

Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-206, Annotated Code of Maryland, this issue contains all previously unpublished documents required to be published, and filed on or before July 11, 2022, 5 p.m.

Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-206, Annotated Code of Maryland, I hereby certify that this issue contains all documents required to be codified as of July 11, 2022.

Gail S. Klakring Administrator, Division of State Documents Office of the Secretary of State



Proposed Action on Regulations

For information concerning citizen participation in the regulation-making process, see inside front cover.

Symbol Key

- · Roman type indicates existing text of regulation.
- · Italic type indicates proposed new text.
- · [Single brackets] indicate text proposed for deletion.

Promulgation of Regulations

An agency wishing to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations must first publish in the Maryland Register a notice of proposed action, a statement of purpose, a comparison to federal standards, an estimate of economic impact, an economic impact on small businesses, a notice giving the public an opportunity to comment on the proposal, and the text of the proposed regulations. The opportunity for public comment must be held open for at least 30 days after the proposal is published in the Maryland Register.

Following publication of the proposal in the Maryland Register, 45 days must pass before the agency may take final action on the proposal. When final action is taken, the agency must publish a notice in the Maryland Register. Final action takes effect 10 days after the notice is published, unless the agency specifies a later date. An agency may make changes in the text of a proposal. If the changes are not substantive, these changes are included in the notice of final action and published in the Maryland Register. If the changes are substantive, the agency must repropose the regulations, showing the changes that were made to the originally proposed text.

Proposed action on regulations may be withdrawn by the proposing agency any time before final action is taken. When an agency proposes action on regulations, but does not take final action within 1 year, the proposal is automatically withdrawn by operation of law, and a notice of withdrawal is published in the Maryland Register.

Title 08 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Subtitle 07 FORESTS AND PARKS

08.07.03 Forest Management Programs

Authority: Tax-Property Article, §8-211(p), Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[22-116-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to amend Regulation .03 under COMAR 08.07.03 Forest Management Programs.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to eliminate certain fees related to the Forest Conservation and Management program, under certain circumstances. The Department's authority to charge reasonable fees for management plans, original agreements, and conducting inspections, Tax-Property Article, §8-211(p), Annotated Code of Maryland, provides that the fees be designed to cover the administrative costs of conducting the program. The Department determined that the fee for preparation of the forest management plan, when prepared for submission with an inspection report or amendment, sufficiently covers the administrative cost of the program. Therefore, the proposed regulation removes the additional fees, under those circumstances.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Marian Honeczy, Supervisor, Urban and Community Forestry, Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8511, or email to marian.honeczy@maryland.gov, or fax to 410-260-8595. Comments will be accepted through August 29, 2022. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

.03 Charges for Administering the Forest Conservation and Management Program.

A.—B. (text unchanged)

- C. Charges for Participating in a Forest Conservation and Management Agreement.
- (1) [A] Except as provided in §C(2) of this regulation, a woodland owner shall pay a nonrefundable fee for participating in the Forest Management Program as follows:
 - [(1)] (a) [(3)] (c) (text unchanged)
- (2) The fees required under §C(1)(b) and (c) of this regulation do not apply when:
- (a) The Department prepares a Forest Stewardship Plan, as defined in Natural Resources Article, §5-101(f), Annotated Code of Maryland, for submission with an inspection report or amendment; and
- (b) The applicant pays the Department the plan preparation fee provided in COMAR 08.07.05.05B(1).

D.—E. (text unchanged)

JEANNIE HADDAWAY-RICCIO Secretary of Natural Resources