



Chair – Jim Arnold
Secretary – Dakota Durcho

Frederick County Forestry Board Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2025

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

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance for August was \$18,762.00. There were three deposits totaling \$3,008.83 for MDOT/MUCFC tree planting grants. These funds will continue to be disbursed over the next few weeks to the designated recipients. A total of \$0.31 interest was accrued. There were three withdrawals over the past month, for various MDOT/MUCFC tree planting grants. These funds total \$9,309.85. The month's end balance was \$12,461.29.

Logging Site Exams: One timber harvest review was received over the past month. This plan was submitted by Bill Bond. This harvest is approximately 6 acres in size. The objective is to salvage recent blow down, and to conduct a group selection to increase yellow-poplar regeneration. A total of 125 trees have been marked. Dakota will reach out to the board to set a time to review the harvest.

Outreach:

1. Community

1. We discussed the proposed memorial tree planting at Waterford Park. Two blackgums were tagged/ordered from Raemelon Farm. The cost for these trees was \$478.00. We expect to get the trees in October, but a specific date has not yet been determined. Kerrie will let us/Jim know when the trees are ready to be picked up. Jim will then coordinate with his brother-in-law to pick up the trees from Raemelon Farm as well as with Frederick City who will plant the trees. This will ensure that the necessary equipment is available to offload and plant the trees appropriately. We still need to acquire two gator bags for the trees. Anna Twigg has also offered to provide staking and fencing, as she has extra on hand. Regarding the bench, Jim did some further research on benches and Kerrie offered up a granite bench that she had. A motion was made by the board to accept the bench that Kerrie had offered up. The motion was approved by a 3-vote majority. Jim will check with Ginny to make sure the park is okay with this style bench. If okay, Tom and Keith will work together to pick the bench up at Kerrie's. Plaques for the bench were briefly discussed. Having the bench engraved or having a separate plaque are options that will be discussed further.

2. The board decided that the next workshop will be held on February 12th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the Middletown Library. Mike mentioned that he would pursue reserving a room for that time. Once this is confirmed the board will seek a contractor to present on control methods and will begin promoting the event. Mike has put a rough agenda together.

3. The board will be attending the Mt. Airy Green Fair on Wednesday September 24th from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. Bruce and Chuck will take the 3-5 shift and Tom and Jim will take the 5-7 shift.

Frederick County Forest Conservancy District Board

frederick.forestryboard.org

8602 Gambrill Park Road, Frederick, MD 21702



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4. Mike is planning to host a tree walk at Gambrill State Park's Red Trail on October 17th from 10:00am to 12:00pm in conjunction with Mobilize Frederick. Dakota will reach out to Sarah Rodriguez to see if this is okay with the MPS.

5. The proposed Old Growth Forest Network inclusion at Cunningham Falls State Park has been denied.

2. Urban Forestry

1. Bruce and Dakota measured 4 big trees (Kentucky coffee tree, black walnut, Chinese chestnut, and Japanese flowering cherry) at the Trinity Recreation Center in downtown Frederick. A yellow-poplar and American beech will also be measured on Thursday 9/11.

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. Jim mentioned that the maps for Baker Park and Hood College are no longer accessible on our website and he is unsure why.
3. Social Media: We continue to grow our FB & IG presence.

New Business

Chuck asked if we were still planning to collect walnuts this year. He was advised that walnut collection begins on September 29th and runs through October 31st.

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