CARROLL COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION POLICY CARROLL COUNTY PROCEDURE FOR RELEASE OF FOREST CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Effective Date December 8, 2005

Criteria for Release of Easement

Priority 1 Forest - Not eligible for Release of Easement.

Priority 2 & 3 - Eligible if one or both of the following conditions exist.

- 1.) No other location for activity on the lot outside the easement.
- 2.) Area outside the easement on the lot is not suitable for activity.

If a release is approved the following options for mitigation shall be considered:

- 1.) On-site planting if lot is greater than 3 acres.
- 2.) On-site planting:
 - a. Stand alone: must be greater than or equal to .23 acres
 - b. Addition to existing forest: must be greater than or equal to .1 acres
- 3.) Off-site planting: priority 1 or sensitive areas only.
- 4.) Banking

Procedure for Release of Forest Conservation Easement

- 1. Request release of easement in writing, include a copy of the plan showing the proposed changes and a cover letter justifying the change in planting area.
- 2. County determines the eligibility of release request.
- 3. An Official amended Forest Conservation Plan and record plat (prepared and signed by a qualified professional) must be submitted to Landscape and Forest Conservation for approval. A metes and bounds description with a plat plan can be submitted when a record plat is not applicable.
- 4. When the Forest Conservation Plan and Plat are approved, a Public Works Agreement will be required to collect fees for deed preparation (contact Development Review for instructions of PWA submittal).
- 5. The County Attorney's Office will prepare the legal documents for the owner's signature.
- A new deed of Forest Conservation Easement will be recorded in the Land Records of Carroll County.
- 7. Need to sign Release of Easement owner affidavit.

Vicki Luther, Forest Conservation Specialist

Bureau of Resource Management

Cc: Tom Devilbiss, Chief, Bureau or Resource Management

H:\rmann\text\Vicki\Procedure for Release of forest Conservation Easement 12 8 05