Harvesting woodlands is an essential part of good management and supports the forest products industry. The careful stewardship of woodland resources may include periodic harvesting. This practice helps woodlands by removing certain trees that may be damaged, diseased, stressed, or mature.

Harvesting encourages the growth of other, healthier trees and improves wildlife habitat. A well-planned harvest can benefit the property for years to come, provide some income, and ensure a legacy that can be passed from generation to generation.

Maryland has a long tradition of protecting the rights of private landowners to practice agriculture, which includes statewide and local right-to-farm laws that permit woodland harvesting. The Sustainable Forestry Act of 2009 clarified this right by encouraging local entities to include forest practices in their comprehensive plans. The 2009 Act also expresses the General Assembly’s intent that local planning and zoning restrictions on silvicultural practices (i.e. woodland harvests) may not be more stringent than the restrictions imposed by state law and regulation.

Each of Maryland’s 23 counties has their own process for applying for woodland harvest permits, which can lead to confusion and lost time. This bulletin summarizes these steps on a county-by-county basis for individual landowners, professional and consultant foresters, and logging operators involved in timber harvesting.

Updated Green Book Provides an Important Reference for Logging Professionals, Foresters, and Woodland Owners and Managers

This bulletin updates and expands a 1993 publication from the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources Forest Service entitled Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for Forest Operations in Maryland. Commonly called the Green Book, it served as an important reference throughout the state.

Since 1993, much has changed. For example:

- Erosion and sediment control regulations were updated in 1994 and 2005 (see the next section for more details);
- Maryland’s Forest Preservation Act of 2013 requires that the state’s forest canopy cover remain or exceed its current level of 40 percent to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, to lessen the effects of climate change, and to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay;
• The Act also provides tax benefits to citizens and local governments who work to increase tree cover on their property; and,

• Since the publication of the 1993 *Green Book*, research and technology, particularly the growth of the World Wide Web, have created new opportunities for property managers and woodland professionals to connect and interact. This bulletin includes links to pertinent resources across the state to encourage these connections.

• The process for applying for exceptional hauling permits for “farm products”, which include forest products. See the last page for more information.

This bulletin provides property managers and woodland professionals step-by-step guides to acquiring the necessary permits to harvest timber on their property. The guide is arranged alphabetically by county, and includes contact information and Web links that will help streamline the permit application process. All information was current as of February 2014.

**Handy Guide to Abbreviations and Terms Used**

**Buffer:** Short for *streamside or riparian buffer*. Buffers are areas of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation along a stream bank in a floodplain that help preserve the stream’s natural characteristics, water quality, and improve habitat for land and water plants and animals. To learn more about the importance of buffers, visit the University of Maryland Extension’s Riparian Buffer Systems site at [http://extension.umd.edu/riparianbuffers](http://extension.umd.edu/riparianbuffers).

**Critical Area:** As defined by Maryland’s Critical Area Act of 1984, the *Critical Area* is all land within 1,000 feet of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, which is subject to special forestry and other land-use regulations. Learn more about Maryland’s Critical Area at the Critical Area Commission’s site at [http://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/index.asp](http://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/index.asp).

**Declaration of Intent:** Short for *The Forest Conservation Declaration of Intent for Forestry*. Landowners who plan to harvest timber on their property may be required to complete a Declaration of Intent, which ensures that the property will remain in woodland for a minimum of five years.

**DNR:** The *Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR)* works to secure “a sustainable future for our environment, society, and economy by preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing the State’s natural resources.” (Learn more about the DNR at [http://dnr.maryland.gov/mission_vision.asp](http://dnr.maryland.gov/mission_vision.asp).) The DNR Forest Service manages Maryland’s trees, forests, and associated ecosystems through management, education and outreach. The DNR Forest Service’s website at [http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/](http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/) lists a wide variety of programs and services.

**Easement:** A *conservation easement* is a legal agreement between a landowner and a nonprofit land trust or government entity. An easement limits the use of the land in order to protect specified conservation values by restricting development and other future activities. Although the specifics of the easement are negotiated between a willing landowner and one of these entities, State law recognizes that timber harvesting rights under State land conservation programs can be retained by the landowner as part of the perpetual agreement unless so extinguished. More information about
easements can be found in the Woodland Stewardship Education program’s website under “Stewardship Planning” at http://extension.umd.edu/woodland/your-woodland/stewardship-planning.


MDE: The Maryland Department of Environment (MDE)’s mission is “to protect and restore the quality of Maryland’s air, water, and land resources, while fostering smart growth, a thriving and sustainable economy and healthy communities.” Learn more about MDE at its website, http://www.mde.state.md.us/Pages/Home.aspx.

M-NCPPC: Acronym for Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which works in Montgomery and Prince George’s counties to acquire, develop and maintain a regional system of parks and to provide land use planning. The commission manages physical growth and plans communities, provides leisure and recreational experiences, and protects and stewards natural, cultural and historic resources. Visit http://www.mncppc.org/commission_home.html to learn more.

Nontidal Wetlands: These are inland, freshwater areas not subject to tidal influence, encompassing environments such as marshes and swamps, bottomland hardwood forests, wet meadows, inland bogs and shallow areas of lakes and ponds. In Maryland, these ecosystems are regulated by its Nontidal Wetlands Program administered by the MDE and local county protection programs.

SCD: Abbreviation for “Soil Conservation District.” Each Maryland County has a Soil Conservation District and staff who work with local, state and federal authorities as well as the private sector to address each county’s soil and water conservation needs. Through the SCD offices, local landowners and residents have access to technical services that help them improve water quality and reduce erosion. To learn more about the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, visit http://www.mascd.net/districts/default.html.

Standard Plan: Short for “Compliance Agreement for the Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for Forest Harvest Operations.” Maryland state law and regulations require that a sediment control plan be developed and approved before beginning any earth-disturbing activity in excess of 5,000 square feet. All harvests planned on private property must have an approved Standard Plan. For more information on the requirements of the Standard Plan, read “Best Management Practices for Forest Harvests” from the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources Forest Service at http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/landplanning/bmp.html.
Sustainable Forestry Act of 1999: Nationally acclaimed law that expresses the importance of Maryland’s forest to the environmental and economic well-being of the State, especially the importance of sustainable forestry management to Maryland’s multi-billion dollar Chesapeake Bay restoration effort. One section of the Act replaced the Forest Advisory Commission with the Sustainable Forestry Council. The purpose of this Gubernatorial-appointed Council is to advise the Department on all matters related to: 1) sustainable forestry management in the State; 2) existing regulatory and statutory policies that are perceived as economic barriers to a viable forest products industry; 3) new markets to enhance forest health; and, 4) the means to promote forest-based economies and processing capability that contribute to economic and employment growth. This Act also sets forth various forestry-related definitions by State law. Visit http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/sfcouncil.asp to learn more.
## Index of Counties

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Allegany County

**Important Contacts:**

Soil Conservation District (SCD)        Bernie Connor     301-777-7632  
County Community Services Dept.       Patty Mackie      301-777-5951

**Application Process:**

**Step 1** Submit Standard Plan to SCD for review.

**Step 2** SCD inspects site if necessary and forwards plan to Maryland Department of the Environment when water resources are involved. Upon approval, SCD submits plan to County.

**Step 3** Harvester may need to post bond with County roads dept. for access permit.

**Step 4** County ensures all necessary permits in place. Generates payment invoice for all fees. Forwards copies to SCD.

**Fees**  
SCD: $75.00 + $0.50/acre ( invoiced through County)  
County base fee: $10.00 (administrative fee)

**Payment method**  
Cash, Check. All payments through County Finance Office.

**Inspecting Authority**  
Soil Conservation District

**Final Permitting Authority**  
Soil Conservation District

**Waiting Period(s)**  
n/a

**Notes**

- SCD generates invoice for payment through County Finance Office.
- SCD makes site visits only when water resources or buffers need to be inspected (mostly for small loggers not affiliated with NewPage Corporation).
- Approved permits delivered to County weekly.

**Web links**  
[Allegany County Soil Conservation District office](#)  
[Allegany County Land Development Services - downloadable forms](#)
Anne Arundel County

**Important Contacts:**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Soil Conservation District (SCD)</td>
<td>Chris Maex</td>
<td>410-571-6757 x. 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Forester</td>
<td>Bud Reaves</td>
<td>410-222-7441</td>
</tr>
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**Application Process:**

**Step 1**  
Submit to SCD: Standard Plan, Stabilized Construction Entrance Detail, Reinforced Silt Fence Detail, and Reinforced Silt Fence Specifications.

**Step 2**  
Complete County Grading Permit application.

**Step 3**  
Submit completed forms to county Permit Application Center for forwarding to County forester’s approval

**Step 4**  
Upon approval from County forester, applications returned to SCD.

**Fees**  
SCD: No fee  
County fee: $100.00 (logging permit fee) + $25.00 (County permit application fee) = $125.00

**Payment method**  
Cash, Check

**Inspecting Authority**  
Department of Natural Resources forester

**Final Permitting Authority**  
Soil Conservation District

**Waiting Period(s)**  
SCD: 4 days minimum/2 weeks maximum

**Notes**  
- Declaration of Intent included in SCD's Standard Plan

**Web links**
- Anne Arundel County Soil Conservation District office
- SCD office logging permit process
- Anne Arundel County Permit Application Center
- Grading permit application
Baltimore County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)     Quintin Cornwell     410-527-5920 x. 4
Dept. of Environmental Protection & Sustainability - Environmental Impact Review     Tom Panzarella     410-887-3980

Application Process:

Step 1     Submit Standard Plan, Buffer Management Plan, Declaration of Intent to SCD for review and approval. Application is forwarded to County.

Step 2     County Dept. of Environmental Protection and Sustainability reviews application for Declaration of Intent and/or presence of easements on site.

Step 3     SCD forwards approval to County. County performs on-site preharvest inspection and issues permit upon approval.

Step 4     County will inspect during harvest if time permits. County performs post-harvest inspection.

Fees     SCD: $100.00 + $1.00 per acre
          County: No fee

Payment method     Cash, Check, money order

Inspecting Authority     County

Final Permitting Authority     County

Waiting Period(s)     SCD: 10 working days
          County: 1-2 weeks generally, depending on ground conditions

Notes     • Tom Panzarella has state "Green Card" certification.
          • SCD requires project application packet to include all pertinent project information (access points, skid landings, haul roads, etc.) to be submitted on a 200' scale topographic map.
          • Baltimore County has established a special buffer easement category for streams and wetlands in forested areas; no timber harvesting permitted within these easements.

Web links     Baltimore County Soil Conservation District office
               Forest Harvest Operations - Sediment Control Plan Application
               Baltimore County Environmental Impact Review Section
               Forest Conservancy District Board
Calvert County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)        William Clark        410-535-1521 x. 3
DNR Forest Service              Brian Stupak              410-535-1303

Application Process:

Step 1        Submit Standard Plan to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) County Forester for review.
Step 2        DNR county forester reviews plan.
Step 3        With approval from county forester, SCD signs off on plan.
Step 4        Plan filed with County Dept. of Community Planning and Building.

Fees
SCD: No fee
County: No fee

Payment method        Cash, Check, money order
Inspecting Authority        DNR Forester
Final Permitting Authority        Soil Conservation District
Waiting Period(s)        n/a

Notes

• DNR and Maryland Department of the Environment make site inspections only in cases of complaints.
• County will require a timber harvest plan if project takes place in the Critical Area.

Web links

Calvert County Soil Conservation District office
Calvert County Forest Conservation information

For more information on this and other topics visit the University of Maryland Extension website at www.extension.umd.edu
Caroline County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)      Trista North      410-479-1202 x. 3
DNR Forest Service                  Jim Harris        410-479-1623

Application Process:

**Step 1**  Obtain Standard Plan & Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Checklist, Best Management Practices (BMP) for nontidal wetlands, and County's Declaration of Intent form from SCD.

**Step 2**  If project is within the Critical Area, plan must be completed by professional forester. Nontidal wetlands check-off form must be signed by professional forester. County Declaration of Intent form must be notarized.

**Step 3**  Upon receipt of completed package, SCD forwards Declaration of Intent to County Dept. of Planning and Codes for site review (easements, etc.)

**Step 4**  Upon approval of Declaration of Intent form, SCD issues permit and cover letter reminding that permit covers cutting of trees only (no grading).

**Fees**  
SCD: $100.00  
County: No fee

**Payment method**  Cash, Check, credit card (subject to surcharge).

**Inspecting Authority**  Soil Conservation District

**Final Permitting Authority**  Soil Conservation District

**Waiting Period(s)**  n/a

**Notes**  
- Will perform informal inspections; formal inspections can be performed by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) if necessary for enforcement.
- SCD will perform informal inspections while project in progress. Any enforcement issues handled through MDE.

**Web links**  
[Caroline County Soil Conservation District information](#)  
[Caroline County Dept. of Planning and Codes - Permits](#)
Carroll County

Important Contacts:
Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Brian Snyder  410-848-8200 ext. 3
Dept. of Land Use, Planning & Development  John Bowman, Tim Hare  410-386-2210

Application Process:
Step 1 Submit Standard Plan to SCD for review. If buffer(s) are involved, SCD submits plan to Department of Natural Resource (DNR) Forest Service for review
Step 2 Submit Grading Plan application and Declaration of Intent for Forestry application to County
Step 3 County inspects site for easements, water resources/buffers, access points, sediment & erosion control
Step 4 Four sign-offs required for project approval: 1) forest conservation plan 2) water resources management 3) grading/sediment erosion management 4) SCD approval

Fees
SCD: No fee
County: $60.00

Payment method
Cash, check (Discover card accepted through billing office)

Inspecting Authority
County

Final Permitting Authority
Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s)
SCD: 5 business days
County: 2-4 weeks

Notes
• John Bowman is a Forest Conservation Specialist as prescribed by Forest Conservation Act; approves the forest conservation & water resources inspections.
• Tim Hare approves the grading inspections; staff have state "Green Card" training & certification
• Declaration of Intent for Forestry period = 7 years for non-development.
• Timber Harvest Plan and/or Forest Stewardship Plan can be substituted for Declaration of Intent for Forestry.

Web links
Carroll County Soil Conservation District office
Carroll County grading permit application
Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan application
Forest Conservation Declaration of Intent for Forestry

For more information on this and other topics visit the University of Maryland Extension website at www.extension.umd.edu
Cecil County

Important Contacts:
Soil Conservation District (SCD) Mari Markkula 410-398-4411
DNR Forest Service Tom Frederick 410-287-5777

Application Process:
Step 1 Submit Standard Plan packet to SCD for review
Step 2 SCD reviews application and forwards to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) forester for review. If site is within Critical Area or included in a Forest Conservation Plan, application is referred to County Forestry Board for review.
Step 3 If site includes conservation easements, referred to MDE or MD Environmental Trust. If site includes sensitive species, referred to DNR’s Wildlife & Heritage Service. Upon approval, DNR forester returns plan to SCD.
Step 4 SCD forwards plan to County Dept. of Planning & Zoning for reference.

Fees SCD: $250.00; County: No fee
Payment method Cash, check

Inspecting Authority Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Sediment & Erosion (see notes)
Final Permitting Authority Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s) SCD: 30 days maximum
County: Varies (see Notes)

Notes
- SCD’s Standard Plan packet includes Declaration of Intent, Buffer Management Plan, & Nontidal Wetlands Best Management Practices plan. Additional reviews by County Forestry Board and/or DNR Wildlife & Heritage Service can add up to one month each to the application process.
- MDE Sediment & Erosion inspects site only if questions or complaints received. MDE may request DNR forester to accompany on inspection.
- If harvest to occur within Critical Area, DNR forester forwards plan to DNR Wildlife & Heritage Service for comment. Wildlife & Heritage Service has 15 days to decide to comment and then 30 days to comment. County Forest Conservation Board meets monthly.

Web links Cecil County Soil Conservation District office
Forest Harvest plan information
Timber Harvest forms, applications & information
Cecil County Dept. of Planning & Zoning
Charles County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Luis Dieguez  301-934-9588 x. 3

Dept. of Planning & Growth Management  Ray Shumaker  301-396-5842

Application Process:

Step 1  Submit Sediment & Erosion Control Plan application to County Dept. of Planning & Growth Management; pay County fee.

Step 2  Bring receipt for County payment to SCD. Submit Compliance Agreement for the Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for Forest Harvest Operations.

Step 3  SCD inspects site if necessary. Upon approval, submits plan to County Dept. of Planning & Growth Management for permit issuance.

Step 4  SCD may inspect site during and after harvest project. Planning & Growth Management will inspect site after the permit is issued to ensure proper implementation.

Fees

SCD: $29.00 + $3/acre
County: $146.00

Payment method  Check

Inspecting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Final Permitting Authority  County

Waiting Period(s)  SCD: n/a
                   County: 5 business days requested

Notes

- Planning & Growth inspectors have state "Green Card" training & certification
- SCD is in the process of revising its Forest Harvest Operations plan in order to receive more information about how the harvest will impact sensitive areas. At present, SCD will obtain this information verbally during site inspection.

Web links

Charles County Soil Conservation District office
Submittal guidelines
Erosion & Sediment Control Plan
Charles County Dept. of Planning and Growth Management
Dorchester County

**Important Contacts:**

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<tr>
<td>DNR Forest Service</td>
<td>Scott Daniels</td>
<td>410-228-1861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Conservation District (SCD)</td>
<td>Dale Brown</td>
<td>410-228-5640 ext. 3</td>
</tr>
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**Application Process:**

**Step 1** Obtain Standard Plan from SCD.

**Step 2** Upon completion of Standard Plan (and Timber Harvest Plan if project in the Critical Area), SCD forwards to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) forester for review.

**Step 3** With approval from DNR forester, SCD signs off on plan.

**Step 4** Plan forwarded to County Dept. of Public Works - Highway Division, which issues permit.

**Fees**

- SCD: $100.00 (see Notes)
- County: $25.00 (see Notes)

**Payment method** Check

**Inspecting Authority** DNR Forester

**Final Permitting Authority** County

**Waiting Period(s)** n/a

**Notes**

- SCD fee of $100.00 includes County $25.00 fee. Permit is valid for 2 years; can be renewed for $25.00.
- SCD will refer comments or complaints about harvest projects to DNR Forester. SCD inspects site only if drainage involved.
- DNR Forester will inspect the harvest site 2-3 times during project

**Web links**

- [Dorchester County Soil Conservation District website](#)
- [Dorchester County Engineering Division, Dept. of Public Works Applications & Forms](#)
Frederick County

Important Contacts:
Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Steve Leatherman  301-695-2803 x.3
Dept. of Environmental Compliance  Rick Masser  301-600-3507

Application Process:
Step 1  Submit County Minor Logging Permit (less than 30,000 square feet disturbed area) or Major Logging Permit (more than 30,000 square feet disturbed area) application from County Community Development Division, Environmental Compliance Section to SCD.

Step 2  Provide three copies of plot plan with project area information. Provide printout from Dept. of Assessments and Taxation Real Property Data.

Step 3  Provide notice at least 24 hours in advance of project start to County Environmental Compliance Section.

Step 4  Provide notice within 5 days of project completion to County Environmental Compliance Section.

Fees
SCD: $60.00 (invoiced through County)
County: $89.00 (minor grading review/inspection fee) ; $393.00 (major logging review/inspection fee)

Payment method  Cash, Check, credit/debit (subject to surcharge). Payments through County Finance Office.

Inspecting Authority  County Dept. of Environmental Compliance

Final Permitting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s)  SCD: n/a
County: 5-10 days

Notes  
- All County inspectors are Maryland Department of the Environment -certified Environmental Compliance Officers
- Projects within the Conservation Zoning District must obtain permission from Forest Conservancy Board. If project includes wetland areas, buffer zones, or Critical Areas, Major Logging Permit required regardless of size of disturbed area.

Web links  
Frederick County Environmental Compliance Section
Environmental Compliance Section application forms
Garrett County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)    Shaun Sanders    301-334-6951 ext. 3
Permits & Inspections Office    Phil Crumley    301-334-7476

Application Process:

**Step 1**    Submit Standard Plan to County Permits & Inspection Office

**Step 2**    Submit Grading Permit to County Permits & Inspection Office

**Step 3**    County forwards submission to SCD office for review & approval

**Fees**

SCD: No fee
County base fee: $15.00 plus $0.05/acre.
Logging entrance from a county road: $10.00.
Amendment to plan: $20.00.

**Payment method**    Cash, Check

**Inspecting Authority**    Soil Conservation District

**Final Permitting Authority**    Soil Conservation District

**Waiting Period(s)**    n/a

**Notes**

- Maryland Department of the Environment inspects timber harvest projects only if complaints received

**Web links**

[Garret County Soil Conservation District office](#)
[Garrett County Standard Erosion & Sediment Control plan for forest harvest operations](#)
Harford County

Important Contacts:

Dept. of Public Works  Rose Baker  410-638-3507
Soil Conservation District  Bill Tharpe  410-838-6181 x. 3

Application Process:

Step 1  Submit Standard Plan (plus Nontidal Wetlands Best Management Practices checklist and/or Buffer Management Plan, if required) to County Dept. of Public Works; pay permitting fee

Step 2  Plans are reviewed by a) SCD b) County Dept. of Planning & Zoning c) Dept. of Public Works - Bureau of Construction Management, Sediment & Erosion Control

Step 3  Dept. of Public Works Sediment Control inspector issues permit upon approval

Fees  SCD: no fee
      County: $25.00 (6 acres or less) $50.00 (more than 6 acres)

Payment method  Cash, Check

Inspecting Authority  County

Final Permitting Authority  County

Waiting Period(s)  County: 2-3 weeks
      SCD: 5 working days

Notes  • Applicants must display "Green Card" certification during harvest.
      • Project’s Standard Plan must be available on-site during harvest operations.

Web links  Harford County Soil Conservation District office
           Harford County Dept. of Public Works
Howard County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Bob Robertson  410-489-7987
Planning & Zoning Dept., Land Development section  Brenda Luber  410-313-4343

Application Process:

Step 1  Submit Standard Plan to SCD for review. If buffer(s) are involved, stream buffer plan developed by professional forester required.

Step 2  After SCD approves, obtain Declaration of Intent (and Grading Permit if required) from County Dept. of Inspections, Licenses & Permits.

Step 3  County Dept. of Planning & Zoning - Land Development section reviews and signs off on permits.

Step 4  Dept. of Inspections, Licenses and Permits approves project. Dept. of Public Works makes pre-construction site assessment to issue grading permit.

Fees  SCD: no fee
Standard Plan fee: $105.00 (see Notes).

Payment method  Cash, Check, Discover Card (subject to surcharge) through county Finance Office

Inspecting Authority  County

Final Permitting Authority  County

Waiting Period(s)  SCD: 10 working days
County: n/a

Notes  • County inspects site only if mediation/complaints involved.
• SCD performs site inspections only in cases of complaints.
• Fee may change based on size of project, but all timber harvest permits issued since 2010 have been within the $105.00 threshold.

Web links  Howard County Soil Conservation District office
Howard County Planning & Zoning Dept. - Environment sections
Grading permit information
Forms and Fees
Kent County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)          Joe Blizzard          410-778-5150 x. 3
DNR Forest Service                       Terry Batchelor        410-819-4121
County Planning, Housing & Zoning        Rick Myers            410-778-7437

Application Process:

Step 1  Submit completed Standard Plan to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forester for review.

Step 2  DNR forester reviews plan.

Step 3  With approval from DNR forester, SCD signs off on plan.

Step 4  Site inspected by County Dept. of Planning, Housing, and Zoning, which issues project permit.

Fees

SCD: $100.00
County: $100.00

Payment method  Cash, check

Inspecting Authority  Soil Conservation District & County

Final Permitting Authority  Soil Conservation District & County

Waiting Period(s)  
SCD: 5 business days requested
DNR: n/a
County: 2 weeks

Notes

- All fees collected through County.
- County inspectors have "Green Card" certification
- If project in Critical Area, plan must be reviewed and approved by County forestry board.

Web link  Kent County Dept. of Planning, Housing, and Zoning

For more information on this and other topics visit the University of Maryland Extension website at www.extension.umd.edu
Montgomery County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  David Plummer  301-590-2855
Dept. of Permitting Services  Rick Brush  240-777-6343
County Arborist  Laura Miller  240-777-7704

Application Process:

Step 1  Submit Application for Sediment Control Permit through County Dept. of Permitting Services (DPS). DPS sends information to SCD for approval. SCD sends approval to DPS; DPS issues Sediment Control Permit.

Step 2  Once Sediment Control permit has been issued, submit harvest plan to County Arborist for review. (Review may occur concurrent with Step 1 assessment.) Plan must include Information for Sustainable Timber Harvest application and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) environmental review if threatened/endangered species/habitat on site.

Step 3  Complete the county's Natural Resources Inventory/Forest Stand Delineation Exemption Review (NRI/FSD) application.

Step 4  Submit the following & fees to M-NCPCC Planning, Environmental Planning Division: a) Sediment Control Permit (step 1); b) Approval letter from County Arborist (step 2); c) Environmental Review from DNR if necessary (step 2); d) Completed NRI/FSD application.

Fees  SCD: No fee
County fee: $210.00.
Md. National Capital Parks & Planning Commission (M-NCPCC) fee: $180.00 (see Notes)

Payment method  Check

Inspecting Authority  County & M-NCPCC

Final Permitting Authority  County, SCD & M-NCPCC
Waiting Period(s)  SCD: n/a  
County: n/a  
M-NCPPC: max. 30 days for inspection on property not previously subject to a Forest Conservation Plan.

Notes

- County Arborist Miller is a licensed forester.
- M-NCPPC has licensed foresters and licenses landscape architects as inspectors.
- If property is within a Forest Conservation Easement, review and approval from County Arborist not required; submit Sediment Control Plan directly to M-NCPPC.
- M-NCPPC charges no fee for harvest within conservation easements. M-NCPPC charges fee when harvest to occur on property not previously subject to Forest Conservation Plan (to confirm approval of exemption from submitting an FCP).

Web links

Montgomery County Soil Conservation District office
Montgomery County Timber Harvest - guidelines
Sediment Control Permit Fees
## Prince George’s County

### Important Contacts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soil Conservation District (SCD)</td>
<td>Gene Whitehead</td>
<td>301-574-5162 x. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNR Forest Service</td>
<td>Brian Stupak</td>
<td>410-535-1303</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Application Process:

**Step 1**
Obtain publication "Forest Harvest Erosion and Sediment Control Plan" from SCD. Publication summarizes steps for timber harvest application process and includes blank forms for completion.

**Step 2**
Submit Application for Sediment Control Permit and associated additional permits, such as Streamside Management Zone plan (if necessary) to SCD.

**Step 3**
Upon approval from SCD, submit approved plans to County Dept. of Permitting, Inspection & Enforcement.

**Step 4**
Call DNR Forest Service office (Prince Frederick, MD) at least 48 hours prior to start of harvest.

### Fees

- SCD: $100.00
- Md. National Capital Parks & Planning Commission (M-NCPCC) fee: $180.00 (see Notes)

### Payment method

- SCD: check, money order
- M-NCPCC: check

### Inspecting Authority

- DNR forester

### Final Permitting Authority

- Soil Conservation District

### Waiting Period(s)

- n/a

### Notes

- DNR inspects harvest site pre- and post-harvest.
- If project area is in a designated Tree Conservation Area, M-NCPCC must approve plan.
- M-NCPCC charges fee when harvest to occur on property not previously subject to Forest Conservation Plan (to confirm approval of exemption from submitting an FCP).

### Web links

- [Prince George’s County Soil Conservation District office](#)
- [Prince George’s County Dept. of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement](#)
Important Contacts:

Queen Anne’s County

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  
Alison Howard  
410-758-1671 x. 3

DNR Forest Service  
Terry Batchelor  
410-819-4121

County Planning & Zoning - Permitting Section  
Vivian Swinson  
410-758-4088

Application Process:

Step 1  
Obtain Forest Conservation Worksheet checklist from County Planning & Zoning to check for presence of deed-restricted space, wetlands, etc.

Step 2  
Complete Standard Plan application and submit to SCD for review. Plan must be prepared by DNR forester or licensed forester on DNR roster.

Step 3  
Plan forwarded to DNR forester for review & approval. With approval from forester, SCD signs off on plan.

Step 4  
Site inspected by County Dept. of Planning, Housing, and Zoning, which issues project permit.

Fees  
SCD: no fee  
County fee: $95.00

Payment method  
Cash, Check (see Notes)

Inspecting Authority  
Soil Conservation District & County

Final Permitting Authority  
Soil Conservation District & County

Waiting Period(s)  
SCD: 3-5 days  
DNR: n/a  
County: 3-5 business days (see Notes)

Notes  
- Inspector from County Planning & Zoning will visit site during waiting period.
- If project in Critical Area, plan must be reviewed and approved by county forestry board.
- County plans to begin accepting credit & debits cards beginning early 2014.

Web links  
Queen Anne’s County Soil Conservation District office  
Queen Anne’s County Dept. of Planning and Zoning  
Overview of Development Projects - application & review process
Saint Mary’s County

Important Contacts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soil Conservation District (SCD)</td>
<td>Bruce Young</td>
<td>301-475-8402 x.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNR Forest Service</td>
<td>Mark Muir</td>
<td>301-880-2747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Dept. of Land Use &amp; Growth Management</td>
<td>Bob Bowles</td>
<td>301-475-4200 x. 1522</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Application Process:

Step 1 Obtain Standard Plan application from SCD.

Step 2 Complete Standard Plan application and submit to SCD for review. Plan must be prepared by DNR forester or licensed forester on DNR roster.

Step 3 Approved plan submitted to County Dept. of Land Use & Growth Management for filing.

Fees

- SCD: No fee
- County: No fee

Payment method

Cash, Check, credit card (subject to surcharge).

Inspecting Authority

Soil Conservation District or County (see Notes)

Final Permitting Authority

Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s)

- SCD: 14 days
- County: 10 working days; if project in Critical Area, up to 30 days (see notes)

Notes

- If harvest in Critical Area, permitting authority = County Dept. of Land Use & Growth Management
- If project in Critical Area, plan must be reviewed and approved by county forestry board and by Dept. of Land Use & Growth Management before submission to SCD.

Web links

- Saint Mary’s County Soil Conservation District office
- Forest Harvest Operations – Sediment Control Plan Application
- Saint Mary’s County Dept. of Land Use & Growth Management - forms and documents
- Forest Conservation Act and Development Information
- Forestry Declaration of Intent
Somerset County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Larry Fykes  410-651-1575 x. 3
DNR Forest Service  John Jordan  410-651-2004
County Planning & Zoning Dept.  Bob Cadwallader  410-651-1424

Application Process:

Step 1  Obtain Standard Plan application from SCD.

Step 2  Complete Standard Plan application and submit to SCD for review. Plan must be prepared by DNR forester or licensed forester on DNR roster.

Step 3  Approved plan submitted to County Dept. of Planning & Zoning for filing purposes only.

Fees  SCD: $25.00  
County: No fee

Payment method  Cash, Check

Inspecting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Final Permitting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s)  n/a

Notes  
- SCD inspects site only if mediation/complaints involved
- County Planning & Zoning performs no inspections; will refer comments/complaints about harvest projects to SCD.
- DNR Forester performs periodic site inspections.
- If harvest in the Critical Area, project is forwarded to county Forestry Conservation Board for review (meets quarterly).

Web link  Somerset County Planning & Zoning Dept.
Talbot County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Craig Zinter  410-822-1577 x. 3
DNR Forest Service  Jim Harris  410-479-1623
County Planning & Permits  Elisa Deflaux  410-770-8030

Application Process:

Step 1  Obtain Standard Plan application & Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Checklist from SCD.

Step 2  Complete Standard Plan application and submit to SCD for review. If project outside the Critical Area but includes nontidal wetlands, plan requires Declaration of Intent and Nontidal Wetlands Disclaimer.

Step 3  Plan forwarded to Department of National Resources (DNR) forester for review & approval. With approval from forester, SCD signs off on plan.

Step 4  Plan forwarded to County Dept. of Planning & Permits for filing purposes only.

Fees

SCD: No fee
County: $25.00

Payment method  Check only

Inspecting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Final Permitting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s)  n/a

Notes

• SCD inspects site only if mediation/complaints involved
• If site is in the Critical Area, project requires approval by county Forestry Conservation Board before permit issued. Board meets quarterly or on an as-needed basis.

Web links

Talbot County Soil Conservation District office
Erosion & Sed. Control Plan Checklist
Talbot County Planning & Zoning - Application and Forms
Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Checklist
Forestry Declaration of Intent
Nontidal Wetlands Disclaimer
Washington County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Dee Price  301-797-6821 x 3
Dept. of Plan Review & Permitting  Fred Nugent  240-313-2456

Application Process:

Step 1  Submit completed Declaration of Intent to County Permits & Inspection office
Step 2  Submit completed Standard Plan to County Permits & Inspection office
Step 3  County forwards to SCD; SCD reviews plan for presence of sensitive areas, wetlands, streamside management practices, etc.
Step 4  SCD may perform onsite review if harvest involves installing a ford bridge, etc.

Fees
SCD: $100.00
County: No fee

Payment method  Cash, check, money order

Inspecting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Final Permitting Authority  Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s)  n/a

Notes
• SCD inspects site only if mediation/complaints involved.
• Once approved, County assigns a project number and posts online to show that both County & SCD have approved.

Web links
Washington County Soil Conservation District office
Washington County Division of Plan Review & Permitting
Washington Co. SCD Plan and/or Fee Requirements
Wicomico County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)       Kevin Keenan       410-546-4777 x. 3
DNR Forest Service                  Kathy Kronner       410-543-1951

Application Process:

Step 1 Obtain Standard Plan application from SCD. Plan must be prepared by DNR forester or licensed forester on Department of Natural Resources (DNR) roster.

Step 2 Complete Standard Plan application and submit to SCD for review.

Step 3 Upon approval from SCD, plan is submitted to DNR forester for project inspection.

Step 4 Plan forwarded to County Dept. of Planning & Zoning for filing purposes only.

Fees

SCD: $30.00
County: No fee

Payment method
Cash, Check

Inspecting Authority
DNR forester

Final Permitting Authority
Soil Conservation District

Waiting Period(s) n/a

Notes
• DNR inspects harvest site during and after the project.
• SCD representative also signs off for County approval.

Web links
Wicomico County Soil Conservation District office
Wicomico County Dept. of Planning & Zoning
Worcester County

Important Contacts:

Soil Conservation District (SCD)  Alan Jones  410-632-5439 x. 3
DNR Forest Service  Rob Clarke  443-235-1626
Dept. of Development, Review and Permitting  April Mariner  410-632-1200 x. 1172

Application Process:

Step 1  Obtain Standard Plan application from SCD. Plan must be prepared by DNR forester or licensed forester on Department of Natural Resources (DNR) roster.

Step 2  Complete Standard Plan application and submit to SCD for review.

Step 3  Plan forwarded to County Dept. of Development, Review & Permitting for review.

Step 4  County inspects site and issues permit.

Fees  SCD: $75.00  County: $100.00 (see Notes)

Payment method  Cash, check

Inspecting Authority  County

Final Permitting Authority  Soil Conservation District & County

Waiting Period(s)  SCD: 30 days maximum

Notes  • If harvest in the Critical Area, project is forwarded to county Forestry Conservation Board for review.
• County may assess an additional $50.00 fee if harvest project takes place within the Critical Area.

Web links  Worcester County Dept. of Development Review & Permitting Permit Application  How to complete a Permit Application
Note on Log Hauling Permits

Section 24-113.2 of the Transportation Article (Maryland Annotated Code) authorizes the State Highway Administration to issue exceptional hauling permits for the carrying of “farm products” (includes forest products) for vehicles that meet the following:

1. are loaded in the fields or other off-highway locations;
2. are the only load of the vehicle;
3. has an axle configuration of not less than six axles and a front-to-read centerline axle spacing of not less than 50 feet; and
4. passes a North American Standard Driver/Vehicle Level 1 inspection twice a year.

Compliance allows the carrier to haul up to 88,000 pounds of load from the field, compared to only 79,000 pounds of load under conventional hauling regulations. Although this section was initially limited to only Western Maryland and the forest products industry, it now authorizes eligibility within the agricultural community. The permit can be used statewide on all State highways and roads with the exception of the Interstate highway system.

Jonathan Kays (jkays@umd.edu) and Andrew Kling (akling1@umd.edu)

This publication, Green Book 2014: How to Apply for Woodland Harvest Permits in Maryland (EB-417), is one of a series of publications of the University of Maryland Extension and Woodland Stewardship Education Program. The information presented has met UME peer review standards, including internal and external technical review. For more information on related publications and programs, visit: www.extension.umd.edu/woodland. Please visit http://extension.umd.edu/ to find out more about Extension programs in Maryland.

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