



**Maryland State Tree Expert Licensing Annual Report  
Natural Resources Article § 5-419(c)**

**Annual Report**

**July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021**  
(MSAR #10957)

Submitted by:  
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio  
Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Submitted to:  
Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee  
Paul Pinsky, Chair

House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Kumar P. Barve, Chair

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## Introduction

Natural Resources Article § 5-419.(c) (Tree Expert Licensing Laws) states that the Secretary shall submit an annual report on:

- 1) The number of licenses issued;
- 2) The program receipts; and,
- 3) The program expenses for each fiscal year (1957, art 66C, sec. 405; 1973, 1st Sp. Sess., ch. 4, sec. 1.)

## Number of Licenses Issued

At the end of the calendar year, 644 licenses were renewed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (Department) for a total of 1,296 Licensed Tree Experts (LTEs). The Department also issued 91 new licenses during the fiscal year.

In order to help tree care workers obtain their required tree expert license during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maryland Forest Service held six exams outdoors at Sandy Point State Park. These exams were held once a month in September, October, and November of 2020, and April, May and June of 2021. The largest pavilion at the park was used to accommodate for social distancing. Quality control was applied to ensure that this new methodology of testing was consistent, fair, and accurate. Each exam date had between 34 and 44 examinees in attendance.

One hundred and twenty (120) tree care workers were not eligible to renew their licenses because they did not obtain the required eight continuing education credits. Others were ineligible to renew due to outstanding issues with the Comptroller's Office. The Department has noticed every year that a small number of individuals who do not renew or are unable to renew apply to retake the exam in following years.

## Program Receipts

Revenues posted to Source Code 5340, Tree Expert Licenses: **\$16,196.**

*Please note revenue sources include examination fees and license renewal fees.*

## Program Expenses

An Administrative Specialist (Grade 12, Step 17) 40% of time:	\$20,483
Program expenses:	\$ 1,300
	<b>Total: \$21,783</b>

*Please note that Program Supervisor salary and investigative enforcement costs from Maryland Forest Service and Natural Resources Police are not included in these figures.*