partnership with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources sponsor this program and review the applications.

Applications and supporting documentation are due January 31, 2023. Awards will be mailed in mid-March so that you have it in time for Arbor Day celebrations in April!

Communities throughout Maryland are recognized each year, it's time your community joins them! Show off all of your community's hard work taking care of its trees to all who are in it and those that visit!

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/plantinfo.aspx>

SAVE ON A NEW TREE THIS FALL

As Marylanders, we take pride in our State and our natural world. We understand the value of stewardship and the importance of a sustainable future, and are committed to working together to create a smarter, greener State. Planting trees is one way that everyone can contribute to our shared vision.

Trees provide ecological, economic and quality of life benefits – protecting air and water quality, reducing energy costs, increasing property values and beautifying neighborhoods and highways.

This coupon is worth \$25 off the purchase of one tree with a retail value of \$50 or more at all participating retail nurseries and garden centers.—36 throughout the state. The discount is taken at the register at the time of the sale. One coupon must be filled in for each tree purchased.

List of participating nurseries:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/nurseries.aspx>

Print your coupon:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/Print-Your-Coupon.aspx>





BEFORE: Maryland Forest Service staff and students from Allegany College of Maryland planting trees in 2016.

TOP TIPS FOR TREE SELECTION AT THE NURSERY

- **Choose a tree with a single leader.** For most cases a single leader is best. If suckers are present prune them back to encourage the tree to grow upward rather than outward. This will prevent future issues.
- **Check the root ball.** Lift out of the container and inspect the roots for rot and girdling roots.

DIVERSITY IN TREE SELECTION CONT.

As the climate continues to change, more invasive insects descend and storms become more extreme, the choices you make today could mean the difference between trees or no trees in the not so distant future. Now to tell you what you can do to change that!

The exact math varies, but to make it simple: the more types of trees the better. 1) As many genera of trees as you can (i.e. oaks, maples) and ideally no more than 30% of one kind. 2) Vary the species within the genera (i.e. southern red oak, sugar maple) ideally no more than 10% of each species. 3) Different sizes and maturity (i.e. both tall pines and small understory trees like Spicebush). 4) Varied types of mast fruit (i.e. producers of acorns and berries).

Start by looking at the existing trees in your area. A tree inventory is a great way to start. Then look for “holes” in your list based on the four tips above. It will be surprisingly easy to make tree species selections at this point in the process.

The more diversity an area has, the more resilient it is. If a bacterial disease takes out half of your maples and a new borer takes out the hickories, your area would only have lost ~15% or less of your canopy. Now isn't that better than losing the dice roll and having a mono-canopy completely wiped out? I think so!

For a Recommended Tree List of native species and a coupon visit and click on “Plant Trees” at the bottom of the page:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/default.aspx>



AFTER: Diverse tree selection five years after planting (2021). Maryland Forest Service's Western Regional Office in Flintstone, MD.

DID YOU KNOW?

Another committee of the Maryland Association of Conservation District Boards manages Maryland's Big Tree Program.

The Big Tree Program originated in Maryland in 1925, went national in 1940, and is run by American Forests, www.americanforests.org. Each state has a State Coordinator who collects data, measures trees, and biannually submits certain trees to American Forests as potential National Champions.

The Big Tree Website has a searchable list of all species of Big Trees throughout Maryland! Find one near you today—<https://www.mdbigtrees.org/>

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/trees/bigtree.aspx>



ANNOUNCEMENT:



CLEAR RIDGE
NURSERY, INC.
Quality Native and Ornamental Plants Since 1994

Clear Ridge Nursery won the Tree-Mendous Contract for the next three years!

Tree-Mendous is also piloting an online order form for the first time!

Email: anne.gilbert@maryland.gov to be added to the email list.



MARYLAND FOREST SERVICE
Tree-Mendous Maryland

Clear Ridge Nursery Stock photos.

TREE FAQ

When is the best time to plant?

Typically it is best to plant trees in the spring of the year before the leaves and flowers come out on the plant. Planting of larger trees, sold in pots or burlap, can occur in the fall as well.

How much do I water my new tree?

Tree roots need water and oxygen to grow. You can overwater a tree. Too much water can displace the oxygen in the soil and may cause root dieback. If less than 1" of rain is received in a week go ahead and water your tree.

Should I mulch my new tree?

Yes! Mulch retains moisture, reduces weed competition, protect the plant from mowers and decays to add nutrients to the soil. Add 2"-4" depth of shredded hardwood bark mulch out to the edge of the leaves. Do not place against the stem of the tree.

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/frequently-Asked-Questions.aspx>



Artwork was created by Alexis Horichs of Carroll County, third place winner of the 2022 Maryland Arbor Day Poster contest for fifth graders.

“Mulch retains moisture, reduces weed competition, protect the plant from mowers and decays to add nutrients to the soil.”

2022 SAF NATIONAL CONVENTION COMES TO BALTIMORE CONTINUED

tree canopies in urban, suburban, and rural communities. The 2022 Convention's, sub-Themes include: The Art of Collaborative Engagement, Environmental Justice and Access, Nature-based Climate Solutions and Many Hands: Diversity in Forest Careers.

Learn from other's experience by attending one of *Tuesday's Technical Tours* on September 20th. Options include: Forests, Water and Fire: Adapting Forest Management for a Changing



Climate; Technology, Trees and UAVs; Chesapeake Shore: Forestry for the Bay; Speaking Forestry in the Nation's

Capital; and Baltimore's Urban Forestry Lifecycle: Urban Silviculture, Community Forestry Caretakers, and Wood Utilization.

Big Stage Speakers for *Thursday Think Tank* include, but is not limited to: Frederick (Fred) W. Cabbage, Professor, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University; Kathryn (Katie) Fernholz, President/CEO, Dovetail Partners; Robert W. Hagler, Associate Director, Investor Relations, New Forests, Inc.; Marisa Repka, Co-Founder, Cambium Carbon Amy Shaunette, Forester, U.S. Forest Service and Sarah Lillie Sewell Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Lillie Leaf Solutions.

Round out the convention with a *Sunday Tour* of: Fish Grow on Trees: Agroforestry for the Chesapeake or Urban Wood Utilization.

<https://www.eforester.org/Safconvention/Safconvention2022/Home.aspx>

MUCFC MEMBERS

Wayne Lucas – Chair, Landscape Architect/Arborist/Tree Care Expert, Prince George's Department of Public Works

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Allison Breitenother – Climate Risk Program Manager, MDOT

Frederick Johnson – Park Manager I, Prince George's County Parks

Cheryle Franceschi – Producer, Por Eco Productions, One Idea/Dos Languages

Jeanne Kavinski – Arborist, Pope Farm Nursery, M-NCPPC/Montgomery Parks

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Augie Mahar – Distribution Program Manager, Vegetative Management, BGE

Jason Sprouls – Community Forestry Program Manager, Neighborhood Design Center

Kristin Taddei – Forest Conservation Planner Coordinator, Montgomery County Planning Department

Marian Honeczy – Supervisor, Urban & Community Forestry, Maryland Forest Service

Julie Mawhorter – USDA, US Forest Service Rep

Anne Gilbert – DNR Liaison, Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator—Central Region, Maryland Forest Service

LEARN MORE

The Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC) is a volunteer group of citizens, professionals, and government officials united to protect and enhance Maryland's forest ecosystems. MUCFC is a sub-committee of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. The primary functions of the Committee are to promote and coordinate the Maryland Community PLANT Award Program that officially recognizes communities planting and caring for trees, and to administer Grants to schools and communities through their local Forestry Boards that promote planting and care of trees.



Learn more about applying for a MUCFC Grant online:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mucfcgrant.aspx>



"A tree planting event was hosted at Hampden Elementary/Middle School in Baltimore City on April 29th (Arbor Day 2022). The event was hosted in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Arbor Day. 8 trees were planted on the school grounds."

- From Hampden Elementary/Middle School's Final Report

DONATE TODAY

Help support MUCFC's work throughout Maryland by donating today.

Visit the Maryland's Forest Conservancy District Boards Donations page and click the PayPal "**Donate**" button:

<http://www.marylandforestryboards.org/donations.cfm>

Be sure to specify MUCFC or Urban Canopy in the special instructions section of the payment form.