

NOTICE OF PASSAGE OF BILL 20-4  
WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Take Notice that Bill 20-4 (Natural Resources - Forest Conservation Law) was passed by Commissioners Church, Mitrecic, Nordstrom and Purnell on June 16, 2020.

A fair summary of the bill is as follows:

§ NR 1-413(c). (Repeals and reenacts this subsection of the Worcester County Forest Conservation Law regarding the amount of payment in lieu of afforestation and reforestation to require a person subject to this law to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that they are unable to accomplish afforestation or reforestation onsite or offsite and appropriate credits generated by a forest mitigation bank in the County or in the same watershed are not available, before they shall be permitted to contribute money into the Forest Conservation Fund; and establishes a rate of thirty and one half (30.5) cents per square foot for payments in lieu of afforestation and reforestation for projects located within a priority funding area, and 120 percent of the aforesaid rate for projects located outside a priority funding area, and provided that said rate may be adjusted annually for inflation.)

§ NR 1-413(d). (Adds a new subparagraph 2 to this subsection of the Worcester County Forest Conservation Law regarding the use of payments in lieu of afforestation and reforestation to require that the County must reforest or afforest the equivalent number of acres for which the payment in lieu is contributed within the greater of 2 years or 3 growing seasons after receipt of the payment; and provides that any funds not used for said purposes shall be returned to the person who contributed the payment in lieu.)

This bill becomes effective forty-five (45) days from the date of its passage.

This is only a fair summary of the bill. A full copy of the bill is posted on the Legislative Bulletin Board in the main hall of the Worcester County Government Center outside Room 1103, is available for public inspection in Room 1103 of the Worcester County Government Center and is available on the County Website at [www.co.worcester.md.us](http://www.co.worcester.md.us).

THE WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS