



Tree Planting projects will implement cost-effective reforestation or afforestation projects on qualifying agricultural land to support the state's efforts in planting and maintaining 5 million sustainable trees native to Maryland by 2031. In addition, these projects will increase tree canopy, create forest habitat, provide livestock shade, improve water quality, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By increasing tree cover and expanding green areas, erosion can be reduced, water and soil quality can be improved, airborne pollutants such as particulates, nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide can be filtered, and summer temperatures and resulting ozone pollution and energy use can be decreased.

We encourage small-scale planting projects on agricultural lands (less than 2 acres) for a maximum request of \$10,000. For large-scale planting projects on agricultural lands (greater than 2 acres), the maximum request amount is \$50,000.

Projects on individual private, commercial private, community-owned, nonprofit, and government-owned property are eligible for funding.

Successful applicants will be obligated to complete the following project phases:

1. Develop a planting design and plan;
2. Obtain any required permits;
3. Provide planting activities, including procuring contractual or volunteer services;
4. Provide monitoring and maintenance in the first two years to ensure a survivorship rate consistent with guidelines in [Maryland State Forest Conservation Technical Manual Third Edition of 1997](#).

Examples of project types include but are not limited to:

- Tree planting and reforestation projects.
- Establishing, enhancing and/or preserving riparian buffers; and/or
- Creating, enhancing and/or preserve larger contiguous tracts of forest.