

## Memorandum

To: Middletown Sustainability Committee

From: Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner

Date: October 9, 2023

RE: **October Sustainability Committee meeting - Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> in person and via Lifesize**

**Time: October 17, 2023, 05:00 PM Eastern Time**

**Meeting link**

<https://call.lifesizecloud.com/12429552>

**Passcode**

21769

**Phone**

United States:+1 (312) 584-2401

Meeting discussion items:

1. September meeting minutes approval
2. Green Lecture series with library – Edamarie spoke about native plant gardening in late September to a good-sized audience; October talk is scheduled for Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am with Karen Whitehair talking about monarch butterflies; there will be no talks scheduled for November and December due to the move to the new library.
3. Outreach sub-committee report – lots of interest in mosquito control and sustainable-minded laundry detergent products at the Heritage Festival; kudos to the Outreach committee for all their planning!
4. Pollinator demonstration gardens – Memorial Park garden – proposed list of plants to install this fall in space previously filled up with Rattlesnake Master seedlings; Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle planting – Cindy plans to meet with one of Edamarie’s employees to go look at the spring plantings, and then schedule one more weeding session this fall.
5. Compost project – two more compost bins available for purchase at municipal center; one was raffled off at the Heritage Festival and we have one for next year’s Green Expo.
6. Tree plantings – tree planting maintenance/inventory schedule (see below); letter of support sent for SilvoCulture grant request; Healthy Forests, Healthy Waters tree planting news!
7. Tree trails – Jim Roessler is working on text for Cone Branch tree trail. New trees to add to Wiles Branch tree trail – white ash and black willow.
8. Tree City USA Growth Award potential projects– Cindy is working on tree inventories of recent tree plantings with Bill and then will move on to starting tree inventories for town-owned properties.
9. Gift Tree Program – gift tree application came in for a redbud to be planted this fall; QR code decals have arrived, and Mark has them placed.

10. Recycling event – fall event will be held on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> with a time frame for the event of 9am - Noon; we have one high school student who is going to volunteer for an hour, and another one has verbally said he will help out; Cindy will try to recruit more; we also need more volunteers from our Green Team.
11. Trex plastic bag collection – we can still take plastic bags to MES.
12. Battery recycling at the Municipal building – we have filled up three boxes so far, and need to recruit students to help with the battery collection boxes and promotion; one high school student has volunteered so far.
13. Weed control on Town streets and storm drains – Cindy pulled weeds along West Main Street last month, and we had volunteers from United Way pull weeds along West Green Street on October 6<sup>th</sup>.
14. Solar panel study for property adjacent to water tank off Layla has been approved.
15. Wildlife Habitat Advisors program – Karen is interested in being involved in this program.
16. Frederick County Sustainability Commission meeting – discussion about a municipal green team forum, and a brief talk about sustainability issues associated with data centers (Bill Steigelmann)
17. Water conservation, drought and development discussion (Ann)
18. There will be no meeting in November since it would just be two days before Thanksgiving. December meeting date – third Tuesday – December 19<sup>th</sup>

**GOALS FOR 2023:**

PLANT <b>100</b> TREES IN 2023 – 135 planted in April ✓					
GIFT TREE PROGRAM - GOAL OF <b>\$1000</b> – \$358 paid in April					
QUANTIFY/SHOW PROGRESS ON <b>25% CANOPY BY 2025</b>					
HOLD GREEN EXPO - ✓					
SUPPORT MES & MMS LOOL PROGRAM - VOLUNTEER SUPPORT -					
PROMOTE & SELL 20 COMPOSTING BINS – <b>8 sold</b>					
PROMOTE & SELL 25 RAIN BARRELS (GRANT REQUEST)?					
EVALUATE & RECOMMEND STREETLIGHT BUYBACK PROGRAM TO TOWN BOARD					
CREATE <b>2 AC</b> POLLINATOR MEADOW NEAR SOLAR ARRAY					
EDUCATION ON STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAMS					

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Habitat advisor volunteers
- Dark Sky policy

**TREE PLANTING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

- October 10 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am - inventory of trees off Layla Drive and tree tube installation**
- October 17 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am – check on tree-of-heaven along Foxfield walking trail and do tree inventory of Fall 2022 trees planted along trail**
- October 20 (Friday) 9-10:30am – more tree inventory and tree tube installation**
- October 27 (Friday) 9-10:30am – tree inventory at Cone Branch pocket park**

## 08 15 23 Middletown Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 05:00-6:30 p.m.

**Attendance: Cindy Unangst, Gene Fleeman, Kevin Stottlemyer, Pam McDonald, Lexi Sassi, Kristin King, Ann Payne, Sean O'Keefe**

Meeting discussion items:

1. August meeting minutes approved.
2. Green Lecture series with library – Karen Cannon with Mobilize Frederick and Barb Trader spoke about climate change preparedness in August to a good-sized audience; October talk is scheduled for Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am with Karen Whitehair talking about monarch butterflies; there will be no talks scheduled for November and December due to the move to the new library; thanks to Gene for getting the Green Talks videos on our YouTube channel and to Jonathan for helping get the videos off iPads and ready for Gene!
3. Little Seed Library – a few people said they have been attending these workshops. Next up: Planning a Native Plant Garden on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am with Edamarie Mattei! Cindy and Mark Carney met with the new library folks about red maples near Dean Lane that the HOA wanted to remove. Cindy told them that the red maples need to stay, but some of the arborvitae can be removed. A magnolia will need to be removed for the new walking path to the library from the subdivision. There will be a change to the landscape plan for the library with eastern red cedars being planted in place of oakleaf hydrangeas on the east side.
4. Outreach sub-committee report – the committee met to prepare for the Heritage Festival. A number of plans are in place for the booth. Booth is moving from #41 to #40 position. The festival ends at 5pm but will break down earlier since attendance is so low later in the day.
  - Laminated mosquito info sheet
  - Milkweed seed shake for kids
  - Sustainable home side –laundry sheets with directions, battery collection box, soap nuts, compost bin
  - Banner -horizontal, but won't be here for Heritage Fest – order for Green Expo
  - Tallamy Homegrown National Park signs
  - Kristin will send Gene a blurb about soap nuts.
  - Pam will send Gene a blurb on milkweed seeds.
  - Ann will create an info page for sustainable laundry sheets.
  - Promote rain barrels and compost bins.
5. Pollinator demonstration gardens – Memorial Park garden – new plants to install this fall in area where Rattlesnake Master seedlings have spread; area has been cleared out and is ready to plant; Edamarie volunteered to get the plants. Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle planting – being watered three times a week; need to figure out a maintenance schedule; Cindy and Bill met up there and 6 of the Village residents were already there helping with the weeding last month. Residents seem happy to help but may not want to take the initiative to organize ongoing maintenance. The northwest side of the eyebrow has tall grasses – not clear if these are native or not. Cindy and Bill did some work at the circle where the thistles were addressed.
6. Compost project – two more compost bins available for purchase at municipal center – the other two will be used for raffles at Heritage Festival and next year's Green Expo; we are advertising the Fred. Co. Dept. of Energy & Environment's fall compost bin and rain barrel program; the town compost bin had 1,300 lbs. in August! Largest haul so far!

7. Tree plantings – tree planting maintenance/inventory schedule (see below); letter of support sent for SilvoCulture grant request; a redbud seed collection will take place in early October on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>; black walnut collection is going on now until October 7<sup>th</sup>.
8. Tree trails – Jim Roessler is working on text for Cone Branch tree trail. New trees to add to Wiles Branch tree trail – white ash and black willow.
9. Tree City USA Growth Award potential projects– Cindy will start recruiting help to work on Growth Award projects.
10. Gift Tree Program – late spring application came in for a redbud to be planted this fall; plaque has been ordered; location is tree grove off Linden Boulevard; QR code decals have arrived and been placed on brochure holders; Ryan cut the plexiglass to place the other decals and Mark will get them placed.
11. Recycling event – fall event will be held on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> with a time frame for the event of 9am – Noon (last spring was 8-11am); the paint can and electronics locations will be swapped to minimize congestion; we hope to get students involved for civic engagement.
12. Trex plastic bag collection – we can still take plastic bags to MES; one committee member indicated it would be helpful to have an earlier heads-up about whether a pickup is needed and how large the pickup is.
13. Battery recycling at the Municipal building – we received the boxes, and the response has been overwhelming; first box was filled up within two weeks at 19 pounds and the second filled up within a week later at 11.9 pounds; we need to recruit students to help with the battery collection boxes and promotion.
14. Weed control on Town streets and storm drains – Cindy is going to pull weeds by hand ahead of Heritage Festival.
15. Wildlife Habitat Advisors program – Karen is interested in being involved in this program.
16. Frederick County Sustainability Commission meeting – discussion about a municipal green team forum
17. October meeting date – third Tuesday – October 17<sup>th</sup>

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EDUCATION ON STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAMS									

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Planting a Native  
Plant Garden

# SIGN-IN SHEET

Sept. 30, 2023  
Edwards Matted

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS?
Kristin King	kristin.king@gmail.com	Member Green team
Ann Payne	Paynestake@gmail.com	Green Team
Eileen Lisker	edlisker@gmail.com	facebook
Deborah Herrin	dcherrin@hotmail.com	facebook ;
Deb Portney	dlportney@yahoo.com	Master Naturalist List serv
Pam McDonald	pmmcdnld@gmail.com	Green Team
LILLIAN KEENAN	L+KEENAN@comcast.net	Library
Pat & Bruce McIntosh	Patlingmc99@comcast.net	facebook
Mark & Robin Bevington	bevington.rdbone@gmail.com	library
Judy Getz	judygetz7@gmail.com	Fred News Post
M. Rygott	2mb10mail@gmail.com	Frederick, News Post
A. DANEHY	adanahney@umd.edu	GREEN TEAM
Claire Kelly	clairekdaily@comcast.com	paper
Senny Fetters	jenny_fett@outlook.com	Town hall
Cindy Urangst	cunangst@ch.middlboro.md.us	Green Team

## 2023 Gardening Series

Saturday, March 25, 10:30 a.m.  
Seed Library Kick-off!  
Seed Saving & Starting Seeds  
Indoors

Thursday, April 6, 6 p.m.  
Introduction to Permaculture and  
the REED Center

Saturday, April 29, 2:00 p.m.  
Preparing for a Successful  
Gardening Season

Saturday, June 3, 10:30 a.m.  
Composting  
\*\*at Fox Haven Farm

Monday, June 12, 10 a.m.  
Forest Walk & Foraged Tea  
\*\*at the REED Center

Saturday, June 24, 2 p.m.  
The Perfect Tomato

Saturday, July 22, 2 p.m.  
Natural Ways to Deal with Pests,  
Fungus, & Disease

Saturday, August 5, 10:30 a.m.  
Seed Harvesting and Saving

Saturday, August 26, 10:30 a.m.  
Canning, Preserving, & Fermenting

Saturday, September 23, 10:30 a.m.  
Planning a Native Plant Garden

Saturday, October 28, 10:30 a.m.  
Milkweed & Monarch Butterflies

## Thank you to our partners:

Middletown Green Team

UMD Extension Service

Master Gardeners

Master Naturalists

The REED Center  
& Morning View Food Forest

Fox Haven Farm



Contact us at:

Middletown Branch Library

101 Prospect Street

Middletown, MD

301-600-7560



FREDERICK  
COUNTY  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES

**Seed Library**  
Borrow • Grow • Share  
Middletown Branch Library



*Come grow  
with us!*

## What is a seed

### library?

A seed library is a free public resource for seed saving and seed sharing.

### Why a seed library?

A seed library is all about seed saving and seed sharing. In the past, farmers used to save their seed, swap with their neighbors and grow a wide variety of plants for food. A seed library continues that tradition which allows a community to preserve biodiversity, promote sustainability, learn home gardening, increase food security, encourage self-sufficiency, cultivate native and heirloom plants, and discover which plants grow best in their area. All while building community!

## How does it work?

- Borrow up to 5 types of seeds from the seed library. (Please take only what you can grow in your home garden!)
  - Record what you took in the binder.
  - Grow the seeds in your garden.
  - Harvest your fruits and vegetables.
  - Save some seeds.
  - Return to the seed library and share your seeds.
- \*\*Please note, it is not required to return seeds to the seed library.**

### Need Help?

Check out these gardening resources:



## How do I donate seeds?

You may donate seeds that you have harvested from your own plants or you may donate unopened commercially available seed packets. Please only donate non-patented, open pollinated, heirloom or organic seeds. Most seeds are viable for 3-5 years, so keep that in mind when donating. Try saving seeds from an "easy" crop first, such as peas, lettuce, or tomatoes.

If you are donating seeds you have harvested yourself, please follow these guidelines:

- Use one of our envelopes or provide your own. Homemade creations are welcome!
- Please write the following information on the seed envelope: Date of harvest, common name/crop type (ex: tomato), and variety (ex: mortgage lifter.) Any other information such as growing guidelines are helpful, but not required.
- Please make sure seeds are fully dried before packaging.
- For larger seeds, place 5-10 seeds in each envelope. For small seeds, place about 1/8th teaspoon or a generous pinch in each envelope. You want to provide enough for someone to end up with 3-5 plants.
- Leave them in the donation bin by the seed library.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN  
Healthy Forest Healthy Waters Planting Plan

For

Town of Middletown, Maryland  
31 W Main St, Middletown, MD 21769  
Attn: Cindy Unangst

Location

Property located at the corner of Layla Dr & Hollow Rd  
6.03 Miles West of the City of Frederick  
0.36 Miles North of Alternate Route 40

Lat. / Long.: 39.44126, -77.52096  
Map: 065C / Parcel: 0559

Watershed: Catoctin Creek / 02140305

in

Frederick County, Maryland

Comprising

2.71 Acres of HFHW Planting

Prepared by:

Anna Twigg, Tree Planting Specialist

October 2023

## General Comments

### Property Description

The Town of Middletown is located approximately 6 miles west of the city of Frederick, in western Frederick County, Maryland. The town-owned parcel is near the corner of Hollow Road, Layla Drive, and Alternate Route 40. There is one area that will be targeted for tree planting. This site has been previously leased out for agricultural use. The nearby stream flows into Catoctin Creek which ultimately flows into the upper Potomac River.

A tree planting project is being planned through the Healthy Forests Healthy Waters Program. The planting will total 2.71 acres and will aim to increase forest cover, add wildlife value, and protect water quality. The planting area will be pulled from agricultural use and instead connect with the surrounding forest, with an overhead powerline marking the border between planting area and remaining open field. Soils found in the planting areas have developed primarily from Loamy residuum weathered from greenstone, with one spoil type deriving from Clayey colluvium derived from quartzite. There are three primary soil types that makes up the planting area:

CeD: Catoctin-Spoolsville complex is the dominant soil type in this planting area. This soil is well drained with a high runoff potential. This soil is not considered prime farmland. This soil is generally found on 15 to 25 percent slopes. Native vegetation consists of upland species like mixed oak and hickory.

SdC: Spoolsville-Catoctin complex is also present in this planting area. This soil is well drained with a medium runoff potential. This soil is considered farmland of statewide importance. This soil is generally found on 8 to 15 percent slopes. Native vegetation consists of upland species like mixed oak and hickory.

SeB: Spoolsville Silt Loam is found in the southern tip of this planting area. This soil is well drained with a medium runoff potential. This soil is considered prime farmland. This soil is generally found on 3 to 8 percent slopes. Native vegetation consists of upland species like mixed oak and hickory.

## Objectives

1. Tree Establishment
2. Wildlife
3. Water Quality

The Town of Middletown wishes to encourage biodiversity and establish a forest with high wildlife value. The Town of Middletown also hopes to establish a forest buffer to reduce runoff into nearby Hollow Creek.

## Additional Comments

**Description of Project:** The planting site totals 2.71 acres in size. The site is sloped and has been in agricultural use within the past several years. The planting site runs parallel to Hollow Road and borders an overhead power line which will require a minimum 15 foot buffer from the edge of the planting site.

**Site Prep:** All lawn/fields will need to be mowed before planting can take place. Mowing should occur in late March or early April of 2024. Any invasive species that are present within the planting area should be spot sprayed with herbicide as necessary.

**Planting Scheme:** All trees/shrubs should be planted on a 10' x 10' spacing. This equates to 436 trees per acre. Species should be mixed and planted in a random order so the planting appears to be natural. Tree species will be utilized where they are best suited to achieve the landowner's objectives. Trees should be planted in a staggered grid pattern, utilizing straight rows, allowing for easier mowing, maintenance, and access. Trees will also be planted with the contour, to appear more natural over time. Smaller trees and shrubs will be planted in the first 2 rows closest to the power lines to minimize any future risk of interference. A representative from the Maryland Forest Service will flag out the borders of the planting area in the weeks leading up to the planting.

**Seedlings:** Seedlings will be ordered from our state nursery for a spring 2024 planting. The Maryland Forest Service will order the seedlings during the fall to ensure the best selection is available. In spring we will arrange to ship the seedling order to Gambrill State Park where they will be stored until they are ready to be planted. Seedlings will be shipped in late March. The Maryland Forest Service will deliver the seedlings to the planting site and monitor the planting operation day-of.

**Care and Maintenance:** Once planted, the vegetation around the young trees should be controlled by mowing for at least the first 3 growing seasons. Mowing should occur at regular intervals over this time, particularly during June, August, and early October. The October mowing is the most important, as it will reduce vole habitat before winter. Noxious weeds, where present, should also be monitored and controlled to reduce negative impacts to people and the environment. Keeping up with general maintenance throughout the lifespan of the planting will help trees become established and stay healthy and productive. Limited maintenance will be provided through contractors, but the Town of Middletown is permitted and encouraged to perform additional maintenance as they deem necessary.

**Mice and Voles:** Mice and vole damage can be severe in certain plantings especially sites that have well-established tall grass fields. To avoid this damage, it is necessary to prevent tall grasses from becoming established by mowing or converting tall grass fields into areas with short grasses and forbs.

**Tree Shelters:** Tree shelters provide protection to newly planted seedlings and play an important role in the overall success of a planting. The main function of tree shelters is to reduce damage from wildlife. Deer, mice, and voles will eat the foliage and bark of young seedlings, which can kill the seedlings. Tree shelters greatly reduce the likelihood of this happening. Another benefit of tree shelters is that they provide insulation from the heat and the cold by acting as a greenhouse for the seedlings. Utilization of tree shelters generally increases success rates and will reduce the need for a replant. As the young forest grows, the tree tubes will eventually need to be removed. This responsibility falls solely on the recipient of the planting program and will not be a provided service through contractors or the Maryland Forest Service. Please visit the Frederick Forestry Board website for information about our tree tube reclamation and reuse program. See the Maryland Forest handout for more information on tree shelter maintenance.

**Recommended Species:** The following species will grow well on your property and help to obtain your objectives. These recommendations are based on site conditions like soil type, land use history, and existing vegetation. Landowner preference is also taken into account, when feasible.

Species include White Oak, Southern Red Oak, Yellow Poplar, Sweetgum, Eastern Redbud, Red Maple, Persimmon, Black Locust, Spicebush, and American Plum

In total, you will need 1,175 trees for the 2.71 acres.

Compartment	Acres	# Trees	Tree Shelters
Field 1	2.71	1,175	1,175

### Management Practice Schedule

Completion Date	Practice	Field	Acres
Fall 2023	Order Seedlings, Prepare Site	All	2.71
Spring 2024	Plant Trees	All	2.71
Summer 2024	Maintain Site, Weed Control	All	2.71
Fall 2024	Survival Inspections	All	2.71
Summer 2025	Maintain Site	All	2.71
Fall 2025	Survival Inspection	All	2.71
Summer 2026	Maintain Site	All	2.71
Fall 2026	Survival Inspection	All	2.71
Ongoing	<b>Maintenance responsibility shifts solely to the planting recipient. Carry out maintenance as needed, reach out to your Maryland Forest Service Contact with questions or concerns.</b>	All	2.71

# HFHW Tree Planting Map



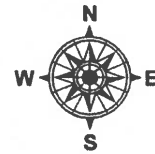
HFHW Tree Planting Map  
for The Town of Middletown, MD  
Acres: 2.71  
County: Frederick  
Scale: 1":330'  
Prepared by: Anna Twigg  
October 2023

This map is for planning purposes only.  
This map is not a boundary survey.



## Legend

- Streets
- Streams
- Planting Area
- Parcels



Soil Map—Frederick County, Maryland  
(Middletown)



Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Map Scale: 1:1,930 if printed on A portrait (8.5" x 11") sheet.



Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 18N WGS84

## MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.

**Warning:** Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.










































Soil Survey Area: Frederick County, Maryland  
Survey Area Data: Version 19, Sep 14, 2022

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Sep 23, 2020—Nov 20, 2020

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

## MAP LEGEND

 Area of Interest (AOI)	 Spoil Area
 Soils	 Stony Spot
 Soil Map Unit Polygons	 Very Stony Spot
 Soil Map Unit Lines	 Wet Spot
 Soil Map Unit Points	 Other
 Special Point Features	 Special Line Features
 Blowout	 Water Features
 Borrow Pit	 Streams and Canals
 Clay Spot	 Transportation
 Closed Depression	 Rails
 Gravel Pit	 Interstate Highways
 Gravelly Spot	 US Routes
 Landfill	 Major Roads
 Lava Flow	 Local Roads
 Marsh or swamp	 Background
 Mine or Quarry	 Aerial Photography
 Miscellaneous Water	
 Perennial Water	
 Rock Outcrop	
 Saline Spot	
 Sandy Spot	
 Severely Eroded Spot	
 Sinkhole	
 Slide or Slip	
 Sodic Spot	

## Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
CeD	Catoctin-Spoolsville complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3.9	38.8%
CeE	Catoctin-Spoolsville complex, 25 to 45 percent slopes	1.9	19.0%
CgA	Codorus and Hatboro silt loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	0.0	0.0%
SdC	Spoolsville-Catoctin complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2.0	19.4%
SeB	Spoolsville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	2.3	22.8%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>10.1</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Suggested planting list

Town of Middletown HFHW

Attn: Cindy Unangst ; cunangst@ci.middletown.md.us

Afforestation

2.71 Acres

Trees & Shrubs = 1,175

Five Foot Shelters & Stakes= 1,175

Spot spray post-planting - nonselective, no residuals.

10'x10' spacing.

White Oak	200
Southern Red Oak	200
Sweetgum	150
Red Maple	100
Yellow-Poplar	100
Persimmon	150
Black Locust	50
Eastern Redbud	100
Spicebush	75
American Plum	50



## ***Healthy Forests, Healthy Waters Program***

Expression of Interest & Voluntary Commitment to this Tree  
Planting/Establishment Project

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Location (if different from address): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of acres to be planted: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a natural resources contractor to provide the first three years of maintenance on my project at no cost to me.

I plan to provide the maintenance for my project myself in accordance to project maintenance plan.

*I have discussed the Healthy Forest Healthy Waters program guidelines with Alliance for the Chesapeake staff or Maryland DNR Forest Service staff and agree to have trees established on my property and will permit reasonable access for the implementation of the project. I voluntarily commit to maintain this tree planting on my property for at least 15 years.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Volunteer

Please send landowner agreement via email to [chighfield@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:chighfield@allianceforthebay.org) or by mail to the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, 501 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Annapolis, MD 21403, c/o *Healthy Forest Healthy Waters*.



## Healthy Forests Healthy Waters (HFHW)

### Overview

Woods on your land provide you a myriad of benefits. The Healthy Forests Healthy Waters (**HFHW**) program offers private landowners in Maryland a free opportunity to establish new woodland cover on their property.

This turnkey tree planting program is administered by the Maryland Forestry Foundation and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay with technical support provided by the Maryland Forest Service (MDFS). MDFS staff work with participating landowners to develop personalized tree planting plans that match landowner goals and site conditions. The tree planting is implemented by experienced natural resources service providers. Additionally, natural resources providers return during the growing season to mow the site and maintain the new trees for three years after the planting. All work will be administered under the guidance and oversight of MDFS and Alliance staff.

HFHW is funded by a Maryland Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Trust Fund grant, so there are no costs incurred by participating landowners nor restrictive easements. Increasing woodland cover in Maryland benefits all Marylanders.

### Eligible Projects

- Typically 1+ acres
- Privately owned open land (no understory plantings)
- Not hindered by hazards or restrictive easements

### Expectation of Landowners

- Voluntarily agree to keep the trees on their property for at least 15 years. No restrictive easement is required.
- Assume maintenance responsibility after the first 3 years of the planting.

### Benefits to Landowners

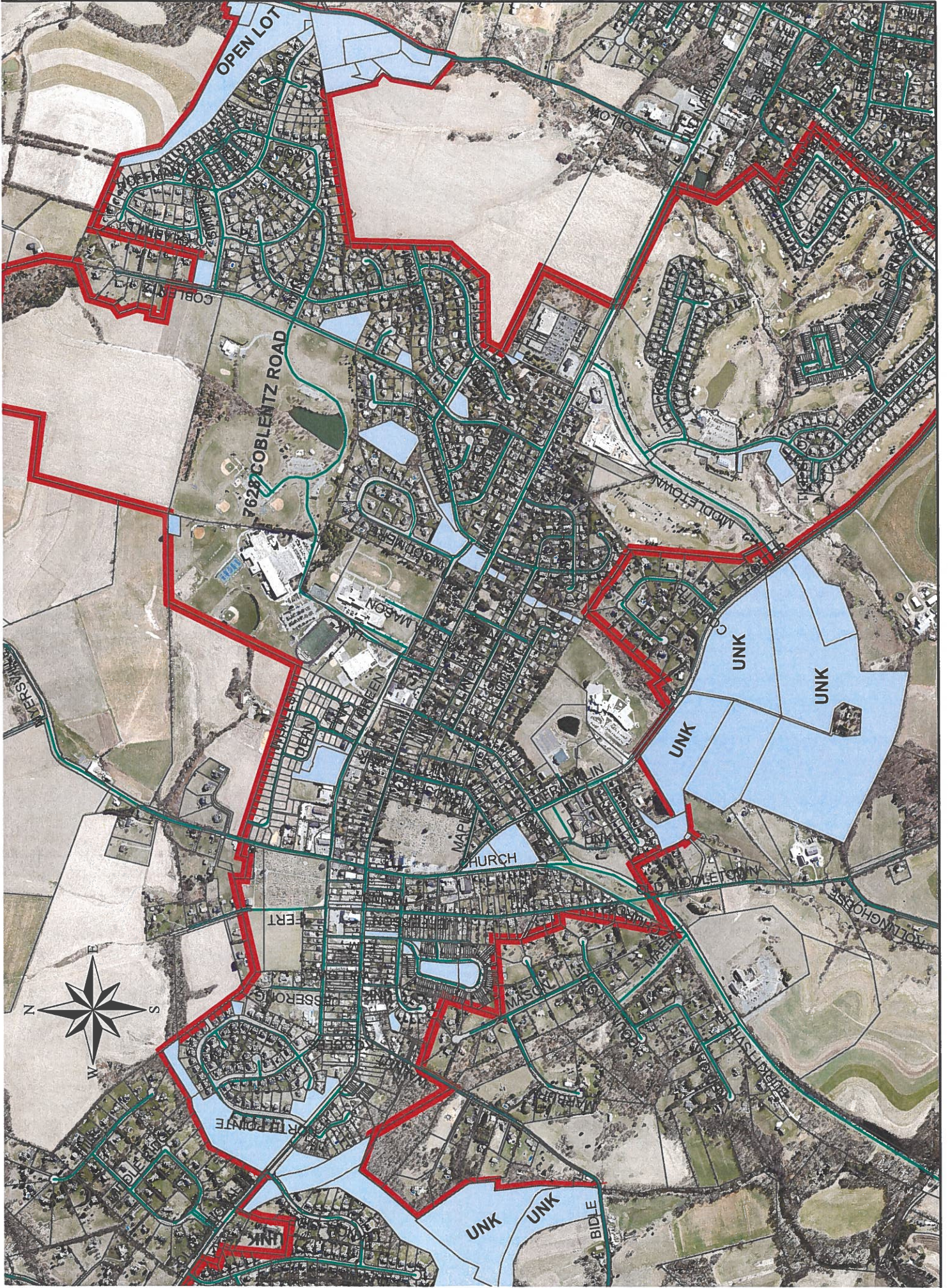
- Increased wildlife habitat
- Added privacy
- Aesthetics
- Cleaner air and water

*For more information, contact:*

*Craig Highfield, Chesapeake Forests  
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay  
(410) 267-5723  
chighfield@allianceforthebay.org*







Middletown Town-owned Parcels 2022

# Hellish'tree of heaven weeds out native plants

By **CECELIA SHILLING**

Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS — As the invasive spotted lanternfly continues to spread nationwide, its proliferation has highlighted an even more worrisome invasive species: the prolific "stinking sumac," or tree of heaven.

National Geographic referred to the tree of heaven as the "hellish invasive species" in 2021. It is a fast-growing deciduous tree that provides food for the spotted lanternfly, kills native plants and can cause severe damage to infrastructure.

Since its introduction in Pennsylvania in the 1700s, the tree has been reported as invasive in at least 30 states, according to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The tree, native to China and Taiwan, was commonly sold in nurseries by the 1840s, the CDFW said. Across the country, Chinese immigrants brought the tree to California during the gold rush in the mid-1800s, The U.S. Forest Service said.

"We have invasive plants from all over," said Mikaela Boley, University of Maryland Extension principal agent associate. "They come to the United States or they come to an area they don't belong necessarily, and because they don't have any natural predators or competition, some of their growing habits make them able to proliferate very easily."

The tree of heaven is often mistaken for native trees like the black walnut, but can be identified by its leaves and strange odor.

"The best way to identify it is by the foliage. It has very large compound leaves." said Christa Carignan, coordinator of digital horticulture education for the University of Maryland Extension. "They basically look like a giant feather. There's this central stalk in the leaf, and then it has leaflets coming off of that central stalk. So it might have anywhere from 11 to 25 leaflets on a single leaf."

Flowers or damaged foliage may smell like "peanut butter that has gone bad," she said, and can be an effective way of identifying the trees.

The biggest issue caused by the plant is how fast and aggressively it grows, threatening the habitat of native trees and wildlife, Carignan continued.

The tree of heaven is allelopathic, which means it introduces deadly chemicals into the soil to effectively kill competing plants, but is also a high seed-producer that can withstand harsh growing conditions. The tree can also cause severe damage to sidewalks and building foundations, according to the Purdue Landscape Report.

"This particular species is really good in urban environments," Boley said. "They'll grow in a crack in the concrete. So they're very strategic about how they grow and unfortunately, they also happen to be the one of the preferred hosts for spotted lanternflies, which is another invasive species," Boley continued.

Spanning 14 states since the insect was first found in the U.S. in 2014, including Maryland, the spotted lanternfly poses a threat to native plants and fruit crops like grapes. The Maryland Department of Agriculture says to squash and report the fly.

Sudlersville farmer Jennie Schmidt has seen hundreds of spotted lanternflies in her buffer area between acres, where multiple trees of heaven grow, she said.

"What I'm looking at right now are actually two really small sapling trees of heaven that I sprayed with herbicides to kill," Schmidt explained, walking through her buffer area. "And so I came up here just to see how they look and, even though they're dead, they're absolutely covered in lanternflies."

The best way to kill adult trees of heaven is to use the "hack and squirt" method, Boley advised.

"You literally chop into the bark of the tree near the base, and then you squirt a herbicide that's rated for trees into those wounds and that should effectively kill without having to chop them down," she explained.

Herbicides are needed to effectively kill the tree's root system and can be applied directly to smaller sprouts, Carignan said. **Chopping down adult trees without this treatment could cause the root system to expand.**

The University of Maryland Extension recommends removing any trees of heaven to help control the spotted lanternfly population, but emphasizes the importance of correct identification.

# MIDDLETOWN'S SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

## PROMOTES A DAY OF RECYCLING

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER, 21<sup>st</sup>

#### Also, Bulk Trash Pick-up Day

RECYCLE  PAINT, TEXTILES, ELECTRONICS, METALS & LITHIUM BATTERIES

ONE WAY 

From 9 - Noon

ONE WAY 

Enter Jefferson St from West Main St next to Town Hall

RECYCLE YOUR LITHIUM BATTERIES



HELPS

#ClothesArentTrash

TEXTILES



WHAT IS ACCEPTED  
Anything you can wear, sleep in, or dry yourself off with!  
Any type of natural or synthetic fibers donated in any condition (torn, worn, stained, missing buttons, etc.) as long as they are clean, dry, and odorless



ELECTRONICS



All computer hard drives are wiped to DoD standards or destroyed, and proof of destruction is offered as well as a tax deduction.

NO TUBE TV's



TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN

SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND

• CERTIFIED •

PAINT

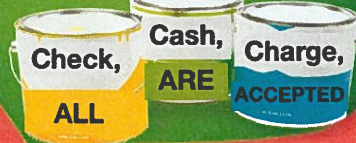
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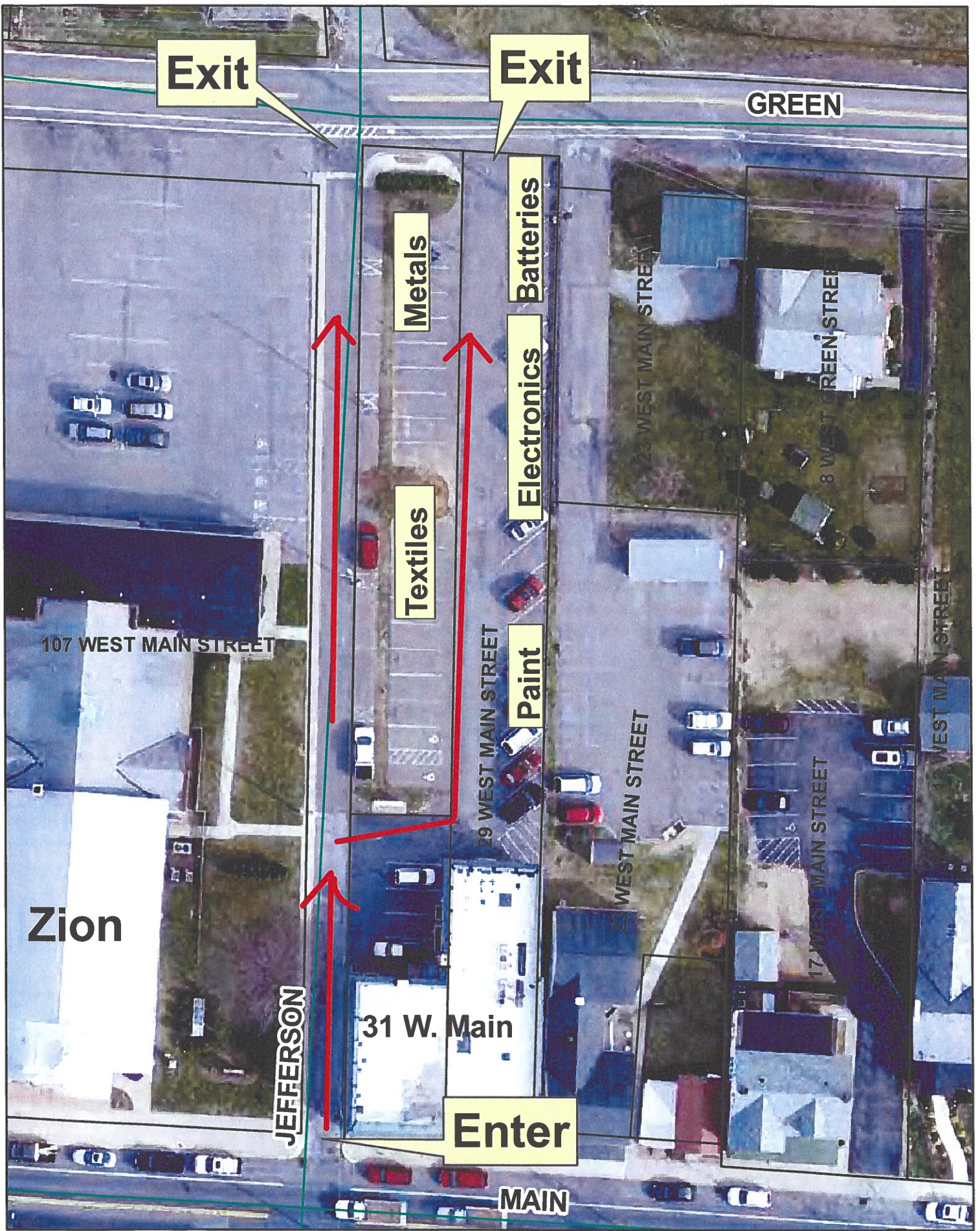


METALS  
NO WHEELS WITH TIRES



Recycle  
Gallon or Quart Sizes  
\$5 / can





October 21, 2023 Recycling Event at Municipal Parking Lot

Included in  
Middletown Middle School newsletter - Sept-2023

## **Recycle My Battery**

Volunteer Opportunity- Recycle My Battery (<https://recyclemybattery.org>)

Recycle My Battery is an environmental project that helps keep batteries out of the landfill. This started in a middle school in New Jersey and has spread nationally. The Sustainability Committee Co-Chair of the Town of Middletown has started this project here. She is in need of people to help bag up batteries and box them up to be recycled. Batteries are brought in every week so this is an ongoing opportunity for service learning hours. If your student is interested please reach out to:

*Cynthia K. Unangst, AICP*

*Staff Planner*

*Sustainability Committee Co-Chair*

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