

## Item 6 - Correspondence

**From:** [Deborah Hanley](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Forest Ecosystem Conservation  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 10:55:42 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

To the members of the Montgomery County Planning Board,

Formal conservation research increasing supports the importance of intact forest tracts as part of the ecosystem services necessary to sustainable health and well being of the environment and all species therein.

The intact forests in Maryland and Montgomery County must be protected by legislation limiting the number of forest easements granted, by requiring developers to reduce clear cutting housing development and to ensure a sufficient replanting of native trees and shrubs to housing built.

Please mandate full evaluation of forest ecosystem impact as part of the planning prior to approval of a new site development.

As a homeowner, I am doing my part to increase the native diversity on my property and trust that the County Planning Board will do its share to protect and enhance the environmental quality of the county.

Thank you for caring for our people and our land,

Regards, Deborah Hanley

Deborah Hanley  
dghanley1952@yahoo.com  
409 Highgate Terrace  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

**From:** [Anne Ambler](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Urgent need for forest conservation  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 11:04:11 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Dear Chair Anderson and members of the Planning Board:

We face a climate emergency. Hopefully, we are finally recognizing that fact, and that it is past time to get serious about forest conservation. We are in a fight for a livable planet and must act accordingly. Given the role of forest as carbon sinks, as you review proposed modifications to our forest conservation law, I urge you to accept the Montgomery County Forest Coalition's points, somewhat paraphrased below:

1. Our laws must, first and foremost, protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining forests in Montgomery County should be designated and treated as priority forest in the FCL.
2. We have seen forest conservation easements that were supposed to be in perpetuity simply disappear as land changed hands. We must therefore tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. We must increase replanting ratios to ensure no net loss of forests after development.
4. We must require the planting of forest ecosystems, not just trees.
5. Forests are also very important in preserving water quality. We must therefore require that replantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. Finally, forest stand delineation must be evaluated and submitted to Planning staff prior to submission of any application plan for development of a site.

As I am sure you will agree, we have gotten ourselves into serious trouble with our only passing regard for forest conservation. Please act now to rectify the situation as much as possible.

Respectfully yours,

Anne Ambler  
12505 Kuhl Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

Anne Ambler

anambler@gmail.com  
12505 Kuhl Road  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

**From:** [Kenneth Allen](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** More Forests are Needed  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 11:23:44 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

We need to protect existing Forest Ecosystems. Forests are the lungs of our ecosystem. Second, you should tighten requirements around forest conservation easements. Third, strengthen replanting ratios to not only ensure no-net-loss, but there should be a larger forested area for our children and grandchildren than now exists. Fourth, strengthen re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees. And all new plantings should be trees and shrubs that are native to this area. Last, you should require a forest stand delineation before any application is submitted for development.

Thank you for taking these actions to protect our environment.

Kenneth Allen  
kallen808@gmail.com  
808 Jackson Ave.  
Takoma Park, , Maryland 20912

**From:** [walter weiss](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** forests  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 12:34:33 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

We need a strong plan to protect and expand our forests in Mont Co!

walter weiss

walter.weiss@verizon.net

7941 deepwell drive

bethesda, Maryland 20817

**From:** [Laurie Welch](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** protect our forests  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 12:55:04 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

I'm a member of the local Audubon society, and they informed me about a potential modification to the forest conservation law. Soil and trees are one of the main sources to pull CO2 out the atmosphere, and all actions to remediate CO2 levels are imperative. New science has taught us that trees are part of a forest ecosystem that supports the individual trees and plants within it, so I call on you to protect our existing forest ecosystems, tighten regulations around forest conversation easements. Any replanting should address the entire ecosystem, including water management. I ask that the Board take into consideration the Montgomery County Forest Coalition's six main recommendations. Thank you for your attention.

Laurie Welch  
laurawelch123@gmail.com  
7118 Cedar Ave, none, none  
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912

**From:** [Tyra Villadiego](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Please listen to the Montgomery county forest coalition  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 12:59:27 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Hi, I've lived in Montgomery County all my life and I am asking that you read and apply the recommendations of the Montgomery County Forest Coalition to:

-Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.

-Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.

-Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.

-Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.

-Increase watershed considerations so that replantings improve the water quality of the county.

-Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Forests are lungs of the planet and are important for reducing increased pollution from traffic and development. For the sake of future generations and wildlife we need to behave responsibly and make sure we ease increasingly harmful conditions for our environment.

Tyra Villadiego  
tyracamille@gmail.com  
1621 Mithering Lane  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905

**From:** [Robin Swope](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 4:28:36 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
2. Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
4. Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
5. Strengthen watershed considerations so that re-plantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Robin Swope  
rswope5248@gmail.com  
24812 woodfield school road  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20882



**From:** [Mara McCall](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Conservation of 105-acres of forest land (also known as NASA Area 400)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 4:38:50 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

As a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland, I say we need our forests. We depend on them for our survival, from the air we breathe to the wood we use. Besides providing habitats for animals and livelihoods for humans, forests also offer watershed protection, prevent soil erosion and mitigate climate change. Forests in Montgomery County harbor unique and often rare habitats. We can't afford to lose any more. They make Montgomery County a special place.

Sincerely,  
Mara McCall

Mara McCall  
maragay69@gmail.com  
8507 Cedar St  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-4323

**From:** [Margaret Schoap](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Support the MoCo Forest Coalition to protect existing Forest Ecosystems  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 6:06:59 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

I support the Montgomery County Forest Coalition in recommending and asking the Planning Board to:

- 1) Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
- 2) Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
- 3) Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
- 4) Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
- 5) Increase watershed considerations so that replantings improve the water quality of the county.

Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Margaret Schoap  
tamecoalition@gmail.com  
11425 Neelsville Church Rd  
Germantown, Maryland 20876

**From:** [Sally Gagne](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Strongest Tree Conservation Laws Possible  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 9:39:49 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

We need to save existing habitats to prevent loss of plant and animal species. Therefore the first consideration in development should be if and how much destruction of woods there will be. Instead use land that's no longer "natural."

All six requests of the Audubon Naturalist Society should be incorporated in the tree bill you will send to the county council.

- 1) Protect existing Forest Ecosystems.
- 2) Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements.
- 3) Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss.
- 4) Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
- 5) Increase watershed replanting.
- 6) Require a forest stand delineation before any application is submitted for development.

Sincerely,

Sally Gagne

Sally Gagne

[sgagne@erols.com](mailto:sgagne@erols.com)

606 St. Andrews Lane

Silver Spring, MD, Maryland 20901

**From:** [K J Doneby Smith](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Strengthen our Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Friday, April 15, 2022 12:13:50 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Forest eco-systems, not just trees per se, are key to dealing with many pressing problems in our county and region. Fighting climate change, dealing with heat islands, mitigating stormwater-related flooding and soil erosion, providing habitat, protecting water quality-- these are just a few of the services our forests provide. All existing forest eco-systems in the county should be protected, and we need to go beyond a "no-net loss" mindset to embrace a "net gain" approach. Development plans should include an up-front assessment of impact on forests; re-planting trees alone does not replace a forest eco-system. Short-term economic gain from development must be evaluated with consideration of the longer-term and harder-to-quantify, but significant value of forest preservation. We need laws that take the long view and that protect the interests of low-income communities which are too often the ones who suffer the most from heat islands, poor air quality, flooding and the like. < /p>

K J Doneby Smith  
donebys@gmail.com  
4113 Tulare Dr.  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906

**From:** [Steven Findlay](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Friday, April 15, 2022 12:16:51 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

On Behalf of Sugarloaf Citizens Association, I write to urge you to continue to protect existing forest ecosystems and tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.

Please also consider (a) strengthening replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development and (b) increasing watershed considerations so that replanting improves the water quality of the county.

We join the MoCo Forest Coalition in further recommending that the area of forest removed be reforested at a ratio of 5 acres of forest ecosystem for every 1 acre removed. This deterrent allows forest banks time to become mature forest ecosystems, and also keeps forest banks in the sub-watershed where they were originally intended to be planted.

Preserving the forested areas in the Ag Reserve is a particular priority for our organization. Development continues to threaten forests and trees in the Ag Reserve. And climate change argues for an aggressive policy on replanting trees lost in the Ag Reserve, which serves as a carbon sink for the entire county.

Thanks for advancing a good forest management and preservation plan.

Steven Findlay, President  
Sugarloaf Citizens Association  
Dickerson, MD

Steven Findlay  
stevenfindlay2@gmail.com  
19201 Barnesville Rd  
Dickerson , Maryland 20838

**From:** [Erika Bucciantini](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Friday, April 15, 2022 5:48:19 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. As an Ag Reserve resident, while I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
2. Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
4. Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
5. Strengthen watershed considerations so that re-plantings improve the water quality of the county. This is vital!!!
6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Thank you for protecting our forest lands.

Erika Bucciantini  
erikabucciantini@gmail.com  
22014 Dickerson rd  
Dickerson , Maryland 20842

**From:** [Felicia Eberling](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Saturday, April 16, 2022 12:17:03 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. The forest conservation law to address this problem, needs to be far stronger in order to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
2. Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
4. Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
5. Strengthen watershed considerations so that re-plantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Felicia Eberling  
feberling06@yahoo.com  
1001 Spring Street, Apt. 924  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

**From:** [Lisa Bonaparte](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Strengthen Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Saturday, April 16, 2022 8:48:21 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Dear Montgomery County Planning Board,

I am writing as a resident of Montgomery County to say that I am in support of the 6 recommendations of the Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) to strengthen conservation of forest.

There should be no net loss of forest.

There is a lot I could say. I will try to inspire with a few quotes from Chief Seattle:

Only when the last tree has died and the last river has been poisoned and the last fish has been caught will we realize that we can not eat money.

Like a man who has been dying for many days, a man in your city is numb to the stench.

Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.

Lisa Bonaparte  
Rockville

Lisa Bonaparte  
lisabonaparte@gmail.com  
70 Upper Rock Circle Apt. 317  
Rockville, Maryland MD



**From:** [Jamison Adcock](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Saturday, April 16, 2022 9:40:08 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
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6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Jamison Adcock  
[jamisonadcock@yahoo.com](mailto:jamisonadcock@yahoo.com)  
14415 Briarwood Terrace  
Rockville, Maryland 20853

**From:** [Janet Fernandez](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Preserving Forest reserve  
**Date:** Monday, April 18, 2022 9:47:12 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Our forests are our protection for pure air, water conservation, wildlife protection and natural beauty. Please keep this in mind when considering changes to present land use modifications. They are something that cannot be replaced.

Janet Fernandez  
jjgfern@aol.com  
701 King Farm Blvd, #428  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

**From:** Christine Manor  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:01:49 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
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5. Strengthen watershed considerations so that re-plantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Christine Manor  
clm@clmanor.com  
910 Grandin Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20851

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**From:** Bev Thoms  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:10:09 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Bev Thoms  
tiewyan@comcast.net  
21700 Big Woods Rd  
Dickerson, Maryland 20842

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**From:** charles goldman  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 12:32:31 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

charles goldman  
cdg.gsquared@att.net  
10715 Gatewood Ave  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20903

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**From:** Jerome Klobukowski  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 1:01:17 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Jerome Klobukowski  
jklobukowski@comcast.net  
17300 Fletchall Road  
Poolesville, Maryland 20837

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**From:** Ellen Gordon  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Let's build on good forest conservation ideas in MoCo  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 1:05:33 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

May our Montgomery Co. leaders lead in strengthening our forests and ecosystems. In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
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Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Ellen Gordon  
ellengordon10@comcast.net  
12204 Galesville Dr.  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

<<https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/315/AURQIHolROmPg2eeIOTtOA/ho.gif>>

**From:** Dorothy Herman  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 1:56:12 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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5. Strengthen watershed considerations so that re-plantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Dorothy Herman  
dorothy@fuzzymagic.com  
19521 Lewis Orchard Lane  
Poolesville, Maryland 20837

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**From:** Linda Silversmith  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 1:58:25 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
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Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

I was a member of the original Forest Conservation Advisory Committee - and even then we could see that we needed stronger requirements.

Linda Silversmith  
lindas@capaccess.org  
260 New Mark Esplanade  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

<<https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/315/NSySJvcgOoW62oesPqIWgw/ho.gif>>

**From:** Anne Greene  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 2:00:39 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

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Anne Greene  
annegreene@hushmail.com  
17219 Quaker Lane  
Sandy Spring , Maryland 20860

<<https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/315/KWzx5a5BSdyaDGICyBke0Q/ho.gif>>

**From:** Nancy Bleil  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 2:09:40 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

I would like to add this thought, "You plant a tree, you plant a hope." I encourage you to consider both trees and hope.

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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Nancy Bleil  
rehire4284@mypacks.net  
709 Brantford Ave  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

<<https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/315/RdNS3OAvRtOK7HXifeN0ow/ho.gif>>

**From:** Catherine Lowry  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 2:39:33 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

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Catherine Lowry  
lowrycath@comcast.net  
10209 Menlo Avenue  
silver spring, Maryland 20910

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**From:** Kathleen Holmay  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 2:49:08 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

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Kathleen Holmay  
kathleen@holmay.us  
9625 East Bexhill Drive  
Kensington, Maryland 20895

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**From:** Joyce Bailey  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:43:10 PM

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Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

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Joyce Bailey  
baileyjn52@comcast.net  
21730 Beallsville Rd  
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

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**From:** G WILLIAMS  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 12:51:00 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

I grew up in Fairfax where Slash and Burn was the normal development route. Look what they ended up with. Fairfax, SAVE EVERY TREE YOU CAN

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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G WILLIAMS  
george.williams2@VERIZON.NET  
11208 Rock Rd  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

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**From:** Marc Imlay  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 12:57:16 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

I am a Friend Of Sligo Creek. In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.
7. Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step. Make developers save the portion of the area proposed for development that has forests!

Marc Imlay  
IALM@EROLS.COM  
2321 Woodberry Dr  
Bryans Road, Maryland 20616

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**From:** Jennifer Cabigas  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 1:32:52 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

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Jennifer Cabigas  
jcabigas1@olgchs.org  
2248 Countryside Dr  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905

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**From:** Evelyn Jacob  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Protect Montgomery County's mature trees and forests  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 9:57:45 AM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Dear Members of the Montgomery County Planning Board,

As a resident of Montgomery County for 35+ years, I have long enjoyed our tree-filled environment. In fact, we selected our home because our property borders a linear park. We LOVE our trees!

In recent years I have become increasingly concerned about climate change, especially after experiencing a flash flood come through our yard in 2019. I have become increasingly active in advocating for policies that address climate change.

As I'm sure you know mature trees are an important part of addressing climate change because they sequester carbon. That's why I urge you to be sure to follow the recommendations made by the Montgomery County Forest Coalition:

--Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.

--Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.

--Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.

--Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.

--Increase watershed considerations so that replantings improve the water quality of the county.

--Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Thank you in advance for helping to create a healthy environment that supports efforts to address climate change.

Sincerely,  
Evelyn Jacob

Evelyn Jacob  
evelynjacob@comcast.net  
9500 Falls Bridge Ln  
Potomac, Maryland 20854-3954

<[https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/317/WtOiW\\_3YQx2qBCicMHYqEA/ho.gif](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/317/WtOiW_3YQx2qBCicMHYqEA/ho.gif)>

**From:** Jeremy Stanton  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 12:53:14 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

Take care of the forest, and the forest will take care of you. There's a lot of wisdom in this old saying. More than just green spaces, forests are the heart of the Montgomery County landscapes that sustain all of us. Their gifts to us are many: they build soil, purify water, sustain the hydrological cycle, provide food, fuel, and fiber, and harbor an abundance of living beings that enrich our lives in countless ways.

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

With gratitude for your public service.

Jeremy Stanton  
mail@jeremystanton.com  
5219 BROOKEVILLE RD  
GAITHERSBURG, Maryland 20882-1705

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**From:** KAROLINE ANDERS  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Trees  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 3:44:15 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Montgomery County needs to do better in preserving, protecting and increasing tree cover. I live in the Boyds/Clarksburg area and am dismayed about how many mature trees we have lost in just the last two years. Hundreds of acres bulldozed and then hundreds of houses go in, and one little corner of the lot then is planted with lots of little trees all crammed together. MoCo is also very good at replanting trees along median strips -- many of these trees die within a year or so and then MoCo replants them again. In my mind this doesn't count as planting trees so much as systematically killing trees. MoCo likes to portray itself as a liberal, eco-friendly county, but from my perspective, we are falling far, far short in the protection of trees (and meadows) department. It makes me very sad and contributes to my worry for the future, as we all know how helpful trees are in the battle against climate change. With that in mind, I ask that the following actions be taken by Montgomery County:

- 1) Protect existing Forest Ecosystems.
- 2) Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements.
- 3) Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss. (and do not let 100 tiny trees crammed in a one acre lot equate to removal of 100 mature trees on 100 acres -- that's not how ecosystems work)
- 4) Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
- 5) Increase watershed replanting.
- 6) Require a forest stand delineation before any application is submitted for development.

KAROLINE ANDERS  
AMAKMARMA@VERIZON.NET  
12112 Greenridge Drive  
Boys, Maryland 20841

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**From:** Catherine Brown  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 3:48:44 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

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Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

In our increasingly mechanized lives we need to fight to preserve greenery and green spaces for our health and the health of all our planet's inhabitants.

Very Sincerely,  
Catherine Brown

Catherine Brown  
clbbrown@comcast.net  
442 Russell Ave.  
Gaithersburg , Maryland 20877

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**From:** Lisa Smith  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Legislation to modify the current Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 4:45:29 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

As a very concerned citizen, I strongly encourage the Montgomery County Planning Board to modify the Forest Conservation Law to minimize the damage human civilization continues to inflict against the protection of ecosystems

Warmly,  
Lisa

Lisa Smith  
smithcomanche@live.com  
4835 Cordell Avenue. apartment 1303  
bethesda, Maryland 20814

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**From:** Caryl McNeilly  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Please Protect Forests & Water Quality  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 5:10:46 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

I urge Montgomery County to do more to protect forest ecosystems. This is vital to preserve water quality and mitigate the adverse impact of climate change, especially warming:

Please protect Existing forest ecosystems:

Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements,

Increase watershed replanting, and

Require a forest stand delineation before any application is submitted for development.

Please strengthen Replanting requirements for development:

Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss (to compensate for some mortality of new trees, and replace the lost tree CANOPY not just the number of trees), and

Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.

Thank you for your attention,

Caryl McNeilly, Rockville

Caryl McNeilly

[mcneilly@alumni.princeton.edu](mailto:mcneilly@alumni.princeton.edu)

5705 Stillwell Rd

Rockville, Maryland 20851-1933

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**From:** Caroline Taylor  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Strongest Forest Conservation Law Matters  
**Date:** Friday, April 15, 2022 9:31:56 AM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

I am writing on behalf of Montgomery Countryside Alliance board and membership to ask the our council advance the strongest amendments to our forest conservation law. Professional environmental staff from conservation organizations including but not limited to Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Audubon naturalist society, Rock Creek Conservancy, have been working for several years on developing improvements to the existing law. We are generally supportive of the planning commission's aim in this regard but their current package of proposed amendments falls short in important ways and should be improved If we are to provide truly meaningful protection to our forests.

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

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Caroline Taylor  
caroline@mocoalliance.org  
15711 Hughes Road  
Poolesville, Maryland 20837

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**From:** Robert Ausura  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Protect our County's Remaining Forests  
**Date:** Sunday, April 17, 2022 11:47:32 AM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

I have lived in Gaithersburg since 1972. I do not oppose reasonable and balanced development--you can't live in Gaithersburg if growth and change offend you. However, the development of The Parklands and parts of the Crown community in the past decade have greatly disturbed me. The wholesale clearing of old forest, particularly for The Parklands, has left Gaithersburg with far too little unimproved land to serve as habitat for wildlife and a respite for residents. Once gone, such resources can never be replaced, and it is vital to the health and balance of our communities to preserve what is left.

Please act to conserve the woodlands that first attracted me to Gaithersburg and that will serve our children and grandchildren well.

Robert Ausura  
robert@robertwriting.com  
110 Twelve Oaks Dr  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878-1172

<<https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/o/sKxQ9Tusut-gXiwfMaIEaQ/3la/EeQ8rIn8S-KB7aEnYIJ9KQ/ho.gif>>

**From:** [Joyce Bailey](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** modifications to the existing Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Monday, April 11, 2022 10:30:31 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Dear members,

With the passage of the Climate Solutions Now Act, it is clear that our state and our county are beginning to taketh threat of climate change seriously. As we move forward on these goals, it is essential that we protect our existing forests and close all loop holes so that our precious forests, which sequester carbon, provide habitat for wildlife, help prevent runoff from storms, hold fertile soil in place and provide inspiration and recreational opportunities for humans remain in tact. But we need to go further and reforest more land with variety of native trees suitable to the location. Please take strong action to protect our precious forests.

Joyce Bailey

Joyce Bailey  
Baileyjn52@comcast.net  
21730 Beallsville Rd  
Barnesville, Maryland 20838

**From:** [Donna McDowell](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** MoCo Needs a Stronger Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:15:27 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson,

In the past decade, Montgomery County lost more than 1000 acres of forest. While I welcome updates to the forest conservation law to address this problem, the law needs to be far stronger to result in "no net loss" of forest. I support amendments suggested by the MoCo Forest Coalition, including:

1. Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
2. Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
4. Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.
5. Strengthen watershed considerations so that re-plantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Protecting and adding forests to our County is a win for public health, environmental protection and water quality. Montgomery County should lead on this issue and a strong forest conservation law is the first step.

Years ago, a neighbor removed most of the trees from his property as he developed the lot. This should have never been allowed yet Planning looked the other way. Now there are terrible erosion problems as run-off from his property flows into local streams. Planning needs to make development approval contingent on tree protection.

Please strengthen this bill!

Donna McDowell  
donnaasmcd68@gmail.com

24308 Hipsley Mill Road  
Gaithersburg , Maryland 20882

**From:** [THOMAS O'BRIEN](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Montgomery County Forest Conservation  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 8:29:45 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

To the Planning Board:

We need a stronger Forest Conservation Law in Montgomery County. I am writing to urge you to strengthen the current law by taking these steps:

1. **Protect existing Forest Ecosystems.** All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
2. **Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements** so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. **Strengthen replanting ratios** to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
4. Strengthen replanting requirements to **require the planting of *Forest Ecosystem*, not just trees.**
5. **Increase watershed considerations** so that replantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. **Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.**

We must do more to protect our forests.

Sincerely,  
Thomas R. O'Brien, MD  
6 Warde Ct  
Potomac, MD 20854

**From:** [JAMES ZWIEBEL](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Montgomery County Forest Conservation  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 8:41:22 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Between 2010 and 2017, the county lost more than 1,000 acres of forest—the 4th highest amount of forest cleared among all counties in Maryland. We must do more to protect this important resource. I therefore urge you to do the following:

1. **Protect existing Forest Ecosystems.** All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.
2. **Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements** so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.
3. **Strengthen replanting ratios** to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.
4. Strengthen replanting requirements to **require the planting of *Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.***
5. **Increase watershed considerations** so that replantings improve the water quality of the county.
6. **Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.**

Sincerely,  
James Zwiebel, MD  
Bethesda, MD

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Diane Cameron](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Save Montgomery County's Forests!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 11:33:59 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

Dear Chair Anderson and Commissioners,

A large and growing body of science shows that forests are important to human health. Not only the large forests that we must protect in Little Bennett Regional Park and other large forests, but also the small woods in our local parks are essential nearby nature.

And, I'm sure you are aware of the role of forests in sequestering carbon and providing climate resilience.

That's why I support the recommendations of the Montgomery County Forest Coalition for strengthening our forest protection laws and regulations.

I ask that you adopt all six of the main recommendations:

Protect existing Forest Ecosystems. All remaining pre-existing Forests in Montgomery County are to be designated & treated as priority forest in FCL. First priority is to protect existing forest ecosystems.

Tighten requirements around forest conservation easements so that they may not be so easily extinguished or relocated.

Strengthen replanting ratios to ensure no-net-loss of forests after development.

Strengthen Re-planting requirements to require the planting of Forest Ecosystem, not just trees.

Increase watershed considerations so that replantings improve the water quality of the county.

Forest stand delineation must be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.

Thanks for considering my request.

Diane M. Cameron

Diane Cameron  
dianecameron60@gmail.com  
3102 Edgewood Rd  
Kensington, Maryland 20895

**From:** [Susan Eisendrath](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Protect Our Forests  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 11:42:32 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Montgomery County Planning Board,

My name is Susan Eisendrath and I am a resident in Montgomery County and I live in Rockville, MD.

I urge you to recommend the strongest possible protections of our forests through updating the Forest Conservation Law based on recommendations from the Montgomery County Forest Coalition.

Protecting forests is a proven, affordable, and common-sense solution to protect public health, defend the safety of the water we drink, protect clean air, combat climate change, and provide open space our communities can turn to for physical and mental well-being.

I ask the Planning Board to recommend legislation to the County Council that:

1. Protects existing forest ecosystems. This should be the #1 priority.
2. Requires Forest stand delineation to be evaluated & submitted to Planning prior to submitting any application plan for development of a site.
3. Strengthens replanting ratios to 2:1 in all scenarios.
4. Strengthens replanting requirements to require the planting of forest ecosystem, not just trees. When forest ecosystem is what's being removed, community members need assurances that whole forest ecosystem is also what will be replanted.
5. Strengthens watershed considerations so that forest ecosystem replanting improves the water quality of our communities in specific watersheds, and to incentivize replanting within Montgomery County, not outside of our county.
6. Tightens requirements around forest conservation easements as a prevention so they cannot be easily extinguished or relocated.

Thank you and I trust you will do the right thing and adopt these stronger measures to protect our forests now and for future generations.

Sincerely,  
Susan Eisendrath

Susan Eisendrath  
[susan.eisendrath@gmail.com](mailto:susan.eisendrath@gmail.com)  
9 Manorvale Court



Rockville, Maryland 20853

**From:** [Robert Goo](#)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#); [Anderson, Casey](#); [Verma, Partap](#); [Patterson, Tina](#); [Rubin, Carol](#); [Cichy, Gerald](#)  
**Subject:** Please Update the Forest Conservation Law  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 12:11:09 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

April 21, 2022

Dear Planning Board Members,

My name is Robert L. Goo

I am a resident in Montgomery County, live in Takoma Park, MD and have resided and paid taxes in the county since 1994.

I urge you to recommend that the Forest Conservation Law be updated based on recommendations from the Montgomery County Forest Coalition.

In both my professional work and my personal volunteer efforts I have been promoting the benefits of trees and urban forests as important ecological elements of the landscape. Trees provide stormwater management benefits, reduce hazards, support biodiversity, promote higher property values and community investments and many other co-benefits. I have worked on revisions to the City of Takoma Park tree ordinance and have also worked with Friends of Native Trees in Takoma (FONTT) to promote tree plantings that enhance insect biodiversity. I also participate in the Friends of Sligo Creek Watershed efforts to protect and restore the creek.

Trees are an important part of providing just and equitable landscapes that provide benefits for all of the county's citizens. Research has shown that loss of green space and inequitable access to nature may have deleterious impacts on citizen's health and well being.

I think it is critical to protect the county's remaining forests and increase overall tree canopy and diversity to stave off the coming negative impact of climate change. Trees provide urban heat island relief, air pollution benefits and places to rejuvenate one's spirit under.

I respectfully ask the Planning Board to recommend legislation to the County Council that:

1. Protects existing forest ecosystems.
2. Requires Forest stand delineations to be evaluated & submitted to the Planning Department *prior* to submitting any application plan for development of a site.
3. Strengthens replanting ratios to 2:1 in all scenarios.
4. Strengthens replanting requirements to *require* restoration of the forest ecosystem which includes trees and understory plants. .
5. Factors in watershed protection related concerns when prioritizing forest restoration and tree replanting planning, funding and implementation.
6. That incentivizes tree replanting within Montgomery County, e.g., provides rebates, tax deductions or direct payments to plant trees and restore forest ecosystems.
7. Ensures that conservation easements are long-term legal mechanisms that ensure that the conservation lands are not easily developed or redesignated by the planning board, elected officials or county staff and that changes to county master plans regarding conservation easements are difficult to modify in cases that reduce areas under

conservation easements.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Goo

508 Takoma Park, MD 20912

**From:** [eljobarry@aim.com](mailto:eljobarry@aim.com)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Forest land  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 1:25:22 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

I strongly advise strengthening the present conservation laws in Montgomery County. I have lived in this county for most of my 77 years and it has saddened me to see the steady decrease of our forest and farm land. We need to have an intelligent, practical plan that incorporates the recommendations of the Sierra Club and other organizations. Climate change is real. We need to save and preserve as well as increase the trees that remain. Please make this a priority.

Sincerely,

ELaine Preston

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [gsylvie@aol.com](mailto:gsylvie@aol.com)  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Conserve our forests!  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 2:24:34 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Please follow the forest conservation guidelines and reduce the removal of our trees and bushes!

Sylvia Darrow

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)