

(b) **[The practice of forestry] FORESTRY**, as prescribed by a person licensed as a forester under Title 7 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article and in accordance with accepted silvicultural principles, as defined by the Society of American Foresters, constitutes a traditional, fundamental, beneficial, and desirable use of the State's forest resource. **[The practice of forestry] FORESTRY** is an important land management tool that contributes significantly to the economy of the State by the support of a vital forest products industry, as well as to the health of forests and their wildlife, water quality, and recreational benefits by the sustainment of forest productivity and wildlife habitats.

(c) In Maryland, **[the practice of forestry] FORESTRY**, including the harvest and transport of forest products, is often carried out in close proximity to populated areas. Other than development for more intensive uses, this harvest of timber may represent a major source of income for the profitable use of private property.

(d) Since it is in the State and public interests to preserve the forest land base and other natural resources, a local government with planning and zoning powers shall support **[the practice of forestry] FORESTRY** by a reasonable exercise of these powers, including the consideration, development, and interpretation of planning and zoning requirements that beneficially impact the efficient and economic practice of forestry in a manner consistent with the local government's implementation of the visions listed in Article 66B, § 3.06(b) of the Code.

**DRAFTER'S NOTE:**

Error: Obsolete terminology in § 5-102.1 of the Natural Resources Article.

Occurred: As a result of Ch. 314, Acts of 1999.

5-1607.

(d) The following shall be considered priority for afforestation or reforestation:

(6) Establish buffers adjacent to areas of differing land use where appropriate, or adjacent to highways or utility **[right-of-ways] RIGHTS-OF-WAY**;

**DRAFTER'S NOTE:**

Error: Grammatical error in § 5-1607(d)(6) of the Natural Resources Article.

Occurred: Ch. 255, Acts of 1991.

**Article - Public Utility Companies**

7-501.

(f) "Customer choice" means the right of electricity suppliers and customers to utilize and interconnect with the electric distribution system on a nondiscriminatory basis at rates, terms, and conditions of service comparable to the electric company's own use of the system to distribute electricity from **[a] AN** electricity supplier to a