

Citizen testimony in support of HB1133

Urban Tree Planting and establishment of carbon markets

As a resident of the Anacostia River watershed, most of which is in Prince George's and Montgomery County, I support HB1133 because I have experienced firsthand the importance of trees to the health of our rivers and our air, and how trees are appreciated and beloved by residents in our urban metropolitan area.

The bill's provision for planting half a million trees in under-served communities ensure that future generations in neighborhoods such as Colmar Manor, Cottage City, Edmonston, East Riverdale, and Bladensburg – which are otherwise located near densely developed areas and an industrial park – will enjoy the cooling shade of healthy trees during our hot and humid mid-Atlantic summers that are expected to get hotter in the coming years. Maryland residents will also enjoy the oxygen that trees provide, and the birds and other wildlife that a robust tree canopy will support.

Trees can live a long time, but all trees eventually die. Today we need to act with the foresight of maintaining and replacing our tree cover for our own good and for the good of the natural world that supports all life.

Please vote in support of HB 1133.

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