



STEUART PITTMAN, COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JESSICA LEYS, DIRECTOR
1 HARRY S. TRUMAN PARKWAY
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
410-222-7867



August 7, 0224

Margaret Lashar & Katelyn Woods
Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Bldg. E-4
580 Taylor Ave.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Anne Arundel County
FY2025 Program Open Space Annual Program

Dear Ms. Lashar & Ms. Woods,

Enclosed is Anne Arundel County's Fiscal Year 2025 Program Open Space Annual Program, which provides a description of potential park acquisition and development grant requests to be submitted during fiscal year 2025. The projects listed in the Annual Program are consistent with the 2022 Anne Arundel County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan, the County's Plan 2040 and the Planning Act of 1992 as detailed within the project descriptions. Projects for the City of Annapolis are included in accordance with their current capital improvement program and their available share of POS funds.

This year's Annual Program includes land acquisition projects totaling \$1,969,606.46 and park development projects totaling \$2,826,737.67. The County will select projects from this list based on funds available.

Anne Arundel County extends its appreciation to the Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Planning for the continued support of our land preservation and park development efforts. Program Open Space is essential to the expansion of our park system as we strive to accommodate the needs of Anne Arundel County residents.

If you have any questions or require more information, please do not hesitate to contact our Department at 410-222-7867. Your review and endorsement of our Program will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Erica J. Matthews

Erica J. Matthews

Deputy Director

Cc: Debbie Herr Cornwell, PLA, ASLA, CC-P



**Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Program Open Space Annual Program
For FY 2025**



*Enjoy – Explore – Restore
We Make Life Better!*



**Anne Arundel County
Program Open Space
FY2025 Annual Program
July 1, 2024**

Introduction

Anne Arundel County hereby submits the fiscal year 2025 Annual Program for continued participation in the grant funding provided by Program Open Space. The project selection process in Anne Arundel County is based on the following criteria:

- The need for parkland and recreation facilities in growth areas
- Additions to existing parks, natural areas, and trail corridors
- Protection of sensitive natural resources and wildlife habitat
- Protection of Green Infrastructure and identified Greenways
- Compliance with the Twelve State Planning Visions
- Compliance with the adopted 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan
- Compliance with Plan2040, General Development Plan for Anne Arundel County
- Recommendations in the 16 Small Area Plans and the forthcoming region plans
- Distribution of available funds to benefit all communities, countywide

Below are the projects included in this Annual Program. The Acquisition and Development Projects. The detailed descriptions and maps are attached.

Land Acquisition Projects

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>State Share</u>
2027 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan	\$ 25,000.00
Saltworks Creek Park	\$ 1,000,000.00
4162 Sands Road additional funding request	\$ 66,400.00
Anne Arundel County – Properties Undetermined	\$ 285,055.75
City of Annapolis – Properties Undetermined	<u>\$ 593,150.71</u>
Total	\$ 1,969,606.46

Park Development Projects

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>State Share</u>
Anne Arundel County-Edgewater Recreation Center	\$ 811,693.48
Anne Arundel County-Eisenhower Golf Course Clubhouse	\$1,000,000.00
City of Annapolis-Weems Whelan Artificial Turf Field	\$1,000,000.00
City of Annapolis-Undetermined	<u>\$ 15,044.19</u>
Total	\$2,826,737.67

Land Acquisition Projects

Anne Arundel County-Saltworks Creek Park

\$1,000,000.00

The County envisions this property being used as a passive park for wildlife observation, personal recreation and will include limited development such as shared use paths. This purchase would allow the County to preserve land that lies within 3000 feet of the Broad Creek Greenway as presented in the 2002 AACO Greenway Master Plan. The recently adopted Green Infrastructure Plan includes the subject parcel and labels it as an "unprotected" parcel. The subject property is entirely forested and located between Salt Works Creek and Cabin Branch. The site looks to be connected to an additional 37 parcels of protected land. The combination of this parcel plus the other 37 would result in about 250 acres of protected forested land. Preliminary research also indicates the property includes environmental features that should be preserved. The site has the following attributes:

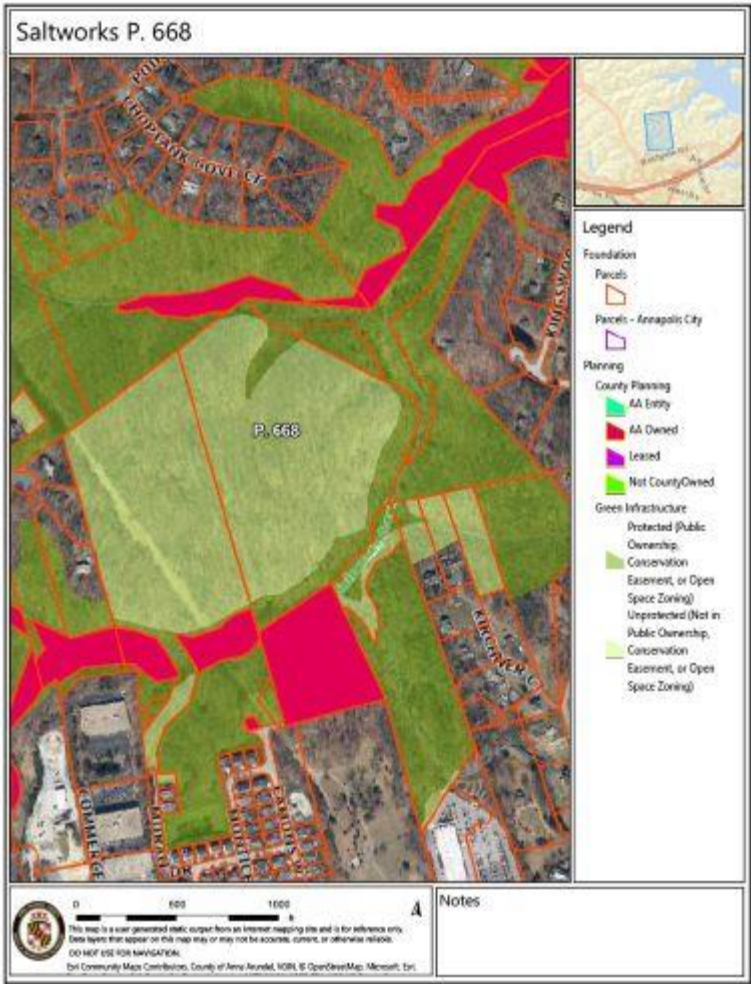
- Entirely forested
- Subject site and all surrounding parcels are categorized as Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS) habitat
- It is bordered on the north by Cabin Branch and on the south by Salt Works Creek; two tributaries of the Severn River
- It connects to the Broad Creek Greenway via a 39 acre HOA Open Space parcel
- Over 60% of the subject parcel (P668) consists of 15 to 25% slopes or greater. Protection of these forested slopes is highly beneficial to the water quality of Salt Works Creek and Cabin Branch.

This property is consistent with the 2022 Anne Arundel County Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) as follows:

- The acquisition of land in the Green Infrastructure network is supported by the LPPRP - this acquisition would add 27 acres of public land to the Broad Creek Greenway and the Green Infrastructure Severn River Watershed segment. The LPPRP identifies a capital project to acquire parkland, and land within the Greenway network, currently active within the DRP Capital Budget.
- The acquisition of land to protect and enhance forest cover, and sensitive resources is strongly supported by the LPPRP.
- Stream buffer protection is also supported by the LPPRP.

This property is consistent with the recommendations of the year 2000 Crownsville Small Area Plan as follows:

- Protect large tracts of forest on the Severn River by fee simple acquisition or easement.
- Implement a system of Green ways to protect sensitive natural resources and wildlife habitat.



2027 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan
Installment #2

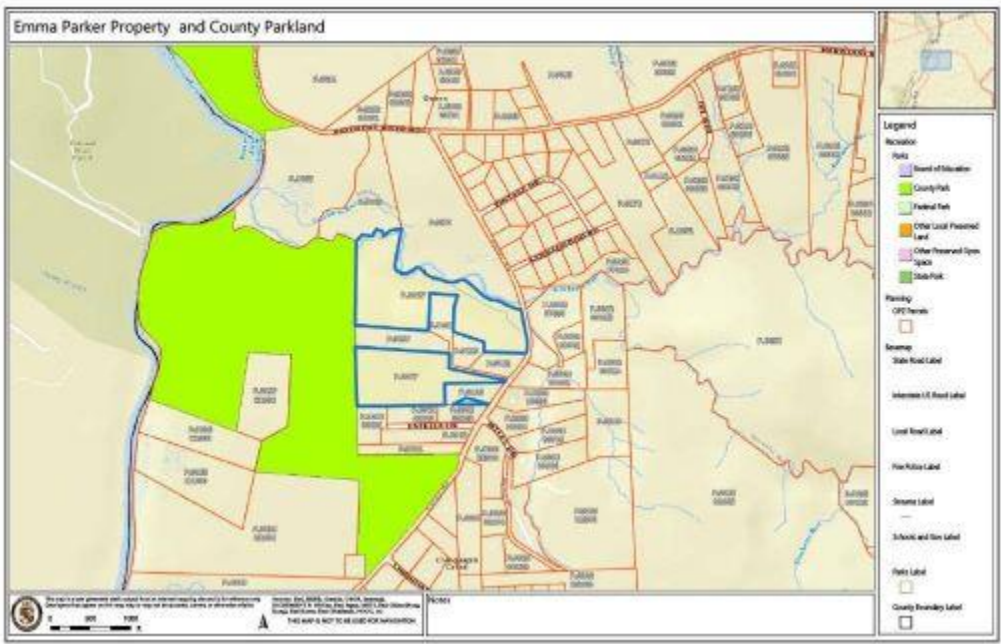
\$ 25,000.00

This request represents Program Open Space Installment #2 to fund the 2027 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). As part of the 2027 LPPRP the County will conduct a countywide citizen survey. This survey will help determine the current and future needs for recreation facilities, and the level of support for open space and natural resource protection through easement or fee simple purchases. This project is consistent with the State Planning Visions by gathering public input for local and State land use planning.

4162 Sands Road

\$ 66,400.00

On April 27, 2022 the Parker Property Acquisition at 4162 Sands Road in Harwood was approved by the Board of Public Works in the amount of \$390,800.00. During the acquisition process there were legal and title issues that needed to be addressed. The appraisals were updated and the average cost for the property increased by \$66,400.00 and the new dollar amount for this project is \$457,200.00. This acquisition will expand the Green Infrastructure Network in the Upper Patuxent Watershed.



Anne Arundel County-Properties to be determined

\$ 285,055.75

City of Annapolis-Properties to be determined

\$ 593,150.71

Development Projects

Edgewater Recreation Center \$811,693.48

This recently acquired property will serve as an indoor-outdoor community recreation center by repurposing an abandoned commercial property at 3130 Solomons Island Road in Edgewater. The County anticipates the space being a mix of indoor courts (pickleball, basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts) along with flex space that can be used for dance/yoga/exercise, summer camps, community gatherings, crafts and an indoor large playground. The outside would be modified to include outdoor court games. This acquisition would result in a much-needed amenity of indoor recreational space and community gathering spaces were requested by the residents of District 7. The facility would be county-owned, operated, and maintained.

This property is consistent with the 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). The LPPRP states that the Department should prioritize the development of indoor facilities to meet the demand for indoor courts and other recreation spaces and suggest the construction of a new community center where fiscally justified. The need for indoor space is also detailed on the Land Acquisitions, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations table, Table 3-17 of the 2022 LPPRP.

The development of this property is consistent with the goals and objectives of the 2040 General Development Plan:

- Goal HC1: The County's community facilities and services will meet the needs of all residents.
- Goal HC8: Provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents.
- Goal HC8.1: Recreation and parks facilities should be accessible to all residents and provide a variety of recreational opportunities.
- Strategy HC8.2e: Continue to use Program Open Space and other State and Federal grant programs as available to implement these projects.



Eisenhower Golf Course Clubhouse **\$1,000,000.00**

The purpose of this project is to design and construct a clubhouse at Eisenhower Golf Course located at 1576 Generals Highway, Crownsville, MD. The golf course was recently renovated the clubhouse would support the expanded use of the golf course. The clubhouse would include a pro-shop, restrooms, staff offices, food service and event space. The 2022 LPPRP lists this facility development project in Table III-17 and is a County-wide demand need.

This project aligns with Plan2040 as these areas will be developed using sustainable design principles to serve the needs of the public and to enhance the park experience for all. A high quality of life and sustainability shall be provided with this development. The golf course acquisition was funded by Program Open Space in 2019.



Upper Parking View



Golf Course View

City of Annapolis-Weems Whelan Artificial Turf Field \$ 1,000,000.00

Weems Whalen Field sits on 2.6 acres of land at 935 Spa Road, Annapolis, MD. After several years of mitigation, the City of Annapolis returned the multi-purpose field to Recreation and Parks to turn it into an Artificial Multi-Purpose Brock Synthetic turf field. This project is listed in the 2022 LPPRP, Table III-17: Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations.



City of Annapolis- To be allocated for future development \$ 15,044.19

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION
FISCAL YEAR 2025

<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Project Name, Project Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>			<u>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</u>			
		<u>Existing</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>POS Stateside</u>	<u>State (POS Local Funds)</u>	<u>Undetermined</u>
Anne Arundel County, MD	Additional funding requested for Sands Road	221.668	250.841	29.173	66,400		66,400	
Anne Arundel County, MD	Properties yet to be determined				285,056		285,056	
Anne Arundel County, MD	FY27 LPPRP - Installment #2				25,000		25,000	
Anne Arundel County, MD	Saltworks Creek Park	0	27	27	1,000,000		1,000,000	
City of Annapolis	Properties yet to be determined (FY25 allocation + prior years unencumbered)				593,150		593,150	
	TOTALS	221.668	277.841	56.173	1,969,606	0	1,969,606	0

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2025

<u>Sponsor</u>	Anne Arundel County				<u>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</u>			
		Exisiting	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local (County Funds)</u>	<u>State (POS Local Funds)</u>	<u>Federal</u>
Anne Arundel County	Eisenhower Golf Course Clubhouse	200.09	200.09	< 1 acre	\$1,000,000	\$13,929,753	\$1,000,000	
Anne Arundel County	Edgewater Recreation Center	5.3974	5.3974	5.3974	\$811,693	\$10,671,307	\$811,693	
City of Annapolis	Weems Whelan Artificial Turf Field	18.74	18.74	2.6	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	
City of Annapolis	City of Annapolis	TBD	TBD		\$15,044		\$15,044	
	TOTALS				\$2,826,737	\$24,601,060	\$2,826,737	