



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

# **Commission for the Innovation and Advancement of Carbon Markets and Sustainable Tree Plantings**

**September 9, 2022**  
Regular Meeting



# Meeting Agenda

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- **2:00-2:10pm** - Welcome and updates
- **2:10-2:20pm** - Draft Plan overview
- **2:20-3:00pm** - Facilitated discussion on recommendations
- **3:00-3:20pm** - Open time for questions and feedback
- **3:20-3:30pm** - Public comment



# Proposed Plan Review Process

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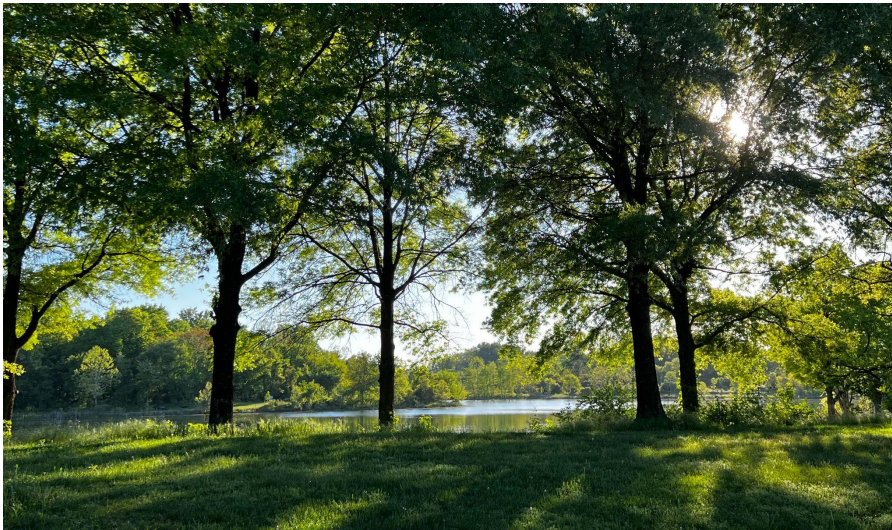
- **Fri, Sept 9** - Facilitated discussion on key recommendations
- **Fri, Sept 23** - Written comments/completed survey due
- **Fri, Sept 30** - Panel and discussion on long-term maintenance
- **October** - Agencies will finalize plan based on Commission feedback and send through administrative review
- **By Oct 30** - MDE will publish and distribute plan
  - Governor and General Assembly
  - Full Commission



# Celebration of Progress

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- Friday, Oct 21 (no Commission meeting)
- Field visit to fall planting sites
- Hosted by CBT at funded projects
- More details to follow





# Central Charges

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In line with its legislative charges, this plan is a product of the Commission's work to develop:

- (i) a plan to achieve the state's carbon mitigation goal of planting 5,000,000 native trees by 2030;
- (ii) a plan to ensure that trees planted under this act are properly maintained;
- (iii) recommendations regarding the establishment of a Maryland-based carbon offset market to support the state's tree-planting goals; and
- (iv) recommendations on reviewing state policies to reduce and fully mitigate the clearing of trees during the construction of state highways and other transportation projects.



# Plan Outline

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- Letter from Commission Chair
- Introduction (legislative purpose, state goals, science-based action)
- Implementation Plan by Partner (DNR, MDA, CBT, MDOT)
- Tree Loss Mitigation Policy and Practice (MDOT)
- Progress Tracking
- Enabling Carbon Markets and Financing
- Long-term Tree Maintenance and Forest Management
- Partnerships for Action
- Acknowledgements



# Draft Recommendation

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**Counting More Trees:** The Maryland General Assembly should allow non-native fruit and nut trees in Maryland to count towards the 5 million trees goal to support food security, agriculture, and biodiversity while continuing to advance carbon sequestration.



# Draft Recommendation

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**Optimizing State Property:** The Maryland General Assembly should expand the scope of site review criteria for state-owned real property within the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance to aid in the identification of properties with tree planting potential, including for state agency use under the Forest Conservation Act.





# Draft Recommendation

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**Engaging the Carbon Market:** Led by MDE, Maryland state agencies should establish a common quantification, verification, and registration system for carbon credits/outcomes, clarify carbon ownership of state-funded projects, and detail conditions for state procurement of carbon outcomes.



# Draft Recommendation

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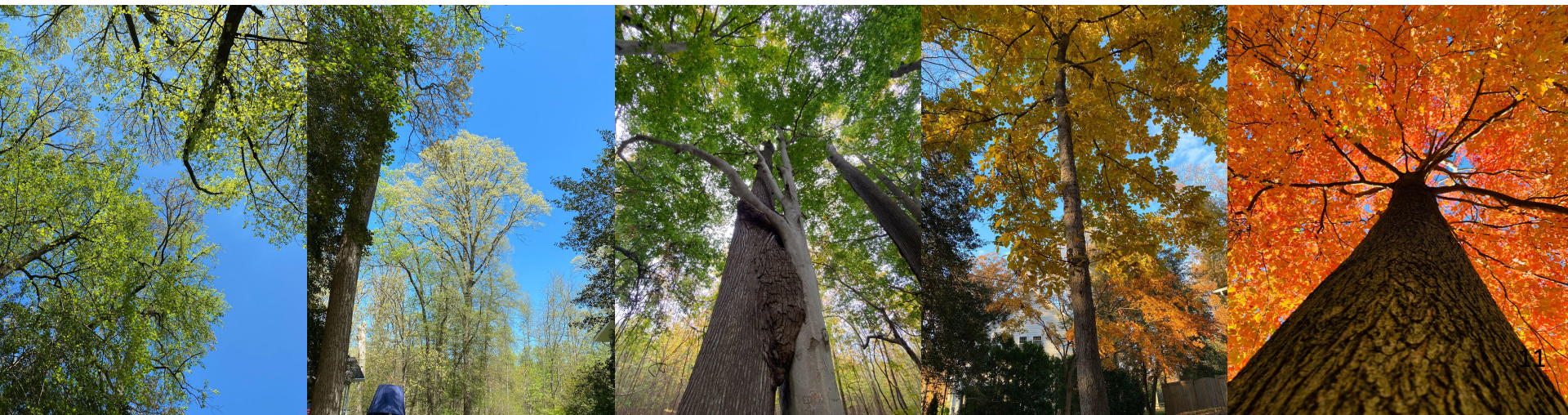
**Supporting Long-term Management:** In line with the Maryland Forestry Economic Adjustment Strategy, the Maryland Department of Commerce should build a targeted incentive package to attract and grow forest product industries, like structural wood for construction and innovative use of fiber in manufacturing, that support sustainable forest management, and utilize forest products in a way that maximizes long-term carbon sequestration.



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# Questions and Discussion

Commission Members and Implementation Leads





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# Public Comment Period

Please add name and affiliation in the chat box and we will take comments in the order received.



# Staff Contact

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**Rachel Lamb, PhD**

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# Supporting Considerations

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- science–based guidelines to maximize co-benefits
- potential planting sites, including impact on private land and related ecological services
- strategy for ensuring that at least 500,000 trees are planted in underserved areas
- list of native tree species
- review of existing programs and current resource capacity for tree plantings
- plan for expanding or creating new capacities necessary to achieve goals
- analysis of trees scheduled to be cut down and the impact on carbon sequestration
- overview and analysis of logistical and policy barriers to achieving the goals
- plan for seeking private capital to support tree plantings and forest conservation
- plan for establishing a State–based carbon offset market
- potential policy changes to facilitate use of Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund and Environmental Impact Bonds
- plan for reviewing future transportation procurement to minimize and fully mitigate tree clearing