Tree Canopy Workplanning 2024-2025

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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.**

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT at CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM
Strategy Review System (SRS) Process
For each outcome: 2-year cycle

Tree Canopy Outcome: 2400 new acres between 2014 and 2025 (net gain)

The Adaptive Management Process

1 — Set goals

2 — Identify factors influencing work toward goals

3 — Identify gaps or overlaps in exisiting management efforts

4 — Develop a management strategy

5 — Develop a monitoring program

6 — Assess performance

7 — Adaptively manage

We are here

Management Board Meetings
Feb. 2023 Full Review
June 2024 Update
June 2025 Full Review

Tree Canopy Indicator:
- Annual progress Tree Planting BMPs
- Hi-Res Land Cover updates ~ 4 years

Long-term: Management Strategy

Short-term: Logic & Action Plan (2-year)
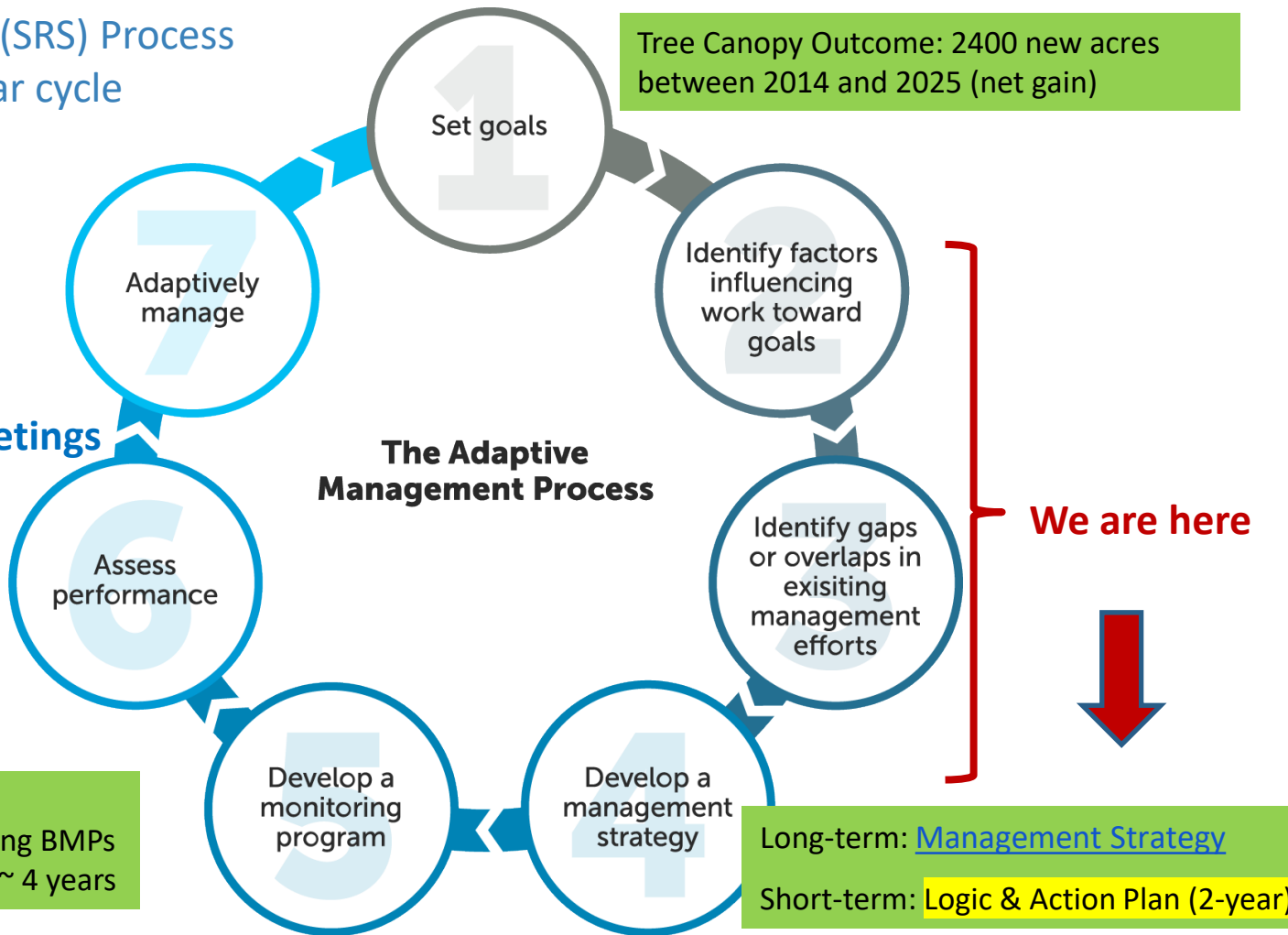
What is our Expected and Actual Progress?

1.

Urban Tree Planting BMPs Reported
(cumulative acres)

8300 acres planted

2400 acre goal
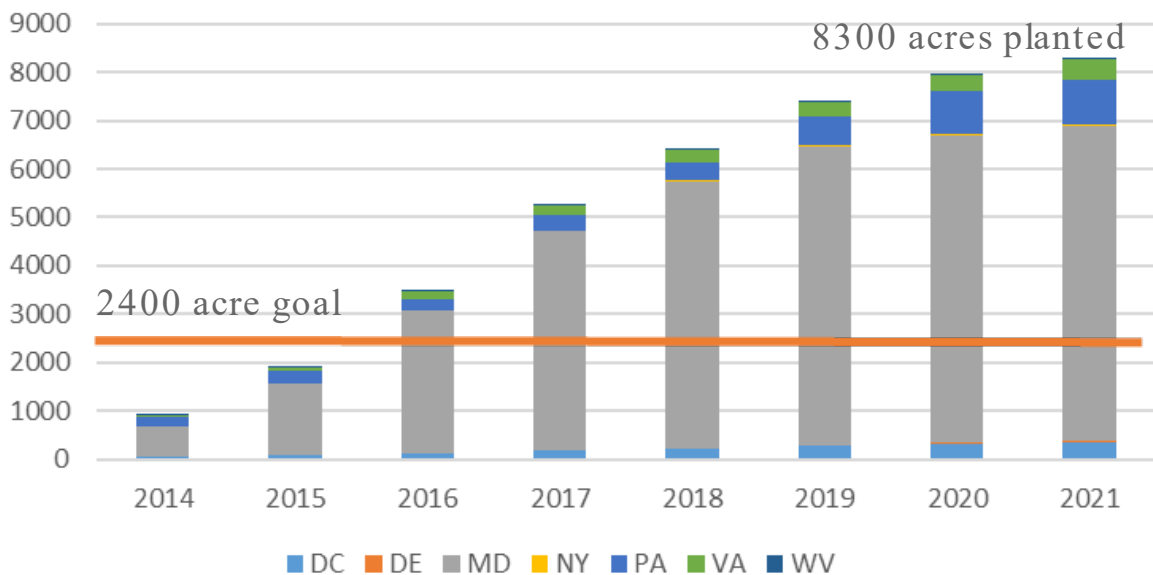
Tree Canopy Net Change in Census Places (2013/14-2017/18)	
Jurisdiction (CB Only)	**Net Change** (Acres)
Delaware	-28
DC	21
Maryland	-13,804
New York	78
Pennsylvania	-2,444
Virginia	-9,548
West Virginia	-107
Total	**-25,832**

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

Pie chart values: 0.04%, 8.8%, 9%, 6.7%, 41.9%, 33.4%
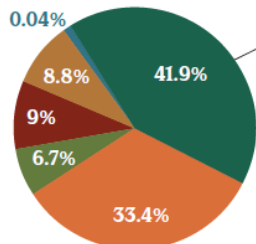
41.9% Tree Cover[1] 142,219 acres	**9% Impervious** (Buildings/Pavement) 30,882 acres		
33.4% Agriculture 113,222 acres	**8.8% Other[2]** 29,890 acres		
6.7% Turf Grass (Lawns) 22,569 acres	**0.04% Non-Forested Wetlands** 163 acres		

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
9.7 million lbs removed annually
$9.2 million saved annually
Total air pollution removal includes CO, 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.itreetools.org

Chesapeake Bay Program · University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Lab · Chesapeake Conservancy · USGS science for a changing world · US Forest Service

CHESAPEAKETREES.NET PUBLISHED AUGUST 2022

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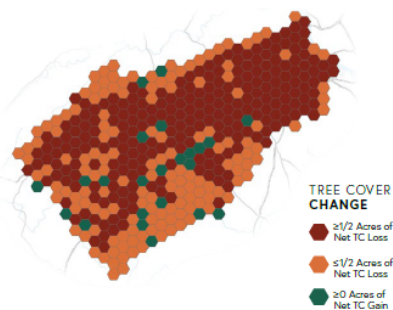
Understanding how your tree cover changes over time can inform the sustainable management of forests and community trees. The map to the left shows where your county has lost and gained tree cover from 2013 to 2017, focusing on land that is already or newly developed.

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
≥1/2 Acres of Net TC Loss
≤1/2 Acres of Net TC Loss
≥0 Acres of Net TC Gain

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

Gains (280 acres)
228 Acres gained over turf/pervious
33 Gained over impervious

Losses (713 acres)
289 Acres lost to turf/pervious
424 Acres lost to impervious

Net Change = Gains – Losses (433 acres net loss)

Acres axis: 0, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800
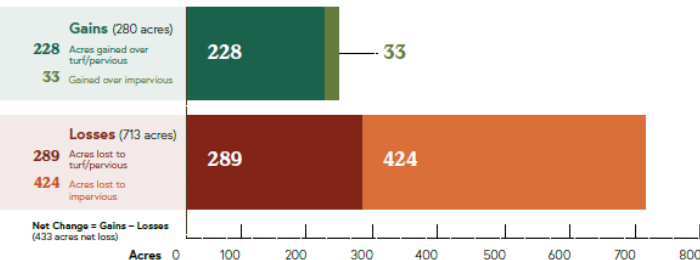
Learn More:

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)

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

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

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)

▪Expand collaboration with Local Action Cohort, Strategic Engagement Team, Healthy Watersheds GIT, Stewardship GIT to weave tree canopy into related local engagement efforts

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

Successes: Tree Canopy Funding & Policy Roundtable

(FY22 GIT-Funded)

1. Pre-Roundtable Jurisdiction Strategy Sessions
November - December 2022

2. Tree Canopy Funding and Policy Roundtable
March 2023

3. Post-Roundtable Jurisdiction Strategy Sessions
May - June 2023

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**

Roundtable Webinar – poll on regional priorities

What are the top three priorities that the Forestry Workgroup should work on regionally (check up to 3)?	
Amend regional and state tree canopy grant funding programs to prioritize equity and maintenance.	22
Dedicate adequate state and local funding for tree maintenance on public and private property.	40
Invest in target communities through workforce development: hire tree care coordinators and tree maintenance staff from the communities served; provide training, mentorship, and support.	30
Share models and best practices for effective incentive-based and regulatory approaches to protect urban tree canopy.	20
Strengthen local codes and ordinances to protect trees, especially during development and redevelopment. Where necessary, amend state policy to enable localities to enact ordinance improvements.	42
Integrate trees for climate resilience into comprehensive plans (and other local plans) with specific goals; include climate resilience strategies in urban forest plans and projects.	29
Improve utilization of data on tree canopy coverage and economic value of trees, including through the provision of technical assistance.	9
Provide communities with technical assistance to implement policy and ordinance changes and to apply for and manage funding and financing opportunities.	29
Develop consistent, customizable, multilingual messaging regarding the benefits of trees, including guidance on how to address competing priorities.	11
Proactively identify and meaningfully partner with trusted community voices in areas targeted for tree canopy initiatives	16

Roundtable Recommendations – JamBoard Activity

Input on Draft Tree Canopy Workplan Actions...

How would you like to keep engaging with this network (select all that apply)?
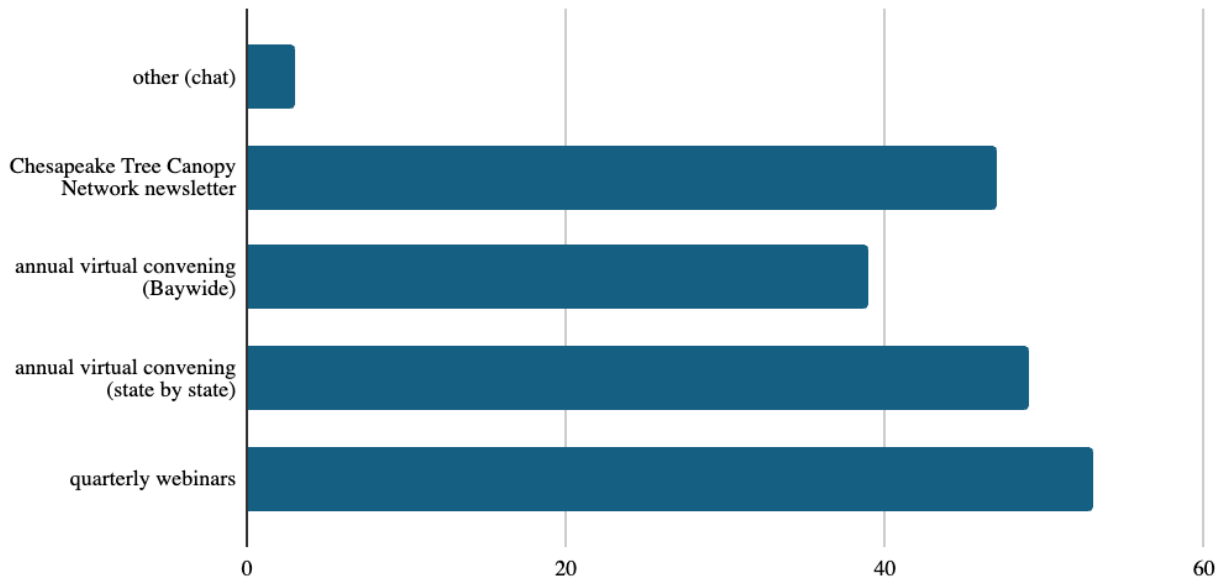
1. Bolster funding and partnerships

Roundtable recommendations

1. Amend regional and state tree canopy grant funding programs to prioritize equity and maintenance.

2. Dedicate adequate state and local funding for tree maintenance on public and private property.

3. Invest in target communities through workforce development: hire tree care coordinators and tree maintenance staff from the communities served; provide training, mentorship, and support.

Workplan steps

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 1: Bolster funding and partnerships				
Action #	Description of Step	Responsible Party or Parties	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
1.1	Implement funding strategies from state tree canopy action plans	1. DE FS, DNREC and partners 2. DDOT, DOEE and partners 3. MD FS, MDE and partners 4. NYSDEC, Upper Susquehanna Coalition and partners 5. PA DCNR and partners 6. VA DOF and partners 7. WVDEP, WVDOF, Cacapon Institute and partners	Bay-wide	2024-2025
1.2	Implement federal and state IRA grants supporting disadvantaged communities	USFS, DE FS, DDOT, MD FS, NYSDEC, PA DCNR, VA DOF, WVDOF	Bay-wide	2024-2028
1.3	Complete GIT-funded project on Addressing Regional Tree Supply Challenges and Opportunities	University of Florida (contractor), with input from USFS, Forestry Workgroup	Bay-wide	2024

Any other key action steps we should lead?

2. Strengthen policy and ordinances

Roundtable recommendations

4. Share models and best practices for effective incentive-based and regulatory approaches to protect urban tree canopy.

5. Strengthen local codes and ordinances to protect trees, especially during development and redevelopment. Where necessary, amend state policy to enable localities to enact ordinance improvements.

6. Integrate trees for climate resilience into comprehensive plans (and other local plans) with specific goals, and include climate resilience strategies in urban forest plans and projects.

Workplan steps

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2: Strengthen policy and ordinances				
Action #	Description of Step	Responsible Party or Parties	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
2.1	Compile models and best practices for effective incentive-based and regulatory approaches to protect urban tree canopy, including case studies that could be replicated.	Forestry Workgroup – new GIT funding proposal	Bay-wide	2024-2025
2.2	Implement policy strategies from state tree canopy action plans	1. DE FS, DNREC and partners 2. DDOT, DOEE and partners 3. MD FS, MDE and partners 4. NYSDEC, Upper Susquehanna Coalition and partners 5. PA DCNR and partners 6. VA DOF and partners 7. WVDEP, WVDOF, Cacapon Institute and partners	Bay-wide	2024-2025

Any other key action steps we should lead?

3. Increase technical capacity and knowledge

Roundtable recommendations

7. Improve utilization of data on tree canopy coverage and economic value of trees, including through the provision of technical assistance.

8. Provide communities with technical assistance to implement policy and ordinance changes, and to apply for and manage funding and financing opportunities.

Workplan steps

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 3: Increase technical capacity and knowledge				
Action #	**Description of Step**	**Responsible Party or Parties**	**Geographic Location**	**Expected Timeline**
3.1	Convene annual virtual Tree Canopy Summit to engage urban forestry practitioners and cross-sector partners in best practices and innovative strategies	USFS, Forestry Workgroup, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay	Bay-wide	2024-2025
3.2	Communicate Tree Canopy status & change (2013-2018) to stakeholders through updates to the State of Chesapeake Forests Storymap and new municipal factsheets	USFS, USGS, Chesapeake Conservancy, and Forestry Workgroup, with input from Land Use Workgroup, Local Leadership Workgroup	Bay-wide	2024-2025
3.3	Develop a trees & climate resilience strategy guide for local governments	Forestry Workgroup – new GIT funding proposal	Bay-wide	2024-2025

Any other key action steps we should lead?

4. Expand community outreach and education

Roundtable recommendations

9. Develop consistent, customizable, multilingual messaging regarding the many benefits of trees, including guidance on how to address competing priorities.

10. In communities targeted for tree canopy initiatives, proactively identify and meaningfully partner with community voices.

Workplan steps

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 4: Expand community outreach and education				
Action #	**Description of Step**	**Responsible Party or Parties**	**Geographic Location**	**Expected Timeline**
4.1	Host quarterly webinars: tree equity community of practice	USFS, Forestry Workgroup, CBP communications, with input from Diversity Workgroup	Bay-wide	2024-2025
4.2	Continue updating the Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network and e-newsletter as our primary hub for resources and sharing community stories	Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, USFS, Forestry Workgroup	Bay-wide	2024-2025
4.3	CB tree canopy outreach materials project?	TBD	Bay-wide	2024-2025

Any other key action steps we should lead?

Next Steps

▪ Circulate revised Work Plan to Forestry Workgroup for review and edits

▪ Finalize and post

▪ At a spring FWG meeting, get final input on Tree Canopy recommendations/requests to elevate at June Management Board meeting