

Case Studies to Enhance the Woods in Your Backyard

The Woods In Your Backyard



“Educating People to Help Themselves”

Case Studies

- Hagar property
- Anderson property
- Meraldi property

Anderson Property

- **1.6 acres – adjoins a forest conservation area**
- **Objectives:**
 - **#1 Personal satisfaction & wildlife**
 - **#2 Natural area improvement & reduced lawn mowing**

Anderson Property



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Anderson Property

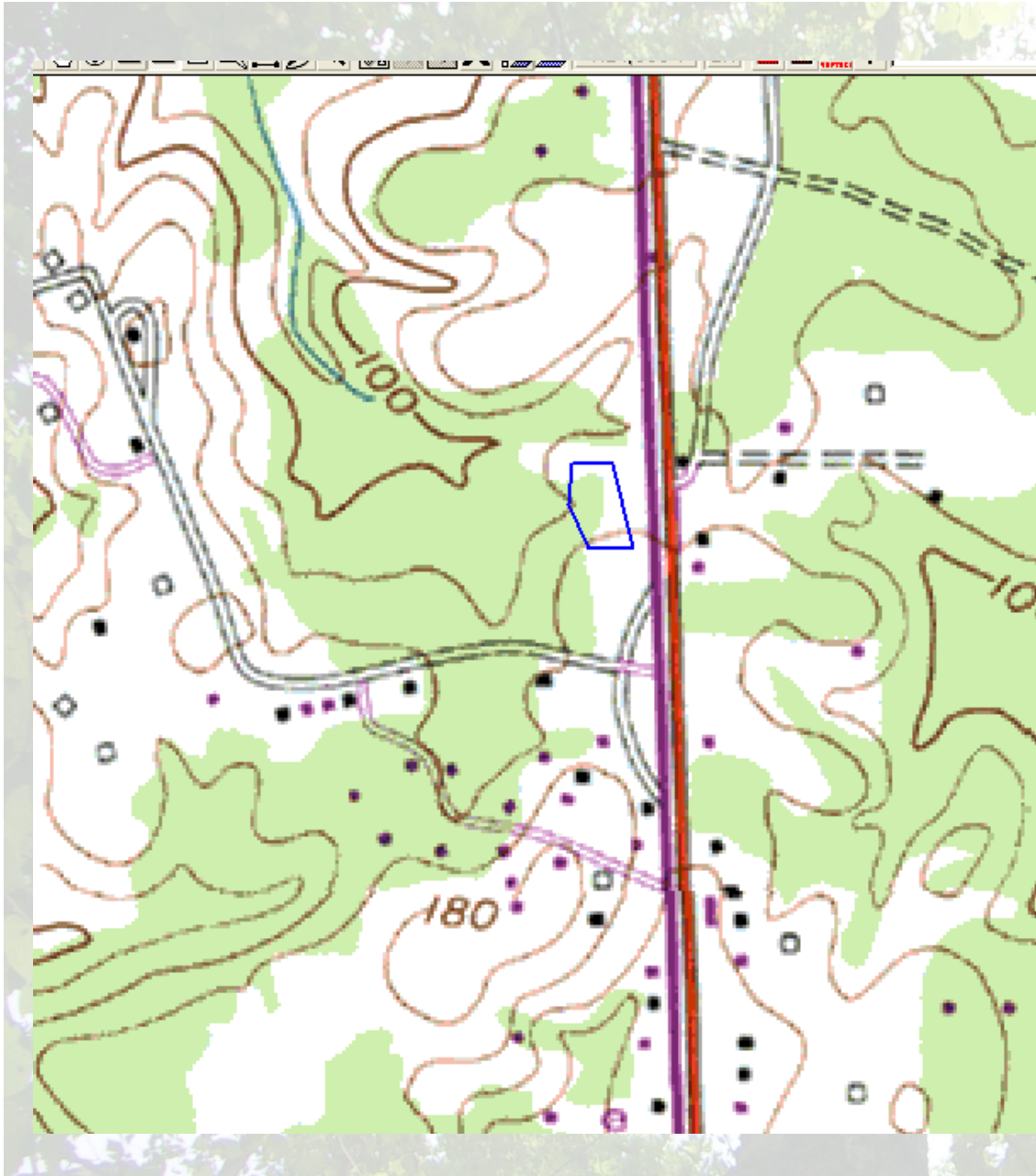


Google Earth Map



Soils Map

ErE – Eroded land - steep



**USGS
Topographic
map
usaphotomaps**

Soils Map

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey

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Area of Interest (AOI) | **Soil Map** | Soil Data Explorer | Shopping Cart

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Map Unit Legend

Calvert County, Maryland (MD009)

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
ErE	Eroded land, steep	2.5	66.8%
My	Mixed alluvial land	0.0	0.3%
ReC	Rumford-Evesboro gravelly loamy sands, 6 to 12 percent slopes	1.2	32.9%
Totals for Area of Interest (AOI)		3.7	100.0%

Soil Map

Legend

Scale (not to scale)

0 138ft

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Identify Different Management Units from the maps (Habitat units)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

Anderson Property Management/Habitat units

1. **Mature hardwood forest – sweetgum, tulip poplar, red maple, American beech, black & red oak, dogwood.**
 - Paw paw on downslope areas
 - Many dead snags and dead fallen trees
2. **Small Area of Virginia pine in decline**
3. **Wildflower/shrubs – early successional**
4. **Lawn -**
5. **Evergreen row of trees along driveway**

**Compete Activities 5-17 that you can
answer from the information provided**



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Project Ideas

- Reduce area of lawn on slope by driveway and create a soft edge in places
- Remove invasive species – Japanese honeysuckle, oriental bittersweet, and Japanese stilt grass, possibly others.

Hagar Property

- 4.8 acres – 85% wooded, some wetland
- Objectives
 1. Preserve & enhance natural beauty and native species
 2. Produce firewood while improving forest health
 3. Improve recreation opportunities

Identify Different Management Units from the maps (Habitat units)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

**Compete Activities 5-17 that you can
answer from the information provided**



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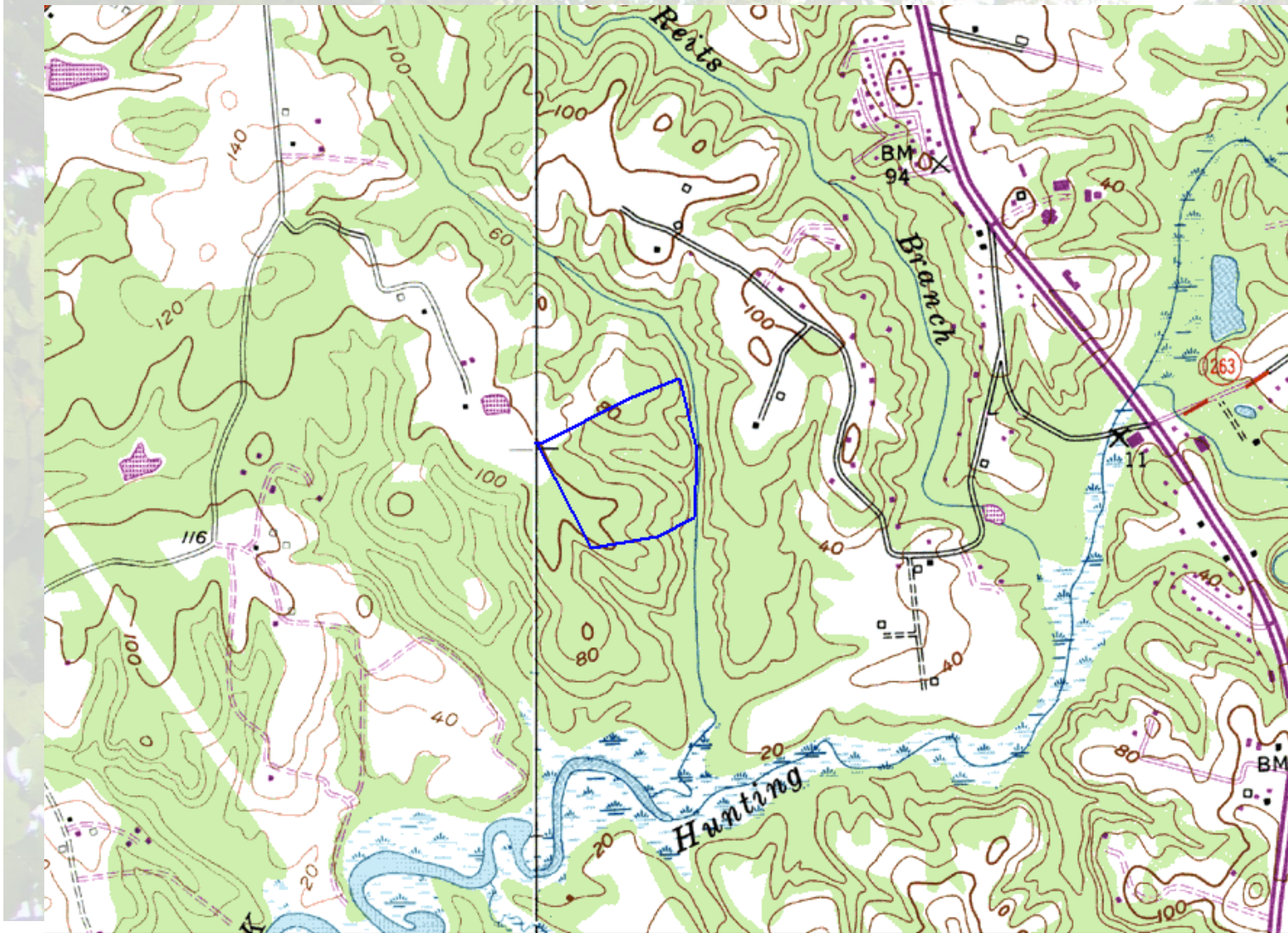
Suggest Some Project Ideas to Meet the Objectives

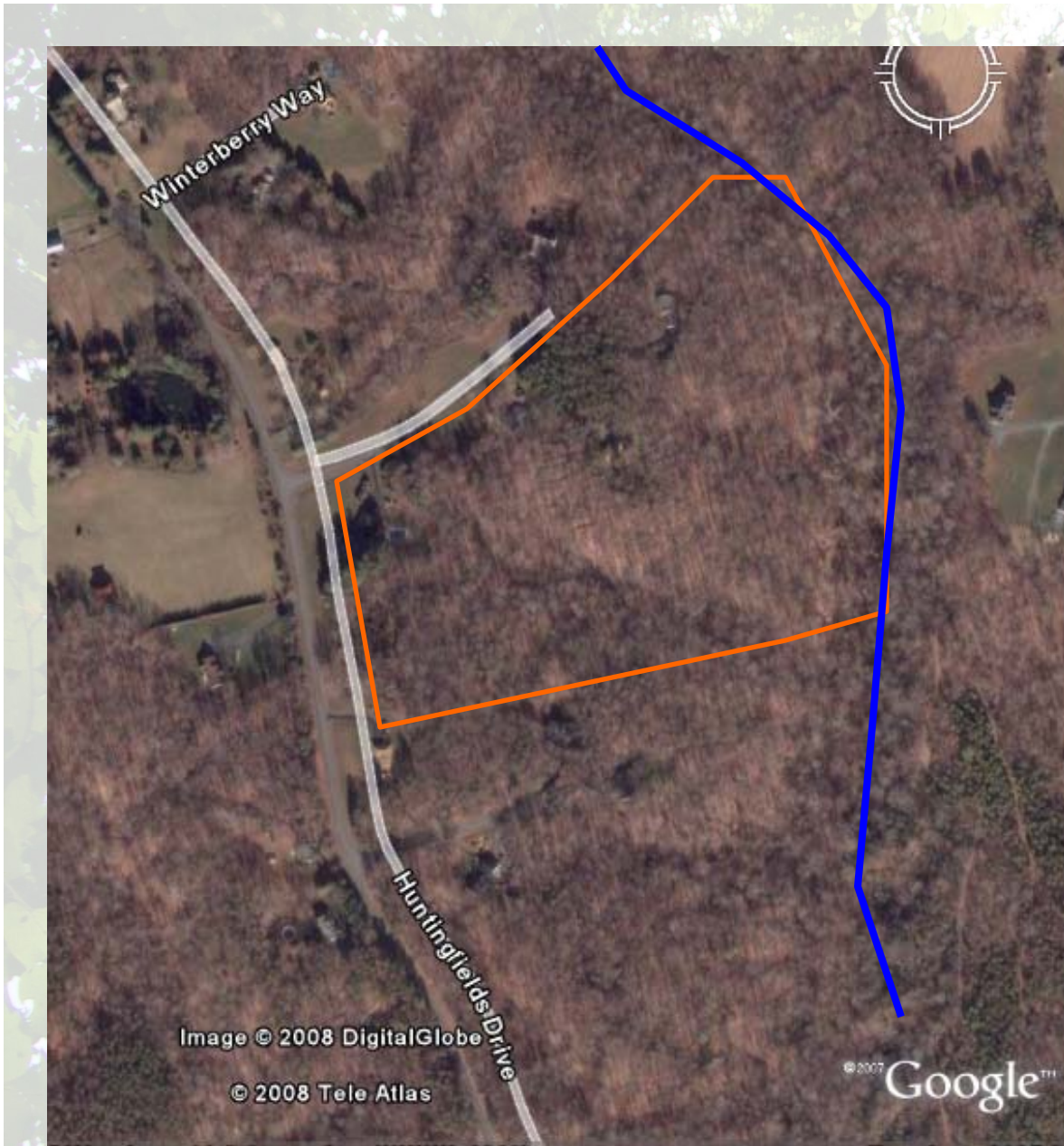


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What tools and techniques may I need?

USGS Topographic Map





Hagar property

Web Soil Survey - Windows Internet Explorer

http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Web Soil Survey

Printable Version Add to Shopping Cart

Map Unit Legend

Calvert County, Maryland (MD009)

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
ShC2	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, moderately eroded	0.4	16.6%
ShC3	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded	1.1	49.9%
ShD3	Sassafras fine sandy loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes severely eroded	0.1	5.3%
SrE	Sassafras and Westphalia soils, steep	0.6	28.3%
Totals for Area of Interest (AOI)		2.2	100.0%

Soil Map

Scale: (not to scale)

0 118ft

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Suggest Some Project Ideas to Meet the Objectives



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Hagar Property

- **Project Ideas**
 - Build natural path from house area to back of property where there is a bluff overlooking Huntingtown Creek
 - Identify and cut trees for firewood that will improve growth of other trees

What tools and techniques may I need?

Murphy Property

Reisterstown, MD

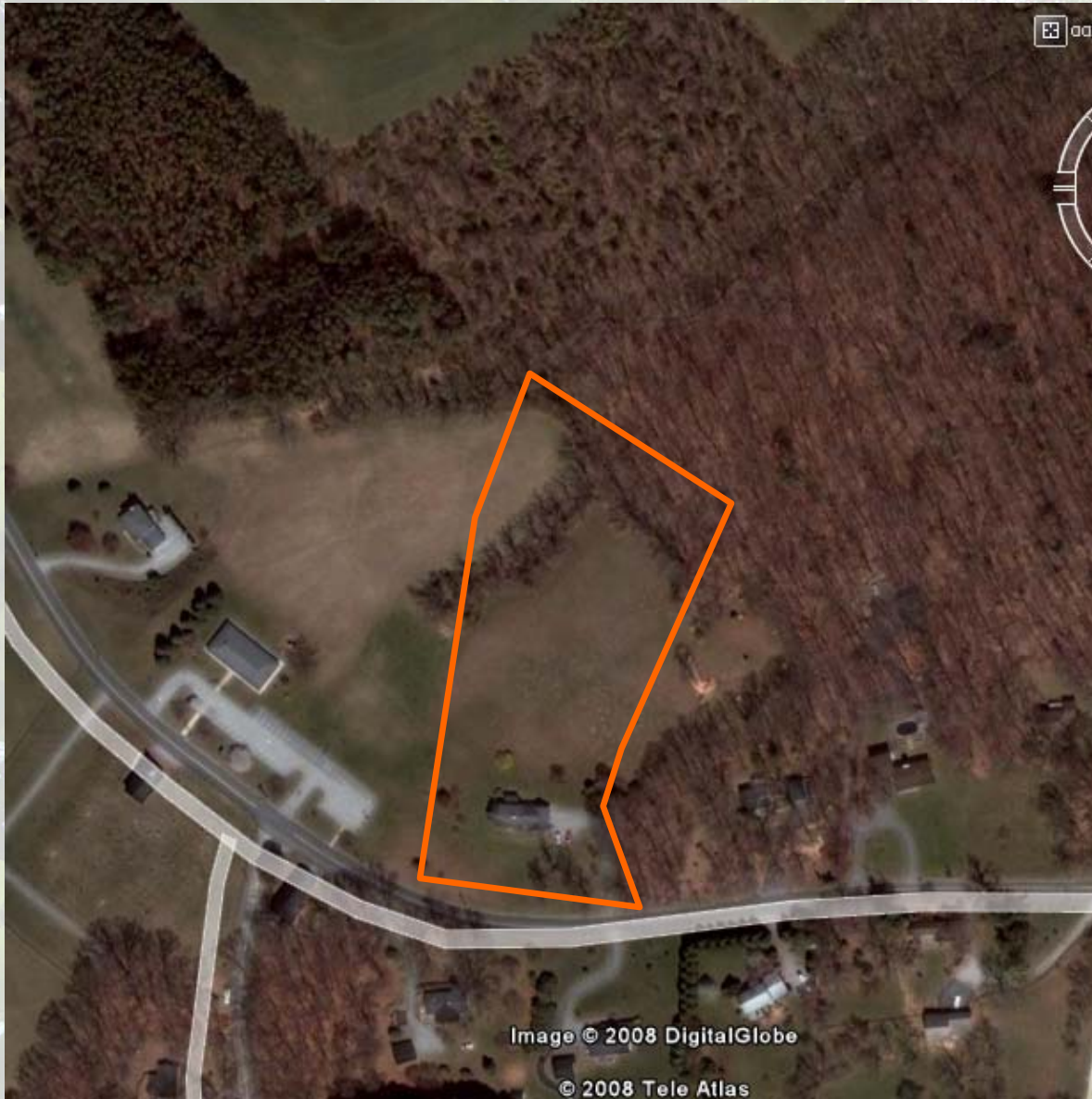
- **6 acres – 1 acre wooded**
- **Objectives**
 1. **Reduce lawn mowing and create wildlife habitat**
 2. **Create some privacy areas around the home that will provide wildlife habitat and aesthetics**
 3. **Improve personal satisfaction and natural area improvement by controlling vines and invasives**

Soils Map



Meraldi Property

6 acres



Identify Different Management Units from the maps (Habitat units)

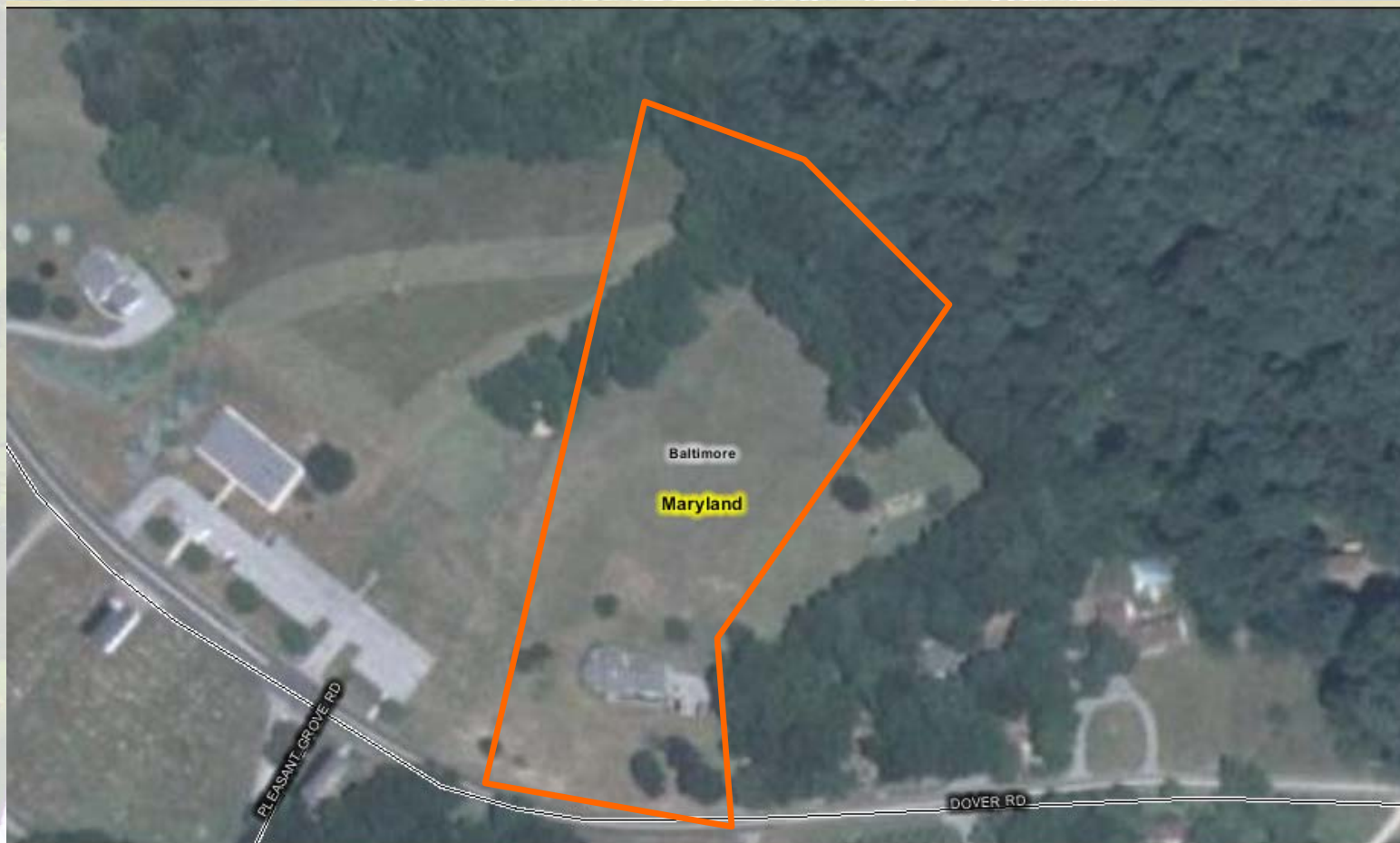
- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Identify Different Management Units from the maps (Habitat units)

- 1) Plant trees on steeply sloped areas and reduce mowing on other areas in lawn. Mow every other year
- 2) Plant a few larger trees mixed with young tree seedlings around home to create shaded natural areas that extend existing forest
- 3) Cut vines from trees in draw area and control invasive species elsewhere.

Soils Map

Not available on websoilsurvey



**Compete Activities 5-17 that you can
answer from the information provided**



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- **What are few principles of succession, forestry and wildlife that may be useful as I look for project ideas (Pg 31-42)?**

- **What are some sources of maps that may be useful? What do they show me about the landscape around the property?**

Suggest Some Project Ideas to Meet the Objectives



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What tools and techniques may I need?

Range of Options to Establish Natural Areas

- **Maintain early succession cover**



Mow every 2-4 years



Mow once a year

Mow every 3 years in strips Habitat for turkeys, quail, etc



Maintain Existing Old Field Succession

- Many existing old fields can be maintained by killing hardwoods that establish themselves. Provides unique habitat





Garrett Co

Eastern Shore

Early Successional Species Vary by Region



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Establish Trees



By planting



Natural regeneration