



CREEK RELEAF

REFORESTING FREDERICK COUNTY

A cornerstone of the County Executive's efforts to reverse the trend of tree loss in Frederick County

Do you have areas on your property that are two acres or greater that you don't know what to do with? Are you tired of mowing it, or is it full of weeds? Would you like to get paid to have the land reforested with trees?

The Creek ReLeaf program may be able to help you, at no cost to you:

- Have the land cleared of invasive weeds
- Get trees planted on your property
- Have the trees maintained for five years
- Receive a payment in exchange for keeping the land in trees
- Continue to own the land

The area that is planted will have lasting protection by a **permanent conservation easement**. If accepted into the program you will **receive payment for the easement**, which will be based on 75% of fair market value of the land to be planted, up to \$9,000 per acre.

WHAT IS A CONSERVATION EASEMENT?

Conservation easements are legal agreements between a landowner and a local government or land trust that permanently limit certain uses of the land to protect the conservation values. The landowner still owns and uses the land under an easement as long as the use does not violate the terms of the easement. The easement is permanent, even if the landowner sells the property. Selective harvesting is allowed as part of a forestry management plan under certain conditions, that may provide long term revenue to you from having a healthy forest.

WHY IS REFORESTATION IMPORTANT?

Forested Lands:

- Prevent flooding and other impacts of “flashy” streams by helping stormwater to soak into the ground;
- Reduce sediment and nutrient input to streams that can degrade our water quality;
- Reduce temperature impacts on our County streams that are home to temperature sensitive species, and some of which support coldwater fisheries for trout.
- Provide shelter and food for wildlife;
- Improve our air quality by removing harmful pollutants and greenhouse gases.

I AM
INTERESTED!

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?

Prior to applying for the program, interested property owners can visit our website at <https://frederickcountymd.gov/7572/Creek-ReLeaf> to get detailed information about the program and the application process.

**Scan here using your phone
to visit our website.**



Frederick County Government, Office of the County Executive
Sustainability and Environmental Resources

SUSTAINABLEFREDERICKCOUNTY.ORG