



## Forestry Workgroup Meeting

March 4th, 2026  
9:00am - 11:00am

**Example Meeting Link:** [Join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)

**Meeting ID:** 246 388 262 055 07 **Passcode:**GG2Ec7oM

**Call:** +1 469-208-1525,,596978741# **Conference ID:** 596 978 741#

[Visit the meeting webpage for meeting materials and additional information.](#)

This meeting may be recorded for internal use only to assure the accuracy of meeting notes. To turn on closed captioning, click on the three ellipses (More actions), then click on “Turn on live captions” (preview). To request accommodations, please contact Julia Fucci ([fuccij@chesapeake.org](mailto:fuccij@chesapeake.org)).

### **Please read the following information carefully, as our meeting policies have changed:**

- All meeting attendees' cameras and microphones will be muted at the start of the meeting.
- To request access to the microphone and camera, all meeting participants will be required to use the raised hand feature on Teams. Once access has been granted by the meeting organizer, you will then be allowed to unmute your mic and turn on your camera. Unless instructed otherwise, once a participant has microphone or camera access, they will have this permission for the remainder of the meeting.
- Access to chat will be provided as well. Should it be necessary, the Q&A feature on Teams will be utilized to field participant questions.

**Compromised Meeting Plan:** If the meeting's privacy is compromised, the meeting staffer and coordinator will send an email to all Members, alternates, staffers, coordinators, and interested parties. Within the email, you will find a new meeting link, instructions on sharing this information with external partners, and any necessary adjustments to the meeting schedule. Please do NOT share this information publicly or post it to the [Chesapeakebay.net](http://Chesapeakebay.net) webpage.

### **Purpose:**

- Learn about recent research on the role of trees in mitigating urban heat and a community science effort to monitor urban heat
- Share timely partner updates
- Review previous watershed forestry Management Strategies and begin discussing our approach for developing a new Management Strategy for the Healthy Forests and Trees outcome

# Agenda

- I. [Welcome and Introductions] (9:00-9:05)**  
Requested Action: Non-decisional  
Lead: Nancy Sonti (USFS, FWG Co-Chair)
- II. Announcements (9:05-9:15)**
- Update on STAC workshop: [Healthy Forests: Proactive Strategies for Managing Threats and Promoting Conservation](#) (Feb 24-25 in Frederick, MD)
  - Updates from the Bay Program on Goal Team leadership
    - Claire Jantz (PA DCNR) and Ken Hyer (USGS) were selected by the Management Board to lead the Healthy Landscapes goal team. Claire will join the meeting and introduce herself.
  - Multiple NFWF funding opportunities available
    - [Small Watersheds Grants](#)- Proposals due April 2nd
    - [Chesapeake WILD Grants](#)- Proposals due April 9th
  - Upcoming meetings
    - Rescheduling April meeting to April 9th 9-11
    - June meeting- in-person meeting in VA!
- Requested Action: Non-decisional  
Lead: Katie Brownson (USFS, FWG Coordinator)
- III. Round Robin (9:15-9:30)**  
Please come with 2-3 updates to share from your jurisdiction or organization!  
Requested Action: Non-decisional
- IV. Laying the groundwork for the Healthy Forests and Trees Management Strategy (9:30-9:50)**  
Katie will provide a brief update on preliminary Chesapeake Bay Program discussions on the new Management Strategies. Katie and Julie will then review our previous Management Strategies for Riparian Forest Buffers and Tree Canopy and initiate a discussion on components of the Management Strategies that will need to be updated.  
Lead: Katie Brownson and Julie Mawhorter (USFS)  
Requested Action: Non-decisional
- V. Discussion of New Forest Conservation Target (9:50-10:10)**  
Katie revisit the discussion from the February meeting on directions, priorities and data needs to support implementing the new forest conservation target in the 2025 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. We will review input received via the Menti, any high-level insights from the recent STAC Healthy Forests workshop and discuss next steps for Management Strategy development.  
Lead: Katie Brownson (USFS)  
Requested Action: Non-decisional
- VI. Trees are Cool and Baltimore Green Space Community Science: Forest Cooling Project (10:10-10:55)**  
This talk synthesizes ~100 recent studies from around the world on how urban vegetation cools. We show the when, where, and how trees cool cities. Next, we report on bike-based evidence of urban cooling. The combined global perspectives, and local empirical evidence offer insights relevant to researchers and practitioners seeking to mitigate urban heat.

Lead: Dexter Locke (USFS) and Thomas McCarty, Baltimore Green Space  
Requested Action: Non-decisional

**VII. Wrap up and next steps**

**(10:55-11:00)**

*Next Meeting: Note new date! Rescheduled from April 1st to April 9th, 9-11*