Technical assistance and tools are available, for details please call or email the director at 410-260-8510 anne.gilbert@maryland.gov

Thank you for taking the time to read the Tree-Mendous Maryland newsletter and happy planting!

Celebrate Arbor Day(s)!

Spring is such a wonderful time of year, full of new life and growth. It is no surprise that so many groups have chosen it to be the time they celebrate natural resource conservation. April alone holds; Maryland Arbor Day (1st), National Earth Day (22nd) and National Arbor Day (24th).

That’s right—there are TWO Arbor Days! Along with the National Arbor Day, every state has their own designated Arbor Day to celebrate. This year they happen to bookend the month of April here in Maryland.

The Tree-Mendous Program is one way the Maryland Forest Service assists local governments celebrate Arbor Day—providing affordable trees for plantings and in some cases helping to fund plantings. Those funds come from donations to the Gift of Trees Program.

Consider giving Maryland the Gift of Trees today at shopdnr.com.

Please visit, dnr.maryland.gov/forests/treemendous/ for more information.

Spring Order Form Available!

Order your trees for planting on public land TODAY!


Available for $29.75: American Holly, Bald Cypress, Black Gum, Dogwood (white), Hackberry, Hemlock, Northern Red Oak, Pin Oak, Redbud, Red Maple, River Birch, Serviceberry, Swamp White Oak, Sweetbay Magnolia, Sycamore, White Oak, White Pine and Willow Oak.

Specials Page (Always available):

Perennials available for $4.95; Black eyed Susan, Switch Grass, Purple Cone Flower, Wood Fern.

Hard-goods available: 3 cubic feet of mulch ($4.25), 1.5 cubic feet of Leaf Gro ($5.25), 15 and 20 gallon capacity Tree Gator Bags ($17.50), Tree Stakes bundle of 12 2’x2’x6’ ($28.00), Tree Guards 3’ ($6.25), Chain Lock .5”x250’ ($25.00).
Spring has Sprung!

“He who plants trees loves others besides himself”
-Thomas Fuller

Warmer weather is finally here! Personally, the spring time change is extraordinarily difficult for me, but as I leave in the dark each morning, I am no longer greeted with below freezing temperatures. That makes those first hours awake in the dark worth it - I know spring is in the air!

Spring is a time of renewal and rebirth. I recently moved and am very much enjoying my new home. Despite moving at the end of February, I am excited to see the new yard burst back into life.

“Spring cleaning” is the infamous phrase for this time of year. We are supposed to dig through old things and purge what we no longer need, open the windows to air out the house that’s been closed down for months and months. This idea of breathing in fresh air and experiencing spring again should inspire us to do more than clean our homes. We should also think about cleaning our outdoor environment.

Once a tree is established, it will continue to clean our air and water for us for decades to come - with little to no effort on our part. By dedicating even just one day this Spring to planting one tree or many you can help Maryland do a little “spring cleaning.”

How to Plant a Containerized Tree—Arbor Day Foundation

1. Dig a hole 3 to 4 times wider than the container. The hole should have sloping sides like a saucer to allow for proper root growth.

2. Carefully remove the tree from the container, keeping the soil around the roots intact. It helps to tap the outside of the container to loosen the edge. Carefully slide the tree from the container. Don’t yank the tree out of the container as this can separate the roots from the tree.

3. Sometimes containerized trees become root-bound or the roots look like they’re about to circle the root ball. If your tree is like this, cut an X across the bottom of the root ball and four vertical slices along the sides of the root ball with a sharp knife.

4. Set the tree in the middle of the hole. Avoid planting the tree too deep. If the root collar sits below the top of the hole, compact some soil under the tree so that the root flare at the base of the trunk is slightly above ground level. Using some soil, secure the tree in a straight position, then fill and firmly pack the hole with the original soil, making sure there aren’t any air pockets. Keep backfilling until the soil is just below the root collar.

5. Create a water-holding basin around the hole and give the tree a good watering. After the water has soaked in, spread protective mulch 2–4 inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touching the trunk.

6. The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, generously water the tree every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.

7. Remove any tags and labels from the tree as these will affect the tree as it grows. You may need to prune any broken or dead branches. (Please refer to the arborguide.org pruning guide.)

Tree Care Tip: Do not use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your newly planted trees. Such products will kill your young trees.
TreeMendous Nurseries!

Tree-Mendous Maryland does not grow the trees we provide. We have a contract with a nursery that does that hard work for us. Shemin has provided Tree-Mendous with high quality trees and shrubs for many, many seasons. Shemin normally only supplies horticultural professionals with large quantities of plant material, but have entered into a contract to help make the Tree-Mendous program a reality. Their ability to purchase larger quantities help keep our prices low.

When you order Tree-Mendous trees you have a few options:
1. Pick them up at Shemin:
   4100 Sandy Spring Rd, Burtonsville, MD 20866
2. Have Shemin deliver them to your site directly for a separate delivery fee.
3. OR you can pick them up at one of 3 FREE delivery sites around the state. These dates vary from season to season, but are generally toward the beginning to middle of the planting season.

These locations are:
- Washington County at Greenbrier State Park
- Queen Anne’s County at Tuckahoe State Park
- Prince George’s County at Cedarville State Forest

The John S. Ayton State Forest Tree Nursery in Preston, Maryland does grow their own trees! Anyone can purchase seedlings from the nursery by placing orders a season ahead of time, or purchasing from the existing stock. While you must purchase in groups of 25, they are available with bulk discounts. Please see nursery.dnr.maryland.gov for more information and current availability.

Tree Care Tip: Keeping your trees watered is important during their first year. Keep the soil and mulch moist but not soggy. In dry weather, you should water generously every 7–10 days. The water should soak into the soil and mulch. Avoid watering so much that you see standing water.

Natural Resources Career Camp

High school students interested in forestry, fisheries, wildlife, or park management are invited to join teens from across the Mid Atlantic at the week-long Natural Resources Careers Camp held July 19 to 25 at the Hickory Environmental Education Center in Garrett County. Students will explore related college studies and professions through hands-on activities with experts from a variety of conservation fields.

“This program is perfect for young adults who are planning a career in conservation, and those who may be interested in forestry or natural resources and want to see if this line of work is a right fit,” said Donna Davis, project forester for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Another exciting part of the program is College Night, where representatives from West Virginia University, Penn State, University of Maryland, Frostburg University, Allegany College of Maryland and Garrett College speak about their programs. Professors and department heads will share information and material with interested students. The Natural Resources Careers Camp is sponsored by Maryland’s Forest Conservancy District Boards, Allegany College of Maryland, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources- Forest Service and the Maryland Forestry Foundation. The camp has been held annually for over 40 years.

Students who will be entering grades 9 through 12 next year and are interested in natural resources careers are eligible to apply.

Applications are available at: www.marylandforestryboards.org
Local Forest Conservancy District Boards interview, recommend and offer scholarships for students to attend the camp. Space is limited so interested participants are encouraged to apply online today!
opportunities and share your story! Either way, we would love to hear from you, Tree-Mendous trees or not!

- Are you interested in seedlings instead of larger trees? Check out the Department of Natural Resources’ John S. Ayton State Forest Tree Nursery. Now providing services to order online! Nursery.dnr.maryland.gov

- PLANT Awards will be announced at the end of March. Please check the website in early April to see the winners!

- If you have ideas to include in the next Tree-Mendous Newsletter, please do not hesitate to email or call Anne Gilbert. Thank you!

Now for your homework: Did you enjoy your walk in the snow this winter? This issue’s homework is a little more of a challenge. Go to the same place you walked this winter, try to visit in the days just following the leaves sprouting. Take time to admire the trees and forest before the leaves are mature. It is an interesting time to see how different the woods are for those few short weeks. Good luck and happy planting!

The State of Maryland’s TREE-MENDOUS program provides high-quality, native trees and shrubs available at reasonable prices for plantings on public lands. The trees may be planted in places such as community open spaces, school grounds, government facilities, and rights-of-way. Get involved in your community and make a lasting impact. Trees improve the health and beauty of any community!

Please visit us online!

dnr.maryland.gov/forests/treemendous

Tree-Mendous Maryland
Tawes State Office Building, E-1
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401
Donald Van Hassent, Acting State Forester
Anne Gilbert, Director Tree-Mendous MD
Email: anne.gilbert@maryland.gov

Phone: 410-260-8510
Fax: 410-260-8595
877-620-8DNR ext. 8531
TTY via Maryland Relay 711 (within MD)
800-735-2258 (Out of State)
customerservice@dnr.state.md.us
Plan your outdoor adventure online!