Calvert County
FY 2021
Program Open Space Annual Program

Adopted June 9, 2020

INTRODUCTION

The *Program Open Space Annual Program* must be submitted to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Planning in order for local governments to be eligible for state funding for acquisition and development of recreation land. Upon review, the *Annual Program* becomes the basis for total allocations to each of the local governments. The State determines the amount of funding based upon a formula developed for the apportionment of the annual appropriations for Program Open Space. A municipality may submit its annual program through the county in which it is located. The *Annual Program* must be consistent with the county's *Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.*

CALVERT COUNTY RECREATION PLANNING

OBJECTIVES

The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan, Calvert 2040, adopted in 2019, sets forth an overall goal and four broad objectives in the Parks and Recreation section. A few key actions in the 2019 plan are noted below as sub-bullets. These actions were in the prior Calvert County Comprehensive Plan as objectives. They have been updated and included in the 2019 plan as actions.

- Increase the amount of land area dedicated to recreation and natural resources.
- Ensure that a wide selection of public recreational facilities and programs are provided to meet the interests and needs of all ages, incomes, and abilities.
  - Enhance the network of recreational sites and facilities, including hiker/biker and horseback riding trails, based on the unique natural, cultural and historical features of the county.
  - Continue to improve and expand opportunities for public access to the Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River.
  - Provide safe access to parks and recreational facilities including, where feasible, pedestrian and bicycle access.
- Increase the variety of uses of community facilities.
- Expand community involvement in recreational programming.

Calvert County's most recent *Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan* was adopted in May 2018. The purpose of the plan is to maintain the county's eligibility to participate in Maryland's Program Open Space and to guide the county's management and enhancement of its public parks, open spaces, and preserved land for the next five years.

The Recreation, Parks, and Open Spaces chapter of the plan sets forth three goals and 14 recommendations.

> Goal 1: Continue to maintain and develop parks, recreation facilities, and programs to meet the diverse needs of the growing population in Calvert County.
>
> Goal 2: Develop an interconnected system of pedestrian trails and bike paths throughout the County to link together places people live, work, play, and visit in Calvert County and Southern Maryland.

Goal 3: Continue to improve and expand opportunities for public access to the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River.

The *Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan* is available online http://www.calvertcountymd.gov/LPPRP.

ANNUAL PROGRAM PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Projects listed in the Annual Program are either taken directly from the *Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan* or identified as potential acquisition or development projects by the Board of County Commissioners. They have not necessarily obtained final approval from the Board. Projects specifically requested by municipalities are also listed.

For projects other than those already listed in the *Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan* or requested by a municipality, the selection process begins when any individual or organization proposes a project for consideration. The proposal is forwarded to an in-house Open Space Committee composed of the Capital Projects Analyst and representatives from the Department of Parks & Recreation, the Department of General Services, the Department of Economic Development, and the Department of Planning & Zoning. The Open Space Committee makes preliminary findings of fact and determines whether or not the project is consistent with criteria listed in the *Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan*. The committee presents its findings to the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners for action.

Listing a project in the Annual Program is a first step toward implementing a project and is a requirement for using Program Open Space funding. Title 3, §3-205 of the Land Use Article of the Maryland Annotated Code specifies that certain types of projects may not be constructed or authorized in the local jurisdiction until approved by the planning commission as consistent with the plan (comprehensive plan) or geographic sections of the local jurisdiction. Types of public projects that must be reviewed include squares, parks, and open spaces. Each year, the Calvert County Planning Commission reviews such projects in the six-year Calvert County Capital Improvements Plan for consistency with the *Calvert County Comprehensive Plan*.

PROPOSED BUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR ACQUISITION

SPONSOR	PROJECT NAME PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE			SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY ($)				
		EXISTING	ULTIMATE	PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	A-24 CALVERT COUNTY LAND PRESERVATION, PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN	N/A	N/A	N/A	125,000		25,000		

PROPOSED UNBUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR ACQUISITION

SPONSOR	PROJECT NAME PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE			SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY ($)				
		EXISTING	ULTIMATE	PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	A-1 CANOE AND KAYAK LAUNCH SITES	6	8	2	150,000	75,000	75,000		
CALVERT	A-2 FLAG PONDS NATURE PARK ADDITION	560	630	70	1,400,000		1,400,000		
CALVERT	A-3 PATUXENT WATERFRONT PARK	0	60	60	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-4 WAR OF 1812 SS BANNER TRAIL	0	32	32	400,000	100,000	100,000		200,000
CALVERT	A-5 PARKERS CREEK WATERSHED	3000	N/A	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-6 HUNTINGTOWN TOWN CENTER PARK	0	6	6	250,000	125,000	125,000		
CALVERT	A-7 HALLOWING POINT PARK	81	124	40	600,000	300,000	300,000		
CALVERT	A-8 HUNTINGTOWN DISTRICT PARK	0	100	100	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-9 NORTHEAST SECTOR PARK	0	100	100	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-10 ST. LEONARD DISTRICT PARK	0	100	100	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-11 DUNKIRK COMMUNITY CENTER	0	1	1	1,000,000	500,000	500,000		
CALVERT	A-16 CALVERT MARINE MUSEUM ADDITION	10	11.1	1.1	750,000		150,000		600,000
CALVERT	A-17 BISCOE GRAY HERITAGE FARM	206	212	6.2	300,000	250,000			50,000
CALVERT	A-18 BALTIMORE & DRUM POINT RAIL TRAIL	0.6	210	209±	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-19 PARKS WITH WATER ACCESS	1000+	N/A	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-21 SHARED USED TRAILS	4	N/A	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-22 NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION	1500+	N/A	200+	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-28 UPPER HELLEN CREEK WATERSHED	0	200+	200+	UNKNOWN				

PROJECTS PLANNED BY MUNICIPALITIES FOR ACQUISITION

SPONSOR	PROJECT NAME PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE			SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY ($)				
		EXISTING	ULTIMATE	PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	A-12 CHESAPEAKE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY	.5 mile	7.7 miles	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-13 N. BEACH 2ND & GREENWOOD POCKET	0	0.125	0.125	120,000				
CALVERT	A-14 N. BEACH TOWN PARK	1.45	1.75+	.30	250,000				
CALVERT	A-15 N. BEACH NATURE TRAIL (A & B)	1.5	18.215	19.71	75,000	75,000			
CALVERT	A-20 N. BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN	0	1	1	50,000	25,000			
CALVERT	A-23 OLD BAYSIDE ROAD TRAIL	0	N/A	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	A-25 N. BEACH CANOE & KAYAK LAUNCH	0	2	N/A	UNKNOWN				

APPROVED BUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

SPONSOR	NAME OF RECREATION AREA TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	ACREAGE	SOURCE OF FUNDS (FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY) $				
		PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	D-2 HALLOWING POINT DISTRICT PARK (Acreage, County owns 82 & leases 20)	102 (82+20)	1,230,000	1,230,000			
CALVERT	D-3 DUNKIRK DISTRICT PARK	81	1,402,000	1,177,000	225,000		
CALVERT	D-4 COVE POINT DISTRICT PARK	267	150,000		150,000		
CALVERT	D-6 DOMINION ENERGY REGIONAL PARK	179	4,100,000	4,100,000			
CALVERT	D-9 BREEZY POINT BEACH & CAMPGROUND	13	1,909,443	1,809,443	100,000		
CALVERT	D-11 CHESAPEAKE HILLS GOLF COURSE	149	3,696,189	3,286,189	400,000		
CALVERT	D-15 KINGS LANDING PARK	260	30,000	30,000			
CALVERT	D-16 BATTLE CREEK CYPRESS SWAMP NATURE CENTER	100	95,000				95,000
CALVERT	D-23 FLAG PONDS NATURE PARK	1.5	65,000	40,000			25,000
CALVERT	D-30 GATEWOOD PRESERVE	48.35	250,000	150,000	100,000		

PROPOSED UNBUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

SPONSOR	NAME OF RECREATION AREA TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	ACREAGE	SOURCE OF FUNDS (FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY) $				
		PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	D-2 HALLOWING POINT DISTRICT PARK	102	2,120,600	1,813,600	307,000		
CALVERT	D-3 DUNKIRK DISTRICT PARK	81	2,742,000	2,742,000			
CALVERT	D-4 COVE POINT DISTRICT PARK	267	750,000	750,000			
CALVERT	D-6 DOMINION ENERGY REGIONAL PARK	179	24,000,000	12,000,000	6,000,000		6,000,000
CALVERT	D-7 HARRIET E. BROWN COMMUNITY CENTER (permanent location)	27	8,082,000	7,082,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	D-8 BISCOE GRAY HERITAGE FARM	206	300,000	200,000			100,000
CALVERT	D-9 BREEZY POINT BEACH PARK AND CAMPGROUND	13	2,000,000	1,500,000	500,000		
CALVERT	D-10 B CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY TRAIL	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-12 BALTIMORE & DRUM POINT RAILROAD TRAIL (PRINCE FREDERICK)	11	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-15 KINGS LANDING PARK	260	335,000	310,000			25,000
CALVERT	D-16 BATTLE CREEK CYPRESS SWAMP NATURE CENTER	100	530,000	530,000			
CALVERT	D-18 WARD FARM RECREATION AND NATURE PARK	209	10,000,000	5,000,000			5,000,000
CALVERT	D-22 SHARED USE, NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS COUNTY-WIDE	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-23 FLAG PONDS NATURE PARK	560	140,000	115,000			25,000
CALVERT	D-27 WATER ACCESS-BOATING, FISHING, AND CRABBING	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-29 MAIN STREET GREENSPACE	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-30 GATEWOOD PRESERVE	48	50,000		50,000		
CALVERT	D-31 UPPER HELLEN CREEK WATERSHED	200+	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-32 KING CALVERT RURAL LEGACY	65	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-35 PAVED SHARED USE TRAILS COUNTY-WIDE	N/A	UNKNOWN		100,000		135,000

PROJECTS PLANNED BY MUNICIPALITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT							
SPONSOR	NAME OF RECREATION AREA TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	ACREAGE	SOURCE OF FUNDS (FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY) $				
		PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	D-10 A FISHING CREEK PARK AND CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY TRAIL	104	1,900,000	950,000			950,000
CALVERT	D-19 WETLANDS WILDLIFE OVERLOOK PARK	18±	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-20 NORTH BEACH 2ND AND GREENWOOD POCKET PARK	0.125	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-21 SUNRISE GARDEN	0.70	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-24 OLD BAYSIDE ROAD TRAIL PHASE I PHASE II	 0.86 2	 412,500 825,000				
CALVERT	D-26 NORTH BEACH CANOE AND KAYAK LAUNCH	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-33 CHESAPEAKE BEACH PUBLIC BOAT RAMPS	N/A	UNKNOWN				
CALVERT	D-34 CHESAPEAKE BEACH SENIOR PLAYGROUNDS	N/A	UNKNOWN				

FY 2021 ACQUISITION PROJECTS

A-1 Canoe and Kayak Launch Sites

The County is actively looking for additional public launch sites for canoes, kayaks, and other hand carried boats along the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and County creeks. This was one of the goals specifically identified in the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. Each site will be designed to provide parking space for a limited number of cars and a launching area. These types of small craft can launch from sites on the Patuxent River at Kings Landing Park, Nan's Cove, and Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Small craft can launch onto the Chesapeake Bay from Breezy Point Beach Park, Bay Front Park in the Town of Chesapeake Beach, and at the beach in the Town of North Beach. In addition, canoes and kayaks can launch at public boat ramps at Solomons, Hallowing Point, and Chesapeake Beach.

A-2 Flag Ponds Nature Park Addition

This property, which contains approximately 70 acres, is the single remaining parcel to fulfill the preservation goal of the park which now contains 560 acres of upland hardwood, swamp, marsh and beach habitats. The acquisition of the Wright property could maintain the natural visual integrity along MD 2/4 at the park's entrance. It also provides opportunity for additional trails.

A-3 Patuxent Waterfront Park
Public access to the Patuxent River is limited to Kings Landing Park and Solomons. Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum provides views of the river but very limited access. In addition to one or more small canoe launching sites, a riverfront park could combine water access and active recreational facilities with historical, cultural and/or natural features.

A-4 War of 1812 Star-Spangled Banner Trail
This trail would provide access to important War of 1812 sites in the County as well as connect several existing public recreational sites, including Flag Ponds Nature Park, Cove Point Park, Calvert Cliffs State Park, Annmarie Garden and Calvert Marine Museum. The project includes acquisition of a site near or at the location of the old St. Leonard Town peninsula where, during the summer of 1814, two Jeffersonian gunboats serving in Commodore Joshua Barney's Chesapeake flotilla were scuttled in St. Leonard Creek.

A-5 Parkers Creek Watershed
The project to acquire and protect this unique watershed has been the result of the sustained and ongoing efforts of a public-private partnership including the American Chestnut Land Trust, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Nature Conservancy, Calvert County and private property owners. Over 4,000 acres (more than 50% of the land area of the watershed) have been preserved through actions taken by these partners. Three-quarters of the preserved land is available for public access and includes 19 miles of hiking trails.

A-6 Huntingtown Town Center Park
A Town Center park, called for in the Huntingtown Master Plan, would provide a playground in addition to a lake, trail system, tennis courts and an all-purpose playing field.

A-7 Hallowing Point Park
The purchase of property will add 40 acres to an existing 81-acre district park and enable the County to meet a strong demand for additional athletic fields. Property and funding have also been identified to re-route the park exit at busy times to relieve traffic on Route 231. This portion of property was acquired and partially developed in FY2020.

A-8 Huntingtown District Park
The County is actively seeking property in the vicinity of Huntingtown to build a park that will be similar to the County's existing parks at Dunkirk, Hallowing Point and Cove Point. Proposed facilities will include ballfields, picnic shelters, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, hiking trails, restroom and concession facilities, maintenance areas, and other facilities as the property will allow.

A-9 Northeast Sector Park
The County is seeking property in the vicinity of North Beach and Chesapeake Beach to build a park that will include ballfields, picnic shelters, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, hiking trails, restroom and concession facilities, maintenance areas, and other facilities as the property will allow.

A-10 St. Leonard District Park
The County is actively seeking property in the vicinity of St. Leonard to build a park that will be similar to the County's existing parks at Dunkirk, Hallowing Point and Cove Point. Proposed facilities will include ballfields, picnic shelters, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, hiking trails, restroom and concession facilities, maintenance areas, and other facilities as the property will allow.

A-11 Dunkirk Community Center
A community center similar to the Dowell House in St. Leonard and Phillips House in Prince Frederick is needed for community meetings and activities in Dunkirk.

A-12 Chesapeake Beach Railroad Right-of-Way
The Chesapeake Beach Railroad Right-of-Way has the potential of becoming a pedestrian/bicycle/horseback riding trail that would provide recreation to area residents and promote tourism. The total length of the corridor is approximately 7.7 miles. The off-road portion of the right-of-way (approximately 3.4 miles) involves 18 separate parcels. In May, 1998, the County acquired a 104-acre tract that includes a portion of the right-of-way through a combination of Bay Access funds, Critical Area mitigation funds and local side POS funds. The Town of Chesapeake Beach has completed the first segment of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail and may in the future extend it further along the old railway right-of-way to include a nature trail to the back of Richfield Station creating a walking loop. The nature trail will be left relatively undisturbed and unimproved. The County would be responsible for land acquisition and development outside the Chesapeake Beach town boundary.

A-13 North Beach 2nd & Greenwood Pocket Park
The Town of North Beach seeks to acquire and develop a 5,898-square foot corner lot adjacent to the San Francisco community for a play area for children. The development plan would include such amenities as age appropriate playground equipment, water fountain, and park benches. Program Open Space funds will be requested to assist with the acquisition and development of the park.

A-14 North Beach Town Park
North Beach is seeking additional land for a Town Park, either adjacent to Callis Memorial Park or in a centralized location within town. The park would include benches, chairs, chess/checker tables and other passive recreational amenities.

A-15 North Beach Nature Trail (A & B) System

Section A plan for the Trail is to extend the observation area of the overlook to the Burnt Oaks community by connecting the overlook and Frederick Avenue through a recently acquired parcel of land. Section B plan is to have a Trail System from North Beach to Rose Haven in Anne Arundel County. The first part of Section B would be pedestrian biker pathway in North Beach beginning at 9th Street and Bay Avenue and extending northerly for 0.4 mile to the Anne Arundel County line. This part would include a segment adjacent to the wetlands on the 15-acre Walton Parcel recently acquired by the Town. The continuation of the trail would be an extension of the in-town trail from the Town line to Rose Haven. This part beyond the North Beach line in Anne Arundel County is in the planning stages and will require extensive coordination with the Rose Haven, Holland Point Citizen Association, Anne Arundel County, and Maryland State Highway Administration representatives.

A-16 Calvert Marine Museum Addition

The Calvert Marine Museum established the goal of owning all of the property between the museum and the Beacon Marina. At this point, only this property remains in private hands and is completely surrounded by museum property. Because of its contiguous waterfront, it is a critical component of the museum's long range plans. This project would add 1.10 acres of waterfront land and a pier to the museum campus. The additional land will allow museum to add vital waterfront development such as installing a marine railway for use by the historic bugeye, *Wm. B. Tennison* and the skipjack, *Dee of St. Mary's*, extending the boardwalk along the waterfront, and increasing traditional water-based activities. Because the water is deeper in front of this property and the museum-owned property to the east, the museum would be able to invite larger vessels to the museum and expand its role as a host to visiting vessels. It would also enable the museum to create an open greenspace from Lore Road to the water to be used for museum events. This is reflected in the 2018 site master plan.

A-17 Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm

In order to provide 24 hour on-site presence on the Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm to ensure protection of livestock, a residence will be required. One option is to renovate the George Rice house. Other options would be to purchase adjacent properties, such as the original Gray family residence, a barn and outbuildings. This facility could also provide security to Gatewood Preserve.

A-18 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail

The path of the Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad runs the entire length of Calvert County, from Owings to Drum Point. Most of the railroad's 34 miles is still visible. The challenge is that the company went defunct over a century ago and the right-of-way is not owned by a single entity. This project is to acquire portions of the Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad, with a special focus on the portion that runs through Prince Frederick, and develop it as a pedestrian/bicycle trail. Portions of the B&DPRR Trail could be used for the Star-Spangled Banner Trail (Project A-4).

A-19 Parks with Water Access
Public access to the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and other water bodies within Calvert County is limited to beaches and parks in the Towns of North Beach and Chesapeake Beach, Breezy Point Beach Park, Flag Ponds Nature Park, and Calvert Cliffs State Park. The County is seeking new sites to provide a range of public access opportunities: scenic views of the water, boat and fishing access, and beach combing opportunities, in addition to making improvements to existing facilities to increase public access to water resources.

A-20 North Beach Community Garden
The Town of North Beach is seeking additional land for a community garden. The Town would like to provide a community garden for those who do not have access to gardening or for anyone with an interest in community gardening. A shared garden can provide a healthy outdoor recreation for all ages, promote a sense of community, and provide healthy food.

A-21 Shared Use Trails
The County is actively looking for public routes for a network of shared use trails. These trails could be either natural surface or paved, and would be designed to accommodate a mix of hikers, bikers, and/or equestrians.

A-22 Natural Resources Protection
Acquisition of lands to support the conservation and stewardship of our natural heritage would also expand the capacity to offer compatible outdoor recreation opportunities at existing county owned and managed facilities. Areas of special interest include properties adjacent to Battle Creek Cypress Swamp, Kings Landing Park, and Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park. In FY 2019, the County acquired Gatewood Preserve (A-27 in the FY2019 Program Open Space Plan). Other acquisitions are identified in A-2, Flag Ponds Nature Park, A-17, Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm, and A-28, Upper Hellen Creek.

A-23 Old Bayside Road Trail
A bike path and pedestrian walkway/sidewalk from Beach Elementary along the county maintained Old Bayside Road. The first segment is anticipated to go along the north side of the road approximately 1,500 linear feet from the school to just south of "E" Street and across from "F" Street with a long term goal of extending the trail another 3,500 +/- linear feet. This trail would access Calvert County's Fishing Creek Park. This project is seen as a trail extension possibility for the school and south part of town to loop back into the county park and ultimately to the existing Railway Trail.

A-24 Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan
The State of Maryland requires local governing bodies to prepare a local Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) under the Maryland Natural Resources Code, Title 5 Forest and Parks. The State is requiring the LPPRP to be more detailed and statistically based. The LPPRP is to include a survey on the use of county parks and recreation facilities and programs and a level of service analysis that must include a *Proximity Analysis* and a *Park Equity Analysis*. The most recent LPPRP was completed in 2018. The next plan will be due in 2022 with local program open space funding requested annually for the maximum amount of $25,000 each year.

A-25 North Beach Canoe and Kayak Launch Sites
North Beach is actively looking for at least two public launch sites for canoes, kayaks, and other hand carried boats. Each site may be designed to provide parking space for a limited number of cars. Small craft can launch onto the Chesapeake Bay from the beach in the Town of North Beach, but a designated launch site is preferred so as not to interfere with designated and netted swimming areas.

A-28 Upper Hellen Creek Watershed
The acquisition of the undeveloped forests of the Upper Hellen Creek Watershed in Lusby, MD have been identified as a priority to develop a natural trail system and associated facilities as the property will allow. This area is adjacent to Dominion Energy Regional Park owned by Calvert County which is currently in the master planning process.

FY 2021 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

D-1 King Memorial Park
A seven-acre site in the center of Prince Frederick Town Center was donated to the County by Mr. Boyd King in July, 1993. The property is located directly adjacent to the Courthouse and includes a portion of the former Baltimore & Drum Point railroad right-of-way that is proposed as an in-town trail. The park master plan includes hiking trails, a pavilion, a playground, and a formal garden immediately across from Linden, a historic house acquired by the County for public use through the use of POS funds. Proposed POS funds would be used to make improvements to the park.

D-2 Hallowing Point District Park
Hallowing Point Park is one of three district parks in the County. The County is in the process of implementing the Hallowing Point Park master plan for the build-out of the park. In FY 2015 construction was completed on a new playground and associated parking, and on parking lots to serve fields 3, 5 and 6. In FY 2017 parking and street lights were installed. In FY 2019, the planning began for the replacement of the restroom/snack stand complex. This project was slated to begin construction in FY 2020, however has been delayed. The structure has been redesigned as a restroom only facility with construction for early FY 2021. There are also plans to update the aging master plan which would include the parking areas along the west side of the park incorporating property acquired for the second entrance.

D-3 Dunkirk District Park
Dunkirk District Park is one of three district parks in the county. The County is in the process of implementing the Dunkirk District Park Master Plan for the build-out of the park. In FY 2014, field lighting was installed on Field 6. In FY 2016, the County began preparation of construction drawings for new tennis courts. This however was budget delayed. In FY 2020, the tennis court and pickleball court project has been revived. The tennis and pickleball complex is under design in FY2020 with construction in FY2021. Additional plans for a replacement playground and splash pad are budgeted for FY 2021 and construction following completion of the tennis and pickleball complex.

D-4 Cove Point District Park
Cove Point District Park is one of three district parks in the county. Funding will be needed to implement the master plan for the build-out of the park. In FY 2013, the tennis courts were renovated. In FY 2019, repairs were made to the very popular Cove Point Pool, however more are needed. In FY 2018, it was determined to update the master plan to Cove Point District Park. This master plan project began in FY 2019 with scheduled adoption in late FY 2020. Current work includes upgrades to Cove Point Pool by replacement of decking. This work will occur in FY 2021. Future plans will be determined based on the master plan results.

D-6 Dominion Energy Regional Park
In FY 2018 the County acquired through donation, 100 acres in Lusby. This combined with 79 acres already owned by Calvert County is the location of a future regional park. In FY 2018, it was determined to create a master plan for the newly acquired 179 acres off Cove Point Road west of Route 4. This regional master plan project began in FY 2019 with scheduled adoption in late FY 2020. A phased approach will be used to construct the park based on the master plan recommendations.

D-7 Harriet E. Brown Community Center (Permanent Location)
A recreation center is needed to serve central Calvert County. On March 1, 2016, the County dedicated the Harriet E. Brown Community Center in Prince Frederick. The County purchased and renovated the former Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative office building to serve as an interim community center until the permanent center is built. This facility provides meeting and activity rooms for recreation programs and public use. It also houses Parks and Recreation's Central Area office and Therapeutic Recreation Services office. In 2017 the county acquired a property on Fairgrounds Road in Prince Frederick to serve as the permanent site for the Harriet Elizabeth Brown Community Center. The project area consists of approximately 22 acres including five parcels of property in a location that facilitates walkable access from several large residential areas. Master planning and design are recommended in the FY 2026 Capital Improvement Plan year.

D-8 Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm
Rural Legacy funds were used to acquire the Biscoe Gray property in 2002. This 206-acre site is part of a 1,500 acre greenbelt along Battle Creek and includes farm fields and barns representing Calvert's longstanding farming tradition. In 2010 a master plan was adopted for the 196-acre portion of the property between the county road and Battle Creek. Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm is to be a "living laboratory to explore, understand, and experience Calvert County Agricultural practices and lifeways throughout its history…." Recent improvements include stabilization of the George E. Rice house and rehabilitation of the homestead's outbuildings; partial completion of the entry drive; development of interpretive signs and brochures; and installation of picnic tables and trail benches. Improvements to the natural surface trails, development of the Battle Creek boardwalk, and construction of barns and other farm buildings are required to complete the master plan. With the acquisition of the Gatewood Preserve in 2019, an evaluation of the development of Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm will be re-evaluated.

D-9 Breezy Point Beach Park and Campground
Breezy Point Park is approximately 13 acres in size and includes 2,000 feet of Bayfront beach with access to Plum Point Creek. In addition to the wide beach area, the property includes a fishing pier, bathhouse, 100 trailer sites, playground, volleyball court(s), snack/concession stand, and large shaded picnic area. Most of the planned major improvement projects have been completed. However, additional funding may be required in future years. In FY 2015, a new playground was installed in the campground. Future projects include, protective breakwaters and beach restoration, drainage improvements, construction of a new office, replacement/extension of the fishing pier, and the replacement of the sea wall in campground. The protective breakwaters and beach restoration is in permitting in FY 2020 with construction scheduled for FY 2021. Drainage improvements are currently in design, also scheduled for construction in FY 2021.

D-10 a Fishing Creek Park and the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail - Chesapeake Beach
Purchased through the joint efforts of the State and Calvert County, Fishing Creek Park contains 104 acres, which includes approximately 1,800 feet of the Chesapeake Beach Railroad. This property presents an opportunity for the public to experience a unique hiking trail that combines the cultural heritage of the area with the natural beauty of Fishing Creek and adjoining tidal marsh. Additional opportunities exist to establish a public canoe launch site and to assist Beach Elementary School to enhance their environmental study area. In 2005, the Town of Chesapeake Beach was awarded a $1.6 million T21 grant to develop a portion of the right-of-way that will connect two existing residential subdivisions to the center of town. The Town of Chesapeake Beach has completed the first segment of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail connecting the residential subdivisions of Richfield Station and Bayview Hills to the center of Town and allowing access to the natural beauty of Fishing Creek and the surrounding tidal marsh.

D-10 b Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail – Calvert County
This County project would be a continuation of the railway trail developed by the Town of Chesapeake Beach. See details in D-10 a above and A-12 in the acquisition section.

D-11 Chesapeake Hills Golf Course
The County took ownership of the 149-acre Chesapeake Hills Golf Course in Fall 2008 ($3,019,356 County funds). Several improvements were undertaken in FY 2010 including rehabilitation of the clubhouse exterior, and improvements to the golf course. The County is in the process of implementing the master plan for the golf course. Construction of a new maintenance facility was completed in FY 2012. In FY 2014 the installation of a pump station and new golf course irrigation project was completed. In FY 2016, the hole #2 green was renovated. In FY 2017, the course bunkers were renovated. In FY2018 and FY2019 all fairways have be sprigged with Bermuda grass. In FY 2019, the old clubhouse building was demolished. Future improvements include renovation of tees, renovation of the driving range, course drainage improvements, and construction of a new clubhouse. Design for building a new clubhouse is scheduled to begin late FY 2020 with construction beginning late FY 2021.

D-12 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail
The County government owns the portion of the Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad that crosses King Memorial Park in Prince Frederick (approximately 525 linear feet). As other portions of the railroad bed in Prince Frederick are acquired, develop these as a pedestrian/bicycle trail from north of Calvert Memorial Hospital, behind the Fox Run Shopping Center, through the woods along Armory Road, across Main Street, to King Memorial Park.

D-15 Kings Landing Park
Kings Landing Park has a wide range of amenities that have a variety of needs to better serve the public. Tom Wisner Hall is used throughout the year for meetings, weddings receptions, etc. However, there is no defined parking to support these activities. This project will provide parking for approximately 100 vehicles. Some outdoor lighting is planned for safety during night-time activities. This parking must be compatible with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area and has to be made of pervious materials. Seven cabins remain from when the park was the summer camp site for the Baltimore YMCA. Grant funds were received in FY 2014 and FY 2016 to rehabilitate the cabins for overnight camping cabins, classrooms for interpretive programs, and day-use shelters. In FY 2007, POS funding was used to construct a 150' by 300' ring for casual riding and equestrian shows. Associated with the ring was the construction of a 12' by 16' roofed judges' stand with electric service. Current usage of the ring is low, yet the surrounding area is very popular as a youth group camping area. Overall, a new management and/or strategic plan is needed; the current plan is from 1990 and has many actions that are not relevant to the current park.

D-16 Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Nature Center
The Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Nature Center serves as the headquarters for the Natural Resources Division, as well as a Visitor Center for the Sanctuary. The visitor reception area was renovated to better serve the public. Additional space is needed to create two office spaces for nature center staff and volunteers. Storm water management and erosion from the drive and parking are in need of improvement. The existing interior and exterior exhibits, over 10 years old, need to be replaced and/or renovated to maintain and further the mission of the Natural Resources Division. The construction and renovations of the new animal display exhibits have been on-going with much completion in FY 2020. New exhibits will entice and educate visitors as well as serve the many school groups that come to the facility. Exterior signage and trail improvements, including repairs to the boardwalk and development of an ADA compliant trail, will better serve the diverse audiences visiting the swamp.

D-18 Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park
In FY 2013, the County purchased 209 acres adjacent to the Dunkirk Town Center to build additional playing fields a shared use natural trail system and associated facilities, restrooms, concession facilities, maintenance facilities and other facilities as the property will allow. In FY 2015, a master plan for the development of the property was approved. Since the approval, the County has begun implementing the park's master plan. The purchase of the property was made possible through the Calvert County Youth Recreational Opportunities Fund. This special fund was created by the State Legislature in 2012 and is administered by the Secretary of Maryland Department of Natural Resources. A portion of the revenue received from gaming in Chesapeake Beach and North Beach is returned

to Calvert County to the purpose of increasing recreational opportunities for youth in the county. In FY 2017, the preparation of construction drawings for Phase 1 development began which included an entrance road, a multi-purpose field, parking, restroom and educational shelter. In FY 2019, final site design and permitting on Phase 1 was completed (except educational shelter). In addition planning has begun on a pier facility, infrastructure (electric), and a roundabout entrance off Ward Road. Construction on Phase 1 will begin late FY 2020.

D-19 Wetlands Wildlife Overlook Park

The Town of North Beach has acquired two larger parcels on the west side of MD 261(Parcel 2 totals 14.539 acres, Parcel 3 totals 3.676 acres). The Town of North Beach is working with the Army Corps of Engineers to restore the wetlands. Once restored and properly managed, this resource would provide many benefits; including opportunities for recreation, wildlife observation, photography, flood control and other benefits derived from a restored and functioning wetlands area.

D-20 2nd & Greenwood Pocket Park

The Town of North Beach seeks to acquire and develop a 5,898-square foot corner lot adjacent to the San Francisco community for a play area for children. The development plan would include such amenities as age appropriate playground equipment, water fountain, and park benches. Program Open Space funds will be requested to assist with the acquisition and development of the park.

D-21 Sunrise Garden

The Town of North Beach developed a 30,000-square foot waterfront parcel (Block 2 Lots 7, 8, 9, 10) as a passive park with a sculpture garden and other amenities such as a fountain, benches and walkways. The public park provides views of the Chesapeake Bay. Program Open Space funds were requested to assist in the development of the park.

D-22 Shared Used, Natural Surface Trails County-wide

There is a need for shared use, natural surface trails to accommodate trail running, off-road bicycling, horseback riding, and/or hiking. Trail plans could be developed at existing facilities, such as Kings Landing Park, Flag Ponds Nature Park, and Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park, as well as new locations for a trail connecting Prince Frederick to the Patuxent River.

D-23 Flag Ponds Nature Park

The Educational Building was constructed to provide spaces for environmental education programs. A comprehensive exhibit design plan and implementation budget would be developed for the construction of interpretive resources of Flag Ponds Nature Park. This plan would include existing and future facilities, as well as the natural features of the park that can add to the visitor experience. The scope of the project will include a series of interpretive exhibits on the natural and cultural history of the park, interpretive areas for group programs and lessons, and a small meeting room for workshops and trainings that are compatible with goals of the park and the Division of Natural Resources. Construction of a shelter at the beach and wayside stations along the trails would provide additional exhibit and interpretive spaces, located where the majority of visitors congregate.

D-24 Old Bayside Road Trail
A bike path and pedestrian walkway/sidewalk from Beach Elementary along the county maintained Old Bayside Road. The first segment is anticipated to go along the north side of the road approximately 1,500 linear feet from the school to just south of "E" Street and across from "F" Street with a long term goal of extending the trail another ±3,500 linear feet to the town limits at "I" street. This trail would access Calvert County's Fishing Creek Park. This project is seen as a trail extension possibility for the school and south part of town to loop back into the county park and ultimately to the existing Railway Trail. The Town is currently in the design phase of the sidewalk project, funded 80% by the State of Maryland Safe Routes to School program. The Town seeks to allow safe access from Beach Elementary School to Bay Front via sidewalks and crosswalks.

D-26 North Beach Canoe and Kayak Launch
There is a need for a canoe and kayak launch in the Town of North Beach that is easily accessible and not in the designated swimming areas.

D-27 Water Access-Boating, Fishing and Crabbing
There is a need for adding, expanding and improving water access throughout the county. This project will pursue improvements for water access, including kayak/canoe launching, fishing and crabbing through repairs and renovation of existing facilities and installation and construction of new structures to increase opportunities for water-based activities and access to the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and its tributaries.

D-29 Main Street Green Space
In FY 2017, planning began for development of the Main Street Green Space. This portion of existing roadway is being donated to the county as part of the Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) Main Street Project. SHA will grade the area to the County's specifications. SHA is scheduled to complete their portion of the project in FY 2020 which will then allow the County to take over management. Future development of this area will include a sidewalk, recreational amenities and connections to the shopping center.

D-30 Gatewood Preserve
Projects include upgrades to the existing pier to improve ADA access and easier launching of kayaks, such as a floating dock, conversion of the residence into a nature center, with, offices, small classroom and public restrooms. The barns and animal shelters would be used to house equipment, a maintenance workshop, and possible domestic animals for interpretive programs. A management plan for the property and buildings on site will guide future planning for development of trails and public water access facility.

D-31 Upper Hellen Creek Watershed
The undeveloped forests of the Upper Hellen Creek Watershed adjoining project D-6, Dominion Energy Regional Park, have been identified as a priority acquisition to develop a natural trail system and associated facilities as the property will allow.

D-32 King Calvert Rural Legacy
Acquisition of this property was through the Rural Legacy Program. The wooded parcel abuts the southern border of Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park and includes a portion of Hall Creek and its floodplain. Natural surface trails and elevated boardwalks will provide access for public education and ecological monitoring projects. Efforts to create a nature play space and outdoor classroom would benefit the local community, schools, and the public.

D-33 Chesapeake Beach Public Boat Ramps
The Town owns six public boat ramps within the Kellam's Recreational Complex. The Town is in the process of renovating the piers and is seeking funds from the Department of Natural Resource's Waterway Improvement fund. The parking lot was repaved in late FY 2019.

D-34 Chesapeake Beach Senior Playgrounds
The Town of Chesapeake Beach is seeking to include a senior playground concept in multiple areas of the Town allowing for residents to incorporate additional exercise into their activities. The concept is geared towards seniors, however, the playground could be used by all citizens

D-35 Paved Shared Use Trails County-Wide
The planning and development of paved shared-use trails for trail running, bicycling, and/or hiking county wide.

Calvert County
FY 2021 Program Open Space
Annual Program
Project Descriptions

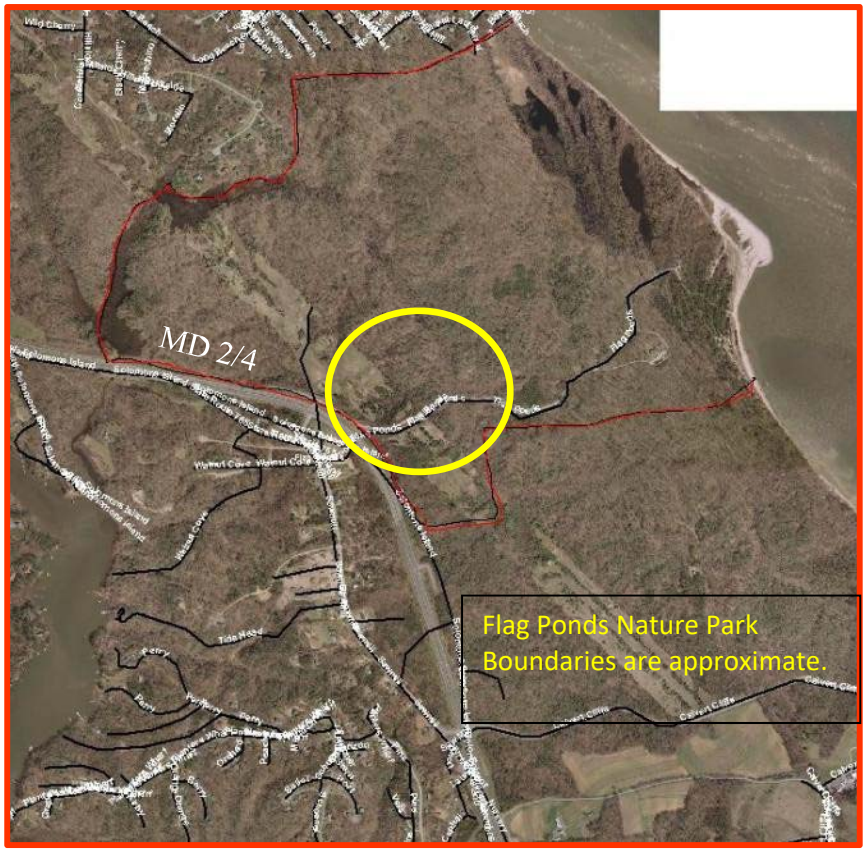
Adopted June 9, 2020

A-1 Canoe and Kayak Launch Sites

The County is actively looking for additional public launch sites for canoes, kayaks, and other hand carried boats along the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River, and County creeks. This is one of the goals specifically identified in the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. Each site will be designed to provide parking space for a limited number of cars and a launching area. These types of small craft can launch from sites on the Patuxent River at Kings Landing Park, Nan's Cove, Lower Marlboro Wharf, and Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Small craft can launch onto the Chesapeake Bay from Breezy Point Beach Park, Bay Front Park in the Town of Chesapeake Beach, and at the beach in the Town of North Beach. In addition, canoes and kayaks can launch at public boat ramps at Solomons, Hallowing Point, and Chesapeake Beach. Canoeing and kayaking are low-impact recreational uses, which help promote the State's Planning Vision #1 on quality of life and sustainability. (Refer to the last page for a list of the State of Maryland's Planning Visions.)

A-2 Flag Ponds Nature Park Addition

The Wright property contains 70 acres (more or less) and adjoins the northeast corner of Flag Ponds Nature Park. This is the last remaining parcel to fulfill the preservation goal of the park, which now contains 546 acres of upland hardwood, swamp, marsh, and beach habitats. The acquisition of the Wright property would maintain the natural visual integrity along MD 2/4 at the park's entrance. It also provides opportunity for additional trails. This project is consistent with Planning Vision #1, which states "A high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment."



A-3 Patuxent Waterfront Park

Calvert County is nearly surrounded by water but access to the water remains limited, despite substantial acquisitions by both the County and the State. Waterfront access, therefore, remains a priority. There are several public access sites along the Chesapeake Bay, but public access to the Patuxent River is limited to Kings Landing Park, Hallowing Point, Nan's Cove, Lower Marlboro Wharf, and Solomons. Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum provides views of the river but very limited access. In addition to one or more small canoe launching sites, a riverfront park could combine water access and active recreational facilities with historical, cultural, and/or natural features. Several of the other acquisition projects listed in this report could be accommodated on a waterfront site. Acquisition of a waterfront site is consistent with Vision #9 "Environmental protection: Land and water resources, including the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays, are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy air and water, natural systems, and living resources."

A-4 War of 1812 Star-Spangled Banner Trail

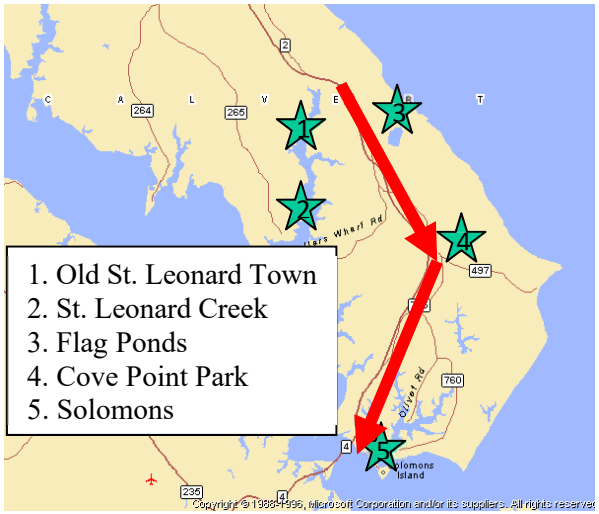
During the summer of 1814 two Jeffersonian gunboats serving in Commodore Joshua Barney's Chesapeake flotilla were scuttled in St. Leonard Creek. The State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources identified a series of potential areas in which to expand Maryland's Greenway Network as early as 1995. One of these potential greenways was designated the Flag Ponds to Solomons Trail.

Part I of this hiking, biking, horseback riding trail system would connect Flag Ponds to Cove Point Park. Ideally, the trail would include several smaller loops to allow for trips of varying lengths.

Part II would be a bikeway along shoulders on MD 765 to Dowell Road and then split into two trails, one along Dowell Road past Annmarie Garden and the other along H.G. Trueman and Solomons Island Road to the Calvert Marine Museum. The museum currently has a display depicting the route of the British up the Patuxent River to Washington D.C. where they burned the Capitol during the War of 1812. Other artifacts of the period are displayed in the museum.

This entire project would tie in with one of the product development initiatives of the Maryland Office of Tourism Development which calls for the establishment of a series of trails throughout the state that are relevant to the War of 1812. The Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission is planning a multi-year cultural tourism and educational initiative. Governor Martin O'Malley established the Commission on September 8, 2007 by an Executive Order. More information on Maryland's commemoration of the War of 1812 is available from the Maryland Office of Tourism, www.visitmaryland.org and www.starspangled200.com.

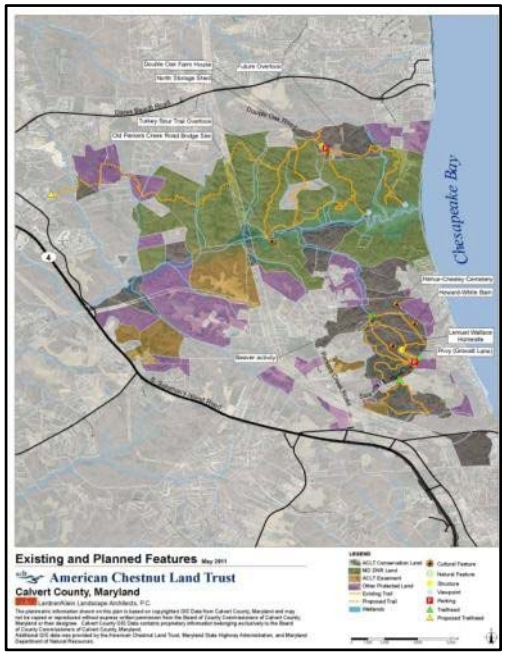
For information on rail trails, explore www.railtrails.org. Creating an 1812 trail is an example of resource conservation and, therefore, consistent with the State's Vision #10.



A-5 Parkers Creek Watershed

The project to acquire and protect this unique watershed has been the result of the sustained and ongoing efforts of a public-private partnership including the American Chestnut Land Trust, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Nature Conservancy, Calvert County and private property owners. Over 4,000 acres (more than 50% of the land area of the watershed) have been preserved through actions taken by these partners. Three-quarters of the preserved land is available for public access and includes 19 miles of hiking trails. Preservation of the watershed is consistent with Planning Vision #1 (stewardship), Vision #9 (resource conservation), and Vision #12 (implementation). In 2014, the Maryland General Assembly recognized the State-owned land in the Parkers Creek watershed as a designated State Wildlands.

Parkers Creek is a tidal stream, navigable by canoe and kayak, which traverses barrier beach, salt marsh, freshwater swamp, and thick forests, altogether a microcosm of the Chesapeake Bay itself. It is the last such stream still in its natural state on Maryland's western shore. While farmland bordered the stream in the 18th-19th centuries, thick forests now frame the marshland, giving the visitor a wilderness vista resembling that of the 17th century. The creek opens out to a wide beach that forms part of a 1 ¾-mile section of undeveloped scenic shoreline along the Chesapeake Bay. In addition to the beach, the shoreline includes sections of the Calvert Cliffs which contain some of the most well-known and significant fossil deposits in the world, offering us a window into our ancient past, 12 to 18 million years ago.

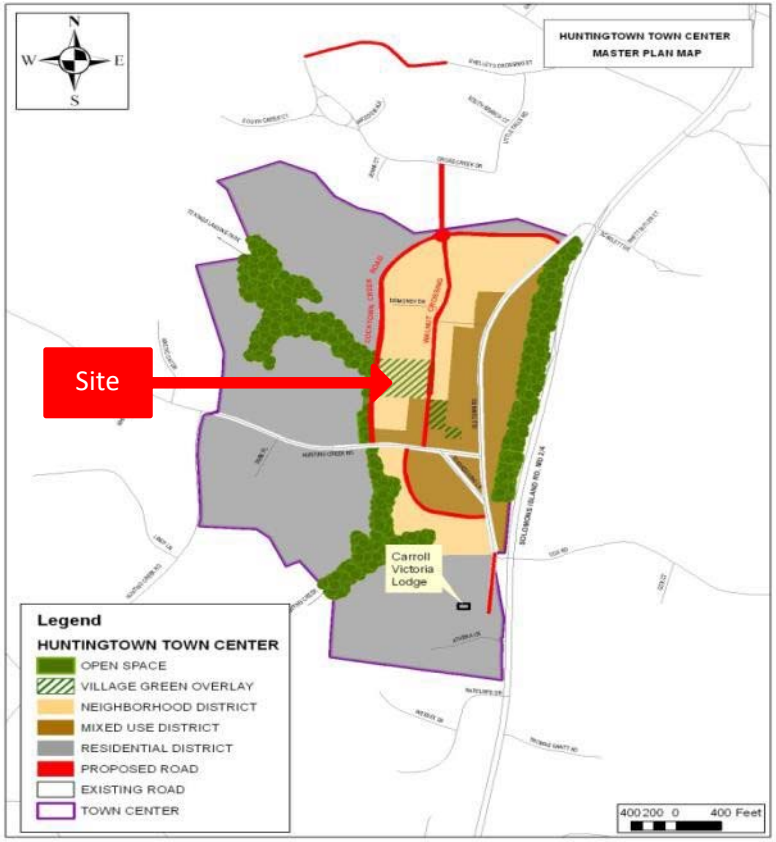


A-6 Huntingtown Town Center Park

The Board of County Commissioners approved a master plan for Huntingtown Town Center in September 1993. The Master Plan calls for linking the central gathering area of the town center to an open space corridor along Cocktown Creek through a series of linear parks. The largest park - which the Bowen property would become - would provide a playground in addition to a lake, trail system, tennis courts and an all-purpose playing field.

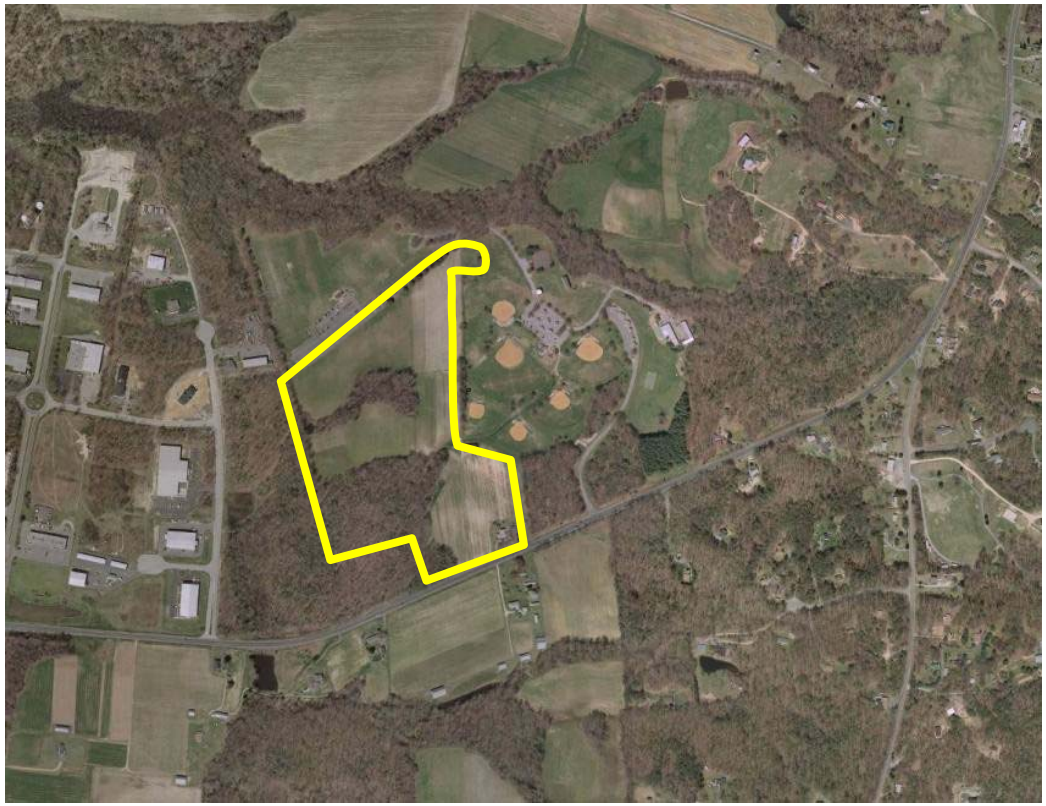
The Bowen property is located on the north side of Hunting Creek Road near the designated central gathering place in the Town Center. The total property is 5.26 acres but there is a potential to add to the park. The topography of the land would lend itself to the creation of a man-made lake, which would serve as a focal point in the park. There would be pedestrian paths connecting the park with the business area, as well as a trail system.

By providing recreation in an existing Town Center, this project is consistent with Planning Vision #3 which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers. The project is consistent with the goal listed in the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan of providing a town park in or near each Town Center.



A-7 Hallowing Point Park

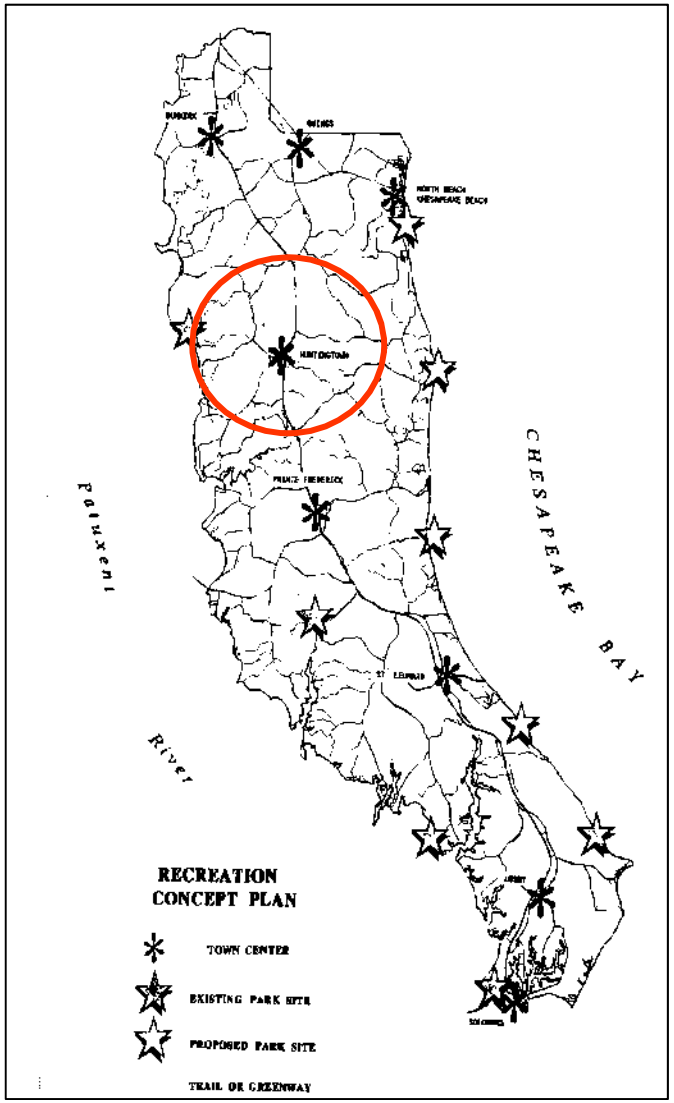
The purchase of property will add 40 acres to the existing 81-acre Hallowing Point Park and enable the County to meet a strong demand for additional athletic fields. The property is level and well suited to active recreational use. By adding on to an existing park and utilizing existing infrastructure, the project will cost less to develop and maintain than a comparable site at a new location. It will also utilize land more efficiently. Property and funding have also been identified to re-route the park exit at busy times to relieve traffic on Route 231. This portion of property was acquired and partially developed in FY2020. For these reasons it is consistent with Planning Vision #3 which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers.



A-8 Huntingtown District Park

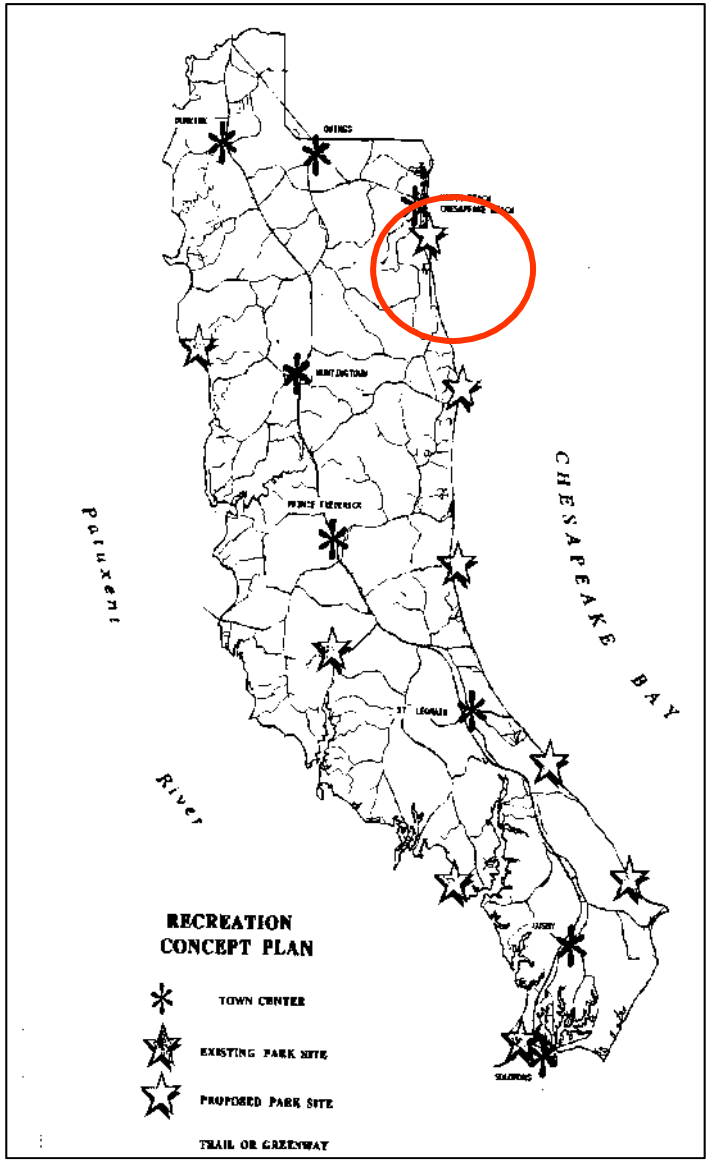
The County is actively seeking property in the vicinity of Huntingtown to build a park that will be like the County's existing parks at Dunkirk, Hallowing Point and Cove Point. We are seeking parcels no smaller than 100 acres. Proposed facilities will include ballfields, picnic shelters, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, hiking trails, restroom and concession facilities, maintenance areas, and other facilities as the property will allow.

This project is consistent with the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan, which calls for a community park that will provide facilities and space for team sports in or near each of the County's Town Centers. It is also consistent with Planning Vision #3, which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to these centers, or strategically selected new centers.



A-9 Northeast Sector Park

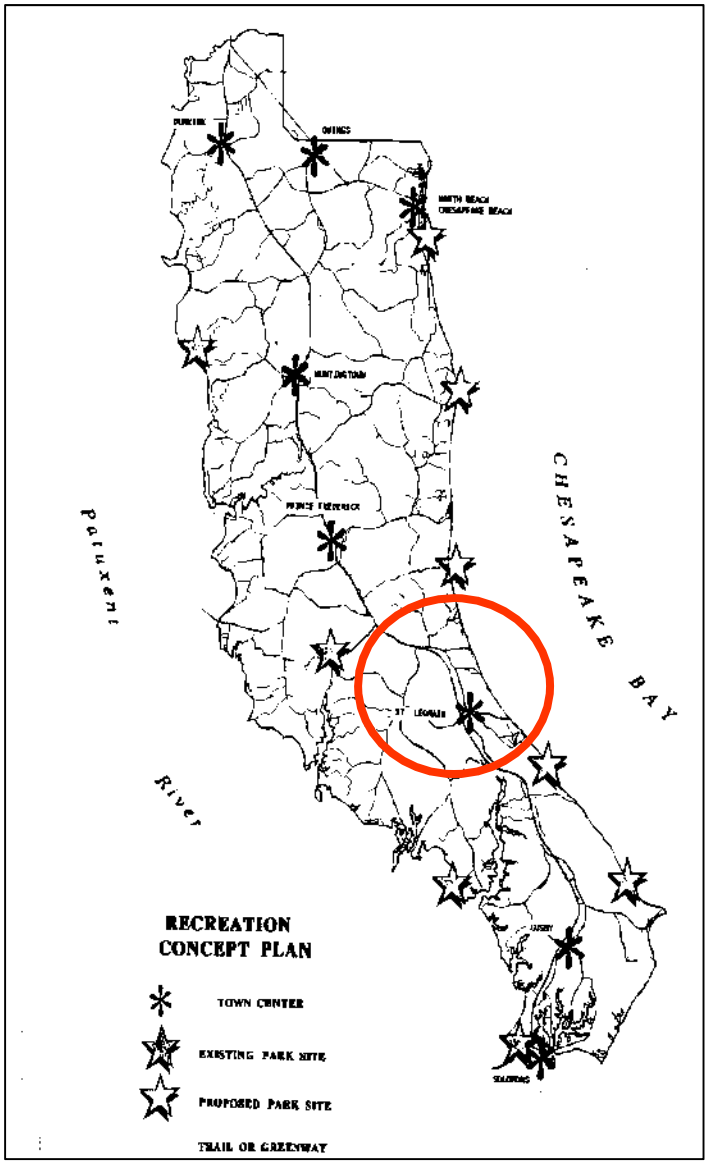
The County has identified the need for an additional park near North Beach/Chesapeake Beach to include ballfields, picnic shelters, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, hiking trails, restroom and concession facilities, maintenance areas, and other facilities as the property will allow. The project is consistent with the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Action Plan, which states that each town center should have an outdoor public facility designed primarily for active team sports. It is also consistent with the Northeast Sector Plan, which identifies the need for active recreation sites in the vicinity of the North Beach and Chesapeake Beach. The provision of recreational facilities in or near Town Centers helps promote Vision #3 by directing growth to existing population and business centers.



A-10 St. Leonard District Park

The County is actively seeking property in the vicinity of St. Leonard to build a park that will be similar to the County's existing district parks at Dunkirk, Hallowing Point and Cove Point. We are seeking parcels no smaller than 100 acres. Proposed facilities will include ballfields, picnic shelters, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, hiking trails, restroom and concession facilities, maintenance areas, and other facilities as the property will allow.

This project is consistent with the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan, which calls for a community park that will provide facilities and space for team sports in or near each of the County's Town Centers. It is also consistent with Planning Vision #3, which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to these centers, or strategically selected new centers.

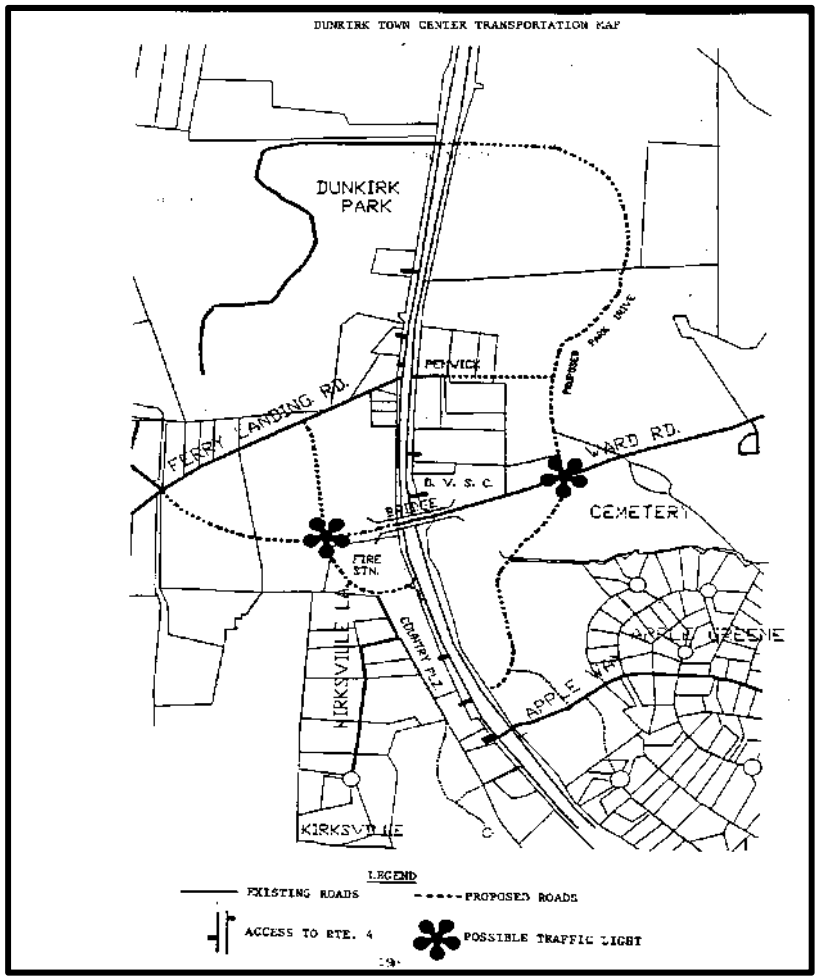


A-11 Dunkirk Community Center

The County is looking for a small site with an existing building near or adjacent to Dunkirk Park to use as a community center for area residents. The property would be similar to the Dowell House property in St. Leonard and Phillips House in Prince Frederick and would provide meeting rooms and space for indoor activities.

This project is consistent with the 2019 Calvert County Comprehensive Plan to provide an indoor community center for each of the Town Centers.

By providing a centralized community space in the Town Center of Dunkirk, the project would promote Vision #3 which states that growth is concentrated in existing population or business centers.



A-12 Chesapeake Beach Railroad Right-of-Way

The Chesapeake Beach Railroad ran from Washington D.C. to Chesapeake Beach until the line was abandoned in 1935. Today the corridor has the potential of becoming a pedestrian/bicycle/horseback riding trail that would provide recreation to area residents and promote tourism related industries in Chesapeake Beach, North Beach and Owings. The total length of the corridor is approximately 7.7 miles of which 4.3 miles are located within the MD 260 corridor. The off-road portion of the right-of-way (approximately 3.4 miles) involves 18 separate parcels. In May 1998, the County acquired a 104-acre tract that includes a portion of the right-of-way. Funding for the project included $100,000 in Bay Access funds, $100,000 in Critical Area mitigation funds and $6,200 in local side POS funds. The Town of Chesapeake Beach has completed the first segment of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail and may in the future extend it further along the old railway right-of-way to include a nature trail to the back of Richfield Station creating a walking loop. The nature trail will be left relatively undisturbed and unimproved. The County would be responsible for land acquisition and development outside the Chesapeake Beach town boundary. Acquisition of the right-of-way is consistent with the State's Planning Vision #10 (resource conservation).

Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum

A-13 North Beach 2nd & Greenwood Pocket Park

The Town of North Beach seeks to acquire and develop a 5,898-square foot corner lot adjacent to the San Francisco community for a play area for children. The development plan would include such amenities as age appropriate playground equipment, water fountain, and park benches. Program Open Space funds will be requested to assist with the acquisition and development of the park.

This project would promote Vision # 4 Community Design by providing a recreational area within walking distance of many of the Town's residents.

A-14 North Beach Town Park

The Town of North Beach has been assembling parcels to enlarge the Robert W. Callis Memorial Park over several years. The proposed acquisition, either adjacent to Callis Memorial Park or in a centralized location within the town, would be used as a passive recreation area and include benches, chairs, chess/checker tables, and other passive recreational amenities. This project is consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Calvert County's Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan, both of which encourage acquiring land adjacent to existing parks. By making the town more attractive and pleasant, this town park project is consistent with Vision #3 which states that growth should be concentrated in existing population and business centers.

Existing Park

A-15 North Beach Nature Trail

Section A plan for the Trail is to extend the observation area of the overlook to the Burnt Oaks community by connecting the overlook and Frederick Avenue through a recently acquired parcel of land. Section B plan is to have a Trail System from North Beach to Rose Haven in Anne Arundel County. The first part of Section B would be pedestrian biker pathway in North Beach beginning at 9th Street and Bay Avenue and extending northerly for 0.4 mile to the Anne Arundel County line. This part would include a segment adjacent to the wetlands on the 15-acre Walton Parcel recently acquired by the Town. The continuation of the trail would be an extension of the in-town trail from the Town line to Rose Haven. This part beyond the North Beach line in Anne Arundel County is in the planning stages and will require extensive coordination with the Rose Haven, Holland Point Citizen Association, Anne Arundel County, and Maryland State Highway Administration representatives.

The project supports Calvert County's plan to create a network of recreation sites and in-town trails to connect to greenways.
The implementation of a trail network will benefit not only the Town of North Beach but also Calvert and Anne Arundel counties. This project is consistent with the 2019 Calvert County Comprehensive Plan actions: "Enhance the network of recreational sites and facilities, including hiker/biker and horseback riding trails, based on the unique natural, cultural and historical features of the county" and "Provide safe access to parks and recreational facilities including, where feasible, pedestrian and bicycle access." The project is consistent with the State's Planning Vision #1 (stewardship of the land, water and air), Vision #4 (community design), Vision #6 (multimodal transportation) and Vision #10 (resource conservation).

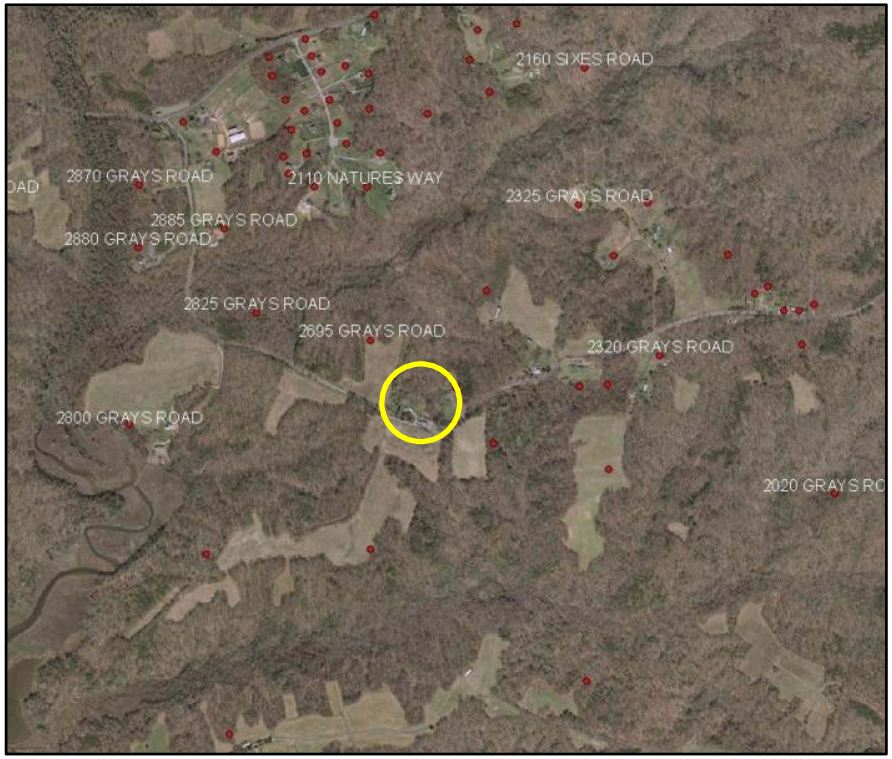
A-16 Calvert Marine Museum Addition

The property proposed for acquisition is located at 215 Lore Road in Solomons, Maryland. The property is 1.10 acres with a single-family dwelling located on it and has approximately 60 feet of waterfront with a pier. The property offers significant waterfront that connects to the museum's property. The museum already owns the property directly behind it, purchased a number of years ago with local open space funds. With the addition of this parcel, the museum would be able to significantly expand usable public land with water front access.

Program Open Space funds would be used for land acquisition costs. The museum proposes purchasing the house at the appraised value out of private funding. The house would be used for staff office space, collections storage, and guest housing for visiting lecturers. The basement level offers the opportunity for visiting boaters to use the restroom and shower facilities separate from the other uses of the building.

This property will be part of the museum campus with full public access. This additional land would allow the Museum to install a marine railway for use by the historic bugeye, *Wm. B. Tennison,* and the skipjack, *Dee of St. Mary's* for seasonal inspections and repairs. The additional land would allow the Museum to extend the boardwalk along the waterfront and increase the offering of water-based activities. Because the water is deeper in front of this property, it would also allow the museum to invite larger vessels, such as the *Sultana* and *Maryland Dove*, to the museum. By removing the existing fence and changing the access road, it will be possible to greatly increase public areas for outdoor festival and events and reduce the museum's reliance on the privately-owned property across Solomons Island Road. This is reflected in the 2018 site master plan. This project is consistent with Planning Vision #8, which states "Economic development and natural resources-based businesses that promote employment opportunities for all income levels within the capacity of the State's natural resources, public services, and public facilities are encouraged."

A-17 Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm



The Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm was purchased in 2004 utilizing Rural Legacy funding. A Master Plan for the property was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in December 2010.

The Master Plan calls for an on-site residency to provide security for livestock that will eventually be a part of the educational program developed for this project. While the plan mentions the possibility of renovation of the existing George Rice house, the potential purchase of the original Gray residence is a more viable option, should it become available. In addition to a residence, this property includes an original barn and other out buildings.

Acquisition of the adjacent Gatewood Preserve provides critical infrastructure (water, electricity, septic) to supplement the development of the Master Plan.

This project is consistent with Planning Vision #1, which states "A high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment."

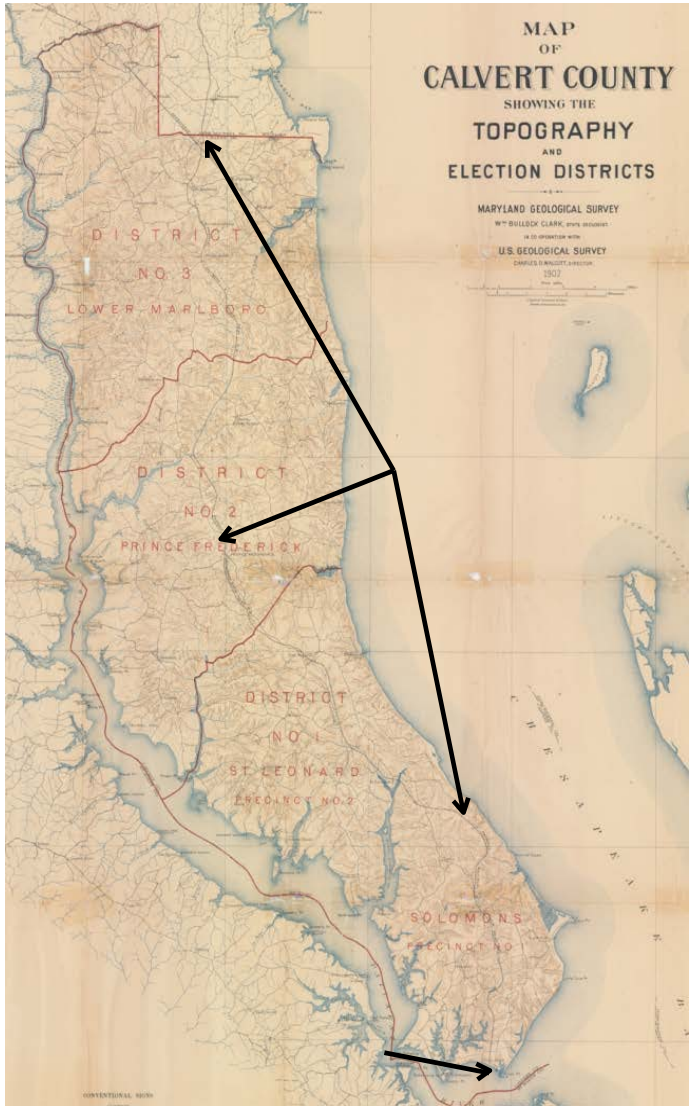
A-18 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail

The path of the Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad was surveyed in 1868 with the goal of linking Baltimore to the deep-water port at Drum Point. The right-of-way was acquired, and construction began along the entire length. Most of it was graded and trestles were built for water crossings, but it was never finished. The railroad was fraught with fiscal and political woes, and the project was abandoned in the early 20th century. The railroad bed is still visible most of the 34 miles from where it enters Calvert County in Owings, to its terminus at Drum Point. The potential for the railroad to be used as a trail has long been recognized and has been included in the County's open space plans for many years, including linking together sites of the proposed War of 1812 Star-Spangled Banner Hiking/Biking Trail.

The projected course of the railroad was mapped on the USGS topographic map of Calvert County in 1902, shown at left. The railroad was recently mapped using GPS, historic maps, historical accounts, and the best available aerial and digital imaging.

This project is consistent with State Planning Vision #4 (community design) and Vision #6 (transportation).

Map is B&DPRR 1902



A-19 Parks with Water Access

Public access to the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and other water bodies within Calvert County is available at the beaches and parks in the Towns of North Beach and Chesapeake Beach, as well as Breezy Point Beach Park, Flag Ponds Nature Park, and Calvert Cliffs State Park. The County is seeking new sites to provide a range of public access opportunities: scenic views of the bay, boat and fishing access, and beach combing opportunities, in addition to making improvements to existing facilities to increase public access to the water.

This project is consistent with the 2019 Calvert County Comprehensive Plan's action to continue to improve and expand opportunities for public access to the Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River. It is also consistent with the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan and is consistent with the State's Planning Vision #1 (stewardship of the land, water and air) and Vision #10 (resource conservation).

A-20 North Beach Community Garden

The Town of North Beach is seeking additional land for a community garden. The Town would like to provide a community garden for those who do not have access to gardening or for anyone with an interest in community gardening. A shared garden can provide a healthy outdoor recreation for all ages, promote a sense of community, and provide healthy food.

This project is consistent with the State Planning Vision #1, which states, "Quality of life and sustainability: a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment" and is also consistent with Vision #4 regarding community design.

A-21 Shared Used Trails

The County is actively looking for at least two public routes for shared use trails, preferably situated to connect Town Centers to the nearby recreational facilities. These trails could be either natural surface or paved and would be designed to accommodate a mix of hikers, bikers, and/or equestrians. Acquisitions previously identified in this plan (A-16 North Beach Nature Trail (A & B) System; A-13 Chesapeake Beach Railway Right-of-Way; and A-19 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail) could include plans for a shared use trail.

The current multi-use trails:

- County managed: Kings Landing Park (horses and hikers) and Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm (horses and hikers)
- Town managed: Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail (hikers and bikers) and North Beach Boardwalk (hikers and bikers)
- State managed: Huntingtown Wildlife Management Area (horses and hikers) and Hall Creek Wildlife Management Area (hikers and bikers), Calvert Cliffs State Park (hikers and bikers).

This project is consistent with the 2019 Calvert County Comprehensive Plan's action to enhance the network of recreational sites and facilities, including hiker/biker and horseback riding trails, based on the unique natural, cultural and historical features of the county. This project is consistent with State Planning Visions #4 (community design) and #6 (multimodal transportation).

A-22 Natural Resources Expanded Protection

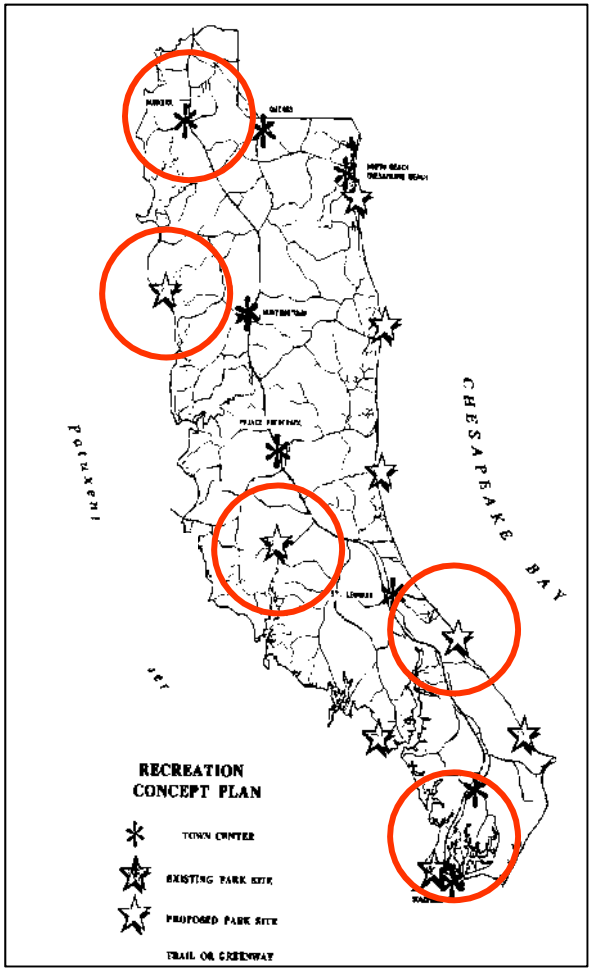
Acquisition of land adjacent to county-owned and managed properties would create a network of green space and would support the conservation and stewardships of our natural heritage offer additional opportunities for compatible outdoor recreation. Many of the Natural Resources Areas managed by the County are identified within the State Greenways Program or are part of a Rural Legacy Area.

Greenways are "natural corridors set aside to connect larger areas of open space and to provide for the conservation of natural resources, protection of habitat, movement of plants and animals, and to offer opportunities for linear recreation, alternative transportation, and nature study."

The Maryland Rural Legacy Program provides funding to "preserve large, contiguous tracts of land and to enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry and environmental protection while supporting a sustainable land base for natural resource-based industries… Land conservation investments are targeted to protect the most ecologically valuable properties that most directly impact Chesapeake Bay and local waterway health."

Natural Resource Land Conservation is one of the four elements identified in the County's Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. Some potential acquisitions are identified within this Plan, for example, A-2, Flag Ponds Nature Park and A-18, Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm.

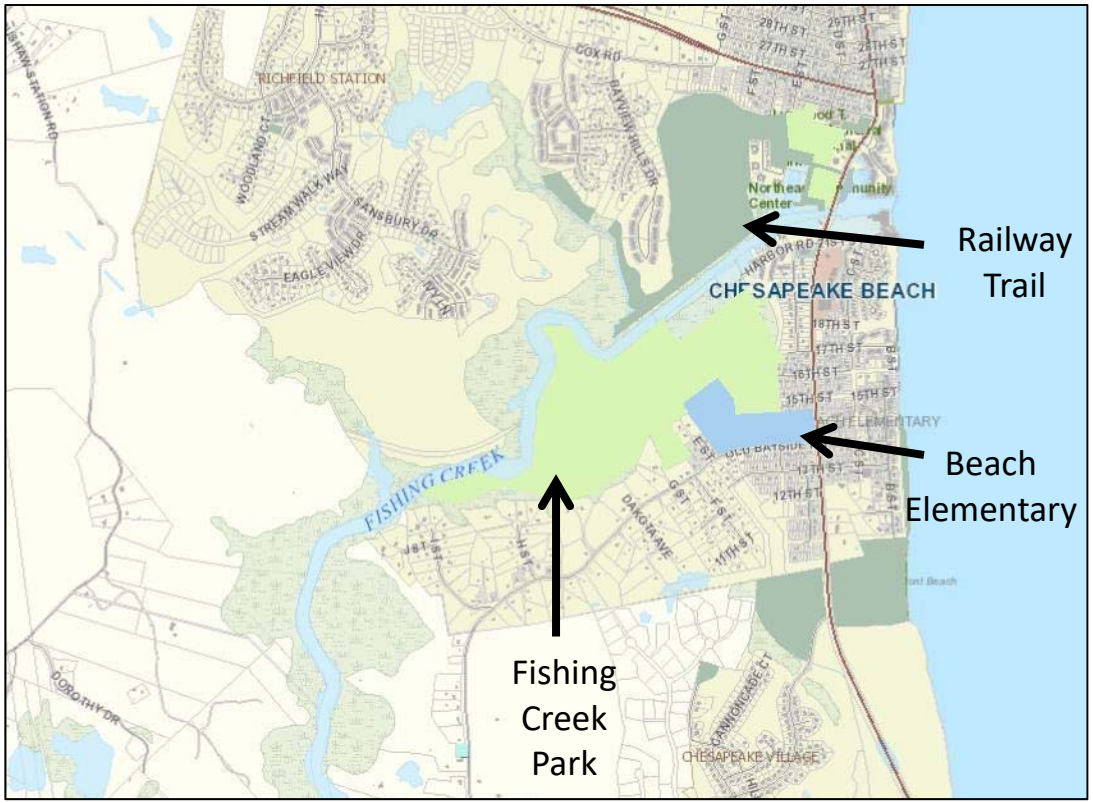
This project is consistent with Planning Vision #1 (stewardship), Vision #10 (resource conservation), and Vision #12 (implementation).



A-23 Old Bayside Road Trail

A bike path and pedestrian walkway/sidewalk from Beach Elementary along the county maintained Old Bayside Road. The first segment is anticipated to go along the north side of the road approximately 1,500 linear feet from the school to just south of "E" Street and across from "F" Street with a long-term goal of extending the trail another 3,500 +/- linear feet. This trail would access Calvert County's Fishing Creek Park. This project is seen as a trail extension possibility for the school and south part of town to loop back into the county park and ultimately to the existing Railway Trail.

This project is consistent with State Planning Visions #1 (quality of life), #4 (community design), and #6 (multimodal transportation).



A-24 Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

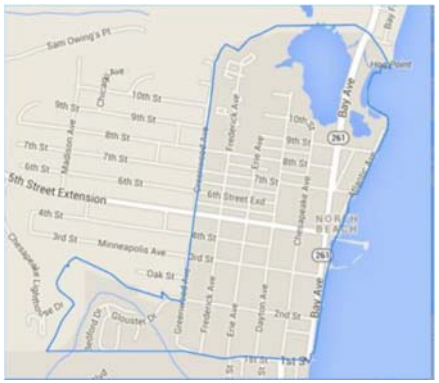
The State of Maryland requires local governing bodies to prepare a local land preservation and recreation plan (LPPRP) under the Maryland Natural Resources Code, Title 5 Forest and Parks. The plans address parks and recreation, natural resource land conservation, and agricultural land preservation. The plans may include additional topics such as an economic analysis and discussion of cultural resource preservation, historic preservation, tourism, education and environmental literacy etc. The State is requiring the next Plan to be more detailed and statistically based than previous plans. The plan is to include a survey on the use of county parks and recreation facilities and programs and a level of service analysis that must include a proximity analysis and a park equity analysis.

The preparation of the Plan will help promote the State's Planning Visions:

#1 Quality of life and sustainability
#2 Public participation
#4 Community design
#5 Infrastructure
#8 Economic development
#9 Environmental protection
#10 Resource Conservation
#11 Stewardship
#12 Implementation

(Refer to the last page for a list of the State of Maryland's Planning Visions.)

A-25 North Beach Canoe and Kayak Launch Sites



Map of North Beach

North Beach is actively looking for at least two public launch sites for canoes, kayaks, and other carried boats along its waterfront adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay. This is one of the goals specifically identified in the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Each site will be designed to provide parking space for a limited number of cars and a launching area. The ideal locations for this launch site would be situated in an open area designated for this purpose. Small craft can launch onto the Chesapeake Bay from the beach in the Town of North Beach, but a designated launch site is preferred so as not to interfere with designated and netted swimming areas.

Canoeing and kayaking are low-impact recreational uses, which help promote the State's Planning Vision #1 on quality of life and sustainability. (Refer to the last page for a list of the State of Maryland's Planning Visions.)

A-28 Upper Hellen Creek Watershed

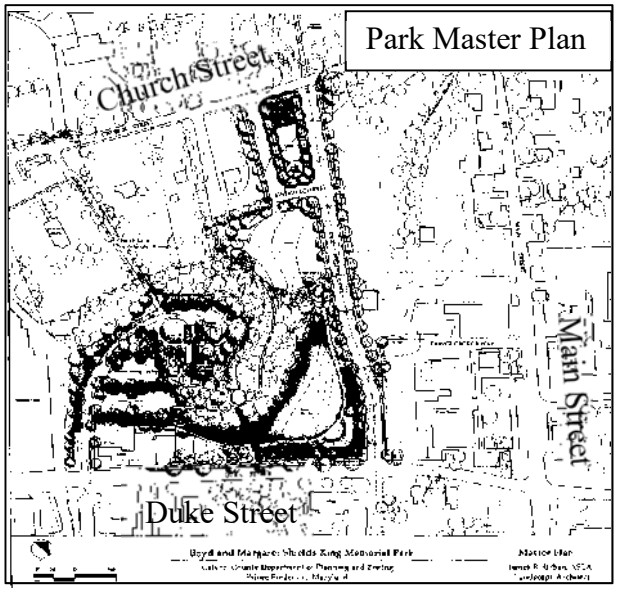
The undeveloped forests of the Upper Hellen Creek Watershed adjoining Dominion Energy Regional Park have been identified as a priority acquisition to develop a natural trail system and associated facilities as the property will allow. Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, Calvert Nature Society, Southern Maryland Resource & Conservation Board (RC&D), and Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) support the acquisition for forest preservation, stream and water quality protection, and passive recreation along natural surface trails.

This project supports Planning Vision # 10. Resource conservation: waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved.

D-1 King Memorial Park

A seven-acre site in the center of Prince Frederick Town Center was donated to the County by Mr. Boyd King in July 1993. The property is located directly adjacent to the Courthouse and includes a portion of the former Baltimore & Drum Point railroad right-of-way that is proposed as an in-town trail. The property includes a house dating from the early 1800's situated on a promontory, a cleared area around the house, and a magnificent stand of mature trees on steep to gently sloping land. The Prince Frederick Rotary Club and the Calvert County Kiwanis Club joined together with the County government and the Forestry Board to construct a gazebo in the park along Church Street.

A Master Plan for the park was prepared by a landscape architect with assistance from area citizens and includes hiking trails, a pavilion, a playground, a formal garden immediately across from Linden, a historic house acquired by the County for public use using POS funds and renovated using County funds. The development of this property is consistent with Planning Vision #3, that growth is concentrated in existing population and business centers. The park will also promote economic development in the Town Center and is therefore consistent with Vision #8. Proposed POS funds would be used for the second phase of development, which entails creating an entrance to the park from Church Street, connecting that entrance to the existing path system and Duke Street, and constructing the amphitheater and band-stand at the bottom of the slope.



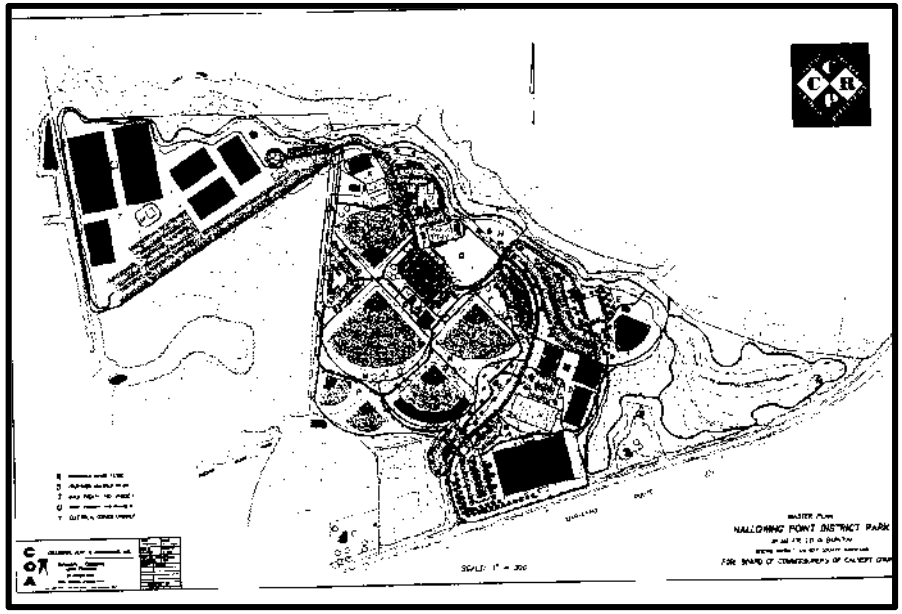
Map of Park with Existing Paved Walkway

D-2 Hallowing Point District Park

Hallowing Point Park is located on MD 231 approximately six miles west of Prince Frederick. It is one of three district parks in the County and currently provides 18 playing fields, four tennis courts, a basketball court, playground, picnic pavilion, comfort stations and a snack stand. The purchase of the property and development of Phase One approximately 20 years ago were Program Open Space projects.

The County is in the process of implementing the Hallowing Point Park master plan for the build-out of the park. In FY 2015 construction was completed on a new playground and associated parking, and on parking lots to serve fields 3, 5 and 6. In FY 2017 parking and street lights were installed. In FY 2019, the planning began for the replacement of the restroom/snack stand complex. This project was slated to begin construction in FY 2020, however has been delayed. The structure has been redesigned as a restroom only facility with construction for early FY 2021. There are also plans to update the aging master plan which would include the parking areas along the west side of the park incorporating property acquired for the second entrance.

These improvements are consistent with the County's goal of expanding and improving existing sites. By developing this site efficiently, the County is meeting Planning Vision #3, which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers.

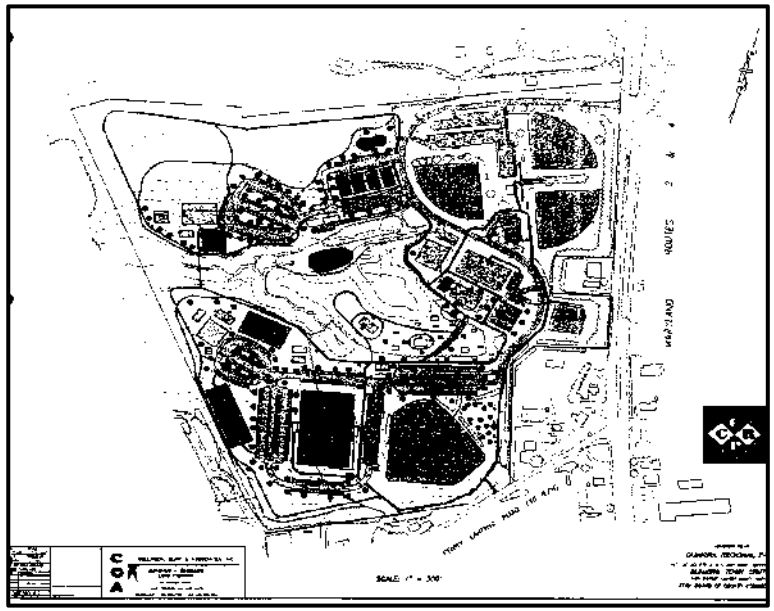


D-3 Dunkirk District Park

Dunkirk District Park is located on the west side of MD 4 adjacent to Dunkirk Town Center. It is one of three district parks in the county and includes six play fields, four tennis courts, two play areas, two practice basketball courts and a comfort station/concessionaire. The purchase of the park property and the development of Phase One approximately 20 years ago were Program Open Space Projects.

In 1997 the Board of County Commissioners approved a Master Plan for the build-out of Dunkirk District Park. Completed projects include a parking lot overlay, the Phase B main playground, the Phase E restroom and associated well, a skateboard park, associated paved walkways and electrical service and development of the east picnic grove and new basketball courts, a multi-purpose playing field, and a dog park area and lighting of field #7 and skate park. The County is in the process of implementing the Dunkirk District Park Master Plan for the build-out of the park. In FY 2014, field lighting was installed on Field 6. In FY 2016, the County began preparation of construction drawings for new tennis courts. This however was budget delayed. In FY 2020, the tennis court and pickleball court project has been revived. The tennis and pickleball complex is under design in FY 2020 with construction in FY 2021. Additional plans for a replacement playground and splash pad are budgeted for FY 2021 and construction following completion of the tennis and pickleball complex.

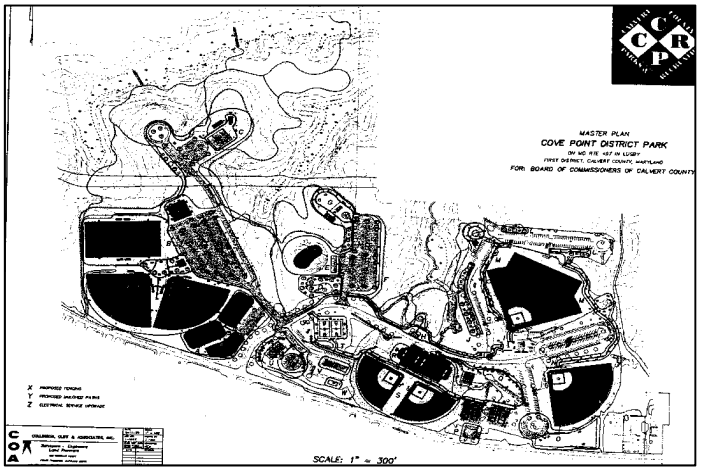
These improvements are consistent with the County's goal of expanding and improving existing sites. By developing this site efficiently, the County is meeting Planning Vision #3 which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers.



D-4 Cove Point District Park

Cove Point Park is in the 1st election district and contains approximately 80 acres. Facilities include playing fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, a picnic shelter and a playground. A master plan for the build-out of the park has been completed. An outdoor swimming pool, restrooms, concession stands, and additional parking were completed in 2006. An accessible playground was completed in fall 2007. In FY 2008 the playing field, the parking lot and lighting project was completed. In FY 2009 a new restroom was constructed with FY 2007 funding. In FY 2013 the tennis courts were renovated. In FY 2019, repairs were made to the very popular Cove Point Pool, however more are needed. In FY 2018, it was determined to update the master plan to Cove Point District Park. This master plan project began in FY 2019 with scheduled adoption in late FY 2020. Plans will be determined based on the master plan results. Open Space funds will be used to fund a portion of future development.

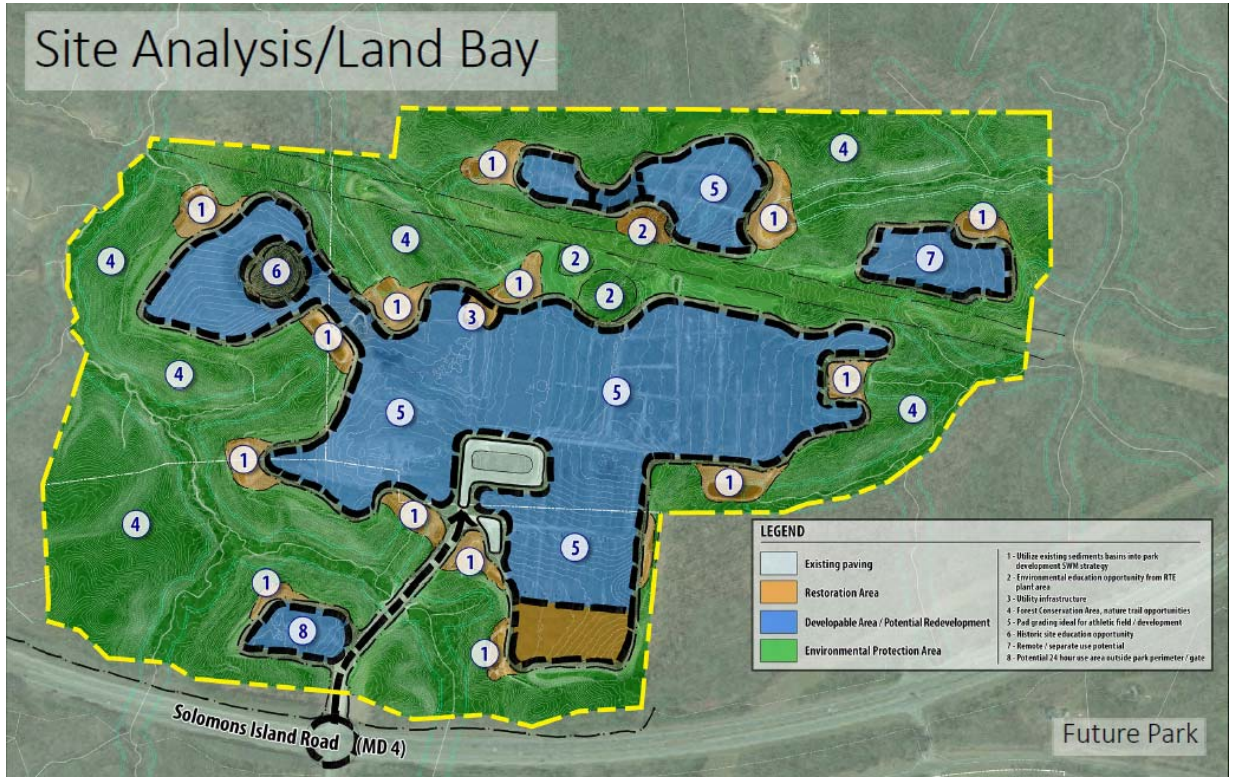
These improvements are consistent with the County's goal of expanding and improving existing sites. By developing this site efficiently, the County is meeting Planning Vision #3, which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers.



D-6 Dominion Energy Regional Park

In FY 2018 the County acquired through donation, 100 acres in Lusby at Route 4 and Cove Point Road. This combined with 79 acres already owned by Calvert County is the location of a future regional park. In FY 2018, it was determined to create a master plan for the newly acquired 179 acres off Cove Point Road west of Route 4. This regional master plan project began in FY 2019 with scheduled adoption in late 2020. Improvements include ball fields, trails, event space, tennis and pickleball courts, picnic areas, and natural resource elements in addition to amenities unique to Calvert County.

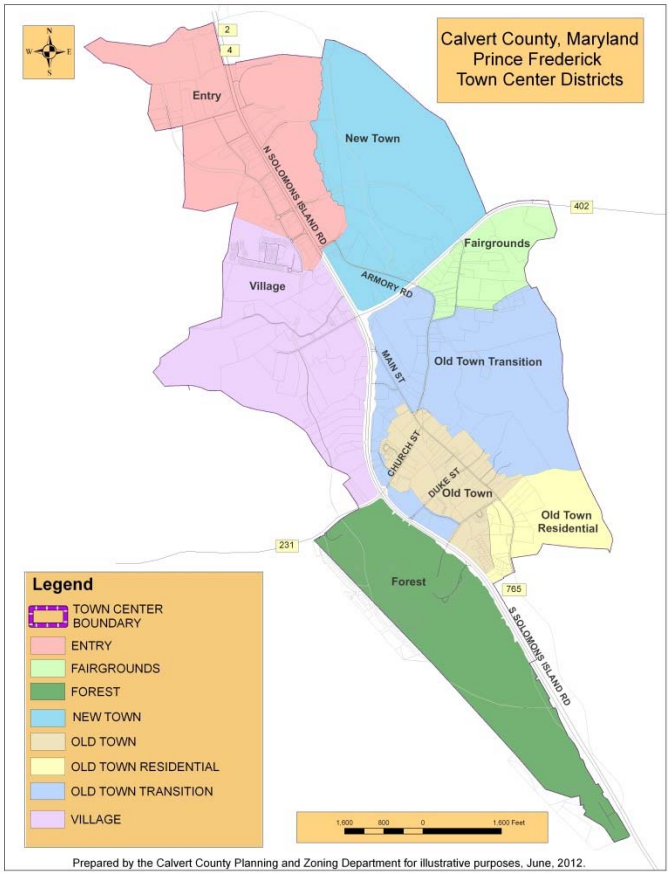
These improvements are consistent with the County's goal of expanding and improving existing sites. By developing this site efficiently, the County is meeting Planning Vision #3, which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers.



D-7 Harriet E. Brown Community Center

A recreation center like the Northeast Center in Chesapeake Beach is needed to serve central Calvert County. The center will provide meeting rooms and activity rooms suitable for a variety of recreational programs including exercise activities, arts and crafts, performances and the like. In FY16, the County purchased the former Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) building. On March 1, 2016 the county dedicated the Harriet E. Brown Community Center in Prince Frederick. The county purchased and renovated the former Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative office building to serve as an interim community center until the permanent center is built. This facility provides meeting and activity rooms for recreation programs and public use. It also houses Parks and Recreation's Central Area office and Therapeutic Recreation Services office. In 2017 the county acquired a property on Fairgrounds Road in Prince Frederick to serve as the permanent site for the Harriet Elizabeth Brown Community Center. The project area consists of approximately 22 acres including five parcels of property in a location that facilitates walkable access from several large residential areas. Master planning and design are in the FY 2026 Capital Improvement Plan year.

By providing recreation in an existing Town Center, this project is consistent with Planning Vision #3 which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers.



D-8 Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm

Rural Legacy funds were used to acquire the Biscoe Gray property in 2002. This 206-acre site is part of a 1,500 acre greenbelt along Battle Creek and includes farm fields and barns representing Calvert County's longstanding farming tradition. A tobacco barn that would have otherwise been destroyed was moved to the site and restored. In FY 2009, Calvert County received a grant from Preserve America to produce a master plan for the 196-acre portion of the property between the county road and Battle Creek. The master plan mission was to realize the Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm as a "living laboratory to explore, understand, and experience Calvert County Agricultural practices and lifeways throughout its history…." The planning process included Phase I-II investigation of four archaeological sites on the farm along with documentation of the standing structures and setting by architectural historians. The master plan was adopted by the Board of Calvert County Commissioners in December 2010, and funding to implement priority projects is being sought. An access drive, parking area and horse trails have been completed. In 2012, an African American Heritage Preservation Grant was received to rehabilitate the George E. Rice House. A Maryland Heritage Area Authority grant was awarded to install interpretive signs, develop a trail map and improve visitor amenities. An entry drive was constructed in 2014 to provide public access. In FY 2016, the Heritage Farm was selected as a component of the Piscataway Heritage Trail and a National Park Service grant was awarded to conduct archeological investigations. In FY 2019, the adjacent Gatewood Preserve was acquired; the existing infrastructure at the Preserve can supplement the Master Plan amenities.

Current priority projects include expanded interpretation of the archeological and cultural resources, improvements to the natural surface trails and development of the George Rice home site as a Heritage Tourism resource focusing on the African American farming community.

The development of this property is consistent with the State's Vision #1 "a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment."

D-9 Breezy Point Beach Park and Campground

Breezy Point Beach Park is approximately 13 acres in size and includes 2000 feet of Bayfront beach with access to Plum Point Creek. In addition to the wide beach area, the property includes a fishing pier, bathhouse, 100 trailer sites, play- ground, volleyball court(s), snack/concession stand, and large shaded picnic area. As the longest stretch of Bay front beach available to the public, Breezy Point is an important recreational facility for Calvert County, serving both residents and tourists. An estimated 50,000 visitors per year use the beach, picnic and camping facilities. The property was purchased jointly by the County and the State in 1995.

POS funding has been used in the past to correct a sewerage problem, add charcoal grills, picnic tables and playground equipment, construct a beach bathhouse, provide ADA access to the beach, make campground improvements, make jetty repairs and replace a pier. Additional funding may be required in future years. In FY 2010 there were major renovations of the campground electric and water systems (no POS). I n FY2014 improvements included extension of stone groins, replacement of swim area groins and replacement of northern boundary fence and groin. In FY 2015 a new playground was installed in the campground.

Future projects include, protective breakwaters and beach restoration, drainage improvements, construction of a new office, replacement/extension of the fishing pier, and the replacement of the sea wall in campground. The protective breakwaters and beach restoration are in permitting in FY 2020 with construction scheduled for FY2021. Drainage improvements are currently in design, also scheduled for construction in FY 2021. This property is a critical component of Calvert County's long range recreational open space plan, which identifies important properties along the Bay and connects them through a network of roads and trails, "Stepping Stones along the Bay." The fact that Breezy Point Beach has been a public beach for more than fifty years means that an active recreational facility has been provided for the public without consuming any additional resource land (Vision #10).

D-10 a and b Fishing Creek Park and the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail

Purchased through the joint efforts of the State and Calvert County, Fishing Creek Park contains 100 acres, which includes approximately 1,800 feet of the Chesapeake Beach Railroad. This property presents an opportunity for the public to experience a unique hiking trail in the town of Chesapeake Beach that combines the cultural heritage of the area with the natural beauty of Fishing Creek and adjoining tidal marsh. Additional opportunities exist to establish a public kayak/canoe launch site and to assist Beach Elementary School in expanding its environmental study area. The Town of Chesapeake Beach's Comprehensive Plan calls for a hiker biker trail network that includes the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail. The Town of Chesapeake Beach was awarded a T21 grant to develop a portion of the right-of-way that will connect two existing residential subdivisions to the center of town. The project covered by the grant includes approximately 8,720 linear feet of the main line trail. With the spur trails to the existing communities of Bayview Hills and Richfield Station, there will be approximately 12,380 feet of trail constructed.

The $1.9 million project was funded 50:50 Federal and local with Federal funds covering $950,000 and the Town's half including 75% in cash and 25% of in-kind match. The Town of Chesapeake Beach completed the first segment of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail connecting the residential subdivisions of Richfield Station and Bayview Hills to the center of Town and allowing access to the natural beauty of Fishing Creek and the surrounding tidal marsh. The project included approximately 8,720 linear feet of the main line rail with approximately 12,380 feet of trail constructed.

10 a The Town may in the future extend it further along the old railway right of way to include a nature trail to the back of Richfield Station creating a walking loop. The nature trail will be left relatively undisturbed and unimproved.

10 b The county project would be a continuation of the railway trail developed by the Town of Chesapeake Beach.

D-11 Chesapeake Hills Golf Course

This 149-acre facility, located in Lusby, was purchased by the County in 2008. The property features an 18-hole golf course, driving range, clubhouse and maintenance area. The facility is being operated as a public municipal course by Calvert County Parks and Recreation. County funding was allocated for various improvements including: painting and roofing the clubhouse, replacement of grill/pro shop HVAC, irrigation repairs, golf course improvements, a new maintenance facility and maintenance equipment. In spring of 2012 the new maintenance facility was completed. A Golf Course Master Plan was completed late Fall 2012. Other FY12 improvements included the purchase of a new fleet of golf carts and renovation to the pro shop and entrance to the grill area. In FY 2013 the installation of pump station and new golf course irrigation project was completed. In FY 2016, the #2 green was renovated. In FY17, the course bunkers were renovated. In FY2018 and FY2019 all fairways have be sprigged with Bermuda grass. In FY 2019, the old clubhouse building was demolished. Future improvements include renovation of tees, renovation of the driving range, course drainage improvements, and construction of a new clubhouse. Design for building a new clubhouse is scheduled to begin late FY 2020 with construction beginning late FY 2021.

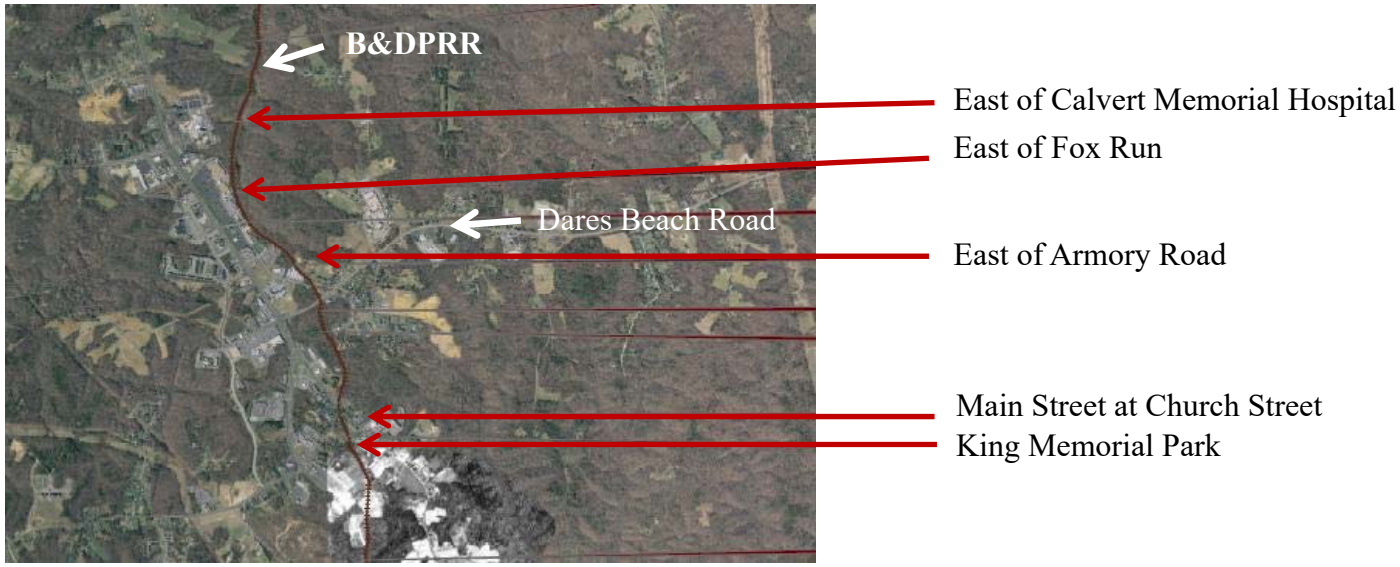
Besides providing a venue for the golfing public to pursue their sport, the course serves as a home for high school practice and matches and provides a place to develop young golfers through lessons and junior golf. The purchase is consistent with the 2019 Calvert County Comprehensive Plan's objective to ensure a wide selection of public recreational facilities and programs are provided to meet the interests and needs of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

D-12 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail

The portion of the Baltimore and Drum Point Railroad that runs through Prince Frederick has been well documented in multiple sources. The map below features the course of the B&DPRR that runs through Prince Frederick: from north of Calvert Memorial Hospital, behind the Fox Run Shopping Center, through the woods along Armory Road, across Main Street, to King Memorial Park. The railroad bed traverses' parcels belonging to ten different property owners before it enters King Memorial Park, owned by the Calvert County Commissioners.

The goal of right-of-way acquisition would be to develop it as a walking/biking trail.

This project is consistent with the 2019 Calvert County Comprehensive Plan's action: "Enhance the network of recreational sites and facilities, including hiker/biker and horseback riding trails, based upon the unique natural, cultural and historical features of the county." The project is also consistent with the State Planning Vision #4 (community design) and Vision #6 (transportation).



D-15 Kings Landing Park

Tom Wisner Hall (renovated in 2001), two pavilions, and primitive campgrounds are used throughout the year for meetings, weddings receptions, youth camping, scouting events, etc. Seven cabins remain from when the park was the summer camp site for the Baltimore YMCA. Grant funds from the African American Heritage Preservation Program were received in FY2015 to repair the cabin roofs and in FY2016 to rehabilitate the cabins for overnight camping cabins, classrooms for interpretive programs, and day-use shelters. Plans are underway to have cabins available for rent by youth groups. The park serves as the field center for the 7th grade CHESPAX programs, providing County young people an excellent opportunity to learn about the importance of stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay and the land. In FY2016 an "Osprey Cam" was installed to monitor the nesting activities of a pair of Osprey on Cocktown Creek. A fishing pier and soft launch for kayaks and canoes are popular amenities of the park, although the erosion along the shoreline and invasion by *Phragmites australis* will need to be managed to support these activities.

Program Open Space Funds could support a variety of projects throughout the park. Overall, a new management and/or strategic plan are needed; the current plan is from 1990 and has many actions that are not relevant to the current needs. The park has extremely limited parking to support the diversity of activities available at the park. This project could provide parking for approximately 100 vehicles, including minimal lighting for safety during night-time activities. This parking must be compatible with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area regulations and has to be made of pervious materials. Shoreline improvements, *Phragmites* removal and repairs to the fishing pier are projects that must be undertaken in the coming years. These improvements make a strong contribution toward the implementation of the State's Planning Vision #1 regarding quality of life and stewardship.

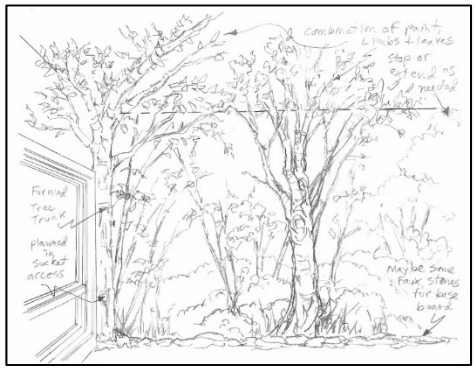
Existing Tom Wisner Hall and parking spaces

Eagle Scouts rebuild the porch on the camping cabin

D-16 Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Nature Center

The Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Nature Center serves as the headquarters for the Natural Resources Division, as well as a Visitor Center for the Sanctuary. In FY 2016, the lobby was renovated to provide a more visually pleasing entrance to the center. To better serve the public and education programs, the multi-purpose room should be renovated to incorporate a reception area, workspace, ability to convert to two smaller classrooms, and provide direct access to the outside exhibits. In FY 2020, a major renovation of the classrooms, offices, and reception area was completed. This renovation created a more welcoming area for visitors, additional office space, and two classrooms. Technology infrastructure was added, including public Wi-Fi. Plans include a pavilion as a functional outdoor classroom space.

The existing exhibits need to be evaluated annually for replacement and/or renovation to maintain and further the mission of the Natural Resources Division. The construction of the new live animal exhibits was completed in 2013. Minor changes to the exhibit displays are ongoing. Existing interior and exterior exhibits will be renovated while new exhibits will be developed, including design, fabrication and installation. The renovated and new exhibits will entice and educate visitors. The new exhibits will reinforce the field trip and classroom lessons that school groups, including every Calvert County Public School 1st grade class, experience when they visit the Nature Center. A new ADA-compliant trail to the swamp would provide accessible interpretation of the cypress swamp.
The project is consistent with the State's Planning Vision #1 regarding quality of life and stewardship.



D-18 Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park

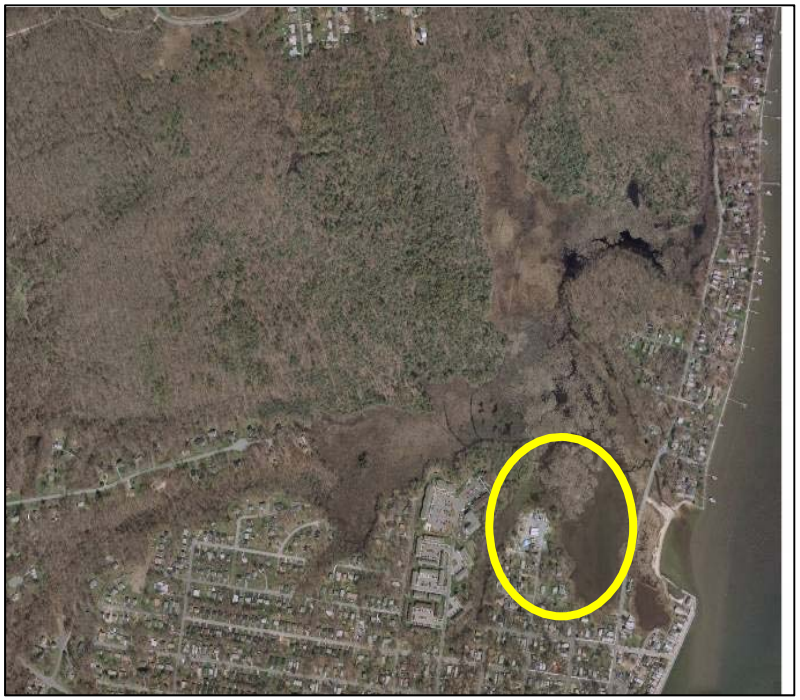
In FY 2013 the County purchased a 209-acre property adjacent to the Dunkirk Town Center to develop into additional playing fields, shared use natural trail system and associated facilities, restrooms, concession facilities, maintenance facilities and other facilities as the property will allow. In FY15 the development of a master plan for the property was completed. The FY16 Budget Proposal includes funding for Phase I planning that will include an entrance road, a multi-purpose field, parking, restroom and educational shelter. The purchase of the property was made possible through the Calvert County Youth Recreational Opportunities Fund. This special fund was created by the State Legislature in 2012 and is administered by the Secretary of Maryland Department of Natural Resources. This project will help address the need for athletic fields, specifically baseball/softball diamonds and fields for spring and fall field sports, which was identified as an unmet need in the 2006 Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. The Master Plan for the Ward Farm Park was approved by the Board of County Commissioners in November 2014. In FY 2017, the preparation of construction drawings for Phase 1 development began which included an entrance road, a multi-purpose field, parking, restroom and educational shelter. In FY 2019, final site design and permitting on Phase 1 was completed (except educational shelter). In addition, planning has begun on a pier facility, infrastructure (electric), and a roundabout entrance off Ward Road. Construction on Phase 1 will begin late FY 2020. A trail assessment was completed in 2016 and will be incorporated into the Master Plan.

This project is consistent with the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan, which calls for a community park that will provide facilities and space for team sports in or near each of the County's Town Centers. It is also consistent with State of Maryland's Planning Vision #3, which calls for growth to be concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to these centers, or strategically selected new centers.

D-19 Wetlands Wildlife Observation Park

The Town of North Beach has acquired two larger parcels on the west side of MD 261(Parcel 2 totals 14.539 acres, Parcel 3 totals 3.676 acres). The Town of North Beach is working with the Army Corps of Engineers to restore the wetlands. Once restored and properly managed, this resource would provide many benefits; including opportunities for recreation, wildlife observation, photography, flood control and other benefits derived from a restored and functioning wetlands area.

This project would promote Vision # 4 Community Design by providing a recreational area within walking distance of many of the Town's residents.



D-20 2nd and Greenwood Pocket Park

The Town of North Beach seeks to acquire and develop a 5,898-square foot corner lot adjacent to the San Francisco community for a play area for children. The development plan would include such amenities as age appropriate playground equipment, water fountain, and park benches. Program Open Space funds will be requested to assist with the acquisition and development of the park.

This project would promote Vision # 4 Community Design by providing a recreational area within walking distance of many of the Town's residents.

Parcel proposed for acquisition and development

D-21 Sunrise Garden

The Town of North Beach has developed Sunrise Garden, the 30,000-square foot waterfront parcel (Block 2 Lots 7, 8, 9, 10), as a passive park with a sculpture garden and other amenities such as a fountain, benches and walkways. The park provides views of the Chesapeake Bay and would be for public use. Program Open Space funds were requested in FY2016 to assist in the development of the park. The project supports the maintenances, enhancement, and improvements to the park.

This project promotes Vision # 4 Community Design by providing a recreational area within walking distance of many of the Town's residents.

Sunrise Garden

D-22 Shared Used, Natural Surface Trails County-wide

Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park in Dunkirk - existing trails could serve as shared use trails

There is a need for shared use, natural surface trails in Calvert County. These trails would allow for trail running, off-road bicycling, horseback riding, and/or hiking. Kings Landing Park and Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm have trails for hikers and horses. Chesapeake Bay Railway Trail is suitable for hikers and bicycling; otherwise, there are very few trails for bicycling off-road. Trail plans could be developed to accommodate bicycling at existing facilities. There is the potential to develop natural surface trails on public property.

Potential shared use, natural surface trails include:

- Trails at Kings Landing Park: A trail assessment completed in 2013 includes expanding the shared use, natural surface trails and possible connections to the Huntingtown Natural Resource Management Area (NMRA).
- Trails at Flag Ponds Nature Park: The potential for shared use, natural surface trails at Flag Ponds is tied to the acquisition and/or easement agreement of the adjoining properties. .
- Trails at Smoky Road/Huntingtown NRMA: A shared use, natural surface trail system at the Smoky Road/Huntingtown NRMA along with a connection to Kings Landing Park would provide several miles of trails.
- Trails at Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park: The recently completed trail assessment identified routes for several miles of shared use, natural surface trail. A shared use, natural surface trail system and pump track/skills area would complement planned athletic fields, complement a natural surface trail system, and give children and adults a place to work on bicycling handling skills.
- A trail leading from Prince Frederick to the Patuxent River could combine natural surface and roadside trails to provide resources to access the Patuxent River and its tributaries, such as Battle Creek, from the Prince Frederick Town Center. The trails could tie into the Prince Frederick to Bay trail developed by the American Chestnut Land Trust, creating a cross-county experience.

Example of a shared use, natural surface trail for hikers & bikers in a Prince George's County Park

This project is consistent with State Planning Vision #12: Implementation: strategies, policies, programs, and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, state, and interstate levels to achieve these visions.

D-23 Flag Ponds Nature Park

The Flag Ponds Education Center was completed in 2002 and each year more than 2300 school children, their teachers and parents learn about Chesapeake Bay ecology, focusing on terrapins, oysters, water quality and habitat needs through Calvert County Public Schools CHESPAX. Programs coordinated by the Natural Resources Division for families and adults use the building as a classroom. The building could serve as a nature center with exhibits focusing on Flag Ponds and the Chesapeake Bay and be open during park hours, while still providing space for group activities. Exhibits would entice and educate visitors as well as serve the many school groups that come to the Park. Recent efforts have been made to install temporary exhibits to enhance the education experience. A comprehensive exhibit design plan and implementation budget would facilitate the development and construction of interpretive resources of the park. This plan would include existing and future facilities, as well as the natural features of the park that can add to the visitor experience. The plan would include a series of interpretive exhibits on the natural and cultural history of the park, interpretive areas for group programs and lessons, and a meeting room for workshops and trainings that are compatible with goals of the Park and the Division. Construction of a shelter at the beach and wayside stations along the trails would provide additional exhibit and interpretive spaces, located where most visitors congregate.

This project is consistent with State Planning Vision #12: Implementation: strategies, policies, programs, and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, state, and interstate levels to achieve these visions.

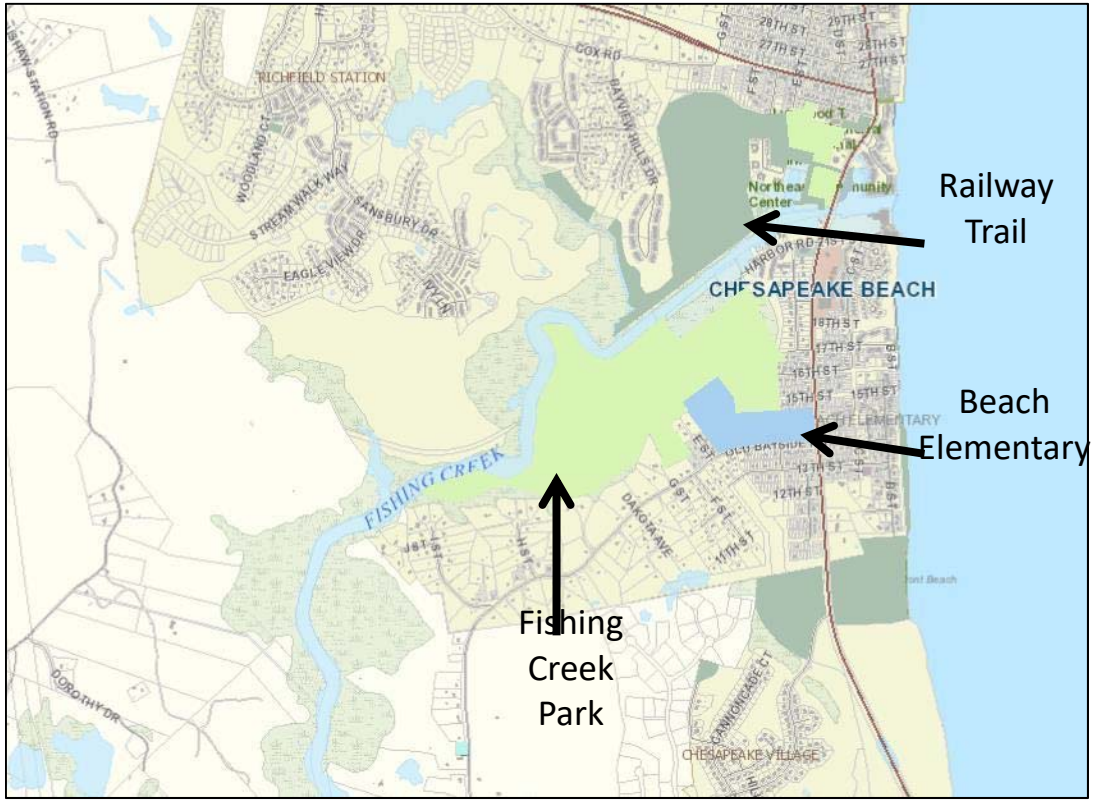
Upper Level

Lower Level

D-24 Old Bayside Road Trail

A bike path and pedestrian walkway/sidewalk from Beach Elementary along the county maintained Old Bayside Road. The first segment is anticipated to go along the north side of the road approximately 1,500 linear feet from the school to just south of "E" Street and across from "F" Street with a long-term goal of extending the trail another ±3,500 linear feet to the town limits at "I" street. This trail would access Calvert County's Fishing Creek Park. This project is seen as a trail extension possibility for the school and south part of town to loop back into the county park and ultimately to the existing Railway Trail. The Town is currently in the design phase of the sidewalk project, funded 80% by the State of Maryland Safe Routes to School program. The Town seeks to allow safe access from Beach Elementary School to Bay Front via sidewalks and crosswalks.

This project is consistent with State Planning Visions #1 (quality of life), #4 (community design), and #6 (multimodal transportation).



D-26 North Beach Canoe and Kayak Launch

North Beach is actively looking to develop at least two public launch sites for canoes, kayaks, and other carried boats along its waterfront adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay. Each site that is developed will be designed to provide parking space for a limited number of cars and a launching area. The ideal locations for this launch site would be situated in an open area designated for this purpose. The development of the launch sites would be environmental and user friendly. This is one of the goals specifically identified in the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Canoeing and kayaking are low-impact recreational uses, which help promote the State's Planning Vision #1 on quality of life and sustainability. (Refer to the last page for a list of State of Maryland's Planning Visions).

D-27 Water Access-Boating, Fishing and Crabbing

There is a need for adding, expanding and improving water access throughout the county. This project will pursue improvements for water access, including kayak/canoe launching, fishing and crabbing through repairs and renovation of existing facilities and installation and construction of new structures to increase opportunities for water-based activities

The county facilities that have direct access to either the Patuxent River or the Chesapeake Bay should be evaluated to determine how to provide better access for water-based activities. For example, Lower Marlboro Wharf provides fishing access, yet could accommodate a kayak/canoe launch. In FY2017, a Recreational Trails Program grant was awarded to install a floating dock at Lower Marlboro. This project was completed in FY 2019. Improvements to the parking and the aging wharf would enhance the access to the Patuxent River and are planned in a future year.

There are no public launches on Battle Creek. In the Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm Master Plan, a platform for paddlers who are already on the water, not as a put-in/take-out location was identified. Gatewood Preserve provides direct access to Battle Creek with an existing pier which could be upgraded to public use standards for a kayak/canoe launch.

Restoration of the Kings Landing shoreline could include better soft-launch capabilities. Other improvements to these sites include restroom facilities (permanent or portable), parking, camping, interpretation, and access to on-shore amenities. Canoeing and kayaking are low-impact recreational uses, which help promote the State's Planning Vision #1 on quality of life and sustainability.

Lower Marlboro Wharf was renovated to include a kayak/canoe launch.

D-29 Main Street Green Space

The State of Maryland is closing the section of Main Street between Central Square Shopping Center and MD 2/4. The Department of Community Planning & Building has arranged a partnership with the State in order to remove the roadway and prepare the site to the county's specifications. The location will be fine graded with stabilization, landscaping and a multi-use trail to be further developed by the county. SHA is scheduled to complete their portion of the project in FY 2020 which will then allow the County to take over management. Future development of this area will include a sidewalk, recreational amenities and connections to the shopping center.

This project is consistent with Planning Vision #1 (high quality of life), Vision #4 (community design), and Vision #6 (multimodal transportation).

D-30 Gatewood Preserve

Acquisition of the property was funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Program Open Space, and County Excise Tax. As a keystone parcel connecting Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary and Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm, the property has existing infrastructure for improved public access to these sites and the Patuxent River. Minor improvements are needed to allow immediate use of the property including an entrance sign would be required on the road frontage; wayfinding signage would direct visitors once on the property; and marking regular and ADA parking spaces.

Future projects include upgrades to the existing pier to improve ADA access and easier launching of kayaks, such as a floating dock. The residence could be converted to a nature center, offices, small classroom and public restrooms. A comprehensive evaluation would be required to determine what would be needed to fully utilize the building. The grounds around the house can accommodate picnic tables and chemical toilets for when the center is not open. The house has parking for approximately ten cars. The barns and animal shelters would be used to house equipment required for basic maintenance, such as tractors, mowers, and a basic workshop. In the future, the barn could house a small number of domestic animals, such as goats, that would be used for interpretive and restoration programs. If goats were permitted, these would be used to combat the invasive species found in the parks and would demonstrate one alternative of using herbicides to restoring native habitats.

The trail systems would be improved to allow access to the two adjoining parks (Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm and Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary). Trails would be evaluated for possible realignment to protect the slopes and wetlands.

Planning Vision 1. Quality of life and sustainability: a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment; and # 10. Resource conservation: waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved.

D-31 Upper Hellen Creek Watershed

The undeveloped forests of the Upper Hellen Creek Watershed adjoining project D-6, Future Park in Lusby, have been identified as a priority acquisition to develop a natural trail system and associated facilities as the property will allow. Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, Calvert Nature Society, Southern Maryland Resource & Conservation Board (RC&D), and Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) support the acquisition for forest preservation, stream and water quality protection, and passive recreation along natural surface trails.

Planning Vision 10. Resource conservation: waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved.

D-32 King Calvert Rural Legacy

Acquisition of this property was through the Rural Legacy Program. The wooded parcel abuts the southern border of Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park and includes a portion of Hall Creek and its floodplain. Natural surface trails and elevated boardwalks will provide access for public education and ecological monitoring projects. Efforts to create a nature play space and outdoor classroom would benefit the local community, schools, and the public.

Planning Vision 9. Environmental protection: land and water resources, including the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays, are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy air and water, natural systems, and living resources; Planning Vision 10. Resource conservation: waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved.

D-33 Chesapeake Beach Public Boat Ramps

The Town owns six public boat ramps within the Kellam's Recreational Complex. The Town is in the process of renovating the piers and is seeking funds from the Department of Natural Resource's Waterway Improvement fund. The parking lot was repaved in late FY 2019.

Planning Vision 1. Quality of life and sustainability: a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment.

D-34 Chesapeake Beach Senior Playgrounds

The Town of Chesapeake Beach is seeking to include a senior playground concept in multiple areas of Town allowing for residents to incorporate additional exercise into their activities in Town. The concept is geared towards seniors, however, the playground could be used by all citizens.

Senior citizen playgrounds are growing in popularity worldwide. Originally created in China, they are playgrounds featuring various stations that have equipment designed for use by the elderly. Not only are senior citizen playgrounds a great way for the elderly to exercise, but they are a great way to have fun.

What type of equipment is used? Playground equipment for seniors varies and includes activities that focus on flexibility, strength, and aerobic activity.

How do they benefit seniors? Exercise is key to a long, healthy life and is a key component of preventive medicine.

Planning Vision 1. Quality of life and sustainability: a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment.

D-35 Paved Shared Use Trails County Wide

Opportunities for new paved trails are limited in Calvert County with the majority alignments being adjacent to roadways. These paved shared-use trails would allow for trail running, bicycling, and/or hiking. Chesapeake Bay Railway Trail is suitable for hikers and bicycling; otherwise, there are very few trails for bicycling. A preliminary proposal was submitted for a MDOT Bikeways grant in FY 2020 for two feasibility studies on the Prince Frederick Town Center and the Dunkirk Town Center shared-used trails.

- **Prince Frederick Town Center - Eastern Shared Use Pathway**: The Prince Frederick Town Center is a state-designated Sustainable Community. This project will develop a feasibility study and concept design for a pathway alignment on the east side of Prince Frederick Town Center connecting Dares Beach Road, Calvert High School, Calvert Middle School, Calvert Library, Hall Aquatic Center, and CalvertHealth Medical Center, and the commercial properties along MD 2/4.
- **Dunkirk Town Center - Dunkirk District Park to Ward Farm Park Shared Use Pathway Connection**: The Dunkirk Town Center is a state-designated Sustainable Community. This project will develop a feasible alignment and concept design for a pathway alignment connecting the Woodlawn Farms community, Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park (currently under construction), Dunkirk Gateway commercial area, Dunkirk Park & Ride Lot, and Dunkirk District Park.
- **War of 1812 Star -Spangled Banner Cove Point Trail**: This on-street bikeway along MD 765 between Solomons Town Center and MD 497 (Cove Point Road), will extend along MD 497 as far as the entrance to Cove Point Park, a distance of four miles, linking Solomons Town Center, Dowell Elementary School, Lusby Town Center, the Patuxent Appeal Elementary Campus, and Cove Point Park
- **Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail Feasibility, Phasing, and Right-of-Way**: Planning study for the full Baltimore & Drum Point Trail corridor in Calvert County focused on developing a phasing plan based on anticipated transportation and recreation needs, currently available and expected right-of-way, and ongoing development.

This project is consistent with State Planning Vision #12: Implementation: strategies, policies, programs, and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, state, and interstate levels to achieve these visions

The Planning Visions

Adopted by the State of Maryland in the 2009 Smart, Green, and Growing Act (SB 273/HB 294)

1. Quality of life and sustainability: a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment;

2. Public participation: citizens are active partners in the planning and implementation of community initiatives and are sensitive to their responsibilities in achieving community goals;

3. Growth areas: growth is concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to these centers, or strategically selected new centers;

4. Community Design: compact, mixed-use, walkable design consistent with existing community character and located near available or planned transit options is encouraged to ensure efficient use of land and transportation resources and preservation and enhancement of natural systems, open spaces, recreational areas, and historical, cultural, and archeological resources;

5. Infrastructure: growth areas have the water resources and infrastructure to accommodate population and business expansion in an orderly, efficient, and environmentally sustainable manner;

6. Transportation: a well-maintained, multimodal transportation system facilitates the safe, convenient, affordable, and efficient movement of people, goods, and services within and between population and business centers;

7. Housing: a range of housing densities, types, and sizes provides residential options for citizens of all ages and incomes;

8. Economic development: economic development and natural resources-based businesses that promote employment opportunities for all income levels within the capacity of the State's natural resources, public services, and public facilities are encouraged;

9. Environmental protection: land and water resources, including the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays, are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy air and water, natural systems, and living resources;

10. Resource conservation: waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved;

11. Stewardship: government, business entities, and residents are responsible for the creation of sustainable communities by collaborating to balance efficient growth with resource protection; and

12. Implementation: strategies, policies, programs, and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, state, and interstate levels to achieve these visions.