

Cecil County Forestry Board

P.O. Box 328,
406 S Main St. North East, MD 21901-9998
<http://www.cecilforestryboard.sailorsite.net/>

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 1st, 2026

6PM @ Black Hill Ranger Station

Attendees:

Gabrielle Oldham	Ron Anderson	John Bennett	Kathie Jarmon
Matt Spiroff	Emilio Concari	Mike Morgan	Dori Murphy
Tom Frederick	Katie Kranich		

Call to Order

Gabrielle brought the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

The March 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the Board by email on 3/18/26.

Treasurer's report

John provided the treasurer's report:

- No new Board expenses were incurred in the Month of March.
- The Board discussed the changes pending to the Forestry Board banking.
- General discussion regarding Board changes following 03/31/2026. It is understood by the Board that some final changes to county Forestry Board's finances may not occur until Fall of 2026.
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Maryland Big Tree Program

John Provided the Big Tree Program Report:

March Big Tree Report

CECIL – Dori and John remeasured 6 trees over three Tuesday afternoons. We could not remeasure one scheduled tree due to brush and invasives around the base. We also made a cold visit and obtained a signed permission from a new owner with multiple trees. Three trees at that location are deceased.

Sycamore – county champion

Black walnut – county champion
Bitternut hickory
Osage orange – county co-champion
Chinese elm – county champion
White mulberry – county champion
European larch – county champion now deceased
Japanese black pine - county champion now deceased
Flowering dogwood - county co-champion now deceased

STATE – The Big Tree Centennial Contest – The awards ceremony was held in Annapolis at Tawes on Thursday, March 26 at 9:15-9:30 a.m. during the State Association meeting. All three nominators were present and received checks. Photographs were taken by the photographer from the Office of Communication.

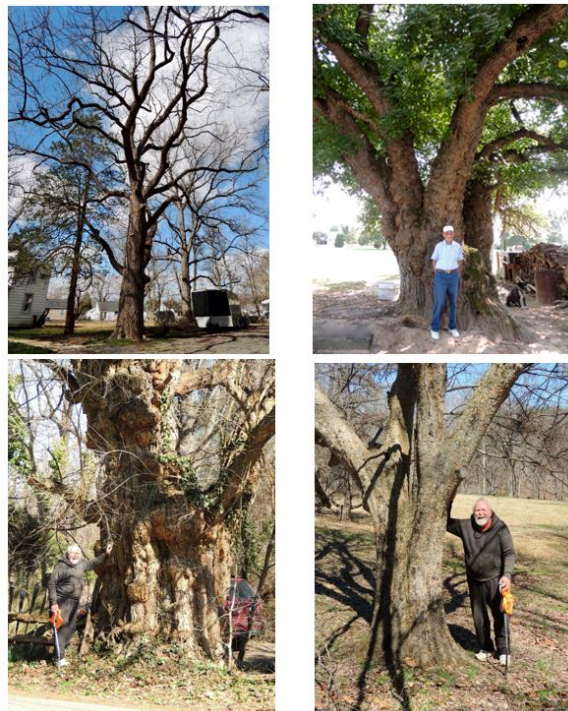


Figure 1. Trees referenced in the above Big Tree report.

Natural Resources Career Camp (NRCC)

Gabrielle provided the report:

- Gabrielle attended an outreach event at Wye Mills with Emma from the Maryland Forestry Foundation. Together, they spoke with youth who may be interested in NRCC.

Website

Ron provided the report:

3/10/2026 – added picture of BT-4632 (Pawpaw) to Cecil County Champion Trees page

3/10/2026 – added picture of BT-4621 to slideshow

3/10/2026 – copied slideshow to thumb drive for Cabin Fever event

3/18/2026 – replaced county champ Sycamore with new champion BT-1332

3/18/2026 – updated measurements for Black Walnut BT-1333 – now new Cecil County champion

3/18/2026 – updated map of publicly accessible BT's with Black Walnut BT-3340 as no longer county co-champion

3/28/2026 – removed trees which have died – BT-1799 (Eur. Larch) and BT-1800 (Jap. Black Maple) from
Champion Tree page and slideshow

3/28/2026 – replaced champion sycamore tree (BT-1334) with newly-measured BT-1332

3/28/2026 – replaced champion Osage Orange (BT-1669) with newly-measured BT-1322

3/28/2026 – installed Black Walnut BT-1333 as county champion (BT-3340 and BT-4545 were co-champs)

3/29/2026 – updated measurements for BT-2810 Chinese/Lacebark Elm

3/30/2026 – added April 2026 agenda

Figure 2. 04/01/2026 website report.

Old Business

- Gabrielle, Dori, John and Matt attended the statewide forestry board meeting in Annapolis, MD on 3/26/2026.
- Gabrielle, Kathie, John and Emilio represented the Board at the Moore's Chapel Cabin Fever family fun event on 3/21/2026.
- The planned April 4th NRCC retirement celebration, tree planting, and NRCC / Forestry Board plaque dedication event was postponed to October 3rd, 2026, due to a logistical issue. John has since followed up with registered attendees.

New Business

- The Board reviewed 1 Critical Area Timber Harvest Plan in the area of Grove Neck Road Earleville, MD. The Board decided that revision of the plan was needed to address several items. Matt is going to notify the consultant forester to revise the plan and re-submit for a future Board meeting.
- Although the Board decided to discuss and decide on the placement of the stone for the plaque at the April meeting of the Board, it was not discussed. Matt will follow up with Mike to discuss placing the stone.
- The Board discussed the statewide meeting at DNR headquarters on 3/26/26.

- The Board decided to use P.O. Box 328, 406 S MAIN ST NORTH EAST, MD 21901-9998 as the Board mailing and banking address going forward.
- The Board has previously decided that John Bennett and Dori Murphy will serve as the two names associated with the Board's bank account when the change over occurs. They may be nominally referred to as "check signers" in future Board business.
- The Board discussed which name they should use going forward. John made a motion to use "Cecil County Forestry Board" as the Board's name going forward. Kathie seconded the motion, and all other members voted in favor of the motion.
- With the Board having decided their chapter name, address, and check signers, the Board will process the chapter agreement and submit it to the Maryland Forestry Foundation.
- John has requested that a pitch pine located on the Black Hill tract of the Elk Neck State Forest be measured for registering with the Maryland Big Tree Program.
- The Board discussed sending Maryland Big Tree calendars to our partners and friends of the Board.
- The Board has requested smokey handout items for the St. Mary Anne's Booth. Matt will place the request with the DNR's firewise staff.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.

The next meeting date is Wednesday April 29th at 5:00pm. The Board will prep and bag seedlings for St. Mary Anne's Garden Market prior to the start of the regular Board business meeting.