MCPB Item No.

Date: 02-19-15

Poplar Hill (a.k.a. Harlow Subdivision) Lot 45: Preliminary Plan Amendment No. 12003010A (In Response to a Forest Conservation Law Violation



Stephen Peck, Senior Planner, DARC, Stephen.Peck@montgomeryplanning.org, 301-495-4564



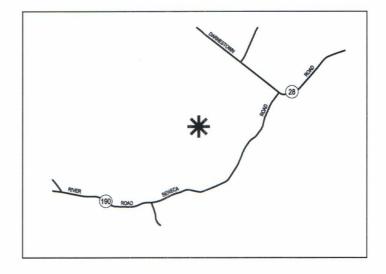
Mark Pfefferle, Chief, DARC, Mark.Pfefferle@montgomeryplanning.org, 301-495-4730

Completed: 02/06/15

#### Description

Limited Amendment, Preliminary Plan No. 12003010A, Poplar Hill (aka Harlow Subdivision) Lot 45 (in response to a forest conservation law violation)

- 14701 Poplar Hill Road
- RC Zone
- Within Potomac Subregion Master Plan
- Applicant: Shawn and Dianne McConnell
- Submitted on July 22, 2014



#### Summary

- Request to approve Preliminary Plan Amendment and Final Forest Conservation Plan for Poplar Hill (aka Harlow Subdivision) Lot 45 to:
  - Remove 7,700 square feet of Category I Conservation Easement from Lot 45 and mitigate onsite by adding 9,150 square feet of Category I Conservation Easement. Mitigation exceeds the area of conservation easement removed.
  - Restore natural slopes and replant native trees and shrubs within portions of retained and proposed Category I Conservation Easements.
  - Add 4,400 square feet of unprotected forested stream buffer to Category I Conservation
     Easement to comply with Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan No. 120030100.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION AND CONDITIONS

Staff recommends approval of the limited amendment to the Preliminary Plan subject to the following conditions. All other conditions of Preliminary Plan No. 120030100, as contained in the Montgomery County Planning Board's Opinion dated January 21, 2003, would remain in full force and effect except as modified below.

- Prior to submitting a Record Plat application, the Applicant must record a Category I Conservation
   Easement by deed in the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland for all retained and new
   easement areas on the Subject Property. The new Category I Conservation Easement must be
   approved by the M-NCPPC Office of the General Counsel before recordation. The existing Category I
   Conservation Easement remains in full force and effect until the new Category I Conservation
   Easement is recorded in the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
- 2. Within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the mailing date of this Resolution, the Applicant must submit a complete Record Plat application that delineates and references the new Category I Conservation Easement.
- 3. Within thirty (30) days of the mailing date of this Resolution, the Applicant must submit a cost estimate for the restoration planting, two-year maintenance and signage requirements of the Final Forest Conservation Plan for Staff review and approval.
- 4. Within ninety (90) days of the mailing date of this Resolution, the Applicant must submit financial security for the planting, maintenance and signage requirements of the Final Forest Conservation Plan in the amount and in a format approved by Staff.
- 5. Within ninety (90) days of the mailing of this Resolution, the Applicant enter into a Maintenance and Management Agreement in a form approved by the M-NCPPC Office of the General Counsel to ensure compliance with the conditions of the Final Forest Conservation Plan.
- 6. Within ninety (90) days of the mailing of this Resolution, the existing perimeter fencing on Harlow Subdivision Lot 49 (14705 Poplar Hill Road) is to be relocated pursuant to this Amendment. The Applicant is responsible for securing access permission from Harlow Subdivision Lot 49 Property Owner.
- 7. Within nine (9) months of the mailing date of this Resolution, the Applicant must install permanent conservation easement markers at the perimeter of the new Category I Conservation Easement as shown on the Final Forest Conservation Plan.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

The Poplar Hill subdivision is also known as the Harlow Subdivision. The subject property, Harlow Subdivision Lot 45, is 8.2 acres and is located at 14701 Poplar Hill Road in Germantown. The property is 1.3 miles west of Route 28. The house and the pool were built in the 1970s and pre-existed the 2003 subdivision. There is a metal chain-link fence on the property and on portions of the adjacent property. M-NCCPC Staff approved a fence in conservation easement permit in November 2003 for portions of this fencing. Figure 1 below shows the improvements and the existing forested Category I Conservation Easements on the property.

Figure 1: Poplar Hill / Harlow Subdivision: March 2013 Aerial Photo



#### **BACKGROUND**

The Montgomery County Planning Board approved Preliminary Plan No. 120030100 "Poplar Hill" by Opinion mailed on January 21, 2003, for six lots on 30.90 acres of land in the RC Zone (Attachment 1). The subdivision took the land surrounding two existing homes and created six lots, all six fronting Poplar Hill Road.

The approved Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan protected 18 acres of existing forest with areas of forest retention and stream buffer as conservation areas (Attachment 2). At the time of Record Plat, the plan name "Poplar Hill" was called "Harlow Subdivision". Record Plat # 22623, Record Plat # 22725 and Record Plat # 23241 delineate the conservation easements within the subdivision. Record Plat # 22623 shows Lot 45 and the Category I Conservation Easements on the property (Attachment 3). The Record Plat granted the Category I Conservation Easement on Lot 45 to M-NCPPC pursuant to the Agreement recorded in Liber 13178 Folio 412 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland (Attachment 4).

The current Property Owner acquired the property in 2005. In 2008, the Property Owner graded and created a terrace within the conservation easement behind the home. Portions of the terrace and created slope behind the home are failing. Sometime before January 2014, the Property Owner started construction of a looped, circle driveway within portions of the conservation easement.

#### **VIOLATION**

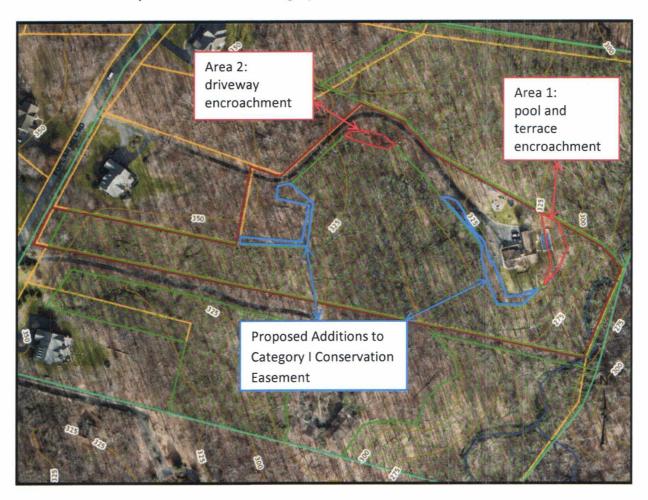
On January 30, 2014, during routine inspections, the forest conservation inspector discovered two separate conservation easement violations at Harlow Subdivision Lot 45. One violation area is behind the home and next to the pool. There, the inspector discovered a grassy area of conservation easement where fill dirt had been dumped and spread over top of existing trees and plants within the conservation easement area. The second violation area is near a gate that blocks the driveway to the residence. The inspector discovered that a private driveway was being constructed within a portion of the conservation easement to create a driveway circle.

Building a private driveway, filling in and changing natural grade and mowing grass are activities that are prohibited within Category I Conservation Easements. Figure 2 shows the two areas of conservation easement encroachment. On February 5, 2014, the inspector issued Administrative Citation No. EPD 000207 and Administrative Citation No. EPD 000208 to the Property Owner for these conservation easement violations (Attachments 5 and 6). On March 25, 2014, the Property Owner met with Staff and discussed various means to achieve compliance with the Forest Conservation Law and the conservation easements including a limited preliminary plan amendment. On April 7, 2014, M-NCPPC issued a Corrective Action Order directing the Property Owner to resolve the conservation easement violations. The Corrective Action Order required the Property Owner to either restore the easement and comply with the terms of the easement or submit a preliminary plan amendment for forest conservation purposes. The Property Owner chose to amend the preliminary plan.

#### APPLICANTS PROPOSAL

On July 22, 2014, the Applicant submitted a Preliminary Plan Amendment for Lot 45 which proposes to resolve the conservation easement encroachments (Attachment 7). The Applicant proposes removing two areas of conservation easement encroachment (Figure 2). An area of conservation easement behind the home that is within and next to the pool and septic system is referred to as Area 1. An area of conservation easement in front of the locked gate where the driveway circle construction was stopped is referred to as Area 2. Onsite mitigation is proposed and includes slope restoration and understory planting within affected conservation easement areas and additions of unprotected forested area to the Category I Conservation Easement.

Figure 2: Map of Proposed Category I Conservation Easement Changes – Abandon Encroachments and Add Unprotected Forest to Category I Conservation Easement



#### Area 1: Pool And Terrace Encroachment

At the rear of the property, the Applicant proposes removal of 3,600 square feet of conservation easement, including 2,900 square feet in a stream buffer. The easement area to be removed includes a portion of the pool, pool enclosure and septic area that is within the Category I Conservation Easement (Figure 3). The approved Preliminary Plan, Plan No. 120030100, failed to show the location of the existing pool and incorrectly noted the location of the home. Both the pool and house pre-dated the subdivision plan. Portions of the pool and the septic area are within the Category I Conservation Easement. The Amendment proposes removal of conservation easement area that is also the pool enclosure, septic area and adjacent terrace area. The top of the existing slope is proposed as the edge of the retained Category I Conservation Easement. As mitigation for the 2,900 square feet of stream buffer conservation easement removal, the Applicant propose adding 4,350 square feet of conservation easement of easement, Removal of the 700 square feet of non-stream buffer conservation easement from Area 1 will be compensated with addition of 700 square feet of non-stream buffer forest

elsewhere on the property. A total of 5,050 square feet of conservation easement will be added for the removal of 3,600 square feet of conservation easement from Area 1 (See Figures 2, 8 and 9 for specific locations of additional new conservation easement area).

Ex. Pool Enclosure

Ex. Pool Enclosure

Ex. Pool Enclosure

Ex. House

Ex. House

Ex. House

Ex. House

Ex. fence to remain

Limit of Disturbance for slope remediation

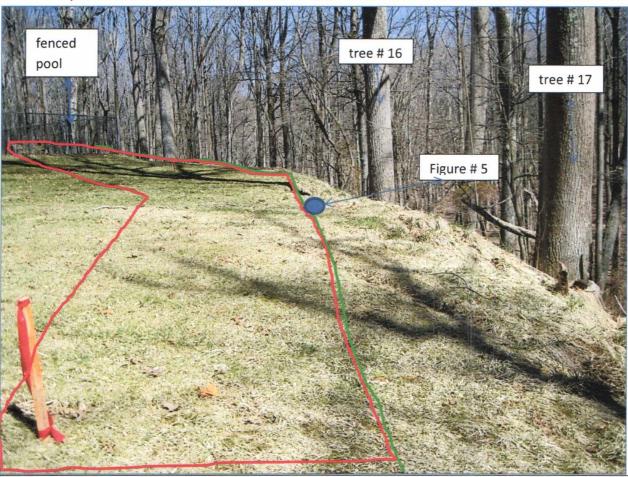
Figure 3: Area 1 - Proposed Conservation Easement Removal

Within Area 1, where fill dirt was dumped and spread, restoration is proposed. The Final Forest Conservation Plan, for Lot 45, proposes restoration of a natural grade, establishment of stable vegetated slopes and a replanting of native trees and shrubs. Permanent conservation easement markers are proposed along the conservation easement boundary.

Figures 4, 5 and 6 below show the steep slopes to be restored. Fill dirt is to be carefully removed from the tree trunks of specimen tulip poplar tree # 16 and # 17. The Amendment proposes establishment of stable slopes with a max slope of 2:1. A combination of wood chips and a fern, shrub and tree planting is proposed on the restored slopes. Two (2) years of maintenance and management will be provided for the restoration planting.

Figure 4: Area 1: Grassy Terrace in Conservation Easement behind pool and house –

Proposed conservation easement removal and restoration of retained conservation easement.



Red outline approximates a portion of proposed abandonment Green line approximates proposed new conservation easement boundary and edge of proposed slope restoration

Figure 5: Area 1 - Failing slope behind home at edge of retained Category I Conservation Easement



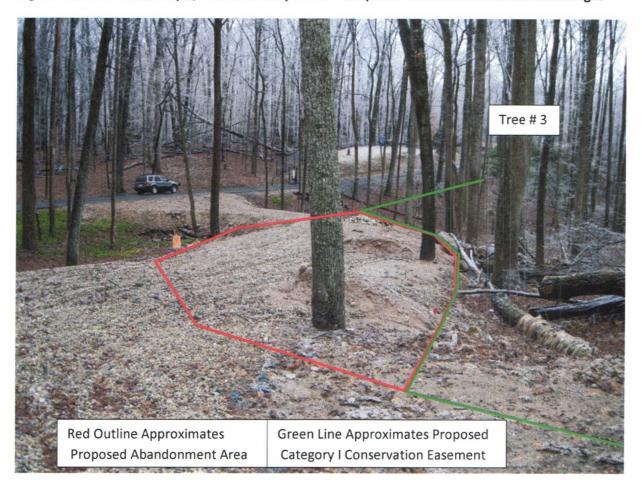
Figure 6: Area 1: Looking South at the Conservation Easement Stream Buffer Restoration Area



#### Area 2: Driveway Encroachment

At the front of the property, the Applicant proposes removal of approximately 4,100 square feet of conservation easement that is filled in with gravel and stone to create a looped driveway. This encroachment area is referred to as Area 2. Figure 7 approximates the proposed conservation easement removal. The Amendment notes that a loop driveway is necessary because a locked driveway gate beyond this point necessitates a delivery truck turnaround. The locked gate is approximately 970 feet from Poplar Hill Road.

Figure 7: Area 2 – February 5, 2014 Driveway Photo – Proposed Conservation Easement Changes



The Applicant proposes to mitigate the Area 2 conservation easement removal by permanently protecting 4,100 square feet of previously unprotected forest on the property (See Figure 2, 8 and 9 for locations of new additional conservation easement). This is a 1:1 replacement to removal ratio which is the Planning Board policy for onsite mitigation. In addition to this replacement for the easement removal, the Applicant will restore the existing conservation easement that was impacted by the construction by: 1) cutting, chipping and spreading wood chips; 2) removing all construction debris from the driveway slopes and conservation easement area; 3) installing permanent conservation easement

markers at the easement boundary; 4) planting 10 trees and 5 shrubs as mitigation for the conservation easement disturbance; and 5) providing a 2 year maintenance period for the newly planted trees and shrubs. The Applicant will be granted permission to remove two existing trees that have been buried by the driveway construction

#### PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO CATEGORY I CONSERVATION EASEMENT

A total of 7,700 square feet of conservation easement is proposed for removal. The Amendment proposes adding 9,150 square feet of existing unprotected forest as Category I Conservation Easement. Conservation easement removed that is not stream buffer is proposed for removal and replacement at the 1:1 mitigation rate. The 2,900 square feet of conservation easement removed from the stream buffer behind the home is proposed to be replaced at 1.5:1 mitigation rate where 1.5 square feet of unprotected forest is added for every 1 square feet of stream buffer conservation easement removed.

Figure 8 illustrates a proposed addition of 4,250 square feet of existing forest that is adjacent to a septic reserve area. The area is an existing hardwood forest with few non-native invasive plants. The area is a building restriction area for the septic reserve and as such is compatible with forest protection.

Conservation Easement signs (See Sheet 4 of 6 for detail) 29 required

Conservation Easement to be added (outside stream buffer): 4,250 sq.ft.

Catte Con

Figure 8: Next to Septic Reserve - Proposed addition of 4,250 square feet of Conservation Easement

Figure 9 shows two areas of addition to Category I Conservation Easement to account for the encroachment removals. These additions total 4,900 square feet of non-stream buffer forest addition to Category I Conservation Easement. These areas are adjacent to stream buffer.

Figure 9 also shows how the Applicant's proposal to add 4,400 square feet of unprotected stream buffer forest to Category I Conservation Easement to comply with previously approved Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan # 120030100. The approved Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan shows this 4,400 square foot area as within the stream buffer and forest conservation area. Record Plat # 22623 failed to record these areas as Category I Conservation Easement. Approval of Preliminary Plan No. 120030100 required Category I Conservation Easement over these areas.

Conservation Easement to be added (outside stream buffer) 1,200 sq.ft. Bamboo Ex. Pool Enclosure stand Easement to be added not previously in easement, but within stream buffer: 4,400 sq.ft. Ex. House Limit of Disturbance for slope remediation Stream Buffer Limit-Conservation Easement to be added (outside stream buffer): 3,700 sq.ft.

Figure 9: Proposed Additions to Conservation Easement - Within and Next to Stream Buffer

#### **FENCING AND SIGNAGE**

The Amendment proposes relocating a section of chain-link fencing that was installed on Harlow Subdivision Lot 49, 14705 Poplar Hill Road. A section of this fencing will be relocated from the conservation easement on Lot 49 to locations shown on the Final Forest Conservation Plan. Within the

conservation easement on Lot 45, fencing is only approved in the locations shown on the November 17, 2003 M-NCPPC Staff approval of fence in conservation easement request (Attachment 8).

The Proposal also includes the installation of twenty nine (29) permanent conservation easement markers along the proposed Category I Conservation Easement boundary.

#### FOREST CONSERVATION VARIANCE REPORT

Section 22A-12(b) (3) of the Montgomery County Forest Conservation Law provides criteria that identify individual trees and plants as high priority for retention and protection. Trees that measure 30 DBH (diameter at 4.5 feet above ground) inches or greater; are part of a historic site or designated with a historic structure; are designated as a national, State or County champion tree: are at least 75 percent of the diameter of the current State champion tree of that species or are plants that are designated as Federal or State rare, threatened or endangered are priority for retention and protection ("Protected Plant", "Protected Tree"). Any impact to a Protected Plant including removal or disturbance to a plant's critical root zone requires a variance. The Applicant has submitted a Statement of Justification for Variance impact to the root zones of six trees with DBH's equal or exceeding 30 inches (Attachment 9). Pursuant to Section 22A-12(b)(3) the written request for variance must demonstrate that disturbance to a Protected Plant would not result in an unwarranted hardship as part of the development of a property.

#### **Unwarranted Hardship**

Without a variance, the Applicant would be unable to take steps to correct a Forest Conservation Law violation and improve the health of Tree # 3, #15, #16, #17, # 26 and # 28. The respective trees have adapted to the initial shock from the disturbance within their root zones. However, the surrounding soil and root environment is not stable; the proposed impact would be to create stable slopes, to improve aeration within the root zones and to encourage fine root development. Failure to implement the proposed restoration could shorten the life of tree # 3, # 15 and # 16 and reduce the benefits these trees provide to the forest and stream buffer. Fungal decay in the roots and stem of tree # 15 and # 16 would be hastened with failure to enable the Applicant to restore stable slopes.

#### **Variance Findings**

The Planning Board must make findings that an Applicant has met all requirements of Section 22A-21 of the Montgomery County Forest Conservation Law before granting a variance. Staff has made the following determination on the required findings for granting of a variance:

1. Will not confer on the applicant a special privilege that would be denied other applicants:

The property is a residential property with an existing home, pool and driveway. The Applicant has owned the property since July 2005, the house and pool were built in the 1970s. Maintenance of existing structures in a safe condition is not unique to this Applicant and does not provide special privileges that would be denied to other applicants. The Variance Request is for impact to mitigate root damage that has already been done to Protected Trees.

2. Is not based on conditions or circumstances which are the result of the actions by the Applicant:

The Variance is required to remediate the past placement of fill dirt within the CRZs (critical root zones) of the Protected Trees and is a necessary condition of this Amendment and the associated Forest Conservation Plan. The work to be performed under the Variance is recommended by Staff to bring the Subject Property into compliance with the Forest Conservation Law and is not based on conditions or circumstances that are the result of the Applicant's actions.

3. Is not based on a condition relating to land or building use; either permitted or non-conforming, on a neighboring property:

The request of a variance is not related in any way to a condition on an adjacent, neighboring property.

4. Will not violate State water quality standards or cause measurable degradation in water quality:

The request of a variance will allow for establishment of stable vegetated slopes and improve the stream buffers filtration capacity.

#### **County Arborist Recommendation**

Pursuant to Section 22A-21 of the Montgomery County Forest Conservation Law, the County Arborist has reviewed the Applicant's Variance Request. The County Arborist's recommendations are attached (Attachment 10).

#### Mitigation and Variance Recommendation

The Amendment includes a restoration planting where the conservation easement was disturbed. The proposed Forest Conservation Plan includes planting 10 shrubs and 2 trees within or next to the root zones of tree # 15, # 16, # 17, # 26 and # 28 and 10 trees and 5 shrubs within or next to the root zone of tree # 3.

Staff recommends that the variance be granted with the proposed mitigation. The submitted Final Forest Conservation Plan meets all applicable requirements of the Montgomery County Forest Conservation Law.

#### PLANNING BOARD REVIEW AUTHORITY

The Planning Board approved Preliminary Plan 120030100 "Poplar Hill" and required the establishment of the conservation easements in the subdivision. The Planning Board has authority under Subdivision Regulations (Chapter 50 of the Montgomery County Code) to hear an amendment that proposes changes to the conservation easements.

In addition, the Planning Board has directed Staff to bring all requests for modifications to conservation easements before them to be considered in a public forum.

#### STAFF REVIEW

This Preliminary Plan Amendment is in response to violation of the Category I Conservation Easement. The M-NCPPC inspector issued two administrative citations to the Property Owner for encroachments into the Category I Conservation Easement. The Property Owner contested the citations but agreed to meet with Staff to discuss the case. In meeting with Staff, the Property Owner learned how the violations could be resolved. After this meeting, a Corrective Action Order was issued requiring immediate restoration of the conservation easements or submittal, review and presentation of a Preliminary Plan Amendment for conservation easement changes. The Property Owner decided to pursue a Preliminary Plan Amendment which was submitted on July 22, 2014. No additional fines or citations were issued for the mowing and driveway encroachments in the Category I Conservation Easement while this amendment was under review.

The Amendment proposes a path to resolve the conservation easement encroachments and improve the habitat and stability of retained conservation easements. To resolve the encroachment violations, 7,700 square feet of Category I Conservation Easement is to be removed and replaced onsite with 9,150 square feet of Category I Conservation Easement. The proposed mitigation rate is 1:1 for non-stream buffer replacement and non-stream buffer removal and 1.5:1 for non-stream buffer replacement and stream buffer removal.

#### NOTIFICATION and OUTREACH

The Subject Property was properly signed with notification of the upcoming Preliminary Plan Amendment prior to the acceptance of the application. All adjoining and confronting property owners, civic associations, and other registered interested parties were notified of the upcoming public hearing on the proposed amendment.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Board approve this Amendment with the conditions specified above.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Montgomery County Planning Board Opinion, Preliminary Plan No. 120030100 "Poplar Hill"
- Approved Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan # 120030100 "Poplar Hill"
- 3. Record Plat # 22623, Lot 45 Harlow Subdivision
- 4. Category I Conservation Easement Agreement LF13178.412
- 5. Copy of Administrative Citation No. EPD 00207
- 6. Copy of Administrative Citation No. EPD 00208
- 7. Limited Preliminary Plan Amendment and Final Forest Conservation Plan for Lot 45
- 8. Fence in Conservation Easement Permit Approval 11/17/2003
- 9. Statement of Shawn P. McConnell for a Variance December 2014
- 10. County Arborist Variance Recommendation Letter



Date Mailed: January 21, 2003

Action: Approved Staff Recommendation

Motion of Comm. Robinson, seconded by

Comm. Bryant with a vote of 4-1;

Comms. Bryant, Perdue, Robinson and Wellington voting in favor

Comms. Berlage opposed

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

#### **OPINION**

Preliminary Plan 1-03010

NAME OF PLAN: POPLAR HILL

On 09/10/02, MR. CHUN LAU, MR. AND MRS. FRED SCHUYLER, MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH LAFLEUR submitted an application for the approval of a preliminary plan of subdivision of property in the RC zone. The application proposed to create 6 lots on 30.90 acres of land. The application was designated Preliminary Plan 1-03010. On 12/12/02, Preliminary Plan 1-03010 was brought before the Montgomery County Planning Board for a public hearing. At the public hearing, the Montgomery County Planning Board heard testimony and received evidence submitted in the record on the application. Based upon the testimony and evidence presented by staff and on the information on the Preliminary Subdivision Plan Application Form, attached hereto and made a part hereof, the Montgomery County Planning Board finds Preliminary Plan 1-03010 to be in accordance with the purposes and requirements of the Subdivision Regulations (Chapter 50, Montgomery County Code, as amended) and approves Preliminary Plan 1-03010.

Approval, Pursuant to Section 50-29 (b)(2) of the Montgomery County Subdivision Regulations and Subject to the Following Conditions:

- (1) Compliance with the conditions of approval for the preliminary forest conservation plan. The applicant must satisfy all conditions prior to recording of plat(s) or MCDPS issuance of sediment and erosion control permits
- (2) Record plat to show delineation of a Category I conservation easement over the area of stream valley buffer, forest conservation areas and open space as shown on the approved preliminary plan and forest conservation plan
- Record plat to reflect common ingress/egress easements over all shared driveways
- (4) Record plat to contain a note detailing the uses and benefits of the open space for the lots within the subdivision
- (5) Compliance with the conditions of MCDPS stormwater management approval
- (6) Compliance with conditions of MCDPS (Health Dept.) septic approval
- Access and improvements as required to be approved by MCDPWT prior to recordation of plat(s)

- (8) This preliminary plan will remain valid for thirty-seven (37) months from the date of mailing of the Planning Board opinion. Prior to this date, a final record plat must be recorded for all property delineated on the approved preliminary plan, or a request for an extension must be filed
- (9) The Adequate Public Facility (APF) review for the preliminary plan will remain valid for sixty-one (61) months from the date of mailing of the Planning Board opinion
- (10) Other necessary easements

# MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

TO:	_Malcolm Shaneman
	Development Review Division
SUBJ	Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan # 1-03010  Preliminary/Site Plan Poplar Hill  Date Recd 9/10/02 NRI/FSD # 4-01183
V :	subject Forest Conservation Plan has been reviewed by the Environmental Planning sion to determine if it meets the requirements of Chapter 22A of the Montgomery County (Forest Conservation Law). The following determination has been made:
SUBM	ISSION ADEQUACY
<u>X</u>	Adequate as submitted
RECON	MENDATIONS
X	Approve subject to the following conditions:  X
X	Comments: 1) Forest conservation and 60% open space requirements being met with 18 acres of forest preservation. 2) The 18 acres to be plat recorded at Category I conservation easement.
SIGNAT	Carol Martin, Environmental Planning Division  Benning & Associates

FCPRinWord 4/13/00 rev

Revisions

1. AREA OF PROPERTY - 30.9 ACRES 2. EXISTING ZONING - RURAL CLUSTER (RC)

3. NUMBER OF LOTS PERMITTED - 6 4. NUMBER OF LOTS SHOWN - 6

5. METHOD OF DEVELOPMENT - CLUSTER

6. AREA DEDICATED TO PUBLIC STREET - 0.9 AC

7. NET TRACT AREA - 30.0 AC

6. OPEN SPACE REQUIRED FOR CLUSTER OPTION @ 60% - 18.0 AC

6. MINIMUM LOT SIZE PERMITTED: 40,000 SF

7. SITE TO BE SERVED BY INDIVIDUAL WELLS & ON-SITE SEPTIC SYSTEMS

8. EXISTING SEWER & WATER SERVICE CATEGORIES: S-6, W-6

9. LOCATED IN GREAT SENECA CREEK WATERSHED 10. MINIMUM SETBACK REQUIREMENTS (RC):

Frontyards - 50'

Sideyards - 35' TOTAL, 17' MINIMUM

M-NCPPC 200-SCALE SHEET 219NW15

Rearyards - 35' 11. SITE TO BE SERVED BY: Verizon, PEPCO, W. Gas (as available)

12. SOURCE OF BASE INFORMATION:

FOREST CONSERVATION WORKSHEET POPLAR HILL

NET TRACT AREA:

A. Total tract area. 0.00 B. Land dedication acres (parks, county facility, etc.) . 0.90 C. Land dedication for roads or utilities (not being constructed by this plan) .. 0.00 D. Area to remain in commercial agricultural production/use 0.00 E. Other deductions (specify) ...... 29.19 LAND USE CATEGORY: (from Trees Technical Manual)

Input the number "1" under the appropriate land use, limit to only one entry.

J. Area of forest above afforestation threshold .....=

0.00

 $0.20 \times F =$ G. Afforestation Threshold. 14.60  $0.50 \times F =$ H. Conservation Threshold. EXISTING FOREST COVER: 27.60 I. Existing forest cover ....

K. Area of forest above conservation threshold ......=

BREAK EVEN POINT: 17.20 L. Forest retention above threshold with no mitigation ....= 10.40 M. Clearing permitted without mitigation ..... =

PROPOSED FOREST CLEARING:

N. Total area of forest to be cleared ... O. Total area of forest to be retained ...... PLANTING REQUIREMENTS:

P. Reforestation for clearing above conservation threshold ....= Q. Reforestation for clearing below conservation threshold ....= R. Credit for retention above conservation threshold ...... = S. Total reforestation required ..... T. Total afforestation required .....= U. Credit for landscaping (may not exceed 20% of "S") ......= V. Total reforestation and afforestation required .....= worksheet updated 8/5/2002

> THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION PRELEGISARY FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN

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13.01

9.60

2.40 0.00

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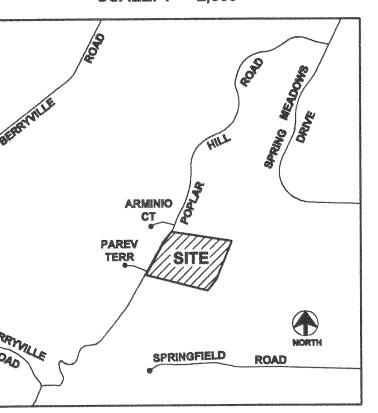
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APPROVAL

Cave Muta 10-01-02 VICINITY MAP SCALE: 1" = 2,000"



OWNERS: FREDERICK L. SCHUYLER, JOSEPH D. LAFLEUR, JR. & CHUN LAU C/O MR. JODY S. KLINE, ESQ. MILLER, MILLER & CANBY 200-B MONROE STREET **ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850** 301-762-5212



\* \* \* \* CONSERVATION SLOPES 25% OR >

POSSIBLE CLEARING

## UF 13178,412

#### CONSERVATION EASEMENT AGREEMENT

#### Category I

#### **DEFINITIONS**

Grantor: Fee simple owner of real property subject to a:
 (i) Plan approval conditioned on compliance with a FCP; or (ii) Plan approval conditioned on compliance with a conservation easement agreement (issued pursuant to Chapter 50 or 59, Montgomery County Code).

Grantee: Montgomery County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("Commission").

Planning Board: Montgomery County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

<u>Planning Director</u>: Director of the Montgomery County Planning Department of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Montgomery County, or the Director's designee.

Sediment control permit approved pursuant to Montgomery Ecunty Code Chapter 19; preliminary plan approved under Montgomery county Code Chapter 50; site plan, development plan, planned unit Experience chapter SU; site plan, development plan, planned unit Experience or special exception application approved under control of the co

Porest Conservation Plan ("FCP"): Forest Conservation Plan approved by the Planning Board or Planning Director pursuant to Chapter 22A, Montgomery County Code.

#### Exhibit A:

(i) FCP approved as a condition of receiving any of approval noted above; or

(ii) Approved and signed Plan referencing this Agreement.

# NE DI HIES Dec 36, 1994 12:24 pa

#### WITNESSETH

This Agreement reflects a grant of easement by Grantor to the Grantee.

WHEREAS Grantor (or Grantor's agent) has obtained authority to develop pursuant to a Plan in accordance with Montgomery County, Maryland laws; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board or other approving authority approved Grantor's Plan conditioned upon a requirement that development occur in strict accordance with a FCP approved by the Planning Board after full review of the FCP pursuant to the provisions of Montgomery County Code Chapter 22A (Forest Conservation); Chapter 50 (Subdivision Regulations); and/or Chapter 59 (Zoning Ordinance); and/or

the Planning Board approved Grantor's Plan conditioned upon Grantor subjecting the property to be developed ("Property") or a portion of the property to be developed to a conservation easement pursuant to the provisions of Montgomery County Code Chapter 50 (Subdivision Regulations), and/or Chapter 59 (Zoning Ordinance); and

WHEREAS, the location of this easement ("Basement") is as shown on Exhibit A (incorporated by reference into the terms of this Agreement); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Basement is to protect existing and future forest cover; individual trees; streams and adjacent buffer areas, wetlands and other sensitive natural features; and to maintain existing natural conditions to protect plant habitats, water quality and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the purpose includes preservation of the natural beauty of the property subject to the Easement and prevention of any alteration, construction or destruction that will tend to mar or detract from such natural beauty; and

WHEREAS, the purpose also includes the protection and preservation of natural features within the area of the Easement which efforts are consistent with the terms and conditions of the approved plan and applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the Parties intend for the conditions and covenants contained in this Easement Agreement to run with the land in perpetuity and to be binding on all subsequent owners and occupants of the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Parties intend that a servitude be placed upon the Property to create a conservation benefit in favor of the Planning Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Grantor has executed this agreement for no monetary consideration but for the purpose of ensuring compliance with development standards imposed in accordance with Montgomery County law as a condition of development approval. The Grantor does hereby grant and covey unto the Planning Board, in perpetuity, an Easement on the Property of the size and location described in Exhibit A, and further described on the applicable record plat(s), of the nature and character described herein. This Easement constitutes a covenant real running with the title of the land, and is granted to preserve, protect and maintain the general topography and natural character of the land. Grantor, its heirs, successors and assigns covenant to abide by the following restrictions within the Easement:

- 1. The foregoing recitals are agreed to and incorporated herein and shall be binding upon the parties.
- 2. No living trees or shrubs (of any size or type) shall be cut down, removed or destroyed without prior written consent from the Planning Board. Diseased or hazardous trees or limbs may be removed to prevent personal injury or property damage after reasonable notice to the Planning Board, unless such notice is not practical in an emergency situation or is undertaken pursuant to a forest management plan approved by the Planning Director or Maryland's Department of Natural Resources ("DNR").
- 3. No plant materials (including, but not limited to brush, saplings, undergrowth, or non-woody vegetation) shall be moved or cut down, dug up removed or destroyed unless removed pursuant to the terms and conditions of an approved forest management plan. Noxious weeds (limited to weeds defined as "noxious" under Maryland State or Montgomery County laws or regulations and "exotic or invasive plants" in the Montgomery County Trees Technical Manual) may be removed as required by law or according to an approved management plan, but the method of removal must be consistent with the limitations contained within this Agreement. Vegetation removal shall be limited to noxious, exotic or invasive weeds only, and protective measures must be taken to protect nearby trees and shrubs.
- 4. No mowing, agricultural activities, or cultivation shall occur. Grantor may replace dead trees or undergrowth provided that new plantings are characteristic of trees or undergrowth native to Maryland.
- 5. Nothing in this Agreement precludes activities necessary to implement or maintain afforestation or reforestation efforts pursued pursuant to an approved forest conservation plan or maintenance agreement implemented under Chapters 19 or 22A of the Montgomery County Code.
- 6. The following activities may not occur at any time within the Easement Area:
  - a. Construction, excavation or grading (except for afforestation and reforestation efforts conducted in compliance with an approved forest conservation plan).
  - b. Eraction of any building or structural improvements on or above ground, including (but not limited to) sheds, dog pens, play equipment and retaining walls.
  - Construction of any roadway or private drive.
  - d. Activities which in any way could alter or interfere with the natural ground cover or drainage

## LF 13178,415

(including alteration of stream channels, stream currents or stream flow).

- e. Industrial or commercial activities.
- f. Timber cutting, unless conducted pursuant to a forest management plan approved by DNR.
- g. Location of any component of a septic system or wells.
- h. Excavation, dredging, or removal of loam, gravel, soil, rock, sand and other materials.
- Diking, dredging, filling or removal of wetlands.
- j. Pasturing of livestock (including horses) and storage of manure or any other suit.
- k. Alteration of stream.
- 7. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent construction or maintenance of stormwater structures and/or facilities or other utilities, including, but not limited to water and sewer lines, on, over, or under the Easement Area, if said structures, facilities or utilities are (i) required to implement the Plan, (ii) shown on the approved FCP, and (iii) approved by the appropriate governing bodies or agencies in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- 8. No dumping of unsightly or offensive material, including trash, ashes, sawdust or grass clippings shall occur. Natural biodegradable materials may be allowed in a properly located, designed, managed and maintained compost pile, provided the activity does not damage adjacent trees. Upon prior written approval of the Planning Director, suitable heavy fill and other stabilization measures may be placed to control and prevent erosion, provided that the fill is covered by arable soil or humus and properly stabilized.
- 9. Fences consistent with the purposes of the Basement may be erected within the Basement Area only after written approval from the Planning Director
- 10. Unpaved paths or trails consistent with the purposes of the Basement may be created within the Basement Area if shown on the FCP or with prior written approval from the Planning Director.
- 11. All rights reserved by or not prohibited to Grantor shall be exercised so as to prevent or minimize damage to the forest and trees, streams and water quality, plant and wildlife habitats, and the natural topographic character of the land within the Basement.
  - 12. Grantor authorizes Planning Board representatives to

enter the Property and Easement at their own risk and at reasonable hours for the purpose of making periodic inspections to ascertain whether the Grantor, its heirs, successors or assigns have complied with the restrictions, conditions, and easements established herein. This Easement does not convey to the general public the right to enter the Property or Easement for any purpose. The Easement does not restrict or enlarge access to the general public in common open space held under community or homeowner association control beyond any access rights created by applicable community or homeowner association covenants and by-laws.

- 13. Grantor further agrees to make specific reference to this Easement in a separate paragraph of any subsequent deed, sales contract, mortgage, lease or other legal instrument by which any interest in the Property is conveyed.
- 14. No failure on the part of the Planning Board to enforce any covenant or provision herein shall waive the Planning Board's right to enforce any covenant within this agreement.
- 15. Upon finding a violation of any of the restrictions, conditions, covenants and easements established by this Agreement, the Planning Board shall have the right to enforce such provisions in accordance with any statutory authority (including, if applicable, the imposition of civil monetary fines or penalties in amounts and by such means as may be promulgated from time to time). The Planning Board also may seek injunctive or other appropriate relief in any court of competent jurisdiction, including the right to recover damages in an amount sufficient to restore the property to its original natural state, and Grantor agrees to pay for court costs and reasonable attorney fees if the Planning Board successfully seeks judicial relief.
- 16. All written notices required by this Agreement shall be sent to the Planning Director, M-NCPPC, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto the Planning Board, its successors and assigns forever, this Grant shall be binding upon the heirs, successors and assigns of the Grantor in perpetuity and shall constitute a covenant real running with the title of the Property.

This is to certify that the within instrument has been prepared under the supervision of the undersigned, an attorney duly admitted to practice before the Court of Appeals of Maryland.

Michele Rosenfeld
Associate General Counsel
M-NCPFC

Administrative Citation Forest Conservation Citation No. EPD 000207 ISSVED With FAQS

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Name:Shawn	$ ho^{ ext{vs.}}$	McCannell
Company/Position: Property Own Address: 1400 Paplar Hill Phone Number:	er of 1470 Middle poplar Hill Rd Germantown, MD 208	Last 14-3623 Email:
Location and Description of Violation: Address/location of site:  The area of colsova	Category   Consentation eas	
Pursuant of the M-NCPPC's authority under Chap  (date) at the stated site location did con  Constructed a private  difficulty construction makes  Aramage Within a	nmit the following:	arged that the above named defendant on 01/30/201 d buried plants, dumped and altered existing easement
In violation of:  Montgomery County Code, Chapter 22A  Approval of 12.003000	Preliminary Frest Conservation	ntgomay County Code, Chapter 50
Civil Fine and Compliance:  1. (a) You shall pay a fine of \$ (b)  You shall pay a daily fine of \$ (fine is paid.)  2. You shall pay a daily fine of \$ (completion of all remedial action.	by 02/21/2014 (date) and complete if the original fine has not been paid. by	the remedial action listed below(date). The daily fine shall accrue (until the original mpleted. This fine shall be paid within 15 days of
proceedings and/or issuance of additional citations	nd shall be paid during normal business hours at the informal Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301-495-4610. Failure to comply including additional fines. You may also request a hearing M-NCPPC Office of the General Counsel, in writing, at 878	with this citation may result in further enforcement
If remedial action is not completed by	to show restaration of a startion of reforestation planting that forest conservation planting (date); you shall pay a daily fine of s	till Rd. This final forest the affected Category Conservat all dirt dumped in the conservat after M-WCPC approval  aday until work is completed.
Acknowledgment: I sign my name as a receipt of a copy of this Citation	n and not as an admission of guilt. I will comply with the re-	quiramente aut fouth in this Cit. Cit.
Defendant's Signature		2/5/14 Date
nspector's Signature	upon personal knowledge or based on the affidavit, that the spetent to testify on these matters.	contents of this citation are true to the best of my $ \frac{105/2014}{2016} $ Date $ \frac{1000}{1000} $
Print Name: SIEANEN 186	Phone Number:	775 1367

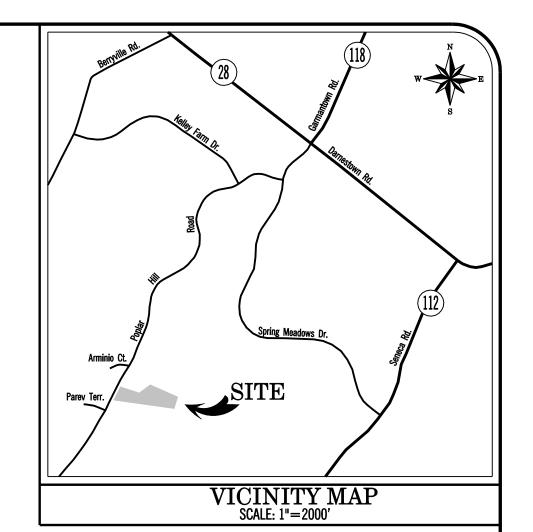
Administrative Citation Forest Conservation

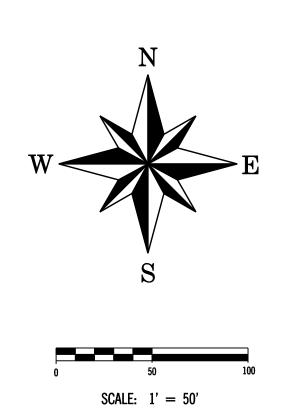
Citation No. EPD 000208

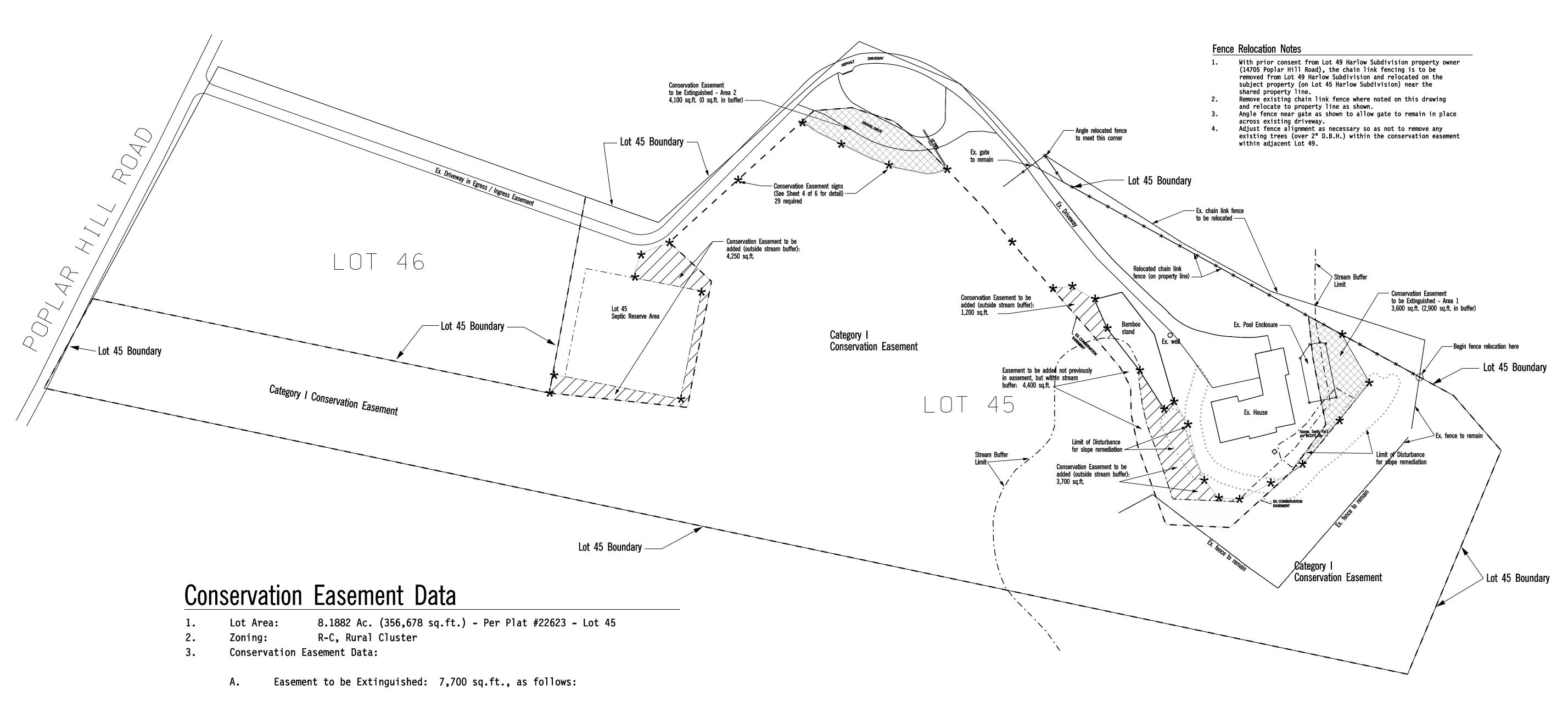
ISSUED WITH FAQS

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Name: Shawn	P <sup>vs.</sup>	McConnell
Company/Position: First Property owner Address: 1470 Poplar Hill R	of 1470 Middle plan Hill 1 A Germantown, no 2080 Fax Number:	2d Last 14 - 3623 Email:
Location and Description of Violation:  Address/location of site: The Cate of Conservation of	gory 1 Conservation Easement	pool and the property line
Within an approxima	R 2,000 Square foot are	arged that the above named defendant on 0/130/2014  A of Category   Conservation
In violation of:  Montgomery County Code, Chapter 22A Approval of 120030 100 Plan No.	Preliminary Forest Conservation of	
Civil Fine and Compliance:  1. (a) You shall pay a fine of \$ (b) You shall pay a daily fine of \$ fine is paid.  2. You shall pay a daily fine of \$	by 21212 (date) and complete	the remedial action listed below(date). The daily fine shall accrue (until the original npleted. This fine shall be paid within 15 days of
proceedings and/or issuance of additional citations inc	shall be paid during normal business hours at the informativer Spring, MD 20910, 301-495-4610. Failure to comply buding additional fines. You may also request a beginning	ation Counter of M-NCPPC's Montgomery Regional
Remedial Action: The 21 Stop Mowing	within Category I conser	vation easement
2) By April 7, 2014	submit to M-NCPRC for	review a final forest consentation st conservation plan is to
3 Implement this If remedial action is not completed by		servation easement 1
2. You have violated Chapter 22A of the Montgome	ery County Code, and may be subject to an Administrativ	
Acknowledgment:  I sign my name as a receipt of a copy of this Citation are	nd not as an admission of guilt. I will comply with the re- exercise my right to a hearing, I agree to entry by the co	
Defendant's Signature	, l	2/5/14 Date
Stephen (e)	on personal knowledge or based on the affidavit, that the ent to testify on these matters.	contents of this citation are true to the best of my
Inspector's Signature Print Name: Stahler Pect	Phone Number: 301	195-4564







# LEGEN

	Category I Conservation Area to be Extinguished
	Category I Conservation Area to be Added
	Category I Conservation  Area to be Added  Not previously within easement but within stream buffer
	Limit of Disturbance for Slope Remediation
	Stream Buffer Limit
^ \	Existing Category I Conservation Easement Limit
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Approximate Ex. Septic Field (Per MCDPS)
*	Conservation Easement Marker Sign Locations

DEVELOPER'S CERTIFICATE

The Undersigned agrees to execute all the features of the Approved Final Forest Conservation Plan No. 12003010Å including financial bonding, forest planting, maintenance, and all other applicable agreements.

14701 Poplar Hill Road, Germantown, Md. 20874

(301)537-8524 mcconnellhvac@gmail.com

Removed within Stream Buffer = 2,900 sq.ft. (Mitigate at 1.5:1)
Removed outside Stream Buffer = 4,800 sq.ft. (Mitigate at 1:1)

B. Easement to be  $\underline{\text{Added}}$  not previously in easement, but within stream buffer:  $\underline{\text{4,400 sq.ft.}}$ 

Easement to be Added Outside Stream Buffer: 9,150 sq.ft., as follows:

2,900 sq.ft. @ 1.5:1 Migigation = 4,350 sq.ft. 4,800 sq.ft. @ 1:1 Mitigation = 4,800 sq.ft. Total to be Added for Mitigation = 9,150 sq.ft.

Signature & Seal of Qualified Preparer

Donald W. Rohrbaugh, II Md. R.L.A. #491

SITE SOLUTIONS, INC.

20410 Observation Drive Suite 205 Germantown, Maryland 20876-4000 (301) 540-7990 Fax (301) 540-7991

> Planning Landscape Architecture Engineering Surveying

OWNER / APPLICANT:

Shawn P. & Dianne McConnell
14701 Poplar Hill Road
Germantown, Md. 20874

DWR DESIGN	1" = 50'
CHECKED	SHEET 1 OF 6
12/22/2014 PLOT DATE	PROJ. No. 1939 E-
PLOT DATE	PROJ. No.

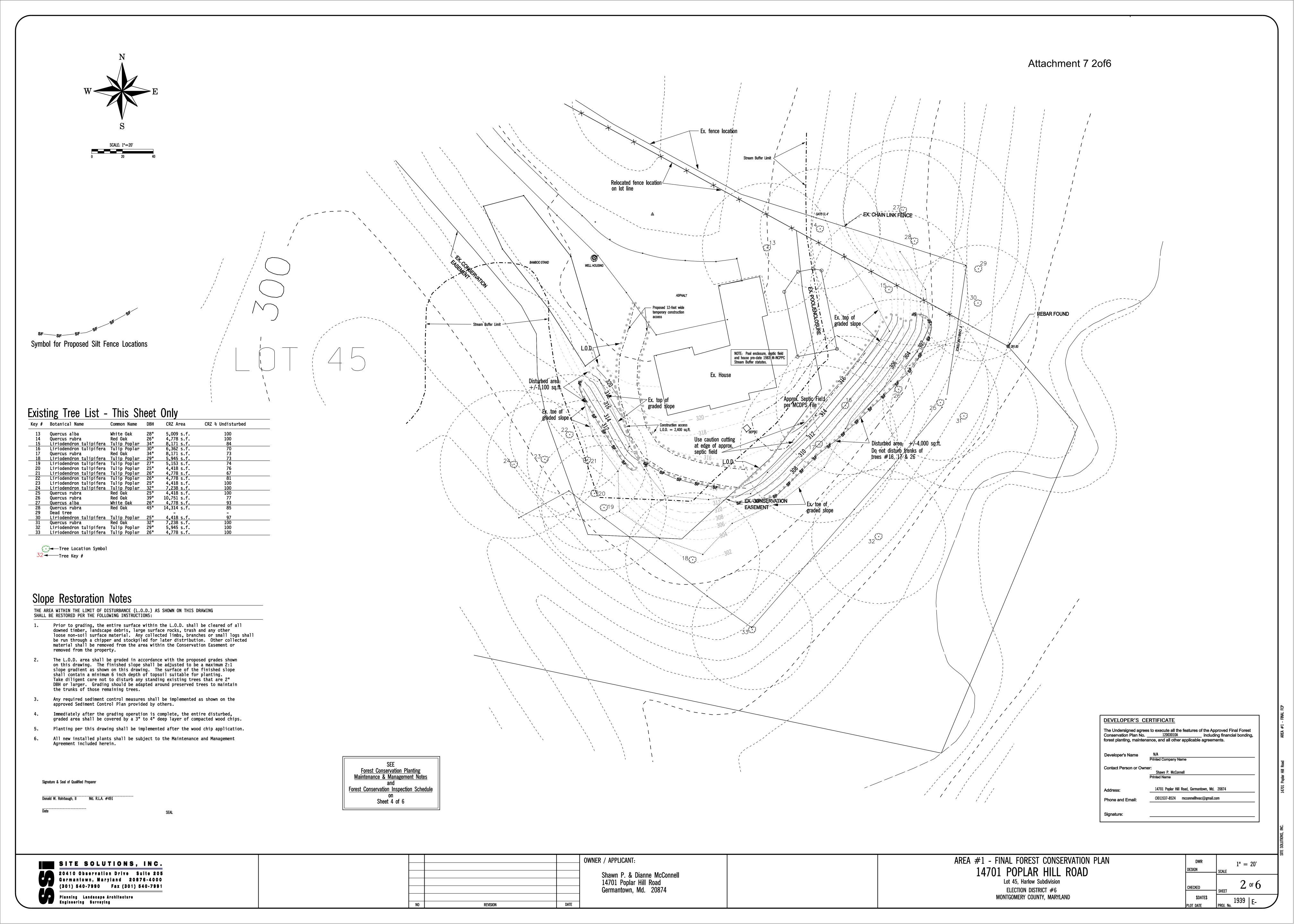
FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN - CONSERVATION EASEMENT AREAS

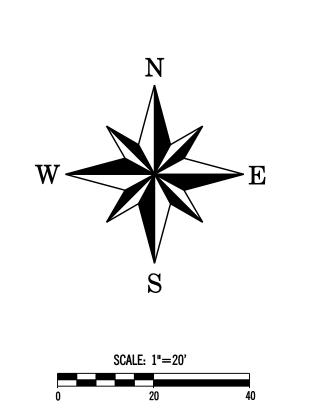
14701 POPLAR HILL ROAD

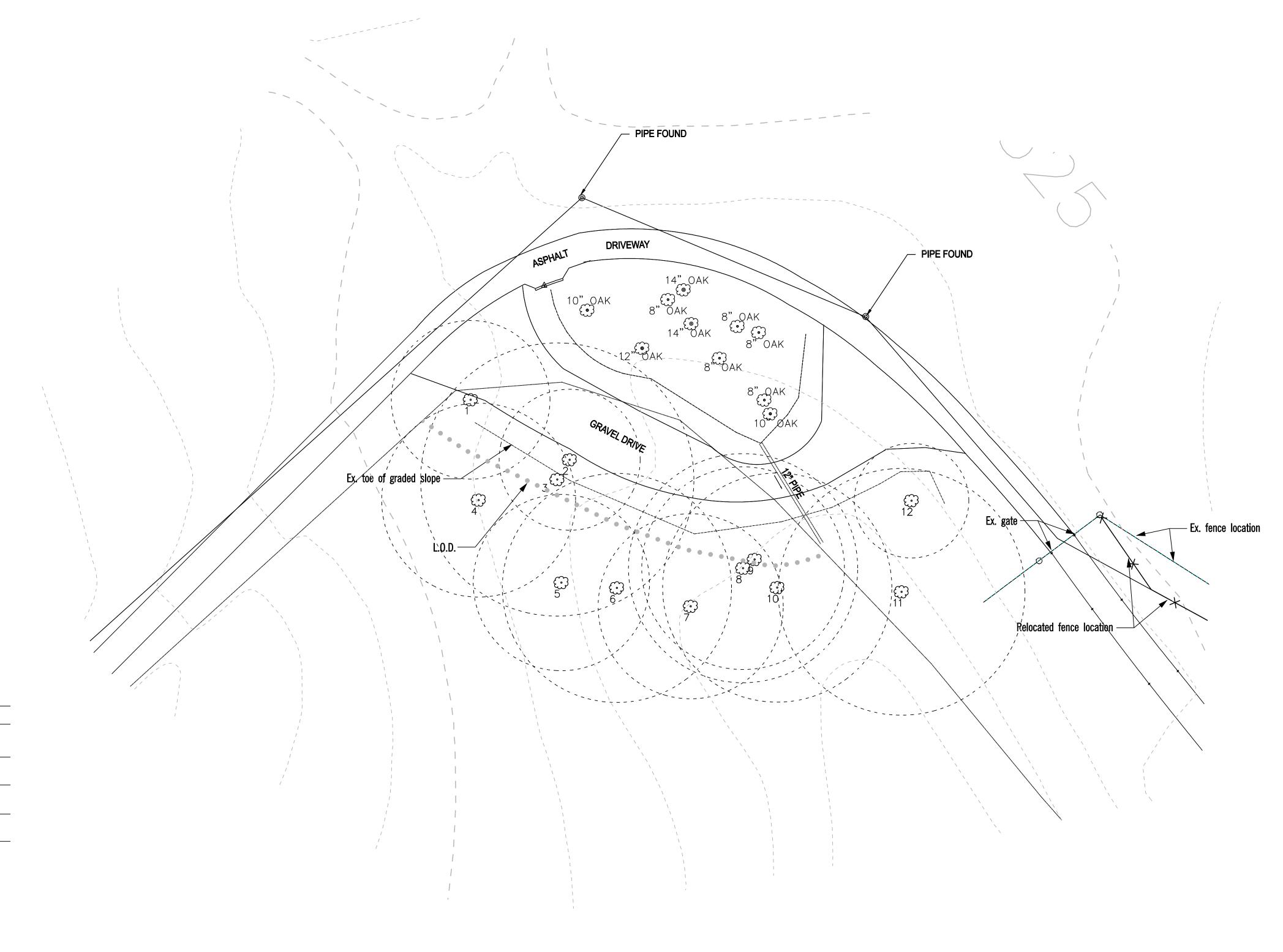
Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision

ELECTION DISTRICT #6

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND







Existing Tree List - This Sheet Only

			~··· <i>J</i>		
Key #	Botanical Name	Common Name	DBH	CRZ Area	CRZ % Undisturbed
1	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	18"	2,290 s.f.	60%
2	Quercus rubra	Red Öak	16"	1,810 s.f.	40%
3	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	31"	6,793 s.f.	55%
4	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	22"	3,421 s.f.	89%
5	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar (Dbl.)	16/20"	2,827 s.f.	100%
6	Carya spp.	Hickory	26 <sup>'''</sup>	4,778 s.f.	91%
7	Quercus alba	White Oak	21"	3,117 s.f.	97%
8	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	26"	4,778 s.f.	75%
9	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	23"	3,739 s.f.	77%
10	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	26"	4,778 s.f.	85%
11	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar	28"	5,542 s.f.	95%
12	Canva cnn	Hickory	1211	1 105 c f	670

SEE
<u>Forest Conservation Planting</u>
<u>Maintenance & Management Notes</u> and
Forest Conservation Inspection Schedule on Sheet 4 of 6

Signature & Seal of Qualified Preparer

Donald W. Rohrbaugh, II Md. R.L.A. #491

SITE SOLUTIONS, INC.

20410 Observation Drive Suite 205 Germantown, Maryland 20876-4000 (301) 540-7990 Fax (301) 540-7991

Planning Landscape Architecture
Engineering Surveying

REVISION DATE

OWNER / APPLICANT: Shawn P. & Dianne McConnell 14701 Poplar Hill Road Germantown, Md. 20874 AREA #2 - FINAL FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN
14701 POPLAR HILL ROAD
Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision ELECTION DISTRICT #6
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

		SITE SO
DWR Design	1" = 20'	S
CHECKED	3 OF 6	
\$DATE\$ Plot date	PROJ. No. 1939 E-	

DEVELOPER'S CERTIFICATE

Contact Person or Owner:

The Undersigned agrees to execute all the features of the Approved Final Forest Conservation Plan No. 12003010A including financial bonding, forest planting, maintenance, and all other applicable agreements.

14701 Poplar Hill Road, Germantown, Md. 20874

(301)537-8524 mcconnellhvac@gmail.com

# Forest Conservation Planting Maintenance & Management Notes

LOT 45, HARLOW SUBDIVISION FOREST CONSERVATION PLANTING MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT NOTES As part of the attached Final Forest Conservation Plan, the Owner of Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision agrees to the following terms and conditions:

The forestation shall be planted by Shawn McConnell (the landowner or an agent of the landowner responsible for performing tree planting and care), in accordance with the final specifications of the Plan (Final Forest Conservation Plan), attached and

The Owner shall provide the Board (the Montgomery County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission), or its designee, reasonable access to the Property (Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision) to make routine inspections from the execution of this Agreement continuing through the end of the two-year maintenance period to the areas of the afforestation and/or reforestation for the purpose of inspection or for the purposes of maintenance should the owner default.

3. Upon completion of all required plantings, the Owner shall notify the Board's Forest Conservation Inspector "Inspector" to schedule a post planting inspection for Plan compliance. Upon acceptance of the plantings, the Inspector will provide the Owner with written notice of the maintenance and management commencement date.

The Owner shall maintain and manage the forest plantings in accordance with the Plan. This shall include but not be limited to:

> planting native plant species compatible with the existing habitat. watering, fertilizing, controlling competing vegetation and protecting plants from disease, pests and mechanical injury during the initial planting and through the two-year maintenance period as necessary. providing protection devices such as fencing, retainer walls, raised sidewalks and interpretive signs as necessary to prevent destruction or degradation of the planting site. all planting shall be installed in accordance with ANSI standards for all planted trees and shrubs require deer protection measures in

The Owner shall monitor the forestation site of the property for two years and the Owner shall replace any plantings that die within that two year period to a minimum standard of 100 trees per acre or at least 75% of the total trees planted per acre (whichever is greater), so as to ensure compliance with survival requirements as stated in the Forest Conservation Regulations.

accordance with this Plan

6. The Owner is required to provide, on a semiannual basis, evidence of Plan compliance and that the financial security is in full force and effect.

The Owner must notify the Board's Inspector at the end of the two year maintenance period to schedule a final inspection. After verifying Plan compliance, the Inspector shall issue to the Owner a written notice of completion. The Owner shall provide financial security in the form of a letter of credit or

bond in a form approved by the Board's Office of the General Counsel, in an amount to be

determined by M-NCPPC forestry staff, and estimated to cover the cost of plantings, installation and maintenance for two years. The security must be posted prior to any clearing or land disturbing activities on the Property. 9. Up to half of the security may be released after the planting has been completed if, the Board has determined that the planting plan has been followed and the stock is

properly planted and in good condition. 10. After the second year, if the forest conservation Inspector has determined that the survival requirements have been met, the financial security may be released upon final

## CONSERVATION EASEMENT BOUNDARY MARKER POST & SIGN SIGN SPECIFICATION: Supplier: www.thetreecompany.com Style 61 6" X 8", .032g Aluminum Quantity: 29 (or as adjusted by forest conservation inspector) —Top of sign at or near top of post - centered and plumb Attach sign to post in two CONSERVATION locations using galvanized wire twisted snugly to post < Top of sign at or near top of post, centered & plumb DO NOT DISTURB UNDER PENALTY OF LAW NO DUMPING NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES M-NCPPC Environmental Planning (30) 495-4540 CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF 60" long steel U-Post 1. Attachment of signs to trees is prohibited. 2. Signs should be properly maintained. 3. Avoid injury to roots when placing posts for the signs. 4. Signs should be posted to be facing outward from easement. 5. Place sign directly on easement boundary. SEE PLAN FOR PROPOSED SIGN PLACEMENT

## Sequence of Events for Property Owners Required to Comply With Forest Conservation and/or Tree-Save Plans

## Pre-Construction

- 1. An on-site pre-construction meeting is required after the limits of disturbance have been staked and flagged, but before any clearing or grading begins. The property owner should contact the Montgomery County Planning Department inspection staff before construction to verify the limits of disturbance and discuss tree protection and tree care measures. The developer's representative, construction superintendent, ISA certified arborist or Maryland-licensed tree expert that will implement the tree protection measures, forest conservation inspector, and Department of Permitting Services (DPS) sediment control inspector should attend this pre-construction meeting.
- 2. No clearing or grading shall begin before stress-reduction measures have been implemented. Appropriate measures may include, but are not limited to:
- a. Root pruning b. Crown reduction or pruning

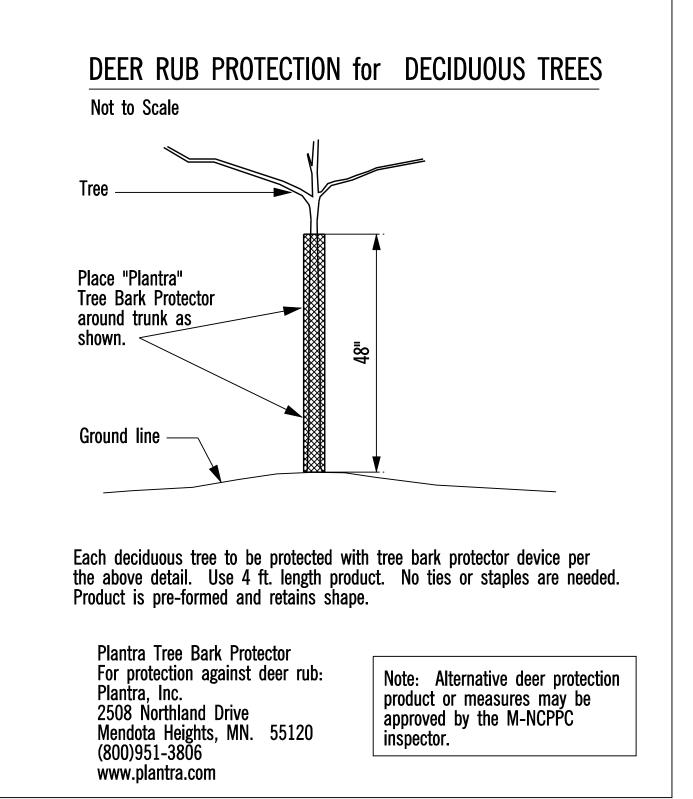
a. Chain link fence (four feet high)

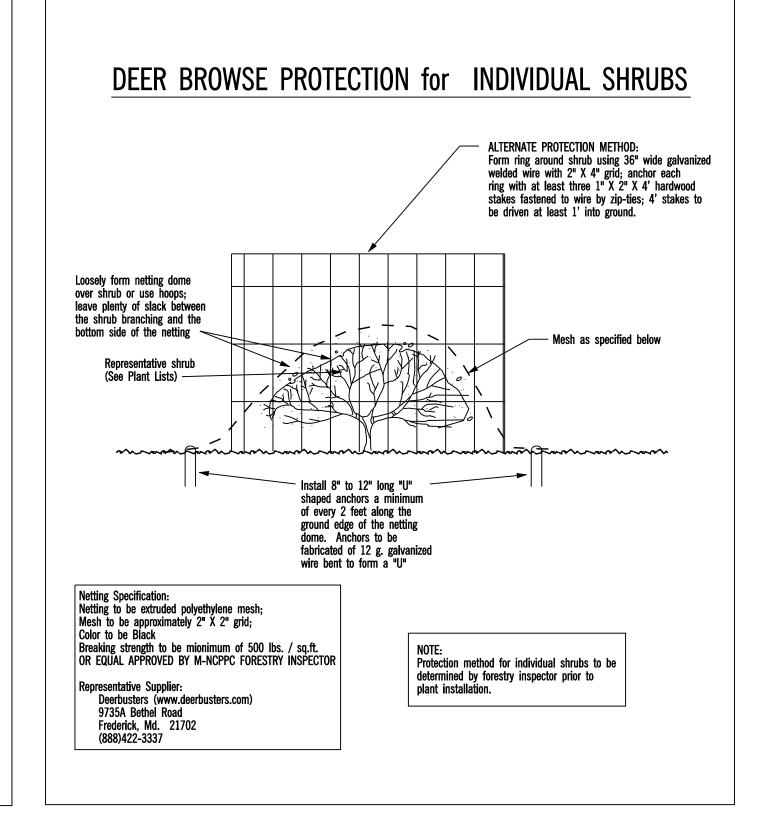
- c. Watering d. Fertilizing
- e. Vertical mulching
- f. Root aeration matting Measures not specified on the forest conservation plan may be required as determined by the forest conservation inspector in coordination with the
- 3. A Maryland-licensed tree expert or an International Society of Arboriculturecertified arborist must perform all stress reduction measures. Documentation of stress reduction measures must be either observed by the forest conservation inspector or sent to the inspector at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The forest conservation inspector will determine the exact method to convey the stress reductions measures during the pre-construction meeting.
- 4. Temporary tree protection devices shall be installed per the Forest Conservation Plan/Tree Save Plan and prior to any construction activities. Tree protection fencing locations should be staked prior to the pre-construction meeting. The forest conservation inspector, in coordination with the DPS sediment control inspector, may make field adjustments to increase the survivability of trees and forest shown as saved on the approved plan. Temporary tree protect devices may include:
- b. Super silt fence with wire strung between support poles (minimum 4 feet high) with high visibility flagging. c. 14 gauge 2 inch x 4 inch welded wire fencing supported by steel T-bar posts (minimum 4 feet high) with high visibility flagging. 5. Temporary protection devices shall be maintained and installed by the contractor for the duration of construction project and must not be altered without prior approval from the forest conservation inspector. No equipment, trucks, materials, or debris may be stored within the tree protection fence areas during the entire construction project. No vehicle or equipment access to the fenced area will be permitted. Tree protection shall not be removed without prior approval of forest conservation inspector. 6. Forest retention area signs shall be installed as required by the forest conservation inspector, or as shown on the approved plan. 7. Long-term protection devices will be installed per the Forest Conservation Plan/Tree Save Plan and attached details. Installation will occur at the appropriate time during the construction project. Refer to the plan drawing for long-term protection measures to be installed. **During Construction** 8. Periodic inspections by the forest conservation inspector will occur during the construction project. Corrections and repairs to all tree protection devices, as determined by the forest conservation inspector, must be made within the timeframe established by the inspector. Post-Construction 9. After construction is completed, an inspection shall be requested. Corrective measures may include: a. Removal and replacement of dead and dying trees b. Pruning of dead or declining limbs c. Soil aeration d. Fertilization e. Watering f. Wound repair g. Clean up of retention areas 10. After inspection and completion of corrective measures have been undertaken, all temporary protection devices shall be removed from the site. Removal of tree

protection devices that also operate for erosion and sediment control must be

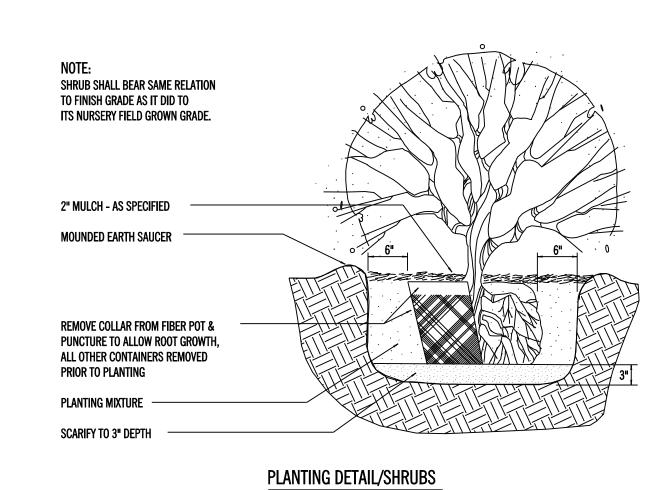
coordinated with both the Department of Permitting Services and the forest conservation inspector. No additional grading, sodding, or burial may take place

after the tree protection fencing is removed.



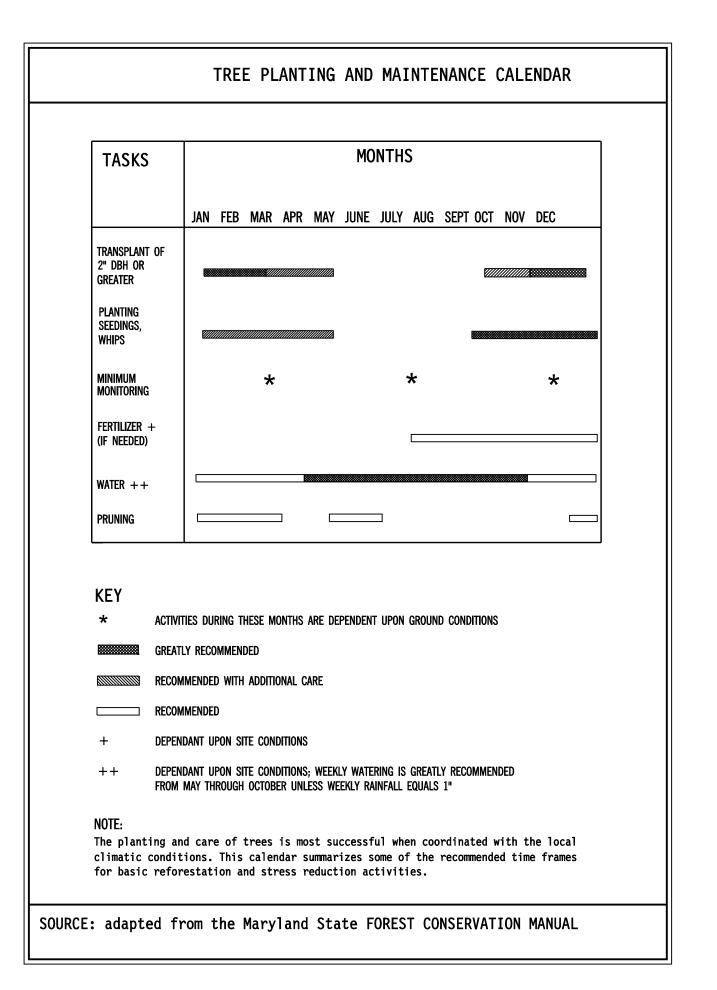


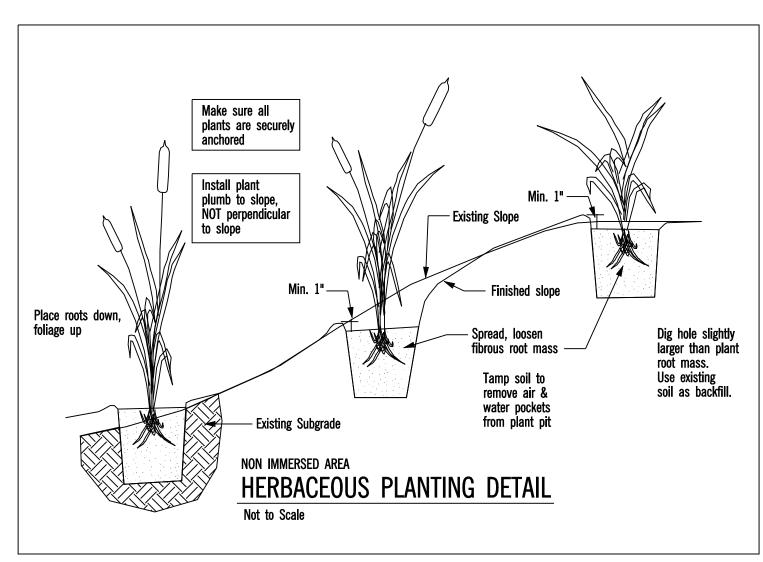
Attachment 7 4of6



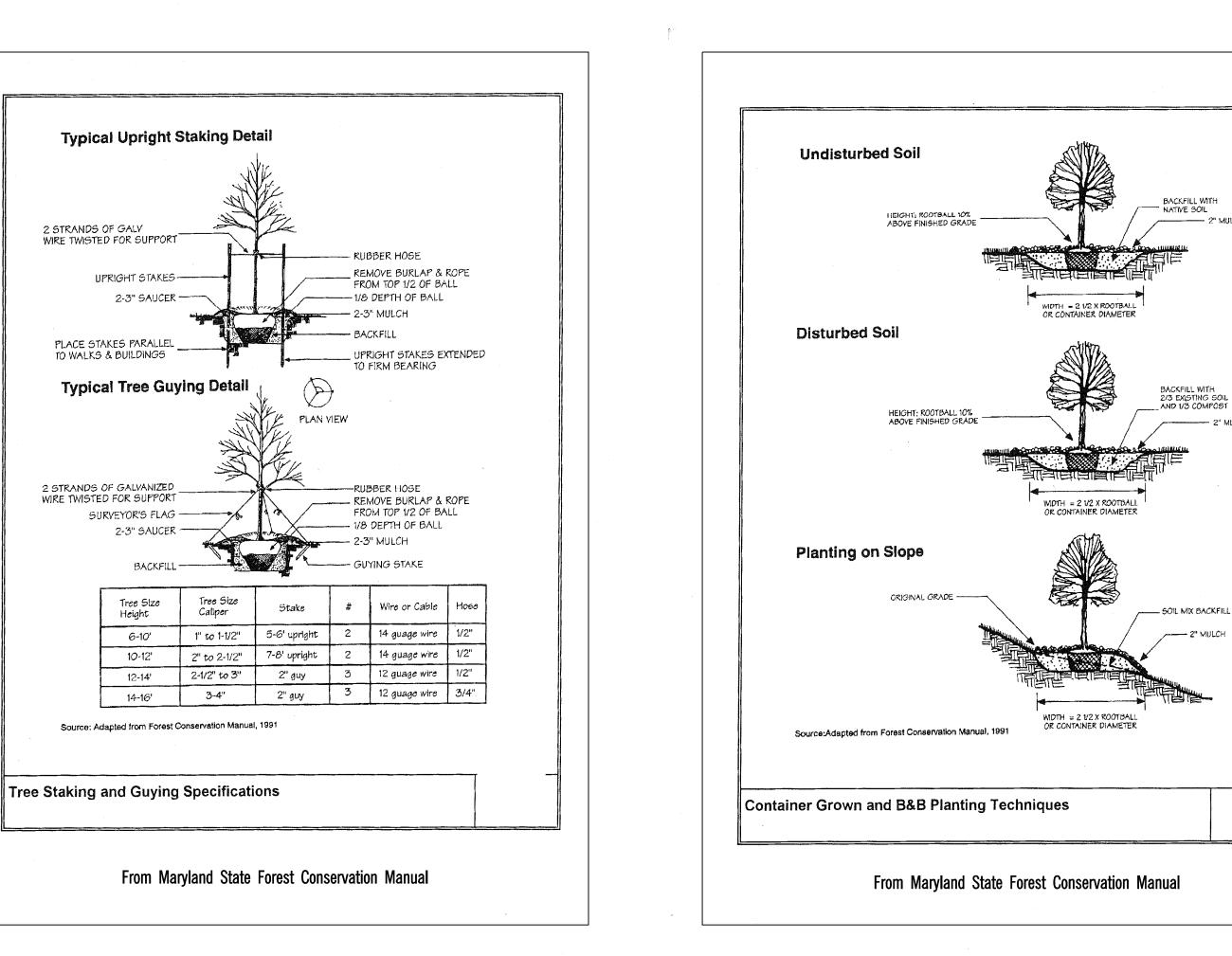
**NOT TO SCALE** 

**Deer Protection Details** 





Planting Detail for Ferns





\_\_\_\_\_ 2" MULCH

SITE SOLUTIONS, INC. Planning Landscape Architecture Engineering Surveying

Signature & Seal of Qualified Preparer

Donald W. Rohrbaugh, II Md. R.L.A. #491

NO	REVISION	D

OWNER / APPLICANT: Shawn P. & Dianne McConnell 14701 Poplar Hill Road Germantown, Md. 20874

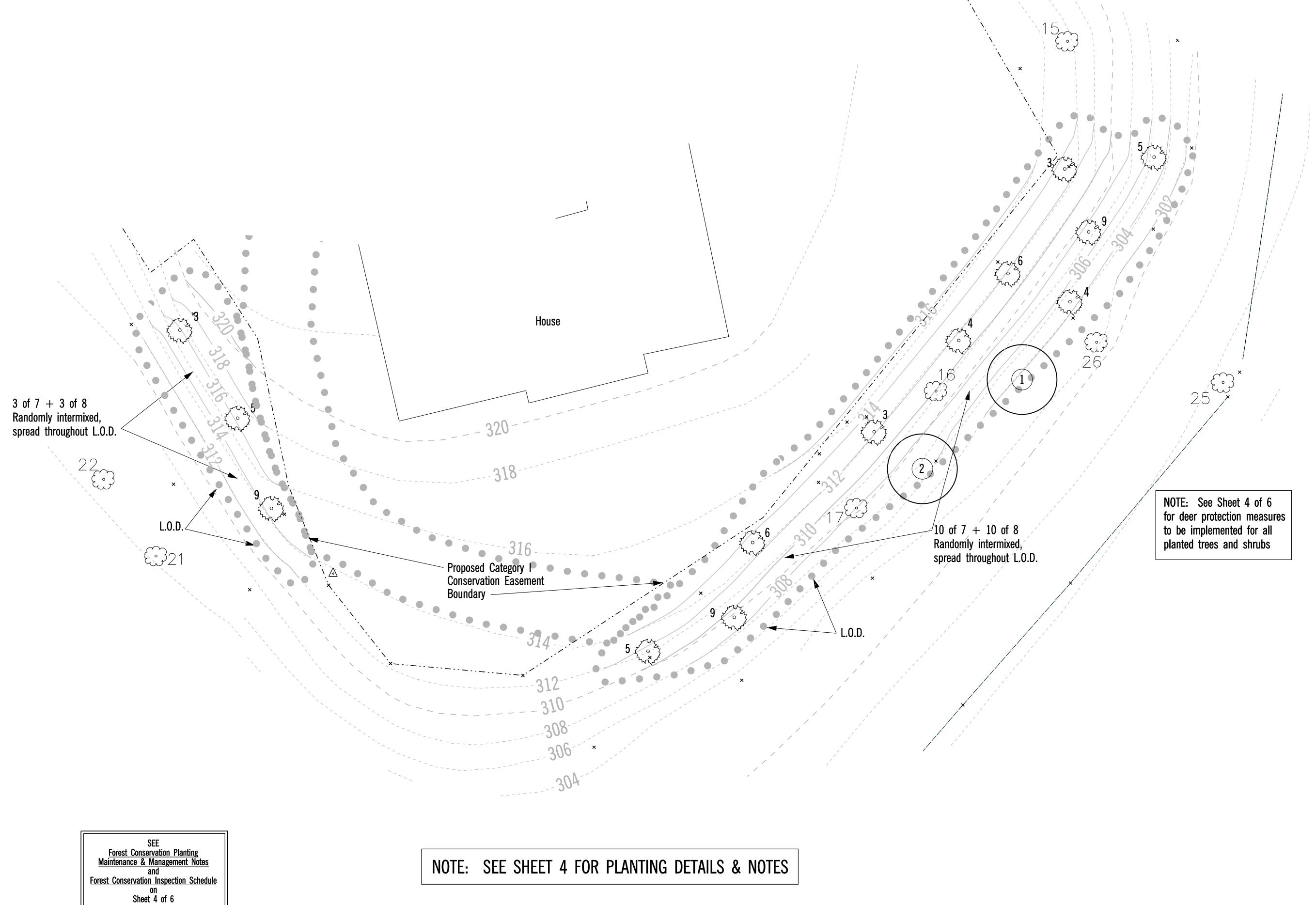
FINAL FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN - SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION 14701 POPLAR HILL ROAD

Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision ELECTION DISTRICT #6 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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\$DATE\$	SHEET	1000	<u> </u>	
OT DATE	PROJ. No.	1939	E-	

# PLANT LIST

KEY #	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE*	QUANTITY	REMARKS
1	Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud	2" - 2.5" cal. / 12' - 14' ht.	1	B & B only
2	Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood	2" - 2.5" cal. / 12' - 14' ht.	1	B & B only
3	Hamamelis virginiana	Witch Hazel	5 gal. container - 3' - 4' ht.	3	
4	Juniperus horizontalis 'Plumosa'	Andorra Juniper	2 gal. container - 18" - 24" spd.	2	
5	Kalmia latifolia	Mountain Laurel	2 gal. container - 24" - 30" ht. & spd.	3	
6	Lindera benzoin	Spicebush	2 gal. container - 24" - 30" ht. & spd.	2	
7	Onoclea sensibilis	Sensitive Fern	1 gal. container - 2 yr. plant	13	
8	Osmunda cinnamomea	Cinnamon Fern	1 gal. container - 2 yr. plant	13	
9	Viburnum acerifolium	Mapleleaf Viburnum	5 gal. container - 3' - 4' ht.	3	
10					



Signature & Seal of Qualified Preparer

SEAL

Stream Buffer / Slope Area

DEVELOPER'S CERTIFICATE

Contact Person or Owner:

The Undersigned agrees to execute all the features of the Approved Final Forest Conservation Plan No. 12003010A including financial bonding, forest planting, maintenance, and all other applicable agreements.

14701 Poplar Hill Road, Germantown, Md. 20874

(301)537-8524 mcconnellhvac@gmail.com

FINAL FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN - PLANTING PLAN

14701 POPLAR HILL ROAD

Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision ELECTION DISTRICT #6
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

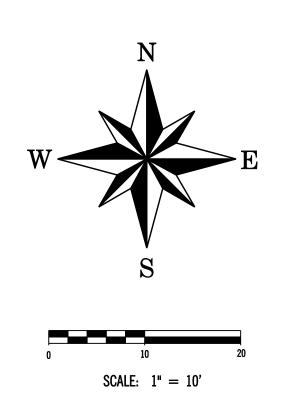
DWR Design	1" = 10'
CHECKED	5 OF 6
\$Date\$ Plot date	PROJ. No. 1939 E-

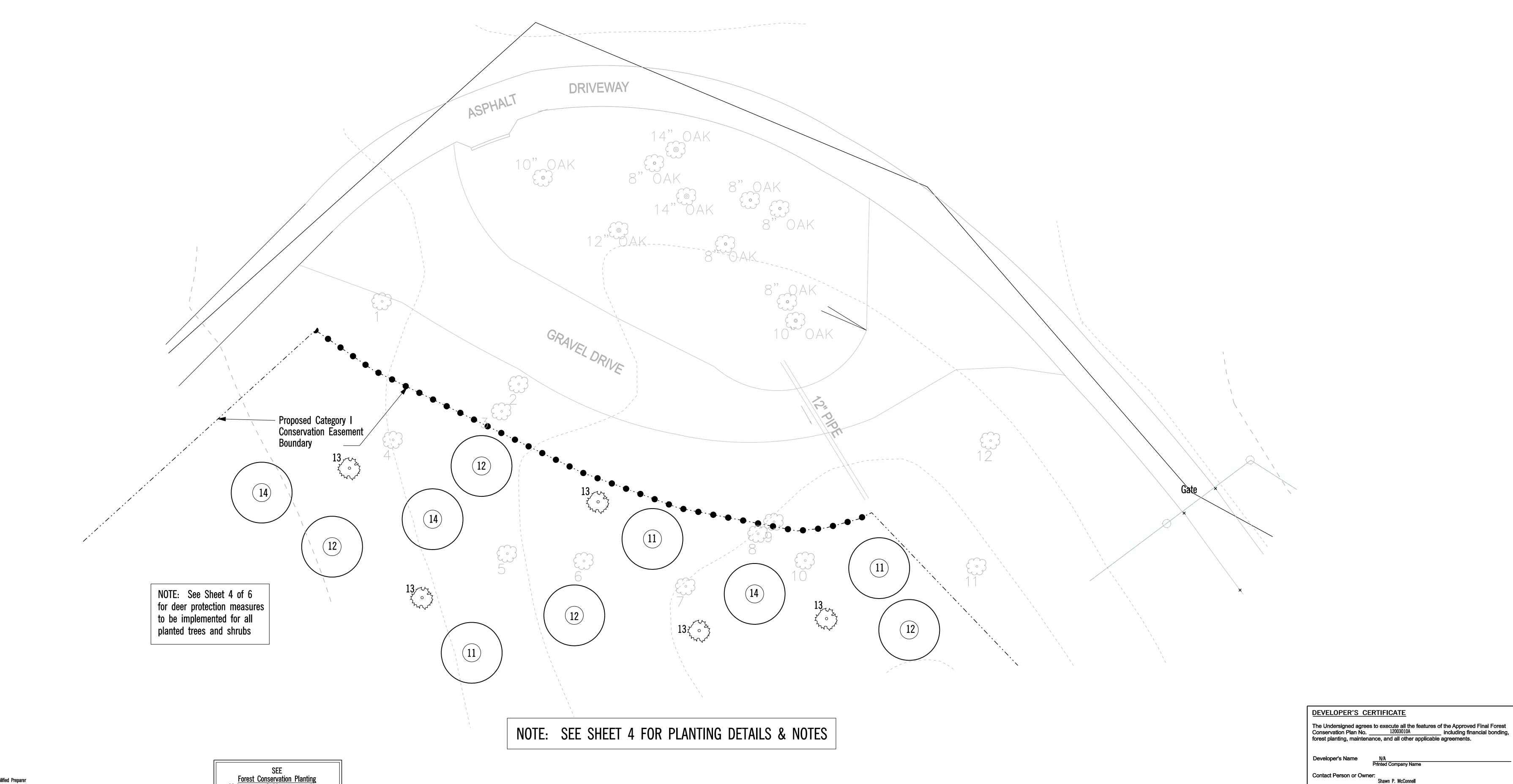
SITE	SO	LUTIO	NS,	INC.
20410	bserv	ation Dr	ive S	uite 205
erman	town,	Maryland	2087	76-4000
(301) 54	40-799	0 Fax	(301) 5	40-7991

OWNER / APPLICANT: Shawn P. & Dianne McConnell 14701 Poplar Hill Road Germantown, Md. 20874 REVISION DATE

# PLANT LIST

KEY #	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE*	QUANTITY	REMARKS
11	Acer rubrum	Red Maple	2" - 2.5" cal. / 12' - 14' ht.	3	B & B only
12	Nyssa sylvatica	Black Gum	2" - 2.5" cal. / 12' - 14' ht.	4	B & B only
13	Lindera benzoin	Spicebush	5 gal. container - 30" - 36" ht. & spd.	5	
14	Quercus alba	White Oak	2" - 2.5" cal. / 12' - 14' ht.	3	B & B only
15					





Signature & Seal of Qualified Preparer

Donald W. Rohrbaugh, II Md. R.L.A. #491

SEAL

Forest Conservation Planting
Maintenance & Management Notes and
Forest Conservation Inspection Schedule on Sheet 4 of 6

Driveway Area

SITE SOLUTIONS, INC. 20410 Observation Drive Suite 205 Germantown, Maryland 20876-4000 (301) 540-7990 Fax (301) 540-7991 Planning Landscape Architecture
Engineering Surveying

			OWNER / APPLICANT:
			Shawn P. & Dianne McCo
			14701 Poplar Hill Road Germantown, Md. 20874
			dominantown, mai 2007
NO	REVISION	DATE	

OWNER / APPLICANT:
Shawn P. & Dianne McConnell 14701 Poplar Hill Road Germantown, Md. 20874

FINAL FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN - PLANTING PLAN

14701 POPLAR HILL ROAD

Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision ELECTION DISTRICT #6
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

DWR Design	1" = 10'
CHECKED	SHEET 6 OF 6
\$DATE\$ Plot date	PROJ. No. 1939   E-

14701 Poplar Hill Road, Germantown, Md. 20874

(301)537-8524 mcconnellhvac@gmail.com

\$E.681

M.c.

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HP LASERJET 3150 PRINTER/FAX/COPIER/SCANNER

SEND CONFIRMATION REPORT FOR MNCPPC DEV REVIEW 3014951306 NOV-18-03 1:53PM

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TOTAL 1'07"

PAGES SENT: 3 PAGES PRINTED: 0



MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

PHONE: 301/495-4595 FAX: 301/495-1306

8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DIVISION

DATE: 11/16/03		
TO: LILLIAN R. STEWART	FAX NUMBER:	301-879-5706
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#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

PHONE: 301/495-4595 FAX: 301/495-1306

8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DIVISION

DATE: 11/18/03	
TO: LILLIAN R. STEWART	FAX NUMBER: 301 - 874 - 570
PERMITS COORDINATOR	
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FROM: MARCO F.	
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2520 Urbana Pike ljamsville, Maryland 21754-8624 (301) 428-9040 (301) 662-1600 Fax: (301) 874-5706 www.longfence.com

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DIVISION

October 24, 2003

Attn: Steve Carry Montgomery County Parks and Planning Development and Review 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Bausch Residence 14701 Popular Hill Road Darnestown, MD 20878

Dear Steve:

I am writing regarding the above referenced address. In completing the paper work for a building permit for the above referenced address I noticed that the fence would encroach on a conservation easement.

Enclosed is a drawing depicting the location of the fence, and at this time the homeowner is requesting your permission to build across the easement. The structure would be a 72" high Black Chainlink fence along the side and rear of the property.

Thank you for your consideration.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office 301-428-9040.

Once again, thank you.

Sincerely,

LONG FENCE

Lillian R. Stewart Permits Coordinator

LS/lrs Bausch. Oct

Fence in Construction Easement Permit

# STATEMENT OF SHAWN P. McCONNELL FOR A VARIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22A-21 OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY CODE

#### 14701 POPLAR HILL ROAD

#### Forest Conservation Plan #12003010A

#### December, 2014

#### I. <u>BACKGROUND INFORMATION</u>.

The Applicant for a variance pursuant to the provisions of Section 22A-21 of the Montgomery County Code is Shawn P. McConnell, the owner of the property. The property is a recorded lot, Lot 45, Harlow Subdivision, Record Plat #22623. The lot consists of 8.1882 acres. The property is located along the east side of Poplar Hill Road, 1.3 miles west of Maryland Route 28, west of Germantown. This variance is being submitted at the request of the M-NCPPC environmental reviewer as part of the Final Forest Conservation Plan submission for approval of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

#### II. <u>APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL</u>.

Attached to this document (e-plans) is a Final Forest Conservation set of drawings that include the existing conditions of the subject property as well as the applicant's proposal to mitigate a number of impacts to existing trees that have occurred prior to the applicant's ownership of the subject property and some impacts that have taken place after the applicant purchased the property. The deficiencies that must be corrected have been brought to the attention of the applicant by the M-NCPPC forestry inspector.

# III. EXPLANATION FOR NEED TO IMPACT SIX TREES THAT ARE IDENTIFIED IN STATE LAW FOR PROTECTION (NO PROTECTED TREES TO BE REMOVED).

There are six existing specimen trees of 30" DBH or larger identified on the FCP. The six impacted trees are described as follows (Numbering is as indicated on the drawings):

Tree #3	Tulip Poplar	31" DBH	55% CRZ Saved
Tree #15	Tulip Poplar	34" DBH	84% CRZ Saved
Tree #16	Tulip Poplar	30" DBH	70% CRZ Saved
Tree #17	Red Oak	34" DBH	73% CRZ Saved
Tree #26	Red Oak	39" DBH	77% CRZ Saved

Tree #28

Red Oak

45" DBH

85% CRZ Saved

Please note that the impact to the six trees listed above has already occurred and consists of varying amounts of earth fill being placed on top of the CRZ's of the mentioned trees. The fill dirt has been in place for many years (at least six years). As part of this FCP and variance report, a Maryland Certified Arborist (Matt Madeira, Branches Tree Experts, Kensington, Md.) has been retained to evaluate the six impacted trees and make recommendations for their protection and preservation. The certified arborist's report is attached to this statement as Attachment "A".

# IV. <u>SATISFACTION OF THE CRITERIA LISTED IN SECTION 22A-21(b) OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY CODE.</u>

Section 22A-21(b) lists the criteria for the granting of the variance requested herein. The following narrative explains how the requested variance is justified under the set of circumstances described above.

- "(1) describe the special conditions peculiar to the property which caused the unwarranted hardship."
  - A. The current property owner, Mr. McConnell, has owned the subject property since June of 2005. The house was constructed in 1973, according to the Maryland SDAT land record. Environmental regulations that established the definition of "stream buffers" was implemented in 1983, under the M-NCPPC "Staff Guidelines for the Protection of Steep Slopes and Stream Valleys". According to historical aerial photography (1979 Montgomery County GIS Orthophoto), the house and swimming pool were in existence in 1979, prior to stream buffer implementation.
  - B. In order to establish a more useable rear yard, the applicant installed a quantity of "fill" dirt along the top of the existing slope behind the house to form a terrace. Some of the fill dirt was placed on the CRZ's of trees 15, 16, 17, 26 and 28, listed above. The work proposed with this FCP is to remove as much dirt as possible from the CRZ's of the impacted trees and to groom the slope to be less steep. Currently, the slope is steeper than 2:1 and is subject to erosion. Flattening the slope to 2:1 and providing planting as proposed with this FCP will stabilize the impacted slope area.
- "(2) Describe how enforcement of these rules will deprive the owner of rights commonly enjoyed by others in similar areas."

This application is submitted for approval to mitigate damage to trees that has already taken place. The applicant is proposing to implement measures to encourage the recovery of six trees that have been impacted by past events. To deny approval of this variance would only delay rescue measures that are meant to bring the six trees back to a healthy condition.

"(3) Verify that State water quality standards will not be violated or that a measurable degradation in water quality will not occur as a result of the granting of the variance."

The current steep slope that continues to erode will be stabilized by regrading and planting. This stabilization will contribute to enhancement of the water quality of the stream that lies below the subject property. No measurable degradation of the water quality of the stream will occur after completion of the work of this FCP.

"(4) Provide any other information appropriate to support the request."

The information set forth above, the Applicant believes, is adequate to justify the requested variance to *impact* the six protected trees on the subject property.

Furthermore, the Applicant's request for a variance complies with the "minimum criteria" of Section 22A-21(d) for the following reasons:

- 1. This Applicant will receive no special privileges or benefits by the granting of the requested variance that would not be available to any other applicant.
- 2. The requested variance is not related in any way to a condition on an adjacent, neighboring property, and
- 3. Impact on the CRZ's of the six affected trees will not violate State water quality standards or cause measurable degradation in water quality (which is being improved by the applicant's overall proposal).

Site Solutions, Inc. December 10, 2014

# ATTACHMENT "A" – Arborist's Report



Member of: Maryland Arborist Association • National Arborist Association

Landscape Contractors Association • International Society of Arboriculture • Community Association institute

Mid-Atlantic Association of Gotf Course Superintendents • American Society of Landscape Architects

12/16/2014

To whom it may concern,

I recently met onsite at the 14701 Poplar Hill Rd, Darnestown location where some mitigation for the existing specimen trees is required. There are five trees that have had their root systems partially covered over with back fill, which should be carefully pulled away from the trunks down to the original grade.

Tree #s 3, 15, 16, 17, and 26 from sheets 2 and 3 of the Forest Conservation Plans should all have the fill soil pulled away from the trunks to the original grade in a 10' radius. This should be done using light machinery for the obvious overfill only. Once it becomes unclear where the original grade is, hand digging shall be performed. Since these trees have been covered for an extended period of time, I also feel the use of the growth regulator paclobutrazol will aid in the regrowth of the salvageable root systems for all five trees.

Sincerely,

Matt Madeira

Certified Arborist # MA 4784



#### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Fariba Kassiri Acting Director

January 9, 2015

Casey Anderson, Chair Montgomery County Planning Board Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

RE: Poplar Hill, ePlan 12003010A, application for amendment to FCP accepted on 8/18/2014

Dear Mr. Anderson:

All applications for a variance from the requirements of Chapter 22A of the County Code submitted after October 1, 2009 are subject to Section 22A-12(b)(3). Accordingly, given that the application for the above referenced request was submitted after that date and must comply with Chapter 22A, and the Montgomery County Planning Department ("Planning Department") has completed all review required under applicable law, I am providing the following recommendation pertaining to this request for a variance.

Section 22A-21(d) of the Forest Conservation Law states that a variance must not be granted if granting the request:

- 1. Will confer on the applicant a special privilege that would be denied to other applicants;
- 2. Is based on conditions or circumstances which are the result of the actions by the applicant;
- 3. Arises from a condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or nonconforming, on a neighboring property; or
- 4. Will violate State water quality standards or cause measurable degradation in water quality.

Applying the above conditions to the plan submitted by the applicant, I make the following findings as the result of my review:

- 1. The granting of a variance in this case would not confer a special privilege on this applicant that would be denied other applicants as long as the same criteria are applied in each case. Therefore, the variance can be granted under this criterion.
- 2. Based on a discussion on March 19, 2010 between representatives of the County, the Planning Department, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service, the disturbance of trees, or other vegetation, as a result of development activity is not, in and of itself, interpreted as a condition or circumstance that is the result of the actions by the applicant. Therefore, the

Casey Anderson January 9, 2015 Page 2

variance <u>can be granted</u> under this criterion, as long as appropriate mitigation is provided for the resources disturbed.

- 3. The disturbance of trees, or other vegetation, by the applicant does not arise from a condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or nonconforming, on a neighboring property. Therefore, the variance can be granted under this criterion.
- 4. The disturbance of trees, or other vegetation, by the applicant will not result in a violation of State water quality standards or cause measurable degradation in water quality. Therefore, the variance can be granted under this criterion.

Therefore, I recommend a finding by the Planning Board that this applicant qualifies for a variance conditioned upon the applicant mitigating for the loss of resources due to removal or disturbance to trees, and other vegetation, subject to the law based on the limits of disturbance (LOD) recommended during the review by the Planning Department. In the case of removal, the entire area of the critical root zone (CRZ) should be included in mitigation calculations regardless of the location of the CRZ (i.e., even that portion of the CRZ located on an adjacent property). When trees are disturbed, any area within the CRZ where the roots are severed, compacted, etc., such that the roots are not functioning as they were before the disturbance must be mitigated. Exceptions should not be allowed for trees in poor or hazardous condition because the loss of CRZ eliminates the future potential of the area to support a tree or provide stormwater management. Tree protection techniques implemented according to industry standards, such as trimming branches or installing temporary mulch mats to limit soil compaction during construction without permanently reducing the critical root zone, are acceptable mitigation to limit disturbance. Techniques such as root pruning should be used to improve survival rates of impacted trees but they should not be considered mitigation for the permanent loss of critical root zone. I recommend requiring mitigation based on the number of square feet of the critical root zone lost or disturbed. The mitigation can be met using any currently acceptable method under Chapter 22A of the Montgomery County Code.

In the event that minor revisions to the impacts to trees subject to variance provisions are approved by the Planning Department, the mitigation requirements outlined above should apply to the removal or disturbance to the CRZ of all trees subject to the law as a result of the revised LOD.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Laura Miller County Arborist

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