



Chair – Jim Arnold
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2025

Members Present: M. Kay, T. Anderson, K. Schoonover, C. Farmer, C. Tipton, J. Arnold, D. Durcho
Guests: K. Kyde, D. Pratson

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance for June was \$7,753.03. There was one deposit over the past month, for the annual pesticide refresher proceeds totaling \$685.00. A total of \$0.16 interest was accrued. There was one withdrawal to send two NRCC students to camp, totaling \$1,000. The month's end balance was \$7,438.19.

Logging Site Exams: Four plans were received over the past month. Two plans were from Bill Bond. These include the Sam Royer property in Sabillasville and the Stronghold property in Dickerson. Both are selective cuts focusing on the removal of economically mature trees, and/or declining and dead trees. The third was from Silvio Schiaroli. This plan is for Patrick McConnell in Frederick. The plan recommends a selective harvest to reduce stocking, while removing dead and dying trees. The fourth plan was from Greg Baker. This is for one of the Rich Calimer properties located in Sabillasville. The plan is to harvest economically mature trees, while conducting a thinning from below.

Outreach:

1. Community

1. We discussed the proposed tree planting for Claude Eans memorial at Waterford Park. It was decided that instead of a memorial tree specifically for Claude, two trees and a bench would be installed and dedicated to all past and present members. Members met with Ginny Brace at Waterford Park and three planting locations were chosen. Of the three, Frederick City will select the area where they would like it to be installed. The city will plant the trees and install the bench. Bruce thought that pin oak would be a good choice, however others suggested swamp white oak, bitternut hickory, sweetgum, and blackgum as alternatives. Jim will look into getting some quotes for benches and Kerrie will see what the availability and price of 2" caliper trees would be.

2. The board discussed and selected a topic for the next forestry board workshop. Invasive species was the first topic, followed by energy savings through strategic planting, and forest ecology. The invasives talk will cover identification (Kerrie), why they are bad (Kerrie), control methods (a contractor), and cost share (Dakota). The plan is to shoot for a 2-hour evening meeting in mid-October. A venue has yet to be determined, but we are looking for a good central location. Mike will put a rough agenda together over the next month and potential venue options will be explored.

Daniel Pratson mentioned that he was working on a needs assessment for the state and encouraged the board to work with him to help determine topics for future workshops. We'll be in touch...



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2. Urban Forestry

1. Bruce and Dakota measured a silver maple and a black walnut, in response to the Frederick News Post article that Mike prepared. Both trees were just shy of the 70% requirement. We encouraged the landowner to reach back out in 5 years for a remeasure.

3. Media

1. Nature Notes: We will prepare nature notes as time allows.
2. Website: Jim has continued to keep the website up to date. Mike will resend photos regarding the big tree website update to Jim.
3. Social Media: We continue to grow our FB & IG presence.

New Business

Mobilize Frederick asked if we would be willing to do a tree walk for them. We agreed to but not until the fall when things cool off.

Chuck mentioned the number of large snags along Rt. 77 and enquired about contacting county highways regarding the issue to see if they could be mitigated. It was mentioned that the ROW width averaged about 30' in that area and that most of the trees are located on private or government ground.

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