Forest conservation fee in lieu of planting requirements

In general, forest conservation plan applicants may pay a fee in lieu of planting when:

1. A person satisfactorily demonstrates that he or she cannot reasonably accomplish the reforestation or afforestation requirements on site or off site;
2. A person has shown that on-site afforestation using forest cover is not appropriate;
3. The use of landscaping is not appropriate to meet their afforestation or reforestation requirement; and
4. There are no credits available from a forest mitigation bank in the same watershed and there are no credits available in a forest mitigation bank located anywhere in the County, or
5. A property of any size has a reforestation requirement of less than ½ acre and no on-site planting area is present.

For more information on when property is eligible to make a payment in-lieu of planting, please see section 22A-12(g) of the Montgomery County code.

In-lieu fee rate

Applicants submitting an in-lieu fee payment after July 1, 2019 must pay at a rate equal to $1.25 per square foot of planting.