

NOTICE

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Fulfilling Afforestation and Reforestation Requirements

Anne Arundel County provides applicants with various options to fulfill afforestation and reforestation requirements that result from application of the forest conservation ordinance. The purpose of this notice is to provide the general public, reviewing agencies and the development community with:

- 1) A list of afforestation and reforestation options in order of preference; and
- 2) Clarification that applicants must provide justification in writing that each of the afforestation and reforestation options cannot reasonably be accomplished in order to request the option of payment in lieu of afforestation and reforestation requirements.

Any questions regarding this notice should be forwarded to Lori Allen, Planning Administrator, at pzalle00@aacounty.org and 410-222-7458.

Steve Kaii-Ziegler,
AICP
[Signature]
Planning & Zoning
Officer



**M A R Y L A N D**

Office of Planning and Zoning

*Steve Kaii-Ziegler AICP, Planning and Zoning Officer***MEMORANDUM**

TO: MBIA, Review Agencies and the General Public

FROM: Steve Kaii-Ziegler AICP, Planning and Zoning Officer

SUBJECT: Fulfilling Afforestation and Reforestation Requirements

DATE: January 10, 2020

Anne Arundel County Code § 17-6-304 provides methods for applicants to fulfill forest conservation planting requirements. The purpose of this memo is to provide applicants with the list of planting methods in order of preference, and provide more specific guidance to applicants seeking to meet planting requirements using offsite easements or payment of fee in lieu. These methods are listed in order of preference below.

Onsite Options for Planting

- 1) Afforestation or reforestation using transplanted or nursery stock that is at least 1.5 inches in diameter measured at 4.5 feet above the ground;
- 2) Afforestation or reforestation using whip and seedling stock¹; or
- 3) Natural regeneration.

Offsite Options for Planting

- 1) Afforestation or reforestation using transplanted or nursery stock that is at least 1.5 inches in diameter measured at 4.5 feet above the ground;
- 2) Afforestation or reforestation using whip and seedling stock²;
- 3) Natural regeneration;
- 4) Purchase of afforested (newly planted) easement credits through County-approved forest mitigation banks; or
- 5) Transfer to the County of a fee simple or easement interest in an offsite, existing, developable forest that is not otherwise protected, with the credit not to exceed 50% of the area of forest cover protected.
- 6) The final option to fulfill afforestation or reforestation requirements is payment of fee in lieu of those requirements to the County Forest Conservation Fund. This option is only available if the Office of Planning and Zoning determines the requirements cannot reasonably be accomplished through other options, and an applicant demonstrates there are no forest mitigation bank credits available.

Therefore, in order to qualify for payment in lieu of afforestation or reforestation requirements, the applicant must provide the Office of Planning and Zoning justification, in writing, that each of the replanting methods listed above cannot reasonably be accomplished. The Office of Planning and Zoning will review the justification and determine if fee-in-lieu is the appropriate method to fulfill planting requirements

¹ Seedling stock is interpreted to be anything less than 1.5 inches in diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground.

² See footnote 1.