



CHARLES SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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(301) 934-9588/Fax (301) 934-2845

June 24, 2005

To: Consultants serving Charles County

From: Charles Soil Conservation District
Luis Dieguez
District Manager

Subject: Charles Soil Conservation District Standard Erosion and
Sediment Control Plan for Forest Harvest Operations

Enclosed is a copy of the Charles Soil Conservation District Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for Forest Harvest Operations and other related forms.

When submitting plans, please complete and return an original complete package along with 5 extra copies. Include a \$25.00 review fee per plan payable to the Charles Soil Conservation District.

CHARLES SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT
FOR THE STANDARD EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN FOR
FOREST HARVEST OPERATIONS

I. Site Information

- A. Location _____
(Include site map of harvest area)
- B. Type of Operation(s) _____
(i.e. logging, chipping, firewood)
- C. Total Ac. Harvested _____ Estimated Ac. Loblolly Pine _____

II. Landowner and Operator Information

- A. Landowner _____ Phone _____
Address _____
- B. Operator _____ Phone _____
Address _____
Current F.P.O. Lic.# _____ Certificate of Training # _____
(Green/Gold Card)
- C. Contract Dates: Contract Start _____ Contract End _____
- D. List other forest harvest operators responsible for ensuring compliance with this Agreement.

Name of Operator	Type of Operation
1. _____	_____

Note: Unless one operator assumes full responsibility for implementing this plan, all forest harvest operators working at this site must obtain a Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.

III. Agreement

1. I/We agree to adhere to the terms of the attached Standard Plan for Forest Harvest Operations and to grant inspectors the right of entry to the site to monitor compliance.
2. I am aware of the landowner's responsibilities of preventing accelerated erosion and sedimentation during and subsequent to forest harvest operations as mandated by the rules and regulations adopted by the State of Maryland and local jurisdiction.
3. I agree to require that all operators conducting forest harvest operations on my property adhere to the requirements of the standard plan.

Landowner	Date	Operator	Date
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4. Approved: _____
Charles Soil Conservation District Date

This approval expires _____. Written requests for extension may be submitted to the District.

STANDARD EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN
FOR
FOREST HARVEST OPERATIONS
IN MARYLAND
(DOES NOT INCLUDE GARRETT, ALLEGANY, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES)

I. General Requirements

A Sediment Control Plan is required for all harvests exceeding 5,000 square feet of disturbed area, or which cross any perennial or intermittent watercourse with a drainage area exceeding 400 acres (100 acres for trout waters).

This Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan may be substituted for a custom plan for forest harvest operations when all of the following conditions are met:

1. Road cuts or fills are less than 3 feet.
2. Grades for roads are less than 15 percent.
3. Landings are located on slopes less than 10 percent.

If the above conditions or any other criteria of this plan cannot be met, a plan modification listing controls necessary to prevent erosion and ensure site stabilization will have to be prepared by a licensed professional forester and submitted along with this plan to the Charles Soil Conservation District for approval.

II. Conditions

A. Unless one operator assumes full responsibility for implementing this plan, all forest harvest operators working at a site must obtain an erosion and sediment control plan. An operator is defined as any individual or company which has contracted or subcontracted a portion of the harvest operation. This also applies to those operators conducting firewood cutting or separate forest harvest operations in conjunction with or subsequent to the initial harvest. Each operator must implement and maintain the required practices.

B. The applicant shall notify the Maryland Dept. of the Environment (410) 414-3400 at least 48 hours prior to commencing forest harvest operations. This inspection agency must also be notified at least 48 hours prior to the completion of work.

C. A copy of this plan and any approved plan modifications shall be available on site during harvest operations.

D. Each site will be periodically inspected by local government and/or State inspectors for compliance with this plan. State and local inspectors may require Charles Soil Conservation District approved plan modifications to this standard plan as conditions dictate, to prevent movement of sediment from the site.

E. Failure to properly implement or maintain the practices required by this plan, or to comply with written requirements for corrective action may result in the operation being stopped (issuance of a stop work order) until the deficiencies have been corrected. Failure to take required corrective action may also result in legal action.

F. All erosion and sediment controls must be implemented in accordance with specifications contained in the document entitled "Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for Forest Harvest Operations in Maryland" (hereafter referred to as Guidelines for Forest Harvest Operations) available from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Forest Service, or the Maryland Dept. of the Environment.

III. Standard Plan Requirements

A. Site Maps

Site maps or sketches shall be prepared for all harvests and submitted with the plan application to the Charles Soil Conservation District. The map shall identify the site location and provide directions and distances from the nearest major road intersection. All access points, landings, haul roads, water bodies, uncut buffer areas, and stream crossings must be identified on the map or sketch. A more detailed map of buffer areas is required when buffer management plans are submitted. The harvest area should also be delineated on a xerox copy of the U.S.G.S. topographic map.

B. Site Access

1. Access points to the site shall be stabilized with wood chips, corduroy logs, a stone construction entrance or other methods approved in the Guidelines for Forest Harvest Operations. Any soil or debris which is tracked onto off-site paved roads shall be removed and deposited in a controlled area by the end of each working day.
2. A grading or entrance permit may be required for a new entrance onto a county or State road. Details may be obtained from the local permitting agency.
3. Existing public road drainage shall not be blocked or damaged by access construction. Pipe culverts shall be installed to maintain existing drainage.

C. Waterway Protection

1. Uncut buffer zones shall be marked and maintained on all sides of perennial or intermittent streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, bogs or marshes. These features are identified on United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Series (topographic) quadrangle maps. The minimum buffer zone width shall be 50 feet. This applies to land with no slope. Where sloping land is encountered, the following table shall be adhered to:

Average Percent Slope to Watercourse	Width of Buffer (feet) on each side of Watercourse
1-10	75
11-20	100
21-30	150
31-40	200
41+	250

2. Roads, trails, and harvesting equipment shall not be allowed in any buffer area except to provide access to authorized stream crossings.

3. The restriction on harvesting within buffer zones may be waived providing that a buffer management plan is submitted to and approved by the local Soil Conservation District. The management plan shall be designed by a licensed professional forester and include harvest method, the square footage of basal area to be removed and retained, provisions for removing and restocking the cut trees, and other criteria established below and in the Guidelines for Forest Harvest Operations. All trees to be removed from the buffer shall be marked at the base of the stump (so the mark remains after

harvesting) by the professional forester in advance of the harvest operation. The buffer management plan shall become a modification to this standard plan and be available on site during harvest operations.

4. Harvesting within buffer areas must adhere to the following criteria. Basal area may not be reduced below 60 square feet of evenly distributed trees which are 6 inches or greater in diameter, measured at breast height. Any slash which inadvertently falls into adjacent water bodies must be pulled back to prevent waterway blockage. Roads, trails, and equipment will not be allowed within 50 feet of any water body except at approved stream crossings. Timber cut within this 50 foot area must be removed by cable.

D. Haul Roads and Skid Trails

1. Grading of existing roads and/or trails will be limited to that necessary to make them operable, provided that the requirements of Section D (2) are complied with.
2. Haul roads and skid trails shall be laid out along natural land contours to avoid excessive cuts, fills, and grades. No road cut or fill shall exceed 3 feet (5 feet in Western Maryland*) without prior Charles Soil Conservation District approval of the modification.
3. Crossing of perennial or intermittent streams should be avoided. Where it becomes necessary to cross either a perennial or intermittent stream, a bridge or culvert crossing shall be temporarily installed. A Maryland Dept. of the Environment waterway construction permit shall be obtained prior to crossing streams.
4. Grades for roads and trails shall not normally exceed 15 percent. If it is not feasible to limit road grades to 15 percent, a plan modification which identifies the erosion controls necessary to prevent excessive erosion, must be approved by the Soil Conservation District prior to road construction. (In Western Maryland*, skid trails may be established on slopes up to 20 percent for distances not to exceed 200 feet, without modification).
5. No haul roads or skid trails other than those providing access to waterway crossings shall be constructed within buffer areas. Drainage from approaches to waterway crossings shall be diverted to undisturbed areas.
6. Drainage structures shall be provided at the time of construction of haul roads and skid trails according to specifications contained in the Guidelines for Forest Harvest Operations.

E. Landings

Landings shall be located on reasonable level (between 3 and 10 percent slope) well drained ground. If the harvest sites do not have any area with a slope of at least 3 percent, landings shall be located on the maximum slope of the site. Landings located on slopes exceeding 10 percent shall require prior approval of the Charles Soil Conservation District and may need erosion and sediment controls.

F. Stabilization

1. All unstable material (exposed soil) resulting from the construction of roads, trails and landings, with slopes greater than 30 percent and all perimeter slopes which are not adjacent to a buffer shall be stabilized within 7 days of disturbance with seed and mulch.
2. Upon completion of the harvest, all roads, trails, and landings located on slopes greater than 10 percent shall be graded or back-dragged, seeded, and mulched according to specifications. The surface of roads, landings, and major skid trails less than 10 percent should be back-dragged and left in a condition that permits successful natural regeneration of trees, shrubs, or other annual and perennial plants. Under certain circumstances stabilization of these roads and landings with seed and/or mulch may be required.

G. Maintenance

1. All practices installed shall be maintained at all times to function as intended.
2. Any practice that fails to function properly will be repaired or corrected immediately.

SITE MAP

Site maps or sketches shall be prepared for all harvests and submitted with the plan application to the Charles Soil Conservation District. The map shall identify the site location and provide directions and distances from the nearest major road intersection. All access points, landings, haul roads, water bodies, uncut buffer areas, and stream crossings must be identified on the map or sketch. **A more detailed map of buffer areas is required when buffer management plans are submitted.**

U.S.G.S. MAP

The harvest area and property boundaries should also be identified on a xerox copy of the U.S.G.S. topographic map.

SOILS MAP

Show forest harvest area

CHARLES COUNTY FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE
DECLARATION OF INTENT

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

Tax Account Number _____ Tax Map _____ Parcel Number _____
Lot Number _____ Name(s) of Property Owner(s) _____
Address and/or Location of Property _____

I (we), _____, the Owner(s)
of the real property located at _____
and described as _____,
hereby declare my (our) intention to meet the requirements for an
exemption under the *Agricultural Activity Exemption* of the Charles County
Forest Conservation Ordinance (§298-4.D of the Charles County Code) for
five (5) years.

Under this Declaration of Intent, I (we) propose to disturb _____
square feet of forest. I (we) have included a sketch map or site plan
showing approximate existing forest cover and the forest area to be cleared.

Is the property for which this Declaration of Intent being filed subject
to either (please indicate yes or no):

- _____ A previously approved Forest Conservation Plan; or
_____ A previous Declaration of Intent

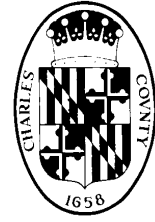
This declaration grants an exemption for (name activity) _____
agricultural use conducted under the *Agricultural Activity Exemption* of the
Charles County Forest Conservation Program. If the land does not remain in
agricultural use, the Owner must notify the Charles County Office of
Planning. If the Owner makes an application for an activity regulated under
the Forest Conservation Program, on all or part of the parcel within the five
(5) year period, the County Commissioners of Charles County may require
the Owner to meet the terms of the Charles County Forest Conservation
Ordinance, and may also assess a non-compliance fee of \$0.30 per square
foot of forested areas disturbed in violation of the agricultural exemption.

I (We) declare under the penalties of perjury, that I (we) have
examined this declaration, including any accompanying forms and
statements, and that the information contained herein, to the best of my
(our) knowledge, information, or belief, is true, correct, and complete.

Property Owner(s)
Signature(s) _____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Planning and Growth Management



Roy E. Hancock, *Director*

**CHARLES COUNTY FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE
DECLARATION OF INTENT**

FORESTRY EXEMPTION

Tax Account Number _____ Tax Map _____ Parcel Number _____ Lot
Number

Name(s) of Property Owner(s)
Address and/or Location of Property

I (We), _____, the Owner(s) of the real property located at _____ and described as _____, hereby declare my (our) intention to meet the requirements for an exemption under the *Forestry Exemption* of the Charles County Forest Conservation Ordinance (§298-4.C of the Charles County Code) for five (5) years. Under this Declaration of Intent, I (we) propose to disturb _____ Square feet of forest. I (We) have included a sketch map or site plan showing approximate existing forest cover and the forest area to be cleared.

Is the property for which this Declaration of Intent being filed subject to either (please indicate yes or no):

- _____ A previously approved Forest Conservation Plan; or
- _____ A previously Declaration of Intent

This declaration grants an exemption for commercial forestry activities under the *Forestry Exemption* of the Charles County Forest Conservation Program. If the land does not remain in commercial forestry use, the Owner must notify the Charles County Office of Planning. If the Owner makes an application for an activity regulated under the Forest Conservation Program, on all or part of the parcel within a five (5) year period, the County Commissioners of Charles County may require the Owner to meet the forest conservation threshold established in the Charles County Forest Conservation Ordinance, and may also assess a non-compliance fee of \$0.30 per square foot for forested areas disturbed in violation of this exemption.

I (We) declare under the penalties of perjury, that I (we) have examined the declaration, including any accompanying forms and statements, and that the information contained herein, to the best of my (our) knowledge, information, or belief, is true, correct, and complete.

Property Owner(s)
Signature(s) _____ Date _____
_____ Date _____

SAY NO TO DRUGS

NONTIDAL WETLANDS BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FOREST HARVEST OPERATIONS

Applicant Name _____ Phone# _____

Address _____

Location of Operation _____

Landowner Printed Name and Signature _____ Date _____

The following is a checklist for your use in determining which best management practices may be appropriate for your project. Check when appropriate:

Adversely impact nontidal wetland hydrology.

Major skid trails, where ever feasible, will be located on soils that resist compaction and ruts, or other disturbances that

Appropriate equipment to skid logs will be selected based on slope and the ability of the soil to resist erosion or other

Truck roads, wherever feasible, will be located on uplands or on the highest available ground available as to minimize impact nontidal wetlands.

Truck roads will be of minimum dimensions necessary to accomplish their purpose and minimize impacts to nontidal wetlands.

Truck roads will follow the natural contour of the land, wherever feasible, and shall be stabilized to minimize erosion.

Wetland hydrology will be maintained by construction diversion ditches at the minimum depth to maintain flow of water.

Wooden mats, filter cloth or similar temporary structures will be used to reduce compaction or creation of ruts.

Fill material will be used only when absolutely necessary to maintain or construct a road. If needed, fill shall be excavated from uplands and shall be free from state or federally designated toxic pollutants.

Intermittent and perennial streams, sloughs, or channels will not be crossed unless absolutely necessary. When necessary, crossing will at the shortest distance feasible, be of appropriate design, and allow unrestricted movement of aquatic life in the stream.

NOTE: A WATERWAY CONSTRUCTION PERMIT MAY BE REQUIRED

Log decks will be (a) located prior to road layout (b) located in uplands as far from streams and/or nontidal wetlands as practicable or on the highest available ground if uplands are unavailable, (c) kept to minimum size and number necessary for the operation, and (d) diversion ditches will be installed to direct water away from the deck during use.

Trash, debris, and chemicals will be collected and disposed of outside wetland areas.

Utilization of low ground pressure equipment (i.e. high flotation tires, wide tracts, etc.) will be used when nontidal wetland soils are unable to support conventional equipment.

Scheduling of forest harvest operations will be during periods when wetland soils are dry or frozen and are capable of supporting conventional equipment to prevent compaction, ruts, or other significant disturbances to nontidal wetland soils or hydrology.

All forest harvest operations will be conducted so as to prevent impoundment of water or increase runoff in the nontidal wetland, unless the change is recommended in a sediment and erosion control plan.

Harvesting will be conducted during dry periods or at times that enhance natural regeneration.

Natural regeneration will be utilized where feasible and will be the preferred method of regeneration in wetland areas.

Other (Describe additional practices) _____