



Maryland

Department of the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Crumbles, Secretary
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

October 28, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

RE: Permit Number: AI 170959/21-NT-3040/202160426
Project: Lake Elkhorn Mitigation Bank, Columbia, MD

Dear Adjacent Property Owner/Interested Person/Public Official:

The Wetlands and Waterways Program of the Water and Science Administration in the Maryland Department of the Environment (Department) has scheduled a virtual public informational hearing for the above referenced project. This hearing is being held in response to requests by interested persons and will allow the Department to gather information and hear testimony to assist in our determination regarding an application for the Mitigation Bank and the Nontidal Wetlands and Waterways Permit. This will be a joint public hearing with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), with the USACE permit number NAB-2021-60426.

The public informational hearing will be held on December 8, 2021 from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM. In order to view or participate in the hearing, a participant must register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1421406169928775948>, Webinar ID 436-422-987 and directions will be electronically forwarded to the email provided. If internet service is not available, the participant may call 1 (866) 901-6455 and then enter access code 573-714-596 to hear the public hearing. Phone only participants will not have the ability to provide testimony during the hearing, however, statements may be provided to Kelly Neff by December 1, 2021 to be read during the hearing which may not be longer than three minutes in length. Information and questions can be provided orally by participants during the hearing through the virtual platform. If anyone planning to attend requires special consideration due to hearing or other impairment, please notify Kelly Neff by December 1, 2021 so that we can try to make the necessary accommodations.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter please contact me at 410-537-4018 or at Kelly.neff@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly P Neff".

Kelly Neff
Mitigation and Technical Assistance Section, Chief
Wetlands and Waterways Program

Public Hearing for Lake Elkhorn Mitigation Bank
21-NT-3040/202160426
October 28, 2021

21-NT-3040/202160426, DAVEY TREE EXPERT COMPANY–LAKE ELKHORN, 1500 North Mantua Street, Kent, Ohio 44240, has applied to establish a multi-user Umbrella Mitigation Bank. The Umbrella Mitigation Bank would include multiple sites with restoration, creation, enhancement, and preservation of aquatic resources and uplands to generate compensatory mitigation credits for future impacts to waterways and tidal and nontidal wetlands. The first mitigation site proposed as part of this Umbrella Mitigation Bank is Lake Elkhorn Stream Mitigation Site. This approximately 133-acre nontidal wetland and stream mitigation bank will provide compensatory mitigation for future authorized wetland and waterway mitigation requirements in the USGS 8-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC) of Patuxent (HUC 02060006) and the Piedmont physiographic region within the Gunpowder-Patapsco River (HUC 02060003). This proposed project includes grading and planting that would result in approximately 5 acres of wetland creation, 20 acres of wetland enhancement, and 33,000 linear feet of stream restoration. The project will temporarily impact approximately 20.9 acres (910,404 square feet) of forested nontidal wetland, 9.6 acres (418,176 square feet) of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer, 33,323 linear feet of perennial stream, and 35.2 acres (1,533,312 square feet) of 100-year nontidal floodplain. The project is proposed along an unnamed tributary to the Little Patuxent River (Use IV-P). The project is located between High Tor Hill and Hopewell Park within Columbia Association Open Space in Columbia, Howard County, MD, 21045. Written comments and requests to be included on the interested persons list may be sent by January 7, 2022 to the Maryland Department of the Environment, Attn: Kelly Neff, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230 or kelly.neff@maryland.gov or 410-537-4018. Comments can also be directed to Mr. Jack Dinne, USACE, at 410-962-6005 or john.j.dinne@usace.army.mil. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list. Please refer to Subsection 5-907 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.23.02 for information regarding the application process.