



# MARC Northeast Maintenance Facility: Berms FAQ

## BERMS

**How do the berms improve and/or enhance the community and the neighborhood from the way it is currently?**

The existing landscape on the project site is farmland with significant hedgerows and meadows on neighboring properties. The proposed landscape aesthetic would provide a gradual transition from farmland to increased meadows and tree buffers. The berms are designed as additional, immediate, and more consistent screening of the MARC facility from the roadway since the trees will not be fully grown for many years.

**Would the landscaping be maintained, or would it be left to grow untended?**

The ornamental, street tree plantings, and meadow areas would be maintained by the MTA. Meadows were chosen for their minimal maintenance requirements once established. The reforestation areas would be monitored for the first five years, and then allowed to grow, unmaintained, as it would be held under permanent protection by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD-DNR).

**Could the berms be designed so that it would not block a view of the bay?**

Yes, currently this is being coordinated with the adjacent landowners. The berms would be located so as to block views of the MARC facility from MD 7 and neighboring properties. It may be the reforestation area, as currently designed, that would ultimately block the views to the bay, and not the berms. The MTA is preparing sight line studies and renderings to coordinate this effort. There are opportunities to adjust the berms and reforestation to open up views to the bay, while still providing some screening of the facility.