CHESAPEAKE TREE CANOPY
UPDATE & DISCUSSION
LOCAL LEADERSHIP WORKGROUP, APRIL 12, 2017

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2014 CHESAPEAKE BAY AGREEMENT

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 <u>net gain</u>, after accounting for canopy losses
- Tracked using tree planting data submitted to Chesapeake Bay model, cross-checked with periodic canopy assessments
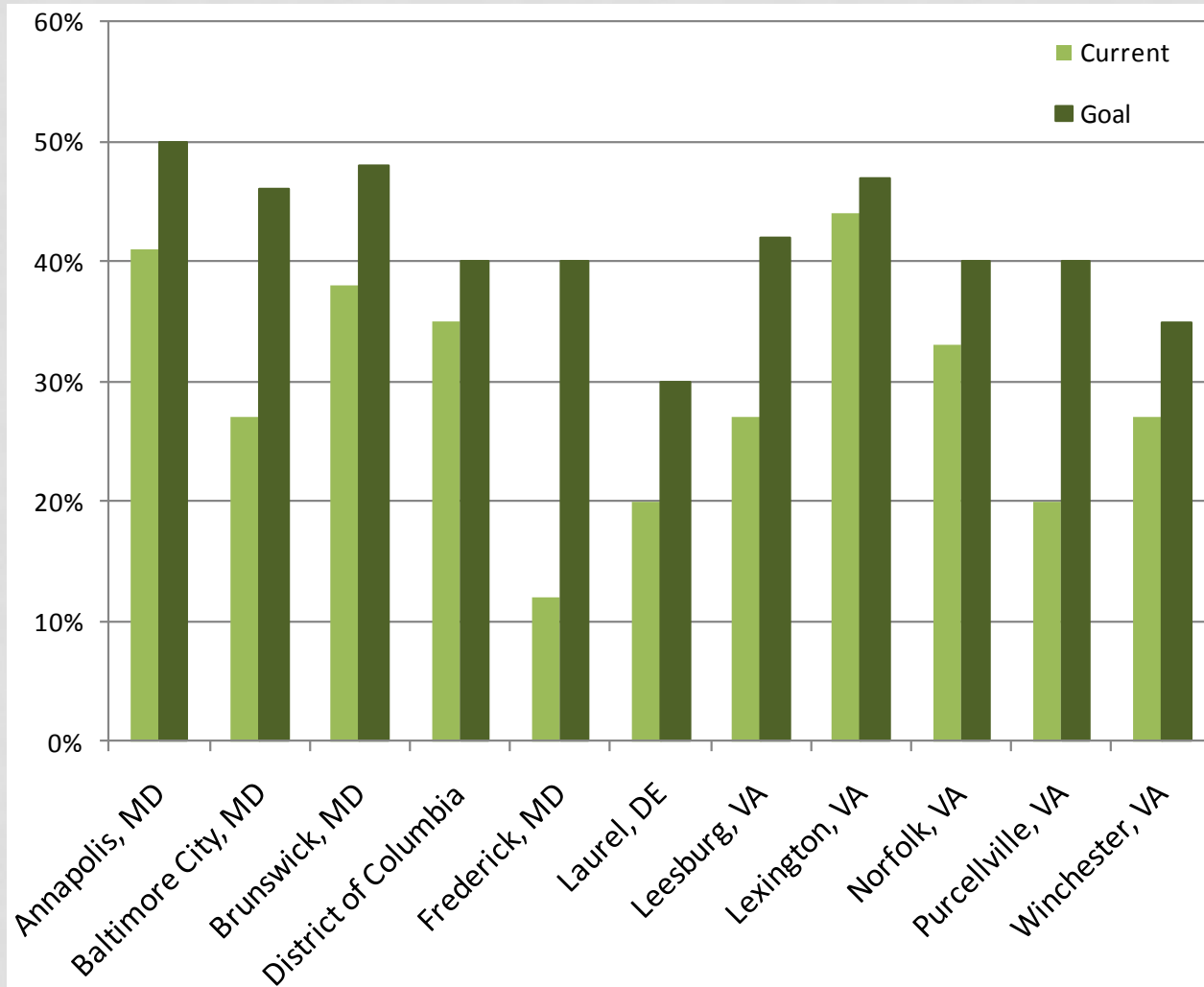
TREE CANOPY OUTCOME-STATE TARGETS

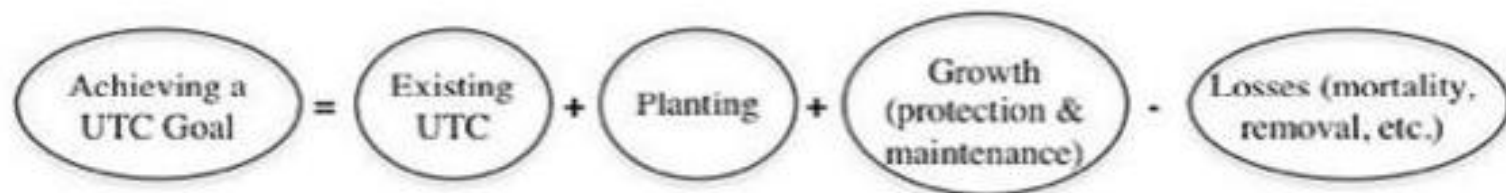| State	Annual Target (New Acres)	2025 Target (New Acres)
Delaware	5	60
DC	40	480
Maryland	45	540
New York	5	60
Pennsylvania	60	720
Virginia	40	480
West Virginia	10	120
TOTAL	205	2460

LOCAL URBAN TREE CANOPY GOALS

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

EXAMPLES – UTC GOALS

FACTORS INFLUENCING ABILITY TO REACH URBAN TREE CANOPY GOALS

TREE CANOPY WORKPLAN

Main progress to date:

- High resolution tree canopy/land cover data – available watershed-wide
  - Making available in 2017 through i-Tree Landscape tool for local use
- Approved pollutant load reductions of tree canopy for TMDL– BMP credit, land use model
- Anacostia/CB grant project – tree canopy, environmental justice, community engagement

TREE CANOPY WORKPLAN

Main progress to date:

- Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network website launched March 2017

http://chesapeaketrees.net/

Ideas for getting more local governments and partners aware of and using the website?

What issues/information are of greatest interest to local leadership? [CONTENT IDEAS]

THE WHY

Tree canopy benefits – research statistics:

- Air Quality
  - Influence of trees on key pollutants of concern
- Water management
  - Pollution reduction/TMDL BMP credit
  - Stormwater reduction/flooding issues
- Public Health
  - Asthma/respiratory disease
  - Urban heat island
  - Mental health/stress reduction/educational benefits
- Economic and community development benefits
  - Property values, community revitalization
  - Energy cost savings
  - Green job opportunities/environmental justice/crime reduction

What issues/information are of greatest interest to local leadership? [CONTENT IDEAS]

THE HOW

Information on tools, best practices, resources, etc.

- Guidance on how to build a robust local urban tree canopy program/plan
- Local policy options, model ordinances, case studies, etc.
- Technical guidance/best practices on tree planting, conservation, maintenance, tracking
- Data/tools – e.g. I-Tree is a free, research-based online suite of tools from the Forest Service that quantifies ecosystem benefits of trees at the local scale

What issues/information are of greatest interest to local leadership? [CONTENT IDEAS]

What else?

What are the key messages or needs that are most important to engage local leadership in strengthening their local tree canopy efforts?

TO LEARN MORE OR GET INVOLVED:

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