In 1912, Baltimore Mayor James H. Preston approved passage of Ordinance No. 154, creating the position of “city forester” and formally introducing professional forest management to Maryland’s largest city. Though not the first municipality in the United States to exert control over street tree planting, Baltimore could now be added to the growing list of major American cities to venture down this road. Unfortunately, Baltimore’s aspiration to become known as the “city of a million trees” has never been fully realized. Nor has its goal of achieving a more equitable distribution of trees. While a 2006 initiative to “double the city’s tree canopy in the next thirty years” has produced some positive results, many parts of the city still lack trees. In this paper I use an environmental justice frame to explore the historical roots of roadside tree planting and urban forestry in Baltimore. I then focus attention on two neighborhoods in East Baltimore – Berea and Madison-Eastend – to determine if they are suitable locations for aggressive tree planting and greening efforts. The selection of East Baltimore as a study area is significant because it was here that the city’s Division of Forestry first encountered resistance to tree planting starting in the 1940s. Comparisons are drawn with neighborhoods in Washington, DC, where similar research has been conducted.