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TOWN OF MYERSVILLE
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To: Myersville Mayor & Council
CC: Kathy Gaver, Town Clerk; File
From: Brandon Boldyga, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Date: May 13, 2024
Re: MS-4 Restoration Goal

Mayor & Council of the Town of Myersville,

In April, there was a request for staff to provide an update to the Town of Myersville’s municipal separate storm sewer system (MS-4) impervious restoration goal established by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The restoration goal, required by the current MS-4 permit held by the Town, requires that the Town restore 20 percent of all impervious surface within the jurisdiction to pervious surface. Based on calculations provided by the Town’s engineering consultant, Arro Consulting, the Town is required to restore 15.14 acres of impervious surface. This calculation considers that there are impervious surfaces that do not fall under the Town’s jurisdiction within the corporate limits of the Town, and that there are stormwater best management practices (BMPs) that treat rainfall to the degree necessary to qualify that drainage area as equivalent to pervious surfaces.

The MDE permit also provides opportunities to obtain credits towards that goal using alternative methods such as tree planting projects, septic connections to a sewer collection system, and stream restoration projects. The Town of Myersville has conducted a number of tree planting projects to date including street trees, forest plantings, and individual tree plantings to establish a tree canopy. Additionally, the Town has connected 24 septic systems, with one (1) septic connected by private development. Below are tables detailing the projects completed thus far and the total restoration credits obtained.

Area Name	Area (AC)	Credit (AC)	Status
Bullivant Park - Completed	1.80	0.68	Complete
Doub's Meadow Park Wetland Area	2.54	0.97	Complete
Fisher Farm Park	0.52	0.20	Complete
Grindstone Run Park	0.59	0.22	Complete
Young Nature Preserve	0.70	0.27	Complete
Total	3.65	2.34	

Table 1: Forest Planting Areas Completed

Area Name	Trees	Credit (AC)	Status
Grindstone Run Park	12	0.05	Complete
Total	12	0.05	

Table 2: Street Tree Plantings Completed

Area Name	Trees	Credit (AC)	Status
Church Hill Road SWM Area	3	0.01	Complete
Doubs Meadow Park - East Side	54	0.21	Complete
Doubs Meadow Park - West Side	3	0.01	Complete
Flook Park	14	0.05	Complete
Gaver Park Area	26	0.10	Complete
North Valley Church (Private)	3	0.01	Complete
Memorial Park	3	0.01	Complete
Total	103	0.40	

Table 3: Urban Tree Canopy Plantings Completed

Area Name	Connections	Credit (AC)	Status
Canada Hill Road	24	9.36	Complete
Monument Road	1	0.39	Complete
Total	25	9.75	

Table 4: Septic Connections Completed

Area Name	Achieved (AC)
Forest Plantings	2.34
Street Trees	0.05
Urban Tree Canopy	0.40
Septic Connections	9.75
Total	12.54

Table 5: Credits Achieved

The Town has achieved 12.54 acres of total credit towards the 15.14-acre restoration goal through completed projects. The Town has additional projects planned to move the Town towards full achievement of the restoration goal as follows:

Area Name	Area (AC)	Credit (AC)	Status
Bullivant Park – Remainder	1.76	0.67	Proposed
Total	1.76	0.67	

Table 6: Planned Forest Planting Projects

Area Name	Connections	Credit (AC)	Status
Easterday Road	3	1.17	Proposed
Total	3	1.17	

Table 7: Planned Septic Connections

Impervious Surface Restoration Req	15.14
Restoration Credits Completed	12.54
Credit Planned	1.84
Remaining Credit Required	0.76

Table 8: Restoration Credit Analysis

The Town plans to achieve credits for an additional 1.84 acres of restoration. At this time, the Town will need to find an additional 0.76 acres of credit to comply with the 15.14-acre impervious surface restoration goal. The Town’s restoration goal is facing a shortfall due partially to several modifications made to the Town’s adopted action plan since the plan was adopted in 2018 and due to high mortality rates of trees planted due to drought, deer scraping, deer browse and vole damage. The modifications that were made are as follows:

1. Reduction in forest planting area at Grindstone Run Park to install walking trail and playground equipment. (0.25 acres or 0.10 acres of credit)
2. Reduction in forest planting area at Fisher Park to install playground equipment. (0.21 acres or 0.08 acres of credit)
3. Reduction in forest planting area at Doubs Meadow Park due to maintenance and mowing activities. (0.12 acres or 0.05 acres of credit)
4. Failure to remove asphalt at Harp Park (0.10 acres of credit)

Staff is hopeful that the Town can still achieve the 15.14-acre restoration goal through the following steps:

1. Complete all previously planned projects (Easterday Road sewer line and Bullivant Park forest area)
2. Install temporary fencing in areas where planting areas are vulnerable to maintenance activities
3. Establish new planting areas for forest plantings or urban tree canopy on areas not previously approved for planting:

- a. Ashley oil-grit separator site
- b. Bullivant Park (directly behind Ashley subdivision)
- c. Sewer Treatment Plant
- d. Areas along Doubs hiker trail from Myersville Municipal Center