



# **SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**RECREATION, PARKS & TOURISM  
PROGRAM OPEN SPACE LOCAL PLAN  
FY 2025-2026**



Somerset County  
Recreation, Parks, and Tourism  
*Division of Recreation & Parks*

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July 1, 2025

Mr. Michael McQuarrie:

Please find attached (1) original copy of Somerset County's Fiscal Year 2026 Program Open Space Annual Plan, including:

Development Projects (3)  
Acquisition Projects LPPRP (1)  
County Project Location Map (1)

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory C. Sterling, Jr." followed by a stylized signature of the same name.

Gregory C. Sterling, Jr.  
Director

## FY 2025-2026 PROGRAM OPEN SPACE LOCAL PLAN

The following projects are planned in Somerset County to enhance that public's access to quality recreational facilities. In determining the priorities for Open Space Projects in the county the following factors were considered:

1. Factors identified in our most recent LPPRP
2. The number of people impacted
3. Date of the last POS project completed at the site
4. How the project impacts all residents of the county
5. How the project contributes to the overall health and wellness opportunities for the county

### Deal Island Basketball Court Rehabilitation

This project aims to improve the condition of the existing basketball facility by resurfacing and lining the area for both pickleball and basketball, improving the basketball standards and fencing and adding other amenities to improve the experience for the users of the facility. This project references the following Somerset County LPPRP Goals and Objectives: ***"Maximize the use of existing recreational facilities and coordinate provision of park and recreation activities with school sites;"***

### Smith Island Recreational Improvements

SCRPT serves the 3 villages of Smith Island but has not had a significant investment in the recreational amenities for several years for a variety of reasons. This project aims to improve the existing ballfield area, playing surface, fencing and dugouts, replace existing playground equipment, add an outdoor exercise space/pickleball/basketball court. Also, we seek to create a formalized trail system complete with outdoor maps and signage, benches, bike racks and establish kayak/canoe launches at the docks in all 3 villages of Smith Island. This project references the following Somerset County LPPRP Goals and Objectives: ***"Locate new facilities in growth areas that are accessible to the majority of residents, but also provide recreational opportunities to serve populations that are far from existing recreational facilities;"*** and, ***"Enhance public access to the Bay and elsewhere through more pedestrian and bicycle facilities that go near the shoreline;"***

### LPPRP Plan Assistance

### Long Central Athletic Facility Expansion

Recently approved LPPI Project at the County's main recreational site call for the creation of new multi-use playing fields and the continuation of our existing ½ mile walking trail. This project aims to provide new pavilion space and the addition of court surfaces and standards for basketball, paddle/racquet sports and added playground and exercise amenities. This project references the following Somerset County LPPRP Goals and Objectives: ***"Build on existing recreational facilities in Westover to create a central indoor and outdoor recreational hub that can serve the needs of the entire county;"***

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

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

