



# Chesapeake Bay Ordinance Data

Arlington vs Conservation Statute standards  
– 2021 update

# Four Year Data

Plan Approval Year	Location	Existing Canopy Before Project	Actual Canopy Conserved per Project	20% Preservation of Existing Canopy (Conservation Statute 15.2-961.1)	Difference between Arlington and Conservation Statute
2015	20 Random Samples	10.1%	6.5%	2.0%	4.5%
2016	30 Random Samples	25.5%	12.4%	6.6%	5.8%
2017	30 Random Samples	44.5%	9.0%	8.9%	0.1%
2018	30 Random Samples	25.0%	5.0%	5.0%	0.0%

- Forestry staff randomly sampled 20 approved projects for 2015 and 30 random samples for 2016, 2017, and 2018 in Arlington County for residential lots zoned for more than four but no more than eight units per acre.
- Developers conserved the same amount of canopy using Arlington standards compared to hypothetical application of Conservation Statute 15.2-961.1 standards for residential lots zoned for more than four but no more than eight units per acre (20% existing tree canopy conservation).
  - 6.5% vs. 2% in 2015 - 4.5% more canopy conserved using Arlington standards
  - 12.4% vs. 6.6% in 2016 - 5.8% more canopy conserved using Arlington standards
  - 9.0 vs. 8.9% in 2017 - 0.1% difference, which is not significant to know if conservation increased or decreased. A higher existing canopy before project could be a cause for this contrast with 2016
  - 5.0% vs. 5.0% in 2018 - 0.0% difference, which is not significant