

WASHINGTON COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2025

Present: Don Grove, Linda Grove, Greg Bartles, Kate Bucco, Doug Inkley, Judy Niedzielski, and Aaron Cook.

Statewide Meeting – Aaron virtually attended the recent statewide forestry board meeting, Aaron gave a brief overview of the HQ updates, Foundation updates, and Stories of Success. The charettes were not available virtually. Aaron will try to get more information on the transition of the treasury through the Foundation. The MD Biodiversity Project presentation was interesting, Aaron explained how this group looks through i-naturalist, and showed the board some examples.

Other Business – Big Tree: Doug, Don, and Linda recapped a exceptional year, 30 trees were measured. Doug looked at some statistics, and Washington County is approximately 4% of the land in MD, and has 4% of the big tree list. Some Counties are more diverse with geology and ecosystems, and as such have a higher percentage of big trees vs. their land mass size. There may be an experimental Big Tree Program for multi-stemmed trees. Doug is going to talk about the Big Tree Program when he speaks at a workshop for Master Gardeners. It is owl banding season.

MUCFC/ MDOT tree planting grants: The board dealt with pass through grant funding for several tree plantings this fall in Washington County.

Workshop: Aaron brought up learning more about forest pollinators at a SAF meeting. One of the ideas the board had for a workshop centered around pollinators. Doug knows a great deal about mason bees, there may be an opportunity to conduct a workshop, phragmites makes a good tube for a mason bee house.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

The next business meeting will be 2PM, January 7, 2025.