

Application Number: _____ Building Permit Number: _____



Talbot County Department of Planning and Zoning
215 Bay Street, Suite 2
Easton, Maryland 21601
410-770-8030

Buffer Management Plan/Critical Area Forest Preservation Plan Application

Minor Buffer Management Plan _____ **Major Buffer Management Plan:** _____

Please follow instructions in the Talbot County Buffer Management Plan Guidelines and Plant List, located on our website: www.talbotcountymd.gov

Property Owner(s): _____ Email: _____

Address of Owner: _____

Project Address if different from above: _____

If the property has not been assigned a 9-1-1 address, list the street name from which access to the property is gained.

Telephone Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Tax Map: _____ Grid: _____ Parcel: _____ Lot: _____ Size: _____ Zone: _____

Contractor(s) Name and Address: _____

Phone or Cell Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Contractor/Agent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Office Use Only:

Inspections as provided below:

Inventory: _____ Date: _____

Planting: _____ Date: _____

Survival: _____ Date: _____ Rate: _____

Fee: _____ Date: _____

Surety: _____ Date: _____

Permit Number: _____

Are there any special subdivision plat notes, private covenants, deed restrictions or other restrictions relating to this property: (Example: Wetland, Habitat Protection Area Easements)

_____ Yes _____ No _____ Unknown

Categories and Components:

Categories: The components of a complete Buffer Management Plan/Critical Area Forest Preservation Plan are listed below. The required individual components, along with this application and fee, will constitute your complete Critical Area Forest Preservation Plan.

1. A site plan, showing property boundaries and existing structures, that accurately depicts what forest and/or natural vegetation currently exists, and shows what is being proposed to be cut or removed. At the discretion of the Department of Planning and Zoning, a written description of existing natural vegetation and what is being proposed to be cut or removed may be substituted for a site plan.
2. A species list of what is being proposed to be cut or removed.
3. A photograph(s) of individual tree(s) proposed to be cut or removed.
4. A site plan with a landscape schedule that clearly depicts where the required mitigation will be planted.
5. A species list of what will be replanted, the size, quantity and a planting schedule.
6. A signed **Planting and Surety Agreement** included with this application.
**Required only for planting projects of 5,000 square feet or more, or if submission of this plan is part of an enforcement action.
7. A wetland delineation to include any tributary streams, intermittent or perennial, if applicable.
8. For Timber Harvests Plan, an approved copy of the sediment and erosion control plan, and timber harvest plan.
9. For Shoreline Erosion Control Plan, a copy of the Maryland Department of the Environment Permit.
10. For Disturbance over 5,000 square feet, a copy of the sediment and erosion control plan.

Proposed Critical Area Forest Activity:

Description of Project and Justification for Disturbance: _____

Permit Number: _____



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Buffer Management Plan/Critical Area Forest Preservation Plan Checklist

Check all that apply:

_____ **Timber Harvest Plan:** Applicant must meet the criteria COMAR 27.01.09.01-6 and Chapter 190 of the *Talbot County Code*

_____ **Subdivision or Vacant Lot:**

Mitigation: For removal of up to 20% of the existing forest 1:1
For removal of no more than an additional 10% 1.5:1
Afforestation: Buffer Establishment Plan
Afforestation to provide 15% forest on the lot

_____ **New Construction:** Buffer Establishment

Afforestation: Buffer Establishment based on new net lot coverage
Afforestation: Buffer Establishment based on a substantial alteration

_____ **New Construction:** Parcel or lot (any size) that requires the cutting; clearing; or removal of forest area and/or individual trees for building pad, lawn, drive within the Critical Area or Shoreline Development Buffer

Mitigation: For removal of up to 20% of the existing forest 1:1
For removal of no more than an additional 10% 1.5:1

_____ **New Construction:** Within the Shoreline Development Buffer

Date Variance received _____ Case No. _____
Mitigation: Ratio Required 3:1 or as directed

_____ **New Construction:** Within the Buffer Management Area

Total square footage of lot coverage _____
Mitigation: Ratio Required 2:1 or as directed

_____ **Clearing Access to Shoreline or Private Pier**or Riparian Water Access:**

Mitigation: Two times the area removed
** A woodchip pathway no wider than three feet, maintaining as much canopy cover as possible, and excludes any lot coverage

_____ **Construction of Shoreline Erosion Control:** (either natural or structural)

Mitigation: Equal to area removed

_____ **New Construction or Redevelopment:** of a water dependent facility

Mitigation: Ratio Required 2:1 for the area removed

Permit Number: _____

Property Maintenance within Critical Area and the Shoreline Development Buffer

Permitted maintenance activities and mitigation requirements are listed below (check all that applies). All mitigation required must be planted within the Shoreline Development Buffer unless such placement is not feasible or is unlikely to survive. These practices may require a statement from a qualified expert.

_____ Removal of trees in a danger of falling and causing either: (1) damage to a structure (2) blockage of a stream or (3) will accelerate shore erosion. Mitigation: Trees cut or removed are replaced on an equal basis.

_____ Horticultural practices necessary to maintain the health of individual trees. Routine trimming or limb removal does not require the filing of a Forest Preservation Plan. Mitigation for Vegetation cut or removed is replaced on an equal basis.

_____ Removal of trees that are diseased, damaged, or hazardous. Mitigation: One tree for each tree removed.

_____ Removal of dead trees Mitigation: The affected area shall be stabilized if necessary.

_____ Agriculture and Natural Resources to protect against threat from fire or extensive pest or disease infestation. Mitigation: Based on activity unless directed by the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

_____ Removal of invasive species Mitigation: Mitigation equal to area removed. A list of invasive species is available at the Department of Planning and Zoning or the Talbot County website at www.talbotcountymd.gov (at the discretion of the Department of Planning and Zoning).

_____ Cutting individual trees for personal use Applicant must show the individual trees cannot be obtained elsewhere on the property. Mitigation: Trees removed are replaced based on size of tree. 100 square foot per 1 inch diameter of tree.

Description of Project and how the maintenance activity will be executed: _____

Buffer Management Plan

This Section is provided to explain the maintenance plan for the Buffer Management Plan.

The Shoreline Development Buffer shall be established in natural vegetation. The buffer shall be measured landward from the mean high-water line of tidal waters and tidal wetlands, and from tributary streams and expanded for contiguous, sensitive areas, such as soils with slopes greater than 15%, hydric soils, or highly erodible soils, whose development or disturbance may impact streams, wetlands, or other aquatic environments. Clearing existing natural vegetation in the Buffer is not permitted unless approved by the Department of Planning and Zoning under a Forest Preservation Plan/Buffer Management Plan. New managed turf or lawn is prohibited.

The Buffer shall be established and managed to achieve a naturally vegetated area or vegetated area, established and managed to protect aquatic, wetland, shoreline and terrestrial environments from man-made disturbances. Under each enumerated purpose, state how your Buffer Management Plan for Buffer achieves these purposes. Attach additional sheet if necessary. The Department of Planning and Zoning may require additional information as it deems necessary for approval on a case by case basis.

- [1] Provide information on the basis of the calculation for the Buffer Mitigation.
- [2] Project planting date.
- [3] Method of removal, if applicable.
- [4] Provide information on how your plan will maintain existing natural vegetation.
- [5] Provide details on the maintenance plan for control of invasive species, pests, and predation that shows invasive species and pest control practices.
- [6] Provide details on the maintenance plan for how the plants will be maintained for at least two (2) years.

I certify that all statements are true and accurate. I hereby grant permission to Talbot County Staff and Officials to enter my property for inspection to assess compliance with the Buffer Management Plan. I will notify the Talbot County Staff upon completion of the project. I understand that I am responsible for the survival of all mitigation plantings. I understand that failure to implement this plan is a violation of Critical Area Law.

Property Owner Signature

Date

Approved by: _____
(Department of Planning and Zoning)

Date