Dear Big Tree Owner:  

A tree(s) on your property was measured for the Maryland Big Tree Program in 2008, and now needs to be re-measured. Trees are re-measured every ten years. The purpose of the program is to identify the largest trees of each species in Maryland. Besides the obvious purpose of identification, the program helps identify potential genetic improvements and species range and reproduction.

We would like your permission to re-measure your tree. The measurement process does not harm your tree; we do not take core samples. We measure the outside circumference of the tree, the height, and crown spread. The official formula is: Circumference (in inches measured at 4.5 ft. from the ground) + Tree Height (in feet) + one fourth of the Average Crown Spread. The point value obtained by this formula is then compared to the current Maryland State Champion. If your tree’s score is higher than the current State champion, it will replace the old champion on our list. If your tree’s score is within 70% of the current State champion, the tree will be added to the Maryland Big Tree Register and you should receive an official certificate of registration. If your tree(s) is added to our official list, we would want your permission to publish your town only. This service is free, and does not impact your property rights in any way. You retain full ownership and may care for or dispose of the tree at any time. Volunteers for the Maryland Big Tree Program are afforded the same liability coverage and protections as employees of the State under the Maryland Tort Claim Act.

Please sign and return the form below if you give permission for us to re-measure, photograph and register your tree(s). Unless you indicate otherwise, a photo of your tree(s) may be displayed on the Maryland Big Tree website, www.mdbigtrees.com. Please contact me at 610-467-1247, or at mdbigtreeprogram@aol.com if you have any questions. Return to John Bennett, at P. O. Box 328, North East, MD 21901, FAX it to 4102870010 or email the form with a facsimile signature to mdbigtreeprogram@aol.com.

Sincerely,

John Bennett, Volunteer Coordinator

I do ___ do not___ give permission for my tree(s) to be re-measured, photographed, registered and added on the web site at www.mdbigtrees.com for the Maryland Big Tree Program.

__________________________________________________________    ___________
Signature of Property Owner    Date

Name            Phone          Tree if known          County

“To promote the stewardship, conservation, and sustainable use of Maryland’s forest resources”