



Chair – Jim Arnold
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2024

Members Present: M. Kay, T. Anderson, J. Arnold, B. Phillips, K. Schoonover, C. Farmer, D. Durcho
Guests: None

Membership: Chuck received his formal membership certificate and is now an official board member!

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance for August was \$11,048.84. We had no deposits over the past month. There was \$0.19 interest accrued. There was one withdrawal for the \$150.00 NRCC activity reimbursement fee to Ethan McCarty. The new balance is \$10,899.03.

Logging Site Exams: One logging site exam was submitted over the past month. The request was submitted by Soapstone Sawmill on behalf of the Frederick County 4H Camp. The harvest consists of a 48-acre area. The planned intermediate harvest will thin the stand to improve regeneration growth, while removing dead and declining trees. There are 788 trees selected for removal. Pre-harvest basal area is 120 sq. ft. per acre, with the projected post-harvest basal area being 70 sq. ft. per acre.

Outreach:

1. Community

1. The Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF) Workshop is planned for October 11th at Ole Mink Farm Campground. The event will have 3 speakers covering a general introduction on the SLF, previous experience from the Korean invasion, and ID and control methods for ailanthus. This meeting has been planned in conjunction with the Washington County Forestry Board and sponsored by the Walnut Council. Proceeds generated from attendees will be used to send students to NRCC in 2025.
2. The board was submitted for the Frederick County Sustainability Award for 2024, but did not win. We were encouraged to reapply next year.
3. A letter of support was submitted for the Forestry Canopy Catalyst grant for Mobilize Frederick. Their goal is to expand tree canopy cover, to 40%, in underserved areas of Frederick. This project will engage neighborhoods and young people in implementation and planning.

2. Urban Forestry

1. The board measured a cottonwood in Myersville; however, it was not large enough to qualify for the Big Tree Program. Mike will send out the comprehensive list of native big trees that Frederick County does not have recorded. We plan to seek out and add these new trees to the Big Tree Program list. We will also review Mike's article that he put together so that it can be posted in several places, so that the public can help in finding these trees. Additionally, members will take photos of the needed trees and have them for reference on the website, for those that plan to submit trees for our review.



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2. We are still waiting to hear back from DNR staff regarding the Old Growth Forest Network nomination.

3. Jim conducted a Tree Walk tag survey for trees at Baker Park. He found several that were damaged or need replacing, as well as a few updates that are needed for the self-guided walk on the website. Additionally, Bruce was contacted by Mt. Olivet. Three of the signs for this new tree walk were vandalized and will need to be replaced. Similar surveys will occur at Hood College and at Gambrill State Park and an order will be placed to replace these damaged or missing tags.

Future tree walks will be planned on a quarterly basis (one per season) and moved to Saturday instead of Sunday. The winter walk will be planned for February 15th at 12 noon at Gambrill State Park, with a snow make up day being March 1st. We will plan to use Eventbrite for registration/donations. We also discussed purchasing cheap tree ID books/handouts for participants.

3. Media

1. Nature Notes: We will prepare nature notes as time allows.

2. Website: Jim will continue to keep the website up to date.

3. Social Media: We continue to grow our FB & IG presence and now have over 600 followers.

New Business

None.

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Frederick County Forest Conservancy District Board

frederick.forestryboard.org

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