

approved by unanimous vote at 1/14/13 delegates' meeting

MCCF Resolution on Forest and Tree Protection

Whereas, Montgomery makes a significant contribution to the health of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay; and,

Whereas, forest and tree cover has long been recognized as invaluable ecological and public health assets, cleaning our atmosphere by intercepting airborne particles, carbon dioxide, and other greenhouse gases, attenuating stormwater runoff, filtering groundwater and contributing to a clean public water supply, cooling and reducing energy consumption and mitigating climate change; and,

Whereas, despite the existence of the County Forest Conservation Law, overall tree canopy is declining on an average of 2% a year nationwide, and in Montgomery County urban areas are especially depleted; and,

Whereas, in the interest of both ecological and public health the County needs to increase tree and forest canopy cover whenever and wherever possible;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Montgomery County Civic Federation urges County and State governments to facilitate and expand efforts to protect and increase tree canopy on both public and private lands.