

Maryland Big Tree Program – 2024 Report

SUMMARY

In 2024, the MBTP volunteers measured, re-measured, or deleted 323 trees. There were 207 trees newly measured, 86 trees were re-measured, and 30 deceased. We have moved **42** trees to the “Inactive” file. There are currently **2928** active trees (measured in the last 10 years) on the Maryland database, **771** deceased trees & **777** inactive trees (trees not re-measured in the last 10 years for various reasons). We were not able to re-measure **42** trees and they will be carried over to 2025.

The MBTP had an opening fund balance of \$1,120.30, had income of \$2,250.00 and spent \$2,182.19, ending with \$1,188.11. The Maryland Forestry Foundation paid for all website-related expenses which totaled \$305.95. We are grateful to the Foundation for its continued support. We also thank the Anne Arundel Forestry Board for their 2022 \$1000 contribution.

The web site, www.mdbigtrees.org, continues to be the major source of new referrals. The Baltimore County Forestry Board has produced several tri-fold pamphlets that have been distributed in public parks in Baltimore. Joli McCathran and Geary Schwemmer took 3 camping trips—2 to the lower Eastern Shore and one to southern Maryland so they could spend multiple days re-measuring trees in those two areas for which we have no active volunteers. Counties. Marc Lipnick and Linda Barker traveled to Queen Anne’s County (2 trips) to measure trees at Wye Island NRMA, and 4 trips to the C & O Canal in the Frederick portion of the towpath to measure new trees. They have found three new State champion trees.

From 2010 to 2017, the MBTP was managed by the Cecil County Forestry Board. Beginning in 2017 a new State-wide Committee was formed from members of the Association of Forestry Boards. Currently there are 10 members on the Committee. We have learned that **American Forests** will no longer manage the national big tree program. It will be managed by the University of Tennessee starting in 2025.

DECEASED STATE CHAMPIONS - 1

BT-3227 Sugarberry	Frederick	231 points – Frederick City Park
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NEW STATE CHAMPIONS or CO-CHAMPIONS - 12

BT-4561 Cherrybark Oak	Queen Anne’s	406 points – Wye Island NRMA
**BT-4578 Willow Oak	Charles	398 points – Indian Head Naval Base
BT-4599 Green Ash	Frederick	349 points – private property
BT-4659 Swamp White Oak	Frederick	339 points – C & O Canal National Historical Park
BT-4472 Honeylocust	Montgomery	304 points – private property
BT-4544 London Planetree	Cecil	302 points – Mt. Harmon Mansion
BT-4479 Pignut Hickory	Baltimore	291 points – Irvine Nature Center
BT-4457 Loblolly Pine	Worcester	277 points – private property
*BT-4471 Shingle Oak	Montgomery	273 points – Patuxent River State Park
BT-4623 Red Pine	Garrett	183 points – private property
BT-4651 Downy Serviceberry	Garrett	136 points – private property
*BT-4646 Spicebush	Frederick	50 points – C & O Canal National Historical Park

*State co-champion

*State tri-champion

STAFF SUPPORT - Our DNR Forest Service staff support person currently is **RYAN MAYENSCHN**.

MEDIA PRESENCE – There were 4 media accounts regarding Maryland Big Trees in 2024:

[Natural History Society of Maryland](https://www.marylandnature.org)

<https://www.marylandnature.org> › get-involved › events › event › big-tre...

[Big Tree Tour in Harford & Cecil Counties](#)

[Bay Journal](#)

<https://www.bayjournal.com> › travel › big-trees-important-trees-a-chesa...

[Big trees, important trees: a Chesapeake sampler](#)

[Natural History Society of Maryland](https://www.marylandnature.org)

[https://www.marylandnature.org › get-involved › events › event › big-tre...](https://www.marylandnature.org)

[Big Trees of Carroll County Driving Tour](#)



[AllTrails](#)

[https://www.alltrails.com › trail › us › maryland › lake-roland-big-tree-loop](https://www.alltrails.com)

[Lake Roland Big Tree Loop, Maryland - 211 Reviews, Map - AllTrails](#)

COMMITTEE

As of December 31, 2024, the Committee includes the following members:

John Bennett, Chair

- Dawn Balinski
- Jim Bardsley
- Linda Barker
- Ryan Mayenschein – Staff support
- Doug Inkley

Joli McCathran, Vice-Chair

- Kathie Jarmon
- Dori Murphy
- Jim Sherring
- Geary Schwemmer
- Don VanHassent