



Dear Kent County Zoning Commission,

As members of the Washington College Democrats, we wanted to show support for the proposed citizen amendment that will strengthen the Forest Conservation Act in Kent County. Not only would this citizen amendment be a triumph for democracy in Kent County, but it would help preserve the land that we as students love.

One of Kent County's strongest assets is its natural land, and every effort should be made to protect that land for current and future residents of the county. One way that the Zoning Commission can protect these lands is to adopt this citizen amendment, which recognizes the vital role that trees play in protecting this land. Shorerivers identifies numerous ways that trees help protect this land, mainly through "green stormwater management practices, stream bed restoration, achieving nutrient reductions in runoff, carbon sequestration, and shading impermeable surfaces."¹

We strongly urge the Kent County Zoning Commission to adopt this amendment and help protect this beautiful land that we call home. We also ask that you take into consideration the grassroots efforts of citizens by proposing an amendment and the hundreds of citizens that agreed in the Shorerivers petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicholas Splendoria | 2021-22 Washington College Democrats President

Mackenzie Boughey | 2022-23 Washington College Democrats President

The Washington College Democrats Executive Board

¹ Text from Shorerivers' Petition in Support of Forest Conservation Amendments