



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

Annual Report

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Submitted by:
Josh Kurtz
Secretary, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

The facilities and services of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources are available to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, or physical or mental disability. This document is available in alternative format upon request.

Introduction

Maryland's tree expert licensing laws seek to ensure that tree work in our state is led by individuals with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to provide high-quality, scientifically sound care for trees to provide consumer confidence, safe working conditions, and better cared-for trees. By providing safe, quality tree care services for the people of Maryland, these laws reduce the amount of damage caused by trees in storms, increase property values, more effectively clean our air, and cool our communities.

This report includes the annual facts and figures required by Natural Resources Article § 5-419.(c) (Tree Expert Licensing Laws), namely:

- 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, 693 licenses were renewed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for a total of 1,273 Licensed Tree Experts (LTEs). Licenses are renewed every two years — odd in odd-numbered years, even in even-numbered years. The Department also issued 182 new licenses during the fiscal year, which is over 100 more new licenses than the previous year.

Nearly two hundred (170) tree care workers were not eligible to renew their licenses because they did not obtain the required eight continuing education credits and/or were ineligible to renew due to outstanding issues with the Comptroller's Office. The Department has noticed an improvement in the number of individuals who renew or retake the exam in following years.

Program Receipts

Revenues posted to Source Code 5340, Tree Expert Licenses: **\$20,204.00.**

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

Program Expenses

An Administrative Specialist (Grade 12, Step 17) 40% of time: \$20,483.00

Program expenses: \$ 3,900.00

Total: \$24,383.00

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