



UPDATE ON CHESAPEAKE URBAN TREE CANOPY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY URBAN STORMWATER WORKGROUP, JAN. 20, 2015

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Chesapeake Bay Program
A Watershed Partnership

OVERVIEW

- Overview of UTC Goal and Management Strategy
- Highlights from Chesapeake UTC Summit
- Question: How to better integrate urban tree protection and planting into stormwater programs and WIP goals?

WHERE WE'VE BEEN...

2003 Chesapeake Executive Council Directive

...WE FURTHER RECOGNIZE THAT URBAN TREE CANOPY COVER offers stormwater control and water quality benefits for municipalities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed...

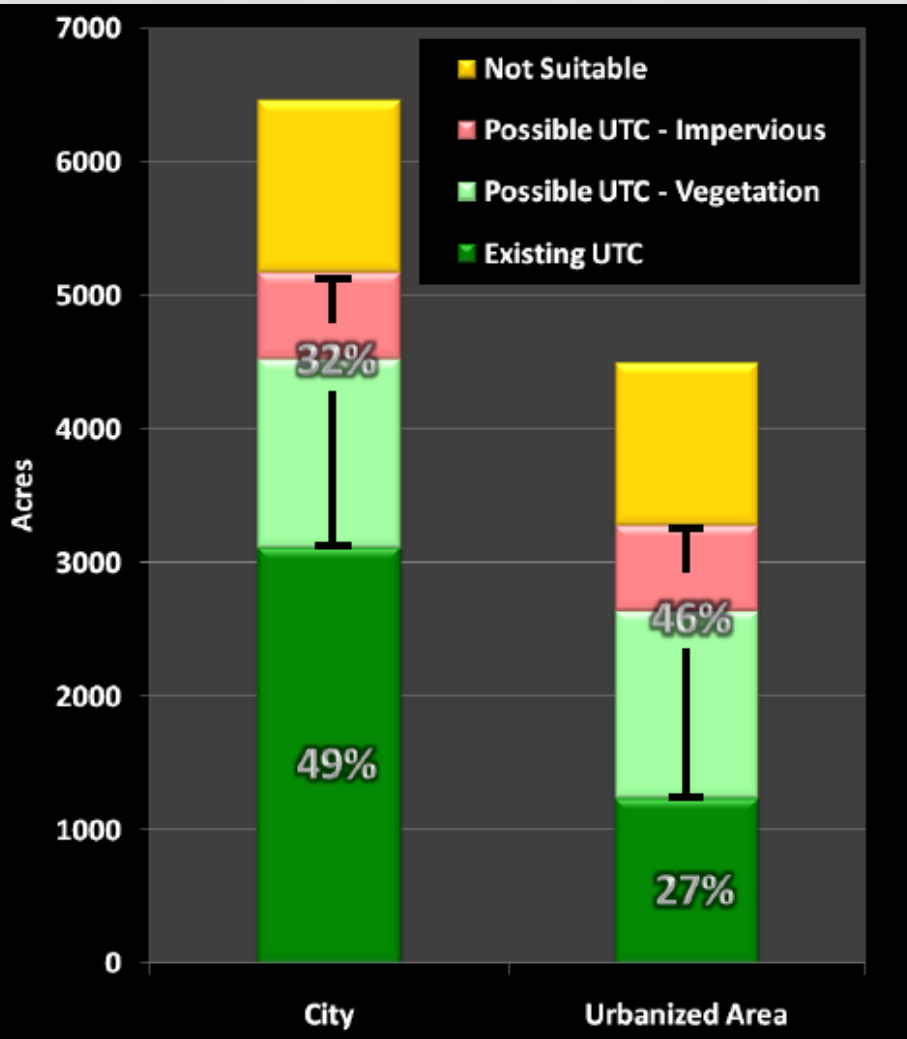
- **By 2010**, work with at least 5 local jurisdictions in each state to complete an assessment of urban forests, adopt a local goal to increase urban tree canopy cover and encourage measures to attain the established goals...

And in 2007 Forest Conservation Directive...

- **By 2020**, accelerate reforestation and conservation in *urban and suburban areas*, by increasing the number of communities with commitments to tree canopy expansion goals to 120.

PROGRESS: UTC ASSESSMENTS

(Cumberland, MD, J. O'Neil-Dunne)

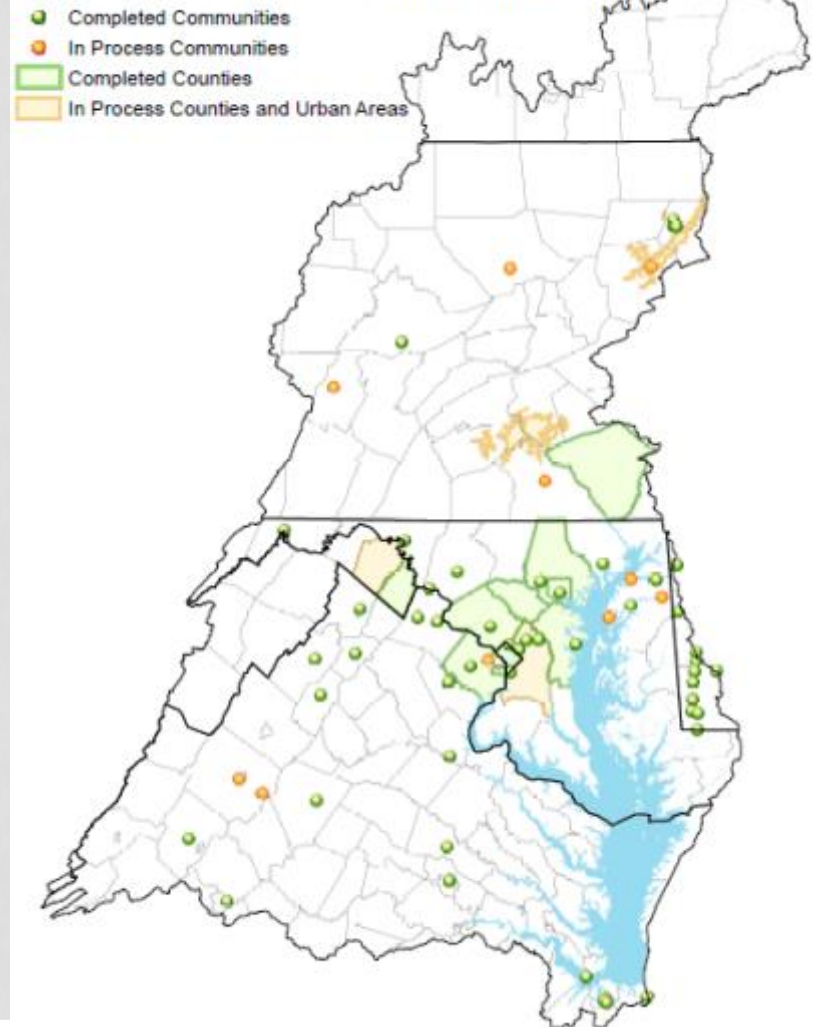


UTC Assessments in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

~ 70 localities and 9 counties complete

Recent statewide UTC assessment in Maryland

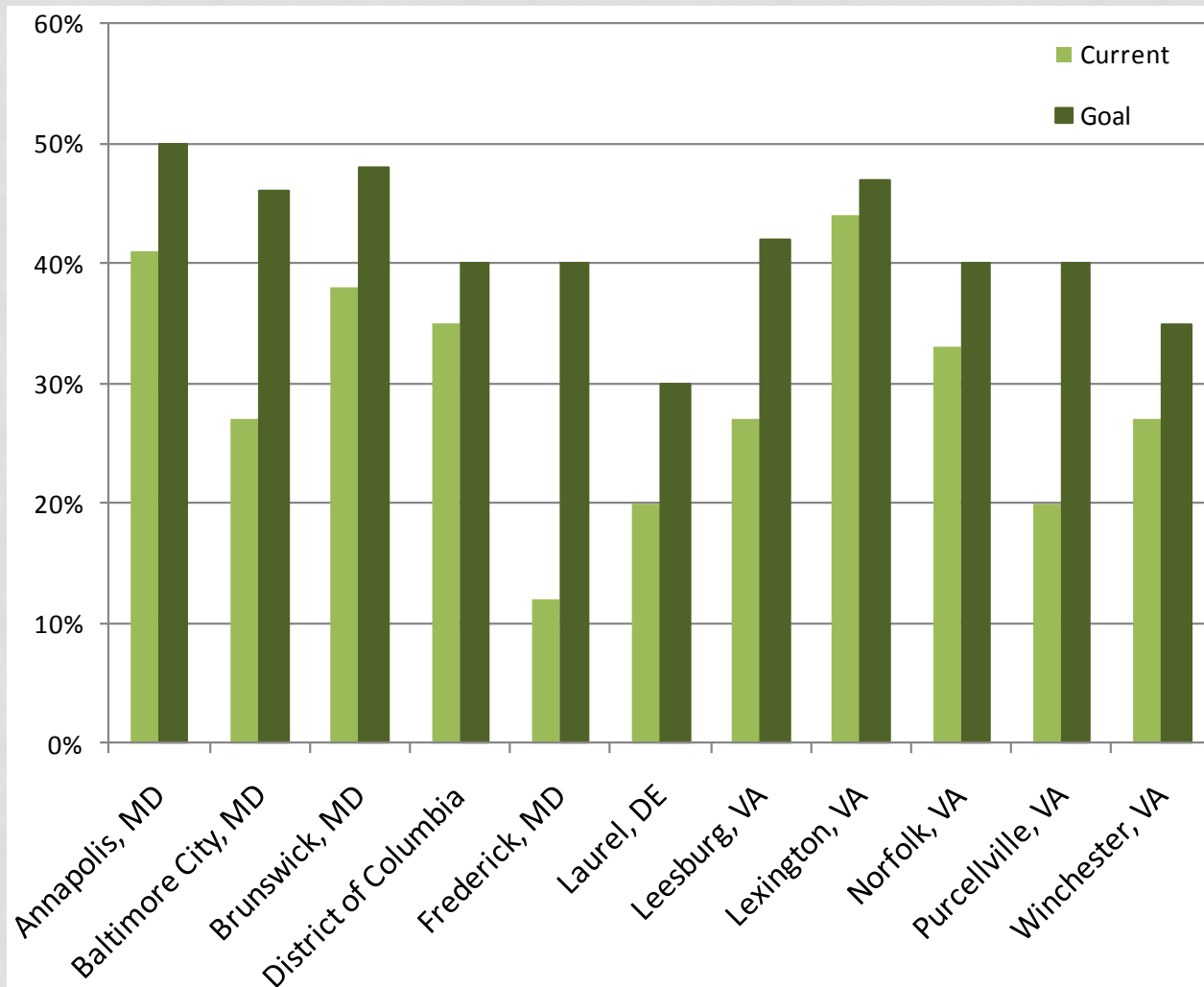
Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Status (2011)



PROGRESS: UTC GOALS

- 5 Counties and ~40 Cities/Towns have set UTC Goals

EXAMPLES – UTC GOALS



PROGRESS: ON THE GROUND?



- We don't have good information on actions taken and progress made in protecting and expanding urban tree canopy.

NEW CHESAPEAKE BAY AGREEMENT

JUNE 2014

TREE CANOPY OUTCOME

Continually increase urban tree canopy capacity to provide air quality, water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed.

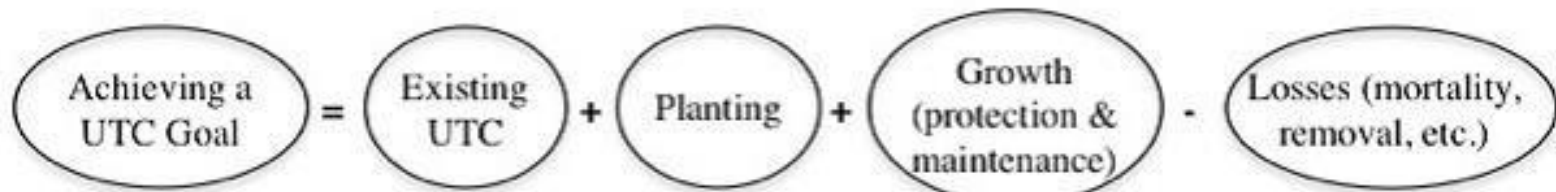
➤ Expand urban tree canopy by **2,400** acres by **2025**.

- Must be 2,400 acres net gain, after accounting for canopy losses
- For reporting, 1 acre = 100 trees planted
- Tracked using tree planting data submitted to Chesapeake Bay model, cross-checked with periodic canopy assessments

PRELIMINARY STATE UTC TARGETS

State	Annual Target (New Acres)	2025 Target (New Acres)
Delaware	5	60
DC	40	480
Maryland	45	540
New York	5	60
Pennsylvania	60	720
Virginia	40	480
West Virginia	10	120
TOTAL	205	2460

FACTORS INFLUENCING ABILITY TO MEET GOAL



Funding/Partnerships

Policies/Ordinances

Community Outreach/Buy-in

Knowledge/Tools/Technical Capacity

Development
Storms
Pests/Disease
Natural Mortality
Utility Clearing

CHESAPEAKE TMDL - CREDIT FOR TREES? YES!!!

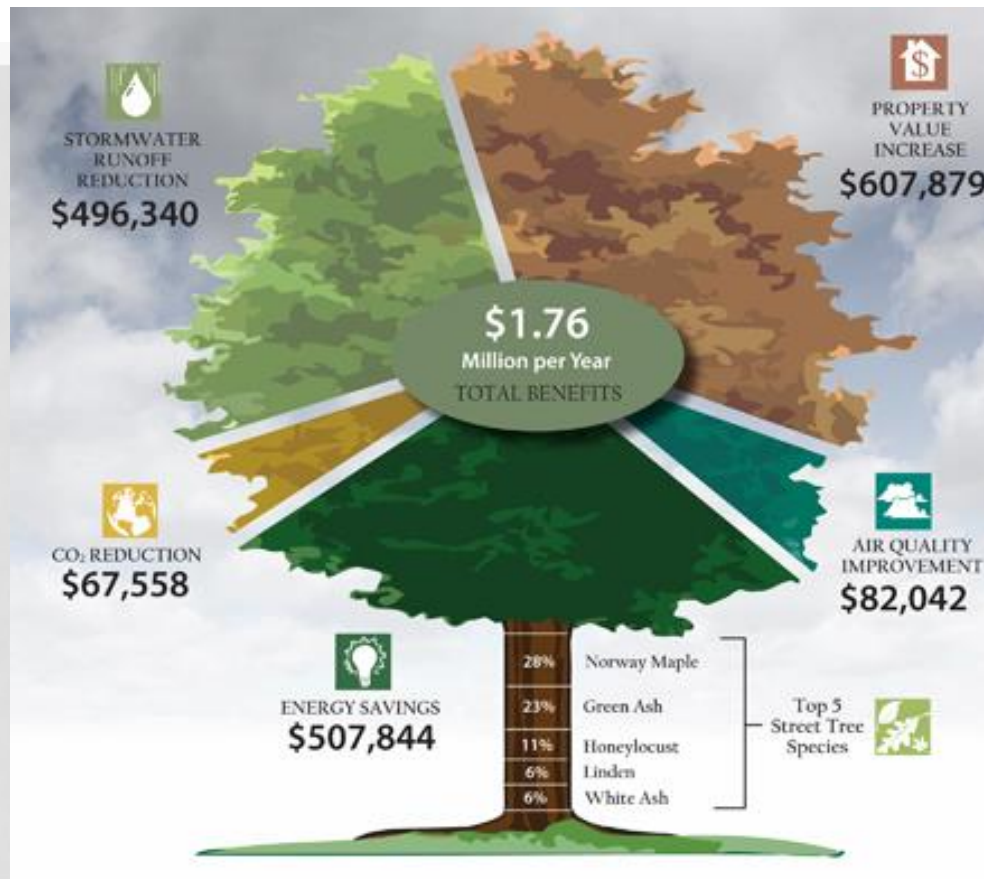
- Urban Tree Planting is a credited Best Management Practice (BMP) for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL
- On average, urban tree planting gets credit for reducing pollutant loading from around **12 lb/acre/year** total nitrogen **to 4 lb/acre/year** (varies by location in watershed)
- A new Urban Tree Canopy land use layer is being developed to better credit existing tree canopy in the Chesapeake Bay model
- These tree canopy credits/values are currently under review by an Expert Panel

CHESAPEAKE TMDL - CREDIT FOR TREES?

- Some states included urban tree planting targets in their TMDL Watershed Implementation Plans (20,000 new acres by 2025!!!)
- However, very little urban tree planting has been reported to date, since 2009 (exception: DC)
- Need to develop good tracking and reporting mechanisms for local governments to get credit for urban tree canopy expansion



BUT, BEYOND THE TMDL...



VERY COST-EFFECTIVE BMP FOR ACHIEVING MANY GOALS

Source: iTree Analysis for Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, itreetools.org

CHESAPEAKE URBAN TREE CANOPY SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS

- Held October 14-15 in Linthicum, MD
- 80+ local, state, federal, and nongovernmental participants from across watershed
- Meeting summary report and recorded presentations are posted online:

<http://forests.allianceforthebay.org/what-were-doing/forest-restoration/urban-tree-canopy-summit-proceedings/>

District of Columbia Urban Tree Canopy Goals

- Chesapeake Bay 2-year Milestone: 4,150 trees planted per year
- MS4 Permit: Annually plant a net 4,150 trees in the MS4 area of DC
- UTC Plan: 40% Tree Canopy
- Sustainable DC Plan: 40% Tree Canopy by 2032



How the District Achieves its UTC Goals

District Lands

- UFA street tree planting
- DDOT GI guidelines
- Planting Plans for parks and schools
- Maintenance of existing trees
 - Pruning
 - Impervious surface removal
 - Pervious paving
 - Vertical mulching



Chesapeake UTC Summit
October 14, 2014

Integrating UTC into Water Quality Goals

Baltimore County's Watershed Implementation Plan
.... and more



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**MD Sustainable Forestry Council
Sustainable Forests Roundtable**

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Baltimore County Tree Canopy & WIP Planting Goals



2007 Canopy Cover:

(1 m NAIP)

- 48.7% County-wide
- 38.4% urban/URDL
- 5,060 ac. total gap

In April 2013, County Executive Kamenetz announced tree canopy goals:

By 2025, achieve and maintain:

- 50% tree canopy County-wide & for the 3 drinking water reservoir watersheds
- 40% tree canopy within the URDL & each of the 30 Census-Designated Places

Our County Phase II WIP planting target is 1,500 acres, or 120 acres/year for 13 years (2013-2025)

- 40 ac/year for citizen-initiated projects
- 80 ac/year for EPS contractual planting

How Will We Plant 1,500 Acres by 2025?



- urban and rural areas, public and private land
- grants, stormwater utility fees , leverage capital & operating budgets
- used stormwater fees to hire 2 staff and secure 6 on-call contractors; \$666,000/yr for projects
- project types:
 - “Cool Trees” Energy Efficiency grant
 - MD Governor’s Stream Restoration Challenge grant
 - CBT Green Streets, Jobs, Towns grant
 - Citizen projects (Policy & Guidelines process)
 - BigTrees Sales
 - Urban managed grounds (business & institutional)
 - Community street tree projects
 - BCPS CLIPs
 - County open lands
 - Rural easements and larger properties
 - Rural residential “turf-to-trees”



MORE BANG FOR THE "GREEN" BUCK: INTEGRATING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTC INTO EXISTING CAPITAL PROJECTS



Chesapeake UTC Summit
October 14, 2014



UTC MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: NEXT STEPS

- Early “Discussion Draft” Management Strategy is posted on CBP website; processing input from Dec. 3 Forestry Workgroup strategy session

http://www.chesapeakebay.net/managementstrategies/strategy/tree_canopy

- January – flesh out Draft Strategy get input on state level actions
- Feb. 4 – next Forestry Workgroup meeting 10-3, final input on Public Draft Strategy
- Release Public Draft Strategy (Feb-Mar)
- Revise and Complete Final Strategy (May-June)

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS

- EVERYONE – progress will be driven by local government and partner efforts
- State urban forestry coordinators will gather input on state-specific strategy actions in January

Jurisdiction	Lead Agency/contact
Delaware	Delaware Forest Service Kyle Hoyd, kyle.hoyd@state.de.us Kesha Braunskill, kesha.braunskill@state.de.us
District of Columbia	DDOT Urban Forestry Administration John Thomas, john.pthomas@dc.gov District Dept. of Environment Steve Saari, steve.saari@dc.gov
Maryland	Maryland DNR Forest Service Marian Honeczy, marian.honeczy@maryland.gov
New York	NYSDEC, Div. Lands and Forests Mary Kramarchyk, mary.kramarchyk@dec.ny.gov
Pennsylvania	PA-DCNR Bureau of Forestry Rachel Reyna, reyna@pa.gov
Virginia	VA Dept. of Forestry Barbara White, Barbara.White@dof.virginia.gov
West Virginia	Cacapon Institute (CB UTC Coordinator) Frank Rodgers, frodgers@cacaponinstitute.org WV Div. of Forestry Herb Peddicord, Herb.F.Peddicord@wv.gov

URBAN STORMWATER WORKGROUP INPUT

- How can we better integrate urban tree canopy goals into state and local stormwater programs?
- What kinds of information/tools/technical assistance will be most useful to the network of stormwater practitioners?
- Other ideas?

Please send input on posted Early Draft UTC Management Strategy to jmawhorter@fs.fed.us and consider joining Feb. 4 Forestry Workgroup