



CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism

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MEMORANDUM:

To: Maryland Department of Planning, Comprehensive Planning Unit
Maryland Department of Natural Resources/Program Open Space

From: Ben Yeckley, RPT Planning Supervisor
Charles County Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Subject: Annual Program Report
Charles County

Date: December 22, 2025

Enclosed you will find Charles County's Annual Program Report for FY26. After your review, please contact me directly at YeckleyB@CharlesCountyMD.gov or at (240)695-2064 if you have any questions.

FY26
Charles County Annual Report

Introduction

Each year, Charles County Government prepares and updates a five (5) year plan for open space, park acquisition, and facility development. This plan is created to address community needs and respond to the growing demand for outdoor recreation. The properties identified in the plan are developed through direct feedback from residents, public hearings, and collaboration with organization recreation groups.

The County's open space priorities center on enhancing public parks and recreational amenities while also protecting lands with significant agricultural and natural resource value.

The projects included in this annual report align with the goals outlined in the County's current Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). The LPPRP emphasizes that the need for active recreation facilities continues to increase and that planning and development must keep pace. With a strong and diverse recreational base, community engagement is expected to remain high. Our aim is to sustain existing opportunities, maintain quality facilities, and seek new ways to serve County residents.

Attached is Charles County's Annual Program Report for FY26:

Acquisition: Waldorf Property

Development: Waldorf Park, Phase I

**Charles County
Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism**

**FY 2026 Annual Program
-Acquisition-**

FY 26 Annual Program -Acquisition-

Charles County Government
Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

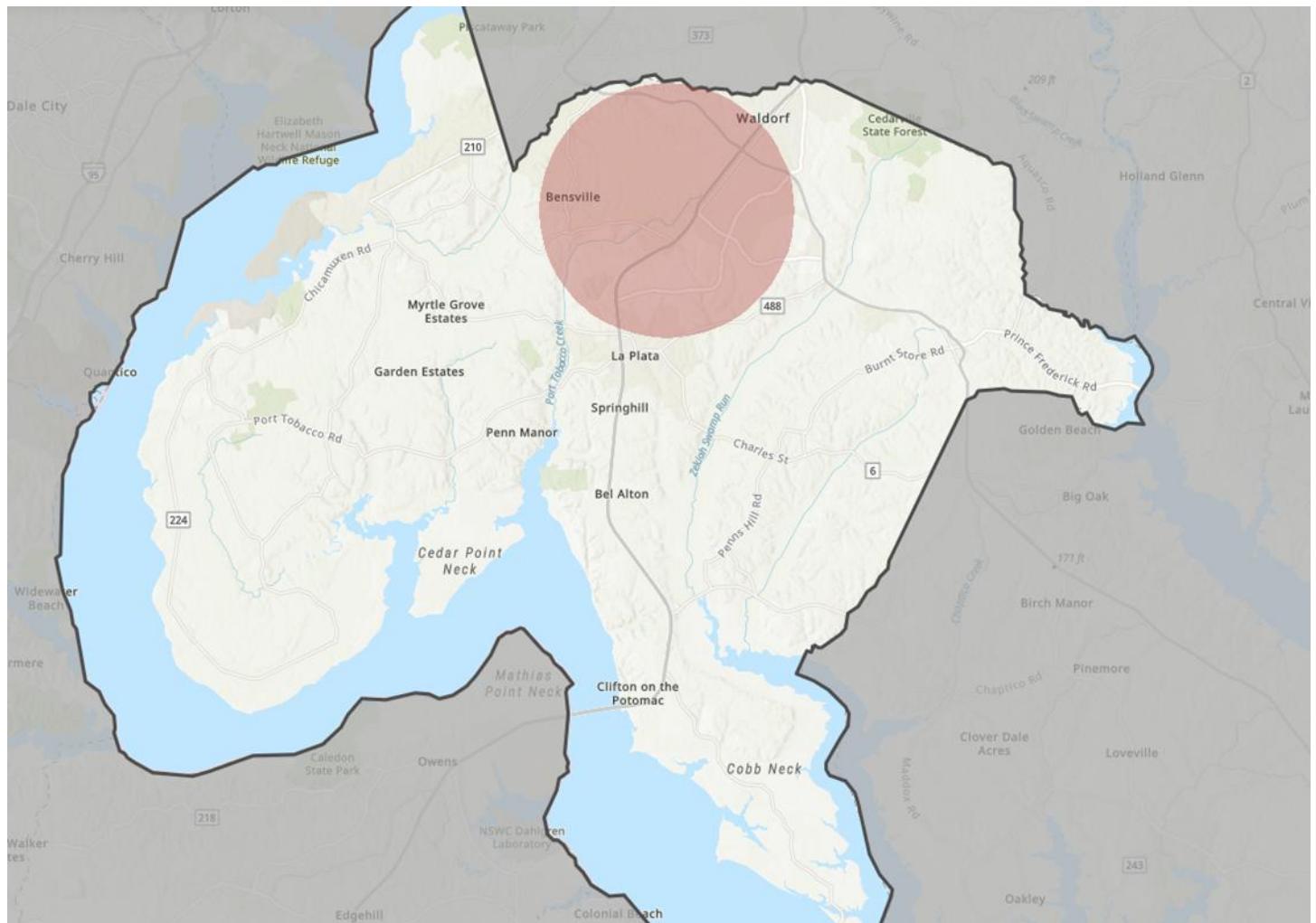
Project: Waldorf Property
Waldorf, MD

The Waldorf Property is a perfect property for Charles County Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism (RPT) to acquire and develop, as Waldorf holds the majority of Charles County's population, and there is a need for more recreational park land. Additionally, acquiring this land aids RPT in reaching its outdoor recreational needs, as identified in the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). This project corresponds with the following LPPRP goals: 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 15.

Total Acreage: >100 and <200

Total Cost: \$4,200,000

(We are requesting 100% POS funding for this acquisition.)



**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION
FISCAL YEAR 2026**

**Charles County
Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism**

**FY 2026 Annual Program
-Development-**

FY 26 Annual Program -Development-

Charles County Government
Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

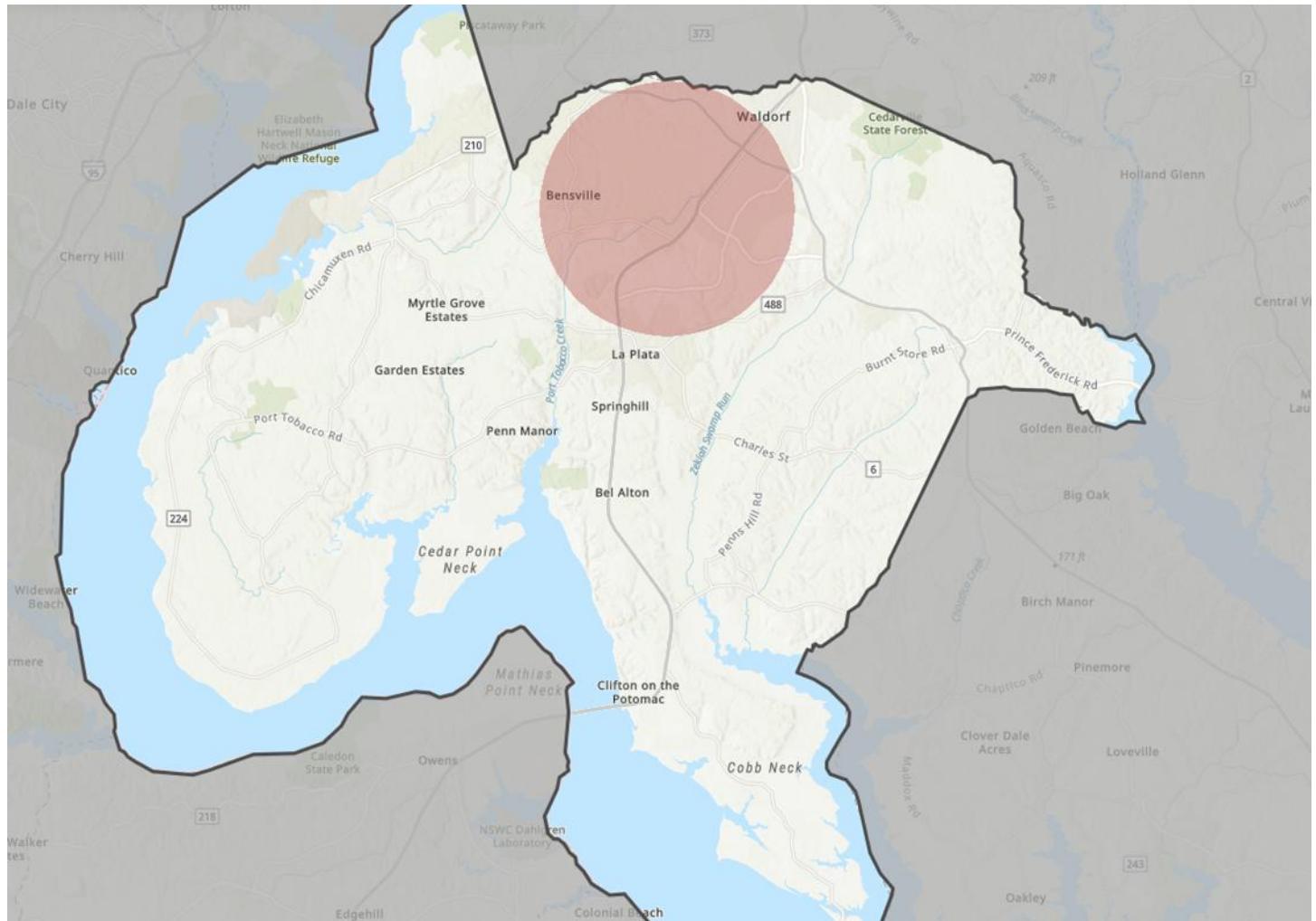
Project: Waldorf Park, Phase I
Waldorf, MD

The Waldorf Park project is essential to addressing the outdoor recreational needs of County residents in the Waldorf region. The development of this 216 acre County park is a priority to meet both active and passive recreational demands in the County's fastest growing area. The overall Waldorf Park project consists of basketball and pickleball courts, an ADA accessible playground, dog parks, walking and hiking trails, and several multi-purpose athletic fields. Phase I of the project will include the design and construction of key infrastructure elements including main and access roadways, pathways and trails, parking areas, well and septic utilities, stormwater facilities, and a maintenance building. This project corresponds with the following LPPRP goals: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7.

Total Acreage: 216 Acres

Total Cost: \$3,100,000

(We are requesting \$2,000,000 POS funding to accompany a \$1,100,000 local share.)



**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2026**