

# Cecil Forest Conservancy District Board

130 McKinneytown Road

North East, MD 21901

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<http://www.cecilforestryboard.sailorsite.net/>



## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

6PM @ Black Hill Ranger Station

### Attendees:

Gabrielle Oldham      Ron Anderson      John Bennett      Kathie Jarmon

Katie Kranich      Matt Spiroff      Emilio Concari      Mike Morgan

Tom Frederick

### Call to Order

Gabrielle brought the meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

The January 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the Board by email on 1/28/26.

### Treasurer's report

John provided the treasurer's report:

- No new Board expenses were incurred in January 2026.
- General discussion regarding Board changes in March 2026. It is understood by the Board that changes to county Forestry Board's finances may not occur until Fall of 2026.
- John made a motion to approve a check for the Board's registration fees at the 2026 St. Mary Anne's Garden Market. Ron seconded the motion, and all other Board members voted in favor of the motion. A check was written for \$100 to St. Mary Anne's.

### Maryland Big Tree Program

John Provided the Big Tree Program Report:

### **January Big Tree Report**

**CECIL** – John and Ron have been contacting Big Tree owners for permission to re-measure trees. All owners have been either called, emailed or sent a letter. As of this report, we have positive responses

from 7 owners representing 15 trees. We have agreed to move two trees to “Inactive” status. 7 owners representing 24 trees have not responded. One owner representing 2 trees is not ready to agree to re-measure.

**STATE – The Big Tree Centennial Contest** – I received 3 nominations. All are multi-trunk yellow-poplars. All trees have been measured and qualified. 1<sup>st</sup> place has a circumference of 17’ 8”, located at Cedarville State Forest. 2<sup>nd</sup> place has a circumference of 17’ 1” and is located at Elk Neck State Forest. 3<sup>rd</sup> place has a circumference of 15 ‘4” and is located at Stoney Demonstration Forest. Sara Kramer has proposed an awards ceremony sometime during the week of March 23-27, somewhere in the Annapolis area.

I understand the Maryland 250 calendars from the Maryland Forest Service are available upon request.

Some changes to the permission policy have been approved by Anne. The changes apply to remeasurements only. It is permissible and best practice to obtain an email from the owner giving permission. It is permissible to accept a phone call giving permission. It is permissible to make a “cold” visit and have the owner agree to the remeasurement. In the case of a telephone conversation, a phone log must be created and stored with the written permissions.

**15 new trees** were measured in January:

**Baltimore – 3**

**Calvert - 1**

**Cecil – 2**

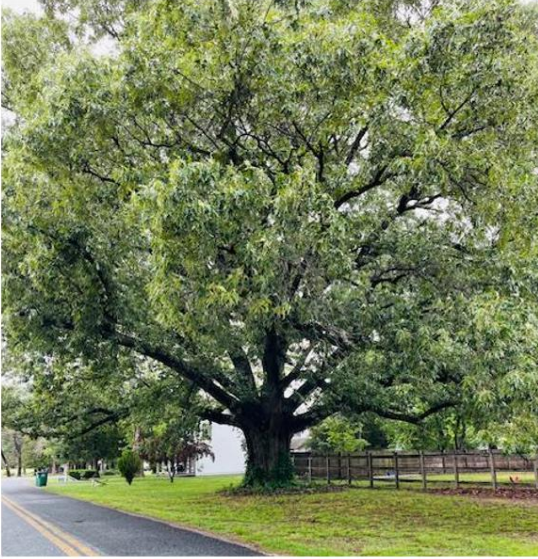
**Charles – 2**

**Harford – 3**

**Montgomery – 2**

**Prince George’s – 1**

**Queen Anne’s – 1**



**Queen Anne's Southern Red Oak**

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



**Cedarville State Forest Yellow-poplar**



**Elk Neck State Forest Yellow-poplar**



**Stoney Demonstration Forest Yellow-poplar**

*Figure 2. Additional trees that are referenced in the above Big Tree report.*

### **Natural Resources Career Camp (NRCC)**

Gabrielle provided the report:

- Gabrielle will be attending the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) conference along with Deputy Director Bud Reeves on behalf of NRCC.
- There is 1 NRCC applicant for Cecil County so far. The Board will interview them at the March meeting of the Board.

### **Website**

Ron provided the report:

- The January Meeting Minutes and the February meeting agenda were added to the website.
- Ongoing efforts by Ron to check and update Cecil County listed Big Tree records.

### **Old Business**

- Matt was able to submit the Arbor Day poster contest flyer to Cecil County public schools through Peachjar. Gabrielle was able to distribute the flyer to a number of private schools in Cecil. The flyer was also emailed to the North East Branch of Cecil County Libraries.

### **New Business**

- The Board will be attending the Moore's Chapel Cabin Fever family fun event. The event will be on March 21, 2026 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Moore's Chapel 392 Blake Road, Elkton MD. Tentatively Gabrielle and Kathie will be representing the Board at the event.

**The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 PM.**

**The next meeting date is Wednesday March 4th at 6:00pm.**