

# **Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Forest Planting Contractor Bid**

Spring 2025: Pennsylvania

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is seeking bids from forest planting contractors to establish new forest on 65.11 total acres in Pennsylvania during the spring 2025 planting season. The 13 sites are located in Adams, York, Lancaster, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, and Somerset Counties. Services sought also include site preparation (mowing) on 2 sites, annual maintenance (herbicide, replants, tending) on 8 sites, and live-staking on 1 site. Services sought entail:

- Planting 16,461 bare-root seedlings and 4,330 live stakes during spring 2025 planting season (13 Sites, 65.11 Acres)
  - Installation of perforated, vented 5' deer shelters on 16,461 planted stems at 12 sites on 62.94 acres
- Post-planting annual maintenance-herbicide only
  - Two sprays on 33.12 acres across 8 sites from 2025-2027
- Shelter/stake maintenance and post-planting replanting of dead trees and shrubs from 2025-2027
  - Replanting dead trees marked by Alliance staff on 33.12 acres across 8 sites

## **Scope of Work**

The contractor shall be responsible for providing all equipment, material and supplies to complete the tree planting projects and maintenance according to the planting specifications & contractor's responsibilities listed below. The contractor shall scalp away the turf at each tree seedling planting location, hand plant (dibble bar or hoedad only) approximately 16,461 bare-root tree seedlings, install approximately 16,461 five-foot (5') total tree shelters, with 1"x1" white oak stakes, reversible ties, and netting on approximately 62.94 acres between March 1 and May 1, 2025. Live stakes (4,330) will be installed at one site covering 2.17 acres prior to April 15, 2025. Trees, shrubs, and live stakes will be planted on 13 properties in 7 counties, including Adams, York, Lancaster, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, and Somerset Counties Pennsylvania; site locations are indicated on the project spreadsheet below. 'Turnkey' maintenance will consist of spraying systemic herbicide around each tree shelter, replanting, and straightening/re-staking tree shelters twice a growing season for three growing seasons from 2025-2027 on specific sites identified on the project spreadsheet (33.12 acres, 8 sites).

## **Minimum Qualifications of a Bidder**

1. The Bidder will be a reputable contractor with a minimum of five (5) years of experience in planting bare-root tree seedlings, installing tree shelters with stakes & bird nets and possess current insurance and pesticide applicators license.
2. The Bidder may be asked to provide three references that can verify qualifications above and copies of current insurance and license. A Bidder that does not meet the minimum qualifications will be rejected.

## **Planting Specifications and Contractor's Responsibilities**

1. On sites which require prep mows, the contractor will mow each site within one month of the planting, if deemed necessary by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance).
2. The contractor will provide all labor, planting stock, materials, and equipment to fulfill all aspects of the scope of work as outlined above. Species and quantities of tree seedlings to be planted are included in the planting plans provided by the Alliance. The contractor agrees to follow the planting specifications provided in the tree planting plan for each property unless otherwise directed and approved by Alliance personnel.
3. The contractor shall scalp away turf at 5" x 5" at the spot of each tree seedling.
4. All tree seedlings will be hand planted (dibble bar or hoedad only) at the spacing grid specified in the tree planting plan for the site, as prepared by the Alliance, using accepted industry standards, methods, and equipment.
5. All seedlings when transported and/or stored on a planting site will always be protected with reflective seedling tarps or other appropriate means to prevent overheating and drying out of the seedlings. There will be no root pruning of the seedlings unless approved by the Alliance.
6. The contractor will dip all tree seedling roots in a water retention polymer such as Terra-Sorb, Soil Moist, or similar product, with approval of the Alliance, prior to planting. The contractor will provide the Terra- Sorb, Soil Moist, or similar product.
7. The contractor agrees to begin planting at a date mutually acceptable to both parties and to complete the planting projects no later than May 1, 2025. The planting shall not be done when excess water is standing on the site, or when the ground is frozen or extremely dry.
8. The contractor will plant seedlings at the depth the seedlings were grown, which is to be the root collar. Planting holes will be properly closed to ensure that all air pockets are removed.
9. The contractor will plant each tree seedling in such a manner that "J" and "U" roots will not occur, and each tree seedling will be firmed with mineral soil packed in and around the roots so the seedling cannot be pulled out of the ground by light tugs.
10. The contractor will provide 16,461 seedlings (according to the requested species selection and quantities) 16,461 five-foot (5') perforated and vented tree shelters, and 1" x 1" x 5' white oak stakes, reversible fastening ties, and bird mesh nettings. The contractor will also provide 4,330 live stakes for installation on one site.
11. The contractor will install the tree shelters around each designated tree in a manner that prevents each seedling from being constricted by the shelter fastening ties. The straight edge of the tree shelters must be installed 2-5 centimeters into the soil. The flared edge is the top end of the tree shelter, on which the bird netting is placed. All tree shelter fastening ties will be pulled tightly and firmly against each tree shelter stake. Bird nets will be installed on each tree shelter in a manner to prevent bird entry into the shelter and far enough to keep the nets from blowing off in the wind, using the "center hole" method to allow the trees to grow through without entanglement.
12. The contractor will install each tree shelter stake in a straight and upright manner and to a minimum depth in the soil of ten to twelve inches (10"-12"). The top of each installed stake will be no greater than three inches (3") above the top fastening tie of the shelter when it is tightened. All stakes will be placed on the upstream side of the tree shelters so that flood waters contact the stakes prior to the shelters.

13. The contractor will properly install all tree shelters with stakes and bird netting on each tree seedling on the same day that each seedling is planted.

13. The contractor will repair, replace, or reimburse for damage to any property beyond ordinary wear and tear in the performance of the contract.

15. All work performed will be certified by the Alliance as to acceptability and adherence to planting plans and standards before the Alliance will compensate the contractor for any work performed.

16. The final number of planting sites, seedlings, tree shelters, stakes and nets may change prior to the commencement of this contract. The Alliance will notify the contractor of all changes as they occur. Any additions or subtractions to the list of planting sites will be adjusted according to per unit prices in the bid provided.

### **Maintenance Specifications and Contractor's Responsibilities**

1. The contractor will complete 2 annual maintenance visits during the 2025, 2026, and 2027 growing seasons. **The first visit shall take place during May-June and the second visit shall take place during August-September.**

2. At maintenance visits, all seedlings will receive a 3' minimum diameter systemic herbicide spray treatment around each tree shelter, unless otherwise noted.

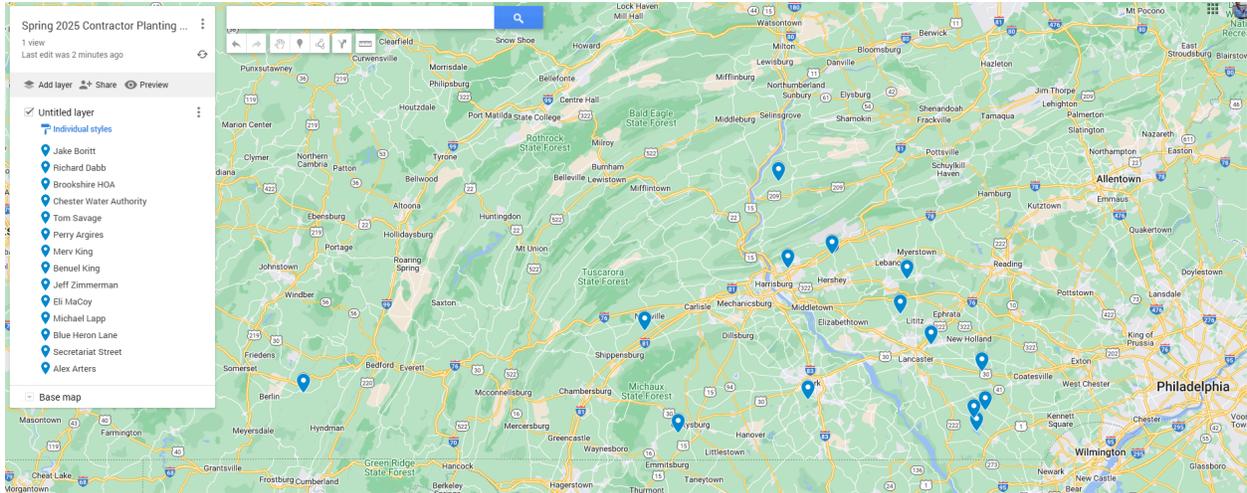
3. Shelters and stakes will be maintained throughout the period, which includes straightening and stabilizing shelters, removing bird nets, and replacing stakes.

4. Dead and dying trees will be replanted in the spring or fall of the year. Total replants needed at each site will be tallied and communicated to the contractor by Alliance staff.

### Site Details

Name	Acres	Trees	County	Address	Prep Mow	Annual Maintenance (Herbicide), Replants/Tending
[REDACTED]	4.26	1170	Adams	[REDACTED]	No	No
[REDACTED]	12.6	3300	York	[REDACTED]	No	No
[REDACTED]	2.2	575	Lancaster	[REDACTED]	No	Yes
[REDACTED]	2.45	637	Lancaster	[REDACTED]	No	Yes
[REDACTED]	3.7	975	Lancaster	[REDACTED]	No	Yes
[REDACTED]	2.16	550	Lancaster	[REDACTED]	No	Yes
[REDACTED]	4.9	1275	Lancaster	[REDACTED]	No	Yes
[REDACTED]	1.16	301	Lebanon	[REDACTED]	No	Yes
[REDACTED]	13.55	3523	Cumberland	[REDACTED]	Yes	Yes
[REDACTED]	3	780	Dauphin	[REDACTED]	Yes	Yes
[REDACTED]	8.36	2175	Lebanon	[REDACTED]	No	No
[REDACTED]	4.6	1200	Dauphin	[REDACTED]	No	No
[REDACTED]	2.17	4330 (Livestakes)	Somerset	[REDACTED]	No	No
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>65.11 ac</b>	<b>20791 Stems</b>			<b>16.55 ac</b>	<b>33.12 ac</b>

## All Site Locations Map



**\*Individual site maps and geodata will be provided upon request, to protect landowner privacy**

**RETURN BID SHEET** (below) Electronically to: [jkauffman@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:jkauffman@allianceforthebay.org). All questions about this bid package should be made directly to Jim Kauffman through email (see above) or by phone at 610-223-7571.

**Bid Sheet - Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Forest Planting Contractor Bid**  
Return Bid Sheet By Friday, February 28, 2025.

Task	Price per unit/acre	Total Bid Price
Provide prep mowing services on 16.55 acres		
Provide 16,461 seedlings in accordance with the provided planting plans		
Provide all materials for and install 16,461 perforated, vented tree shelters (5') with white oak stakes (5'), reversible ties, and bird netting		
Hand-plant 16,461 bareroot tree seedlings in accordance to planting plan specifications		
Provide 4,330 live stakes		
Hand install 4,330 live stakes		
Provide annual maintenance (2 sprayings) on 33.12 acres for three (3) growing seasons after planting.		
Provide replanting services and shelter maintenance on 33.12 acres for three (3) growing seasons after planting.		
<b>TOTAL PLANTING BID PRICE</b>		

Company Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Signature:

Date:

Name Printed: