Achieving Maryland's Tree Planting Goals

- Chapter 645 of 2021 (Tree Solutions Now Act) established a new State policy to support and encourage public and private tree-planting efforts, with the goal of planting and helping to maintain 5 million sustainable native trees in the State by the end of 2031. Chapter 645 further provides that it is the intent of the General Assembly that at least 500,000 of those trees be planted in underserved areas. The State intends for tree plantings to help meet its goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045.

- The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) reports annually on progress towards meeting the State's tree planting goals. According to the 2025 Annual Report, 1,537,131 trees had been planted by the end of fiscal 2025, or 30.7% of the 5 million tree goal. The majority of these trees were planted through the Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Agriculture, which together accounted for 89% of the total. However, only 86,500 trees were planted in underserved areas, accounting for just 17.3% of the 500,000 tree goal for these areas.

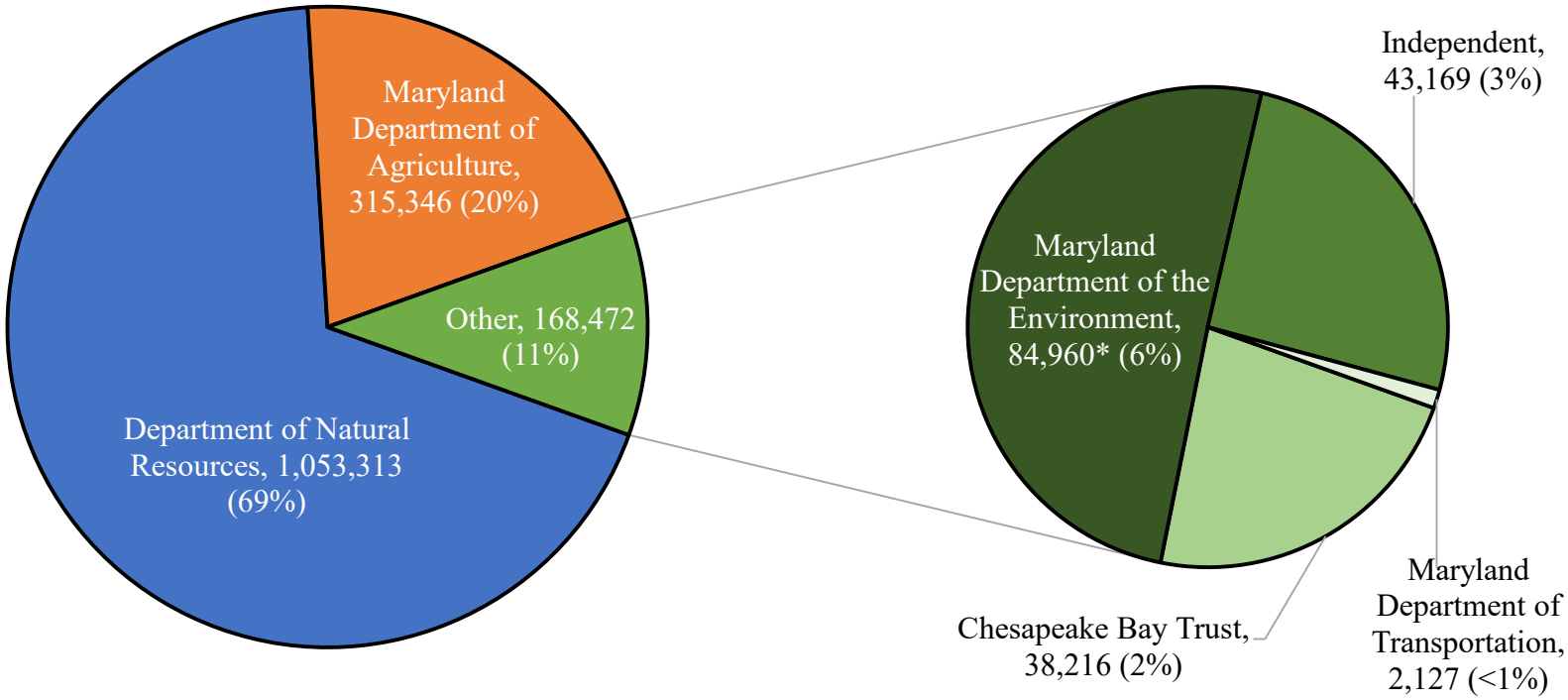
- Tree plantings have been scattered throughout all regions of the State. The five counties with the most tree plantings are, in descending order, Washington, Carroll, Queen Anne's, Garrett, and Frederick counties. These counties represent four of the State's five regions: Western Maryland, the Capital Region, Central Maryland, and the Eastern Shore. Southern Maryland is not represented in the top five counties but is captured in the top ten counties at the eighth and tenth spots (Charles County and St. Mary's County, respectively).

- Approximately 3.4 million additional trees will need to be planted by 2031 to reach the 5 million tree goal, equating to approximately 57,700 tree-plantings per month through 2031. There were more trees planted in fiscal 2025 than in fiscal 2024, a trend that will need to be sustained to meet the 2031 goal.

- In addition to publishing annual reports, MDE provides periodic updates on the progress made toward meeting the State's tree planting goals through the 5 Million Trees for Maryland website (mde.maryland.gov/trees). The website includes data gathered from multiple sources, including various State agencies and private planting organizations, and thus does not necessarily reflect consistent totals when parsed in different ways.

Prepared by: Department of Legislative Services
Source: Maryland Department of the Environment
Contact Information: Beatrice Amoateng (410–946–5510)
Updated: October 2026

Trees Planted by Entity
(Through Fiscal 2025)



Total Trees Planted (out of 5,000,000 tree goal):	**1,537,131 (30.7%)**
Trees Planted in Underserved Areas (out of 500,000 tree goal):	**86,500 (17.3%)**

*The Maryland Department of the Environment's total includes local tree plantings under MS4 permits.

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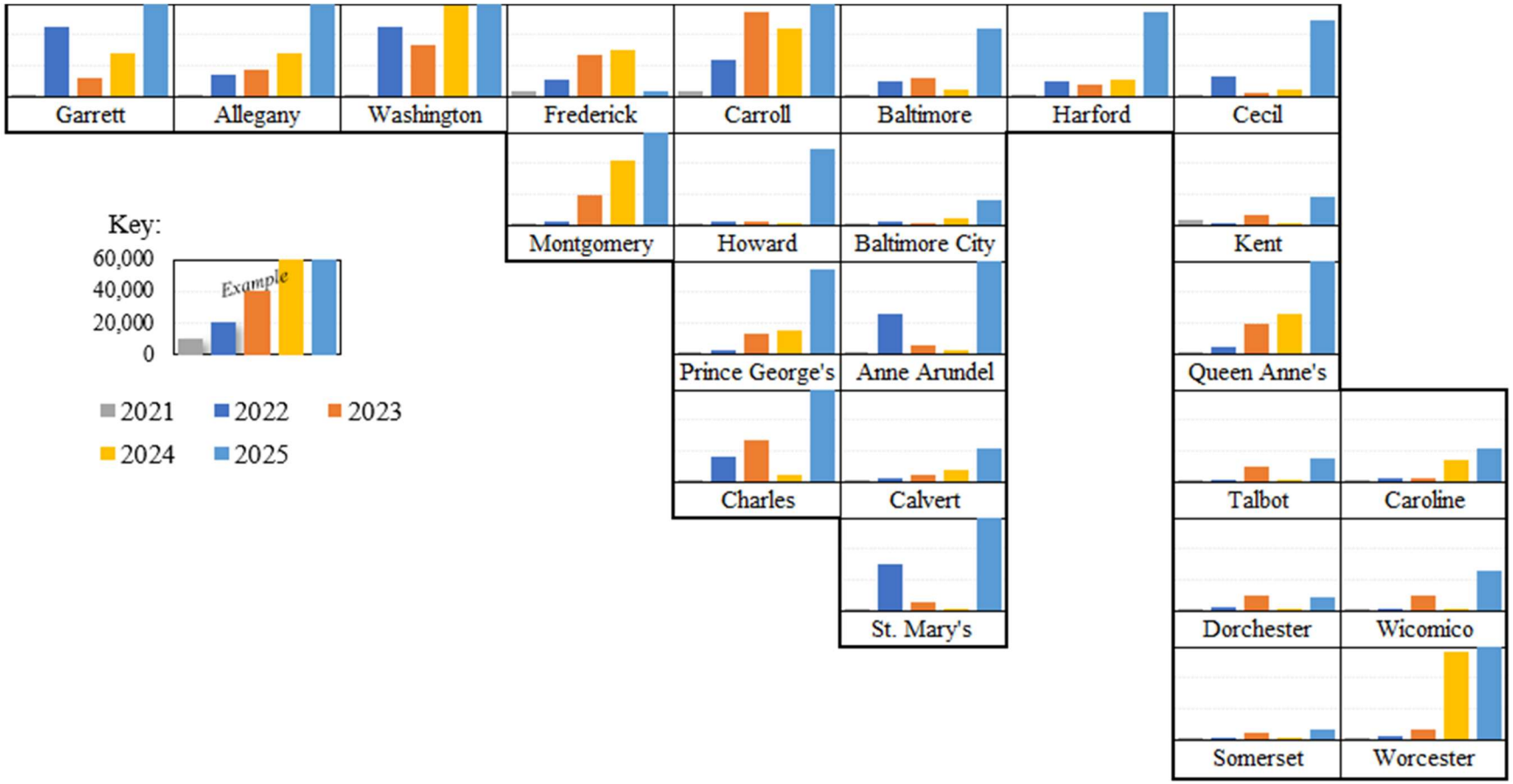
Trees Planted by County and Year as part of 5 Million Trees Initiative
Fiscal 2021 – 2025



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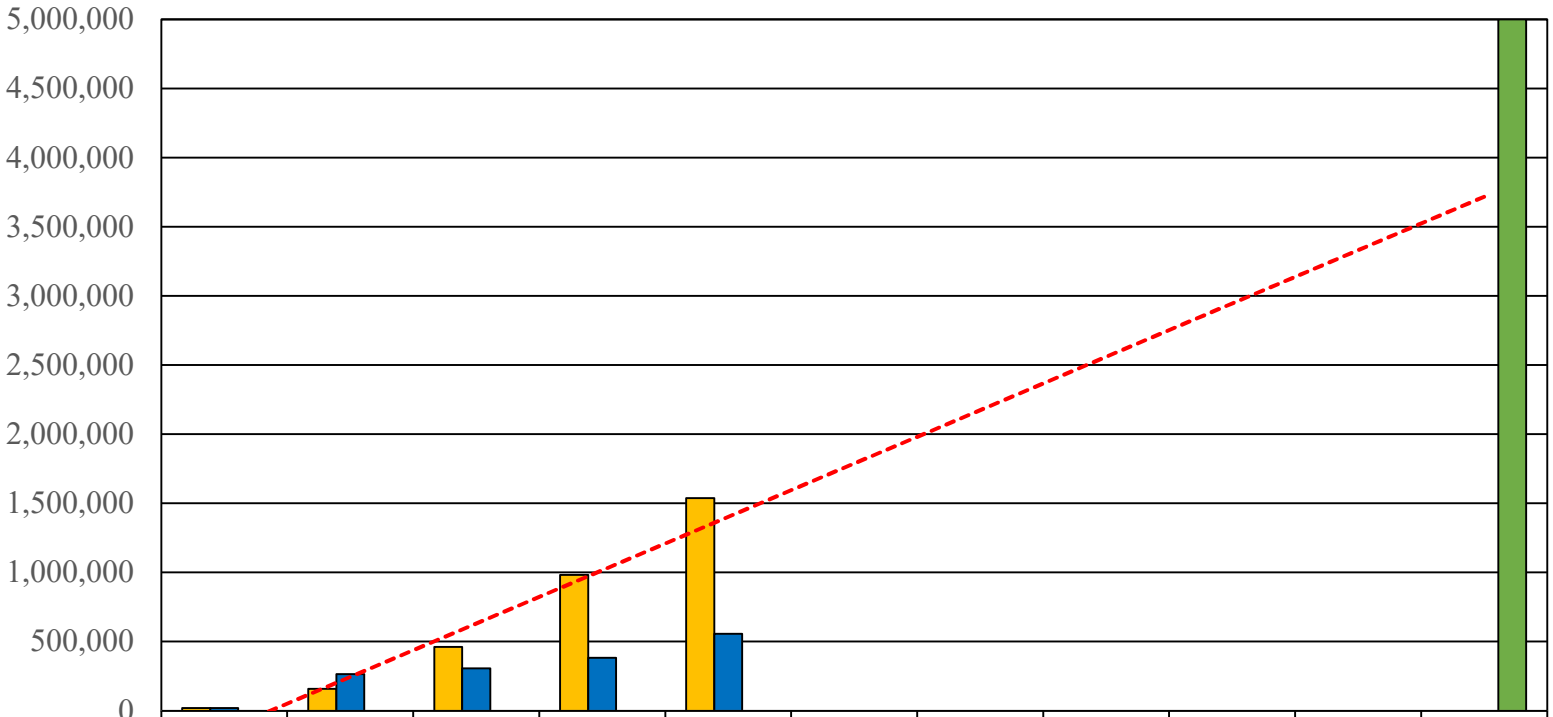
Trees Planted Trend Towards Calendar 2031 Goal
Fiscal 2021-2031



	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Trees Planted Cumulative	20,081	157,552	460,805	981,801	1,537,131						
Trees Planted Annual	20,081	264,490	306,071	381,485	555,330						
Goal											5,000,000

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