

PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, INC.
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For Immediate Release

MARYLAND IS TWENTY-FIRST TREE FARM STATE

Maryland became the twenty-first state to join the "American Tree Farm" movement with the dedication July 30 of a 1,278-acre tract of forest land in Charles county owned by the Glatfelter Pulpwood Company.

"I hope this is the first of many Maryland Tree Farms," declared Governor William Preston Lane, Jr., as he presented the gold seal "Tree Farm" certificate to P. H. Glatfelter, company president.

The dedication ceremonies, attended by nearly 100 Maryland officials and farm owners was held on the grounds of historic Old Durham Church near Ironsides, Md. Fittingly enough the presentation took place under the spreading branches of a 300-year-old white oak, the Maryland state tree.

The dedication of their Southern Maryland forest property brought to three the number of states in which the Spring Grove, Pa., company operates certified "Tree Farms." In October 1947 the Glatfelter Company became the first Pennsylvania "Tree Farm" owner when a 600-acre woodland tract at Iron Springs was certified and during July of this year the Glatfelter Company had a 524-acre tract at Hanover, Virginia certified as a "Tree Farm."

Governor Lane complimented the County Forestry Boards, joint sponsors with the Department of State Forests and Parks, of Maryland "Tree Farms," for their excellent work during the five years of their existence.

"Our greatest job now," the Governor said, "is to show land owners that forestry pays." In commenting on the improved protection system in the state he pointed out that Maryland's forest fire losses last year were the lowest on record.

Rep. Lansdale G. Sasser, Md., stressed the importance of timber as a crop and congratulated the Glatfelter Pulpwood Co., for its forward-looking forest management policies.

Other speakers included: James B. Monroe, State Senator from Charles County; James Mitchell, editor of the LaPlata Times-Crescent; and the Rev. R. B. Stevenson, rector of Old Durham Church.

According to Joseph F. Kaylor, director of the state Department of Forests and Parks, the "Tree Farm" program is part of a plan to increase and perhaps ultimately double Maryland's annual 9 million dollar income from forest products. More than 2,700,000 acres of Maryland land is best suited for the growing of trees, Kaylor said.

Besides opening the way for increased farm income through better production and management of woodlots, the Maryland "Tree Farm" program is of importance to the 14,000 Marylanders regularly employed in forest industries, Kaylor said.

The "American Tree Farm" movement, started in the State of Washington in 1941, today includes more than 15 million acres of woodland. Assisting in the project is the American Forest Products Industries, Inc., Washington, D. C. representing lumber, plywood, and pulp and paper companies interested in encouraging better forest practices and woodland protection.