



Fall Newsletter

FEMALE LEADERS IN URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY

By Cheryle Franceschi, MUCFC member

In December 1900, a lecture was delivered by a woman 110 miles away from Maryland’s capital city; Annapolis. A City Beautiful Movement was about to launch in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. This movement cultivated reforestation and the impact healthy ecosystems have on human health. The person responsible for advocating change was a botanist, conservationist, lecturer, women’s club activist, the first woman to serve on the State Forestry Reservation Commission of Pennsylvania, and a founding member of Pennsylvania State Forest Academy—today’s Penn State Mont Alto campus. Mira Lloyd Dock did not allow gender inequality to prohibit her from engaging in what we know now as urban forestry. (Cont. Page 3)

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

By Anne Gilbert, MD Forest Service

The Patapsco Heritage Greenway, a non-profit in Ellicott City, teamed up with DNR’s Patapsco Valley State Park to plant trees at the park’s Hollofield Area. The Hollofield area contains the park’s headquarters and a campground. (Cont. Page 2)

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Successful grant project example
- Maryland’s 5 Million Trees Initiative Highlights
- Female Leadership in Urban Forestry



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT CONT.

According to their mission statement, Patapsco Heritage Greenway is dedicated to preserving, protecting, interpreting, and restoring the environment, history, and culture of Maryland's most dramatic river valley for all. By leveraging MUCFC grant funds, Chesapeake Bay Trust grant funds, Patapsco Heritage Greenway resources and volunteers the group was able work toward

their mission by planting 25 trees.

These trees were a part of a reforestation effort to block the view of private shelters from the entrance road. 24 volunteers planted five Silky Dogwoods, seven Eastern Redbuds and 13 Inkberries. Participants received Baywise pamphlets to learn more about what they can do at home.

Left: Young arborist helping tube trees for planting at Patapsco Valley State Park Hollofield Area.

"...[with] Patapsco Heritage Greenway resources and volunteers the group was able work toward their mission by planting 25 trees."

"Patapsco Heritage Greenway will be performing tree maintenance on the newly planted trees at least twice a year. This monitoring and maintenance consists for re-mulching trees to provide protection against weeds and help hold in water during dry times, recasing trees with larger cages as they grow, and watering as needed. PHG will also be removing weeds and invasive species around the tree as well as pruning the tree to keep the tree protects over time.."

From Patapsco Heritage Greenway's Final Grant Report from a Fall 2022 Tree Planting.

SAVE ON A NEW TREE THIS FALL

As Marylanders, we take pride in our state and our natural world. We understand the value of stewardship and the importance of a sustainable future and are committed to working together to create a smarter, greener State.

Planting trees is one way that everyone can contribute to our shared vision. Trees provide ecological, economic and quality of life benefits – protecting air and water quality, reducing energy costs, increasing property values, and beautifying neighborhoods and highways.

This coupon is worth \$25 off the purchase of one tree with a retail value of \$50 or more at all participating retail nurseries and garden centers —36 throughout the state. The discount is taken at the register at the time of the sale. One coupon must be filled in for each tree purchased.

List of participating nurseries:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/nurseries.aspx>

Print your coupon:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/Print-Your-Coupon.aspx>





Volunteers planting a screen at Patapsco Valley State Park—Hollofield Area Fall 2022.

FEMALE LEADERS IN URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY CONT.

She lobbied for better sewage treatments (urban sanitation) to provide clean drinking water and worked to create open spaces (playground areas) for children to connect more with the out-of-doors, nature. Often Dock was the only woman in the room working with local municipalities before she had the constitutional right to vote.

A leader who spoke on a regional lecture circuit and worked on tree plantings and maintenance. Throughout her career, her footsteps were in unison with foresters. She could see the trees for the forest with her wide lens for focusing in on ways sustainability and urban planning bring about revitalization to underserved areas. The maternal branch of the urban forestry tree has its primary roots in Pennsylvania. Dock died in 1945. Dr. Erik Jorgensen, a forest pathologist from Denmark who taught at the University of Toronto, thought up the term, Urban Forestry in 1965.

As a nation, we are becoming more urban, and statistical predictions indicate that by the year 2050 that 90% of the U.S. population will be concentrated in urban areas. Maryland ranks as the 5th most densely populated state. In 2019, Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio was appointed Secretary to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Within the agency is the Urban & Community Forestry Program supervised by Marian Honeczy. The Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC) presently has 12 women total, including advisors. There is seven non-state/federal government staff. MUCFC's mission is grounded in a volunteer group of citizens, professionals, and government officials united to protect and enhance Maryland's forest ecosystems. MUCFC is a sub-committee of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. (Cont. Page 5)

SEASONAL COLOR NATIVES

Trees

American Holly
(Evergreen with red berries)

Downy Serviceberry
(White flowers in Spring and red-orange fall color)

Eastern Redbud
(Intense pink flowers in Spring, yellow fall leaves)

Flowering Dogwood
(White flowers in Spring and red leaves and fruit in Fall)

Fringetree (White Spring flowers with yellow Fall color)

Northern White Cedar
(attractive evergreen with dense foliage)

Pitch Pine (Medium-sized evergreen)

Red Buckeye (Small tree with striking red spikes of flowers)

Red Maple (Fast growing with red Fall color)

Scarlet Oak (Red fall color, medium to large oak)

Sugar Maple (Orange and red leaves in Fall)

Sweet Birch (yellow fall color, grows fast in wet soils)

Sweetbay Magnolia
(Showy white flowers and semi-evergreen)

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Documents/Backyard-Forest-Seasonal-Color-Grove.pdf>

5 MILLION TREES: THE BASICS

- ⇒ Established by HB 991, Tree Solutions Now Act, in 2021 5 Million Trees by 2031
- ⇒ Additional to tree planting projected in 2019 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Draft Plan (current programs)
- ⇒ Native trees Rural: New Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program signing bonus, up to \$1,000/acre for new riparian forest buffers Urban: 10% to underserved areas:
 - 10% (1/2 million) to Underserved Urban Areas With other qualifying factor:
 - Redlined/hazardous by HOLC
 - Above-average unemployment
 - Median household income below 75% of State median income
 - DHCD housing pro
- ⇒ Chesapeake Bay Trust new Urban Forestry Program (\$10 million annually in grants)

Learn More:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/Documents/5MillionTreesPlease.pdf>

FALL MAINTENANCE CORNER: MULCHING



Maintain a ring of mulch around the tree (the wider the better). Organic materials like wood chips and leaves are best. Wood chips will take longer to break down and, will not re-

quire replacement as often.

Find more in the US Forest Service's Tree Owner's Manual— <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Documents/TreeOwnersManual.pdf>

MARYLAND 5 MILLION TREES INITIATIVE LAUNCH

Pledge Overview from: <https://us.it.org/pledge/state-of-maryland-growing-five-million-trees-by-2030/>

In 2021, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation in support of planting and maintaining 5 million native trees in the State by 2031. A key focus of this effort is supporting tree equity through targeted native tree planting in underserved urban communities. The State is also working to optimize plantings to realize multiple co-benefits including carbon sequestration, improved air and water quality, and reducing urban heat island effects.

This pledge directly supports the State's ambitious climate mitigation goals, where the 2030 Maryland Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan lays out a pathway for achieving a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 relative to a 2006 baseline. An important component of this effort is the growth of the State's natural carbon sinks, including through improved forest management, afforestation and reforestation, and urban tree planting. This work also builds from Maryland's leadership in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and U.S. Climate Alliance (USCA), as well as ongoing restoration work through the Chesapeake Bay Program.

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), with support from Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), and Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT), is coordinating the tracking and implementation of this tree planting goal. The State is also partnering with a range of community-based organizations, not-for-profit organizations, and local governments to ensure the long-term success of all tree planting, growing, and monitoring efforts.

Learn More:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/5-million-trees.aspx>



TREE FAQ

When is the best time to plant?

Typically it is best to plant trees in the spring of the year before the leaves and flowers come out on the plant. Planting of larger trees, sold in pots or burlap, can occur in the fall as well.

Should I fertilize my newly planted tree?

Fertilizing is not necessary if you are planting in an area with good top soil and is generally not recommended in the first year of growth. If a soil analysis has shown that essential elements are missing, then use slow release fertilizer so that the tree can use the elements as they grow larger. Do not over fertilize trees as that can severely damage them.



<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/MarylandersPlantTrees/requently-Asked-Questions.aspx>

Tree planted in a Calvert County Park

“As a result, these community-centered UTC activities can be used as a training opportunity to introduce girls to frame their futures for possible careers in forestry, arboriculture, public health or urban planning.”

FEMALE LEADERS IN URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY CONT.

The primary functions of the Committee are to promote and coordinate the Maryland Community PLANT Award Program that officially recognizes communities planting and caring for trees, and administer grants to schools and communities through their local Forestry Boards that promote planting and care of trees.

Women working in professional urban forestry in Maryland, and across the country, do not always need to earn a degree in forestry. Those with degrees in environmental science, landscape architecture, natural resources management, urban planning, watershed science, or wildlife and fisheries science, find themselves using the same best practices as their forester counterparts.

Female community members from civic groups, clubs, homeowner associations, schools, and places of worship are implementing on-the-ground programs to increase the Urban Tree Canopy. All the while, proving that tree plantings are

not gender-specific. As a result, these community-centered UTC activities can be used as a training opportunity to introduce girls to frame their futures for possible careers in forestry, arboriculture, public health, or urban planning. A cultural transformative shift with beneficial outcomes for women and urban forestry communities in which they work and live. A wooden decision table, so to speak, with many more seats available for meaningful conversations with different perspectives. Urban and Community Forestry is mitigating change for tomorrow. □



*Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio,
Secretary of the Maryland
Department of Natural
Resources*

MUCFC MEMBERS

Wayne Lucas – Chair, Landscape Architect/Arborist/Tree Care Expert, Prince George's Department of Public Works

Megan Carr – Vice Chair, Urban Forester, City of Baltimore, Forestry

Dawn Balinski— Treasurer

Rebecca Feldberg - Secretary, Consulting Arborist

John Denniston—Program Manager, MD Department of Transportation

Sandy Hertz—Director, Office of Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation, MDOT

Shawn Kiernan—Senior Manager for Strategic Climate Initiatives, MDOT

Allison Breitenother—Climate Risk Program Manager, MDOT

Frederick Johnson— Park Manager I, Prince George's County Parks

Cheryle Franceschi—Producer, Por Eco Productions, One Idea/ Dos Languages

Jeanne Kavinski - Arborist, Pope Farm Nursery, M-NCPPC/ Montgomery Parks

Wanda MacLachlan - Grants Lead, Area Educator, Residential Landscape Management, University of Maryland Extension

Augie Mahar— Distribution Program Manager, Vegetative Management, BGE

Jason Sprouls— Community Forestry Program Manager, Neighborhood Design Center

Kristin Taddei - Forest Conservation Planner Coordinator, Montgomery County Planning Department

Marian Honecny— Supervisor, Urban & Community Forestry, Maryland Forest Service

Julie Mawhorter—USDA, US Forest Service Rep

Anne Gilbert – DNR Liaison, Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator—Central Region, Maryland Forest Service

LEARN MORE

The Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC) is a volunteer group of citizens, professionals, and government officials united to protect and enhance Maryland's forest ecosystems. MUCFC is a sub-committee of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. The primary functions of the Committee are to promote and coordinate the Maryland Community PLANT Award Program that officially recognizes communities planting and caring for trees, to administer grants to schools and communities through their local Forestry Boards that promote planting and care of trees.

Learn more about applying for a MUCFC Grant online:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mucfcgrant.aspx>



Kids planting a White Oak at a playground with the Southern Maryland Sierra Club.

DONATE TODAY

Help support MUCFC's work throughout Maryland by donating today. Visit the Maryland's Forest Conservancy District Boards Donations page and click the PayPal "**Donate**" button:

<http://www.marylandforestryboards.org/donations.cfm>

Be sure to specify MUCFC or Urban Canopy in the special instructions section of the payment form.