

QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – February 2023

Chesapeake Bay Program



Tree Canopy

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The screenshot shows the homepage of the Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network. At the top is a dark blue navigation bar with the logo on the left and links for SIGN UP, NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE, ABOUT US, CONTACT US, and CHESAPEAKEFORESTBUFFERS.NET on the right. Below the navigation bar is a main content area with a large aerial photo of a city street. On the left of this photo is a white box with the text 'Welcome to the Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network' and a paragraph about connecting resources. On the right is a smaller white box with the text 'Baltimore Tree Trust: Doing More Together' and a 'Read More' link. Below the photo is a dark blue bar with the text 'Get updates on tree canopy news and events!' and links for SIGN UP and NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES. At the bottom is a white box with the title 'Tree Canopy Initiatives' and a description 'Find local tree canopy assessments, goals, and urban forestry contacts.' Below this is a map interface with 'My Style' and 'Map' buttons, an 'Address Search' bar, and a map showing various locations. At the very bottom is a yellow banner with the URL www.chesapeaketrees.net. On the right side of the bottom section is a grey box with the 'chesapeake network' logo and text encouraging participation in the tree canopy conversation.

Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network

SIGN UP NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE ABOUT US CONTACT US CHESAPEAKEFORESTBUFFERS.NET

WHY TREE CANOPY? UNDERSTAND YOUR CANOPY EXPAND YOUR CANOPY MAINTAIN YOUR CANOPY

Welcome to the Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network

Connecting you with resources, stories, and best practices to [understand your canopy](#), [expand your canopy](#), and [maintain your canopy](#). Learn about and make the case to others [why tree canopy](#) is so critical to a healthy, vibrant Chesapeake Bay watershed. We are building this resource as we go, so please [send your ideas](#) and suggestions for making the network most helpful.

Baltimore Tree Trust: Doing More Together
[Read More](#)

Get updates on tree canopy news and events! SIGN UP NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES

Tree Canopy Initiatives

Find local tree canopy assessments, goals, and urban forestry contacts.

My Style Map Address Search

www.chesapeaketrees.net

chesapeake network

Looking to participate in the tree canopy conversation? Join our group on the [Chesapeake Network](#). Need help joining, posting, or have questions? Check out our [help guide \(PDF\)](#).

Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...



Goal: *Vital Habitats*

Outcome: *Tree Canopy*

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.**

Achieving a Canopy Goal: It's not just about planting . . .



Tree Canopy Indicator has 2 components:

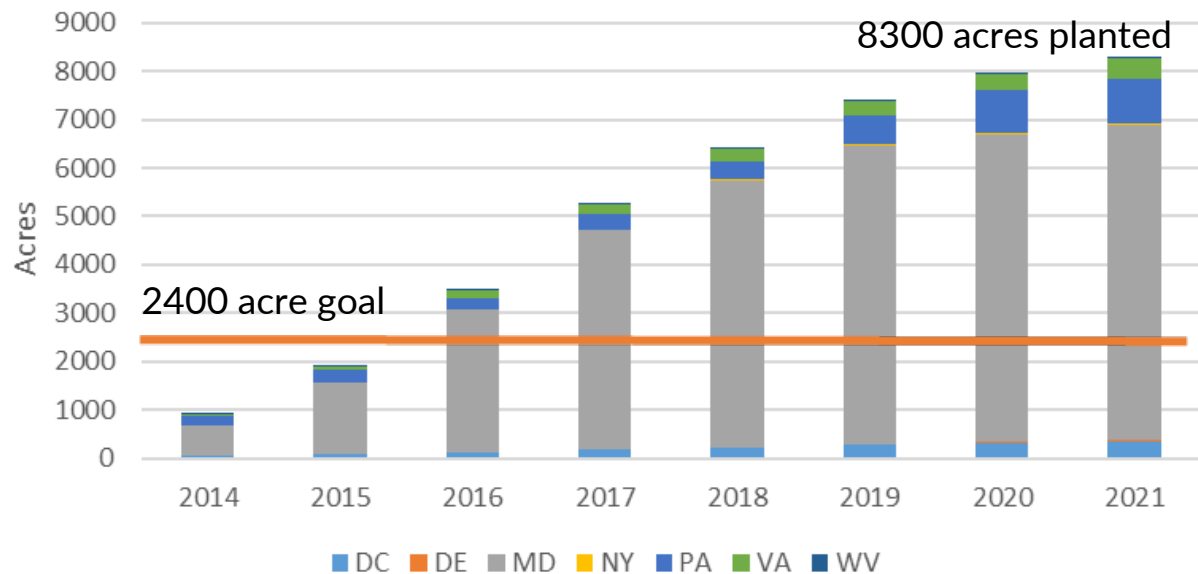
- 1) States report three urban tree planting BMPs annually for TMDL
- 2) Long term progress analyzed through CBP Land Cover updates



What is our Expected and Actual Progress? [Draft Indicators]

1.

Urban Tree Planting BMPs Reported (cumulative acres)

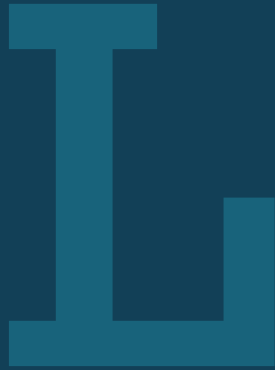


2.

Land Use/Land Cover Change Detected from Imagery

Tree Canopy Net Change in Census Places (2013-2018)

Location (CB only)	Net Change (acres)
Delaware	44
DC	21
Maryland	(14,553)
New York	114
Pennsylvania	(2,294)
Virginia	(8,413)
West Virginia	(41)
Total	(25,122)



Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?

Successes: Putting New Data to Use



Tree Cover Status & Change

FOR CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA

41.6%

Total Percent of
County with Tree Cover

\$14+ Million

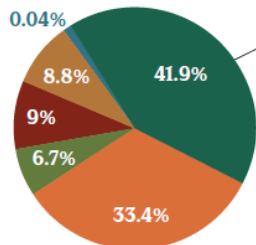
Annual Benefits provided by Tree Cover
(in reduced air pollution, stormwater, & carbon dioxide)

433 Acres

Net Loss of Tree Cover on
Developed Lands, 2013 to 2017

What is the land use/land cover breakdown in your county?

341,668 ACRES OF LAND AREA
IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY



41.9% Tree Cover¹
142,219 acres

9% Impervious
(Buildings/Pavement)
30,882 acres

33.4% Agriculture
113,222 acres

8.8% Other²
29,890 acres

6.7% Turf Grass
(Lawns)
22,569 acres

0.04% Non-Forested
Wetlands
163 acres

¹ Tree cover includes all trees occurring on all land uses, such as individual trees found over turf, impervious, agricultural, wetlands, or other lands. It also includes areas of "forest," defined in this dataset as patches of tree cover 1 acre or greater, with a minimum patch width of 240 feet.

² Other includes a mixture of non-treed land uses not captured in the main pie chart categories. See the Data Guide for detailed definitions of "other" and all the land use categories.

Land use/land cover statistics were generated using the 2022 edition of the Chesapeake Bay Land Use and Land Cover Database.

Where does tree cover occur in your county?



82%
is in forest
(116,180 acres)



1%
is over impervious
(2,128 acres)



11%
is over turf grass
(15,762 acres)



6%
is other tree cover
(8,149 acres)

What are some benefits of tree cover in your county?



Total Air Pollution Removal Value
97 million lbs removed annually
\$9.2 million saved annually
Total air pollution removal includes CO₂, NO₂, O₃, SO₂, and Particulate Matter (PM2.5, PM10).



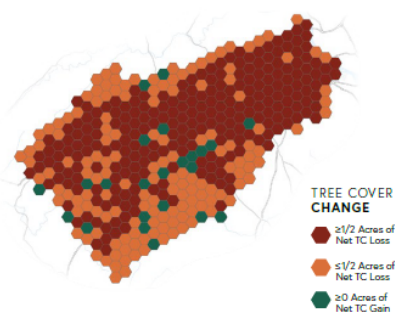
Gallons of Reduced Stormwater Runoff Value
560.1 million gallons reduced annually
\$5.0 million saved annually



Carbon Sequestered Value
120,250 tons removed annually
\$10,594 saved annually

Calculated based on 2017 tree cover data using:
landscape.treecools.org

How is tree cover changing on developed and developing lands?



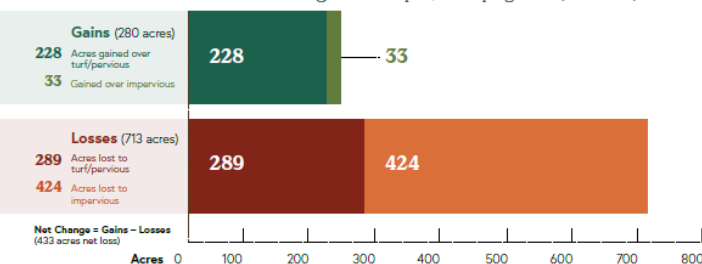
Understanding how your tree cover changes over time can inform the sustainable management of forests and community trees. The map to the left shows where your county has lost and gained tree cover from 2013 to 2017, focusing on land that is already or newly developed.

Tree cover can be lost quickly due to human activities (e.g., construction) or natural events (e.g., severe weather).

Tree cover can be gradually increased through tree planting and natural regrowth, but maintaining this new growth requires long-term investments.

Since mature, healthy trees provide significantly greater community benefits than newly planted trees, it is important to both preserve existing tree cover and seek opportunities to grow new trees and forests. Local land use planning, ordinances, and tree programs play a critical role!

Tree Cover Change on developed/developing lands (2013-2017)



Learn More:

Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network

Links to county fact sheets, user guides, map viewers, datasets, and more

Tree Equity Score

Explore maps of how tree benefits are distributed across communities

Capitalizing on the Benefits of Trees

A slideshow for local leaders featuring tree benefits, case studies and resources

State Urban and Community Forestry Assistance

(State contact and website)



CHESAPEAKE TREES.NET
PUBLISHED AUGUST 2022



Fact sheets produced through a grant from the USDA Forest Service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Successes: Tree Canopy Funding & Policy Roundtable

(FY22 GIT-Funded)



Roundtable Outcomes

Accelerate equitable, climate-resilient tree canopy implementation across the watershed

- Equip local and state governments to advance coordinated solution pathways to expand urban tree canopy in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Identify suite of strategies and specific actions (funding, policy, programmatic) to advance tree goals
- **Develop action plans in each Bay Jurisdiction**



Challenges

- Tree Canopy losses – outpacing current planting rates
 - Local/state policies to conserve canopy
 - Scaling up planting and maintenance programs
- Tree Equity – need more resources, engagement, and assistance flowing to disinvested communities
- Nursery and workforce supply to meet ambitious goals



On the Horizon

- DATA – getting new tree cover change fact sheets and related tools in use by communities; how to assist communities with solutions?
- POLICY & FISCAL
 - Federal - Inflation Reduction Act – new \$1.5 billion for Urban & Community Forestry over next 10 years, focus on disadvantaged communities
 - State - e.g. Maryland Tree Solutions Now Act (2021), 5 million trees by 2031, including 500,000 in underserved areas

A large, stylized, blue letter 'A' is positioned on the left side of the slide. It is set against a dark blue background that occupies the left half of the slide. The letter is composed of solid blue shapes, with a horizontal bar across the middle and two vertical strokes that flare out at the top and bottom.

Adapt

How does all of this impact our work?



Based on what we learned, we plan to ...

- Use Tree Canopy Funding & Policy Roundtable to draft our next set of partnership and jurisdiction actions
- Address regional tree supply issues and opportunities (FY23 GIT project)
- Continue collaboration with Local Action Cohort/Local Engagement Team to get tree canopy change resources out
- Focus on tree equity...



Equitable and inclusive restoration ...

- New IRA Urban and Community Forestry funding to state and local/nonprofit partners focused on disadvantaged communities
- Develop a quarterly tree equity webinar forum to build an inclusive network of community practitioners
- Collaborate (cross-GIT + external) on workforce development pathways in tree-related jobs



Help

*How can the Management Board
lead the Program to adapt?*



Help Needed

- Continued Management Board engagement/support for Tree Canopy Funding & Policy Roundtable and jurisdiction action plans (spring 2023)
- Additional time to complete and present next Tree Canopy Logic & Action Plan based on Roundtable process (mid-late summer 2023)



Discussion