

Survey Results 2010

Maryland Woodland Stewards



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION
Solutions in your community

*Maryland Woodland Stewards
Since 1990*

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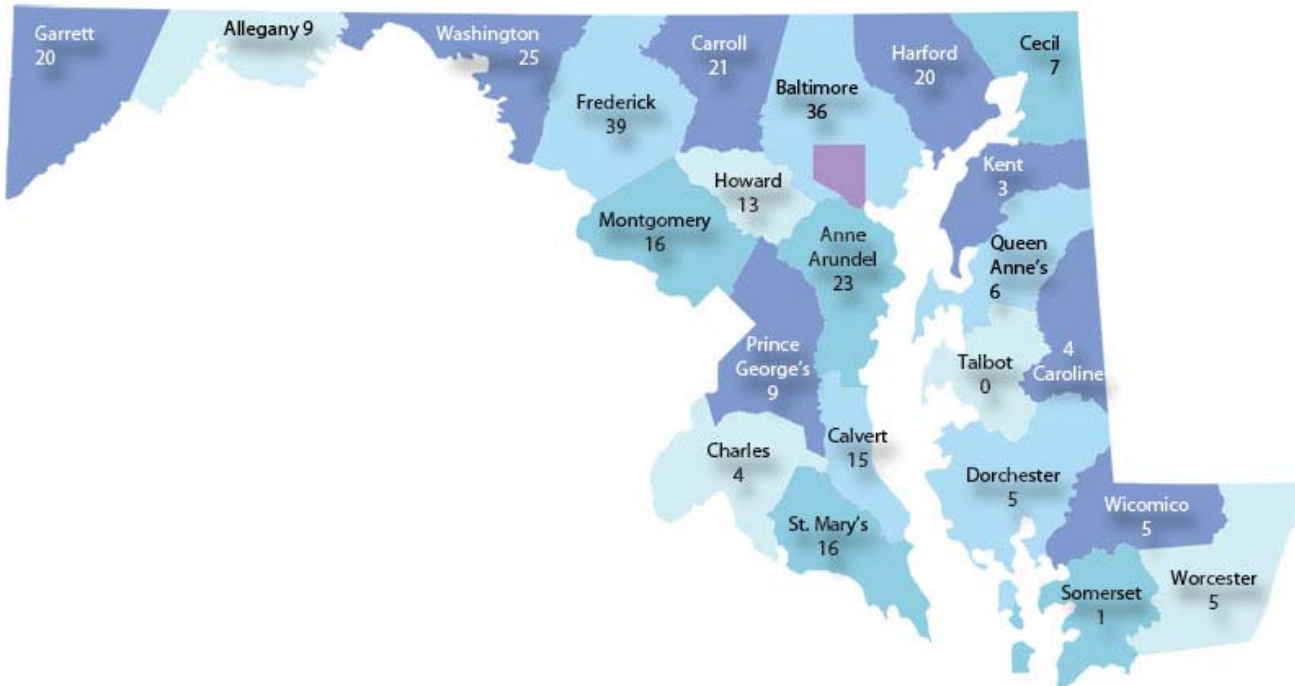
University of Maryland Extension

2010

Overview

2010 is the 20th year anniversary for the Maryland Woodland Steward (MWS). Currently, there are just over 300 active cooperators across Maryland. The distribution of cooperators is shown in the map below:

Maryland Woodland Stewards Active Cooperators



Earlier in 2010, funding was lost for the MWS program that is typically held each fall. With no program in 2010, we placed all our efforts developing ways to reinvigorate the program. We began by surveying current cooperators. In March, an online and paper version of this survey was created for current cooperators. The purpose of the survey was to collect vital information that would help us decipher the success of the program as well as to use the data in summary to seek future funding. This survey was delivered in five areas as summarized below:

General: This section collected basic information about Steward such as name, year of training, email address, county of residence, acres owned, and location of acreage.

Activities: This section collected information about the type of forestry activity there has been during the year including land management activity, educational outreach pursued, types of media used to reach and educate others, and the estimated dollar value savings as a result of MWS assistance.

Additional Training: Since funding was lost for the 2010 workshop, we made a great effort to provide MWS Refresher Courses at five locations across Maryland. We also asked for topics of interest. In this section, we collected names and contact information for 2011 workshop participants, should funding be restored.

Success Stories: This section provided an opportunity for the MWS to talk about successes they experienced that made their MWS training worthwhile. In addition, we asked for any other comments they had about the MWS program.

Network and Webinars: In this section, we focused upon UME's efforts to reach landowners using relevant technology including an online forestry network and education through webinars. We introduced Maryland Woodland Connect, a new network created by UME for property owners in Maryland with an interest in forestry, wildlife and/or natural resources. We invited Stewards to take an active role in using Maryland Woodland Connect for outreach. Additionally, we asked participants to provide the topics of interest for future webinars.

In March, a letter was mailed to active cooperators (Exhibit A – p. 16). This letter detailed the current situation of the MWS Program and urged active cooperators to participate in this year's survey. Two methods of participation were provided – online and paper version. 300 letters were sent requesting participation in the survey. 61 Stewards participated in the survey at a response rate of 21%. Of these responses, 92% were online responses and 8% were handwritten responses. The results of this survey are revealed in this report and they are organized by the five areas described above.

Survey Results

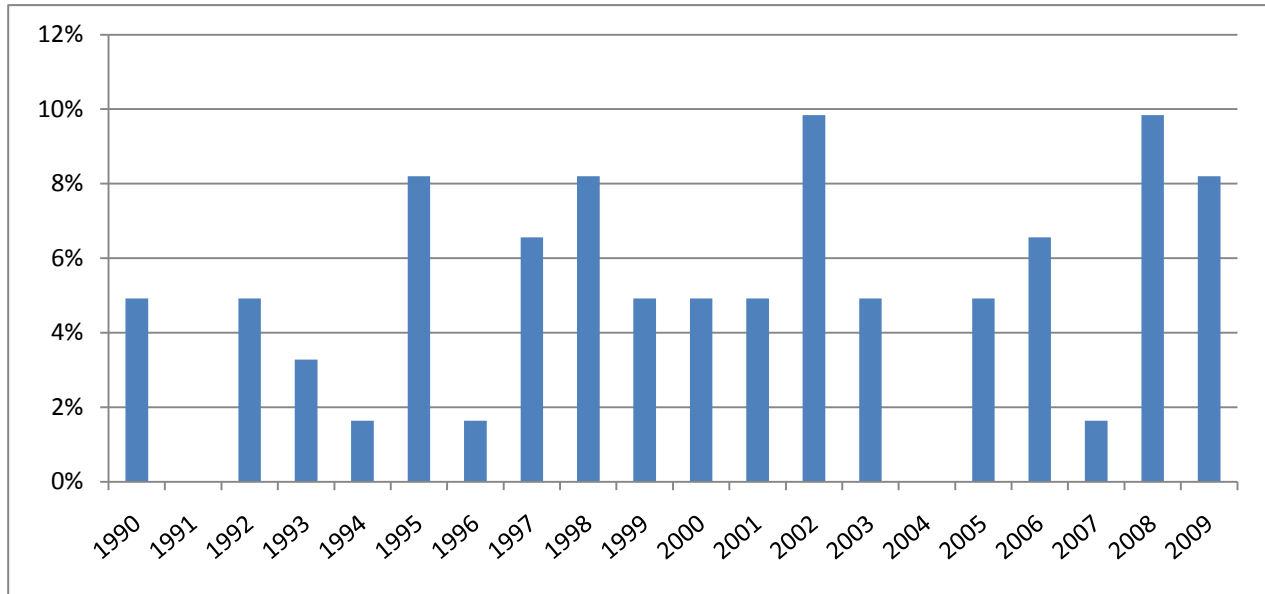
Section I – General

Question 1:

Please enter your name. *(100% provided.)*

Question 2:

What year were you trained as a Maryland Woodland Steward (or Coverts Cooperator)?

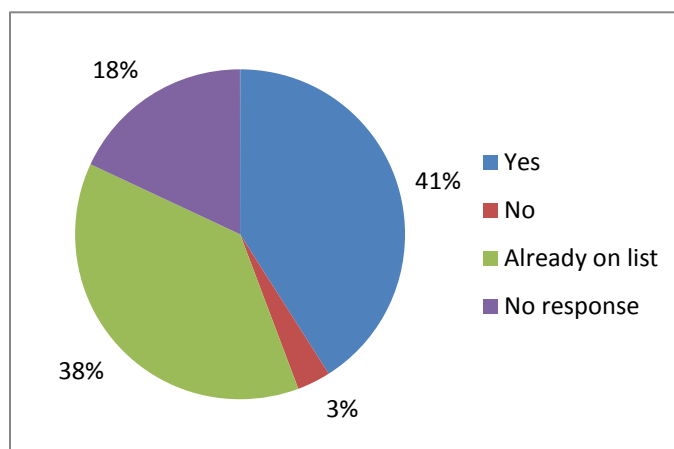


Question 3:

Please provide your email address. *(93% provided.)*

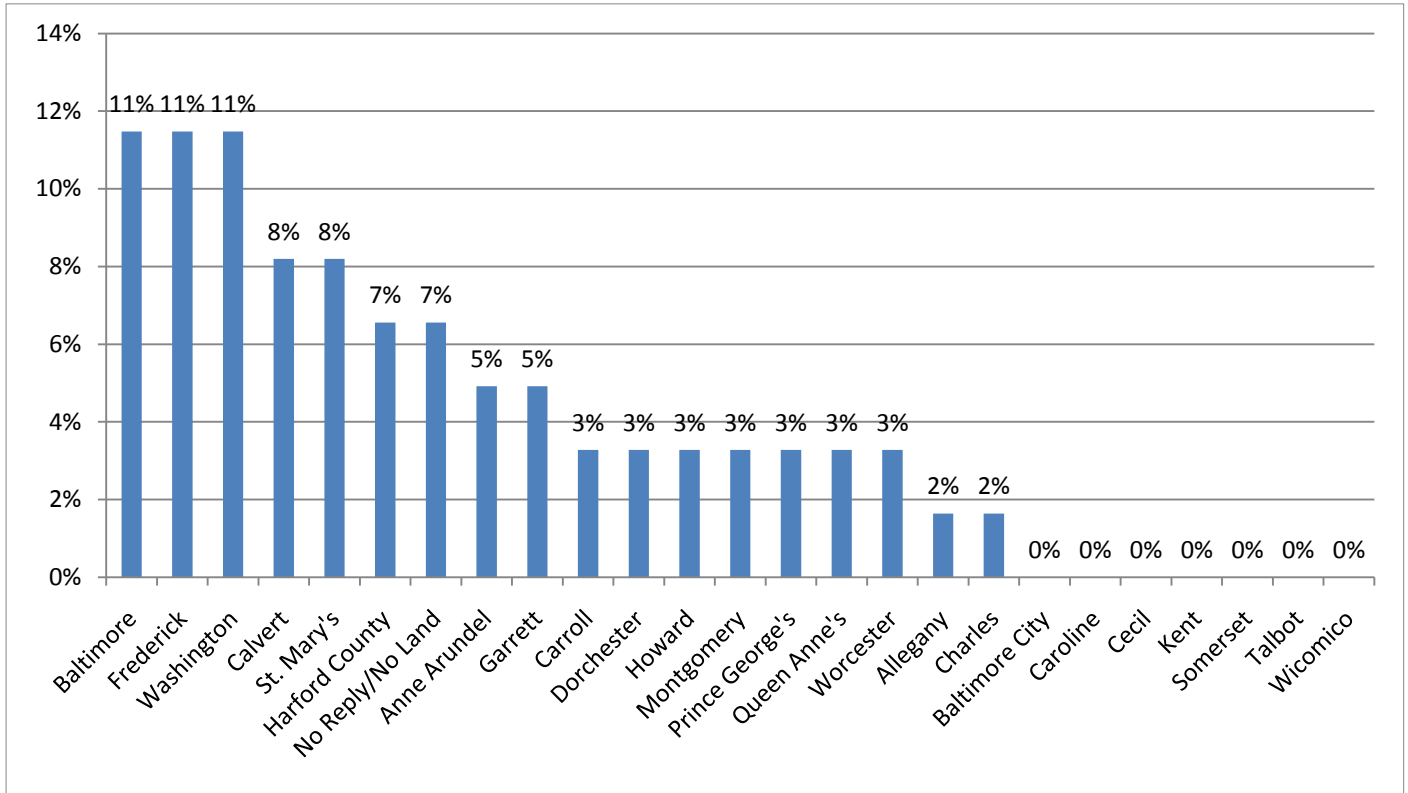
Question 4:

May we add your email address to the Maryland Woodland Stewards Listserv to ensure you receive future communications about the Maryland Woodland Stewards program as well as announcements about new issues of our newsletter, Branching Out?



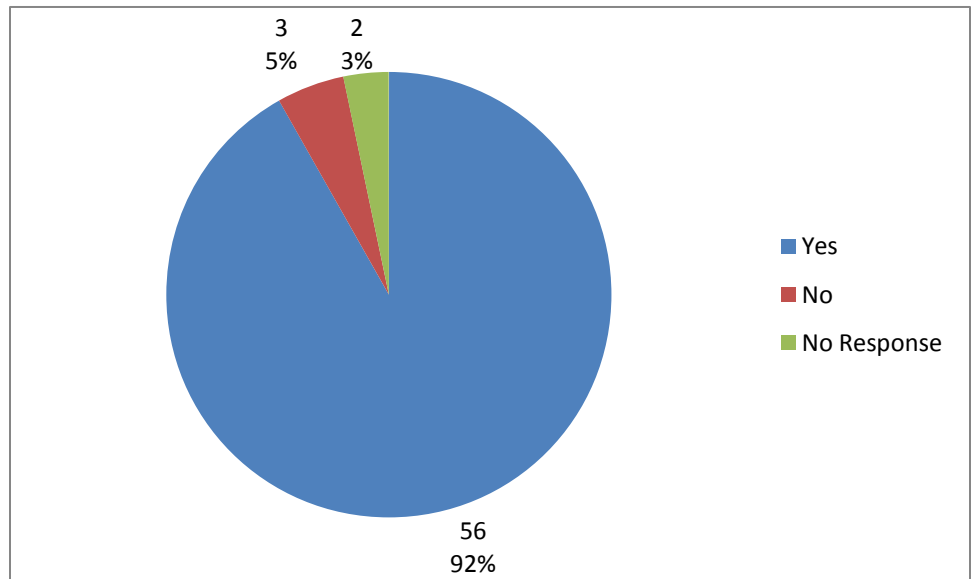
Question 5:

In what county do you reside?



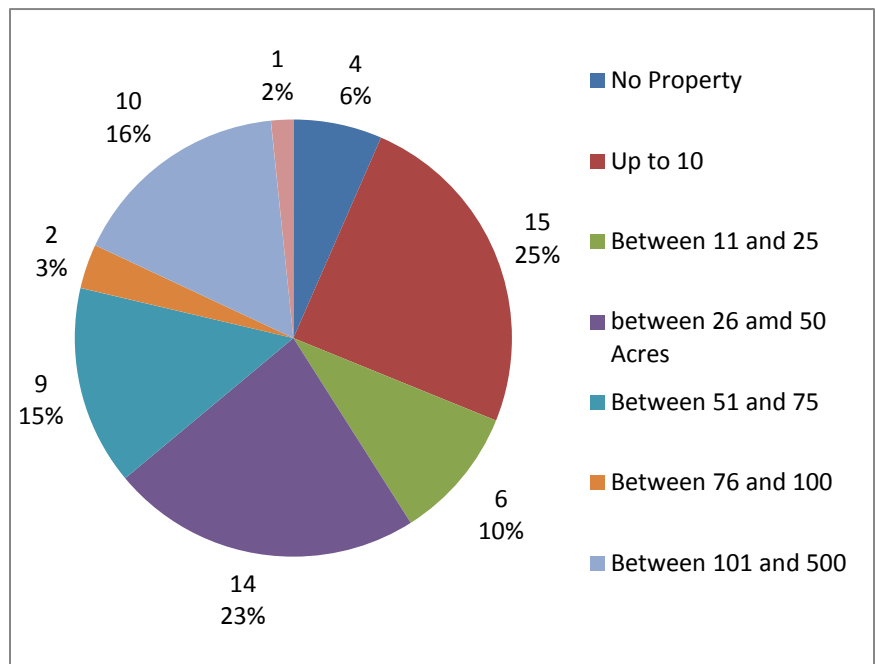
Question 6:

Do you own land?

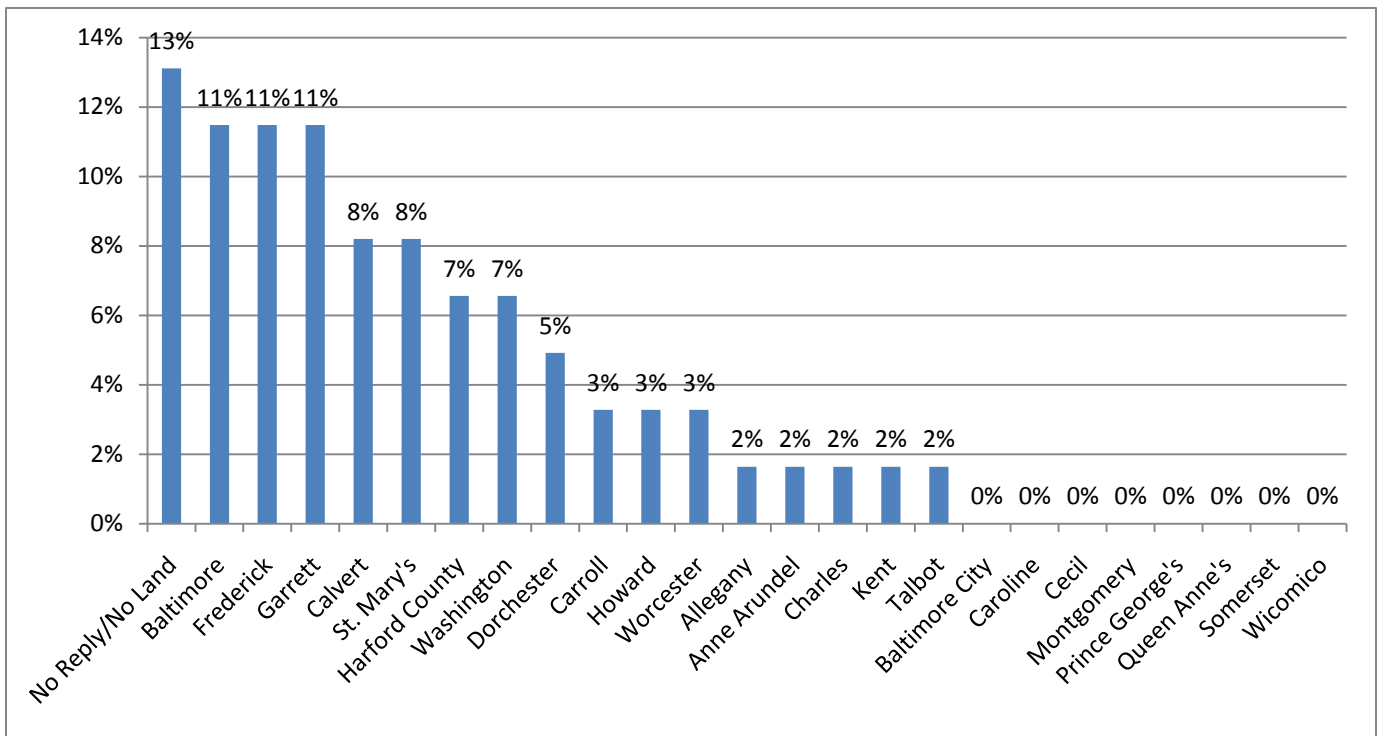


Question 6, Con't.:
If yes, how many acres?

Total acres reported: 6,645.



Question 7:
If you own land, in what county is your land located?

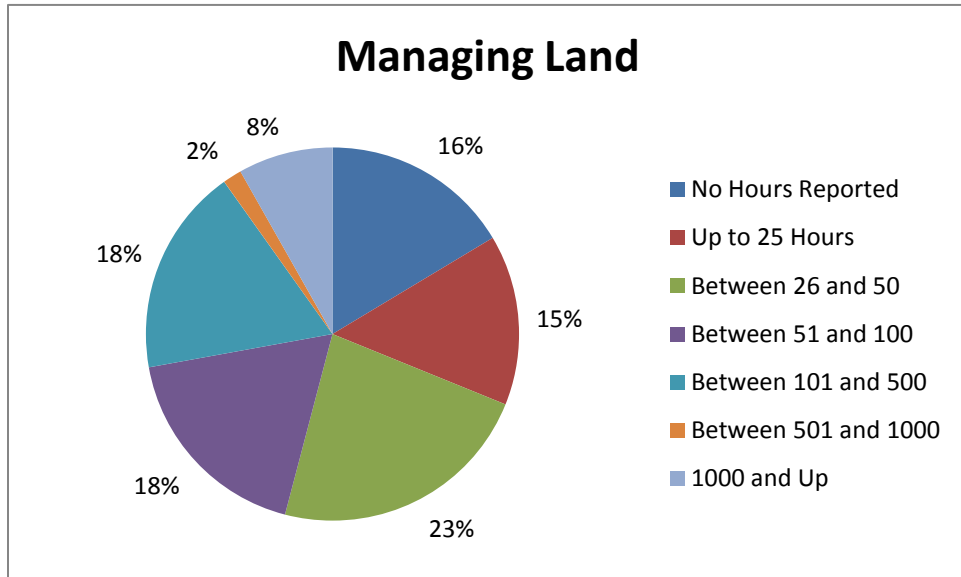


Section II - Activities

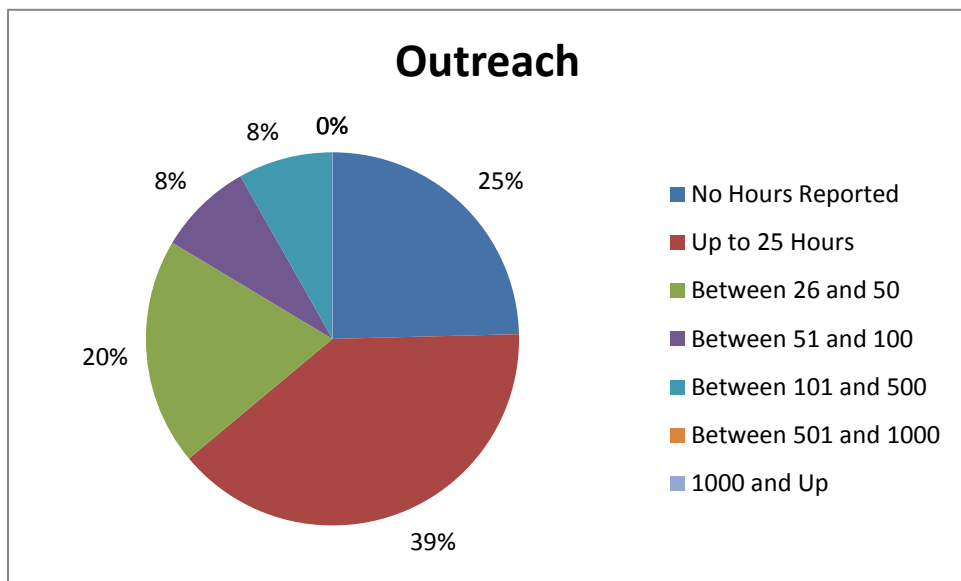
Question 1:

Approximately how many hours have you spent on the following activities in the last year?

Total hours reported for Managing Land: 15,294



Total hours reported for Outreach: 2,624

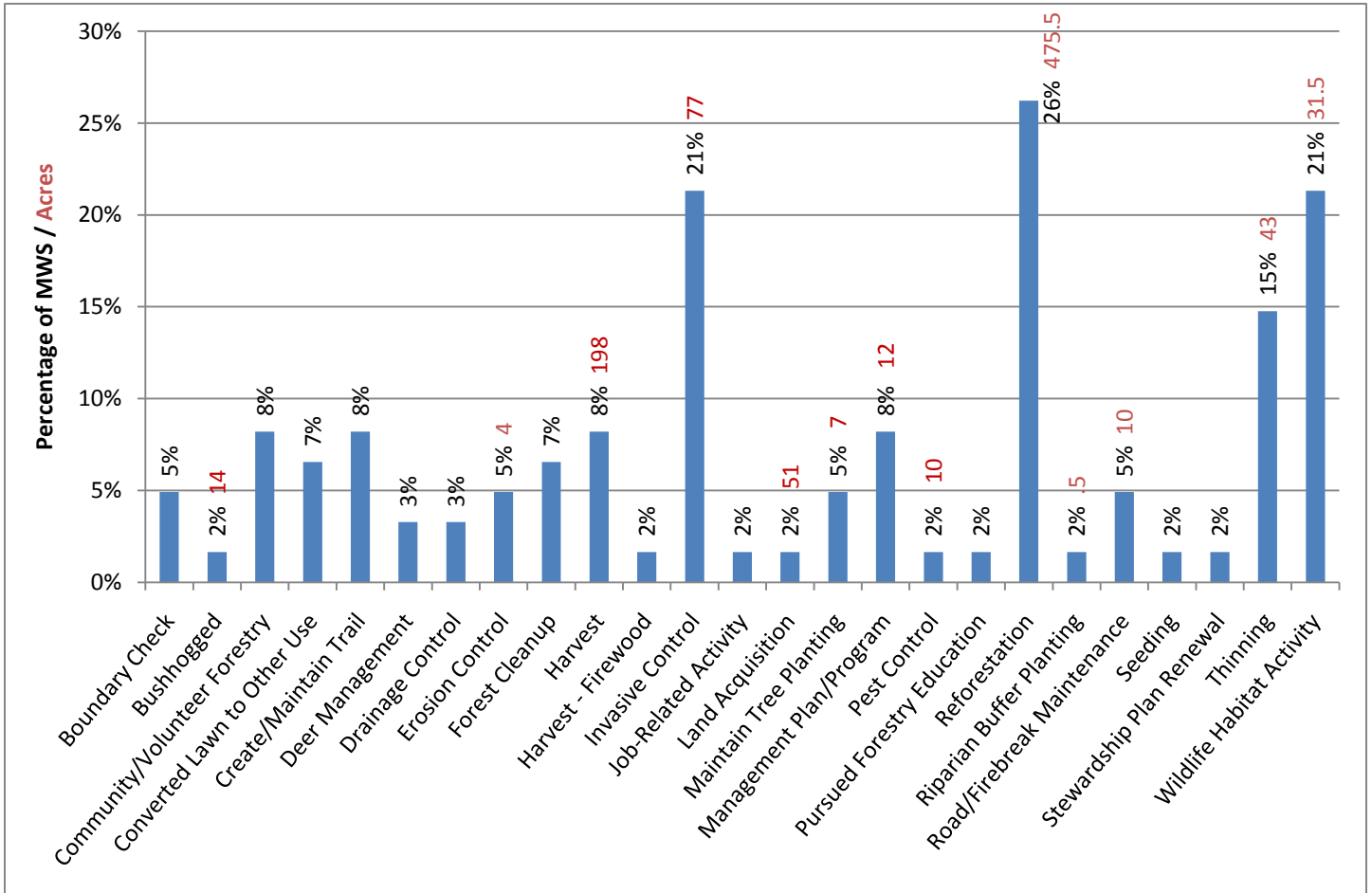


Question 2:

List the activities in managing your land that you have taken in the past year and the acres involved (ex. Developed a management plan for 30 acres; thinning for 2 acres; planting for one acre). For details, please see Appendix 1, page 17.

933.5 Managed Acres Reported

Note: Acreage data was only supplied by a small number of respondents and does not represent the total acreage affected.

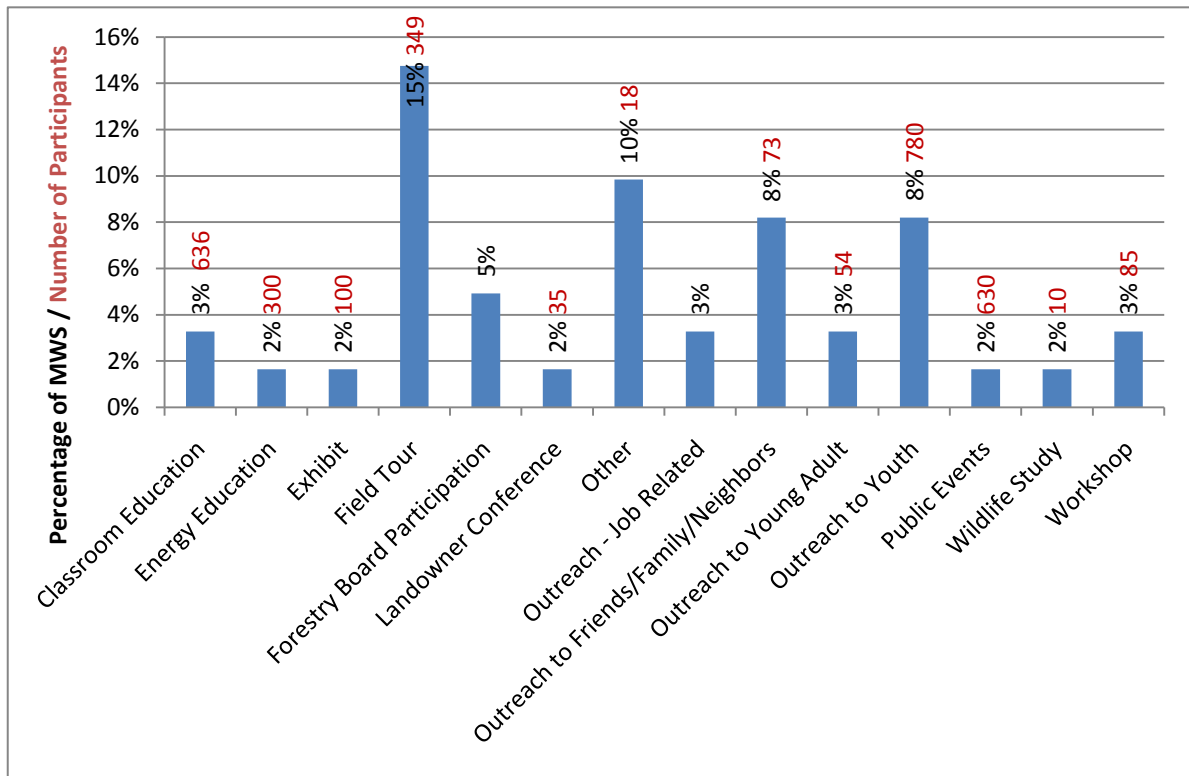


Question 3:

List any field tours or other activities you arranged or helped to arrange during the past year where forestry/wildlife information was presented, and the approximate number of participants for each activity. For detail, please see Appendix 2, page 20.

Participation Reported: 3,070.

Note: Participation data was only supplied by a small number of respondents and does not represent the total participation.

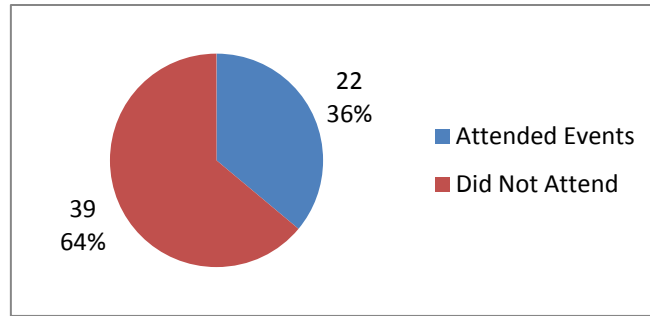


Additional Notes:

- A greater number of Maryland Woodland Stewards reached and educated people in smaller groups via field tours (15%), and outreach to friends, family and neighbors (8%), and other means (10%). However, 8% of Maryland Woodland Stewards reached youth through larger venues.
- Some field tours incorporated recreational activities such as a paint ball tournament and camping.
- Larger masses of people were reached through public venues and events, such as schools (648), public libraries (at least 50), classroom education (636), and convention-style or open house events (400).
- A great number of elementary school students were reached and activities included:
 - “Wildlife in Your Backyard” education for homeschooled students.
 - MWS assisted in the discovery and nomination of two Maryland Big Trees behind Williamsport Elementary School, Washington County. The trees were celebrated with a school-wide assembly and Big Tree recognition and presentation by DNR Forester (approx. 515 total students as well as school administration and staff).
 - At Clearspring Elementary School, Washington County, a wildlife presentation was made to all sixth graders (approx. 133 total students).
 - Youth were also reached at several local public libraries.

Question 4:

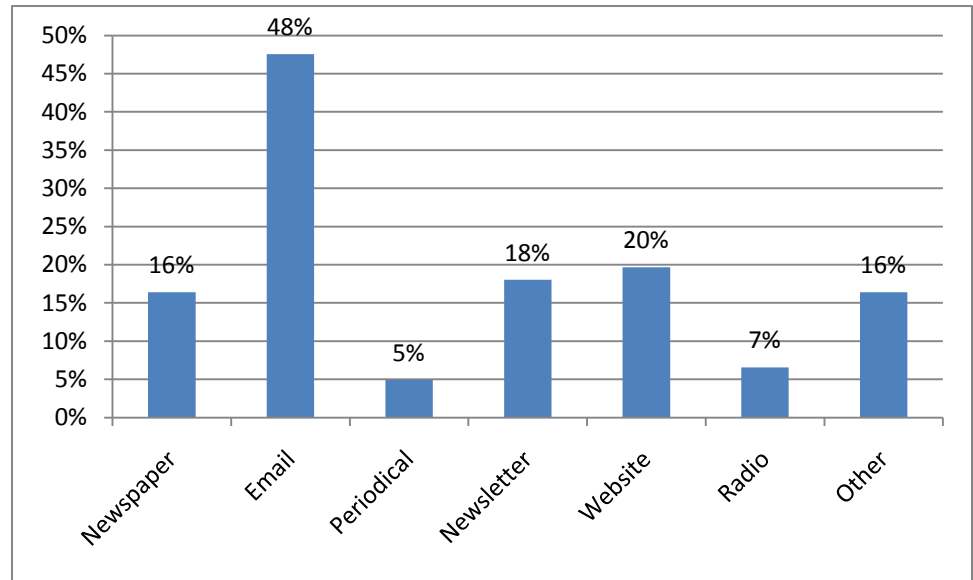
List any field tours, programs, or other activities where forestry/wildlife information was presented that you participated in this past year. For details, please see Appendix 3, page 22.



Additional notes: Some events that Maryland Woodland Stewards participated in were field tours, harvests, reforestation projects, Master Gardener programs, seminars, conferences, workshops, fire control demonstration, and events advocating for sustainable forestry.

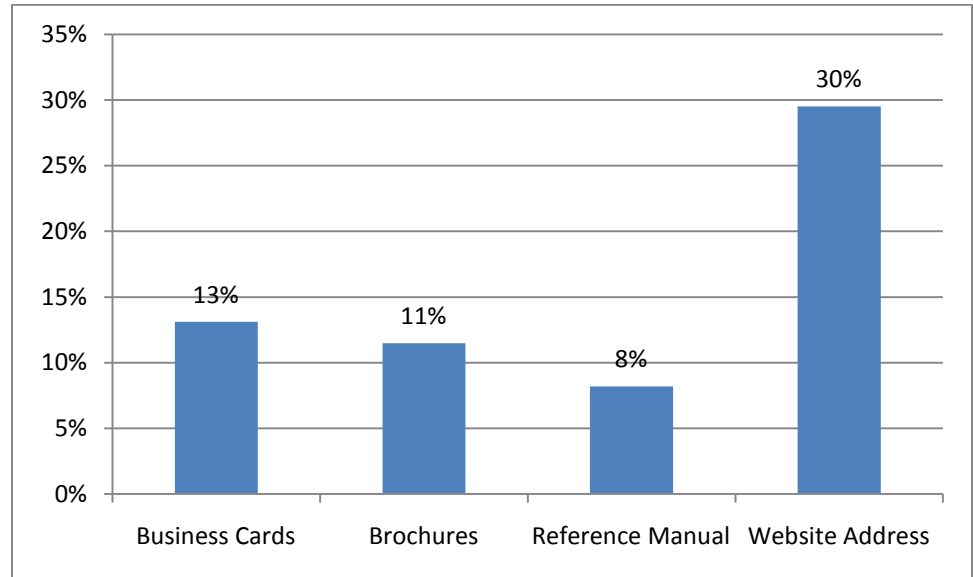
Question 5:

Check any/all types of media that you used to inform people of forestry/wildlife issues during the past year.



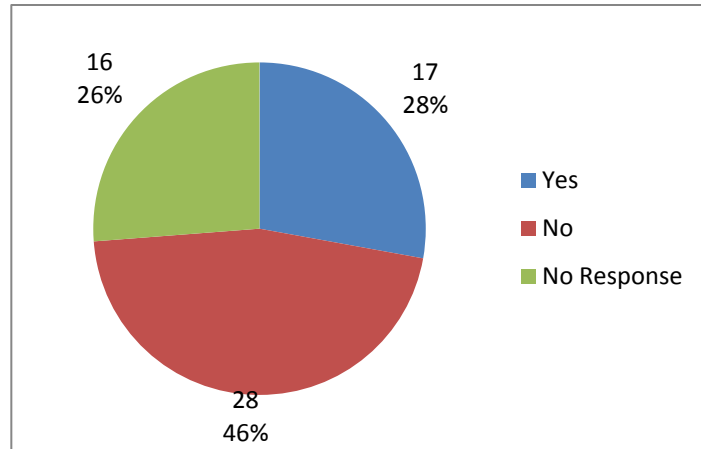
Question 6:

Check any/all Maryland Woodland Stewards materials that you have distributed during the past year:



Question 7:

Have any property owners sought professional forest management assistance as a result of your efforts in the last year?



Question 7, Con't

If yes, how were they affected? See Appendix 4, page 24.

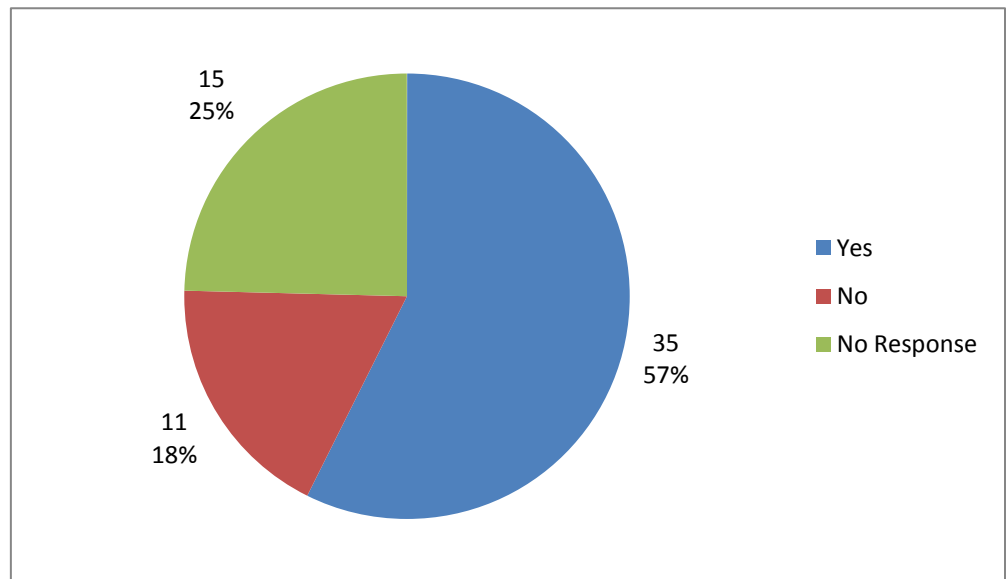
Question 8:

Please estimate the dollar value (if any) of the benefits you and your contacts have received as a result of your MWS training. For example, your neighbor received an offer for his timber. But on your advice, he contacted a professional forester and received \$5,000 more for the same timber.

Approximate value recorded is \$748,500.00. For complete detail, see Appendix 5, page 25.

Question 9:

Would you allow an education worker to use your property to show how forest and wildlife principles have been applied?

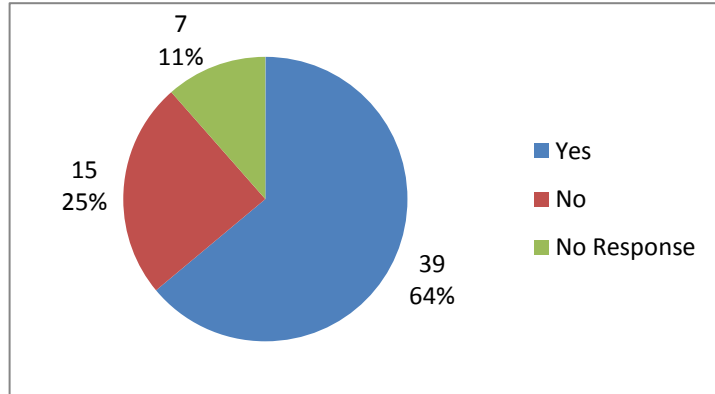


If yes, what could be shown? Please see Appendix 6, page 26.

Section III – Additional Training

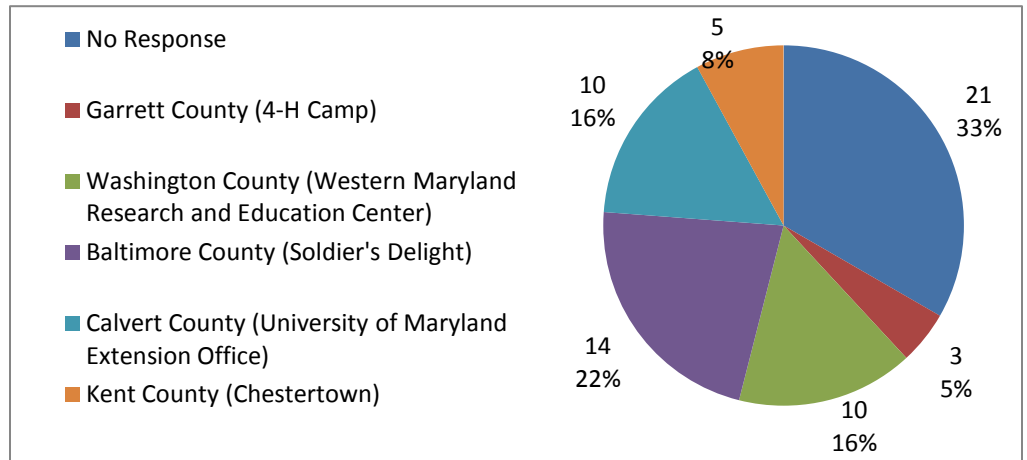
Question 1:

Are you interested in attending a Maryland Woodland Steward refresher course this year?



Question 2:

If so, what location is most convenient for you?



Question 3:

What topics are you interested in learning about during the refresher course? Please see Appendix 7, page 28.

Question 4:

Please recommend one or more participants to attend next year's MWS training.

39 individuals provided.

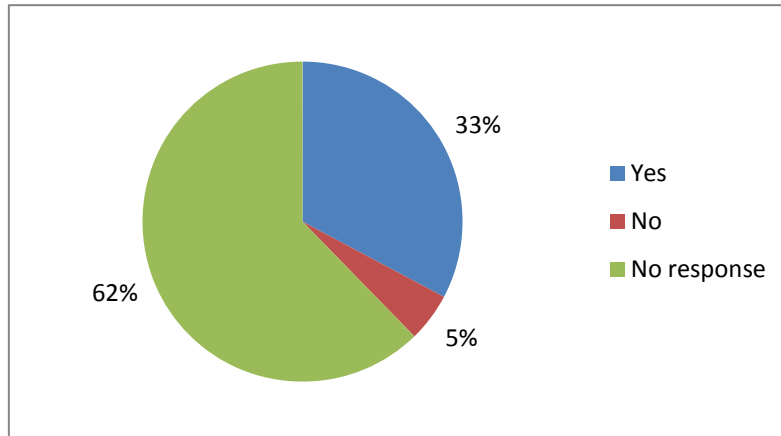
Section 4 – Share Your Story

Question 1:

Please share a success story from this past year that made your MWS training worthwhile, e.g., someone you influenced or changes in wildlife abundance as a result of a management practice. Please see Appendix 8, page 30.

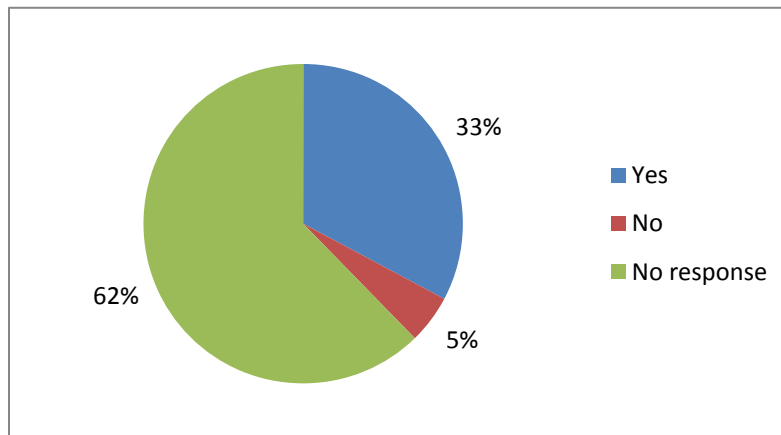
Question 2:

May we Share your success story with the public?



Question 3:

Along with your success story, may we share your first name, last name and your county with the public?



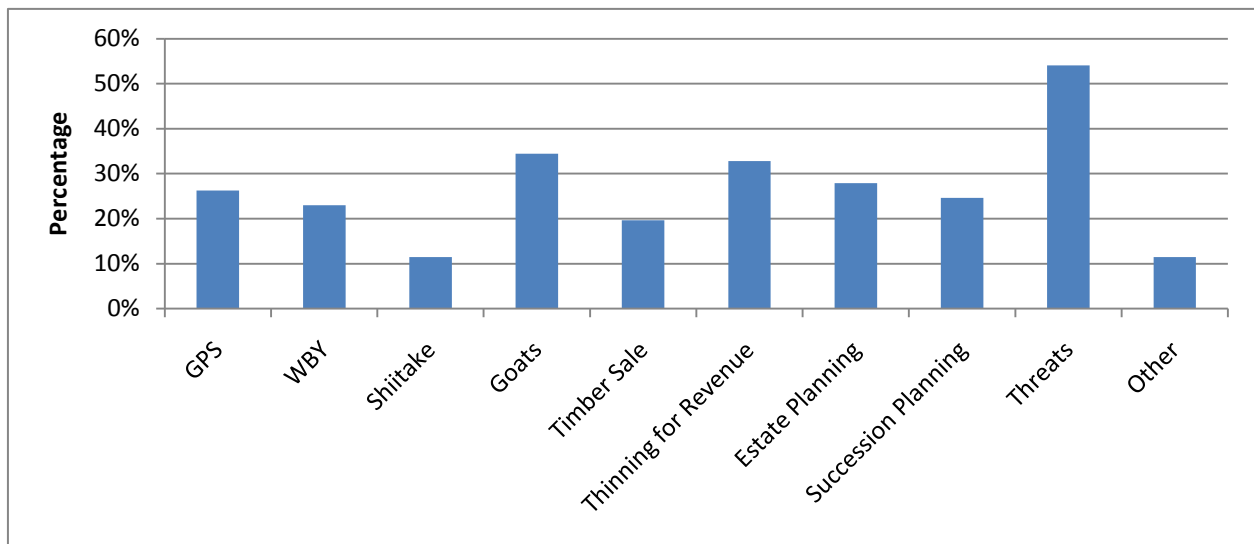
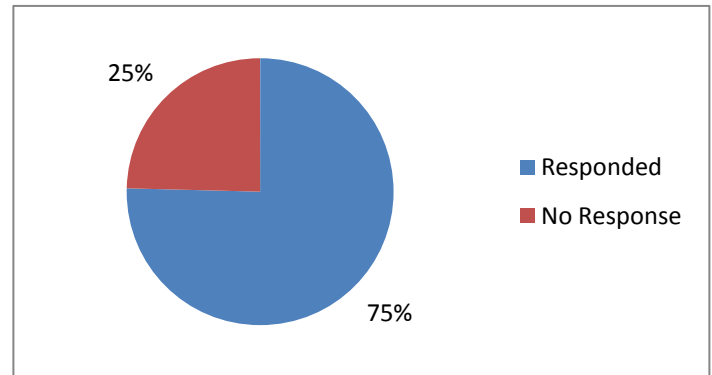
Question 4:

What other comments or suggestions would you like to share about the Maryland Woodland Stewards Program? Please see Appendix 9, page 32.

Section 5: Network and Webinars

Question 1:

Webinars are live seminars that are held over the internet. Webinars have allowed Extension educators and specialist to reach many people online. Having successfully completed two webinars in 2009, we have decided to begin a webinar series of Forest Stewardship Education topics. Our plan is to host a webinar at least once per quarter. We will formally begin the webinar series on April 8th and the topic will be Evaluating and Choosing a Natural Resource-Based Enterprise. We want to know what other topics are most important to you. Please check off all topics that interest you:



Other (please specify):

1. Highlights of recent developments
2. native ginseng
3. We will not sit at a computer and read to learn. We would be interested to learn about some of the topics above, but face-to-face. David hates computers. It was all I could do to get him to answer this computer survey.
4. We need to understand why owners do not manage their wooded acres. How to motivate that????
5. I do not have personal access to the internet. This survey, for example, is being prepared by me in a public library. Thus, I cannot take advantage of webinars.
6. I am interested in purchasing wooded land and would like to have guidance on selecting and purchasing property
7. woodland ground covers....including moss gardens
8. practical exercise for finding/following unmarked boundary
9. Everything else need to learn about forests and don't what or who to ask!!
10. caves
11. Tour identification and location of trees, plants in MD forests.

Exhibit A

Maryland Woodland Stewards Survey Request Letter



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION
Solutions in your community

Western MD Research & Education Center
18330 Keedysville Road
Keedysville, Maryland 21756

TEL(301) 432-2767 x323
FAX (301) 432-4089
jkays@umd.edu

April 30, 2010

Dear Maryland Woodland Stewards (and Covert Cooperators),

We are writing this letter to all Maryland Woodland Stewards graduates (includes all past Covert Cooperators) since the first class of 1990. The intent of this communication is to update you on the status of the Maryland Woodland Stewards (MWS) program, ask you to fill out an evaluation, allow you to suggest ways we can invigorate the program, and introduce a new means of communication given the current lack of funding.

As a group, you represent 420 individuals with a total ownership of 69,693 acres. Over the years, results from follow-up surveys to the training you received indicate highly successful outreach by you to other landowners and citizens interested in Maryland's woodlands. Results also show that you've become a reliable resource for those you have reached. Expanding outreach even further, many of you have become involved in other volunteer organizations related to natural resources.

It has always been our pleasure to see participants leaving the training workshop excited about the new knowledge they have gained about how forests work and grow, and how they can be managed for a range of objectives.

Unfortunately, finding sponsors to fund the Maryland Woodland Stewards workshops has been a challenge in the last two years. The Ruffed Grouse Society was a dependable sponsor of the program until a few years ago, and we have been unable to find a source of sustained funding since. As a result, we will not offer the complete training program in 2010 but are offering follow-up workshops around the state this fall.

Because of these challenging times and our concern for the future of the Maryland Woodland Stewards program, this communication to you—and your response—is more important than ever before.

About the 2010 Survey

This year's survey is designed not only to get an update on your efforts as a Maryland Woodland Steward, but also to help us gain an understanding of your ideas for the future of the program. The survey will also provide you with options for the follow-up workshops this fall, including day, time, location, and topics. All your responses will be used in summary to seek future funding for the program.

A question in the survey will ask you for your email address. We strongly urge you to provide your electronic address for continued communication since our postal mailings have become very limited. Upon receipt of your email address, we will confirm that you are a subscriber to our Listserv for Maryland Woodland Stewards. This will ensure that you receive all announcements, our newsletter, and other relevant information. You can always remove yourself from the list, and we do not share your email with other organizations.

Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MWS2010> to participate in this survey. If you need a hard copy survey mailed to you, please contact Ellen Green, Forestry Extension Assistant, at 301-432-2767 x307 (or egreen13@umd.edu). The survey will close on Monday, May 24, 2010.

Maryland Woodland Connect Network

We are proud to introduce *Maryland Woodland Connect*, an online network for property owners in Maryland with an interest in forestry, wildlife and/or natural resources. We would like to invite Maryland Woodland Stewards to play a special role in this network as trend-setters and role models. In this unique method of outreach and extension, connect with fellow property owners, forestry professionals and educators from all around the state. On the network, you can ask questions, give advice, post events, share success stories, and post videos and pictures.

We look to you as a Maryland Woodland Steward to be an early adopter and get the ball rolling. Consider posting photos of your property with specific questions for discussion, or responding to one of the discussion questions in the forums section. This network has the potential to become a valuable resource, but it does require a critical mass of members like you to be successful. It is easy to join and we encourage you to check it out and watch the network grow. Join Maryland Woodland Connect at:

<http://mdwoodlandconnect.ning.com>

Thanks for all your efforts and we look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming regional workshops. Details will follow when they are available.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kays
Natural Resources Extension Specialist
jkays@umd.edu



Nevin Dawson
Forest Stewardship Educator
ndawson@umd.edu

Appendix 1

Section II, Question 2

List the activities in managing your land that you have taken in the past year and the acres involved (ex. Developed a management plan for 30 acres; thinning for 2 acres; planting for one acre):

1. Controlling invasive plants. Girdling undesirable trees to increase sunlight and space for desirable trees.
2. Planting wide variety of seedlings to create quail & pheasant habitat in different areas, total about 18 acres.
3. Thinning for one acre; invasive control throughout 14 acres.
4. Maintaining trails. Reestablishing drainage ditches. Seeding. Walking and maintaining boundaries.
5. A. Met with county forester as a precursor to developing a stewardship plan. We discussed invasive management, tree damage from this winter's ice and snow, tree crowding and health of specific trees (especially the oaks on the property), and next steps to convert lawn to forest while addressing the presence of invasive.
B. Provided advice to one neighbor about leaving dead tree for wildlife and regularly provide information to him about invasives. This neighbor is letting a large portion of his yard go natural (no mowing).
C. Another neighbor: discussed honeysuckle damage to young walnut trees and have offered future assistance with creating more wooded area on his property, and am sending him literature about oak ecology and dogwood disease.
D. Invited Baltimore County DEPRM nursery manager to visit our property to search for acorns and collect shingle oak saplings in late fall 2009. The crew collected 3-4 saplings and acorns. They are scheduled to come back in July 2010 to collect new saplings.
E. Have plans to meet with permaculture consultant to develop a plan to fill in grass areas with specific native fruit trees and convert some non-native flower gardens to native herbs, in time for fall planting.
F. Let the County forest inspector know that I am a woodland forester on and would be happy to assist our new neighbor regarding replacement choices as he is clearing out invasives.
G. Discussed native plants and the importance of oaks at Gunpowder Valley Conservancy booth when I was representing GVC at local events.
H. Property maintenance this year includes planting trees in the spring, replacing butterfly bushes with butterfly weed, not mowing in one section, managing invasives on the entire property.
I. Sent oak ecology articles to GVC Director of Education and Restoration director so that she may use them in her projects.
6. Planting and caring for street/urban greenway trees and other plants. As county employee, conduct outreach to landowners, including a 1-day workshop on stewardship.
7. Thinning of 5 acres. Cutting of grape vines. Installing bird houses.
8. Bush hogged 14 acres in CRP. Maintained 3/4 mile of woodland roads/firebreaks. Maintained 1 acre of clover food plots. Marked mature oaks/beechn to be saved during 15 acre timber harvest (starting this week).
9. Riparian buffer planting, 1/2 acre along Cattail Creek (that crosses our land). Planted mixed hardwood trees, reforestation - 1/2 acre. Cleanup after tornado damage - 4 acres. (Creating coverts from debris). Cleared over-grown white pine forest (originally planted too closely). Converted material to chips for on-going composting for soil supplementation. Open pasture planted in switch grass for habitat - 2 acres. Participated in Howard County reforestation (using funds from developers to replace trees taken down to build houses). Under an easement program, county planted 1400 mixed hardwood indigenous species on 7 acres of land. Site preparation work. Put up 5 large nesting boxes- 4 for ducks and 1 for owls.
10. Thinning for 10 acres.
11. Spraying invasive floribunda and Johnson grass , removing dead trees, planting vegetable garden, mowing.
12. We have begun the CREP program with our land and have spent time meeting with County personnel and

- disking, ordering and planting.
13. Control invasive species. Control erosion. Provide nesting areas for certain wildlife.
 14. Continued planting and maintaining five acres for tree farm. Cleared winter damage and monitored turkey habitats on the remaining land.
 15. Planted red spruce and Canaan fir (150 trees); removed invasive plants; Set up deer exclosures; maintain wildlife habitat garden for demo; coordinated red spruce planting on state forest; coordinated invasive species in wild land of state forest.
 16. I have been less active since spending time at my homes in Florida. However, I am still active with the Howard County Forest Conservation District Board & promote MWS program whenever possible!
 17. We've done very little this past year. Other than managing paths through the woods. I have about a half mile of path that wind through the woods, through different settings. I've kept them very natural and except for mulching, they are lined with fallen logs and tree limbs, or rocks dependent on what is in the immediate vicinity. I keep them weeded and free of fallen leaves. We have a lot of visitors from the city and suburbs that we take on walks in the woods, before the paths they were very reluctant to go into the woods, this takes them deep into them. I have rest stops with benches and log seats that encourage them to sit and rest and enjoy the woodlands. I tell them about the biology and point out the different plants in the different settings. I keep these paths maintained and clear throughout most of the year, so we, and visitors, can enjoy them at all seasons.
 18. Timber harvest - 138 acres. Thinning - 25 acres. Planting or leaving seed trees - 130 acres. Application of herbicides - 50 acres. NOTE: Our properties are located in four counties in Maryland (Dorchester, Worcester, Somerset and Wicomico). The questionnaire does not permit showing forest ownership in multiple counties.
 19. Identify rear boundary and clearing and thinning with the other owner to prepare for survey.
 20. Thinning - 2 acres. Planting - 2 acres. Land management plan - 8+ acres.
 21. Increased the number of native tree species growing at the perimeter of the lot. Replace turf with large (20' x 25' or larger) flower beds. Still hoping to attract a resident owl with my tall grass section in the back of the lot. Plant many native perennials to support one happy, thriving bee population. No pesticides or fertilizer since 1998.
 22. Implementing a management plan to remove invasive and reforest with hardwood trees and native shrubs on 3 acres. Maintaining a CREP planting on 4 acres. Maintaining a reforestation planting on 7 acres.
 23. Timber thinning plan - 15 acres. Planning clover for wildlife - 3 acres.
 24. FCMA inspection. Norway Maples removal using a paid arborist. Routine physical removal of invasive plants (multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle and stilt grass, garlic mustard, oriental bittersweet primarily). Awarding and management of deer hunting agreements to thin this invasive mammal.
 25. I do not own "forested land," but I have tried to engage the city of Hyattsville and local environmental groups to adopt some of the ideas presented in the Forestry Stewardship program that I attended. I have also worked to remove invasive plants and to do some community outreach/education with local residents who use the wooded parks in this area.
 26. Thinning - 10 acres. Checking for Gypsy Moth - 10 acres. Grape vine (painting individual vines with Round-Up) - 10 acres. Misc maintenance of roads, etc. - 10 acres.
 27. Slightly less than 1 acre plantings (native). Tree management...removal of some dead; some dead remain for habitat; attention to damaging pests. Reference my Woods in My Backyard workbook.
 28. Acquisition of 51 acres of forest and non-tidal wetlands to my community's 340 acres of forest.
 29. Completed a 20 acre harvest. Gave away 120 pickup truck loads of fire wood. Completed about 1,000 feet of

- tractor & walking trail.
30. Re-news our stewardship plan for entire farm.
 31. Thinning a stand of white pine planting several hardwoods.
 32. Thinning dead and unwanted tree, planting fruit and nut bearing trees, planting wildlife plots of clover, chicory, Brassicus, and sunflowers
 33. I work for the Ruffed Grouse Society full time. Part of my job is to encourage habitat work on properties all over the Mid-Atlantic region. We conduct numerous Field Days, habitat Seminars, private consultations to landowners and also do habitat work with the five machines we now own.
 34. Cleared trails, opened clogged road culverts, remarked some boundaries.
 35. Participated in several volunteer activities for the American Chestnut Foundation, mostly weeding, planting and pruning. I also helped our community Master Gardener in tree planting and distribution. In addition, I participated in forest and land conservation seminars held throughout the Washington metro area.
 36. Planting trees, trimming trees, erosion control, trail maintenance.
 37. Warm-season grasses planting - 3.5 acres. Woods road improvements. Ongoing improvements to runoff effects of paved road. Planted several hundred trees, mostly on edges, or in areas of downfall, but including 1 small corridor of about .1 acre. Removed, milled, and stacked, for future building purposes, valuable windfall timber. Ongoing efforts to improve stands by thinning, removal of vines, and removal of undesirable/invasive species.
 38. 327 acres - applying for 2010 Standards Management Plan Addendum.
 39. Restoring an acre of grassland to increase woodland for wildlife management. Maintain trail through woodland for hiking, paintball, four-wheelers and horseback riding for the community.
 40. Developing a management plan for the farm; gearing up for a more intensive property management for the coming year with additional tree planting, establishing honey bees.
 41. Creating wildlife habitat.
 42. Mowing, planting trees (2-3 acres), checking tree shelters (6-8 acres), trimming trees (6 acres), controlling invasives (16 acres), and walking through looking for problems.
 43. Firewood collection - 3 acres. Planting - 25 acres. Tree maintenance/silviculture - 30 acres.
 44. Secured a forest stewardship plan by county forester for entire property. We began implementing plan in the fall of 2009: Sprayed 2 acres of invasive tree-of-heaven. Began thinning pine on 2 acres. Re-established about 300 yards trail destroyed by a major wind storm in June of 2008.
 45. Logging - 20 acres. Hay - 25 acres. Grazing rotational - 20 acres. Planting fruit trees - 1 acre.
 46. Tree Plantings - 1 acre. Invasive growth removal; grass cutting between rows.
 47. Decision regarding new management plan for 7 acres. Boundary delineation and maintenance (17 acres). General inspections and monitoring forest (17 acres).

Appendix 2

Section II, Question 3

List any field tours or other activities you arranged or helped to arrange during the past year where forestry/wildlife information was presented, and the approximate number of participants for each activity.

1. Helped create and participated in workshop in Taneytown area - 15 attendees.
Invited Howard County Bird Club to conduct bird count on our land.
2. A. Attended earth day celebration at our church in Keedysville. Approximately 100 participants.
B. Created and delivered five sessions for elementary aged children at our local library (Washington County Free Library) during the summer of 2009. Topics were GPS, Tree ID, Forest Products, Riparian Buffers and Wildlife Habitat. In addition to the materials disseminated were University of Maryland Fact Sheets and many other forestry & wildlife publications by other organizations.
C. Brought awareness to a large oak tree behind Williamsport Elementary School, Maryland. My daughter and I pre-measured the tree using forestry methods learned at Maryland Woodland Stewards. Submitted measurements to County Forester. Then, I arranged for a forester to measure the tree. The large oak turned out to be a county co-champion. During the visit, the forester found yet another champion red oak (a county champion). Attended school-wide assembly to recognize the tree as a Maryland Big Tree.
3. 12 field tours - 150 participants. 3 PowerPoint presentations and briefings - 300 participants.
4. 2-3 nature walks with friends and neighbors in the area.
5. 2-3 tours explaining to adults and youth the importance of preserving and enhancing the habitat around us. 20-40 people.
6. Allowed extended family groups to play paint ball in the forest, during the set up for play I explained how the land was managed - 20 people.
7. As part of Frederick Forestry Board, have supported several activities, but nothing directly.
8. Co-chair Kinder Park Master Gardener Woodland Garden. Continuous attention, but special address to approximate 15 teens in county organized summer "camp" event.
9. Delivered talk and hosted tour on tree farm for Allegany College forestry tech students - Fall 2009 for about 14 students; Meadow Mt. Juvenile Services - discussed Christmas trees and forestry issues to 40 young men, fall 2009.
10. Did presentation to all 6th grade students at Clear Spring Middle School on wildlife in the area and how to support it. Worked in conjunction w/the Washington County Free Library and the Board of Education in a program "Wildlife in Your Back Yard" for home schooled students. Total student/adults estimated at 200.
11. Field tour - 10 people. Best management practices for forest homeowners - 70 people. Management of community CREP property - 10 people.
12. Have done several one-on-one tours for 12 people explaining forestry and wildlife management activities on our farm.
13. Helped many activities including NRCC - 30 students, Gypsy Moth cooperative program - 100 participants, S. Frederick Arboretum at Earth and Space Science Center - 500 visitors, planning for Neighborhood Green program (to start in May 2010) including purchase of books - 50 participants.
14. I did not arrange any field tours. We are in the process of converting our property, so I don't feel I have enough positives to discuss yet. However, I am regularly communicating with three neighbors who have recognized our efforts. I expect to work with them in more detail in the future. I will be hosting a Gunpowder Valley Conservancy board meeting at our property, and will give a tour at that time.
15. I did not arrange any tours but I helped promote a tree farm harvest in 2008 for Calvert County.

16. I maintain the Frederick County Forestry Board Web site (<http://sites.google.com/site/frederickcountyforestryboard/home>) which has a section devoted to Forest Stewardship (<http://sites.google.com/site/frederickcountyforestryboard/fcfb-foreststewardship>) and many other forest- and wildlife-related interests such as NRCC.
17. I manage a suburban deer hunt in Annapolis every year. It was written up in a *New York Times* article several years ago as an example of an excellent way to manage the deer population. The Woodland Stewards program gave me much of the education I needed to conduct this program.
18. I work for the Ruffed Grouse Society. My work involves telling people about the benefits of early succession forests created by several different silvicultural methods. Many of my chapters hold field days or habitat days. We have one coming up in Potomac State Forest on April 24.
19. I work in land protection, so I present information to landowners about available forestry and wildlife enhancement options at outreach events. I attended the Tree Farm Day, led several walks on a conservation easement to showcase best management practices, including forestry, and attended other outreach events on the lower shore. The number of participants range at each event; 15 - 25 in group settings, and individual landowner meetings where information is communicated one-on-one.
20. I'm afraid I haven't done any this past year. I used to teach at a local University and was quite active in the local community. Now I work as a biologist and return home after a 2 1/2 hour commute. My children are now out of the school system and are at college, so I do less locally at present. I do remain an avid biologist and share nature stories and encounters of fauna and flora, with friends and colleagues.
21. March 6, 2010 Landowner Conference in Snow Hill, MD. Attended by 35 people.
22. Native plant sales for watershed (100); Master Gardener classes (20), Garden clubs (50), FSU Ethno botany classes (30), S. Regional Wildlife (10), Woodland owners (50), native plant classes (10) water garden/rain barrel classes (6), Johnstown native plant fest (60)
23. None, except renewable energy open house - 300 people.
24. Not allowing access to property due to a large number of dead trees - Gypsy moth damage in 2009 was severe.
25. Nov 7 - attended a Calvert county forest service burn of a cut over.
26. Prettyboy Watershed Alliance Newsletter - invited residents to participate in tree plantings on their own property - free trees and planting assistance.
27. Provided an Invasive Plant ID Tour on June 26, 2010 with 4 participants, and 4 helpers.
28. Too numerous to mention.
29. Tour of a tract on the Blackwater River by three groups of persons (35 and 10) interested in the Harriett Tubman National Park; tour sponsored by Dorchester Citizens for Safe Energy (60 persons); visit by a group of State officials (8 persons); camping on one tract of our land by a group from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (16 persons).
30. We had the local envirothon team come and evaluate our wetlands for the possibility of bog turtle presence.
31. Wildlife studies and documentation - 10 people; two memorial tree plantings - 8 people.
32. Woodland Owners of Southern Alleghenies Mountains, (Board Member), Bedford County, PA.

Appendix 3

Section II, Question 4

List any field tours, programs, or other activities where forestry/wildlife information was presented that you participated in this past year.

1. (1) Had a Maryland Woodland Steward booth at a public Master Gardener Plant Sale on May 8, 2010. I provided free advice and literature on the subjects of forest stewardship, invasive plants, and attracting wildlife. (2) Had a Maryland Woodland Steward booth at the Patuxent River Appreciation Days on October 10th & 11th, 2009. I provided free advice and literature on the subjects of forest stewardship, attracting birds, and attracting pollinators.
2. 2 field tours.
3. 2 or 3 programs at Jug Bay and a couple at ANS and several with NNWB (don't have an exact count).
4. A tour of a reforestation project at Oregon Ridge Nature Center. Tree planting maintenance at Leister Park, Carroll County. Tree planting at Irvine Nature Center. Master Gardner tree education programs.
5. Hosting a fishing rodeo with tour - 20-30 people.
6. Annual all day seminar at Breezwood, Pa. this past March 2010. WOSA 13TH annual Forest and Wildlife Conference, March 6th 2010 April 22,2010. Bedford County Bird and Nature Club "Enjoying Wildlife." Envirothon Program at Shawnee State Park with Dave Scamardella April 22, 2010 - Senior High Students.
7. As a board member of the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, I have participated in four public events since the Woodland Workshop. My role was to work at the GVC booth, talk about our watershed group and answer questions about streams, the role of forest buffers and native plants. These events included REI outdoor store in Timonium inviting local watershed groups to set up booths in their store (October 2009), the Parkville Community fair in 2009, and the Jennifer Branch Stream restoration kick-off meeting in Parkville (Master gardeners, permaculture consultants and other watershed groups were also in attendance). Most recently, in May 2010, I worked the GVC booth at the St. James Church spring fair in Parkton. The GVC and other groups were invited to support their green theme.
8. Envirothon training Baltimore County Forestry Board meetings. Forestry for the Bay workshop. Jug Bay workshop. Invasive Species workshop.
9. Frederick County Forestry Board Meetings, Monocacy Cotoctin Watershed Alliance volunteer at Frederick Fair booth.
10. Multiple Tree Farm meetings including meetings in DC on Capitol Hill and in Annapolis, monthly. County Forestry Board meetings and various special presentations.
11. My own individual visits to arboretum, etc.
12. My wife and I did attend the Calvert Forestry Board's Fall Tour (October, 2009) of a Calvert County-owned tree farm that recently underwent a harvest (about 6 mo. prior). I did not arrange the tour but I had participated in convincing the County Commissioners to undertake that harvest before I left for Seattle and while still on the Forestry Board. There were about 15 people in attendance.
13. None (counties and states have almost no budget for anything!)
14. Participated in Forest Conservation tour and fire control demonstration.
15. Sadly to say I haven't done any, that I remember this year. I would be very interested in doing the

refresher course if you were to present one.

16. Volunteer member of Garrett County Forestry Board and participate in its instruction programs (i.e. NRCC program) at Hickory environmental Center, Accident, MD. Participate in Environthon, sponsored by Forestry Board annually.
17. Several--as part of my job.
18. State of Maryland Forests Summit at MITAGS.
19. This year, I have only participated in two program activities, one sponsored by the Walnut Council and the other by American Chestnut Foundation.
20. Too numerous to mention.
21. Tour of serpentine barren in Harford County by forestry board to provide learn about this type of community and to provide owners information on management of invasives.
22. Tours associated with the Maryland Forests Association annual meeting as well as meetings of the Forest Landowners Association and the Partnership for Sustainable Forestry.
23. Two Christmas Tree association meetings of about six hours each.

Appendix 4

Section II, Question 7, Con't

If yes, how were they affected?

1. Unknown.
2. Not sure. Some landowners who attended conference expressed interest in seeking an FSP or taking stewardship actions on their properties.
3. Adjoining property (ag. preservation owner) concurrently planted switch grass. Has sought and received information on riparian buffers, creating coverts, invasive species control. He learns a lot through observation of what we do on our land, asking questions. 50 acres.
4. Our neighbor also began CREP program, 10 acres.
5. Advised on timber harvest of 30 acres.
6. Unknown.
7. I do not know. I referred them to a professional forester.
8. 20 acres (approx).
9. Voted yes to purchase 51 acres of forest
10. Unknown how many people pursued a stewardship from the information on the FCFB Web site.
11. Neighbor negotiated a timber sale - acres unknown to me but significant.
12. Do not know!
13. Some ended up with stewardship plans - acreage unknown.
14. We require a Forest Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan on conservation easement properties that have forested areas. Close to 500 acres in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester would be affected.
15. Several -100's of acres.
16. Really need...don't know button on this one. No direct feedback on what they have done.
17. Tried to have property accepted for County forest tax benefits.
18. Management Plan - 30 acres

Appendix 5

Section II, Question 8

Please estimate the dollar value (if any) of the benefits you and your contacts have received as a result of your MWS training. For example, your neighbor received an offer for his timber. But on your advice, he contacted a professional forester and received \$5,000 more for the same timber.

1. \$30,000.00
2. We put the training to good use in long-term development of our forested land for future timber, and particularly a sustained forest, through a long range environmental benefit. The dollar value was set at \$148,000.00, budgeted by Howard County Parks and Recreation.
3. Impossible to calculate. Has been extensive
4. \$8,500.00
5. \$10,000 actual \$ on timber that was going to be burned.
6. \$550,000.00
7. Neighbor benefited but amount unknown to me.
8. A past NRCC student we sponsored graduates in May 2010, Summa Cum Laude from WVU in natural resources and forestry. Although priceless, her career in natural resources can be expected to exceed \$2 million.
9. \$2,000.00

Appendix 6

Section II, Question 9

If "yes," what practices could be shown?

1. 2010-15 acre timber harvest. 1989-20 acre reforestation area thinned in 2008. 1988-6 acre TSI LOTS of wildlife management/
2. Approx. 8 acres have been forested in 1999 with seedlings. Invasive plant and tree growth containment. Wildlife habitat to include birds, rare, threatened and endangered species or butterflies, turtles, and other species of animals.
3. But i don't think i have adequate acreage nor activities.
4. Christmas tree production, timber management.
5. Currently there is some tree planting we are evaluating from the WHIP program.
6. Different stages of growth, clear cut, pine stand about 17 acres/15 yr old, mature hardwood section, trail maintenance/creation evidence of wildlife, etc.
7. Due to large number of dead trees my forest is not safe at this point.
8. Early planting, successional growth, vole control, erosion control.
9. Forest and field management for wildlife.
10. Forest conservation, retro-fit of a 3 acre non-tidal wetland as a recovery area for endangered and threaten species (Howard's Branch Atlantic white cedar Recovery Project).
11. Forest management for wildlife.
12. Habitat improvement; reforestation; Chesapeake Bay water resource protection.
13. I have done that before, involving the Secretary of DNR and Director of MD Forest Service and staff on a visit to my property to discuss TSI and stewardship.
14. Invasive control attempts.
15. My Frederick County property is rather small and other stewardship properties would show better demonstrations and varieties of stewardship practices
16. Ornamental gardening with snags, soft edges, slowing down storm drain run off.
17. Our property is only on a very small scale. But you are very welcome to take people round the paths. I made them inspired by forestry department paths which we walk in Scotland where I'm from, they are not noticeable from the road of the house but in a few steps you are in woodland paths. I get many complements on them and we've had a lot of enjoyment. And people not used to woods can sit there in the peace and recognize their beauty.
18. Our property is very much in transition. We would be open to a visit but selective about group size. Our street has a hazardous entry which we are trying to resolve with the county. Anyone visiting should be aware of that.
19. Place is in use by myself and/or co-owner almost all the time.
20. Previous riparian buffer planting; spring and water trough development; fencing riparian buffer.
21. Reforestation and fields of warm season grasses.
22. Replanted loblolly pines about 9 years ago. Still too early to thin out. Great bad example of what can go wrong because of lack of knowledge. Recovery directly result of MWS training.

23. Riparian buffers, habitat creation and enhancement.
24. silviculture, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat plots, Christmas trees, BPMs for water quality
25. Storm damage; invasive identification & control; thinning / crown release.
26. Timber operations.
27. Timbering and Thinning (crown topping).
28. TSI improvements.
29. We would be willing to be used for any educational purpose.
30. Wildlife habitat garden tours; Conservation landscaping techniques.

Appendix 7

Section III, Question 3

What topics are you interested in learning about during the refresher course?

1. (1) Effective outreach to the general public!!!! (2) Other Maryland Woodland Stewards don't understand the concepts of invasive species or forest ecosystems. Thus, those topics could be covered. (3) The role healthy forests play within the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem.
2. Any changes after 95 to update my manual if possible.
3. Invasive control with regard to water issues...e.g. near water sources.
4. Thinning forests. Anything new?
5. Harvest and recovery.
6. What happens when you just stop cutting the lawn? I keep hearing if you mow every other year, the invasives will not be a problem. This is our first year of not mowing and the area is loaded with honeysuckle, asiatic bittersweet and Japanese stilt grass. Native species are mixed in. I'd like to see pictures of real examples.
7. Habitat, small game birds.
8. Timber stand measurement.
9. Equipment options for maintenance of forest lands. Weed control and control of invasive species. Identification of grasses for field improvement, coverts, etc.
10. Timber sales for 10-20 acre properties.
11. I would like goats in my horse pasture but the fence is inadequate (8 strands of high tensile wire).
12. Controlling floribunda rose and Johnson grass.
13. Improving habitat thru improved planting of native species. Most effective methods to get crops established.
14. Managing a smaller woodland for diversity.
15. Stream preservation, tree removal / replanting (best varieties).
16. I think one of the stumbling blocks for people to actively manage their wooded acres is the feeling of being overwhelmed - not having the "tools" to do it. How to begin in bite size parcels and be successful.
17. Forest management for timber production and wildlife.
18. Anything related to current forest and forest management issues. As a thought, I suspect that few of us know anything much about the damage to forest communities by annelids, but apparently it is a problem in the mid Atlantic states.
19. Biological inventory, nature trail construction/markings.
20. Methods of outreach. Measuring trees. How to evaluate health of your forest.
21. Small woodland gardens, native plantings, wildlife habitat attractions.
22. It has been so long that I would like anything.
23. American Chestnut info.
24. Dealing with ice storm damaged trees.
25. Tree planting, care and management; assessment of timber value; promotion or establishment of wildlife habitats, and management of watersheds.

26. FY-2011 cost share and funding programs for private forest owners.
27. Timber harvests, hunting leases, wildlife preserves, biomass production (for fuel).
28. Introduction to the New 2010- 2015 Standards
29. Resources available acquiring trees for planting. Natural methods instead of chemicals to rid land of invasive species such as multiflora rose, mile a minute, wild grape vine, poison ivy, etc. if any besides digging out plants.
30. I am potentially interested, but the travel is usually prohibitive with my work at this point.
31. Ways to preserve the work I've done into perpetuity. Status of Chestnut programs. Alternatives to ash trees - they may not be here much longer.
32. Invasive control techniques. Diversifying.
33. Forest management.
34. Networking with related agencies.

Appendix 8

Section IV, Question 1

Please share a success story from this past year that made your MWS training worthwhile, e.g., someone you influenced or changes in wildlife abundance as a result of a management practice.

1. As a "Master Wildlife Rehabilitator" I have regular contact w/ the citizens of the Tristate area. Over the past 4 yrs, I have advised hundreds of people on wildlife management and conservation and have worked to provide information and assistance to the citizens of the tri-state area on wildlife issues as well and good land management.
2. Got friend to get forest management plan and lower his property taxes.
3. Have seen wild turkeys (about 15) for the first time on my property in my lifetime (I am 60 years old). Also I have seen pileated woodpeckers frequently which I never saw before here until 4 or 5 years ago.
4. I got someone to reconsider using fertilizer for a vegetable garden. They were fertilizing every week! I suggested a soil test, and seeing whether just watering from a rain barrel is enough for some nice tomatoes. Trying to get this person to stop burning leaves, too. I am known in my rural Frederick neighborhood as one of the few women who will actually collect someone's black snake and carry it off to her property. My neighbors think I'm nuts, but I get respect. :)
5. I have been elected as my Home Owners Association Chairman for Land Use/Management and as such manage the community 10 ac property that has been enrolled in CREP program. Also consult neighbors on tree species selection and landscaping for wildlife, insect and water quality enhancement principles.
6. I have influenced many people each buy showing them the difference that can be made on even a small tract of ground as mine. It has given them hope for the and that they own and they have carried that message forward.
7. I met Pat Cornman of DEPRM when she reviewed my JHU forest ecology project (2008) from the songbird ecology perspective. She educated me on the importance of oak, a keystone species in forest ecology. While designing the Bernoudy reforestation project in White Hall, Pat's team discovered shingle oaks which are locally rare. I happened to mention to her that shingle oaks are prevalent along our street and thriving on our property in particular. Pat expressed an interest in sending the nursery team to search for acorns to support their efforts to propagate more shingle oak. We said "of course." While the team found few acorns, they did take a few healthy saplings (I have pictures). The nursery team will be visiting our property soon, since many shingle oak saplings emerged this year (and the deer have left them alone!) I am thrilled to help the county in their efforts because I know how essential oaks are to the songbirds, and how threatened oak woodlands have become. While this may not have a tangible impact right now, this is how our property can contribute to the future of local woodlands.
8. I think the biggest "success" for any of us is to implement a forest management plan... too many get written and not implemented - I am actively implementing mine. Also the maintenance of tree plantings has to be a priority - constantly monitoring and straightening shelters, removing nets, replanting, etc. - I have an 11 year old planting that was planted in a drought year - it looks good.
9. I would say being very proactive in tackling the gypsy moth infestation of the last few years. We came together as a neighborhood/a cluster of 5 neighboring parcels of woodland and with the direction and help of the local extension service, self/organized to pay for spraying over a period of a few years for gypsy moth, and we were successful in controlling it and saving the trees. The training gave us the confidence, training and education to recognize the importance of that and be able to explain the treatments to others.

10. Last year we replaced our aging (20 yr. old) wood duck nesting boxes. It was surprising how many boxes were being used by screech owls over the winter. Every now and then we'll find feathers from blue jays, flickers, and other birds in the boxes. Little screech owls can be feisty! It was a pleasure watching the new boxes getting used by the wood ducks in the spring.
11. Neighbor was given a price for his timber. I encouraged him to contact a consulting forester who evaluated his timber resulting in a better timber cut and more money for less trees cut. Select cut vs. hi grade and better environmental protection during harvest.
12. One of the participants I had referred for attending the MWS training, who completed it, is doing a great job of managing the website for the county forestry board.
13. The knowledge I gained from the MWS training allowed me to understand the wooded resource at the Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture and how that resource could be used and developed for educational purposes. The Center will be officially opened September 22, 2010 and programming will follow.
14. The MWS training inspired me to hold annual workshop for Worcester Co landowners, which have been offered for the past 3 years. The training has been focused on forest management each year, although has also included other topics. Approximately 30 people attend annually. Speakers are local foresters, resource specialists, and other experts and the programs have been highly rated by attendees.
15. There aren't defined success stories, as much as a general movement toward greater understanding. On my property, I am seeing woodland fauna moving in gradually. People I talk with are becoming more aware of what going on around them.
16. Training was worthwhile because it gave us the knowledge. This knowledge eliminated the fear of getting out there and taking control of our forest and making it a better place. The training encouraged us to pursue a county forest stewardship plan. The plan is instrumental in knowing the next steps and it keeps all the work to be done in perspective. The plan's timeline is realistic for us and pinpoints the most important tasks to be done first. The plan has really helped us.
17. Use a GPS receiver to identify stand boundaries.
18. Very small recommendations to others but what I learned and my manual has been very valuable and I never know when an opportunity will appear that gives a chance to share info.
19. We are seeing more wildlife on the farm land because of management practices taught at the MWS training seminar weekend we attended. Part of our backyard in the past few years, we maintain a suggested MWS wildlife management plan. At present, we observed a fox, rabbits, cardinals, woodpeckers, other bird species, pair of white tail hawks, several deer, raccoons, chipmunks, wild turkeys and a few bats. We extended one acre of grass land into a forest stewardship program adjacent to 10 acres of woodland hopefully to invite quail, grouse, pheasant, whippoorwill and bluebirds to control insects. A martin house is installed by the farm pond. Buffers are being established on both banks of Keyser Run which runs several hundred feet through the farm. It already is established in several parts of the bank that shades the water to help control the temperature during the summer.
20. We have just planted 110 acres in pines in Mecklenberg county , Va. where we bought cutover land.
21. Without a doubt we and our neighbors, would never have pursued the CREP program without my having attended the workshop this fall. It has been a very rewarding experience; we have learned a lot and look forward to the benefits of increased wildlife on our property. I think the biggest impact to us is that for the first time we are actively engaged in the process of managing our property rather than watching it be managed by the people we rented it to for ag production.

Appendix 8

Section IV, Question 4

What other comments or suggestions would you like to share about the Maryland Woodland Stewards Program?

1. We have a dire need to provide "free" literature on the subject of converting lawn to woods!! Need to have a new Fact Sheet created.
2. We found it very beneficial, but also realize that keeping forest land as family forest land is a financial negative act where we border the largest town in a county twenty miles from the capitol Beltway.
3. Unfortunately I am at a stage of my life that I am limited to being able to take care of my existing Christmas Tree Farm, the grounds around the house and normal chores associated with farm and home ownership. There doesn't seem to be any time for other things that I would like to do associated with wildlife. A few hunters have come out and set up habitat areas but not of any significance. I didn't even have the time to hunt myself last year.
4. This needs to be tied into other activities around the state. There are numerous organizations that have the same goals and we tend to overlap significantly. If we were better coordinated, we could better target audiences and have a more significant impact on private forests.
5. This is a tough time - with home foreclosures running amok. Just conserve your resources for the time being, with tight budgets, and wait for the time when the economy supports better real estate sales.
6. This is a terrific program for land owners.
7. There must be foundation grants that could continue the MSW in Maryland since the status of the state budget cannot. Sharing environmental success stories and activities will be very important to the next generation who inherit family woodland.
8. The program was quite helpful to me and when people ask I have answers to give as to practices and or information. Updated information would be a benefit.
9. The Maryland Woodland Steward program is extremely valuable and I look forward to helping to keep it alive.
10. The Coverts program was a memorable and enriching experience.
11. The class I attended in 1993 involved persons who went on to make major contributions to leadership in forestry in both Maryland and Delaware. One went on to become president of the Delaware Forestry Association, another the Maryland Forests Association and a third became a key lobbyist on forestry issues for the State of Maryland.
12. Sorry, I've not been as active this year. It's been a busy year, with family obligations. It's been more of a maintenance year.
13. It's a good program, and I got something out of it. It should be free to participants, as it was when I took it.
14. It was an excellent program, but given that I do not own forest land and that I am trying to apply the info in a "public setting", I'm sort of a square peg in a round hole.
15. If people took the time to learn even a half of what you teach prior to entering into a decision regarding forestry sales/management, they will save tens of thousands of dollars.
16. I would like to suggest tri-, multi-State or regional forest conference to raise woodland owners awareness to the importance of forest conservation and reforestation. I think there is a dire need for educating the public on regular basis to reinforce the value of trees in competing climate

warming among other benefits.

17. I think the program is a good way to help woodland owners better understand what they have and how to manage it. It is a program I readily recommend to anyone with a starting interest in woodlands. Most of my own work that affects the public is done through the Forest Conservancy District Board for Harford County. We have two non-voting members, both professional foresters. We have eight voting members; of these 3 are professional foresters, 3 have completed the Coverts/Woodland Stewards program, and one is an owner of a commercial tree farm.
18. I think it is a valuable program. It is very important to get people to think about how their actions affect their larger community and to see themselves as stewards of the natural world. So I hope you find funding for your program soon.
19. I so enjoyed doing the 3-4 day covert program several years ago. Even though I no longer chair the master gardener Woods in My Backyard project, I'm happy to have the resource knowledge...for my own little woodland area and apply a bit to the master gardener Kinder Park Woodland Garden project. Thank you.
20. I recommend this course to anyone working in natural resources, such as land trusts and other conservation groups. I found the information very helpful in understanding available tools for landowners, as well as the wide range of reasons landowners choose to manage their woodlot.
21. I received my training as a Coverts Cooperator in 1995. I own two small pieces of land located in separate districts in Calvert County. My daughter and grandchildren visit regularly and often engage in some stewardship activity.
22. I learned a lot in this program about properly managing land for wildlife and using a professional forester for woodland management for both wildlife habitat and timber management.
23. How can I convert AutoCAD DWG files to ESRI SHP files?
24. Hope you regain funding for training.
25. Great program. Keep it up!
26. Great program. I hope it is able to last for many more years.
27. Don't know what \$\$\$ funding is needed to continue the MWS program. With the hundreds of people who have gone through and benefitted from the program, we are sure many of us would be willing to make a contribution to see it continue. "Ask and you shall receive." Make the workshop a camping trip. "Rough it a little." Camp in a state park or on somebody's farm. All parks have sizeable pavilions. Most farms have a local firehouse nearby with a hall of some sort that could be used for
28. A worthy investment in time and effort that may take some time to see returns, but they will far outweigh any stock investment made in recent history!