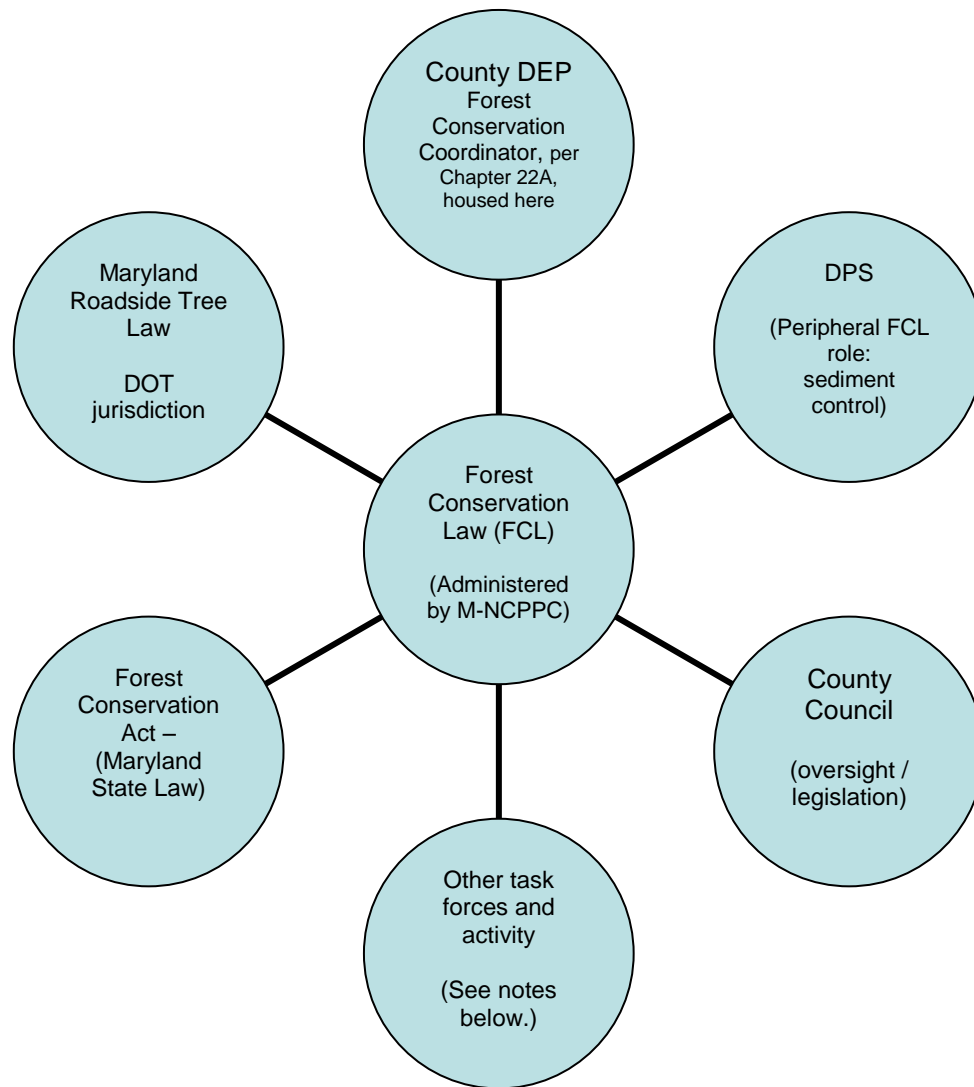


How Montgomery County Forest and Tree Laws are Currently Administered



History, task forces and other activity leading us to where we are today:

- FCL originally adopted in early 1990s to comply with State law.
- C&O Canal Task Force – convened in 2005 under guidance of Congressman Chris Van Hollen in the wake of the Snyder FCL violation in late 2004; recommended increased penalties for FCL. Council adopted the increased penalties as amendments.
- Forest Conservation Task Force - convened summer 2006- Jan.'07 by Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission; worked on operational revisions to FCL, not amendments. M-NCPPC implementing recommendations.
- MC Forest Conservation Advisory Committee – FCL was amended in late 2006 to set up this stakeholder advisory group appointed by the County Executive; focus is on both forest and tree protection. FCAC named in 2007 and first convened in March 2008.
- M-NCPPC internal review – Requested by Planning Board Chairman Hanson 2007 to review the FCL, re-write poorly written sections and clarify the law. Elrich amendments were added on. Legislation died in the Council T&E Committee 2008-09.
- Citizens – individuals and civic organizations report violations on an ongoing basis.
- FCL amendments to include trees in FCL drafted by Department of Environmental Protection (2008-2010), reviewed by stakeholders. Stakeholders propose an alternative to the DEP approach in 2011.

Acronyms: DEP= Department of Environmental Protection, DPS=Department of Permitting Services, DOT= Department of Transportation, M-NCPPC= Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

– Graphic developed by Ginny Barnes and Caren Madsen.