



Queen Anne's County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan



Queen Anne's
County MARYLAND
WHERE SHORE LIVING **BEGINS**

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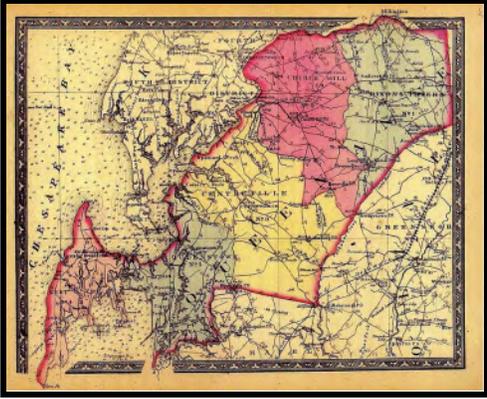
CHAPTER I FRAMEWORK

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The State of Maryland requires that Maryland counties and Baltimore City update their local Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) every five years for submission to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Maryland Department of Planning (MDP). The LPPRP is required for county participation in Maryland's Program Open Space grants program and is designed to assist with planning at the local, state and federal levels. The LPPRP informs the Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPRP) which serves as the Statewide Land Preservation and Recreation Plan which is required for Maryland to receive funding through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. The three focus areas of the LPPRP are:

- Parks and Recreation
- Natural Resource Conservation
- Agricultural Land Preservation

The Queen Anne's County LPPRP has been developed in accordance with guidelines issued in 2020 by MDP and DNR and outlined in the Guidelines for State and Local Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Planning 2022 and is included in the County's 2022 Comprehensive Plan (Plan QAC). The goal is to examine State and local efforts in order to recommend improvements, establish objectives and plan for future park development as well as parks and open space land preservation in the County and its incorporated municipalities. The LPPRP also informs policy making and implementation for State and local administration and lawmakers.



The Queen Anne’s County Department of Parks & Recreation is responsible for the preparation of the LPPRP, in cooperation with other county government departments, advisory groups and with public participation.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

LOCATION

Queen Anne’s County is located on Maryland’s Eastern Shore bounded by the Chesapeake Bay to the west. It is the first county entered when crossing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge from the Western Shore and comprises approximately 238,337 acres or 373 square miles. Its topography is largely level to gently rolling farmland, all close to sea level, and is bounded in large part by water. The County is bound to the north by the Chester River and Kent County, Maryland; to the east by the Tuckahoe River and Caroline County, Maryland and Kent County, Delaware; to the south by the Wye River, Eastern Bay and Talbot County, Maryland and to the west, by the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries have a strong influence on land use, conservation and recreation in Queen Anne’s County.

Queen Anne’s County is located 34 vehicular miles from the City of Baltimore and 48 miles from Washington D.C., and approximately 100 miles from the City of Philadelphia. Major interstate highways traverse the County in a north/south direction as well as an east/west direction. With its proximity to major cities, Queen Anne’s County provides easy overnight access to major economic centers, tourism destinations and the largest estuary in the United States, the Chesapeake Bay.

The Town of Centreville has served as the County seat since 1782 and still functions as the home of County government and law enforcement. It is recognized as one of two National Register Historic Districts in Queen Anne’s County. Stevensville, the second Historic District, is one of four communities designated as

Table I-1: Land Use/Land Cover Data

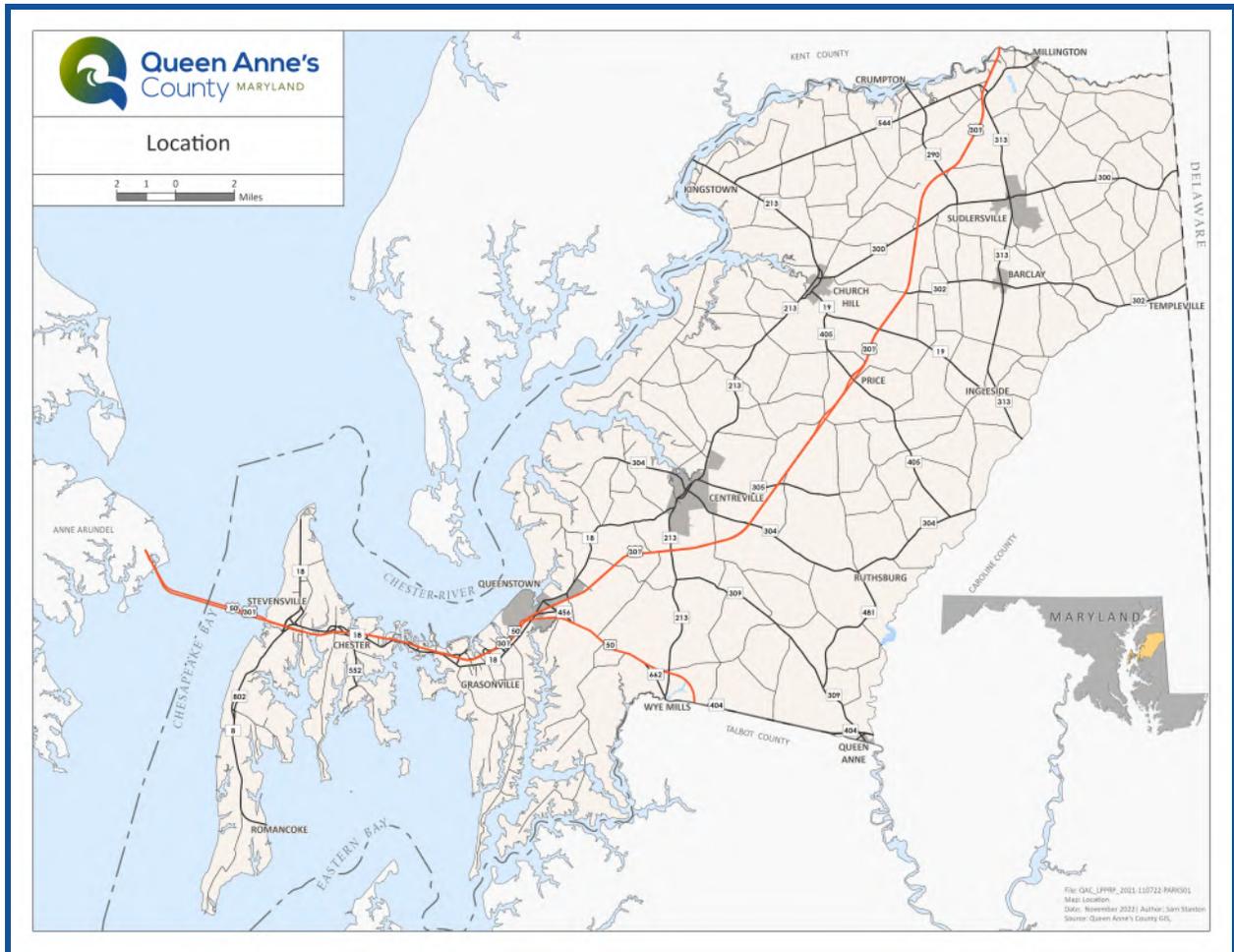
Land Type	Land Use in Acres		Land Use Change	
	2002	2010	2002-2010	
Very Low Density Residential	8,407	9,043	635	7.6%
Low Density Residential	10,091	11,013	922	9.1%
Medium Density Residential	3,852	4,219	367	9.5%
High Density Residential	278	307	29	10.3%
Commercial	1,075	1,280	205	19.1%
Industrial	242	288	47	19.3%
Other Developed Lands/ Institutional/ Transportation	3,826	3,992	166	4.3%
Total Developed Lands	27,772	30,142	2,370	8.5%
Agriculture	144,703	143,057	-1,646	-1.1%
Forest	61,560	60,873	-688	-1.1%
Extractive/Barren/Bare	0	0	0	0.0%
Wetland	3,650	3,613	-37	-1.0%
Total Resource Lands	209,913	207,543	-2,371	-1.1%
Total Land	237,685			
Water	88,167			

Source: Maryland Department of Planning

unincorporated growth areas located on Kent Island, the largest island in Maryland and the gateway to Maryland's Eastern Shore from the Western Shore via the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

There are eight municipalities within the County: Queenstown, Centreville, Church Hill, Sudlersville, Barclay, Templeville, Queen Anne, and Millington and 12 additional unincorporated communities throughout the County: Bridgetown, Crumpton, Dominion, Ingleside, Kingstown, Love Point, Matapeake, Price, Romancoke, Ruthsburg, Starr, and Wye Mills.

Map I-1 Queen Anne's County, Maryland



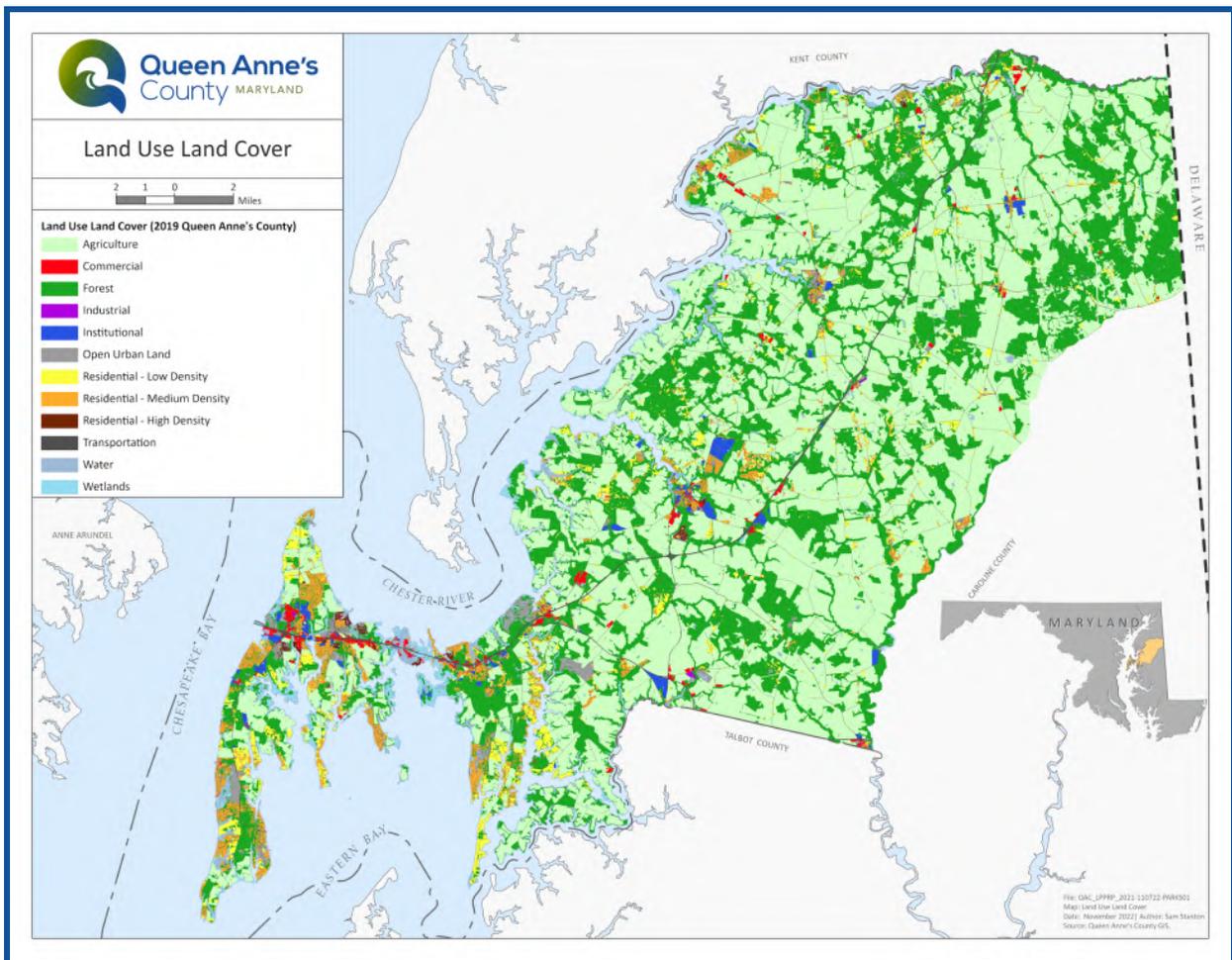
LAND USE

According to the Plan QAC, agriculture has prevailed as the primary land use since 1973 followed by forestry. However, the County has experienced a significant increase in residential acreage which has more than doubled (+151%) since 1973, with significant growth in medium - and high - density residential development. At the same time the increase in population (+169%) has outpaced residential development. The amount of developed land has nearly tripled in just under

50 years. The loss of agricultural land relates to the low- and medium-density, rural development that is common throughout the County. Between 1973 and 2019, the County lost over 21,000 acres of agricultural land.

Despite this loss, the County continues to be defined by its rural and agricultural surroundings, the water, and its natural habitats. The County's planning process reflects a commitment to applying the principles of climate resiliency in land use planning, which highlights the need to direct growth to designated Growth Areas in order to provide adequate public facilities and to preserve the finite resource of the County's tillable soil.

Map I-2 Land Use/Land Cover

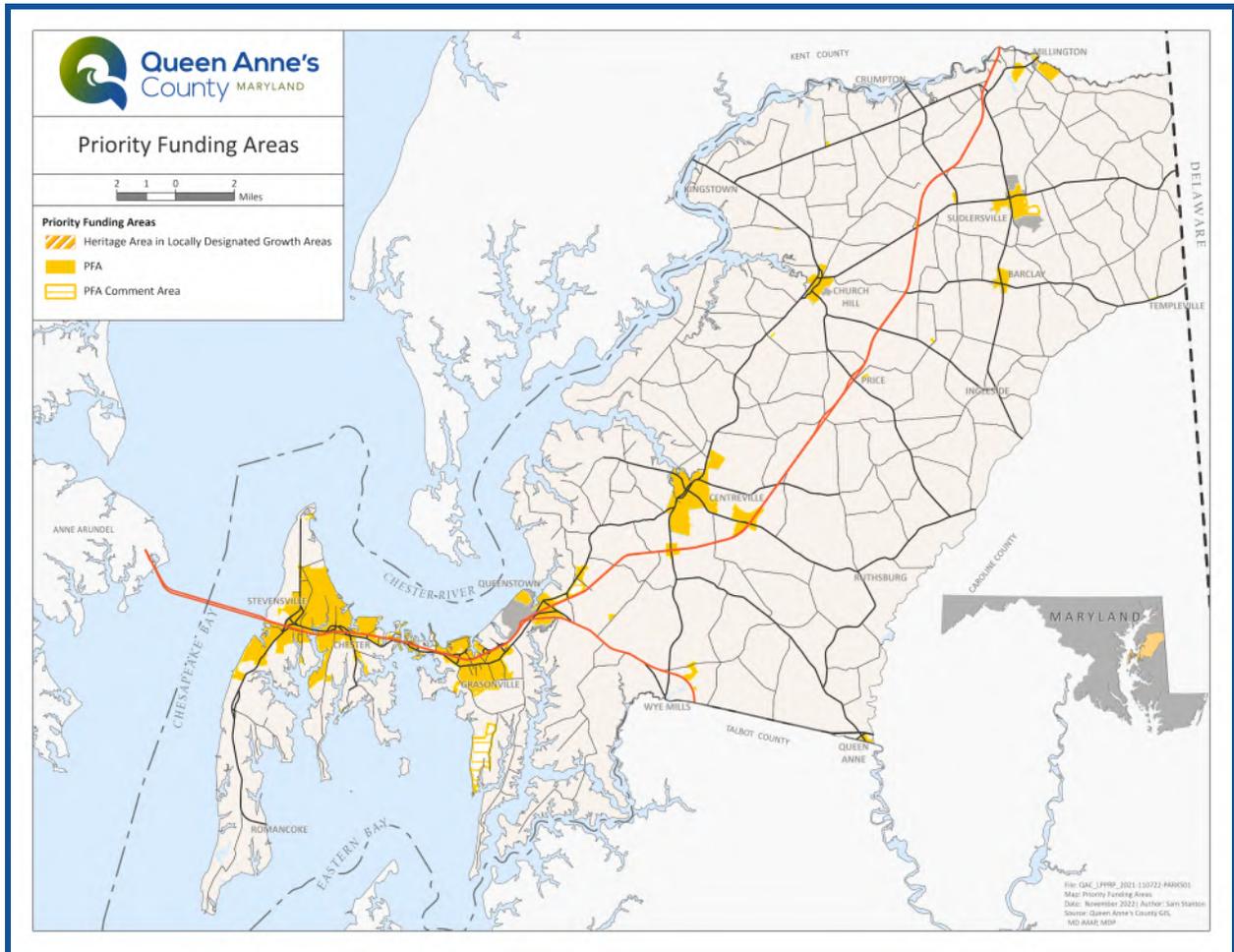


The majority of high density development has occurred on Kent Island as can be seen from Map 4-4 Land Use/Land Cover. Chester, Grasonville, Kent Narrows, and Stevensville, are unincorporated targeted growth areas, with water and sewer service provided by the County via the Kent Narrows/Stevensville/Grasonville Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant is representative of a common challenge on the Eastern Shore with water and sewer and septic

system capacity. Many of these systems are reaching or have exceeded their limit to safely and effectively manage the processing wastewater and sewage. In response to this challenge, the County created a Comprehensive Water and Sewage Plan to identify and assess water and sewage needs throughout the County. This plan is amended on an annual basis.

Queen Anne’s County Priority Funding Areas (PFAs) (Map 1-4) are located primarily in the unincorporated targeted growth areas of Kent Island and Kent Narrows served by the County’s Wastewater Treatment Plan and around the incorporated municipalities in the County.

Map 1-3 Priority Funding Areas



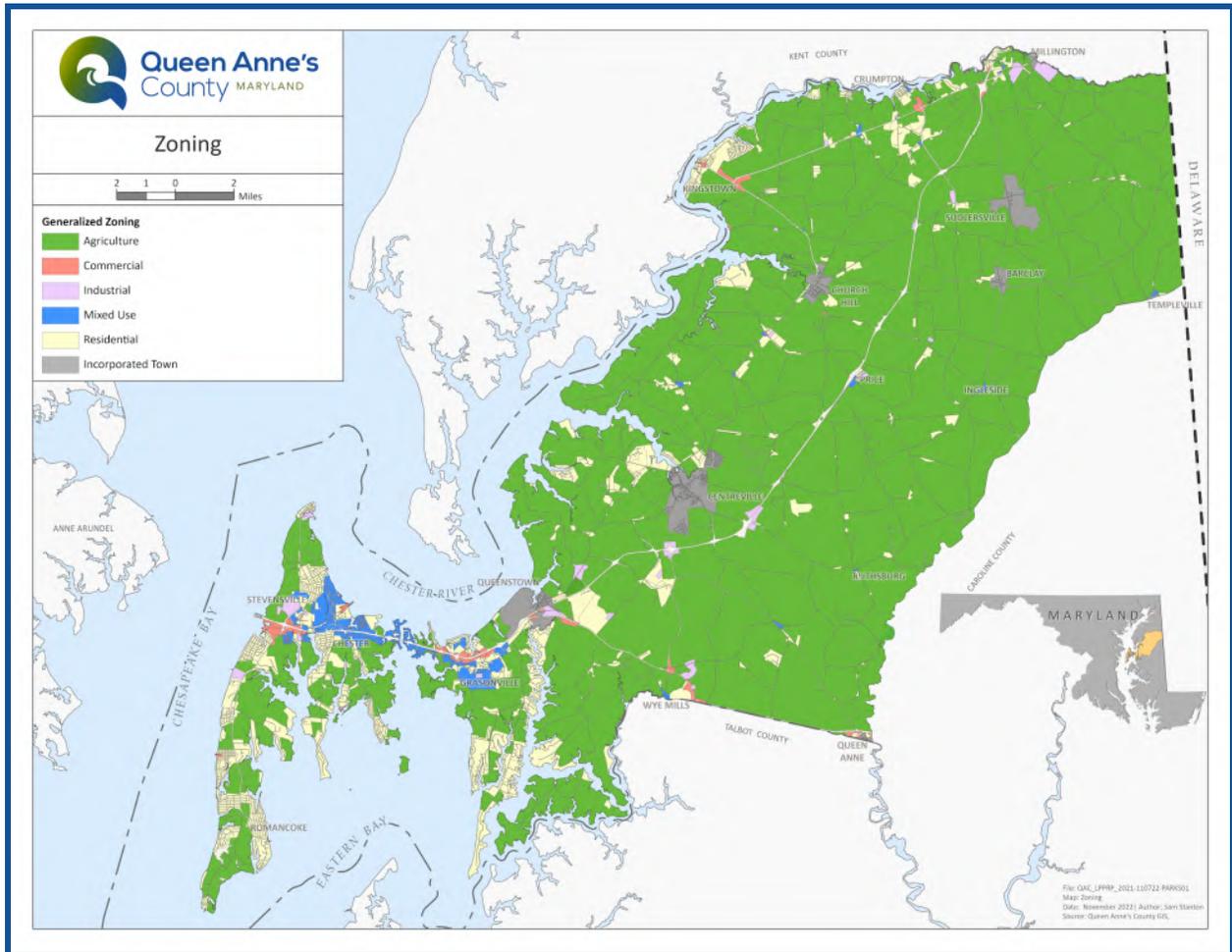
The Plan QAC provides a strategic vision for managing growth and preserving land which correlate with the LPPRP with the following strategies:

- Review current site design standards to further promote environmental protection, landscaping, and aesthetics, as well as seeking to preserve scenic beauty, vistas,

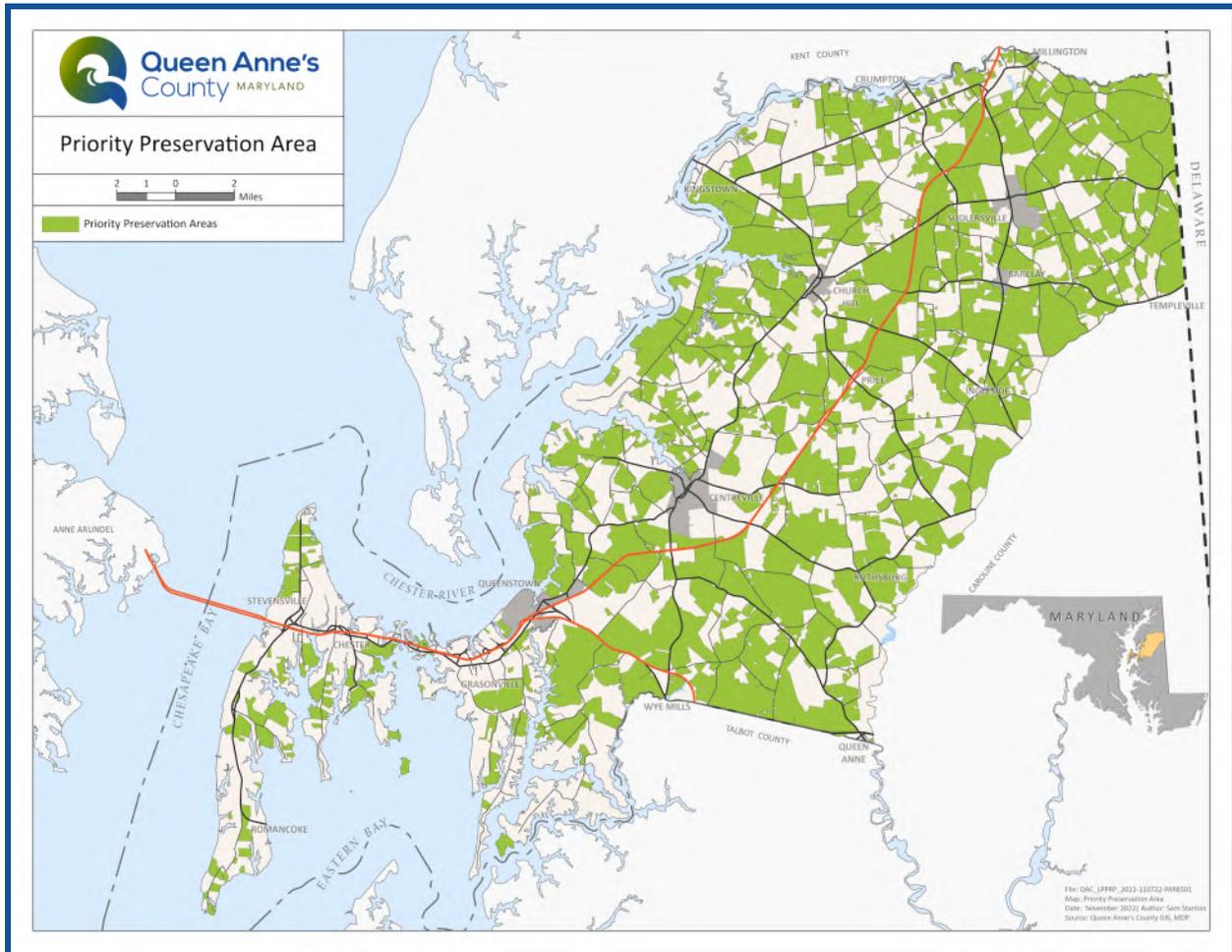
viewscales, and unfragmented forest land and farmland through compact residential design.

- Manage and adequately provide for thoughtful growth that reflects the County's vision. this includes a recommendation to investigate an review opportunities to consolidate zoning categories to better represent existing conditions, allow for more consistent zoning reviews, and assist with managing the effect of infrastructure in the County as well as to identify appropriate opportunities to rezone properties located within Growth Areas in an effort no to further exacerbate inadequate public facilities. See Map I-3 for the County's current Zoning plan.
- Seek to preserve unique community identities including developing a Main Street corridor zoning district to incorporate all zoning districts that have characteristics of a traditional main street that is found within the unincorporated Growth Areas and through mutual agreement, coordinate Municipal Growth Elements (MGE) through meetings between the County and Towns and continued planning and implementation coordination.
- Agricultural Land Preservation that continues to implement Priority Preservation Area strategies and preservation programs (e.g., MALPF, MET CREP). In particular, focus on matching MALP funds from the agricultural transfer tax and continuing to aggressively apply for preservation funding including POS, MALPF, MET, Rural LEgacy Program, CREP, and CRP funds and advocate for larger funding sources for these programs. Additionally, the Plan QAC recommends that relate to LPPRP goals includes conducting analysis of Transfer of Development Rights (TDRS) to Growth Areas and evaluate the County's Noncontiguous Development (NCD) program; support the establishment of greenbelts to define Growth Area boundaries, coordinating with Towns as appropriate and as Growth Areas are finalized in the towns' Municipal growth Elements, promote the designation of greenbelts as part of the County's Priority Preservation Areas (PPAs) as identified on Map I-5.

Map I-4 Queen Anne's County Zoning



Map I-5 Priority Preservation Areas



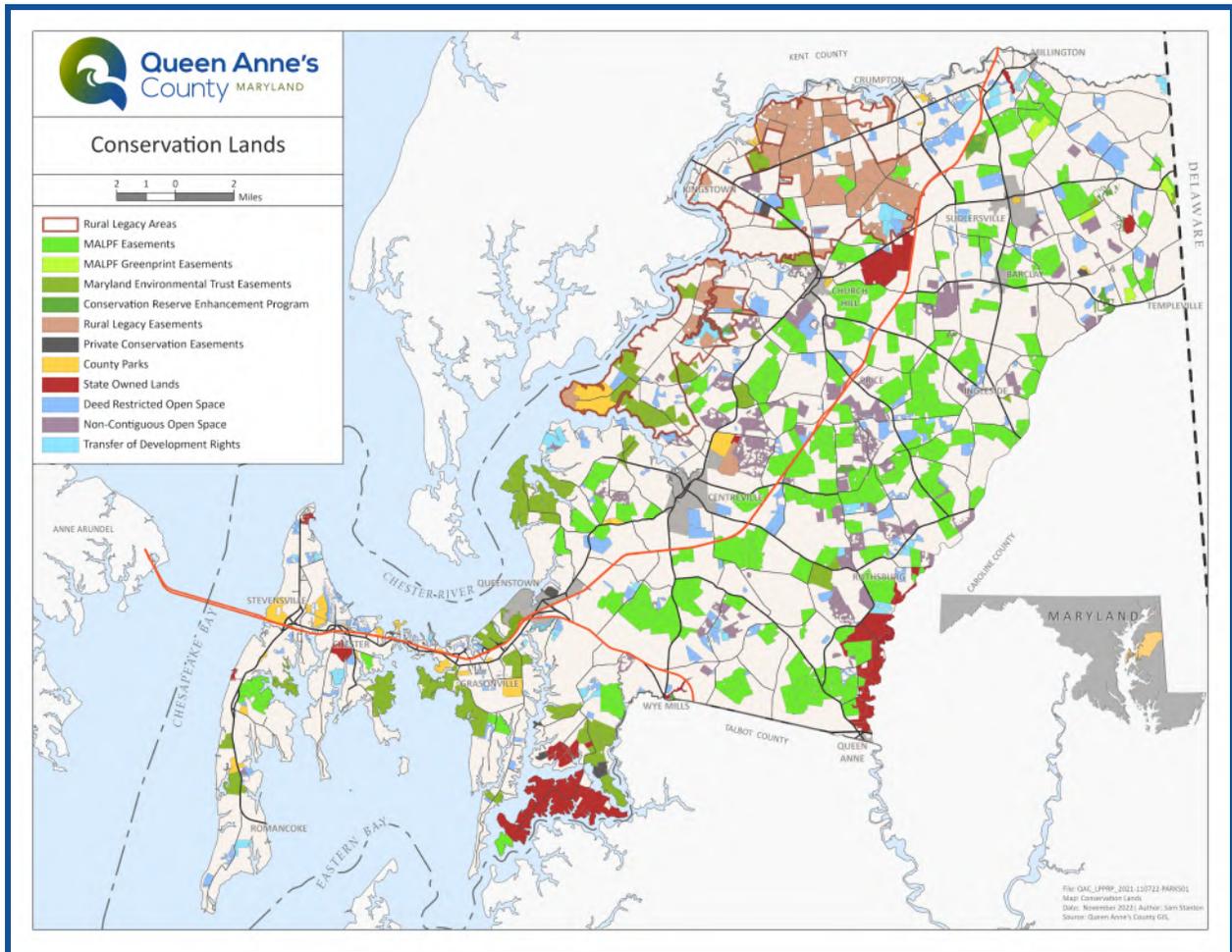
The Plan QAC provides a strategic vision for managing growth and preserving land that correlates with the State's goals for parks, natural resources and agricultural land preservation. These are outlined in further detail in the corresponding chapters following this Framework.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Environmental resources, sensitive areas, water resources, and mineral resources are key components of the County's natural environment, as well as parts of the natural resource-based economy. The County contains 495 miles of shoreline, with wildlife and aquatic habitats, and considerable acreage preserved as County and State parkland, natural areas or open space, agricultural lands, woodlands, wetlands, and a variety of water resources. The land use ethic to preserve natural resources applies sustainable smart growth management strategies, which contribute to the success of maintaining the County as a quintessential rural community through:

- Protection and preservation of sensitive areas and water resources using a variety of land use management tools and techniques;
- Reduction of stormwater runoff through urban and agricultural best management practices (BMPs);
- Reduction of environmental impacts by using best available technology for on-lot septic and public sanitary sewer systems; and
- Protection of quality and quantity of drinking water supplies and through watershed planning.

Map I-6 Queen Anne’s County Conservation Lands



Chesapeake Bay Critical Area

Approximately 41,790 acres of land in the County fall within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. The Critical Area map for the County was updated in 2019. The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area is the lands that lie within 1,000 feet of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries as measured from

the mean high-water line of tidal waters. While development is permitted within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area it is restricted and the majority of the area (97.6%) is designated as a Resource Conservation Area.

Climate Change and Land Preservation

In 2016, the County completed a [Sea Level Rise and Coastal Vulnerability Assessment Plan](#), which identified key vulnerable resources, namely on Kent Island. In 2019, the County continued this analysis through the *County Climate Resilience Planning and Financing Study*, which is ongoing. These documents are designed to guide the protection of valuable infrastructure from the impacts of climate change. Additionally they acknowledge the value that the County places on environmental protection and the importance of protecting the rural quality of life, as well as the economic base provided by agriculture, hunting, tourism, and maritime industries.

Agriculture and the preservation of healthy agricultural land is seen under a new lens in the face of drought and wildfires have become common events in the midwest and western United States. These climate related events heighten the need for healthy agricultural land in the East, making Queen Anne's County a national asset with respect to agricultural production.

The primary climate indicators of concern to Queen Anne's County are: heavy precipitation events, temperature rise, and sea level rise. Heavy precipitation events are sudden, heavy rainfalls that can result in flooded streets, road ways and storm water and sewer systems. Communities where there is dense development are more at risk due to the high volume of previous surface. Rising temperatures will result in a longer growing season, heat waves, and more consecutive days where it does not cool off at night. This can lead to significant public health and safety issues, as well increase the need for more efficient ways of cooling buildings and irrigating crops.



As a County with over 400 miles of coastline, the County's economy and quality of life have historically been linked to its shores, tidal wetlands, farm fields, and the resources of the Chesapeake Bay. Because of its location, low elevations, and dependence on the coast, the County is particularly vulnerable to the effects of Sea Level Rise (SLR), loss of low-lying land and structures, saltwater intrusion into surface water and groundwater, and increased flooding from storm events.

Results of the County's *2016 Sea Level Rise and Coastal Vulnerability Assessment* indicate that inundation from SLR will affect a range of resources, including infrastructure, land use, and natural resources, as well as increase the risk to public safety.

The County has created a working group to identify assets that are considered essential to the County and to draft the County *Climate Resilience Planning and Financing Study*. From this study, resilience action strategies were outlined and prioritized. For the County to move forward and be more resilient regarding climate change, a funding mechanism is needed for implementation, such as those that have been created by other counties in the State.

As of June 2021, Queen Anne’s County has permanently preserved 83,903 acres of land through various programs and has set a preserved land goal of 100,000 acres of land in agricultural production, forestry, or natural resources by 2030. **For total acreage of lands preserved in all programs, see Table 4-3, Comparison of Preservation/ Conservation Lands.** The County’s overarching goal for Priority Preservation is to support and sustain a strong, diversified agricultural community through implementation of preservation and development mechanisms that are equitable to all stakeholders. The vision is to maintain and enhance the County as a good place to work and a great place to live through agricultural and rural preservation for the purpose of:

- Creating a strong, sustainable rural community, full of diversified agricultural opportunities including forest crop, row crop, viticulture, and a wide array of agriculture alternatives;
- Promoting and protecting agriculture through rural preservation that sustains rural values and lifestyles;
- Supporting rural character with small towns, country roads, and open spaces;
- Gaining a larger market share on the East Coast for locally grown agricultural products;
- Retaining and protecting productive farmlands, historic farmsteads, coastal marsh and forested lands, and pristine landscapes throughout the County;
- Creating a greater awareness of the County’s agrarian history through effective preservation policies and agritourism; and
- Advancing specialty farming industries and markets such as agritourism.

Preserving agricultural land is essential to industry viability as the impacts of climate change have been clearly outlined in the 2021 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report. With drought and wildfire dramatically impacting the American West and Midwest, the East Coast will realize a prominent role in ensuring the viability of the American food market. Preserving the County’s prime agricultural soils to support the agricultural industry further solidifies the County’s positioning as a national asset.



The strategies and actions identified in the Plan QAC to address the preservation of land in anticipation of climate change. Many of these goals and strategic recommendations intersect with the land preservation and parks and open goals and strategies outlined in the following chapters of the LPPRP.

The County's future is inextricably linked to the general trend of conserving rural and natural areas and maximizing efficient use of public investments and existing infrastructure by directing new and infill development and redevelopment within the municipalities and other designated growth areas where growth capacity and infrastructure exist. The approach to concentrate growth in and around the municipalities and within community areas with remaining capacity and infrastructure, while preserving agricultural, forested, and other sensitive area lands form the foundation of the intended future land use patterns in the County.

Cultural and Historic Preservation

It is estimated that Queen Anne's County was formed approximately 12,000 years ago, when the Chesapeake Bay was formed following the last ice age, which is when Kent Island was formed. Before the Bay was fully formed and well into the 17th century Kent Island was occupied by indigenous persons. Colonization occurred with the first occupation of an English trader in 1629.



Queen Anne's County is committed to historic preservation as a Smart Growth development tool and a resource for tourism and economic development. It is estimated that over 100,000 archeological sites are located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The County has been part of the Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area since 2005 along with Caroline, Kent, and Talbot counties. Scenic roads and waterways link 21 historic municipalities and many more agricultural and maritime villages. 39

properties are listed in the National Register of historic places, including two districts, Stevensville and Centreville. Until 2015, when Wye Hall in Queenstown was listed, no nominations had been made since 2004; most (21) were listed before 1990. Another 68 properties (buildings and districts) have been determined to be eligible for listing.

The overarching goal for historic and cultural resources is to increase their preservation, including historic sites and districts, and incorporate them—and their stories—into the life, growth, and future of Queen Anne's County. Historic preservation principles, especially encouraging sensitive adaptive use of historic structures, will reinforce the County's efforts to

encourage beneficial growth, arts and entertainment districts, and community resilience to cope with sea level rise and other impacts of climate change.

Plan QAC also provides goals, strategies and recommendations regarding the County's vision for cultural and historic preservation that intersect with the LPPRP. These include continuing to build public appreciation for the County's historic and archaeological resources and its deep and varied history to ensure greater knowledge of those resources and their role in the County's heritage tourism/ In addition Plan QAC recommends minimizing the loss of historic and archeological sites and enhancing information maintained on sites, landmarks, cemeteries, archaeological sites, and scenic byways. Historic and archaeological preservation align closely with the role of parks and land preservation.



OVERVIEW OF PARKS SYSTEM

Queen Anne's County's Parks system comprises more than 3,125 acres of recreation land, 4,600 acres of State and local recreation land and approximately 300 acres of Board of Education recreation lands add to the open lands for recreational opportunities available to users. These land and park facilities are depicted on the following map titled – Queen Anne's County Park and Recreational Facilities.

On-and off-road trail routes link to the County's parks, landings, historical and cultural points of interest, villages, and towns. Since construction of the County's network of pedestrian, water, and bicycle trails began more than two decades ago, interest in non-motorized, alternative transportation routes has grown in the County. Not only are residents and visitors seeking recreational, sporting, and health related opportunities, these routes offer alternative routes to avoid car back-ups created by seasonal traffic or Bay Bridge backups.

This County has a strong commitment to providing public waterway access and maintains 18 public landing locations. The County's Public Landings Division also manages and maintains three County-owned marinas: Waterman's Heritage Marina, Little Creek Marina, and the Centreville Wharf Marina. The public landings are extremely popular and provide residents and tourists with outlets to the Chesapeake Bay for recreational and commercial purposes.

The County provides a variety of facilities, programs, camps, classes, trips, and special events for all ages. In addition to the ongoing need for recreational facilities and programs for youth,

there is an increasing desire among aging residents for recreation opportunities, healthy activities, and open space.

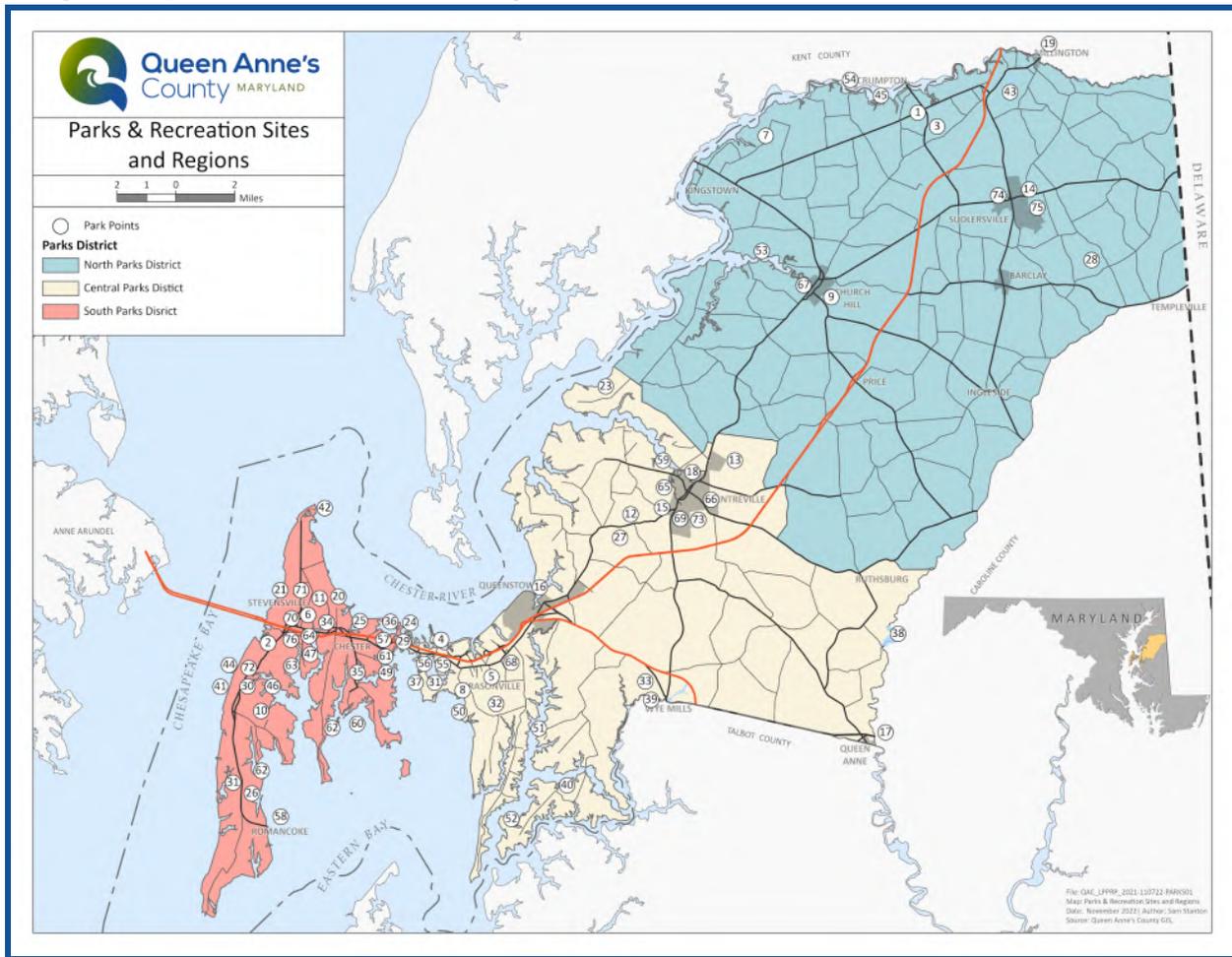
Additionally, the need for ADA compliant and inclusive facilities throughout the County was highlighted in the Plan QAC. Approximately 4.9% of the County's total population under the age of 18 has a disability, including difficulties with hearing, vision, cognition, ambulatory activities and self-care. Establishing a standard of inclusive recreation can help the County to maintain a true feeling of community and connectedness.

The Plan QAC identified the following recommendations specific to the LPPRP:

- Promote the economic, cultural, health, and environmental benefits of outdoor recreation and conservation of natural lands. Seek to increase the public's understanding of these benefits to enhance interest and participation in recreating outdoors in the County.
- Increase and improve opportunities for all segments of the population to access land and water based outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Expand the County's trail system to connect towns and recreation areas.
- Promote the economic, cultural, health, and environmental benefits of outdoor recreation and conservation of natural lands. Seek to increase the public's understanding of these benefits to enhance interest and participation in recreating outdoors in the County.
- Increase and improve opportunities for all segments of the population to access land and water based outdoor recreation opportunities.



Map I-7 Queen Anne's County Parks & Recreation Sites



Neighborhood Parks		19	Millington Park	State Facilities		57	Kent Narrows Landing
1	Crumpton Park	Countywide Special Use		38	Tuckahoe State Park	58	Romancoke Pier
2	Mowbray Park	20	Davidson Park	39	Wye Mills Lake	59	Centreville Landing
3	Pinkney Park	21	Terrapin Nature Park	40	Wye Island Natural Resource Area	60	Dominion Marina
4	Long Point Park	22	Blue Heron Golf Course/Driving Range	41	DNR Headquarters/Matapeake Park	61	Watermans Boat Basin
5	Ewing Pond Park	23	Conquest Preserve	42	Langenfelder Property	62	Shipping Creek Landing
6	Stevensville Park	24	Chesapeake Heritage/Visitors Center4	43	Unicorn Lake	63	Thompson Creek Landing
Community Parks		25	Cross Island/Kent Island Trail	County Landings and Piers		Board of Education	
7	Round Top Park	26	Blue Heron Nature Preserve	44	Matapeake Pier & Landing	64	Bayside Elementary School
8	Grasonville Park	27	4-H Park	45	Crumpton Landing	65	Centreville Elementary School
9	Church Hill Park	28	Slaby Property	46	Warehouse Creek Landing	66	Centreville Middle School
10	Batts Neck Park	29	Ferry Point Park 4	47	Browns Landing	67	Church Hill Elementary School
11	Old Love Point Park	30	Matapeake Clubhouse & Public Beach5	48	Little Creek Landing	68	Grasonville Elementary School
12	Rt 18 Park	31	Waterman Environmental Area	49	Goodhand Creek Landing	69	Kennard Elementary School
13	White Marsh Park	32	Kudner Property	50	Cabin Creek Landing	70	Kent Island Elementary School
14	Sudlersville Park	33	Chesapeake College	51	Bryantown Landing	71	Kent Island High School
Town Parks		34	Kent Island Dog Park	52	Bennett Point Landing	72	Matapeake Elem/Middle Schools
15	Mill Stream Park	35	Kirwin Creek Property	53	Southeast Creek Landing	73	Queen Anne's High School
16	Queenstown Park	36	Piney Creek Nature Area	54	Deep Landing	74	Sudlersville Elementary School
17	Roosevelt Park	Privately Owned Facilities		55	Jackson Creek Landing	75	Sudlersville Middle School
18	Centreville Wharf Park	37	Wildfowl Trust of America (CBEC)	56	Wells Cove Landing	76	Stevensville Middle School

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Queen Anne’s County has experienced steady growth between 2010 and 2020, and this trend is projected to continue, especially within the County’s Targeted Growth Areas. As is the case with much of the Eastern Shore, the age group that is experiencing the greatest increase are those 45 and older.

Overall, Queen Anne’s is a relatively affluent County when compared with many of her neighbors on the Eastern Shore, with a median household income of \$96,467, approximately 10.8% percent higher than the State median of \$87,063 and the highest of the five mid shore counties. The racial makeup of the County remains predominantly white with a slight decline in both the White and Black populations and a slight increase among Asians and those classified as Other. Additionally, there has been a small, steady increase of 4.8% of the County’s Hispanic population.

Queen Anne’s residents are generally well educated and employed with the majority (93.2%) having graduated from high school compared with the State’s rate of 90.6%. These rates have increased steadily in the County. At the same time the percentage of persons with no high school diploma decreased from 10.3% in 2010 to 6.8% in 2020. Unemployment rates have declined steadily since 2011 to 3.6% during the last quarter of 2020.

POPULATION GROWTH & DISTRIBUTION

According to the MDP Queen Anne’s County had a population of 50,810 residents in 2020. This is a 6.3% increase since 2010. It is projected that the population will increase by an additional 27.2% to 64,650 by 2045. Furthermore, it is projected that the growth rates for the 2020 - 2045 period will be highest in the County’s targeted growth areas of Stevensville (27%), Centreville (21.2%), Chester (11.6%), Grasonville (10.5%) while growth will be steady but significantly slower in the more rural areas of the county.

Table I-3 Queen Anne's County Population Projections

Year	Population	Percent Change in Population		
		Since 2010	Since 2015	Since 2020
2010	47,798	NA	NA	NA
2015	48,480	1.4%	NA	NA
2020	50,810	6.3%	4.8%	NA
2025*	53,430	11.8%	10.2%	5.2%
2030*	56,320	17.8%	16.2%	10.8%
2035*	59,530	24.5%	22.8%	17.2%
2040*	62,040	29.8%	28.0%	22.1%
2045*	64,650	35.3%	33.4%	27.2%

Source: Maryland Department of Planning
 *Indicates projections published December 2020

Table I-2 Queen Anne's County Population by Zip Code, 2020

Zip Code	Population	% of population
21607	770	1.5%
21617	10,570	21.2%
21619	5,789	11.6%
21623	2,248	4.5%
21628	324	0.6%
21638	5,227	10.5%
21644	78	0.2%
21651	2,683	5.4%
21657	727	1.5%
21658	4,177	8.4%
21666	13,463	27.0%
21668	1,763	3.5%
Balance of County	2,055	4.1%
Total	49,874	100.0%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey



AGE

The County's population is growing and aging simultaneously. Between 2010 and 2020 the greatest increases occurred in the 75+, 65-74, and 45-54 years old groups. MDP projections from 2020 to 2045 suggest that this trend will continue. By 2045 MDP projects that 37.1% of the population will be 55+.

Table I-4 Queen Anne's County Population Estimates and Projections by Age

	Years of Age										
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
2010	2,711	3,227	3,334	3,211	2,256	4,341	6,709	8,444	6,424	4,265	2,876
2015	2,335	3,001	3,397	3,026	2,067	4,823	5,523	8,291	7,431	5,314	3,269
2020	2,479	2,697	3,234	3,181	2,295	5,057	5,720	7,147	8,666	6,011	4,324
2025*	2,796	2,887	2,914	3,045	2,496	5,110	6,884	6,081	8,668	7,129	5,421
2030*	3,099	3,265	3,135	2,759	2,462	5,667	7,286	6,379	7,498	8,290	6,480
2035*	3,390	3,631	3,555	2,976	2,260	5,924	7,532	7,669	6,411	8,255	7,923
2040*	3,552	3,905	3,921	3,349	2,354	5,562	8,254	8,080	6,737	7,132	9,190
2045*	3,619	4,134	4,237	3,709	2,722	5,459	8,471	8,347	8,104	6,111	9,732

Source: Maryland Department of Planning

*Indicates projections published December 2020

Table I-5 Queen Anne's County Percent Population Estimates and Projections by Age

	Years of Age										
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
2010	5.7%	6.8%	7.0%	6.7%	4.7%	9.1%	14.0%	17.7%	13.4%	8.9%	6.0%
2015	4.8%	6.2%	7.0%	6.2%	4.3%	9.9%	11.4%	17.1%	15.3%	11.0%	6.7%
2020	4.9%	5.3%	6.4%	6.3%	4.5%	10.0%	11.3%	14.1%	17.1%	11.8%	8.5%
2025*	5.2%	5.4%	5.5%	5.7%	4.7%	9.6%	12.9%	11.4%	16.2%	13.3%	10.1%
2030*	5.5%	5.8%	5.6%	4.9%	4.4%	10.1%	12.9%	11.3%	13.3%	14.7%	11.5%
2035*	5.7%	6.1%	6.0%	5.0%	3.8%	10.0%	12.7%	12.9%	10.8%	13.9%	13.3%
2040*	5.7%	6.3%	6.3%	5.4%	3.8%	9.0%	13.3%	13.0%	10.9%	11.5%	14.8%
2045*	5.6%	6.4%	6.6%	5.7%	4.2%	8.4%	13.1%	12.9%	12.5%	9.5%	15.1%

Source: Maryland Department of Planning

*Indicates projections published December 2020

RACE

The racial composition of Queen Anne’s County demonstrates changes since 2010, with the actual White population growing slightly from 41,747 to 42,290 but decreasing 4.1% as a percentage of the overall population. Over the same period of time, the State of Maryland demonstrated a decrease in the percentage of the population who are White, from 59.6% to 47.2% of the total

population. Between 2010 and 2020, the number of Black residents decreased from 3,363 to 2,811, as well as decreasing as a percentage for the total population from 7.2% in 2010 to 5.6% in 2020. Increases have occurred among the Asian population from 342 to 589 residents. Those who identified as Asian represented .7% of the total population in 2010 and 1.2% in 2020. Additionally, the number of residents identifying as Some Other Race and 2 or More Races also increased both in overall numbers and in percent of the total population. In 2010 2.7% of the population identified as Hispanic or Latino, as compared to 5.1% in 2020. In actual numbers, those identifying as Hispanic or Latino grew from 1,267 in 2010 to 2,538 in 2020.

School enrollment demonstrates that the racial makeup in Queen Anne’s County’s younger generations are also changing. In 2020, 84.8% of the total population identified as White while 78.1% of the school’s enrollment was White. In 2020, 5.1% of the County’s overall population identified as Hispanic and 9.4% of the school enrollment was Hispanic.

Table I-6 Population by Race Queen Anne's County and State of Maryland

Race/Ethnicity	Queen Anne's						State of Maryland					
	2010		2015		2020		2010		2015		2020	
Total population	46,945	% Pop	48,600	% Pop	49,874	% Pop	5,696,423	% Pop	5,930,538	% Pop	6,177,224	% Pop
White	41,747	88.9%	43,539	89.6%	42,290	84.8%	3,396,216	59.6%	3,416,107	57.6%	2,913,782	47.2%
Black or African American	3,363	7.2%	3,600	7.4%	2,811	5.6%	1,665,235	29.2%	1,750,916	29.5%	1,795,027	29.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	164	0.3%	25	0.1%	156	0.3%	16,213	0.3%	15,579	0.3%	12,055	0.2%
Asian	342	0.7%	423	0.9%	589	1.2%	304,574	5.3%	357,616	6.0%	417,962	6.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	30	0.1%	19	0.0%	2,977	0.1%	2,754	0.0%	2,575	0.0%
Some other race	696	1.5%	219	0.5%	1,269	2.5%	178,952	3.1%	211,914	3.6%	35,314	0.6%
2 or more races	633	1.3%	754	1.6%	2,740	5.5%	132,256	2.3%	175,652	3.0%	270,764	4.4%
Not Hispanic or Latino	45,678	97.3%	46,961	96.6%	47,336	94.9%	5,266,477	92.5%	5,396,867	91.0%	5,447,479	88.2%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,267	2.7%	1,639	3.4%	2,538	5.1%	429,946	7.5%	533,671	9.0%	729,745	11.8%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Table I-7 School Enrollment Disaggregated by Race Queen Anne's County Public Schools vs. Queen Anne's County Demographics

Race/Ethnicity	QACPS Student Enrollment		Queen Anne's County		Difference %
	Count	% Pop	Count	% Pop	
Total population	7,764	% Pop	49,874	% Pop	
White	6,060	78.1%	42,290	84.8%	-8.0%
Black or African American	442	5.7%	2,811	5.6%	1.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	12	0.2%	156	0.3%	-50.6%
Asian	88	1.1%	589	1.2%	-4.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	19	0.0%	0.0%
Some other race	0	0.0%	1,269	2.5%	-100.0%
2 or more races	427	5.5%	2,740	5.5%	0.1%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	730	9.4%	2,538	5.1%	84.8%

Source: Maryland Report Card

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS

Median household income in Queen Anne’s County has remained higher than that of its neighboring counties as well as the State. Per capita income for Queen Anne’s has increased at a steady rate. Queen Anne’s has experienced a steady decline in the percent of persons below

Table I-8 Income Characteristics of the Midshore

Location	Median Income				Per Capita Income				Percent Below Poverty Level			
	2015	2017	2020	Change	2015	2017	2020	Change	2015	2017	2020	Change
Caroline County	\$52,465	\$52,469	\$59,042	13%	\$24,943	\$25,355	\$29,814	20%	15.8%	16.5%	13.3%	-15.8%
Dorchester County	\$47,093	\$50,532	\$52,799	12%	\$27,870	\$28,911	\$29,860	7%	16.5%	15.4%	16.2%	-1.8%
Kent County	\$58,147	\$56,638	\$60,208	4%	\$30,081	\$32,217	\$37,699	25%	11.2%	13.1%	11.0%	-1.8%
Queen Anne’s County	\$85,963	\$89,241	\$96,467	12%	\$38,733	\$40,553	\$45,228	17%	7.5%	6.4%	6.2%	-17.3%
Talbot County	\$58,228	\$65,595	\$73,102	26%	\$38,317	\$44,785	\$49,193	28%	11.2%	10.0%	8.7%	-22.3%
Maryland	\$74,551	\$78,916	\$87,063	17%	\$36,897	\$39,070	\$43,352	17%	10.0%	9.7%	9.0%	-10.0%

Source: US Census Bureau American Community Survey

the poverty level, outpaced only by Talbot County.

EMPLOYMENT

In general, Queen Anne’s has experienced a trend of steady decline in unemployment rates. Queen Anne’s Unemployment rates jumped to 7.2% in the second quarter of 2020 with the impact of the COVID-19 shutdowns, but rebounded to 3.6% in the 4th quarter of 2021, showing an overall one year decline in unemployment of .7%, from 2.9% in the 4th quarter of 2019.

Table I-9 Unemployment Rate for Population 16 Years and Over

Locale	2011	2013	2015	2017	2020	Change 2011 - 2020
Maryland	7.3%	8.2%	7.4%	6.1%	5.20%	-29%
Dorchester	6.7%	7.1%	5.3%	3.7%	3.1%	-54%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Table I-10 Queen Anne's County Local Area Unemployment Statistics

2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021 Q1	2021 Q2	2021 Q3	2021 Q4
2.9%	4.3%	7.1%	4.4%	4.1%	4.4%	5.2%	4.3%	3.6%

Source: Maryland Department of Labor

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Educational attainment rates in 2020 in the County indicate the majority (93.2%) have a high school diploma or higher, including 36.5% who have a Bachelor's degree or higher but still lag behind the state rate of 40.9%. Within the 18-24 year old population, the percentage who have attained some college or higher increased from 40.6% to 57.7%.

Table I-11 Educational Attainment for Population 18-24 Years Old

Educational Attainment	Queen Anne's			Maryland		
	2010	2015	2020	2010	2015	2020
Less Than High School Graduate	21.1%	13.6%	9.4%	14.5%	12.0%	11.4%
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	38.4%	34.7%	36.2%	31.7%	29.1%	30.9%
Some College or Associate's Degree	31.5%	40.8%	37.0%	41.0%	46.2%	43.1%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	9.1%	10.9%	17.4%	12.9%	12.7%	14.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Communities Survey

Table I-12 Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over

Highest Level of Educational Attainment	Queen Anne's			Maryland		
	2010	2015	2020	2010	2015	2020
No High School Diploma	10.3%	8.7%	6.8%	12.2%	10.7%	9.5%
High School Graduate (includes equivalency)	30.4%	29.9%	29.0%	26.4%	25.5%	24.2%
Some College, No Degree	22.2%	18.7%	19.6%	19.3%	19.5%	18.7%
Associate's Degree	7.5%	7.8%	8.2%	6.3%	6.4%	6.8%
Bachelor's Degree	18.2%	21.6%	21.5%	19.8%	20.6%	21.8%
Graduate or Professional Degree	11.4%	13.4%	14.9%	16.0%	17.3%	19.1%
High School Graduate or Higher	89.7%	91.4%	93.2%	87.8%	89.4%	90.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	29.6%	34.9%	36.5%	35.7%	37.9%	40.9%

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The 2022 LPPRP is guided by State planning principles that take into account the following factors and are discussed more fully in the County's Plan QAC: Quality of Life & Sustainability, Public Participation, Growth Areas, Community Design, Infrastructure, Transportation, Housing, Economic Development.

The Plan QAC reiterates the County's Vision of preservation of the County as a quintessential rural community whose overall character exemplifies it as:

- **A Great Place to Live** - Queen Anne's County is a predominantly rural county with small towns connected by creeks and county roads through fields and forests.
- **A Good Place to Work** - Queen Anne's County encourages agriculture, seafood and maritime industries, tourism and outdoor sports, and small business and high-tech enterprise.

- **A Good Neighbor** - Queen Anne's County is a faithful steward of its natural and cultural heritage for the Chesapeake Bay and other Eastern Shore counties.
- **A Proactive Community** - Queen Anne's County supports the highest quality of education for its citizens, seeking to fully prepare them for the future.

The LPPRP is one of a series of plans and documents that form the County's Planning program and will serve as a guide with respect to parks, recreational programs, agricultural preservation, open space and natural resource protection. The LPPRP has been prepared to be consistent with the Plan QAC and overall community vision of Queen Anne's County.

Along with the Comprehensive Plan, the 2022 LPPRP serves to strengthen the County's long-standing principles guiding growth management policies and recommendations. Support for creating sustainable communities consistent with the 2030 vision for the County, and Maryland's smart growth goals and objectives continue to drive the appropriate use for the land in Queen Anne's County.



CHAPTER II RECREATION, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This chapter serves to establish priorities for land acquisition, facility development and rehabilitation within Queen Anne’s County’s Park system. These priorities were set using information gathered through a Parks User Demand Analysis, Community Survey and outreach, combined with Proximity & Equity Analysis of existing parks and open spaces in the County’s inventory. This information was reviewed in relation to the 2022 Queen Anne’s County Comprehensive Plan and State goals and policies for recreation and parks.

Overarching Concepts for Land Preservation & Recreation

The County’s physical features, demographics, and planning framework have implications for land preservation and recreation policies. Overarching concepts outlined in the PlanQAC 2022, the updated comprehensive plan for the County, are as follows:

- Accessibility of quality recreational environments
- Strategic use of facilities as amenities to communities
- Use of federal and State investments to complement other goals
- Establish recreation land and facilities located in proximity to population centers
- Invest in neighborhood and community parks and facilities
- Create new recreational open space and protect existing recreational open space at appropriate levels compared to developed land.

PARK LAND AND RECREATION INVENTORY

Table II-1 includes the combined inventory of county, state and local parks and open spaces. This inventory includes 76 parks and open space parcels totalling 8,092.1 acres. A detailed inventory with additional information about parks and open space parcels can be found in Appendix B.

State Lands represents combined recreation lands and wildlife management areas and represents more than half of the parks and open space lands in the County. The remaining acreage is made up of County-owned parks, Board of Education lands, and municipally owned parks and open spaces including neighborhood parks, community parks, town parks, and special use parks are public lands.

Map II-1 on the following page, provides a snapshot of the 76 parcels included in this inventory. These parks and open spaces offer a variety of features and amenities at each location, including athletic fields and sport courts, picnic facilities, playgrounds, trails and paths, and public landings/water access. It also includes natural resources and agriculturally preserved lands.

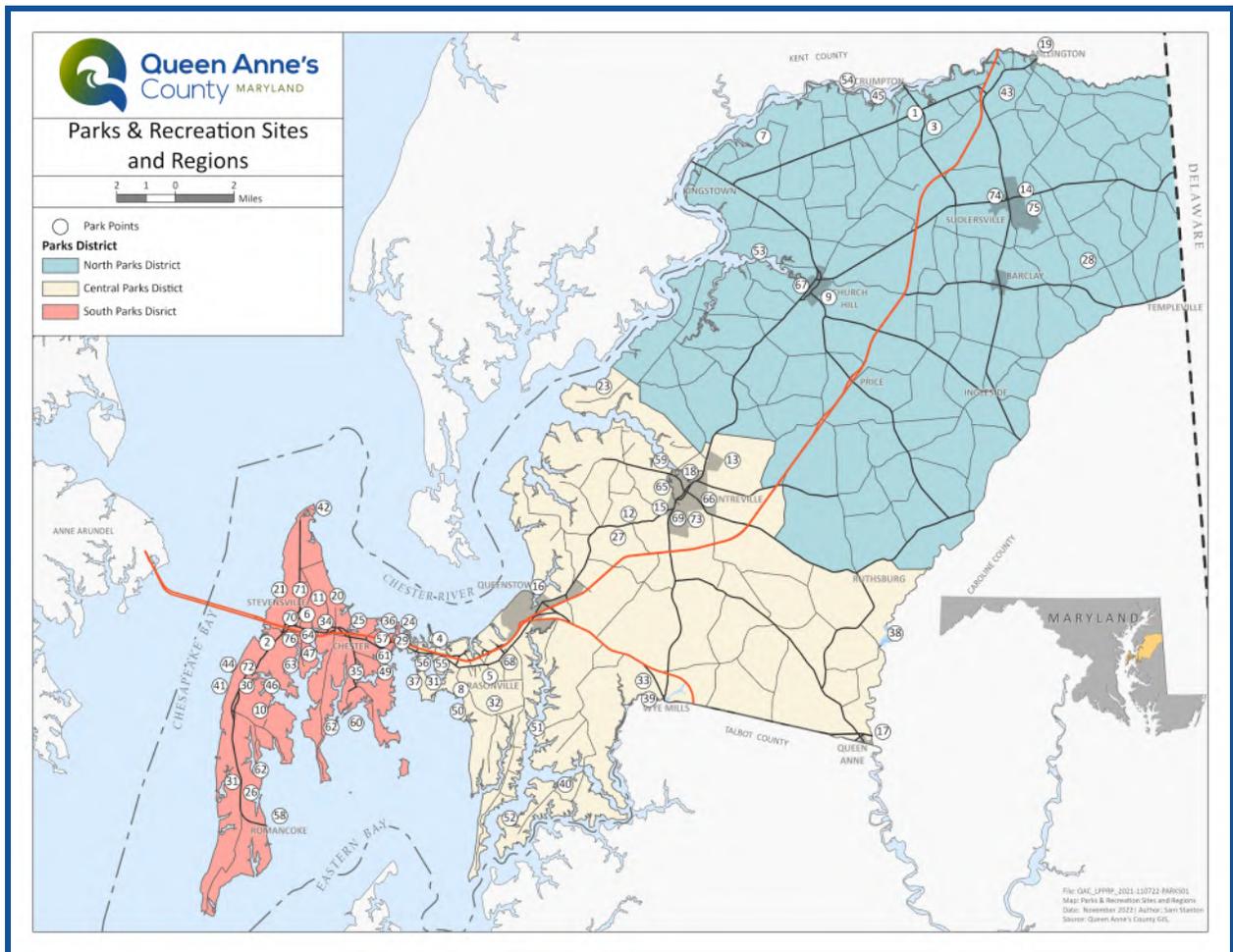
Queen Anne’s County Parks & Recreation manages and maintains its parks in three service areas which correspond to Maps II-2 through Map-5 on pages II-4 - II-6. Each service area includes one or more of the park types identified in the legend for Map II-1 and explained in more detail on page 7. From neighborhood parks located in municipalities to larger special use properties, the County offers a diverse network of parks and open spaces.

In addition, the County maintains 20 public landings and two marinas located along the waterways on the western side of the County including the Chesapeake Bay, the Chester River and other smaller streams and tributaries.

Table II-1 Recreation Land by Park Type in Acres

Type of Park	Land in Acres
Local Recreation and Resource Lands Total	
Neighborhood Parks	108.8
Community Parks	686.2
Town Parks	15.9
Countywide Special Use	2,289.9
Privately Owned Facilities	255.4
Total Acres	3,356.2
State Recreation and Resource Lands Total	
State Lands	4,415.5
Total Acres	4,415.5
Quasi Public Recreation and Resource Lands Total	
Board of Education	320.4
Total Acres	320.4
Total Recreation and Resource Lands	8,092.1

Map II-1 Queen Anne's County Parks & Recreation Sites



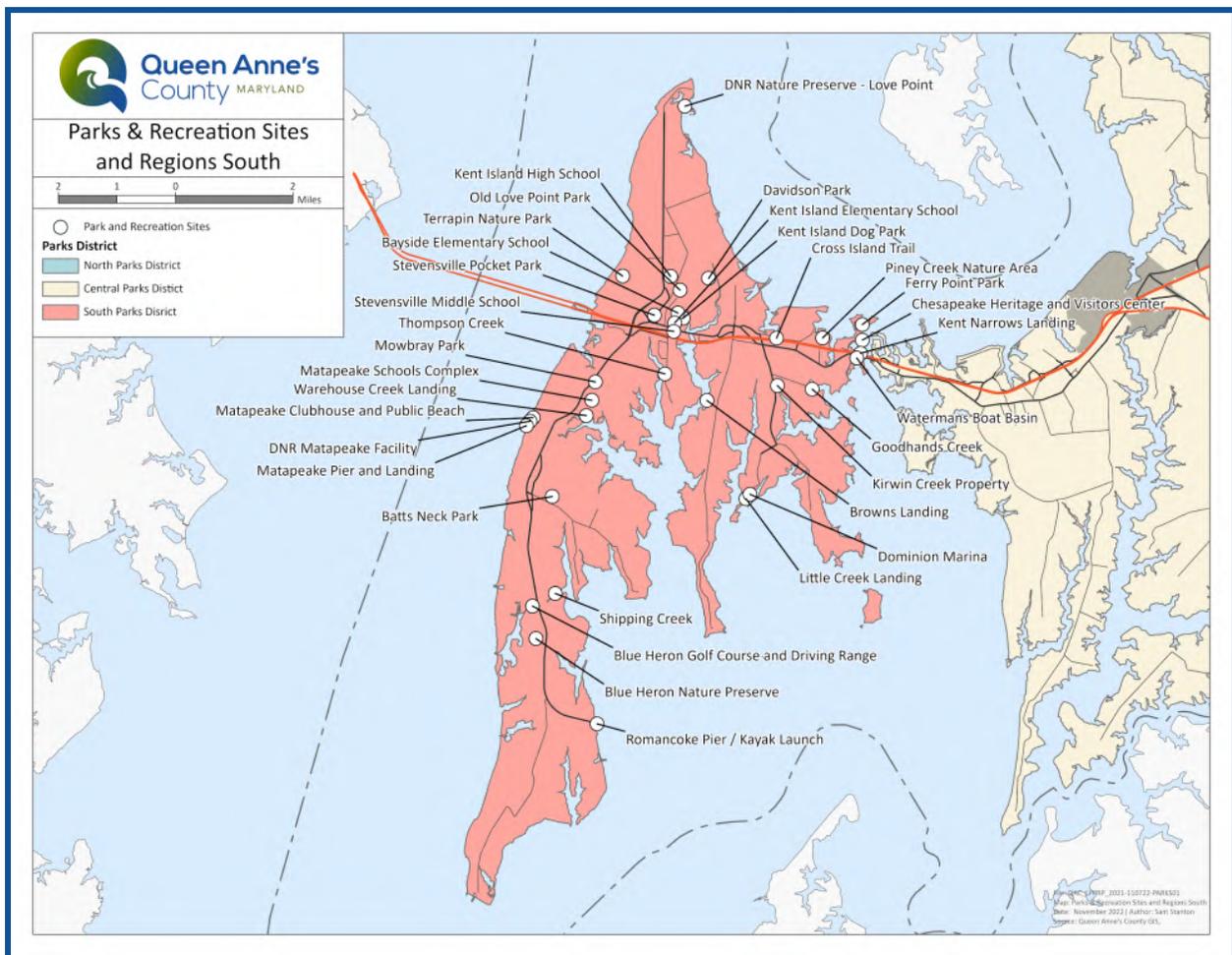
<i>Neighborhood Parks</i>		19	Millington Park	<i>State Facilities</i>		57	Kent Narrows Landing
1	Crumpton Park	<i>Countywide Special Use</i>		38	Tuckahoe State Park	58	Romancoke Pier
2	Mowbray Park	20	Davidson Park	39	Wye Mills Lake	59	Centreville Landing
3	Pinkney Park	21	Terrapin Nature Park	40	Wye Island Natural Resource Area	60	Dominion Marina
4	Long Point Park	22	Blue Heron Golf Course/Driving Range	41	DNR Headquarters/Matapeake Park	61	Watermans Boat Basin
5	Ewing Pond Park	23	Conquest Preserve	42	Langenfelder Property	62	Shipping Creek Landing
6	Stevensville Park	24	Chesapeake Heritage/Visitors Center4	43	Unicorn Lake	63	Thompson Creek Landing
<i>Community Parks</i>		25	Cross Island/Kent Island Trail	<i>County Landings and Piers</i>		<i>Board of Education</i>	
7	Round Top Park	26	Blue Heron Nature Preserve	44	Matapeake Pier & Landing	64	Bayside Elementary School
8	Grasonville Park	27	4-H Park	45	Crumpton Landing	65	Centreville Elementary School
9	Church Hill Park	28	Slaby Property	46	Warehouse Creek Landing	66	Centreville Middle School
10	Batts Neck Park	29	Ferry Point Park 4	47	Browns Landing	67	Church Hill Elementary School
11	Old Love Point Park	30	Matapeake Clubhouse & Public Beach5	48	Little Creek Landing	68	Grasonville Elementary School
12	Rt 18 Park	31	Waterman Environmental Area	49	Goodhand Creek Landing	69	Kennard Elementary School
13	White Marsh Park	32	Kudner Property	50	Cabin Creek Landing	70	Kent Island Elementary School
14	Sudlersville Park	33	Chesapeake College	51	Bryantown Landing	71	Kent Island High School
<i>Town Parks</i>		34	Kent Island Dog Park	52	Bennett Point Landing	72	Matapeake Elem/Middle Schools
15	Mill Stream Park	35	Kirwin Creek Property	53	Southeast Creek Landing	73	Queen Anne's High School
16	Queenstown Park	36	Piney Creek Nature Area	54	Deep Landing	74	Sudlersville Elementary School
17	Roosevelt Park	<i>Privately Owned Facilities</i>		55	Jackson Creek Landing	75	Sudlersville Middle School
18	Centreville Wharf Park	37	Wildfowl Trust of America (CBEC)	56	Wells Cove Landing	76	Stevensville Middle School

South Queen Anne's County Service Area

The South Queen Anne's Service Area, made up of Kent Island is the most densely populated part of the County and contains the largest number of parks properties including two Neighborhood Parks (Mowbray and Stevensville), one Community Park (Batts Neck) and one Town Park (Roosevelt Park). There are nine Countywide Special Use Parks including Blue Heron Golf Course, Cross Island & Kent Island Trails, Matapeake Clubhouse & Public Beach, Chesapeake Heritage/Visitors Center, and Ferry Point Park as well as natural resource related spaces at Terrapin Nature Park, Blue Heron Nature Preserve, and Piney Creek Nature Area.. Also included is Davidson Park, currently undeveloped open space.

Also in the Southern Service Area are 12 of the 20 public landings in the County including Matapeake Pier & Landing, Warehouse Creek Landing, Browns Landing, Little Creek Landing, Goodhand Creek Landing, Wells Cove Landing, Kent Narrows Landing, Romancoke Pier, Dominion Marina, Waterman's Boat Basin, Shipping Creek Landing, and Thompson Creek Landing.

Map II-2 South Queen Anne's County Service Area



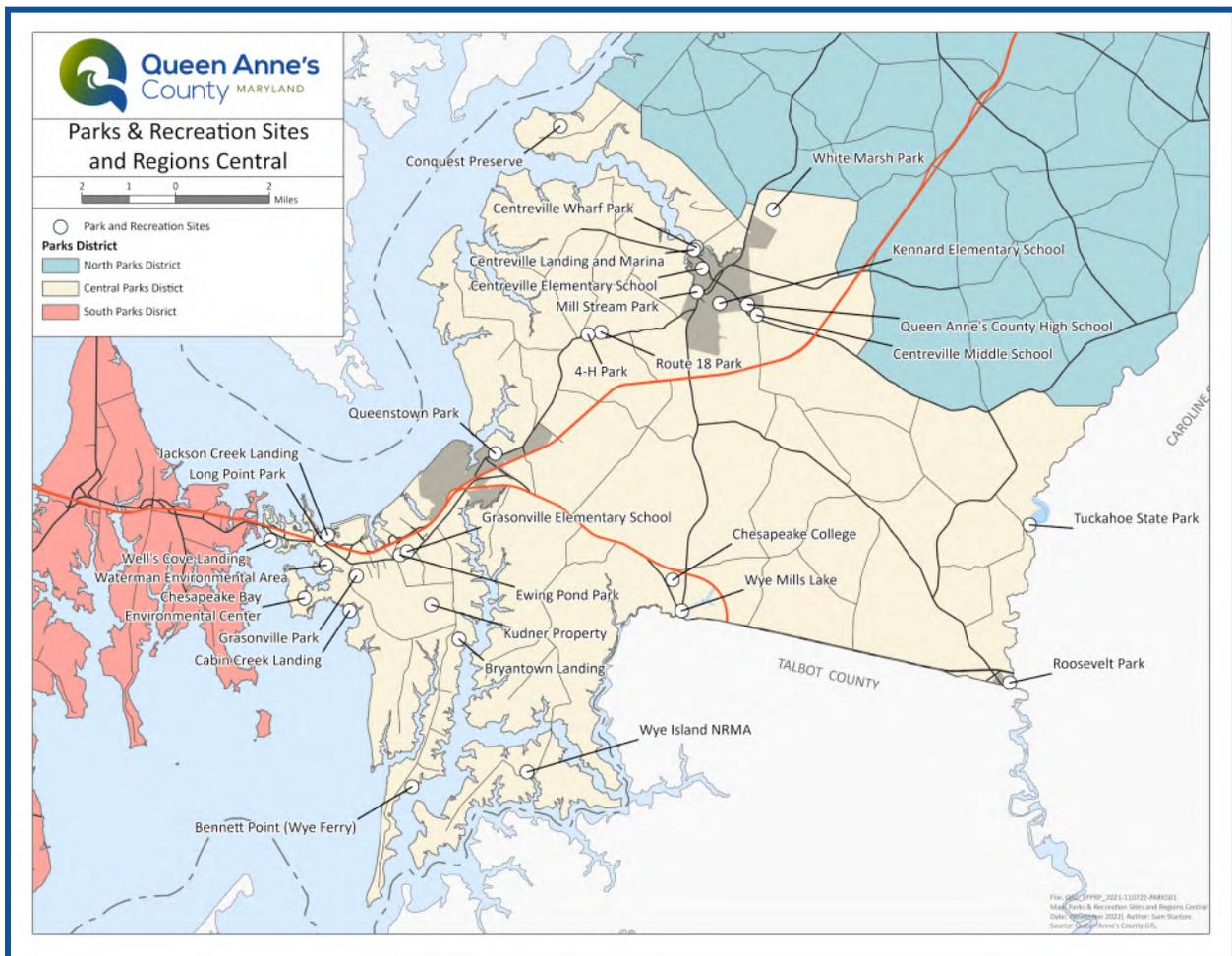
Central Queen Anne's County Service Area

The Central County Service Area includes two Neighborhood Parks (Long Point and Ewing Parks), three Community Parks (Grasonville, Route 18 Park, White Marsh Park) and three Town Parks (Mill Stream Park, Queenstown Park and White Marsh Park.) Conquest Preserve and the 4-H Park are Countywide Special Use parks in the central part of the County.

There are also five public landings in the Central Service Area, Cabin Creek, Bryantown and Bennet Point, Jackson Creek, and Centreville Landings.

Additionally, the County owns a parcel of land referred to as the Kudner Property in the Central Service Area. This is currently undeveloped open space.

Map II-3 Central Queen Anne's County Service Area

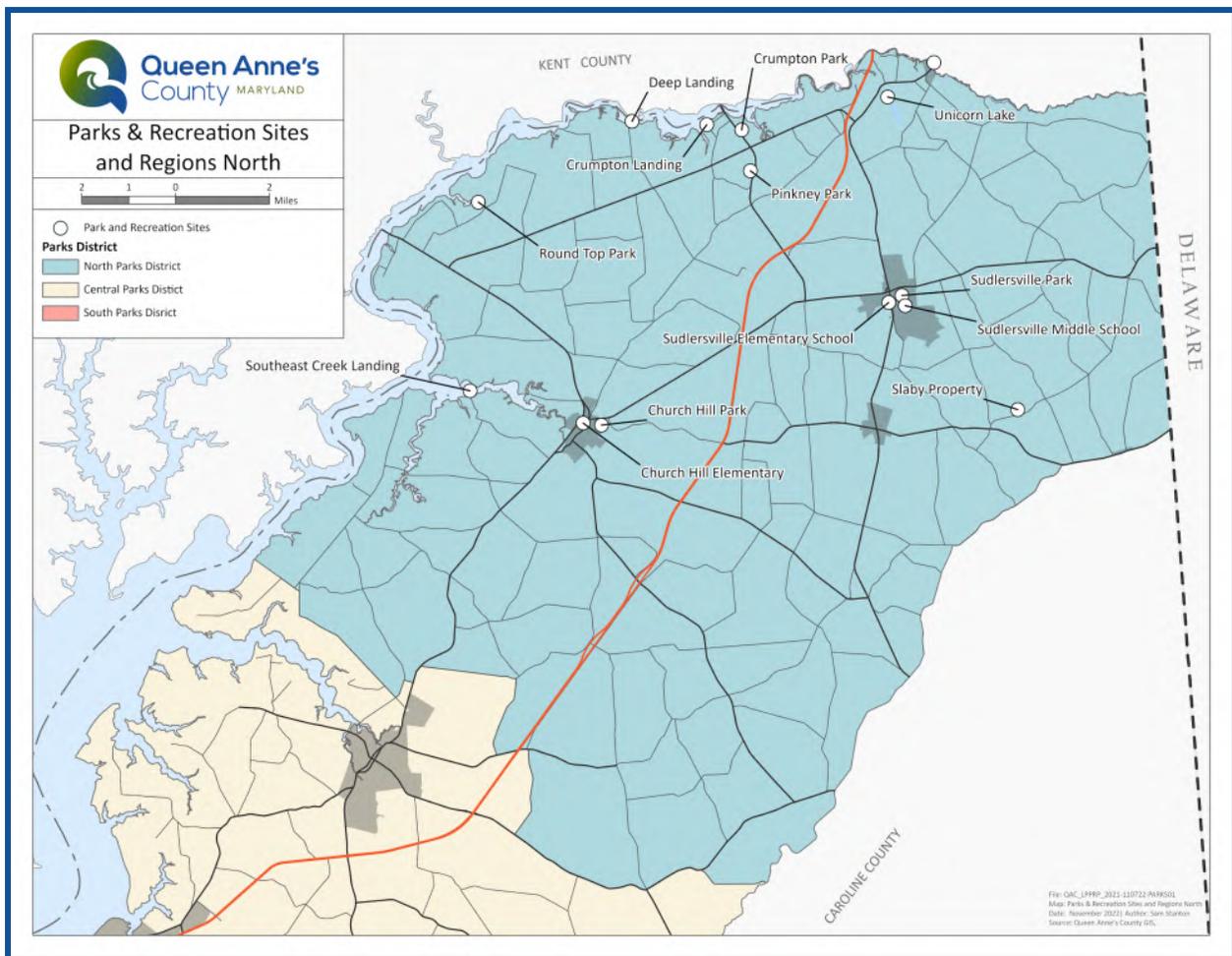


North Queen Anne's County Service Area

The North Service Area covers the largest geographic area, however it is the least populated and has the fewest parks properties in the inventory. There are two Neighborhood Parks, (Crumpton and Pinkney) in the northwest quadrant of the county, three Community Parks (Round Top Park, Church Hill Park, and Sudlersville Park) and one Town Park located in Millington. The only Countywide Special Use property in the North Service Area is referred to as the Slaby Property and is undeveloped open space.

There are three landings in the North Service Area, Southeast Creek Landing, Deep Landing and Crumpton Landing.

Map II-4 North Queen Anne's County Service Area



PARK TYPES OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

As described above, the Queen Anne's County park system includes three major types of parks; Neighborhood Parks serving the surrounding neighborhood, Community Parks, serving a much larger area that may include several residential subdivisions or mixed use developments, and Countywide Parks which serve the entire county and often include unique natural settings or specialized facilities. Additionally, the Department of Parks maintains an extensive hiker/biker and water trail network (with assistance from MD DNR), County Public Landings, boat launch and fishing pier facilities, Board of Education (BOE) grounds (which often house athletic fields and facilities), open space and several historical and cultural resource sites.

Several of the municipalities within the County maintain their own town parks. Municipalities often partner with the County Department of Parks to assist with park amenities such as playgrounds, future trail connections and conservation enhancement projects. Parks are generally designed to serve geographic areas and are often located within growth areas aiming to meet the needs of more populated centers. The size of the park and facilities are often in direct correlation with the area population and needs assessed for that location. The three park types of the County work together to provide residents a variety of recreation opportunities within a reasonable distance from their homes.

The County also includes a portion of Tuckahoe State Park, located on the southeastern border with Caroline County. This park is 3,800 acres, including 1,836 in Queen Anne's County, Tuckahoe is one of the most popular state parks destinations on the Eastern Shore annually welcoming thousands of campers, day visitors and local residents to enjoy its features and amenities. These include more than 20 miles of walking, hiking, biking, and equestrian trails, water access for canoeing, kayaking and fishing, a disc golf course, a recycled tire playground as well as other play structures throughout the park. Pavilions and group camping are also available for large gatherings.



Along with designated lands for active and passive park usage, Queen Anne's County is fortunate to have miles of land trails that predominantly exist within the most populated of growth areas; Kent Island. These land trails are designed for non-motorized use and aimed at bicycle and pedestrian users, although it's not unusual to see inline skaters or equestrians utilizing the trails. The six mile Cross Island Trail which traverses Kent Island from the Chesapeake Bay to the Kent Narrows

is a nationally acclaimed trail, is part of the American Discovery Trail and attracts many visitors to the area, with the trail as their destination for recreation. Additional spurs from this main trail offer connectivity to various neighborhoods, commercial centers and schools on Kent Island.

The following describes the various types of facilities that serve to create the Queen Anne’s County Park system. Although categorized, the Parks are diverse in size and physiography, providing interest for many types of recreation activities and the exploration of various natural resource elements of the County:

Neighborhood Parks

Generally these parks are located and designed to serve surrounding neighborhood communities. They are frequently located at or near an elementary or middle school with typical facilities including playgrounds, basketball and/or tennis courts and perimeter trails.

Community Parks

Community Parks are typically larger than neighborhood parks with a wider variety and greater number of recreation opportunities and facilities. Community Parks are often located near the center of a population area and/or a municipality, or within close proximity of a middle school or high school. Community Parks typically include facilities such as athletic fields, playgrounds, hard surface play courts, picnic and walking facilities. Some include plumbed public restrooms, while all have access to portable restrooms.



Many County Community Parks have a natural resource component connected with the original land acquisition. These open space/natural areas are often used for agricultural purposes, wildlife habitat, wetland preservation and maintenance of contiguous forest or important resource lands. Generally, it is the County’s Community Parks that are the sites of the most intense active recreational activities, and are often host sites for regional sports tournaments and events. It is the Community Parks where much focus is presently being given to provide public water/sewer for restroom and concession purposes and to design a park whose overall use may be enjoyed by all age segments of the population, with emphasis equally placed on passive recreation as well as active recreation.

Countywide Special Use Parks

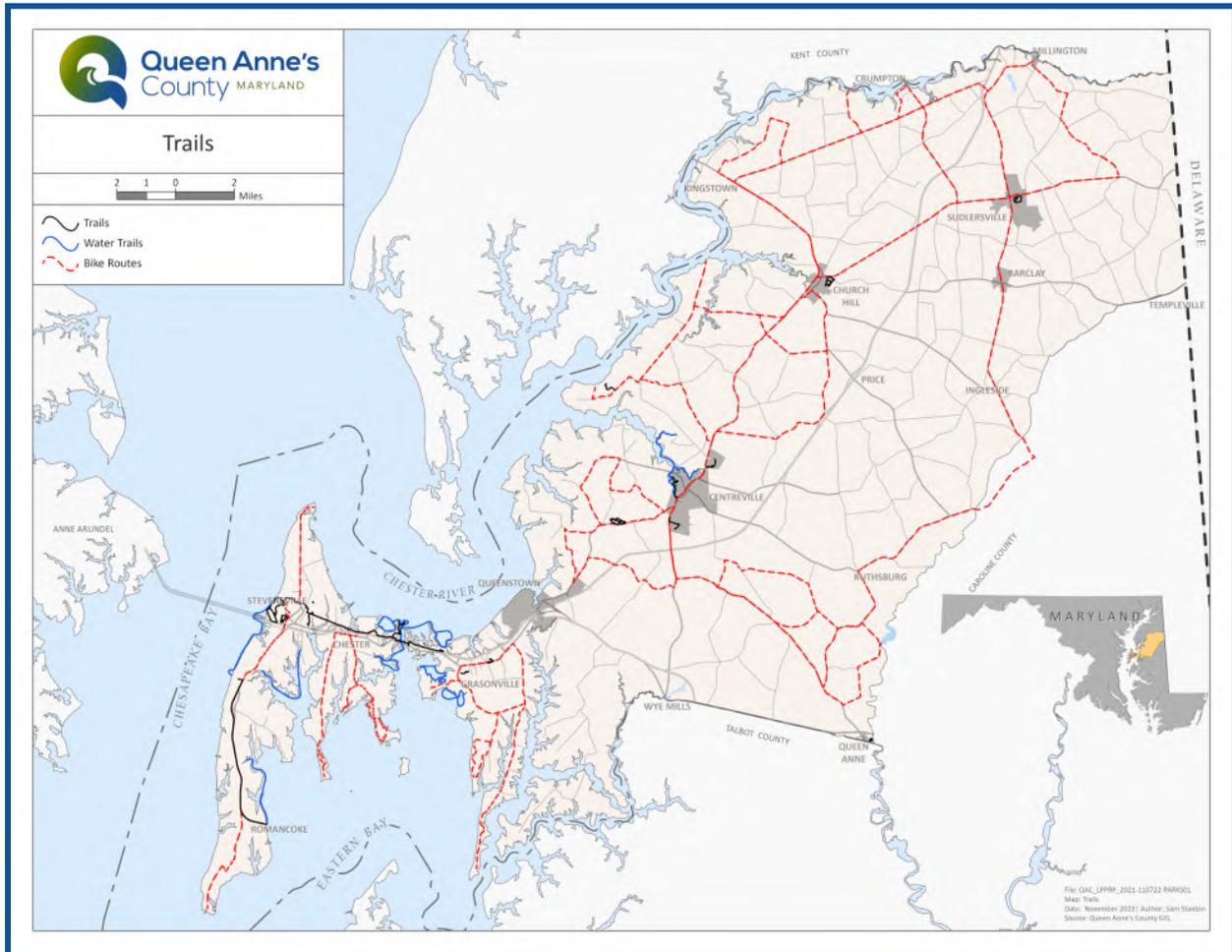
Countywide Special Use Parks serve the entire County and often include a unique natural setting such as important wetlands and sensitive areas, or historic or cultural resources such as an historic ferry terminal building located on the shores of the Chesapeake or specialized facilities such as a dog park equipped with agility equipment and doggie pools. It is perhaps these special places that shine the brightest as stars of the Queen Anne’s County Park system.

The Countywide Special Use Parklands attract hundreds of people to explore and discover the natural environment and special places located on Maryland's Eastern Shore, as they lie only a short distance from the major population centers of the Baltimore – Washington region.

Trails

From Terrapin Park or Romancock Pier on Kent Island, to Tuckahoe State Park into Caroline County, routes primarily utilize public roads to link to our parks, landings, and other points of interest. Queen Anne's County has also developed a series of connecting walking and biking trails in the more populated southern end of the County. This includes the Cross Island Trail (6.5 miles) and the South Island Trail (7 miles) along with the Cross County Connector Trail (1.2 miles) which links these two trails together. These trails are created the basis for a broader trail network system indicated on Map II-5

Map II-5 Queen Anne's County Trails



Through important partnerships with the Maryland State Highway Administration, National Recreation Trails Program, Maryland's Scenic Byway Commission and Maryland Department of Natural Resources to name a few, along with the interest and advocacy of local government and

citizen groups also includes a network of on road bicycle routes and water trails. The development of this system began nearly two decades ago and since that time, interest in non-motorized, alternative transportation routes has continued to grow in Queen Anne's County. Not only are residents and visitors seeking recreational, sporting and health-linked opportunities, but much of the public is finding that these routes offer alternatives when seasonal traffic or Bay Bridge backups may impair the ability to move about through their communities.

In addition to land trails, Queen Anne's County in partnership with the Maryland DNR developed a fairly extensive system of water trails. These trails serve to connect users to places of historical and cultural heritage, areas of natural resource conservation and recreational facilities, while enjoying the many miles of beautiful shoreline to Queen Anne's County.



Water trails serve as a major component of the overall trail network throughout the County. With grant funding and technical assistance from Maryland DNR, full-color water trail guide maps have been developed. The maps highlight points of interest and information about the natural and cultural features located along the trail. These trails provide a wide variety of paddling experiences so there are options for all levels of expertise. While the detailed trails vary in

length and cover Kent Island and the Centreville Wharf area more specifically, the open waters of the Chesapeake Bay, Chester River, Eastern Bay and Prospect Bay offer endless opportunities for the adventurous paddler.

Historic & Cultural Resources

The County's heritage dates back to the 1600's with many historic sites and landmarks still evident today in small towns and villages across the County. Museums, churches, ferry terminals, courthouses and train stations stand as monuments to the rich and diverse history of Queen Anne's County.

While not directly considered part of the overall Park system of the County, many of Queen Anne's County's historical and cultural resources such as Bloomfield, Centreville Wharf Marina, and the Historic District of Stevensville can be found within close proximity of area parks, or along trail routes.

Currently, Queen Anne's County has more than 600 historic sites listed on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) including the County's two National Historic Districts of Stevensville and Centreville. In addition, the County has numerous National Register of Historic Places listings, with most privately owned, managed, or owned/managed by one of the two historic societies within the County. Several are owned by the County and managed/maintained by the Department of Parks.



Kent Island Heritage Society and Queen Anne’s County Historical Society are two private non-profits existing within the County for the purposes of recognizing, promoting, restoring and preserving historic and cultural resources. Along with the Historic Sites Consortium of Queen Anne’s County – a 17 site membership that works to support preservation and stewardship, an effort is made toward preserving the rich heritage of Queen Anne’s County. With an emphasis on heritage tourism by the State, local governments are beginning to recognize the opportunities that exist and how they may promote sustainability and positive economic impact in our towns and communities.

Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area

Maryland’s Heritage Areas Program consists of State -certified regions where public and private partners make commitments to preserve cultural, historical and natural resources for sustainable economic development. Heritage Areas focus attention on the history, living culture, and distinctive natural areas of the local region. The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) provides financial and technical assistance to “Certified Heritage Areas.”

Queen Anne’s, along with Kent, Caroline, and Talbot Counties and their municipalities are part of the Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area, which has been certified by the MHAA, which has helped to foster grant funding for local projects as well as historic rehabilitation tax credits for property owners.

Scenic Byways

The Scenic Byway program recognizes State highway corridors that are outstanding examples of scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, and/or natural qualities and provide special benefits, including the promotion of heritage tourism. The Maryland State Highway Administration operates the Maryland Scenic Byway Program. Once a State Scenic Byway has been designated, it becomes eligible for technical assistance for preparation of a Corridor Management Plan (CMP) as well as prioritized funding from various State grant programs.



Michener’s Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway, running through Queen Anne’s, Talbot, Caroline and Dorchester Counties, highlights the region’s maritime, agricultural and natural resources. The byway was inspired by Chesapeake by James Michener, which tells the tales of Eastern Shore families throughout centuries of history. The Byways’ “Chesapeake Country (Mid-Shore) Corridor Management Plan” proposes strategies for integration into the nationally designated portion of the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway to the north and the Blue Crab State Scenic Byway to the south.

Public Landings & Marinas

Queen Anne’s County is committed to providing public access to area waterways. This commitment has resulted in having 20 public waterfront landing locations, two with public fishing piers within the County. The Public Landings Division of Parks also manages and maintains three county owned marinas: The Waterman’s Boat Basin, Dominion Marina and the Centreville Wharf Marina. The public landings of Queen Anne’s County are extremely popular and provide county residents and tourists with access to the Chesapeake Bay for recreational and commercial purposes. Public Landings requires that a permit be obtained for use of the facilities and makes permit purchase available through many local vendors throughout the County.

Table II-2 summarizes available county owned/managed public landings. There are a total of 20 publicly owned water access points in the County. These vary from undeveloped access points at the end of a road to commercial boat ramps with piers and boat slips.

Table II-2 Queen Anne's County Public Landings

Landing	Service Area	Size (Acres)	Parking Spaces	Restrooms	Picnic Tables
Matapeake Pier & Landing	S	2	61	4	8
Crumpton Landing	N	0.3	2	0	0
Warehouse Creek Landing	S	0.1	3	0	0
Browns Landing	S	0.1	0	0	0
Little Creek Landing	S	1	15	0	0
Goodhand Creek Landing	S	1.5	12	0	0
Cabin Creek Landing	C	2.6	6	0	0
Bryantown Landing	C	0.5	10	0	0
Bennett Point Landing	C	1.5	8	0	0
Southeast Creek Landing	N	0.3	6	0	0
Deep Landing	N	0.7	12	0	0
Jackson Creek Landing	C	1.5	4	0	0
Wells Cove Landing	S	2	74	0	0
Kent Narrows Landing	S	1	33	0	0
Romancoke Pier	S	2.5	43	4	2
Centreville Landing	C	1	37	2	0
Dominion Marina	S	0.5	6	0	0
Watermans Boat Basin	S	1.7	145	4	0
Shipping Creek Landing	S	2.5	24	0	0
Thompson Creek Landing	S	1	21	0	0

MEASURING USER DEMAND

Queen Anne's County has a network of outdoor parks and open spaces. As Maps II-1 through II-4 (pages 3-6) demonstrate community and neighborhood parks are situated in the population centers of municipalities and larger municipalities. Parks with sports fields are located near communities with high population density. Water access points are distributed across the county. It is important to note that the majority of county parks facilities are located in the more densely populated southern end of the County along the Route 50/301 corridor across Kent Narrows and Kent Island or in close proximity to Centreville, the County Seat. The county population outside these areas is sparse and widely distributed.

This section examines park land and recreation facility needs in the County using

- Community input through an online community survey
- Analysis of recreational data provided by the Department of Parks & Recreation
- State surveys and priorities
- National trends
- Proximity analysis: determining whether parks and recreation facilities are distributed throughout the County so that all residents have reasonably convenient access.
- Park equity analysis: closely related to the proximity analysis, an evaluation of the availability of parks and recreation facilities in geographic areas with higher concentrations of population, children, seniors, and low-income residents.

COUNTY USER DEMAND AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Queen Anne's County Department of Parks consulted with *The Business Economic And Community Outreach Network @ Salisbury University (BEACON) (Appendix D)* in formulating a Parks Survey to analyze needs/wants of Queen Anne's County residents. Working together with BEACON, and based upon information learned through the QAC comprehensive plan focus groups and meetings held in 2019 and 2020, the Department updated a survey originally created as a part of the 2017 LPPRP in which they solicited input from a 60 person focus group for the purpose of development of the survey itself. The survey was released online and promoted through social media and email blasts as well as through the Queen Anne's County website. The survey was available from October 28 through November 20, 2021. A total of 537 respondents participated in the survey. The demographic snapshot of respondents were white (93%) women (66%) from households with incomes of \$100,000 and above (62%).

The survey included a total of 9 questions soliciting responses related to whether respondents felt that their needs for parks facilities and programs are being met, when they are most likely to participate in programs and/or visit a park, which parks and facilities they are most likely to use, what criteria they use in choosing to visit/use a park facility, whether they would be willing to pay an annual park user fee and if so, how much. Additional open ended questions elicited responses related to specific amenities or facilities respondents would like.

Survey responses came from across the County. Table II-3 demonstrates the geographic distribution of respondents by zip code. The majority of responses (61%) were from the southern area of the County, within the area of the Kent Narrows and Kent Island and include the zip codes for Chester (21619), Grasonville (21638), and Stevensville (21666). Another 24% were from Centreville (21617). Residents of Queenstown and the surrounding 21658 zip code represented another 9% of responses. The combined remaining responses (11%) were from Kingstown (21620), Church Hill (21623). The number of responses from Barclay (21607), Ingleside (21651) and Sudlersville (21668) were less than 6 for each zip code and were not represented as a percentage of the total.

Table II-3 Community Engagement Survey Respondents by Zip Code

Zip	Location	Responses
21607	Barclay	2
21617	Centreville	84
21619	Chester	49
21620	Chesterstown	22
21623	Church Hill	9
21628	Crumpton	3
21638	Grasonville	35
21651	Millington	6
21657	Queen Anne	3
21658	Queenstown	32
21666	Stevensville	92
21668	Sudlersville	4
Other	Other	8

Park Facilities

Responses to a question about the facilities they planned to use, survey respondents were most likely to choose:

- Cross Island Trail, Kent Island
- Terrapin Nature Area, Stevensville
- Route 18 Park, Centreville
- Old Love Point Park, Stevensville
- White Marsh Park, Centreville

Of these, the Cross Island Trail was most often identified as the facility that survey participants were most likely to use.

Responses to the question of whether their the County's park facilities and areas met their needs, participants indicated the following:

- More than six in 10 respondents indicated they either did not have a need or their needs were currently being met for trails, playgrounds, water access/boat & kayak launches.
- More than 70% of respondents indicated their needs for swimming pools/aquatic facilities were not being met.
- Between 40% and 60% of respondents indicated their needs were not being met for picnic shelters/pavilions, multi-use sports fields, neighborhood parks, community gathering spaces, community centers, swimming beaches and outdoor fitness equipment.

Features & Amenities

Respondents indicated that their top considerations when choosing a park facility to visit are:

1. Safety & Security
2. Facilities are well maintained

3. Restroom facilities are available
4. Family atmosphere
5. Plenty of parking

Open-ended responses indicated that respondents desire adequate, clean restrooms, sufficient trash and recycling receptacles, enhanced field and parking lighting and more general maintenance of the parks. There were also comments related to overcrowding at parks and water access points including specifically related to lack of parking. Some respondents also commented that parks and facilities need to be more accessible by bikers and walkers.

Annual & Per Admission User Fees

Nearly 70% of respondents indicated that were an annual fee to support Parks and Recreation be implemented by the County, it should be no more than \$20/year.

More than half (56.62%) do not support adding admittance fees for County residents for specific park facilities or sites.

Recreation Programming Availability

Queen Anne's Parks & Recreation Department provides a variety of activities and programs as well as provides field and facility access for many other community and adult team sports activities. Survey participants' indicated their needs are being met for:

- Organized Youth Sports Programs
- Day Camps & Speciality Camps
- Opportunities for Quiet Reflection & Relaxation

More than half of respondents indicated that needs are not being met for

- Health Fitness Activities
- Swimming & Water Activities (Paddleboarding, Sailing, Kayaking, etc.)
- Adult Activities
- Performing & Visual Arts
- Special Events/Seasonal Festivals

Written Survey Comments

In addition to offering an open ended comment option for each question, the survey also included two open ended questions asking specifically for amenity or facility requests. Top responses were for:

- A Community Center - suggested locations included Centreville, Kent Island, Queenstown, Stevensville, Grasonville, the central or northern part of the County.

Facility Needs

The 2021 survey continues to indicate a desire by residents for an indoor community activity center/recreation center/sports complex. Access to swimming in natural locations as well as in inside/outside community pools continue to be desired by survey participants. The trail system needs to continue to be extended with connectors to parks locations and other community hubs for social gathering, dining, shopping, etc.

Trends in County Parks and Recreation Utilization

Between 2018 and 2022 Queen Anne’s County Parks & Recreation experienced increased parks usage, particularly during pandemic closures when outdoor activity increased nationwide. In order to better capture utilization, the Parks Division also installed new technology to track usage during this timeframe as well. Overall, in 2021 the County’s Parks and Trails captured a total of 838,092 visits to the four parks and facilities where usage was measured. During the first 10 months of 2022 these parks tracked a total of 251,306 visits. Of particular note is the use of Matapeake Beach, which over the two year height of the pandemic welcomed more than 1.2 million visitors.

Table II-4 Queen Anne's County Park Usage 2018-2022

Year	Total Visitors			
	Terrapin Nature Park	Matapeake Beach	Cross Island Trail @ Castle Marina	Ferry Point Nature Park
2018	7,633	409	16,002	54,960
2019	71,781	13,178	43,093	88,656
2020	131,395	617,013	85,001	121,241
2021	96,329	502,890	68,523	172,350
2022 (through 10/31/2022)	65,490	70,823	55,430	59,563
Total Visitors	372,628	1,204,313	268,049	496,770

Queen Anne’s County recreation program participation has also remained consistently high. The Recreation Division provides a broad range of youth programs in both the Fall and Spring. After experiencing program cancellations and closures in response to the pandemic, these programs have resumed operations at full capacity and 2022 participation numbers reflect that Queen Anne’s County youth and adults are returning to their pre-pandemic participation in the programs offered by The County.

The following series of tables provides a snapshot of the program offered over the 2018 - first half of 2022.

Table II-5 Youth Program Registrations*

Activity	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Youth-Leagues					
Basketball	942	1076	0	640	600
Indoor Soccer	834	444	456	0	466
Field Hockey	233	190	291	158	152
T-Ball	37				
Flag Football	135	241	123	85	142
Volleyball	76	100	13	95	89
Wrestling	16				
Bowling			37		
Beach Volleyball			57	89	91
Softball					68
Youth- Programs					
Sport Camps/Clinics	295	207	35	174	248
Camps	521	313	81	552	851
Nature Program		59			16
Total Registrations	3089	2630	1093	1793	2723

*2022 Registrations through 11/3/2022

Table II-6 Adult Program Registrations

Activity	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Mens 30+ Basketball	9	5	14	0	4
Indoor Pickleball	42	43	40	20	30
Field Hockey			31	18	11
Soccer				74	49
Yoga				7	24
Total Registrations	51	48	85	119	118

*2022 Registrations through 11/3/2022

Table II-7 Special Usage Registrations

Activity	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Various Local Events	101	289	0	49	302
Various Trips	172	138	109	0	70
Special Needs Camp	225	87	8	69	109
Total Registrations	498	514	117	118	481

*2022 Registrations through 11/3/2022

Table II-8 Youth League Participation 2018-2022

Season	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	%Change
Fall	2084	2162	1823	2290	2965	29.7%
Spring		2022	574	1781	2045	1.1%

Table II-9 Spring Youth League Participation

Year	Organizations	Teams	Participants
Baseball			
2019	4	34	410
2020	3	7	64
2021	2	26	372
2022	5	36	477
Baseball & Softball			
2019	1	30	390
2020	1	0	0
2021	1	35	350
2022	1	37	400
Flag Football			
2022	1	18	180
Lacrosse			
2019	6	43	688
2020	5	7	125
2021	5	31	590
2022	5	30	515
Soccer			
2019	2	36	454
2020	2	14	240
2021	2	27	340
2022	2	30	420
Softball			
2019	2	7	80
2020	2	9	145
2021	2	10	129
2022	2	4	53

Table II-10 Fall Youth League Participation

Year	Organizations	Teams	Participants
Baseball			
2019	1	2	40
2020	2	5	64
2021	4	12	183
2022	2	9	250
Baseball & Softball			
2018	1	4	50
2019	0	0	0
2020	1	5	50
2021	1	4	50
2022	1	5	60
Football			
2018	2	10	325
2019	2	13	350
2020	2	8	214
2021	2	10	200
2022	2	13	330
Lacrosse			
2020	1	3	80
2021	2	7	115
2022	3	10	230
Soccer			
2018	4	142	1709
2019	4	143	1726
2020	4	117	1375
2021	4	155	1695
2022	4	181	2080
Softball			
2019	2	3	46
2020	2	3	40
2021	2	4	47
2022	1	1	15

LOCAL AND STATE RELATED RESEARCH

PlanQAC, 2022 Queen Anne’s County Comprehensive Plan

Queen Anne’s County Commissioners adopted PlanQAC as the 2022 update to its 2010 Queen Anne’s County Comprehensive Plan. PlanQAC identifies its parks and recreation facilities and its open space as important in its strategies to address a variety of Community Sustainability Indicators (CSIs), particularly as it relates to Health/Quality of Life and Welfare. Outdoor recreation and tourism are identified as an economic driver for the county. Cultural and heritage tourism is also identified in the plan update as part of the overall tourism and economic development plans for the County’s future.

The Plan is also supported by [2020 Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area Impact Study](#).

Economic Impact

In December 2019, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Commerce released the [Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission Final Report](#), which resulted in the creation of the Governor’s Office of Outdoor Recreation in September 2021. This report found that outdoor recreation in Maryland is an economic engine. Queen Anne’s County’s water access, natural resource and agricultural lands, and various recreation opportunities make the County a potential destination for outdoor recreation enthusiasts as well as a growing bedroom community for the Baltimore-Washington area. In the last Statewide survey of residents regarding outdoor recreation participation, completed in 2018 as part of the [2019 – 2023 Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan](#), respondents identified their favorite activities as walking, hiking, biking, playgrounds, team sports, and running/jogging.

The most recent Statewide economic impact study of parks was completed in 2010. The [2010 Maryland State Parks Economic Impact and Visitor Study](#) surveyed approximately 3,400 Maryland State Park visitors, including visitors to Tuckahoe and Martinak State Parks. Respondents at the time ranked hiking/walking as the most popular activity in the State parks. This report study also identified that for every \$1 the State invests in State parks, \$29.27 is generated in economic activity.

The study demonstrated the substantial economic benefit of State parks by gathering data on spending by park visitors within the communities outside the park. Seventy percent of spending impacts were found to be concentrated within a 20-minute drive of parks. Statewide, the average daily spending outside of the park was \$37 per person for day visitors and \$53 per person for overnight visitors.



Extrapolating from the state survey results indicated that parks in the Eastern Region, in which Queen Anne’s is a part, resulted in \$82 per person for day visitors and \$61 per person for

overnight spending. It is important to note that the Eastern Region includes the beach areas of Worcester County.

Recreation & Parks and Health & Wellness

According to the [National Recreation and Parks Association](#) (NRPA), physical activity is just one way that people's health and wellness benefit from access to parks and recreation. Parks and recreation opportunities are key building blocks in building sustainable health communities. Participation in programs and time spent outside in parks offer multiple health related benefits: reduce obesity, provide a connection to nature that relieves stress levels and improves mental health and generally foster overall wellness and healthful habits. They also offer an environment for social connection and engagement which have been found to have lasting positive impact on health outcomes. There is extensive science research supporting the need for individuals of all ages to have access to greenspaces for both active and passive recreation and time in nature. A 2022 review of literature, [The Health Benefits of Parks and their Economic Impacts | Urban Institute](#), found that four dimensions of health: physical, mental, social and environmental are demonstrated to be positively impacted by availability and accessibility to parks and open spaces.

In 2006, the Trust for Public Land published a white paper, [The Health Benefits of Parks](#), which outlined how parks support physical activity and improve outcomes for individuals with chronic diseases linked to sedentary lifestyles: diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure and cholesterol. Parks and greenspaces have also been linked to positive outcomes for individuals with sensory disorders as well as psychological diagnosis. By participation, the most popular outdoor activities nationally are running, hiking, fishing, biking, and camping.



According to the [2021 OUTDOOR PARTICIPATION TRENDS REPORT](#) published by the Outdoor Foundation, in 2020, 53% of Americans age 6+ participated in outdoor recreation activity at least once, the highest participation rate on record. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased outdoor recreation to

its highest level ever. Participation in outdoor activities had already been trending up prior to the pandemic, increasing 3% annually between 2017 and 2020. While participation overall has increased, the frequency of participation has continued to fall. Whites still participate in outdoor activities far more than other races. Three in four outdoor participants (75%) are White as compared to 60% of the American population. Participation in outdoor activities among children ages 6 to 17 continues to trend down, on average children spent time in outdoor activities 77 times in 2020 compared to 91 in 2012.

According to the [Youth Sports Facts: Participation Rates — The Aspen Institute Project Play](#), 61% of children ages 6 - 12 played some team sport at least casually. However, the percentage of children who participated on a regular basis has continued to fall from 41.4% in 2012 to 38.1% in 2019. Before the COVID-19 shutdown, there had been participation gains in a number of sports. Baseball, after a significant decline, was up 6% with its highest rate since 2011. Soccer was up 3%. Tackle football, after years of drops in participation over concussion concerns, increased participation 5%. Children from higher income families continue to be more likely to play organized sports. There was a 21.6% difference in participation between children from households with incomes under \$25,000 as compared with households with incomes above \$100,000 during 2019. This gap has continued to widen since 2012 when it was 15 points.



The transition from elementary to middle school has been a turning point in youth sports participation for years.



The Aspen Institute [State of Play 2021](#) report shared these key trends in youth sports that correlate with Queen Anne's County participation data. Nationally more children are returning to community-based sports with 58% of children participating in sports played in a community-based program. This is a jump from 38% in Fall 2021. While community based sports programming is returning after the COVID-19

shutdowns, sustainability for affordable community-based programs is unstable. Meanwhile, travel sports programs have returned strong. Coaches are being asked to do more and to address the mental health and social-emotional needs of their players. Parents place high levels of trust in their child's coaches to develop life skills, foster a sense of belonging, create safe environments to play, and cope with off-the-field stressors. Coaches are frustrated by parents' expectations and do not feel confident addressing the challenges with players' mental health.

As organized sports returned, bicycling lost participants but remained up from pre-pandemic levels. Martial arts, bocce and bass fishing saw upticks in participation. Tackle football participation continued to decline while flag football and soccer have increased.

Parks as Places for Community Building

According to an article published by the National Institute of Health [The Relationship between Social Cohesion and Urban Green Space: An Avenue for Health Promotion - PMC](#), studies have identified that green spaces in urban areas can have a positive impact as places that offer opportunities for social cohesion to occur. This aligns with the results of the local survey where participants identified availability of special events and community activities as an unmet need.

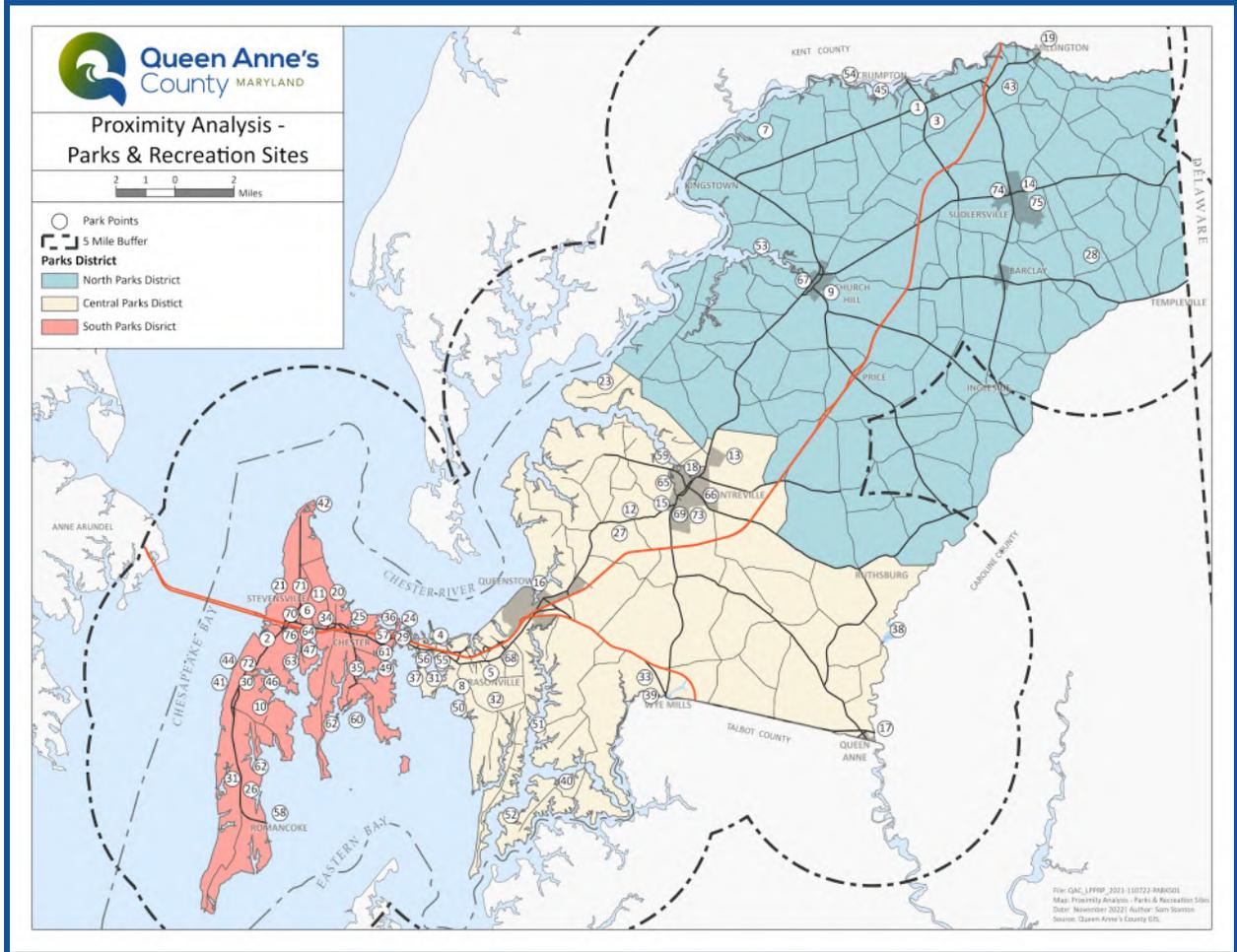
LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

PROXIMITY ANALYSIS

This section evaluates the extent to which residents in all areas of Queen Anne’s County have access to parks and recreation facilities. It examines whether parks and recreation facilities are concentrated in a few areas of the County or in a few towns, and whether the facilities support the County’s land use policies.

Queen Anne’s County’s network of parks is distributed throughout the County, primarily located in population centers in the South, Central and Northern areas of the County. Map II-6 includes all park and natural resource locations in the County. Parks are located primarily in the more densely populated areas of the County, in particular the southern tip of the County and the Kient Island and Kent Narrows area, in and around the county seat, Centreville and the municipalities of Church Hill and Sudlersville. There is an area of the northeastern region of the county which is not within five miles of any parks sites, this area is sparsely populated. According to the Census tract data for this area, the population is less than 38 people per square mile.

Map II-6 Proximity Analysis County Parks Sites



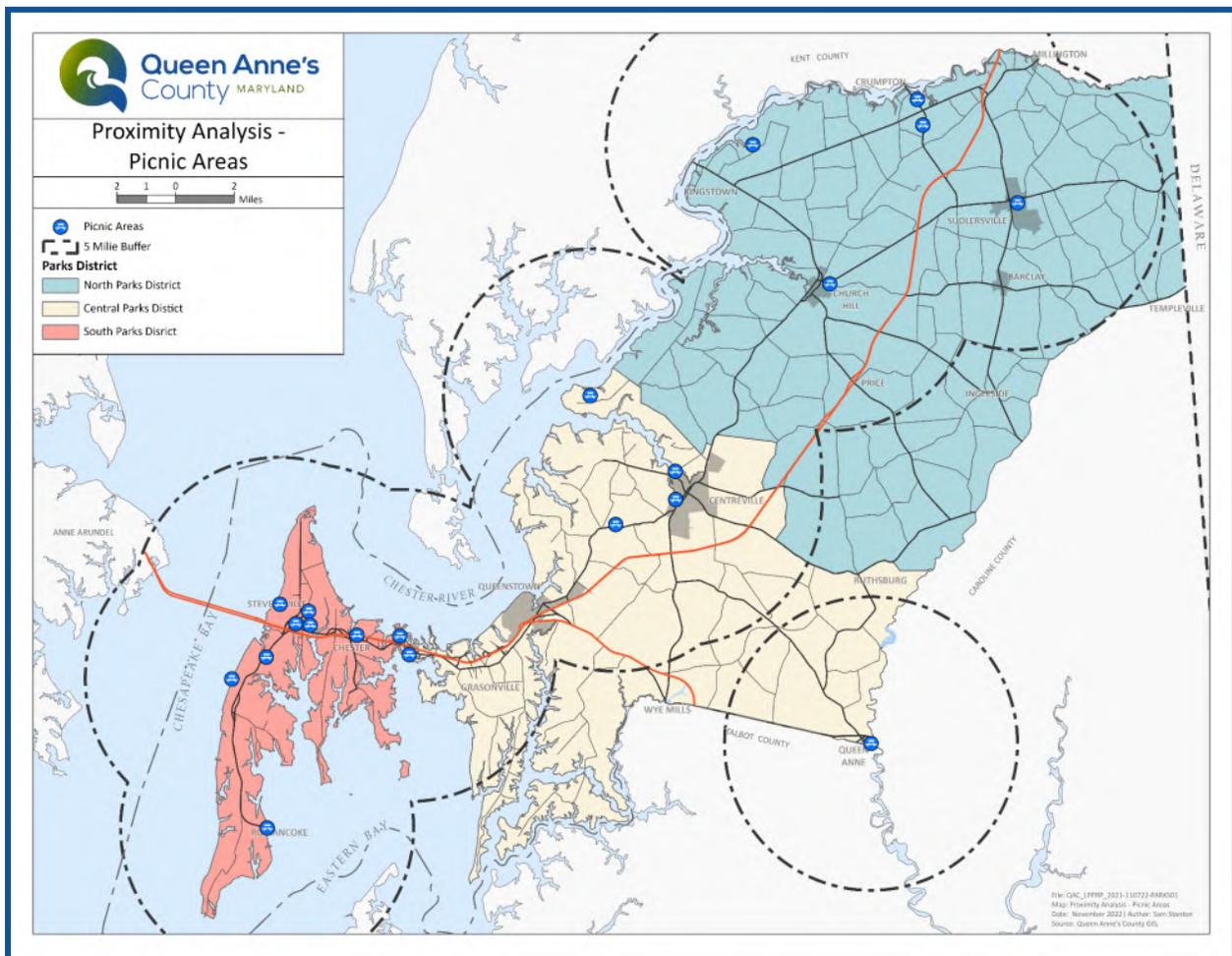
The proximity of parks to the more densely populated areas aligns with the recommendations of the PlanQAC 2022, comprehensive plan update. Based on the recommendations included in the PlanQAC 2022, the County will be completing a comprehensive review of its current zoning to determine its alignment with the updated plan recommendations.

Review of Maps II-7 through II-12 lead to the following observations regarding proximity of parks to where people live and work:

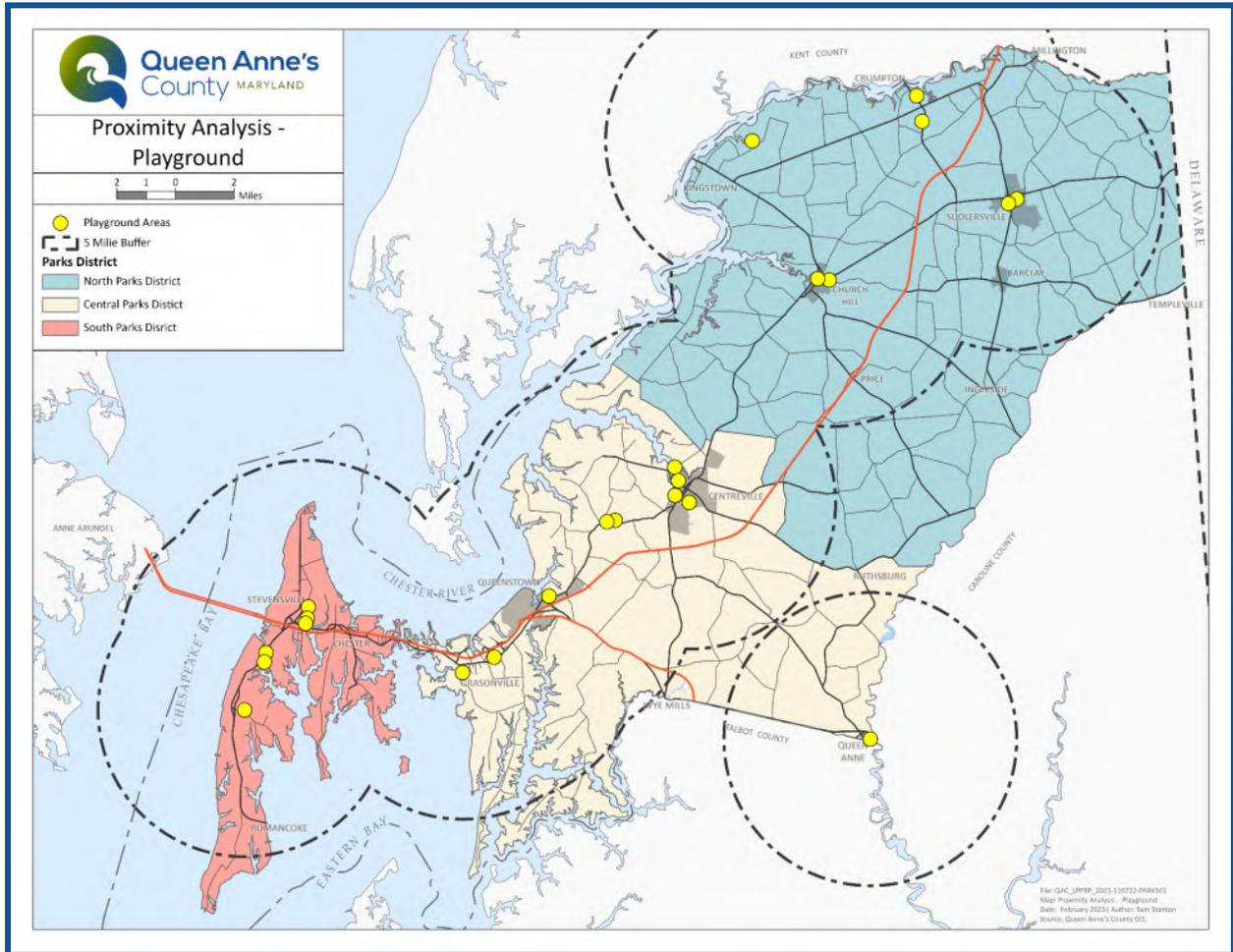
Picnic Areas and Playgrounds

Picnic Areas (Map II-7) and Playgrounds (Map II-8) are well situated throughout the more densely populated areas of the County.

Map II-7 Areas within Five Miles of Recreation Facilities with Picnic Areas



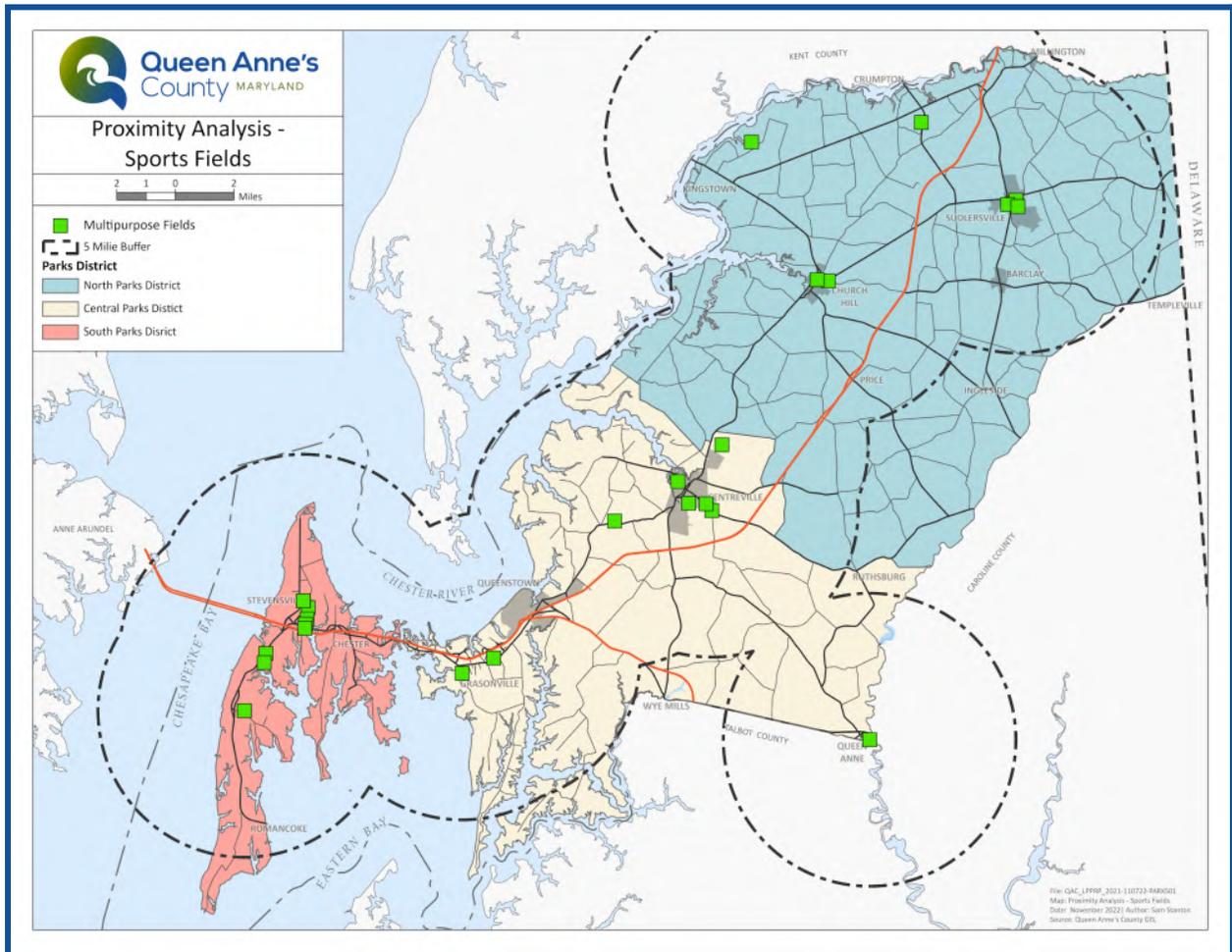
Map II-8 Areas within Five Miles of Recreation Facilities with Playgrounds



Multipurpose Fields

Multipurpose sports fields and ball fields (Map II-8) are situated in or near municipalities with the largest number in the densely populated southern region of the County. The central and northern areas of the County also have access to sports fields within five miles.

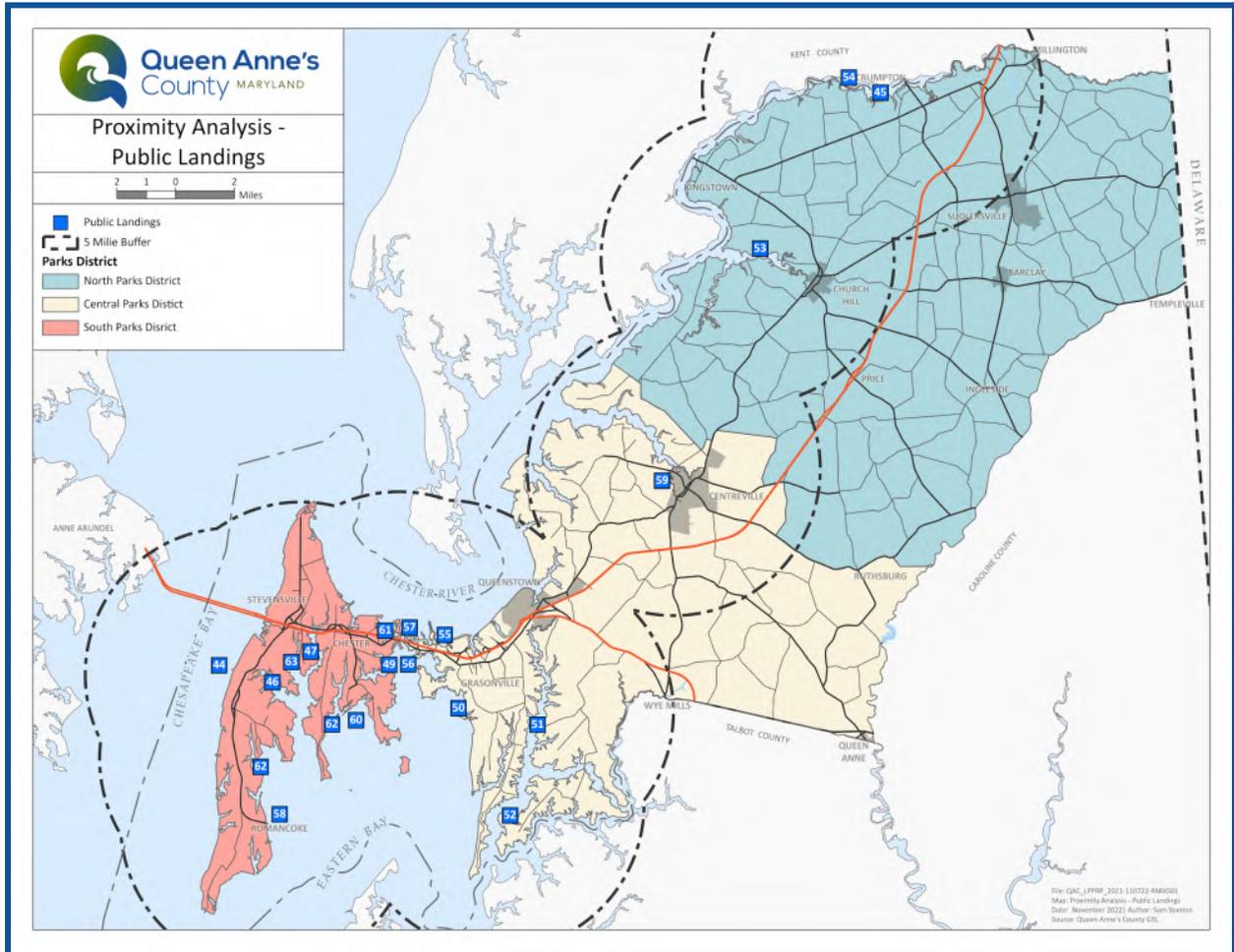
Map II-9 Areas within Five Miles of Sports Fields



Water Access

Water Access (Map II-9) is provided along the western half of the County, closest to the Chesapeake Bay. There are a total of 20 access points to the Chesapeake Bay and the Chester River and tributaries.

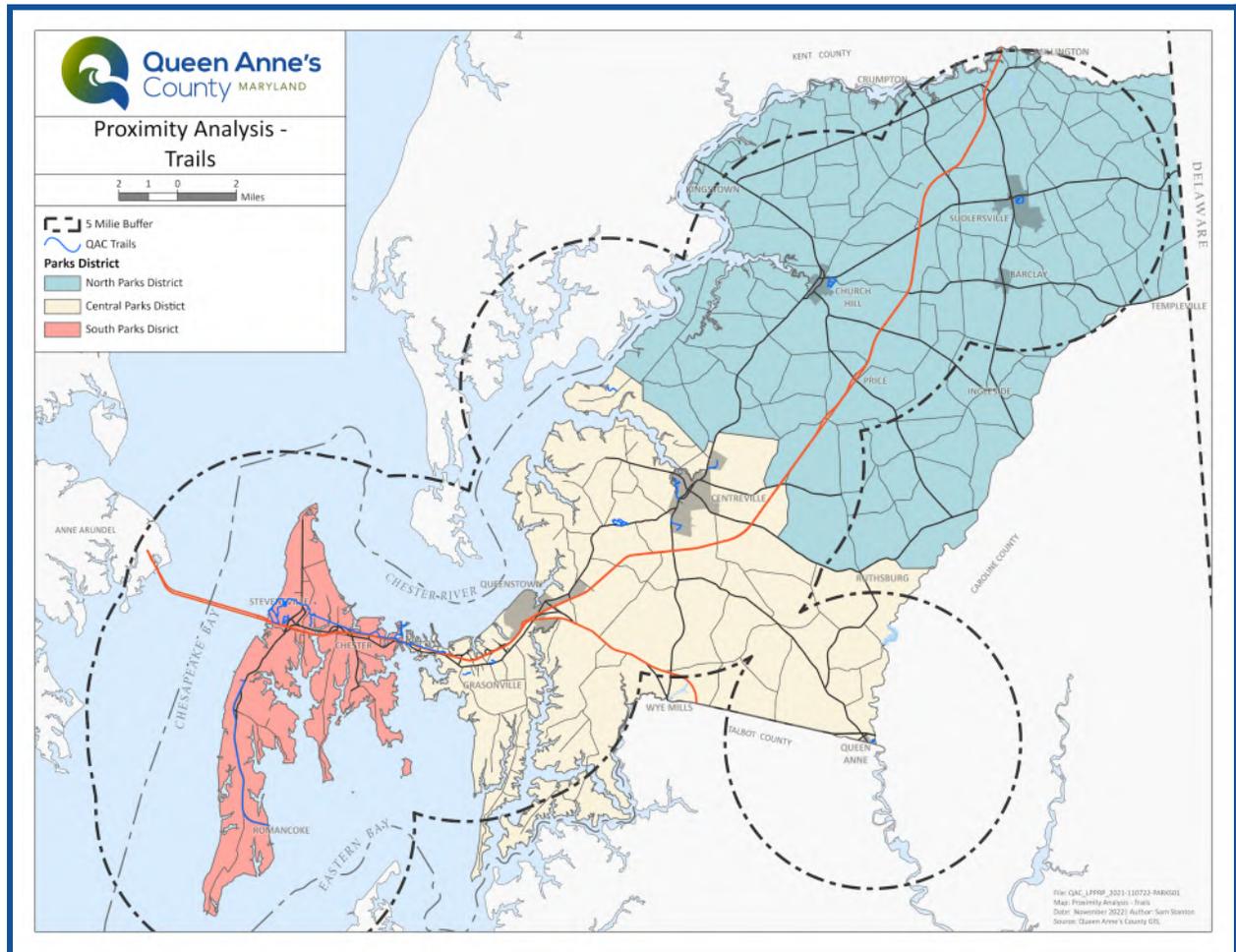
Map II-10 Areas within Five Miles of Public Water Access



Trails

Trails (Map II-10) for walking and biking are available within five miles of the majority of the County. There are no trails in the area that borders Caroline County between Ruthsburg and Ingleside. This is a sparsely populated area of the County.

Map II-11 Areas within Five Miles of Trails

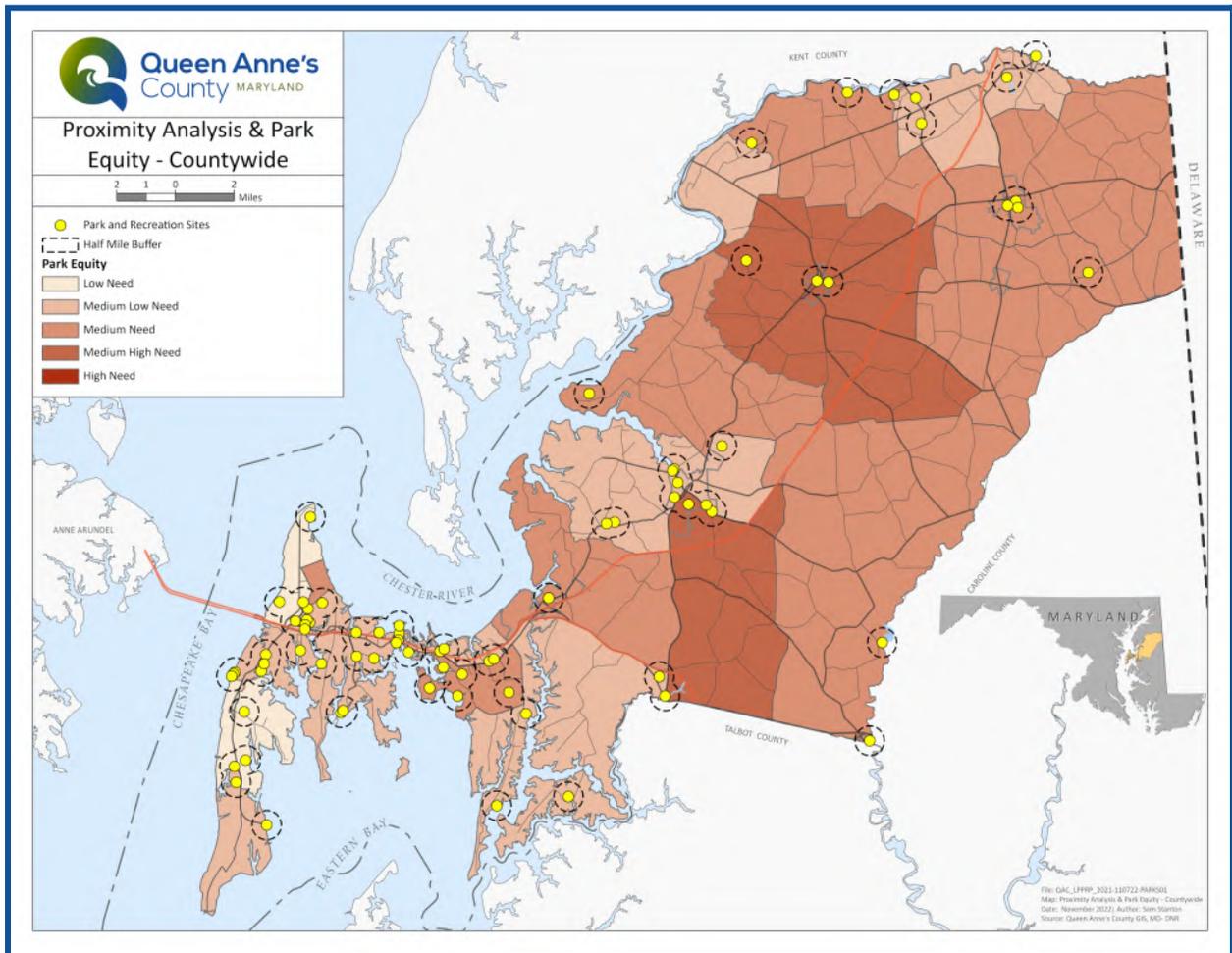


PARK EQUITY ANALYSIS

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has provided a tool to assist in the evaluation of park land needs. The “Park Equity Analysis” uses Census data in conjunction with mapped GIS layers showing State and local parks to prioritize park land needs based on four factors:

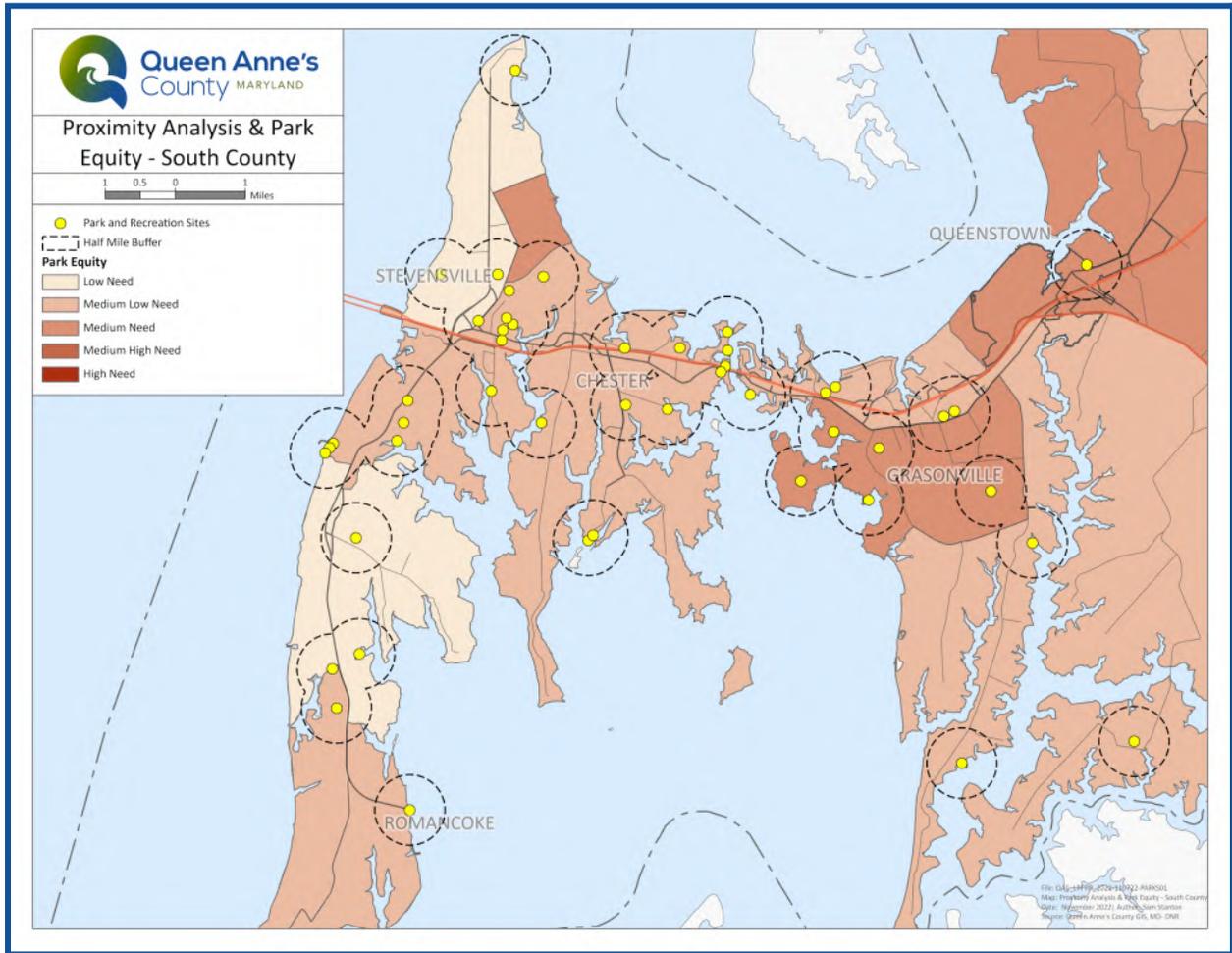
- Concentration of children under age 17;
- Concentration of older adults;
- Concentration of the population with incomes below the poverty threshold; and
- Population density.

Map II-12 Park Equity in Queen Anne's County



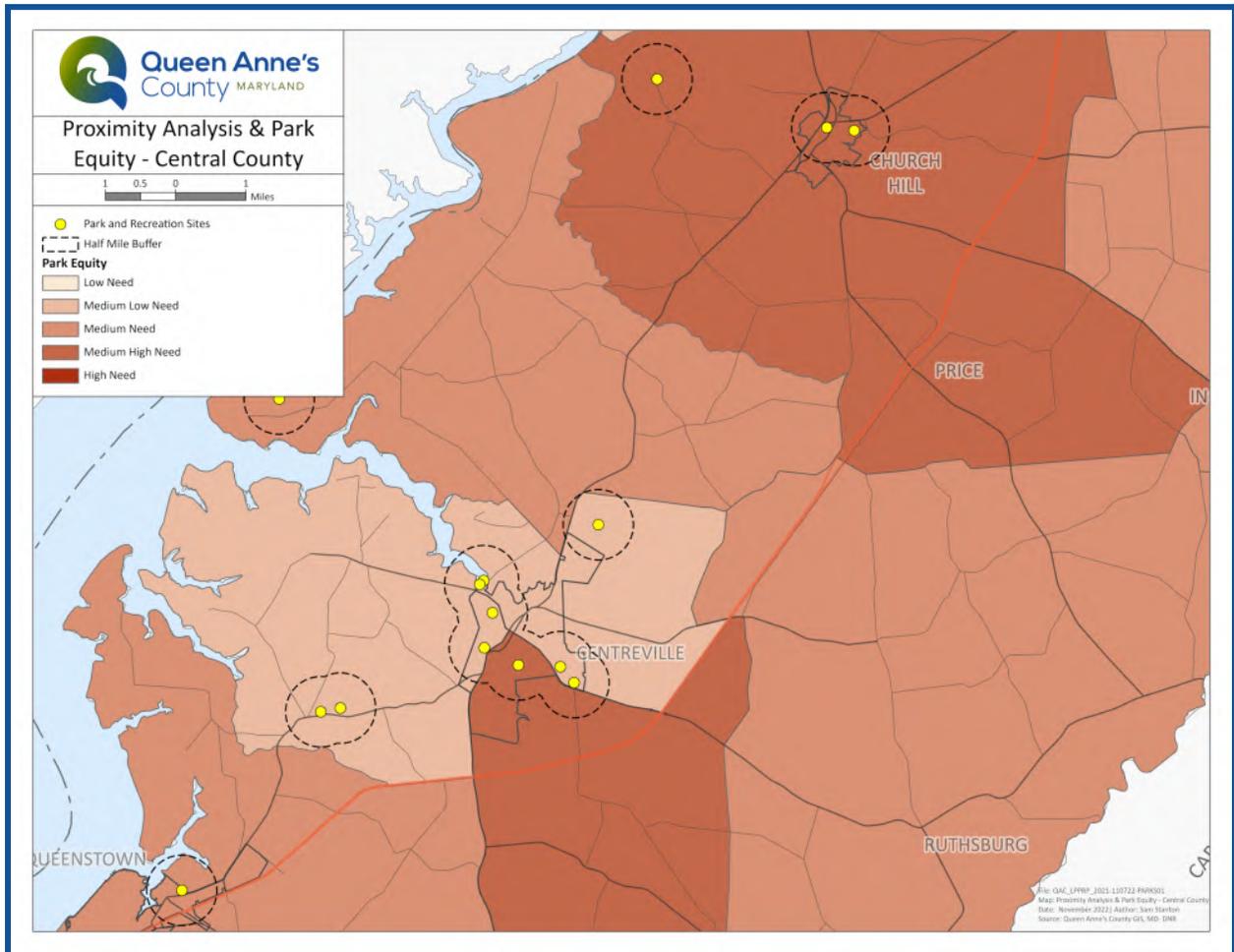
As noted earlier in the Proximity Analysis, Queen Anne's County's parks are distributed throughout the County, centered in more population dense areas and in municipalities.

Map II-13 Park Proximity & Equity - South



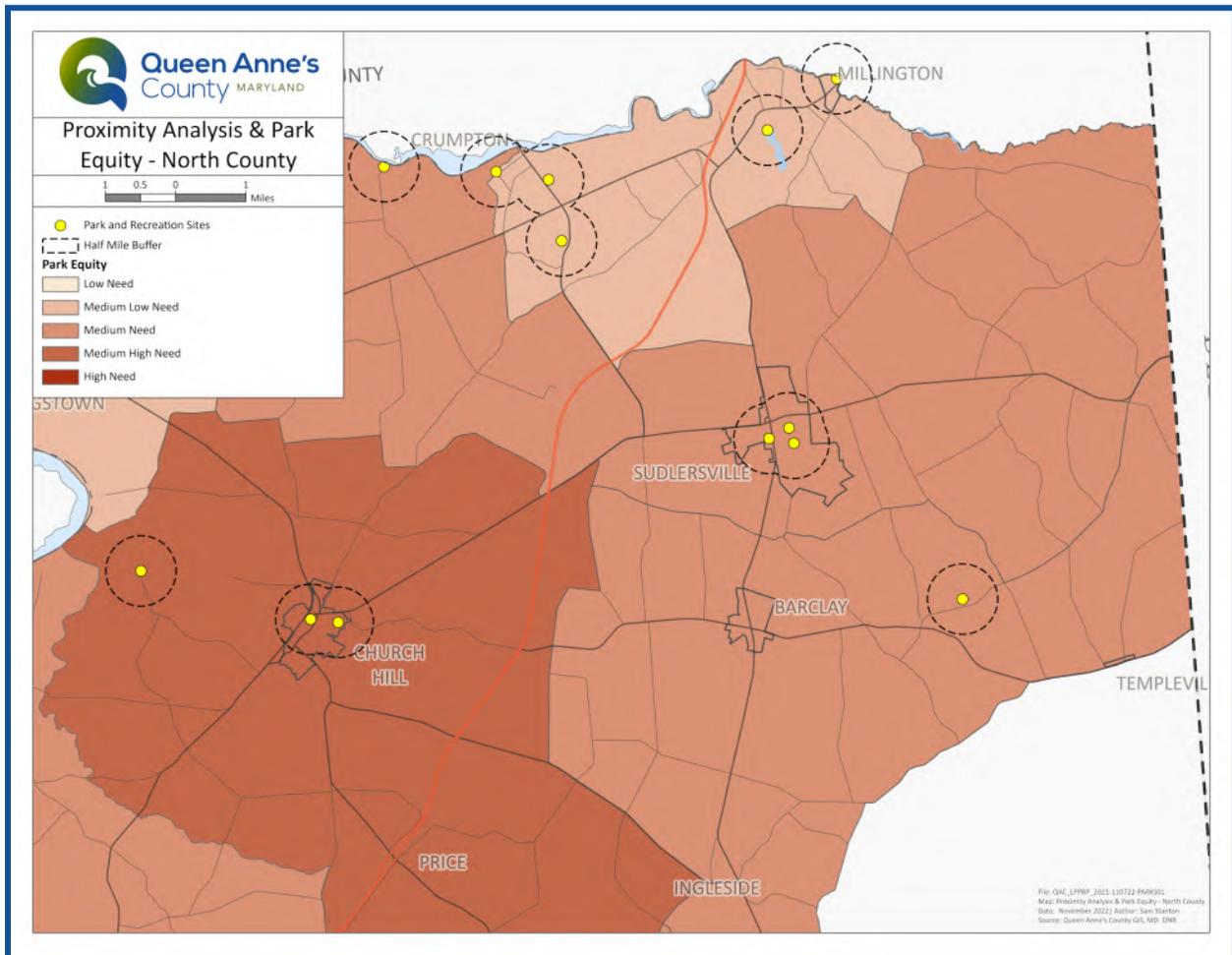
The largest portion of Queen's Anne's County's population is located in the southern end of the County. Based on the State's Equity layers, this is also an area that primarily demonstrates low to medium need. The majority of the County demonstrates medium need or lower.

Map II-14 Park Proximity & Equity - Central



One of the two areas of the county that indicate a Medium High need based on the layers in the State's Equity Maps is located on the southeastern side of Centreville. While the southeastern side of Centreville does not have access to a community or neighborhood park within a half mile, Queen Anne's Middle and High Schools are located within this area and provide access to fields and open play space for local residents.

Map II-15 Park Proximity & Equity - North



The other area indicated as Medium High Need is located in the central northern part of the region where population density is low with the exception of the municipality of Church Hill, population 845, which provides access to Church Hill Community Park and to playing fields and playgrounds at Church Hill Elementary School.

Overall, the municipalities within the County all have a town or neighborhood Park within a half mile walking distance. This includes Sudlersville, Millington, and Queenstown. The towns of Templeville and Queen Anne's share county boundaries with towns in Caroline County that have parks that are within ½ mile walking distance. Only the municipality of Barclay does not have a town or neighborhood park within its boundaries.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR RECREATION & PARKS

COUNTY GOALS

Queen Anne's County's recreation and parks system supports and reinforces the County's vision of A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, A GOOD PLACE TO WORK, A GOOD NEIGHBOR, A PROTECTIVE COMMUNITY, A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY. This includes providing access to recreation and parks facilities and activities that meet community needs.



As a result of evolving needs and the ways in which facilities are used, the Parks & Recreation Department and its Divisions continue to identify issues and develop recommendations to address them. The following initiatives are at the forefront:

- Providing clean, safe and well maintained parks and facilities – The Department strives to keep trash from littering park facilities. Along with added Parks resources and staff, partnering with volunteers and non-profit organizations for regular clean-ups of public parks and landings has grown.
- Providing recreational opportunities to address needs of all age groups in as many parks as possible - Development of facilities that may be of a more passive nature alongside those of a more active nature. Development of perimeter walking trails surrounding athletic fields, restroom facilities, picnic areas and interpretive nature exhibits are emphasized in some of the County's larger parks.
- Development of a Park Ranger Program – Trained through the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association, and partnering with local law enforcement and DNR police, the recent addition of Park Rangers has already proven to be an asset to the Park system Rangers assist park and public landings users, help monitor park hours and regulations and provide interpretive programs at natural park areas.

UPDATES TO 2017 GOALS

In addition, the Parks Department has worked to address additional goals of both the State and the County since the 2017 LPPRP update was adopted. These goals and recommendations are included in the following table.

2017 GOALS	UPDATES
1. Provide Quality, Clean, Safe and Accessible Recreational Environments	ongoing
2. Explore funding mechanisms to support a comprehensive maintenance plan for Parks.	ongoing
3. Strategic Use of Facilities as Amenities to Communities.	ongoing
4. Use State Investments to Compliment other Goals and Protect Sensitive Lands	ongoing
5. Recreation Land and Facilities Located in Proximity to Population Centers	ongoing
6. Invest in Neighborhood and Community Parks & Facilities based on Needs Analysis	ongoing
7. Protect Recreational Open Space at Appropriate Levels Compared to Developed Land	ongoing
8. Protect and Preserve Natural Resource Lands, Sensitive Areas and Wildlife Habitat wherever feasible.	Established an ongoing budget line item to manage invasive plants
9. Promote safe and convenient pedestrian and bicycle access Countywide	Added 3 Flashing light pedestrian lights along the Cross Island Trail
10. Explore and Develop opportunities for partnerships with local Healthcare Professionals.	Not pursuing at this time
11. Create public access to the waterfront and further develop the County water trail system where feasible	ongoing search
12. Establish an Endowment to support scholarships and programs for the county's at-risk populations.	Have created Fee Reduction program for those individual that receive public assistance
13. Further Develop a Park Ranger Program	Have hired 2 Full time Ranger and added an additional 8- 10 seasonal rangers from April to November
14. Explore the potential benefits of re-organizing to have the Division of Recreation join again with the Department of Parks	Not pursuing at this time
15. Develop and aggressively brand and publicize a positive, recognizable identify for County Parks	ongoing

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & CHALLENGES 2017-2022

Accomplishments

Queen Anne's County has continued to expand and enhance its network of parks, trails and open spaces over the past five years. Capital projects have included completion of the following:

- Terrapin Ranger Station and Restroom
- Construction of a 10 court Pickleball facility
- Court renovations at Grasonville Park
- Lights at Old Love Point Tennis Courts Volleyball and baseball field
- Lights at White Marsh Park for Bermuda fields
- White Marsh Park Athletic lights
- White Marsh Irrigation fescue fields
- Mowbray Park Pickle ball court and new lights
- Mowbray Park pavilion roof replacement installed
- SportsTraq field painter purchased, and is in operation
- Route 18 Playground replacement
- Grasonville Park Court rehab, trail & Parking lot
- Pole Barn at Terrapin Maintenance Facility
- Ballfield fencing at Rt. 18, Old Love Point and Batts Neck Park



In addition, in 2018 the Recreation Division which had been relocated into the Department of Community Services for approximately 10 years was shifted back and the Parks Department once again became Queen Anne’s County Parks & Recreation. This realignment allows for more cohesive delivery of services and facility usage.

Challenges

Along with parks and recreation departments nationwide, Queen Anne’s County Parks and Recreation navigated the effects of the pandemic throughout 2020 and 2021. As indicated in Table II-4 earlier in the chapter, usage of the Department’s beaches and trails increased significantly during this time period.

Other challenges the Department has faced over the past five years remain consistent moving into the next five years. These include:

- High demand for athletic field space, particularly in the Southern District, has stressed the department’s capacity to both meet public demand. In addition, with many youth sports programs now operating year-round, this additional field usage impacts field allocation for play and maintenance.
- Queen Anne’s County does not have an indoor facility and operates its programming within the schools. There is a need for indoor space at times when the schools are not available for use.
- There is high demand for the continuation of the South Island Trail and design and development of safe connector over Route 50/301.
- Matapeake Beach has become a destination not just for locals but for beachlovers from other counties and states. Managing the large numbers of users and maintaining the Beach is an on-going challenge.
- The increased cost of equipment and materials for parks maintenance, as well as delays in delivery, have had an impact on both daily operations and longer-term capital projects.



GOALS IN ALIGNMENT WITH STATE GOALS

In 2022, Dorchester County’s goals for parks and recreation reflect the County’s Land Use Policies as reflected in the 2021 Comprehensive Plan including supporting development of parks and facilities in areas that have the largest population density. This includes Cambridge and Hurlock and aligns with the feedback gathered in focus groups and surveys regarding what types of recreational opportunities are available. These goals also align with and complement the State’s goals for recreation, parks, and open space.

STATE GOAL	COUNTY 2022-2027 GOALS & STRATEGIES
1. Make a variety of quality recreational environments and opportunities readily available to all its citizens and thereby contribute to their physical and mental well-being.	<p>Goal 1: Continue to work with local municipalities to plan for development and rehabilitation of current facilities.</p> <p>Goal 2: Maximize the partnership with DCPS to maximize usage of existing fields and facilities to meet community needs for recreational space.</p> <p>Goal 3: Develop parks and facilities close to population centers in alignment with Dorchester County Land Use Policies.</p> <p>Goal 4: Maintain an up-to-date inventory of public land, recreation facilities and programmatic resources to inform both the development process for future plans and the general public for scheduling purposes.</p> <p>Goal 5: Incorporate cost efficient natural resource conservation best practices into parks/facilities capital development.</p>
2. Recognize and strategically use parks and recreation facilities as amenities to make communities, counties, and the State more desirable places to live, work, play and visit.	
3. Use State investment in parks, recreation and open space to complement and mutually support the broader goals and objectives of local comprehensive/master plans.	
4. To the greatest degree possible, ensure that recreational land and facilities for local populations are conveniently located relative to population centers, are accessible without reliance on the automobile, and help to protect natural open spaces and resources.	
5. Complement infrastructure and other public investments and priorities in existing communities and areas planned for growth through investment in neighborhood and community parks and facilities.	
6. Continue to protect recreational open space and resource lands at a rate that equals or exceeds the rate that land is developed at a Statewide level.	

COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

This section describes the framework in which Dorchester County plans, acquires, develops, and operates recreation and parks facilities and open space, including sources of funding.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Parks and Recreation Structure & Divisions

The Queen Anne's County Board of Commissioners delegates' responsibility in an advisory capacity on planning, developing and implementing the recreation and parks programs to an appointed nine-member Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB). The PRAB considers all goals and objectives of the Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan as the master plan for the Department of Parks & Recreation to implement. The County Commissioners retain approval authority for any projects, initiatives, plans and funding recommendations made by the Board.

The purpose of the Board is to preside over a comprehensive program of public recreation, including establishment, operation and maintenance of a system of public parks throughout Queen Anne's County. The planning, land acquisition and facility development responsibilities are addressed by the Department of Parks with input provided by the PRAB and final approval/decision rendered by the Queen Anne's County Board of Commissioners.

As a result of this means of vetting projects, plans and expenditures, Queen Anne's County is recognized as having a strong and venerable park system. The park system provides residents and visitors with positive life –enriching leisure and educational activities.

Queen Anne's County Department of Parks and Recreation comprises five Divisions: Parks, Recreation, Public Landings and Marinas, the Bay Bridge Airport and the Blue Heron Golf Course. The Department of Parks employs 45 full-time staff and approximately 23 part time and seasonal employees. The Director of Parks provides oversight and management of these divisions in addition to capital planning for parks and facilities. The five divisions provide boundless public recreation opportunities by air, land and water. The Divisions of the Department of Parks, the Public Landings and Marinas, the Blue Heron Golf Course and the Bay Bridge Airport are also known as Enterprise Divisions because they produce revenue in order to sustain their operations.

Parks Division

The Parks Division works with both public and private sectors to plan, develop, maintain, preserve, conserve and enhance the County's natural resources, open spaces and waterfront properties. In addition to providing public recreation areas and natural resource conservation, these amenities serve to stimulate economic development by spurring development of hotels, restaurants, fishing charters, water activities, adventure tours and other ancillary uses of the County's natural resources. In keeping with its mission to conserve, enhance and protect County open spaces and natural resources to enrich the quality of life for present and future generations, the Division remains focused on its objective to promote the positive image of Queen Anne's County as a desirable place to live and visit.

The Division oversees the planning, acquisition, design, development, maintenance and operations of an extensive park system in proportion with the growing population and development within the County. The Division of Parks continues to coordinate field scheduling and usage for all leagues utilizing county athletic fields. While the Board of Education is responsible for scheduling use of athletic fields on BOE properties, the Division is responsible for care and maintenance of all Board of Education property including sports fields and stadiums. Additionally, some private landowners have begun to coordinate and schedule their own lands for use by private leagues and tournaments.

Public Landings and Marinas

The Division is committed to providing residents and visitors safe and convenient boating access to the waters of and surrounding the County, and to maintain, manage the public landings, marinas and piers for the benefit of all residents and users. This Division manages 18 public landings, 2 public fishing piers, and 3 public marinas with a total of 174 boat slips. Public Landings are accessed through a user permit available through the Division and at several local vendor locations. Public Landing facilities comprise more than 27.3 acres of land throughout the County. Operations are financed mainly through user fees and grants.



Blue Heron Golf Course (BHGC)

The BHGC is an 18-hole, par 3 course located along the scenic shoreline of Price Creek, west of MD Route 8 in the Romancoke area of Kent Island. The BHGC is committed to providing a quality affordable golf experience which services the entire community by offering leagues, camps and general play for all ages and abilities. The BHGC encourages whole family



participation to enjoy the game and supports community wellness, exercise and socialization. The facility recently expanded its services with a newly constructed golf driving range immediately adjacent to the south of the golf course. Operations of the golf course and driving range are financed mainly through user fees and County operating funds.

Bay Bridge Airport

This Division is committed to providing a safe public use airport environment for local and transient aviation enthusiasts. The facility, located on 107 acres situated directly on the Chesapeake Bay, is compliant with all FAA and MAA FBO operational standards. In recent years, the Bay Bridge Airport has increasingly aided the County on the economic development and tourism fronts by receiving more and more traffic of this nature. Operations are financed by user fees, hangar rental fees, grants and County operating funds.

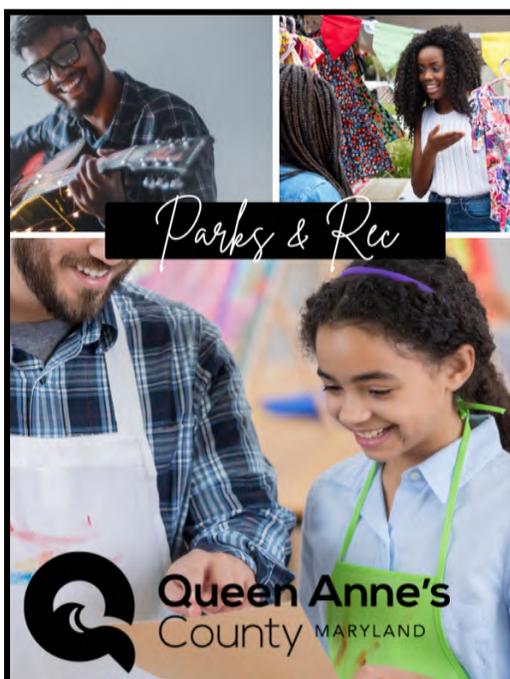


Together the Department and its Enterprise Divisions manage and maintain more than 3,113 acres of Park property in addition to maintaining the grounds and recreational facilities at 16 Board of Education (school) sites totaling an additional 320 acres.

In 2018 the Division of Recreation, which had been under the Department of Community Services was reorganized back into the Department of Parks & Recreation.

Recreation Division

The Recreation Division is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and promoting a sense of community within Queen Anne's County. In partnership with its citizens, the Recreation Division provides quality recreation programs and services which respond to the changing needs within the communities of Queen Anne's County.



Queen Anne's County Recreation offers several recreational sports leagues; Youth Basketball, Sunday Indoor Soccer, Youth Field Hockey and Flag Football utilizing a large number of volunteers to administer and operate these leagues on a daily basis. However, most organized youth sports leagues within Queen Anne's County are organized and financed through independent organizations. Queen Anne's County's involvement with these independent leagues is limited to scheduling and maintenance of the athletic fields used for practices, games and events.

Additionally, the Recreation Division provides pre-school sports and enrichment programs, school age youth sports, and events such as Easter egg hunts, fishing derbies, outdoor family movie nights and concerts.

Teen and Adult programming through Recreation includes team sports, leagues and clinics; programs from personal wellness to sewing classes, as well as trips to New York City during the Christmas Holiday, Broadway shows, circus, flower and home shows, and events such as fishing derbies, storytelling under the stars, etc. During the Summer, the Recreation Division provides a variety of traditional day camps and speciality camps. The Recreation Division utilizes social media, local press and the County government website to advertise activities offered and provides an inventory of activities and facilities.

Incorporated Towns

The incorporated towns in Queen Anne’s County also maintain their own parks and are an important part of the network of parks and open spaces throughout the County.

FUNDING

Traditionally, funding for capital and development projects within parks has been based on Program Open Space yearly allocations and the County’s required matching funds. The construction of future projects are dependent on funding options

Table II-11 Queen Anne's County Program Open Space Apportionments, FY2016-FY2022

Fiscal Year	Land Acquisition	Facility Improvements	Total
FY2016	\$ 60,271	\$ 180,812	\$ 241,083
FY2017	\$ 38,105	\$ 114,314	\$ 152,419
FY2018	\$ 65,373	\$ 196,118	\$ 261,491
FY2019	\$ 97,563	\$ 292,690	\$ 390,253
FY2020	\$ 87,536	\$ 262,609	\$ 350,145
FY2021	\$ 80,816	\$ 242,449	\$ 323,265
FY2022	\$ 97,842	\$ 293,526	\$ 391,368
TOTAL FY2016-FY2022	\$ 527,506	\$ 1,582,518	\$ 2,110,024

including Program Open Space, additional State, federal, and private funding opportunities (depending on the nature of projects). The County’s allocation from the Program Open Space Grant program for 2017-2022 has been \$2.1 million. In addition, the County received one-time Local Parks & Playground Infrastructure allocations of \$1 million in FY2022 and FY2023. The County expects to continue to rely heavily on existing funding sources to meet recreation facility needs, especially Program Open Space and County capital budget funds.

Additionally, within the 2022 LPPRP Goals, the Department is recommending that the County consider revising the fees collected from new development to address the overall impact of this development on the park system. The fee structure was revised during the 2008-2010 recession, but as development rebounds the impact on the Parks & Recreation Department increases the need for additional facilities and operations, particularly in the County Growth Areas.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND ACQUISITION PRIORITIES

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Table II-12 outlines a program for development of parks and recreation facilities, including estimated costs. A five-year time frame is included in this table, Appendix C includes longer term plans and cost estimates. Based both on spatial analysis of proximity to parks throughout the County and within municipalities, Queen Anne's County's parks are well-distributed in populated areas of the county. Included in this spatial analysis was proximity of locations that offered the top parks and recreation features desired by residents as identified through both the community survey and focus groups. Top priority parks' features are access to additional and longer trail systems, replacement of playgrounds that have met their 20 year lifespan, a skate park and dog park. Additional analysis using the Equity Mapper Tool demonstrates that Queen Anne's County's residents have access to parks and open spaces with the possible exception of the east side of Centreville which does not have access to a public park within a ½ mile walk, however this area does have access to school fields and open spaces. Proximity analysis also indicates an area along the eastern border of the County that does not have access to a park within five miles. However, this area of the county is sparsely populated with less than 37 people per square mile according to Census data.

Community residents, through both completion of the on-line survey, indicated that park distribution is adequate, however features and amenities within parks are not. Queen Anne's County's Parks & Recreation leadership's current capital improvement plan continues to focus on development and redevelopment, working from the Southern District, which is the most populated district and moving north. The current CIP includes multiple projects in and around Centreville and Church Hill. Leadership has determined that the County does not currently have a need to acquire additional acreage for parks development. However, the County is continuing to develop its trails plans and has included costs for potential acquisition along trail routes, starting in 2023 with the continuation of the Kent Island South Trail along Route 8. These acquisitions would only occur if the County is unable to acquire easements on properties along identified new trail routes and where purchase of land along the trail route is necessary in order to construct the trail.



Highlights in the Capital Priorities include:

- Completion of 2 new artificial turf field Church Hill and Batts Neck
- Continue the extension the South Island Trail
- Installation of Kent Narrows Trail
- Construction of Skate Park at Terrapin Park, Stevensville
- Renovate Round Top Park basketball court and install 2 stand-alone Pickleball courts
- Construction of Dog Park at White Marsh Park
- Art in the Park installations at various locations

Table II-12 Queen Anne's County 2022 LPPRP CIP Priority Projects Based on Allocation Estimates through 2031

Project	Location	Description	Estimated Total Cost in 1,000's*
Dog Park	Centreville	Construct a dog park at White Marsh Park	\$ 111
Ball Diamond Field Lighting	Centreville	Install ball diamond lights at White Marsh Park	\$ 1,200
Pavilion	Centreville	Construct a pavilion at White Marsh Park	\$ 90
Fencing	Centreville	Fencing around White Marsh Shop Area	\$ 80
Camping Area	Centreville	Construct a camping area at White Marsh Park	\$ 40
Water and Sewer	Centreville	Construct water and sewer line to White Marsh Park	\$ 500
Artificial Turf Field	Centreville	Install two multi-purpose fields at White Marsh Park	\$ 3,000
Basketball and Pickleball Courts	Chester Harbor	Striping for one basketball and two pickleball courts, and replace court lights at Round Top.	\$ 177
Multi-Purpose Fields	Chester Harbor	Construct 4 new multi-purpose fields at Round Top Park	\$ 300
Comfort Station	Chester Harbor	Construct a comfort station at Round Top Park	\$ 250
Artificial Turf Field	Church Hill	Install a multi-purpose field at Church Hill Park	\$ 1,646
Trail Repair	Church Hill	Mill, patch and overlay of existing trail at Church Hill Park	\$ 200
Court Lighting	Church Hill	Add court lights at Church Hill Park	\$ 150
Parking Lot Paving	Crumpton	Pave parking lot at Crumpton Park	\$ 70
Dog Park	Crumpton	Construct a dog park at Crumpton Park	\$ 60
Court Lighting	Grasonville	Add court lights at Grasonville Park	\$ 150
Comfort Station	Grasonville	Construct a comfort station at Grasonville Park	\$ 100
Basketball Court	Pondtown	Color coat and replace court lights at Pinkney Park	\$ 158
Trail Paving	Pondtown	Construct and pave trail at Pinkney Park	\$ 400

Covered Dugouts	Queen Anne's County	Install covered dugouts at other various county parks	\$ 95
Artificial Turf Field	Stevensville	Install a multi-purpose field at Batt's Neck Park	\$ 1,513
Skate Park	Stevensville	Install a skate park at the Lands of Terrapin Park, Cockey Lane	\$ 600
Trail Extension	Stevensville	Construct and pave trail extension for Route 8 trail system	\$ 1,114
Trail Extension	Stevensville	Kent Island Trail easements	\$ 200
Comfort Station	Stevensville	Replace existing comfort station at Matapeake Beach	\$ 180
Parking Lot	Stevensville	Construct a parking lot at Terrapin Nature Park	\$ 100
Park Improvements	Stevensville	Construct a comfort station, observation deck, and pavilion at Blue Heron Nature Preserve	\$ 490
Pavilion and Grill Area	Stevensville	Add a pavilion and grill area to Batt's Neck Park	\$ 70
Picnic Area	Stevensville	Construct a second picnic area at Terrapin Nature Park	\$ 160
Playground Replacement	Stevensville	Replace playground at Mowbray Park	\$ 1,015
Covered Dugouts	Stevensville, Centreville	Install covered dugouts at Old Love Point, Batt's Neck and Route 18 Park.	\$ 70
Basketball and Tennis Courts	Sudlersville	Re-pave the basketball and tennis courts at Sudlersville Park	\$ 160
TOTAL COST			\$ 14,449

The capital improvement plan for the next five years continues to build upon QAC Parks and Recreation long-term development plans highlighted in the 2012 and 2017 LPPRPs. Over the past decade, QAC Parks and Recreation has invested in the development of both its play fields and courts in the southern and central districts. Over the next 5 years the department will focus on continuing to rehabilitate and develop its parks in Centreville, and further north, in particular at Church Hill Park and Round Top Park.

In addition to its capital improvement plans for County-owned parks and open spaces, the QAC Parks and Recreation leadership will work with municipal leadership to assist with submission of Community Parks & Playground grant applications as well as providing other types of support when opportunities arise. Recent partnerships between the county and municipalities have included Roosevelt Park trail resurfacing project in FY22 and the acquisition of property in the Town of Church Hill in FY19.

ACREAGE GOALS

Based on the community engagement, proximity, and equity analysis completed as a part of this planning process, Queen Anne’s County has determined that it does not currently have any specific acquisition needs and will focus on development of existing properties within its inventory. The extension of the South County Trail may result in a need for acquisition of easements/property along the route, however this will be determined on a case-by-case basis as the work on the trail extension occurs. Municipalities are also focusing efforts on development of existing properties.

Table II-13 Queen Anne’s County 2017 Parks and Recreation Acreage Goals Updates

Open Space and Parks and Recreational Land Goals Established in 2017	Type and Specific Location	Acreage Needed	Acreage Acquired
In 2017, Queens Anne's County did not set any acquisition goals, however in 2020 Queen Anne's County purchased .61 acres to expand a park in Church Hill.	–	–	–

Table II-14 Queen Anne's County 2022 Land Acquisition Goals Plan

Open Space and Parks and Recreational Land Goals 2022	Type and Specific Location	Acreage Needed	Plan for Meeting Need
County has not set any specific acquisition goals for the period covered in this LPPRP. Based on geographic distribution of parks, near larger population centers, responses to the community engagement process, and the planning goals for the County, Queen Anne's County will focus on rehabilitation and enhancement of existing parks and trails.	–	–	–
As the expansion of the trails network occurs over the next five years it may become necessary to purchase parcels along the route and the QAC Parks division will evaluate this on a case-by-case basis.	South County Trail Extension	Unknown	Acquire easements as necessary to extend trail.



Photo by: Mike Kangas

CHAPTER III NATURAL RESOURCE LAND CONSERVATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Natural resource lands contain the forests, wetlands, floodplains, stream buffers and other sensitive natural features that help define the rural character of Queen Anne’s County. Sensitive areas, water resources and mineral resources are key components of the County’s natural environment as well as a part of the natural resource based economy. The County contains 495 miles of shoreline with wildlife and aquatic habitats. The considerable acreage preserved as County and State parkland, contain natural areas or open space, agricultural lands, woodlands, wetland and a variety of water resources. The land use ethic to preserve natural resources applies sustainable smart growth management strategies which contribute to the success of maintaining the County as a quintessential rural community as noted in the County’s Overall Community Vision Statement from the PlanQAC 2022, the most recent update to the County’s Comprehensive Plan.

VISION FOR LAND USE

Queen Anne’s County will remain a rural, agricultural, and maritime county that restores, enhances, protects, conserves, and stewards its valuable land, air, and water resources by:

- Conserving and protecting agricultural lands, open spaces, woodland, wetlands, and wildlife habitat;
- Participating in Chesapeake bay restoration efforts by conserving and protecting water resources and adhering to environmental regulations and low-impact stormwater practices;
- Preserving good air quality and viewscapes, including the night sky;
- Supporting agricultural, maritime, and tourism industries;
- Facilitating environmental education programs to promote energy efficiency, comprehensive recycling practices, clean air and water policies, resource conservation, and sustainable land use practices; and,
- Protecting social and economic assets by enhancing environmental resiliency and mitigating potential effects of climate change.

Key issues identified for Land Use which relate to the LPPRP are the ongoing success of the County's Preservation Programs for both agricultural and natural resource land conservation and the overall growth management plan for the County.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following guiding principles provide the framework for protection, preservation, and conservation of sensitive areas, water resources, and mineral resources. These principles that provide management of future development for the purpose of sustaining current and future populations, the environment, and economic vitality include:

- Universal stewardship of the land, water, and air that will result in sustainable communities and protection of the environment.
- Land and water resources are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy natural systems.
- Concentrate and direct growth to existing Growth Areas to protect environmental resources and take advantage of present water resources and infrastructure to accommodate population and business expansion in an orderly, efficient, and environmentally sustainable manner.
- Stewardship of the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays and land and water resources is the responsibility of government, businesses, and residents for the creation of sustainable and hazard-resilient communities by collaborating to balance efficient growth with resource protection.
- Apply sustainable smart growth principles and best management practices for the purpose of conserving resources, reducing resource consumption, and minimizing impacts on resources.
- Encourage opportunities with respect to the County's resource based economy and eco friendly development.

The Vision and Guiding Principles inform this Chapter of the LPPRP. The Goals of PlanQAC 2022 align with Maryland DNR goals, i.e. to be a champion of preservation and conservation of public lands for natural resource protection and outdoor recreation used by residents and visitors. The county goals incorporate the interests of preserving natural resources in a way that seeks to protect sensitive areas and enables public access to natural resource lands.

NATURAL RESOURCE LAND CONSERVATION GOALS

MDNR has been and continues to be a champion of preservation and conservation of public lands for natural resource protection and outdoor recreation use by citizens and visitors.

Maryland's Land Preservation and Recreation Plan 2019-2023 notes that:

"The people of Maryland have high standards and expectations when it comes to protecting, preserving, restoring, and teaching others to maintain healthy ecosystems"

III-2 Queen Anne's County LPPRP - Chapter III Natural Resource Land Conservation

and landscapes. There are strong cultural and social ties to the Chesapeake Bay, forests, fields, and mountains of Maryland that resident treasure and desire to pass onto future generations. State and county parks, forest, and open spaces not only preserve natural resource functions critical to human survival, they also serve as the stage for diverse world-class outdoor recreation experiences, and a living classroom for teaching tomorrow's stewards of our shared environment. Public parks and open spaces are places where anyone can go to be surrounded by nature and participate in activities that create palpable connections with the natural world. Federal, state, and local land conservation programs ensure that Marylanders continue to have places to go to develop connections with nature that support a sustainable land conservation and environmental stewardship ethic as fundamental for a healthy, prosperous and resource-rich Maryland."

2017 GOALS & UPDATES

This section outlines the County Goals related to natural resource conservation. It provides a brief summary of the work done since 2017 in areas related to natural resource land conservation as well as outlines the 2022 local goals in relation to State goals. The 2017 LPPRP included the following goals and recommendations for natural resource conservation. Over the past five years the County has accomplished or is making progress on a number of these goals.

2017 GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY	PROGRESS TOWARD 2017 GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Goal 1: Resource Protection, Conservation and Preservation Strategies that Promote high Water Quality and Protect Aquatic Life with Emphasis on Critical Areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective 1: Seek to implement watershed based planning to comply with nutrient TMDLs of receiving waterways as identified by the State. ● Objective 2: Promote and facilitate the protection of Sensitive Areas ● Objective 3: Seek to protect Critical Areas 	<p>Queen Anne's County has preserved approximately 35% of its total land area in some form of conservation, with the added benefit of preserving natural resources. Through a combination of Watershed Implementation Plan funding, federal and State grants and loan programs, the County has been successful in preserving natural resources associated with local waterways and watersheds.</p>
<p>Goal 2: Conservation, Preservation and Regulation Strategies to include Environmental Protection and Resource Conservation Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective 1: Develop steps to improve water quality in order to be removed from the State's impaired waterway list. 	<p>Beginning in 2016, the County has invested nearly \$50M in addressing issues revolving around failing septic systems and excessive nutrient loading in Southern Kent Island.</p>
<p>Goal 3: Recognize the goal, objectives and initiatives of various environmental groups to preserve open space, protect natural resources and improve the quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective 1: Continue and seek new opportunities with local riverkeepers associations and environmental non-profits to assist in achieving the goals for natural resource conservation in the County. 	<p>The County continues to be recognized for its work in protecting sensitive land by establishing living shorelines through shoreline erosion protection measures, particularly at Ferry Point and Conquest Preserve.</p>
<p>Goal 4: Foster a strong working relationship between the County and the State in areas of mutual interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective 1: Continue to partner with State agencies such as the DNR, Critical Area Commission, etc. to strengthen efforts in areas of mutual concern. 	<p>Since 2016 the County has continued to work closely with the State to address the issues related to failing septic systems and nutrient loading as well as with the Critical Area Commission and other state agencies committed to improving natural resource protections.</p>

2022 NATURAL RESOURCE LAND CONSERVATION GOALS

The overarching PlanQAC 2022 goal for environmental resources and protection is to adopt policies, regulations, legislation, and enforcement procedures and appropriate funding for programs and projects to restore, enhance, protect, and conserve the County’s land, air, and water resources, while establishing programs to generate awareness of and support for these measures.

STATE GOALS	COUNTY GOALS
<p>Goal 1: Identify, protect and restore lands and waterways in Maryland that support important aquatic and terrestrial natural resources and ecological functions through combined use of public land acquisition and stewardship, private land conservation easements, local land use management plans to conserve natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas/minimize impacts to resource lands, support incentives for resource-based economies that increase the retention of forest, wetlands or agricultural lands, avoidance of impacts on natural resources by publicly funded infrastructure development projects and appropriate mitigation response, commensurate with the value of the affected resource.</p> <p>Goal 2: Focus conservation and restoration activities on priority areas such as the Targeted Ecological Areas.</p> <p>Goal 3: Conserve and restore species of concern and important habitat types that may fall outside of designated green infrastructure (examples include: rock outcrops, karst systems, caves, shale barren communities, grasslands, shoreline beach and dune systems, mud flats, non-forested islands, etc.)</p> <p>Goal 4: Develop a more comprehensive inventory of natural resource lands and environmentally sensitive areas to assist State and local implementation programs.</p> <p>Goal 5: Establish measurable objectives for natural resource conservation and an integrated state/local strategy to achieve them through State and local implementation programs.</p> <p>Goal 6: Assess combined ability of State and local programs to expand and connect forests, farmland and other natural lands as a network of contiguous green infrastructure, protect critical terrestrial and aquatic habitats, biological communities and populations, manage watersheds in ways that protect, conserve and restore stream corridors, riparian forest buffers, wetlands, floodplains and aquifer recharge areas and their associated hydrologic and water quality functions, adopt coordinated land and watershed management strategies that recognize the critical links between growth management and aquatic biodiversity and fisheries production, and support a productive forest land base and forest resource industry, emphasizing the economic viability of privately owned forestland.</p>	<p>GOAL 1: Implement resource protection, conservation, and preservation strategies that promote high water quality and protect aquatic life throughout Queen Anne’s County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ STRATEGY 1: Implement watershed-based planning efforts to advance achievement of WIP and MS4 goals ○ STRATEGY 2: Promote and facilitate the protection of Sensitive Areas <p>GOAL 2: Implement conservation, preservation, and regulation strategies including environmental protection and resource conservation measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ STRATEGY 1: Develop steps to improve water quality with the goal of removal from the State’s impaired waterway list. ○ STRATEGY 2: Protect Sensitive Areas <p>GOAL 3: Implement a growth management strategy to direct new and infill development to existing Growth Areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ STRATEGY 1: Meet growth management goals and objectives with respect to public water supplies and facilities. ○ STRATEGY 2: Meet growth management goals and objectives with respect to public and private wastewater facilities. ○ STRATEGY 3: Provide adequate treatment for the quality, volume, and rate of stormwater runoff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Work collaboratively with the Municipalities and surrounding Counties to adopt water resource protection strategies and regulations. ■ Partner with regional localities, non-governmental organizations, and others to target high value restoration opportunities and increase implementation efficiency. <p>Recommendations in the PlanQAC 2022 will continue to enhance County efforts to address the State’s goals for natural resource conservation related to Targeted Ecological Areas, maintaining a comprehensive inventory of natural resource lands and sensitive areas, establishing measurable objectives for natural resource conservation, expanding and connecting forests, farmland and other natural lands to create greenways, protect habitats, manage watersheds while continuing to support a productive agricultural and forest land base and forest resource industry.</p>

NATURAL RESOURCE LAND INVENTORY

Queen Anne’s County documents existing conserved natural resource lands owned by the State of Maryland that are available for recreational use as well as natural resource conservation. These are documented in Table III-1 below.

Table III-1 Queen Anne’s County Inventory of Natural Resource Lands

Site Name	Acres	Trails	Water Access	Notes
State Lands				
Tuckahoe State Park	1,837	X	X	Offers boating and fishing. The park has 20 miles of scenic hiking, biking and equestrian trails, flat water canoeing, hunting, picnicking, as well as a recycled tire playground for children.
Wye Mills Lake	67		X	One of the largest fish impoundments on the Eastern Shore provides fisherman with opportunity to catch bass and bluegill
Wye Island Natural Resource Area	2,515	X	X	Provides hunting, fishing, recreational hiking opportunities.
DNR Headquarters/Matapeake Park	17			
Langenfelder Property	65			
Unicorn Lake	189			Large Mouth Bass and blue gill fishery located in Millington
State Lands Total Acreage 4,416				

Source: Queen Anne’s County Park Facilities Inventory provided by Queen Anne’s County Parks & Recreation

STATE PARKS

Queen Anne’s County is home to 1,837 acres of Tuckahoe State Park which provides outdoor recreation with more than 25 miles of walking, hiking, biking and equestrian trails, fishing, canoeing and kayaking opportunities, camping, disc golf, picnicking and playgrounds.

Not included in the Queen Anne’s County Parks inventory because it has not been developed yet is property along Love Point that the State has explored developing as a State Park.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS & Fish Impoundments

Wildlife Management Areas are located across the State. There are two in Queen Anne’s County. Managed by the Wildlife and Heritage Services, WMA’s offer protection of wildlife habitat by managing their ecosystems. This includes use of a variety of management techniques including herd and flock management using licensed hunting and trapping programs. WMAs also offer recreational opportunities including fishing, walking/hiking, birdwatching and nature photography.

Browns Branch Wildlife Management Area was acquired by the Department of Natural Resources in 2019. This 1,172 acre tract has not yet been added to the Queen Anne’s County Parks & Recreation Inventory. It is dedicated to wildlife conservation and managed by the Wildlife and

Heritage Service. Public hunting is allowed with a permit during legal hunting seasons and with restrictions. It is open year-round to non-hunting users for hiking, fishing, biking, bird watching, and nature photography.

Wye Island Natural Resource Management Area is managed by the Maryland Park Service. A major emphasis of Wye Island NRMA is providing suitable habitat for wintering waterfowl and other native wildlife and a major objective is stabilization of the 30 miles of ever-eroding shoreline. Wildlife viewing and hiking are the most popular activities on Wye Island’s six miles of trails. Horseback riding and bicycling are also popular. Hunting for Canada Goose and White Tailed Deer is available through managed hunts and lotteries. Raccoon hunting and Fox chasing are also available on a limited basis by permit.

Wye Mills Lake located in the southern end of the County is one of the largest fish impoundments on the Eastern Shore. It is primarily stocked with bass and bluegill.

Unicorn Lake, located in Millington, provides a hatchery and impoundment for Bass and Bluegill.

RURAL LEGACY AREAS

Queen Anne’s County has historically been a leader in the State with respect to natural resource land protection. A large portion of land interests acquired for such purposes has been through the Rural Legacy Program (Map III-2). Queen Anne’s County is home to two of the thirty-one State Rural Legacy Areas:

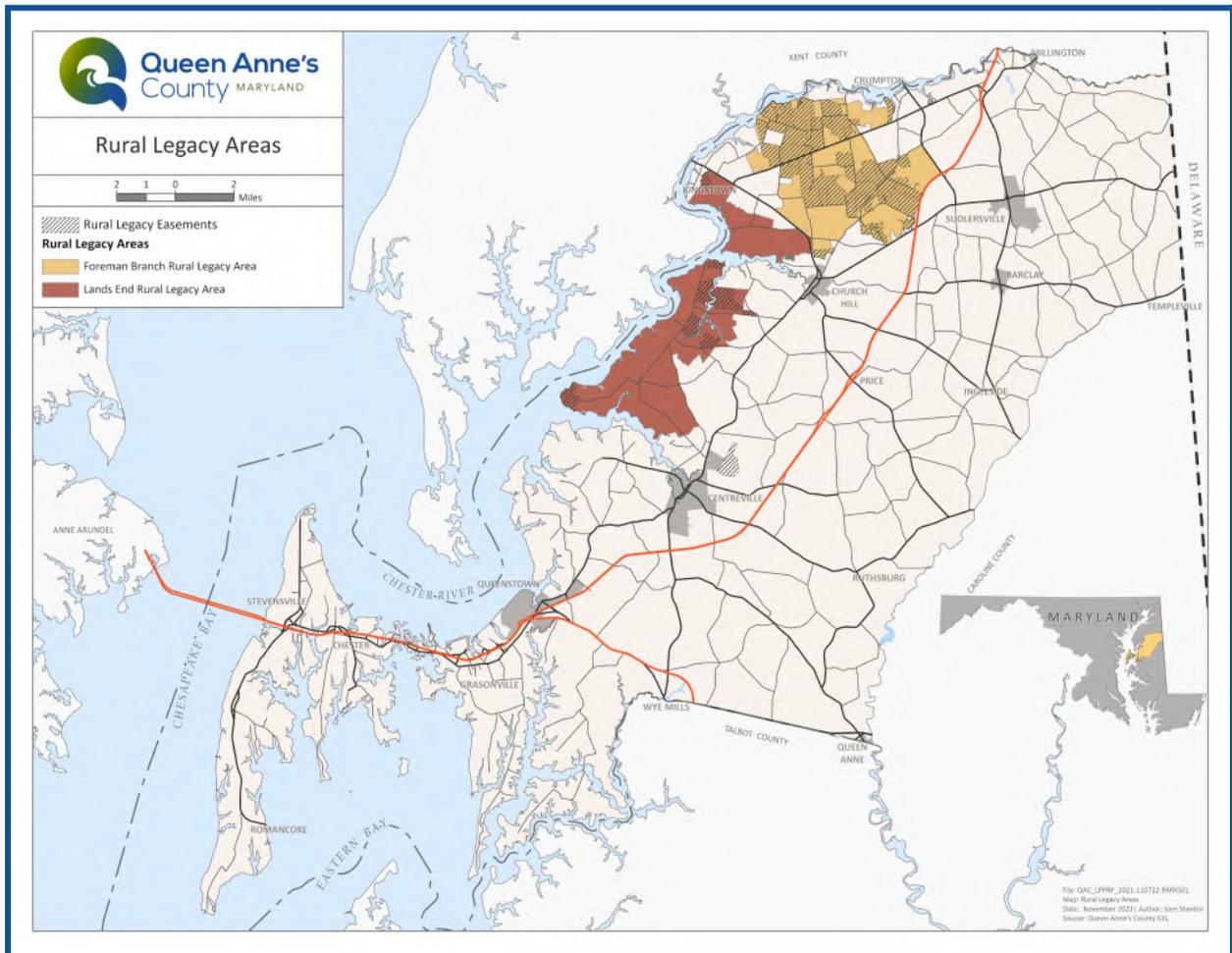
Table III-2 Rural Legacy Areas

Site Name	Acres Under Easement
Lands End Rural Legacy Area	11,880.00
Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	11,691.00
Rural Legacy Area Total	23,571.00

Lands End Rural Legacy Area (Acres: 11,880), is located along the Corsica and Chester Rivers. The Area contains Conquest Preserve, a County- owned Park which provides public access to the Corsica River, historic, agricultural/horticultural and environmental interpretation, other passive recreational uses, and protects wetlands and wildlife habitat. Significant amount of shoreline along the Chester River is preserved within this Area as well as prime waterfowl habitat. Additional properties comprise the Lands End Rural Legacy Area, preserving shoreline, historic agriculturally used lands, and providing unique wetland and wildlife habitat.

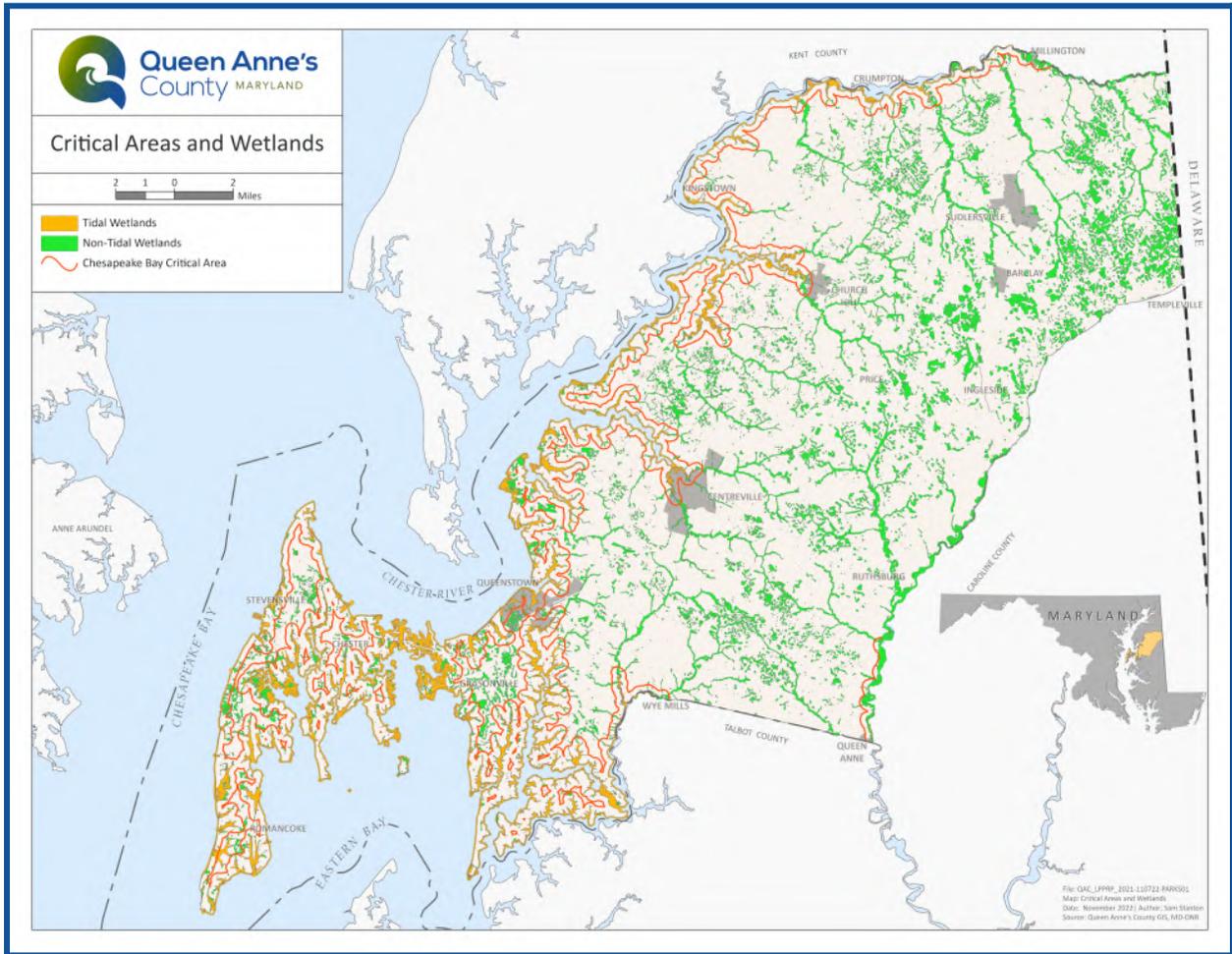
Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area (Acres; 11,691), is located in the northwest part of the county. This area includes unique wetland habitat and one of the most scenic river landscapes in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area protects waterfront farms along the south shore of the Chester River East of Chestertown. Foreman Branch has 2.5 miles of river frontage, a 90 acre lake managed as a sanctuary for Canada Geese and other waterfowl, and several areas containing Delmarva Bays, globally unique wetlands harboring a number of endangered species. Protection of this Area will help improve the water quality of the watershed, preserve farms, woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitat; and preserve one of the most scenic river landscapes in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Map III-1 Rural Legacy Areas

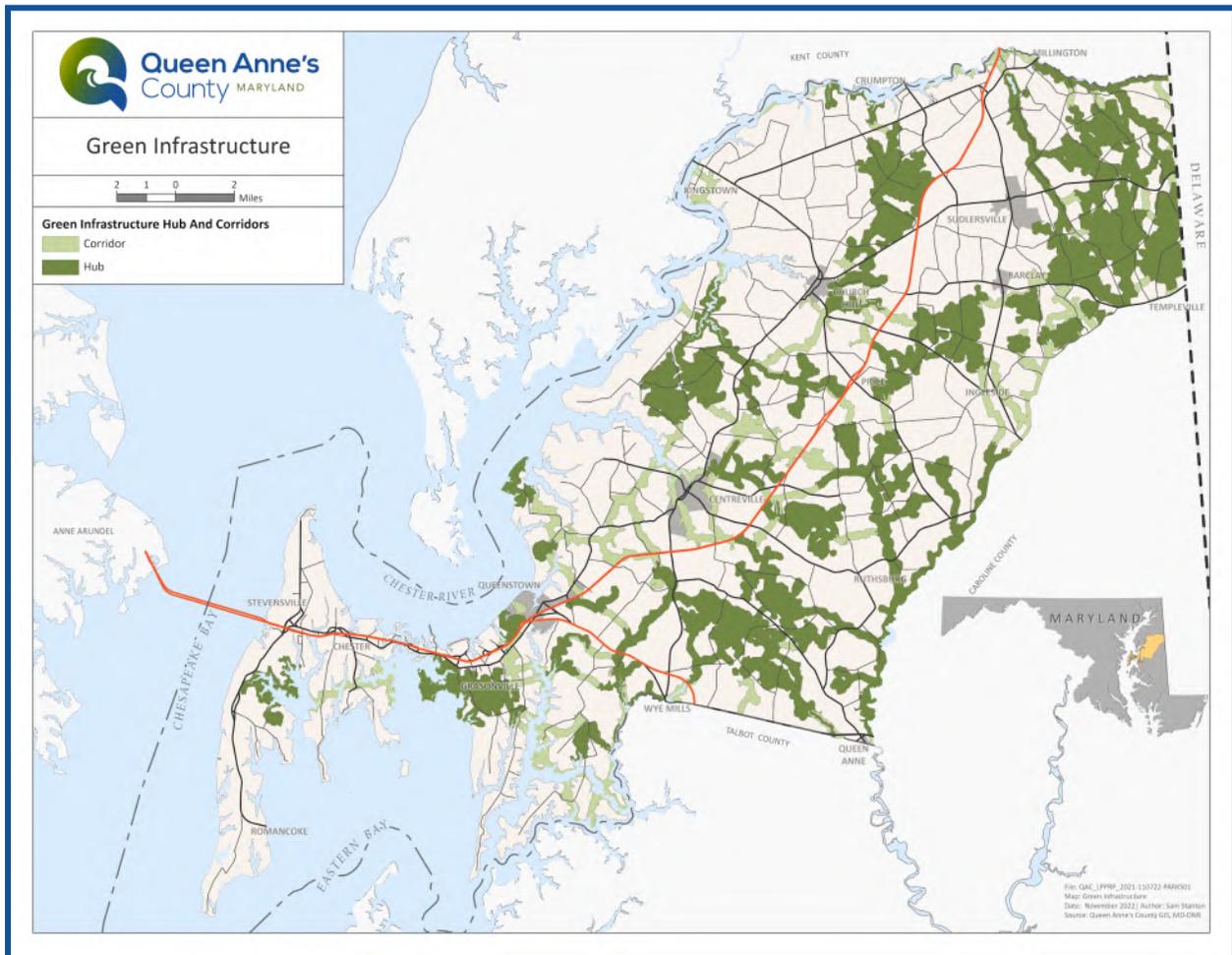


The following maps illustrate and convey the information relating to other natural resource land conservation in the County.

Map III-2 Critical Areas



Map III-3 Green Infrastructure Hubs & Corridors



CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION

Queen Anne's County is fortunate to have an abundance of parkland acquired with natural resource conservation in mind. Areas of contiguous forest have been preserved and maintained to attract Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS). Regulations protecting stream channels and creating vegetative filters have been prescribed, and Federal and State laws enacted to protect the most sensitive areas directly bordering the Chesapeake Bay, otherwise known as the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. The State of Maryland requires local comprehensive plans to contain a Sensitive Areas element which describes how the County will protect streams and stream buffers; 100-year floodplains; habitats of threatened and endangered species; and steep slopes. QAC plans create a multiple prong approach towards Sensitive Areas such as consideration of no net loss policies for wetlands and forests, enforcing the County wetland and stream buffer ordinances, implementing the Forest Mitigation Plan and Accounting Procedure and

Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program, and investigating shoreline restoration. The County recognizes that preservation of sensitive areas provides beneficial outcomes to include:

- positive impact on wildlife habitat
- sustainability of aquatic habitats
- flood control
- natural water filtration
- recreational opportunities
- decreased development

Complementing the County effort to preserve and maintain natural resources is its accessible network of parks and trails. There are 16 parks and 4 trail systems in Queen Anne's County. The 7 mile Cross Island (CI) Trail is ADA accessible and stretches from Terrapin Nature Park on Kent Island to Ferry Point Park along the Kent Narrows. The CI trail allows observation of wildlife in an environmentally sensitive manner. Terrapin Nature Park is 279 acres with 4000 feet of shoreline, 73 acres of wetland and a 3 mile oyster chaff trail. The county's unique site in the eastern Chesapeake Bay region also enables public access to its many water assets. The Corsica River Trails and the Kent Island Water Trails provide significant public access to the habitats of eagles, ospreys, herons, hawks, deer, muskrat, beaver, river otters, and turtles.

Implementing Ordinances & Programs

The following is a listing of key County Ordinances adopted since 2004 when the County's Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, codified in Chapters 14 and 18 of the County Code, were comprehensively revised. Ordinances were revised to further minimize environmental impacts and to define regulatory activities with the potential to protect environmentally sensitive areas and water resources. Some of the ordinances listed below pertain specifically to the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Act, the County's Environmental Protection Code and other chapters of the County Code.

County Ordinance No. 19-13 The ordinance prohibits the release of non-biodegradable balloons for the purpose of protecting the waters, animals and overall environment of the County from the toxic impact of said balloons.

County Ordinance 13-15 The ordinance requires a Timber Harvest Plan.

County Ordinance No. 12-09 The ordinance requires vegetative buffers of native species of a minimum of 30 feet for cluster subdivisions.

County Ordinance No. 08-10 The ordinance prohibits application of commercial or chemical fertilizer within the Critical Area Buffer during certain times of the year.

County Ordinance No. 08-09 The ordinance requires mandatory pump-out of on-site septic systems at least once every five years.

County Ordinance No. 08-04 The ordinance defines setbacks of 100 feet from Tidal and Non-Tidal Waters and Wetlands for principal residential structures in the Waterfront Village Center Zoning District.

2004 18:2 Forest Conservation Act seeks to protect existing forests and when development requires any forest protection and/or clearing, appropriate replanting and easements are put into place.

County Ordinance No. 04-07 The ordinance establishes setbacks from stream buffers for certain uses.

County Ordinance No. 04-06 The ordinance adds provisions requiring vegetative improvements to stream buffers when development activity occurs on adjacent land.

The Maryland General Assembly passed **Senate Bill 236**, the Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 (aka “the Septic Bill”) during the 2012 legislative session. The goal of the legislation is:

"To limit the disproportionate impacts of large subdivisions on septic systems on our farm and forest land, streams, rivers and Chesapeake and Coastal Bays."

The **Septic Bill** is implemented through the preparation and adoption of growth tier mapping by the individual jurisdictions including municipalities. Queen Anne’s County chose to opt out from voluntary identification and mapping of the Tiers as provided for in State Bill 236 where it has been justified that local zoning puts adequate limits and restrictions on such growth. Therefore it was determined that additional restrictions were not needed.

Sensitive Areas & Natural Resources

Ongoing planning issues and opportunities related to environmentally sensitive areas include consideration of protection for:

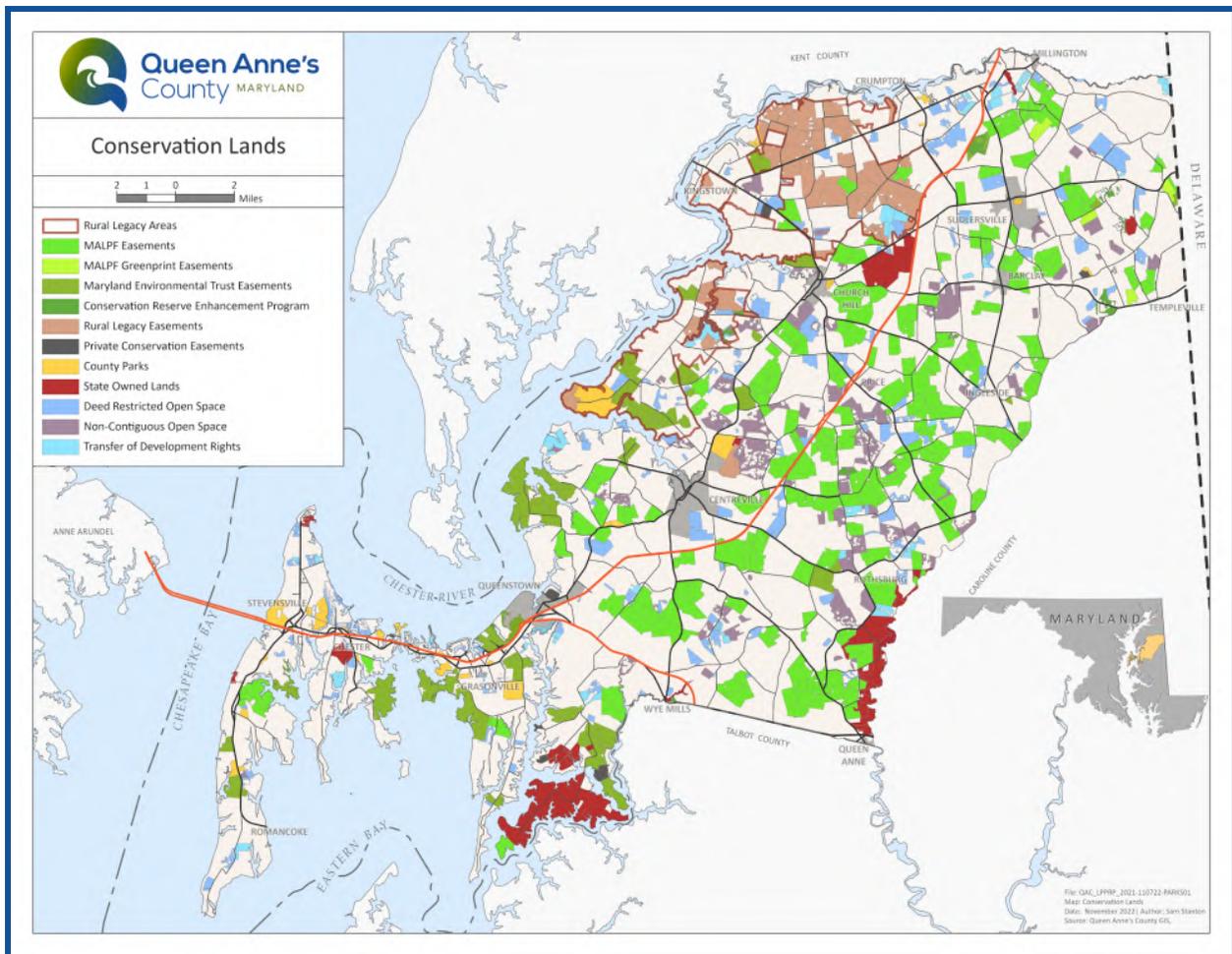
- Tidal and non-tidal wetlands
- Woodlands and forested lands

Local Natural Resource Land Conservation

Queen Anne’s County has been recognized both nationally and on the local level for its work in protecting sensitive land by establishing living shorelines. In addition to shoreline erosion protection measures implemented at Ferry Point and Conquest Preserve, the establishment of wildlife habitat, riparian buffers and vegetative filters are just some of the best management practices employed to protect local natural resources. The protection and enhancement of sensitive lands provides insurance for overall protection of the natural resources and justification

for the original investment in property acquisition of lands such as Ferry Point and Conquest Preserve. Additionally, in the case of Ferry Point, this type of project provides physical protection of the County's economic hub, the Kent Narrows Waterfront Village Center District. In the case of Conquest Preserve, protection of an event rental venue, wildlife habitat, walking, equestrian trails and structures demonstrates the County's ability to provide public recreation opportunities while conserving the natural features that make them so desirable.

Map III-4 Conservation Lands



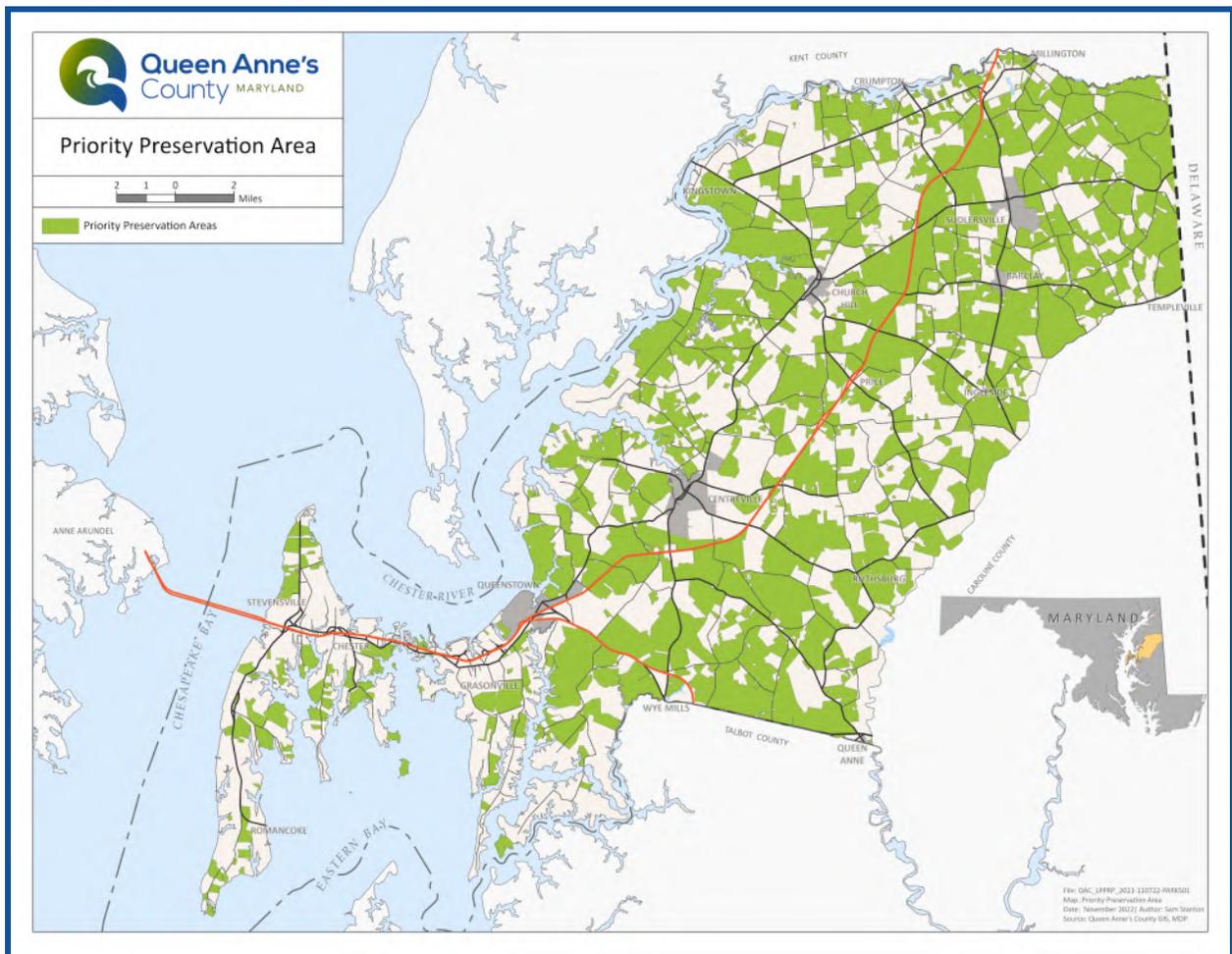
In 2008, Queen Anne's County adopted a Priority Preservation Area (PPA) in accordance with the Agricultural Stewardship Act. The PPA excludes existing subdivisions, development and existing conserved lands as shown on the map depicting Conservation Lands. The County's designated PPA includes 119,557 acres, in addition to 83,903 acres which are currently Permanently Preserved. The PPA goal is 1,789 acres per year through 2030. Lands within the PPA may consist of a variety of the following characteristics considered when prioritizing certain parcels for preservation:

- Prime Agricultural Soils;

- Forested Lands;
- Sensitive Area and Targeted Ecological Areas
- Tier II High Quality Watersheds
- Contiguous to existing preserved lands; and
- Proximity to Rural Legacy Areas.

The PlanQAC 2022 serves to outline the proposed PPA and further discuss the goals and objectives of the priority preservation area and should be referred to with regards to this subject. Of particular note regarding forested lands and tree canopy, according to the PlanQAC 2022, the county should consider establishing a 'no net loss of forest' in line with the State goal of 'no net loss of forest,' with tree canopy coverage of 40% of land in Maryland.

Map III-5 Priority Preservation Areas



For many years, Queen Anne's County has been caught in the throes of designing and financing a solution to failing septic systems and excessive nutrient loading in the area of Southern Kent Island. In November of 2016, the Maryland Board of Public Works voted to approve such a project, and through the current administration approved a loan to Queen Anne's County for \$32 million to execute the project. Additionally, the State granted the County \$15 million in Bay Restoration Funds to assist in paying down the loan. Since the 2017 LPPRP was approved, the South Kent Island project has connected approximately 700 homes to the County Wastewater Treatment System, with an additional 700 scheduled to be connected by 2025.

This project is seen as hugely important in protecting the natural resources of Southern Kent Island. This area is an extremely low-lying area of the county comprising small lots developed in the 1950's and 60's and served currently only by septic systems. Building lots of records will be consolidated in many instances and served with a step-system as a public sewerage utility, thus reducing issues associated with failing septic systems in an area of hydric soils and high water table. The project is estimated to reduce nutrient loads of nitrogen and phosphorus up to 17,300lbs, meeting more than 33% of the State prescribed goal for reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus in Queen Anne's County waterways. Lot consolidation should result in overall protection for critical areas and otherwise sensitive lands and habitat.

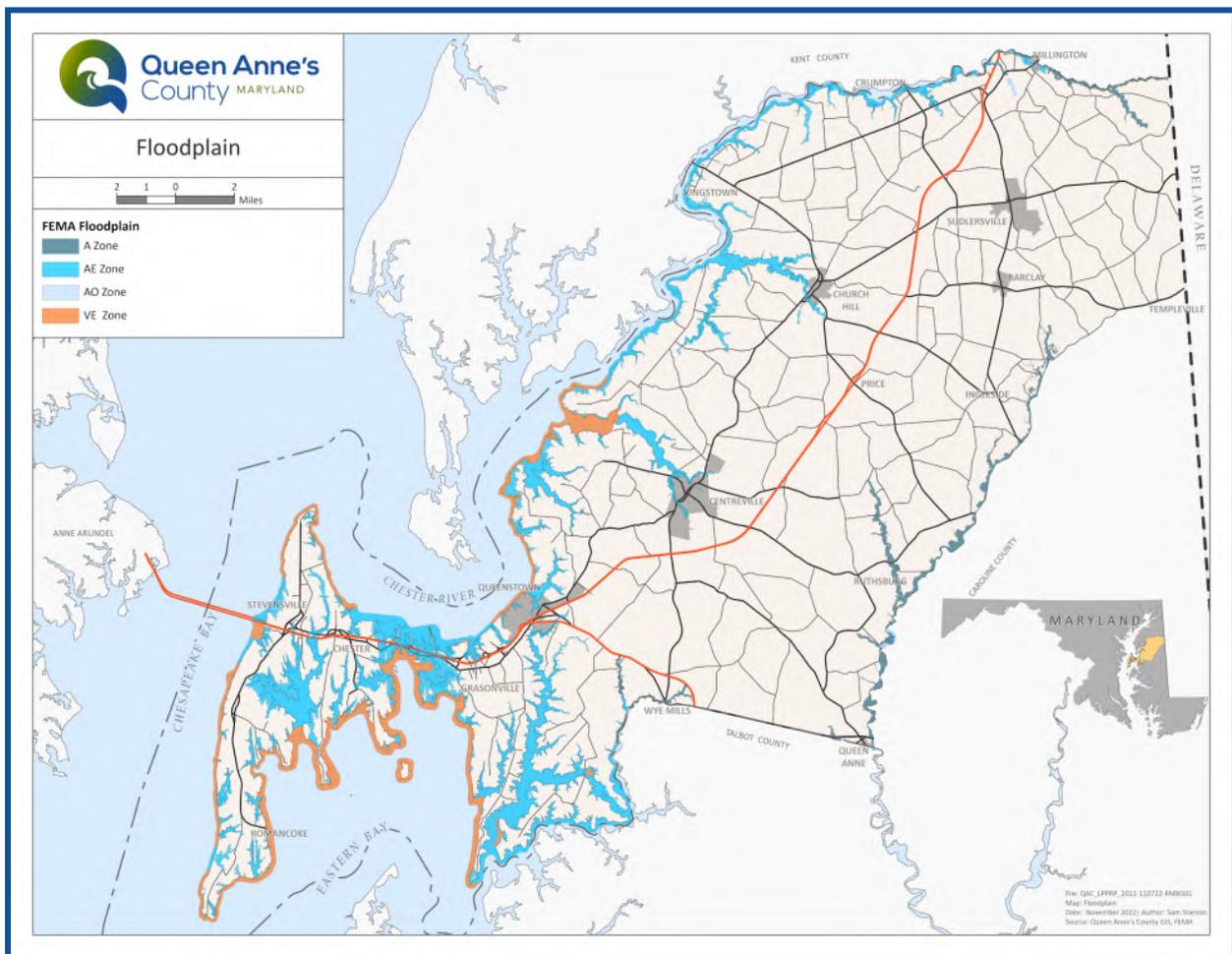
Watershed Implementation Plan

Queen Anne's County continues its commitment to natural resource protection by funding the County's Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). Through the County WIP program, public lands and water quality have been further protected and enhanced throughout the County. The land use ethic utilized to conserve natural resources in Queen Anne's County reflects the State goals and Strategies as well as the State Sustainable Smart Growth Management Strategies.

The Watershed Implementation Plan has also been significant in the protection and enhancement of sensitive lands within the County, including forest lands, wetlands and habitat areas. In addition to the main goal of meeting the County's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) as prescribed by the State Departments of Environment (MDE) and Planning (MDP), this funding source has contributed greatly to the protection and conservation of natural resource lands. Some of the largest projects to date have been done at Chesapeake College, Whitmarsh Park and Conquest Park. The Department of Public Works, Parks Department and private landowners collaborate to streamline restoration work using Best Management Practices. In many instances projects including wetland creation/restoration and enhancement, forested buffers and habitat creation, have been carried out in partnership with local non-profit organizations, advocacy groups, and other government organizations, such as the Shore Rivers, the Corsica River Conservancy, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Maryland Departments of Natural Resources (DNR), MDE, and the US Army Corp of Engineers. These partnerships resulted in increases in pollinator and wildlife habitat and replacement of turf grass with trees, shrubs and meadows.

In 2016 Queen Anne's County completed the QAC Sea Level Rise and Coastal Vulnerability Assessment and Implementation Plan to guide implementation opportunities to incorporate Sea Level Rise and coastal flooding scenarios into county planning documents.

Map III-6 Queen Anne's County Floodplain



Mechanisms Used for Natural Resource Land Protection

Maryland is recognized nationally as a leader in land conservation. Through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), model programs for land conservation and recreation have been developed and recognized for more than 50 years. These programs offer grants to conserve natural resources and provide lands for recreation at the local level.

Queen Anne's County has been widely successful in the ability to capture resources offered through the programs outlined below and in the chapter of this LPPRP dedicated to Agricultural Land Preservation. In order to advance local goals and objectives in land conservation for the purposes of natural resource protection and recreational land use, many of these same programs and tools are utilized by the County. One of the most successful tools in conservation

of natural resource lands and sensitive areas in the County has been DNR's Program Open Space.

Program Open Space (POS)

Established under the Department of Natural Resources in 1969, POS symbolizes Maryland's long term commitment to conserving natural resources while providing exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities for citizens. Funding for Program Open Space typically comes from the collection of a 0.5% State real estate transfer tax. Transfer tax funding of POS is designed with a direct correlation between development pressures and available funding for open space and recreational facilities for the public good.

The Program also administers and leverages federal funds including funds provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund. Program Open Space has two components:

Program Open Space Stateside – conserves natural areas for public recreation, watershed and wildlife protection through the fee simple acquisition of land and conservation easements. Fee simple purchases are managed by DNR as State Parks, and other various designations. A portion of stateside funds are also dedicated to capital improvements, critical maintenance, and operations in state parks. POS Stateside projects are driven by a Targeting System, which uses the best scientific information available to target the program's limited funds.

Program Open Space Local - provides financial and technical assistance to local jurisdictions (counties and municipalities) for the planning, acquisition, and/or development of recreation land or open space areas to meet their specific local land conservation and recreation goals consistent with their local Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plans.

Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) - is a federal program established to safeguard natural areas, water resources, and cultural heritage and to provide recreation opportunities. The LWCF is divided into the “State Side” which provides grants to State and local governments and the “Federal Side” which is used to acquire lands, waters and interests necessary to achieve the natural, cultural, wildlife, and recreation management objectives of federal land management agencies.

Table III-3: Comparison of Preservation/Conservation Lands

Program	Acres		Change 2009-2021	
	2009	2021	Acres	%
MALPF Districts (not permanent)*	9,754	—*	—*	—*
MALPF Easements	23,445	32,034	8,589	36.6%
MALPF/Greenprint Easements	519	522	3	0.06%
MET	8,254	9,188	934	11.3%
Rural Legacy Easements	5,405	8,171	2,766	51.2%
TDR Sending Areas	2,664	3,605	941	35.3%
Private Conservation Easements	1,061	1,104	43	4.1%
CREP	216	598	382	176.9%
County Parks	2,409	2,877	468	19.4%
State Owned Land	5,356	6,878	1,522	28.4%
Deed Restricted Open Space	11,421	10,700	-721	-6.3%
Non-Contiguous Open Space	8,559	8,226	-333	-3.9%
Total Acres Conserved/Preserved	79,063	83,903	4,840	6.1%
Total Acres Incorporated Towns	3,734	4,485	751	20.1%
Total Acres for the County	238,038			

Source: PlanQAC 2022, page 4-7

Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) - provides funds as an incentive to preserve private farmland, which also protects the greenways and other areas important to protecting natural resources and sensitive species.

Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) - provides a mechanism for property owners to voluntarily protect natural resources and preserve scenic open space. The landowner gives an easement that limits the right to develop and subdivide the land, now and in the future. Financial benefits in the form of tax deductions may also be associated with the easements.

Rural Legacy - protects natural, cultural, agricultural, and forest land statewide by granting funds to local governments and land trusts to conserve land through easement and fee purchases.

Other Local Conservation Tools include Transfer of Development Rights (TDR), Deed Restricted Open Space, Cluster Subdivision Technique, Non-Contiguous Development, and the Forest Conservation Fund along with the State Forest Conservation Act.

Accomplishments & Challenges

The County has identified both challenges and opportunities in land preservation. Two issues highlighted in the PlanQAC are insufficient funding to implement projects as well as concerns with commercial uses within the Agricultural District. The County has also identified opportunities for land preservation programs using its taxing authorities, such as transfer and recordation taxes being directed toward preservation efforts. The following table from PlanQAC 2022 provides a time-sequenced summary of land use. Of note for this Chapter, the change for forest coverage has increased over time while the coverage of wetlands has decreased.

While land coverage of various types continues to increase and decrease, land preservation continues to increase. From 2009-2021, the total acres of conserved or preserved land has increased over 20%. (Table III-4)

Table III-4: Existing Land Use/Land Cover Data

Land Use/Land Cover	1973		2010		2019		Land Use Change	
	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	1973-2019	2010-2019
Agriculture	155,015	65.2%	148,853	62.6%	133,077	56.5%	-142.0%	-10.6%
Low Density Residential	4,772	2.0%	11,013	4.6%	6,781	2.9%	42.1%	-38.4%
Medium Density Residential	588	0.2%	4,219	1.8%	6,285	2.7%	968.9%	49.0%
High Density Residential	14	<0.1%	307	0.1%	399	0.2%	2750.0%	30.0%
Commercial	524	0.2%	1,280	0.5%	1,589	0.7%	203.2%	24.1%
Institutional	284	0.1%	1,523	0.6%	1,815	0.8%	539.1%	19.2%
Industrial	27	<0.1%	288	0.1%	66	<0.1%	144.4%	-77.1%
Open Urban Land	722	0.3%	1,505	0.6%	3,194	1.4%	342.4%	112.2%
Extractive/Barren/Bare	129	0.1%	200	0.1%	NR	NR	—	—
Transportation	NR	NR	763	0.3%	6,079	2.6%	—	696.7%
Forest	72,110	30.3%	64,121	27.0%	72,558	30.8%	0.7%	13.2%
Wetland	3,665	1.5%	3,613	1.5%	3,498	1.5%	-4.6%	-3.2%
TOTAL	237,850		237,685		235,371		-1.0%	-1.0%

Source: PlanQAC 2022, page 4-5

While much has been done to protect natural resources through acquisition, the County remains focused on protecting forests, wetland and wildlife habitat, as demonstrated by its many partnerships with Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Chesapeake Bay Trust, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the National Heritage/Wildlife Conservation Society. Future focus on protection, and further development or enhancement of these resources, is evident by the many projects done annually with these partners or by the County.

Due to its proximity to the Washington D.C. /Baltimore corridor, Queen Anne's County has felt the pressures associated with growth for several decades. With it, this growth has brought the ideas, needs and wants of new residents who may have left the pressures of a more urban environment for a quieter, quality of life that can be found on the Eastern Shore. It is a delicate balance to provide the type of economic development necessary to attract and keep a viable local economy, while maintaining the 'quintessential rural community' as outlined in the County's Vision Statement. The pressures of transportation needs along a heavy interstate route, land and housing costs, schools and public infrastructure have left the cost of development of public facilities challenged.

Despite these challenges, Queen Anne's County has remained a leader in natural resource and agricultural land preservation in the State. As evident in the following table titled Maryland Natural Resource Goals – Action Taken by Queen Anne's County, 2012 – 2017, it is the realization by local government officials and planners that sustained efforts serve to only enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors. To remain proactive in providing access to the water and land for active and passive recreational opportunities, the protection of natural resources is a priority for efforts at the local level. Map [KIM insert 4-5 from 22 PlanQAC] shows the extent of Conservation Lands in Queen Anne's County.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO PARKS & OPEN SPACE

Based on the recommendations from the Plan QAC 2022 and related plans, the recommendations for future natural resource land conservation are focused on continuing to direct growth to Growth Areas to minimize impacts on undisturbed sensitive areas contained within the rural agricultural and countryside Zoning areas, effectively utilize the various programs and funding sources available to preserve land for this purpose.



CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURAL LAND

PRESERVATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Within the County's broader activity of land conservation, preservation of agricultural lands is at the forefront. Preserving the predominantly rural community is included in the Vision for Queen Anne's County. It is also a guiding principle of both the 2022 Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan (PlanQAC 2022) and The 2022 Queen Anne's County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

Certification of the Local Agriculture Land Preservation Program ("The Certification Program") was created by the Maryland General Assembly in 1990 and is jointly administered by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation and the Maryland Department of Planning.

The Agricultural Stewardship Act of 2006, adopted by the General Assembly, requires counties with certified agricultural land preservation programs such as Queen Anne's County, to establish a Priority Preservation Area (PPA) and manage this area according to certain criteria. The legislation required that the PPA be adopted in order to maintain Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) certification.

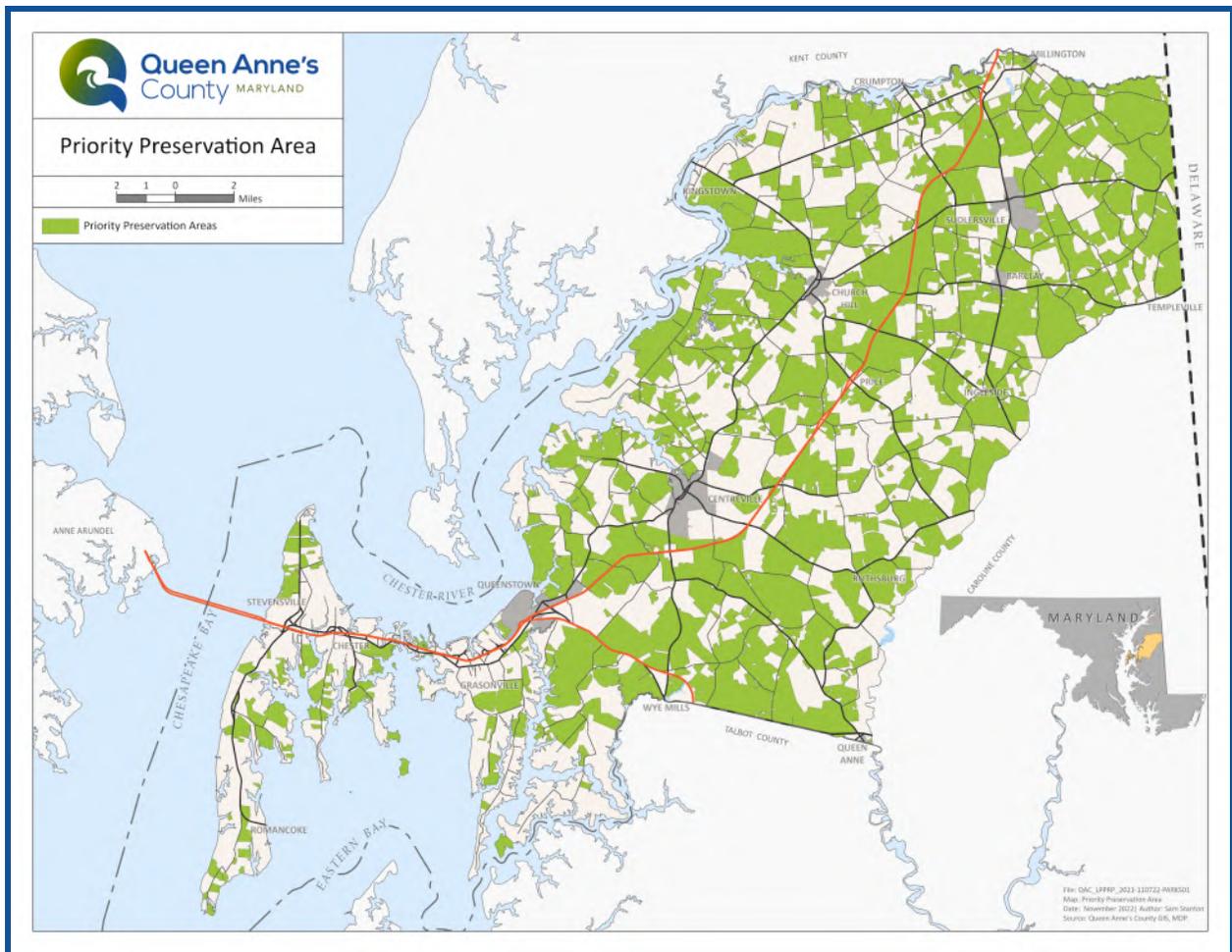
Counties able to demonstrate that they have an effective program to preserve agriculturally viable farmland and forested areas are eligible to participate in the Certification Program. Local preservation programs are composed of, any one, or a combination of preservation tools such as agricultural zoning, transfer of development rights programs, right-to-farm policies, and the

designation of agriculture as the best use of certain lands. To qualify for and retain certified status, counties are required to designate a PPA into which efforts and funds can be concentrated to preserve large contiguous blocks of agricultural and forested land.

Certified counties enjoy the benefit of retaining 75 percent of their collected agricultural transfer tax revenue, while non-certified counties retain 33 percent. All retained revenue must be spent or encumbered for qualifying land preservation expenditures within three years of collection, or those collected funds revert to the foundation. The increase in participating counties' share of the agricultural transfer tax helps to support and enhance their preservation programs in ways that best meet local goals and needs. Participation in the Certification Program by interested counties is voluntary.

As of the adoption of the PlanQAC 2022, a total of 119,557 acres of land identified on Map IV-1 Priority Preservation Areas. The acreage shown in the PPA represents approximately 50 percent of the total lands within the County, and 59 percent of lands zoned Agricultural (AG) or Countryside (CS).

Map IV-1 Priority Preservation Area



VISION

The Vision for preservation of agricultural lands noted in the PlanQAC 2022 is as follows:

COUNTY VISION FOR AGRICULTURAL (PRIORITY) PRESERVATION AREA

The vision of the future of Queen Anne's County is to maintain and enhance the County as a good place to work and a great place to live through agricultural and rural preservation for the following purposes:

- Creating a strong, sustainable rural community full of diversified agricultural opportunities including forest crop, row crop, viticulture and a wide array of agriculture alternatives;
- Promoting and protecting agriculture through rural preservation that sustains rural values and lifestyles;
- Supporting the rural character with small towns, country roads and open spaces;
- Gaining a larger market share on the East Coast for locally grown agricultural products;
- Retaining and protecting productive farmlands, historic farmsteads, coastal marsh and forested lands, and pristine landscapes throughout the County;
- Creating a greater awareness of the County's agrarian history through effective preservation policies and tourism education; and
- Advancing specialty farming industries and markets such as agritourism.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The above vision for the County provides the framework for the priority preservation of local agricultural land, natural resources and amenities.

The following guiding principles as first outlined in Maryland's Agricultural Stewardship Act of 2006, provide the characteristics and identify guidelines for designating lands for priority preservation. Priority Preservation Areas should:

- Contain productive agricultural or forested soils, or be capable of supporting profitable agricultural and forestry enterprises;
- Be governed by local policies that stabilize the agricultural and forest land base so that development does not convert or compromise agricultural or forest resources; and
- Be large enough to support the kind of agricultural operations that the County seeks to preserve.

AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION GOALS

In 2002, the Maryland General Assembly passed a resolution establishing a statewide goal of preserving approximately 1,030,000 acres of productive agricultural land by 2022 (extended to 2030), through the combined efforts of MALPF, Rural Legacy, GreenPrint (a program that has since ended) and local easement acquisition programs. In 2021, two easement programs were added, the Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program and the addition of the Maryland Environmental Trust program originally created to preserve environmental resource lands. The following are the State Goals for Agricultural Land Preservation:

2022 AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION GOALS

STATE GOALS	COUNTY GOAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Permanently preserve agricultural land capable of supporting a reasonable diversity of agricultural production. ● Protect natural, forestry, and historic resources and the rural character of the landscape associated with Maryland’s farmland. ● To the greatest degree possible, concentrate preserved land in large, relatively contiguous blocks to effectively support long-term protection of resources and resource-based industries. ● Limit the intrusion of development and its impacts on rural resources and resource-based industries. ● Ensure good return on public investment by concentrating state agricultural land preservation funds in areas where the investment is reasonably well supported by both local investment and land use management programs. ● Work with local governments to achieve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish preservation areas, goals, and strategies through local comprehensive planning processes that address and complement State goals; ○ In each area designated for preservation, develop a shared understanding of goals and the strategy to achieve them among rural landowners, the public-at-large, and State and local government officials; ○ Protect the equity interests of rural landowners in preservation areas by ensuring sufficient public commitment and investment in preservation through easement acquisition and incentive programs; ○ Use local land use management authority effectively to protect public investment in preservation by managing development in rural preservation areas; and ○ Establish effective measures to support profitable agriculture, including assistance in production, marketing, and the practice of stewardship, so that farming remains a desirable way of life for both the farmer and the public-at-large. ○ Examine opportunities to create additional incentives to preserve farmland. 	<p>Agricultural Preservation is one goal within the PlanQAC 2022 overall Land Use goals. The goal includes the following strategies and recommendations.</p> <p>STRATEGY 1: Continue discussions and relationships with reliable resources for agricultural land preservation and gain significant local support in conjunction with State agricultural land preservation decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RECOMMENDATIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Continue to implement Priority Preservation Area strategies and preservation programs (e.g., MALPF, MET, CREP). ■ Match MALPF funds from the agricultural transfer tax. ■ Continue to aggressively apply for preservation funding including POS, MALPF, MET, Rural Legacy Program, CREP, and CRP funds and advocate for larger funding sources for these programs. ■ Maintain MALPF Certification and other State program requirements to receive State preservation resources. Page 4-24 PlanQAC 2022 Land Use ■ Conduct analysis of benefits of TDRs to Growth Areas and evaluate the County’s Noncontiguous Development Rights (NCD) program. ■ Continue to solidify the County’s agricultural industry as a national asset by preserving the County’s prime agricultural soils. ● STRATEGY 2: Support the establishment of greenbelts to define Growth Area boundaries, coordinating with Towns as appropriate. ○ RECOMMENDATIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Collaborate with the municipalities as they explore the annexation potential of their Growth Areas. ■ As these Growth Areas are finalized in the towns’ Municipal Growth Elements, promote the designation of greenbelts as part of the County’s Priority Preservation Area (PPA).

2017 GOALS & UPDATES

Since the 2006 Agricultural Stewardship Act was passed and State and County agricultural preservation goals were established, Queen Anne's County has permanently preserved a total of 83,903 acres toward its goal of 100,000 acres. Since the 2017 LPPRP was drafted the County has added 3,837 acres to its preserved lands inventory through a total investment of \$11,563,024 of combined federal, state and local fundings.

CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

LAND USE MANAGEMENT

The importance of the region's agricultural heritage is the top priority with residents and members of the farming community and is consistent with County planning initiatives. Currently, 85% or 201,527 acres of Queen Anne's County's land is zoned Agricultural (AG) or Countryside (CS). Such lands continue to remain a crucial economic value to the County and the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Table IV-1 Queen Anne's County Agriculture 2017

Total Land in County	238,038 acres
Total Land in Farms	163,001 acres
Total Land in Land Preservation	83,903 acres
Total Number of Farms	483
Average Size of Farm	337 acres

Queen Anne's County has preserved approximately 38% of its total land area in some form of conservation program. The 2017 Census of Agriculture noted that the County's 483 farms covered more than 163,000 acres. The County's current agricultural economy includes agricultural production and products of about half from field crops, vegetables, fruits, and half in livestock and poultry. The future agricultural economy is expected to continue production in a similar manner as well as add specialty products via the use of a variety of agricultural practices and innovations. The following are types of agricultural, forestry, aquaculture and associated uses important to the economy of Queen Anne's County:

- Poultry production and livestock;
- Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas
- Vegetable and fruit harvesting and processing;
- Forestry, logging and timber harvesting,
- Aquaculture harvesting and processing;
- Agricultural retail (i.e. farmers markets, wholesaling);
- Agritourism operations such as vineyards, wineries , and other specialty products and uses that showcase working farms; and
- Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod production.

INVENTORY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION

Table IV-2 Queen Anne's County Easements

Easement Holder	# of Properties	Acres
MALPF		33,826.00
Rural Legacy		7,191.00
METS		9,904.00
TOTAL	0	50,921.00

Queen Anne's County documents existing agricultural land preservation in the county by way of mapping. Protected natural resource lands may be found on various maps provided in the following section of this report. All lands including MALPF, Greenprint, Rural Legacy, MET, TDR Sending Areas, CREP Easement, Non-Contiguous Opens Space, Deed Restricted Opens Space, County owned Parks, State owned lands and Incorporated Towns can all be found on Map IV-2 Conservation Lands.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

Within the Agricultural (AG) and Countryside (CS) zoning districts, the County uses development and preservation techniques such as Transfer of Development Rights (TDR), Deed Restricted Open Space (DROS) and Non-Contiguous Open Space (NCD). These techniques require the creation of deed restricted open space thus achieving higher levels of preservation through private market transactions rather than relying on funding from governmental programs.

The County uses the following programs to acquire easements that preserve agricultural land:

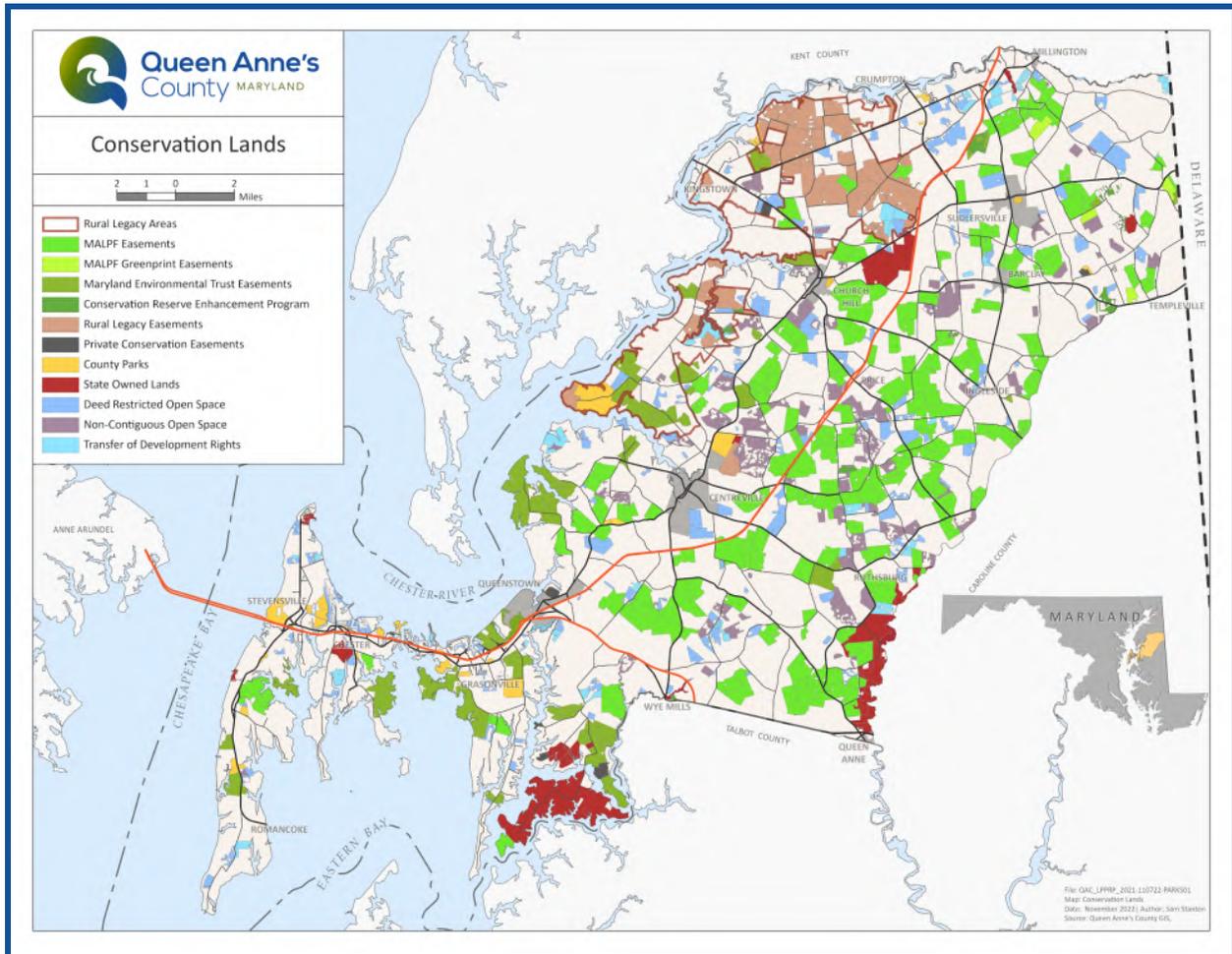
- Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF)- State program
- Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) - State program
- Rural Legacy – State program
- Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) - County program
- Deed Restricted Opens Space (DROS) – County program
- Non-Contiguous Open Space (NCOS) – County program, and the
- Cluster Subdivision Technique

Table IV-3 Preserved Land from Maryland Dashboard

Land Preservation Program	2020 Total Acres
MET	9,904
MALPF	33,826
Local PDR/TDR	11,049
Private Conservation Organizations	1,104
MARBIDCO	173
Rural Legacy	7,191
ISTEA/Forest Legacy/CREP/FRPP-ACEP	785
Cluster Subdivision Remainder	11,266
POS Stateside Conservation Easement	2,142
County Rec & Parks	6,992
DNR State Land Inventory	5,981
Federal Park & Conservation	0
Total Preserved Lands	90,413

[Maryland Protected Lands Dashboard as of June 30, 2022](#)

Map IV-2 Queen Anne's County Conservation Lands



Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation

The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) was established in 1976 to provide funds as an incentive to preserve private farmland. Individual farmers sell an easement to MALPF, restricting development of the property. The Governor and General Assembly allocate MALPF funds from the State real estate transfer tax revenues. MALPF allocations are divided into two parts; the first part of the allocation consists of 50% of all available MALPF funds and is divided evenly among the 23 counties. The second part of the allocation is used to match county funds. State MALPF funds from the matching allocation can be used for up to 60% of total project cost, with a maximum of \$1 million. Any funds unspent from the allocation procedures are used on a statewide basis according to the ratio of asking price to easement value.

Applications for MALPF are submitted to the County coordinator, who forwards the application and recommendation of the local advisory board to the State. Easement values are established by appraisal, and property owners are encouraged to voluntarily discount the easement value

(i.e. accept a lower amount of compensation than the appraisal indicates) in return for potential tax benefits.

Queen Anne's County uses the MALPF program as its primary agricultural land preservation tool. The County fiscal commitment to the MALPF program declined significantly in the years between 1997 through 2005. Since FY11, the County has spent \$27.8M to preserve land through MALPF, including \$11.6M since FY2017.

Maryland Environmental Trust

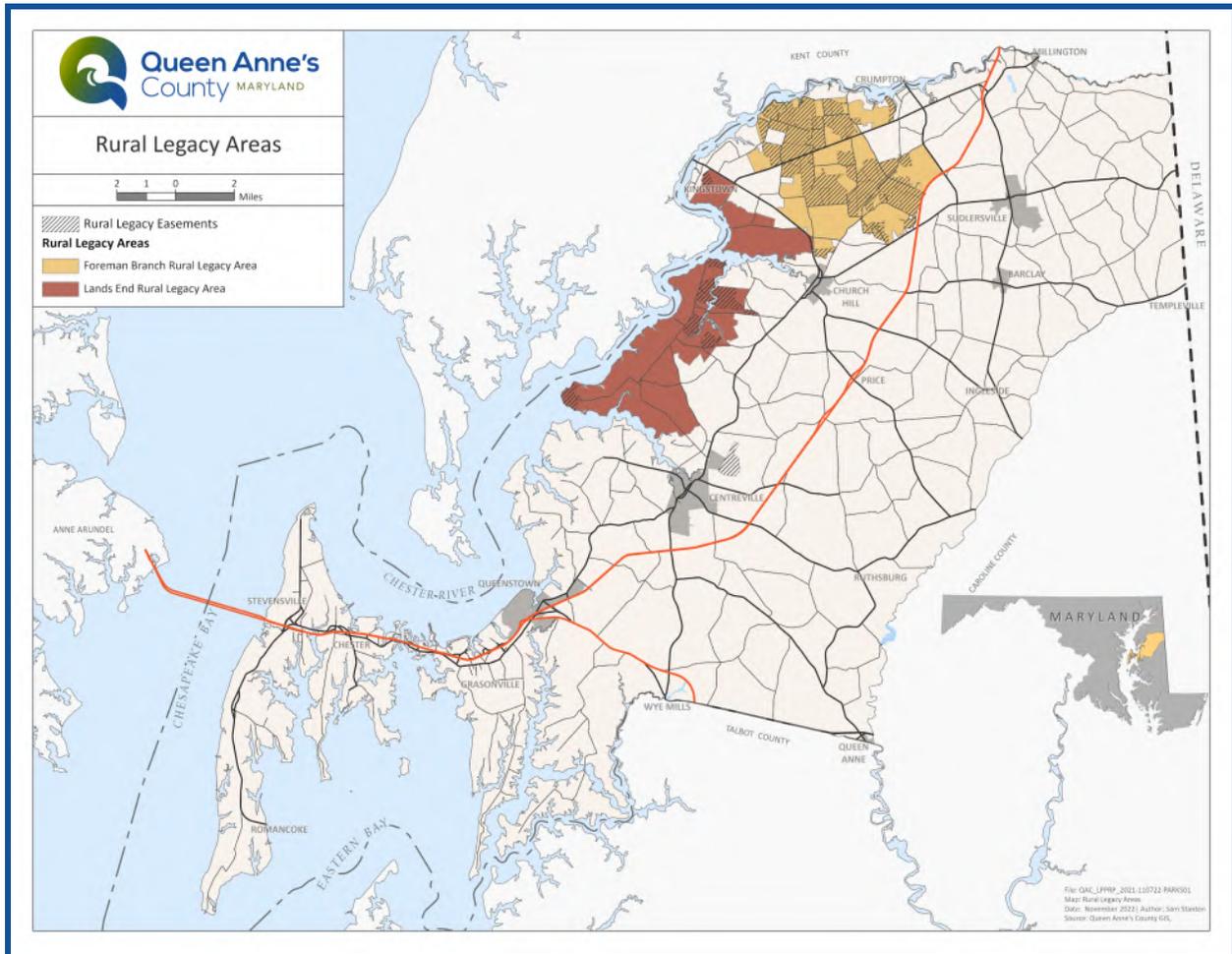
The Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) was established in 1970. MET accepts conservation easement donations from property owners. Donations are strictly voluntary and are utilized by landowners to protect natural resources and preserve scenic open space. The landowner who gives an easement limits the right to develop and subdivide the land, now and in the future, but still remains the owner. Easements are binding on future owners, therefore, an easement assures that the land will never be used in a way contrary to the current owner's intent. Financial benefits in the form of tax deductions may also be associated with the easements. Easements often facilitate transferring land to family members without paying large estate taxes. MET may accept conservation easements on farmland as well as environmentally sensitive areas.

The Trust also promotes appreciation of the environment and its care. MET programs include Land Conservation, Monitoring and Stewardship, Local Land Trust Assistance, and the Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants Program.

Rural Legacy

Maryland's Rural Legacy Program (RLP) was created within Maryland DNR to preserve large blocks of working rural lands for future generations. The Program established in 1997 and funded each year through the Maryland General Assembly, protects natural, cultural, agricultural, and forest land statewide by granting funds to local governments and land trusts, to conserve land through easement and fee purchases within designated rural legacy areas. Local jurisdictions are encouraged to competitively apply for funds to complement existing land preservation efforts or to develop new preservation areas. Easements or fee estate purchases are sought from willing landowners in order to protect areas vulnerable to sprawl development that can weaken the natural resources of an area, thereby reducing the economic value of farming, forestry, recreation and tourism. Rural Legacy Areas help to preserve contiguous tracts of land, often consisting of multiple parcels of meadow and agricultural lands. Currently there are 34 Rural Legacy Areas throughout the State of Maryland of which two Rural Legacy Areas exist within Queen Anne's County, Foreman Branch (11,691 acres) and Lands End (11,880 acres).

Map IV-3 Rural Legacy Areas



Transfer of Development Rights (TDR)

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program creates a process where development rights may be transferred from one parcel of land to another through the conveyance of development rights by deed or easement that is recorded among the land records. Development is 'transferred' from areas where it is not desirable. The TDR program is considered a private market transaction without County involvement. PlanQAC 2022 includes recommendations to consider expanding and formalizing this program in the County.

Deed-Restricted Open Space

The Queen Anne's County Land Use and Development Code includes subdivision techniques that require clustering of development on a portion of the property and deed restriction as open space on a portion of the property to support the development proposed. The open space covenants are recorded in the land records.

Non-Contiguous Open Space

Since 1987, Queen Anne's County Land Use and Development code has included a provision that allows lands zoned Agricultural (AG) and Countryside (CS) to utilize the non-contiguous subdivision technique. A land owner or groups of landowners whose lots are in the same zoning district but not contiguous physically, may file a development plan in the same manner as the owner of a single lot. The minimum open space for the developed parcel is 50% and open space ratio for the appropriate district applies to all lands within the development plan. The regulations allow only two phases of non-contiguous development to occur within a specific development proposal.

Cluster Subdivision Technique

The Cluster Subdivision Technique is intended to protect agricultural land by requiring a ratio of open space dedicated for preservation to a certain amount of land available for development. In the rural and agricultural areas the ratio is 85% open space to 15% developable area. A Cluster subdivision requires that 85% open space to be placed in an easement and the nature of the property is deed-restricted.

Additional Land Preservation Programs

In addition to these land preservation programs, Queen Anne's County has worked with Maryland's Program Open Space to protect properties that contain agricultural lands, as well as important natural resources. Other Federal and State conservation programs and tools that have been utilized to preserve open space in Queen Anne's County include:

- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Easements (CREP);
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP);
- State Forest Conservation Act; and
- Dept. of the Interior National Parks Service – Land & Water Conservation Fund.

EVALUATION OF THE LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

OVERALL STRATEGY

Since 2003 to the present, Queen Anne's County has spent more than \$25 million for the purpose of preserving land through MALPF and the Rural Legacy preservation programs alone. A diverse group of organizations and agencies contribute to agricultural land preservation in Queen Anne's County. Both direct protection of private agricultural lands through conservation easement acquisition and economic development support of the farming industry are equally significant in the County. Placing conservation easements on private land from willing owners has been the chief mechanism for protecting agricultural lands in Queen Anne's County. The majority of these easements have been purchased through Rural Legacy and MALPF programs

with the State of Maryland providing the majority of the funding with local funds generated from several sources used to match State dollars. The County contributes local tax dollars to staffing and easement purchase, as well as enforcing land use and right to farm regulations.

As reported in the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation FY 2021 Annual Report, Queen Anne's County (as of June 30, 2021) had a total number of 192 agricultural preservation easements acquired, up from 169 in 2017); representing 9.64% of the total number of State easements. Queen Anne's County ranks third in the State for Agricultural land preservation, just behind Carroll County (13.34%) and Caroline County (10.06%).

MALPF CERTIFIED STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

Queen Anne's County continues to address agricultural preservation in accordance with their MALPF Certification Goal. Provided there are sufficient funds available, and other preservation tools in place with which to purchase permanent easements, the County anticipates that the goal of 100,000 acres could be preserved by 2030. Agricultural land preservation strategies that have been implemented since the 2017 LPPRP include, but are not limited to:

- Purchase of easements through MALPF
- Purchase of easements through Rural Legacy Program.

BENEFITS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION

The rural agricultural land use preservation strategy focuses on creating a strong, sustainable rural community, full of diverse agricultural opportunities and a wide array of agricultural alternatives: promoting and protecting agriculture through rural preservation that sustains rural values and lifestyles; maintaining the rural character of small towns, country roads and open spaces; retaining and protecting productive farmlands, historic farmsteads, coastal marsh and forested land and pristine landscapes throughout the county, and advancing specialty farming industries and markets.

Queen Anne's County has some of the most productive agricultural lands in the State and a long history of agricultural productivity. The approach to preservation of priority lands is to send growth to the designated growth areas and towns and to support the infrastructure needed for those areas to accept growth.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION

According to the County's MALPF Certification Goal - at an anticipated rate of 1, 789 acres/year, a total of 100,000 acres would be preserved by 2030, provided there are sufficient funds to purchase permanent easements augmented by other preservation tools and mechanisms to achieve this goal.

In order to achieve this goal, an implementation strategy must be developed to preserve 80% of the remaining undeveloped and unencumbered lands contained within the Priority Preservation Area (PPA). Further consideration must be given to encouragement of the use of various preservation techniques utilized with development of rural agricultural areas, such as cluster development and the accompanying creation of deed restricted open space, as well as Purchase of Development Rights (PDAs) and development through the Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs).

Challenges in achieving agricultural land preservation goals include: insufficient funding available to take advantage of opportunities for preservation; undeveloped lands within current areas to which transfer development rights can be received (as within Planning Areas) are not proportionate to the number of available development rights that could be transferred from Agricultural (AG) and Countryside (CS) zoned properties.

Issues:

- Insufficient funding available to take full advantage of opportunities for preservation
- Concerns regarding types of community uses that are permitted or may be allowed by conditional use with the Agricultural District (AG)

Opportunities:

- QAC commits to matching MALPF with funds from agriculture transfer tax
- County adopted a Purchase of Development Rights Program (PDF) with dedicated funding from the Recordation Tax
- Adopted a tax credit of up to \$500 for each property enrolled in MALPF
- Adopted language to strengthen the Right to Farm law

**APPENDIX A:
Queen Anne's County
2022 LPPRP Maps**

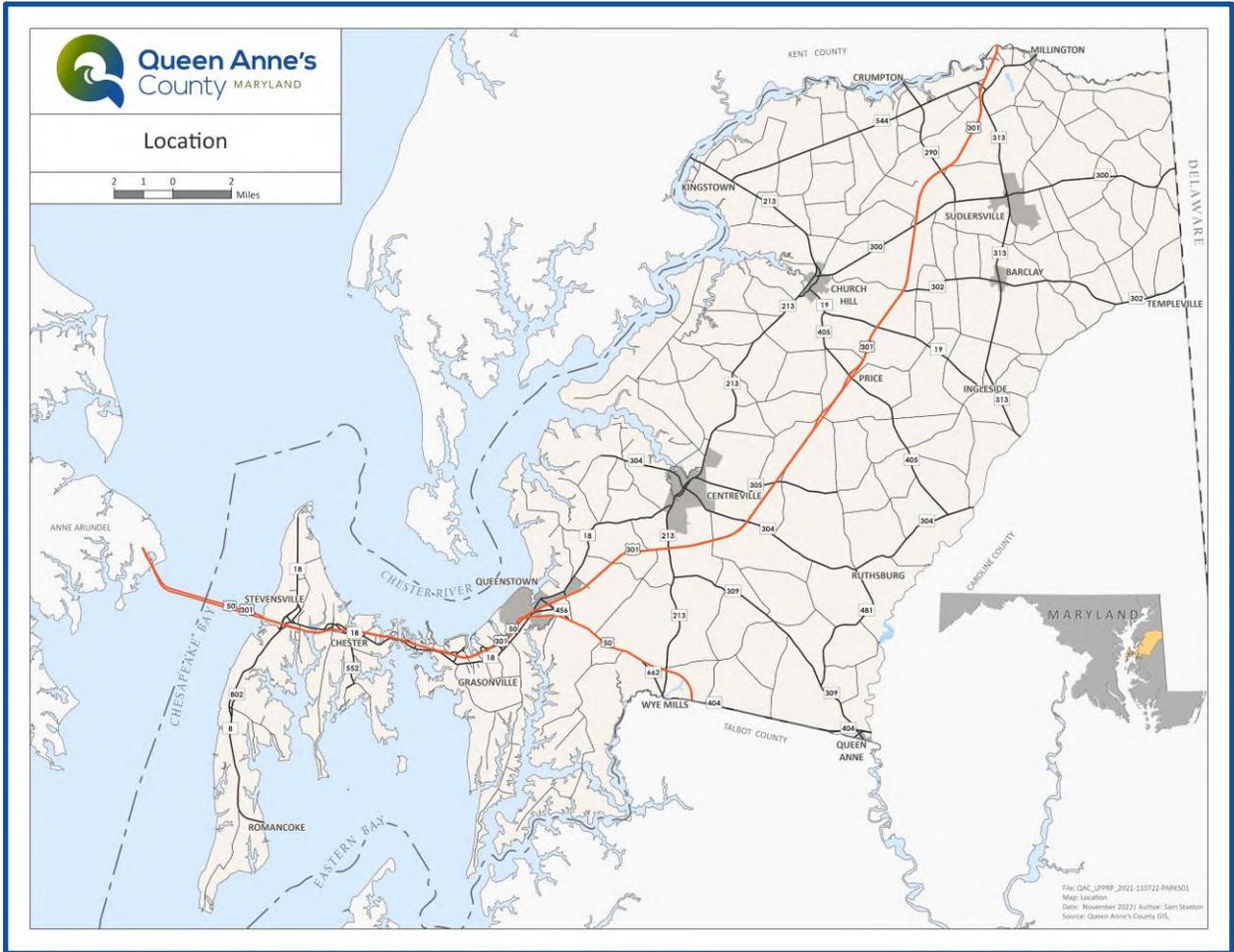
GIS Data Inventory

Queen Anne's County LPPRP GIS Data Inventory	
GIS Data Layer	Source
Road Centerlines	Queen Anne's County
Incorporated Town Boundaries	Queen Anne's County
Water Bodies	Queen Anne's County
County Boundaries	Queen Anne's County
Priority Preservation Areas	MDiMap
Zoning Designations	Queen Anne's County
Land Use Land Cover	Queen Anne's County
Green Infrastructure - Hubs and Corridors	MDiMap \ DNR
Trails	Queen Anne's County
Park Districts	Queen Anne's County
Parks and Recreation Sites	Queen Anne's County
Picnic Areas	Queen Anne's County
Playgrounds	Queen Anne's County
Multipurpose Fields	Queen Anne's County
Public Landings	Queen Anne's County
Park Equity	University of Maryland
Queen Anne's County Conservation Lands	Queen Anne's County
Rural Legacy Areas	Queen Anne's County
MALPF Easements	Queen Anne's County
MALPF Greenprint Easements	Queen Anne's County
Maryland Environmental Trust Easements	Queen Anne's County
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program	Queen Anne's County
Rural Legacy Easements	Queen Anne's County
Private Conservation Easements	Queen Anne's County
County Parks	Queen Anne's County

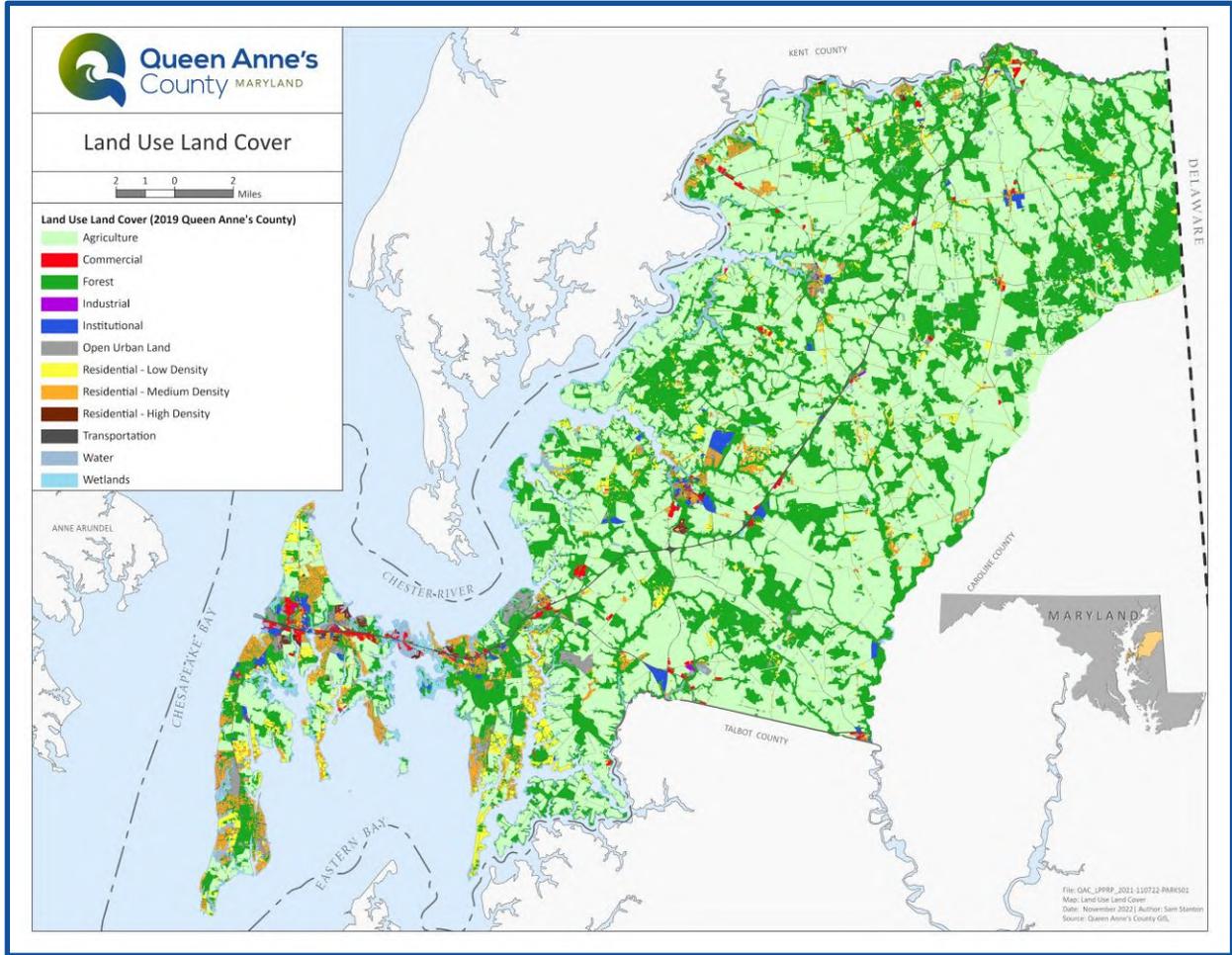
State Owned Lands	Queen Anne's County
Deed Restricted Open Space	Queen Anne's County
Non-Contiguous Open Space	Queen Anne's County
Transfer of Development Rights	Queen Anne's County
Bike Routes	Queen Anne's County
Water Trails	MDiMap \ DNR
DNR Trails	MDiMap \ DNR
Maryland Priority Funding Areas	MDiMap
Chesapeake Bay Critical Area	MDiMap \ DNR
Tidal Wetlands	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Non-Tidal Wetlands	MDiMap \ DNR
Sensitive Species Project Review Areas	MDiMap \ DNR
Forest Cover (2019 QAC LULC)	Queen Anne's County
FEMA Floodplain	FEMA

Chapter I: Framework

Map I-1 Queen Anne's County, Maryland



Map I-2 Land Use/Land Cover



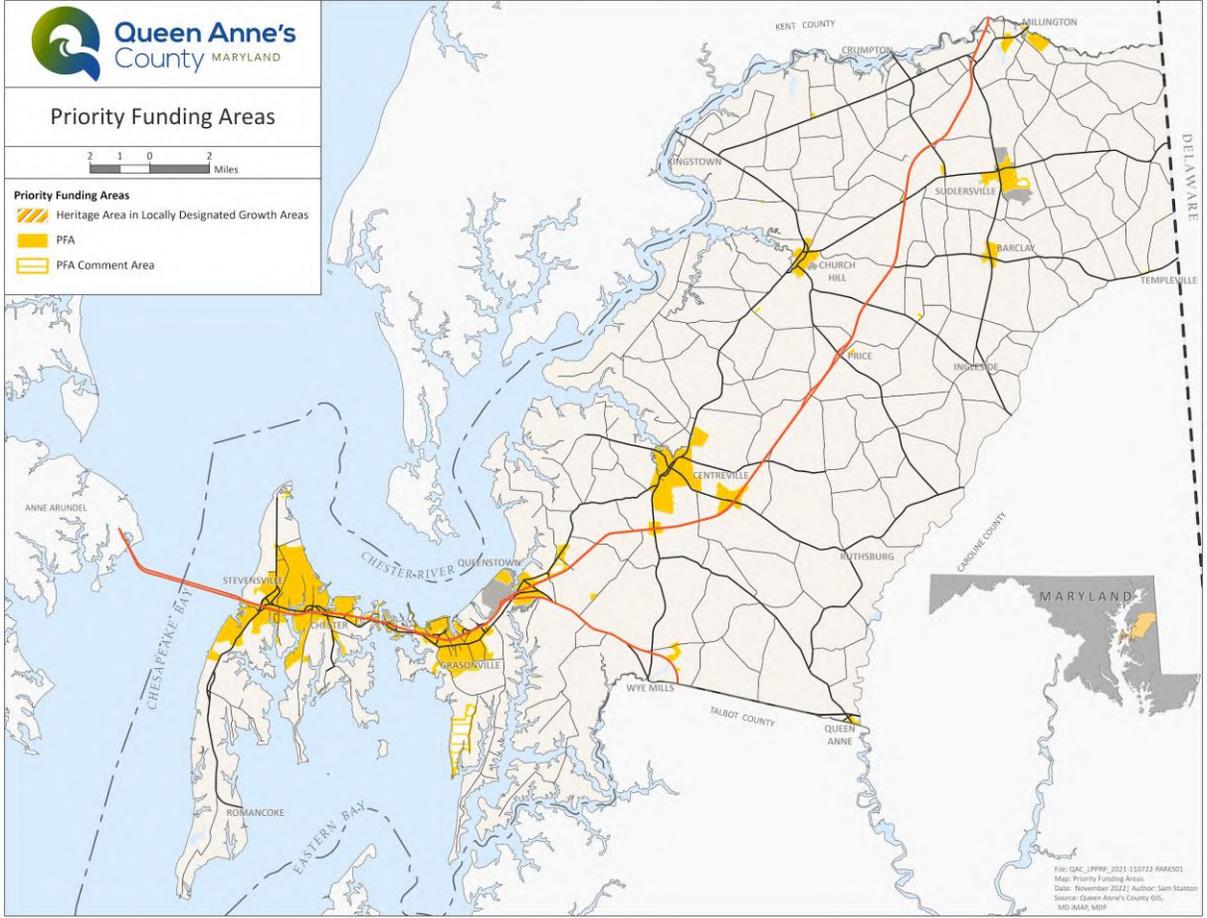
Map 1-3 Priority Funding Areas



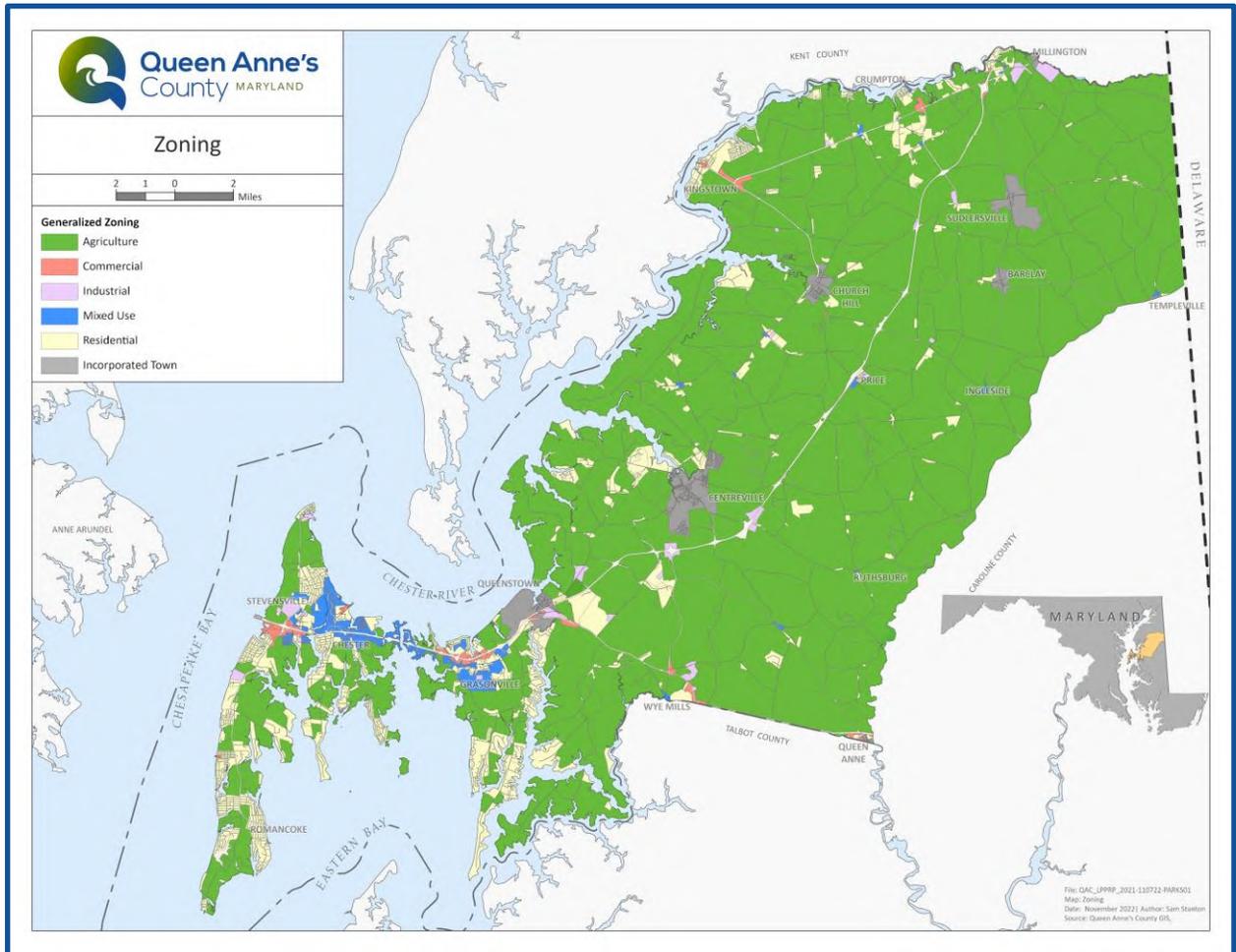
Priority Funding Areas



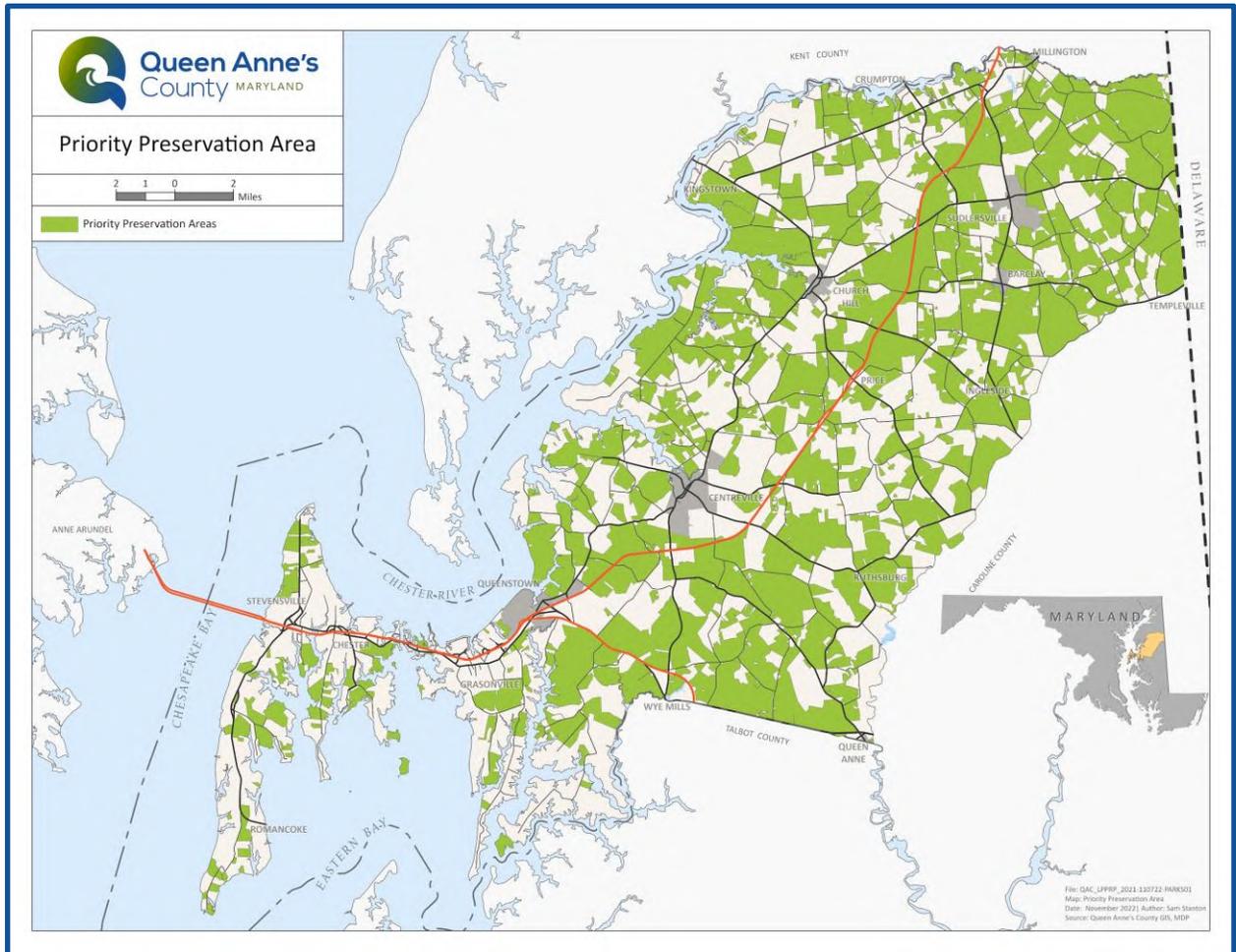
- Priority Funding Areas**
- Heritage Area in Locally Designated Growth Areas
 - PFA
 - PFA Comment Area



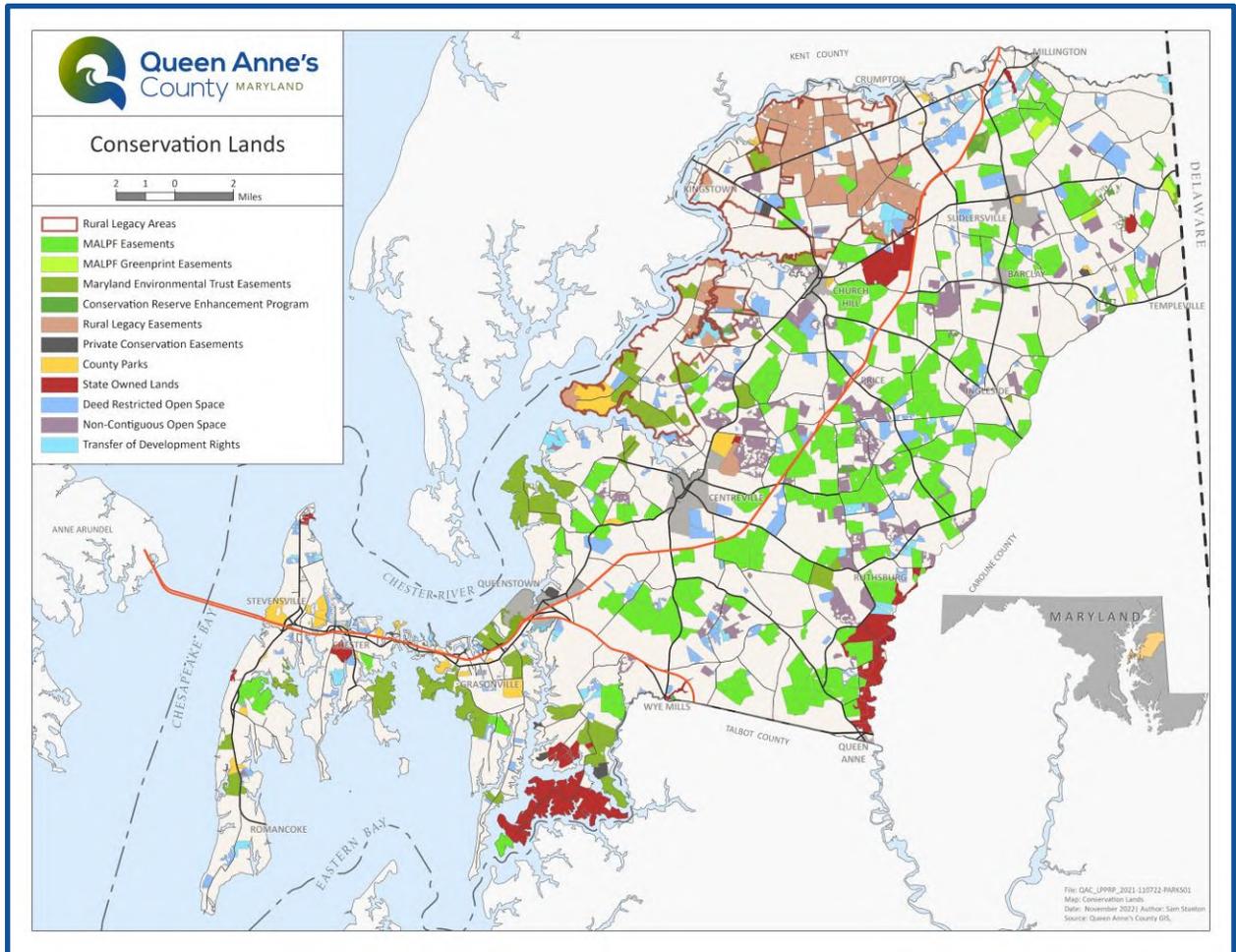
Map I-4 Queen Anne's County Zoning

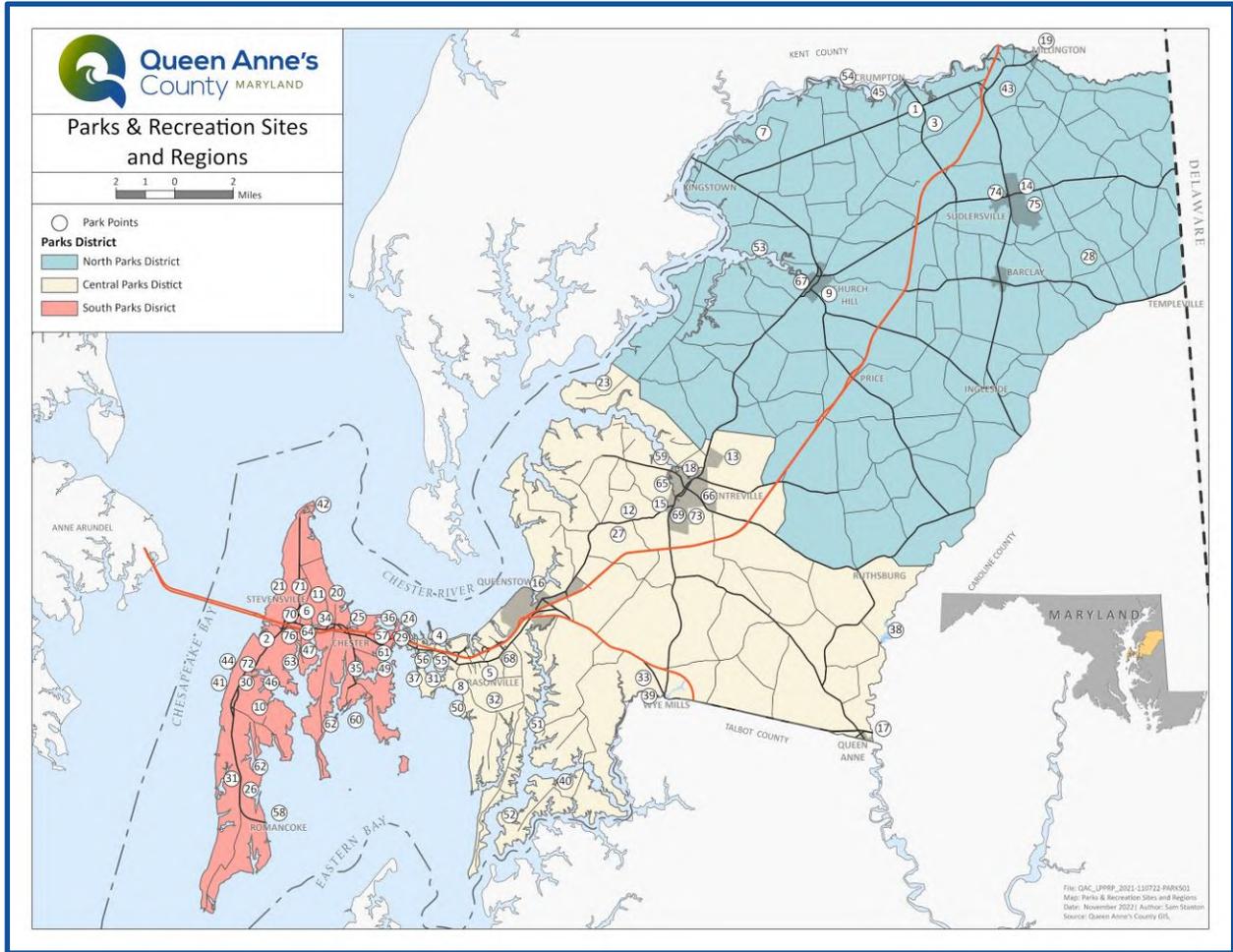


Map I-5 Priority Preservation Areas



Map I-6 Queen Anne's County Conservation Lands



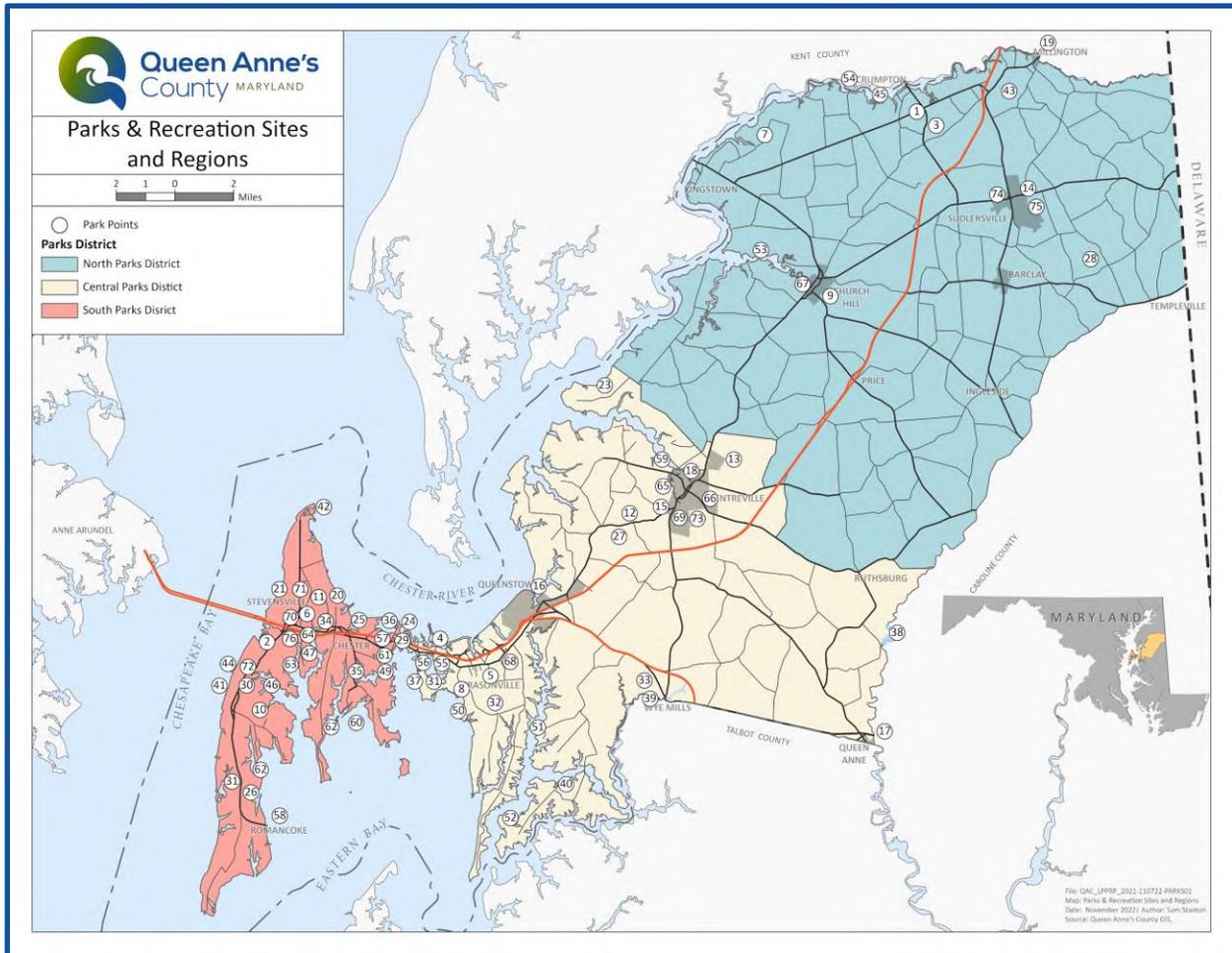


Map I-7 Queen Anne's County Parks & Recreation Sites

<i>Neighborhood Parks</i>	19	Millington Park	<i>State Facilities</i>	57	Kent Narrows Landing
1	Crumpton Park	<i>Countywide Special Use</i>		38	Tuckahoe State Park
2	Mowbray Park	20	Davidson Park	39	Wye Mills Lake
3	Pinkney Park	21	Terrapin Nature Park	40	Wye Island Natural Resource Area
4	Long Point Park	22	Blue Heron Golf Course/Driving Range	41	DNR Headquarters/Matapeake Park
5	Ewing Pond Park	23	Conquest Preserve	42	Langenfelder Property
6	Stevensville Park	24	Chesapeake Heritage/Visitors Center4	43	Unicorn Lake
<i>Community Parks</i>		25	Cross Island/Kent Island Trail	<i>County Landings and Piers</i>	
7	Round Top Park	26	Blue Heron Nature Preserve	44	Matapeake Pier & Landing
8	Grasonville Park	27	4-H Park	45	Crumpton Landing
9	Church Hill Park	28	Slaby Property	46	Warehouse Creek Landing
10	Batts Neck Park	29	Ferry Point Park 4	47	Browns Landing
11	Old Love Point Park	30	Matapeake Clubhouse & Public Beach5	48	Little Creek Landing
12	Rt 18 Park	31	Waterman Environmental Area	49	Goodhand Creek Landing
13	White Marsh Park	32	Kudner Property	50	Cabin Creek Landing
14	Sudlersville Park	33	Chesapeake College	51	Bryantown Landing
<i>Town Parks</i>		34	Kent Island Dog Park	52	Bennett Point Landing
15	Mill Stream Park	35	Kirwin Creek Property	53	Southeast Creek Landing
16	Queenstown Park	36	Piney Creek Nature Area	54	Deep Landing
17	Roosevelt Park	<i>Privately Owned Facilities</i>		55	Jackson Creek Landing
18	Centreville Wharf Park	37	Wildfowl Trust of America (CBEC)	56	Wells Cove Landing
				69	Kent Island Elementary School
				70	Kent Island Elementary School
				71	Kent Island High School
				72	Matapeake Elem/Middle Schools
				73	Queen Anne's High School
				74	Sudlersville Elementary School
				75	Sudlersville Middle School
				76	Stevensville Middle School

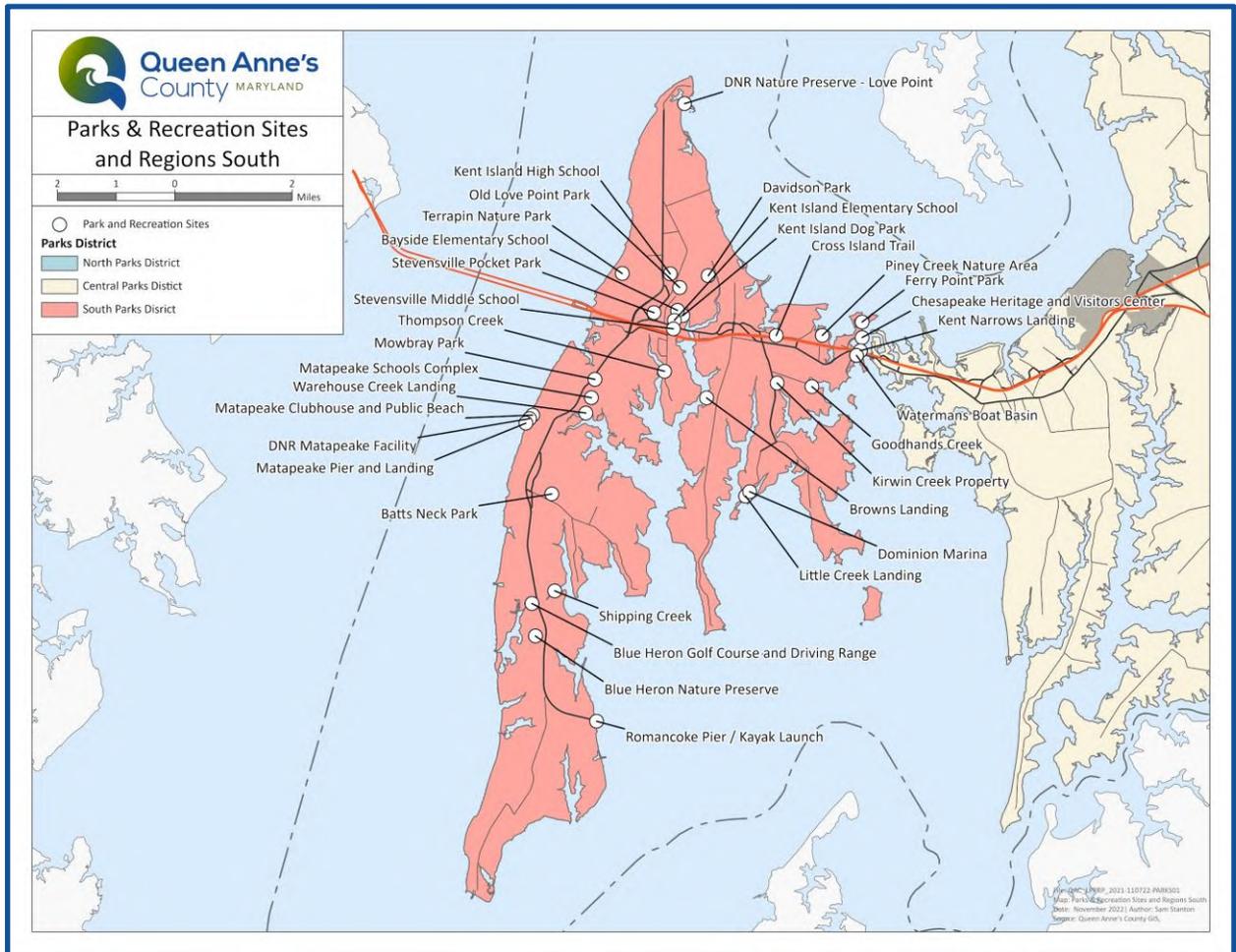
Chapter II: Recreation, Parks & Open Space

Map II-1 Queen Anne's County Parks & Recreation Sites

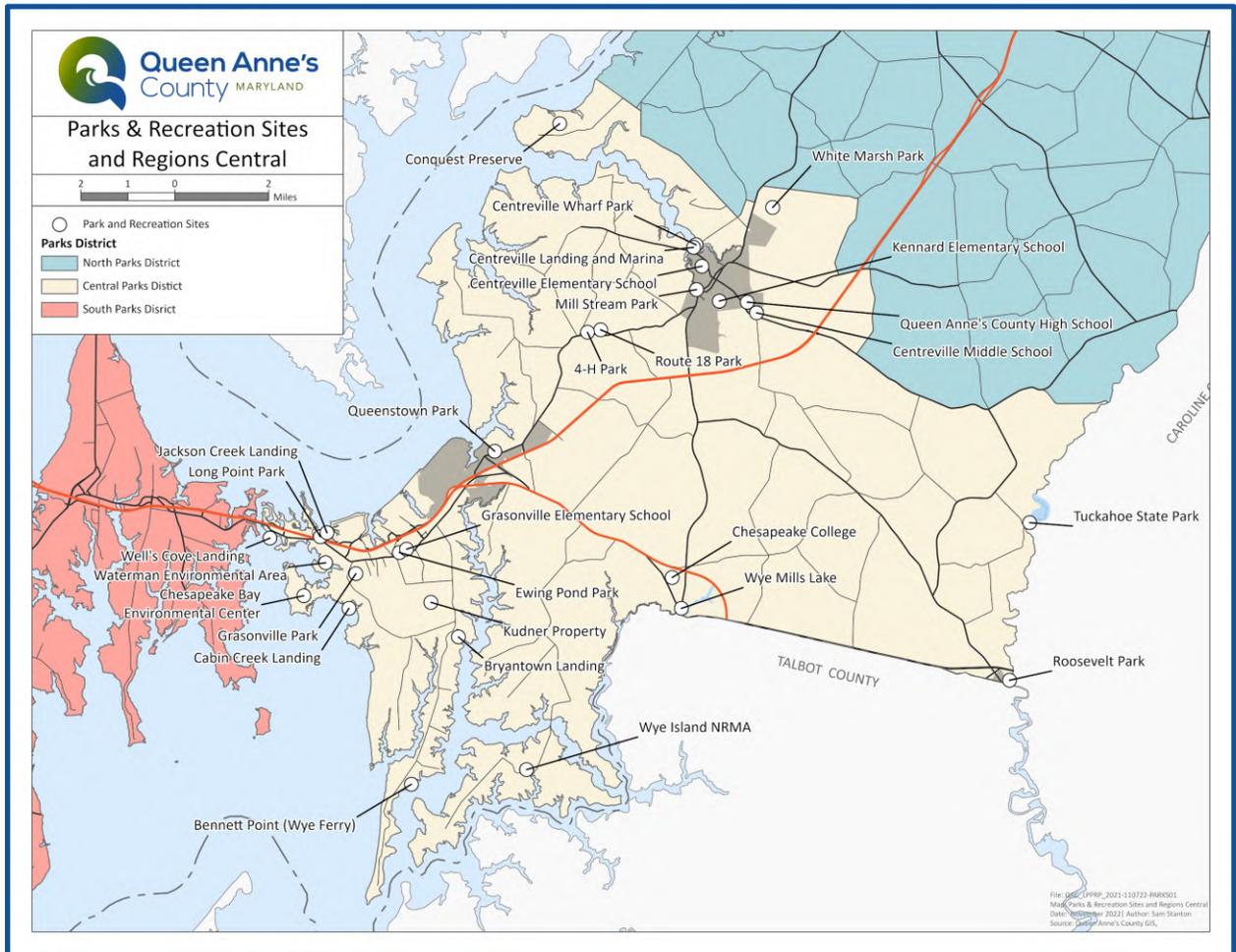


Neighborhood Parks	19	Millington Park	State Facilities	57	Kent Narrows Landing		
1	Crompton Park	Countywide Special Use	38	Tuckahoe State Park	58	Romancoke Pier	
2	Mowbray Park	20	Davidson Park	39	Wye Mills Lake	59	Centreville Landing
3	Pinkney Park	21	Terrapin Nature Park	40	Wye Island Natural Resource Area	60	Dominion Marina
4	Long Point Park	22	Blue Heron Golf Course/Driving Range	41	DNR Headquarters/Matapeake Park	61	Watermans Boat Basin
5	Ewing Pond Park	23	Conquest Preserve	42	Langenfelder Property	62	Shipping Creek Landing
6	Stevensville Park	24	Chesapeake Heritage/Visitors Center	43	Unicorn Lake	63	Thompson Creek Landing
Community Parks	25	Cross Island/Kent Island Trail	County Landings and Piers		Board of Education		
7	Round Top Park	26	Blue Heron Nature Preserve	44	Matapeake Pier & Landing	64	Bayside Elementary School
8	Grasonville Park	27	4-H Park	45	Crompton Landing	65	Centreville Elementary School
9	Church Hill Park	28	Slaby Property	46	Warehouse Creek Landing	66	Centreville Middle School
10	Batts Neck Park	29	Ferry Point Park 4	47	Browns Landing	67	Church Hill Elementary School
11	Old Love Point Park	30	Matapeake Clubhouse & Public Beach	48	Little Creek Landing	68	Grasonville Elementary School
12	Rt 18 Park	31	Waterman Environmental Area	49	Goodhand Creek Landing	69	Kennard Elementary School
13	White Marsh Park	32	Kudner Property	50	Cabin Creek Landing	70	Kent Island Elementary School
14	Sudlersville Park	33	Chesapeake College	51	Bryantown Landing	71	Kent Island High School
Town Parks	34	Kent Island Dog Park	52	Bennett Point Landing	72	Matapeake Elem/Middle Schools	
15	Mill Stream Park	35	Kirwin Creek Property	53	Southeast Creek Landing	73	Queen Anne's High School
16	Queenstown Park	36	Piney Creek Nature Area	54	Deep Landing	74	Sudlersville Elementary School
17	Roosevelt Park	Privately Owned Facilities	55	Jackson Creek Landing	75	Sudlersville Middle School	
18	Centreville Wharf Park	37	Wildfowl Trust of America (CBEC)	56	Wells Cove Landing	76	Stevensville Middle School

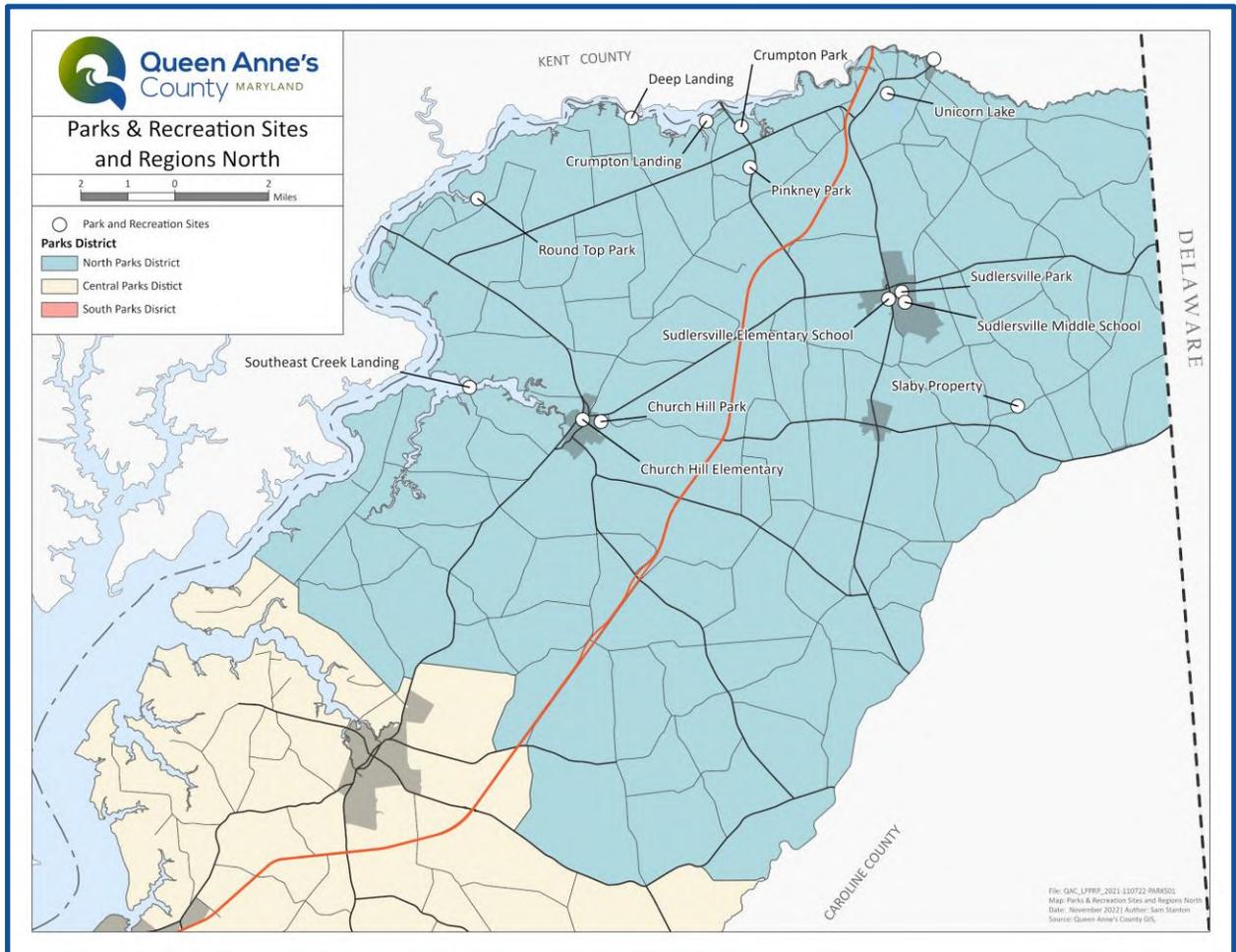
Map II-2 South Queen Anne's County Service Area



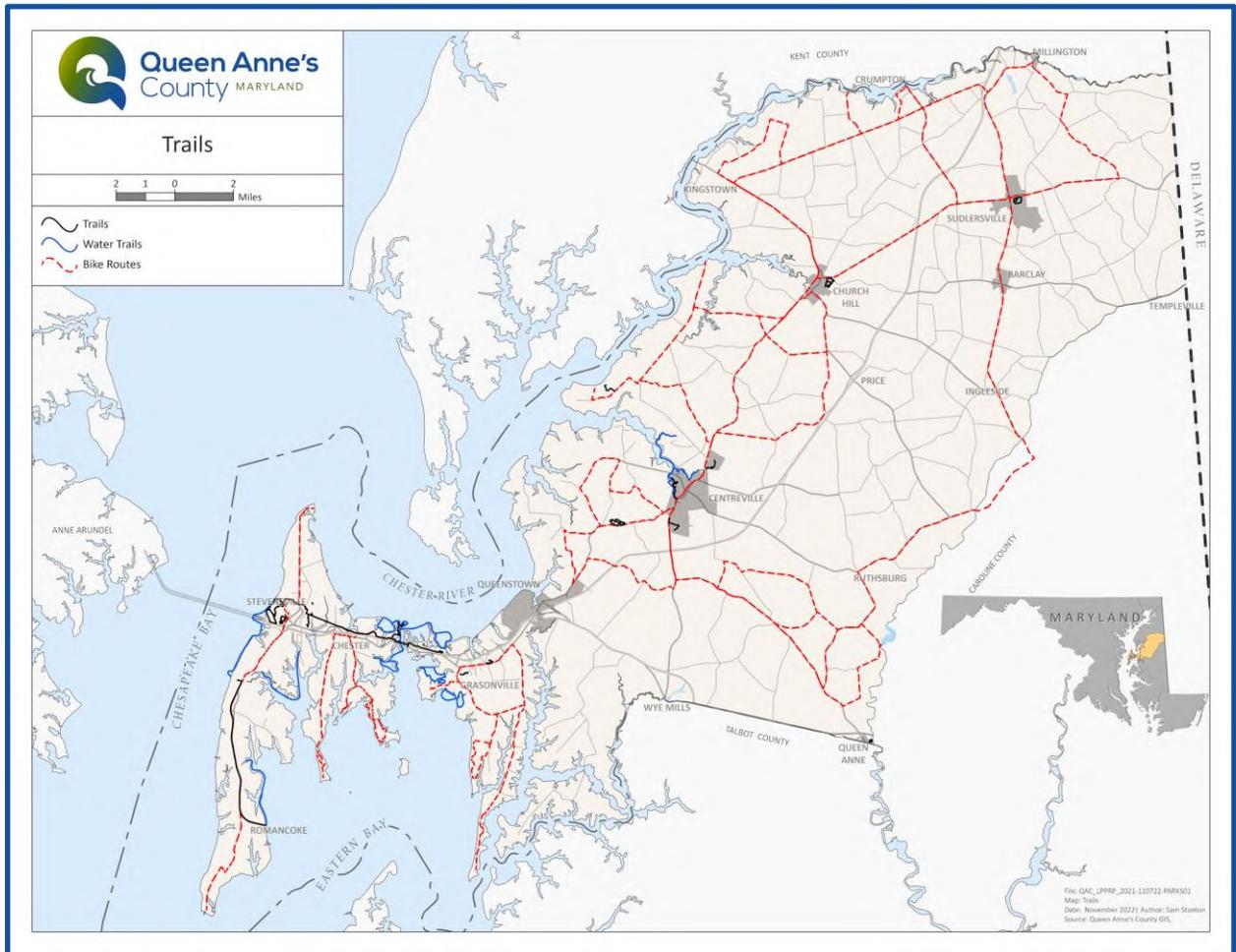
Map II-3 Central Queen Anne's County Service Area



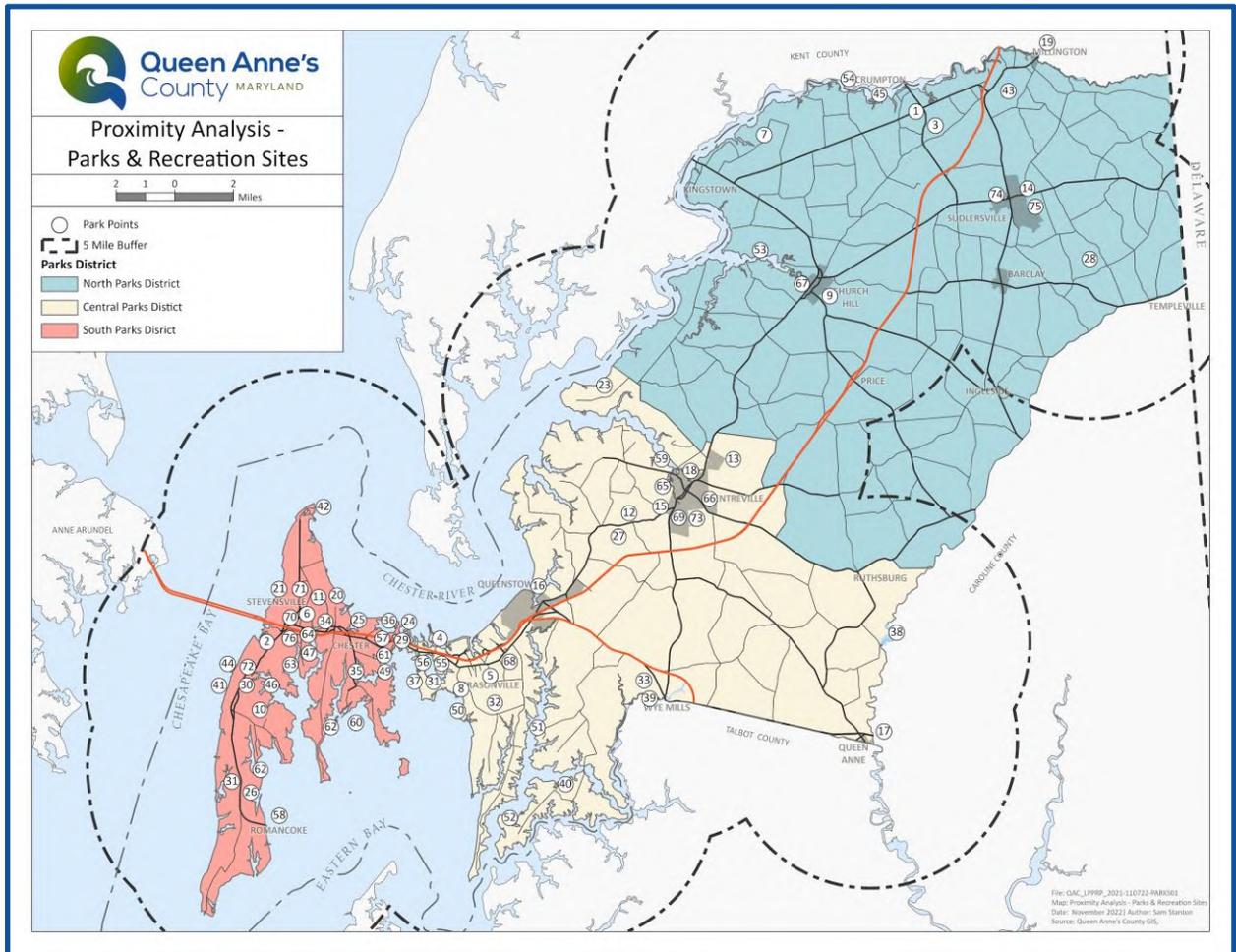
Map II-4 North Queen Anne's County Service Area



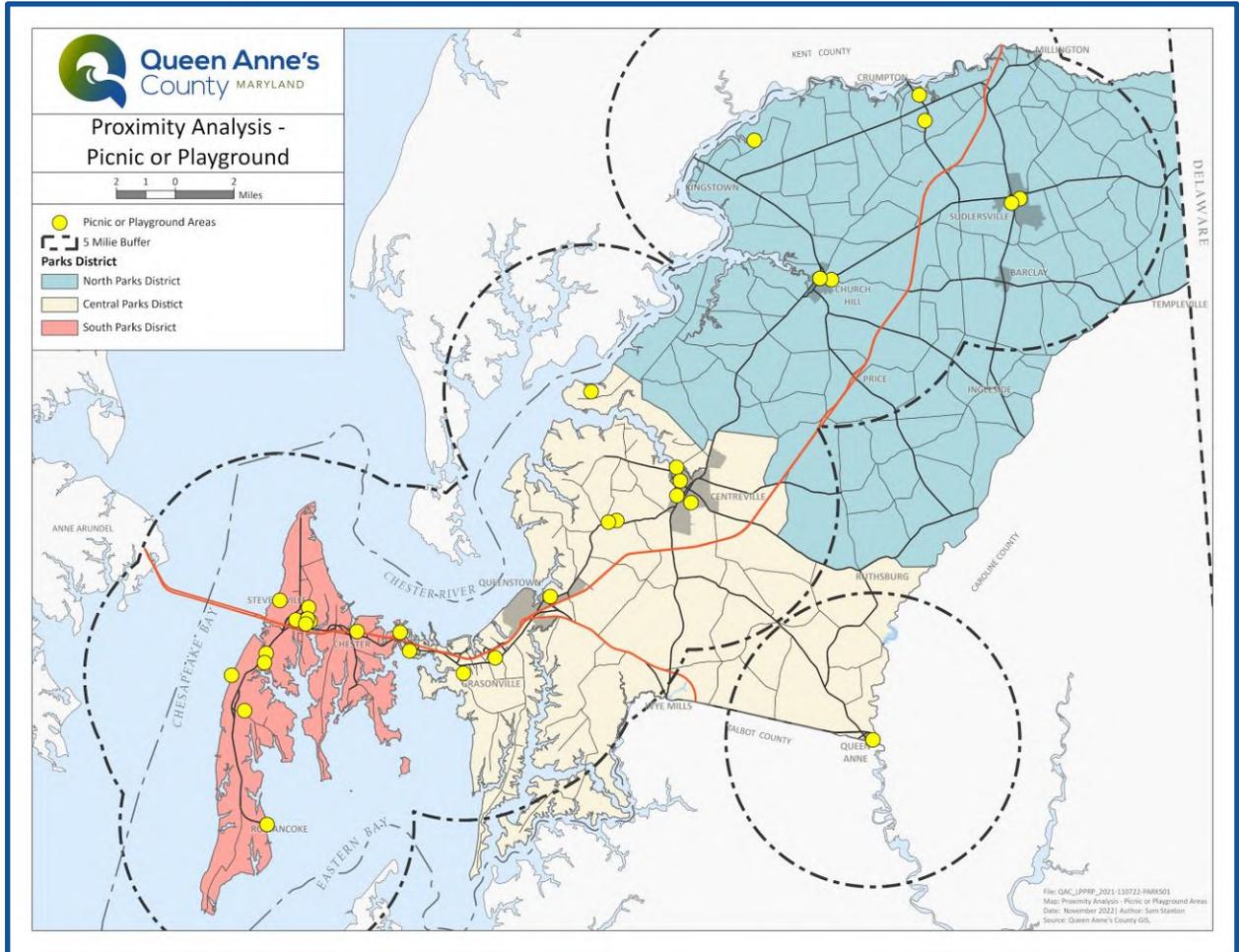
Map II-5 Queen Anne's County Trails



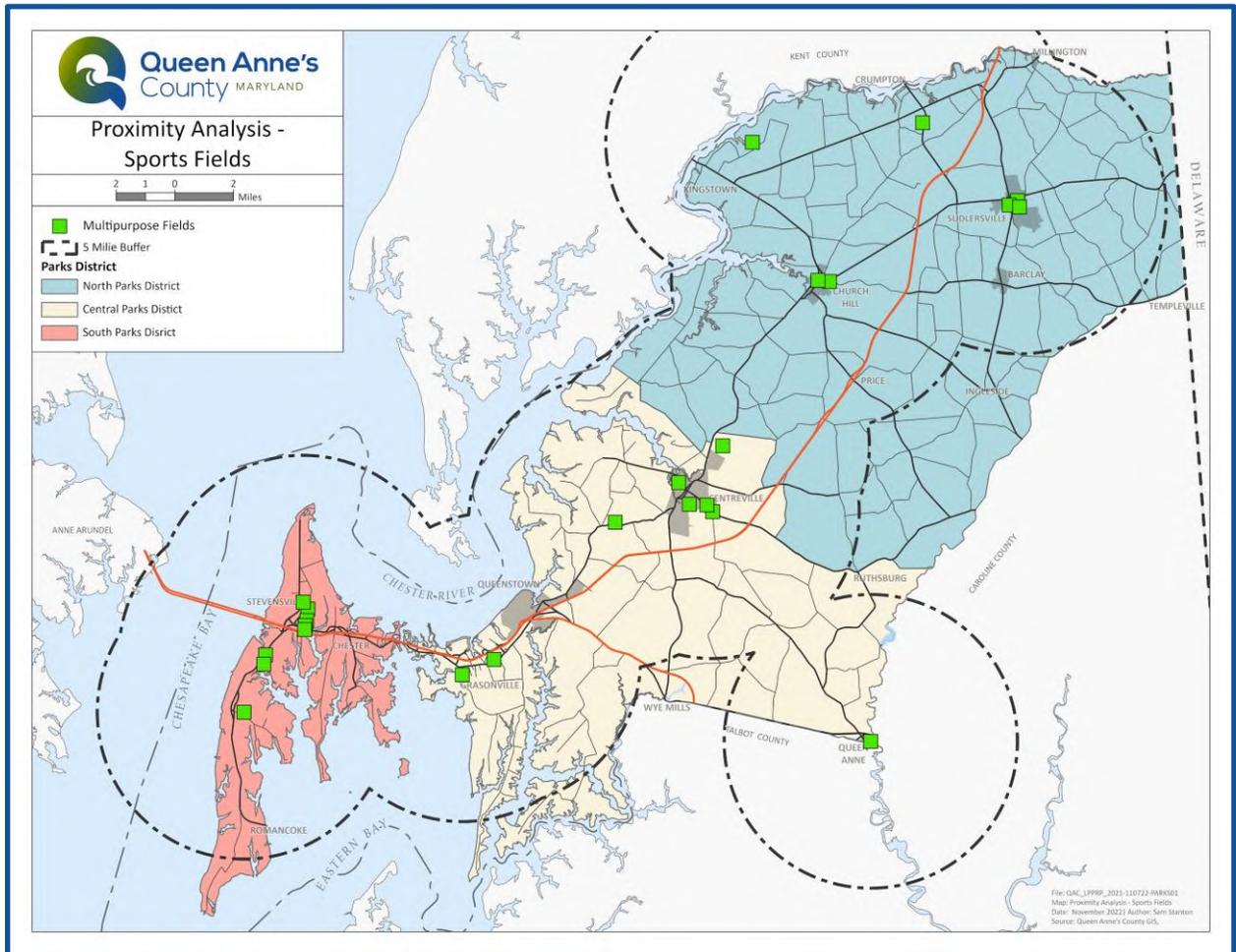
Map II-6 Proximity Analysis County Parks Sites



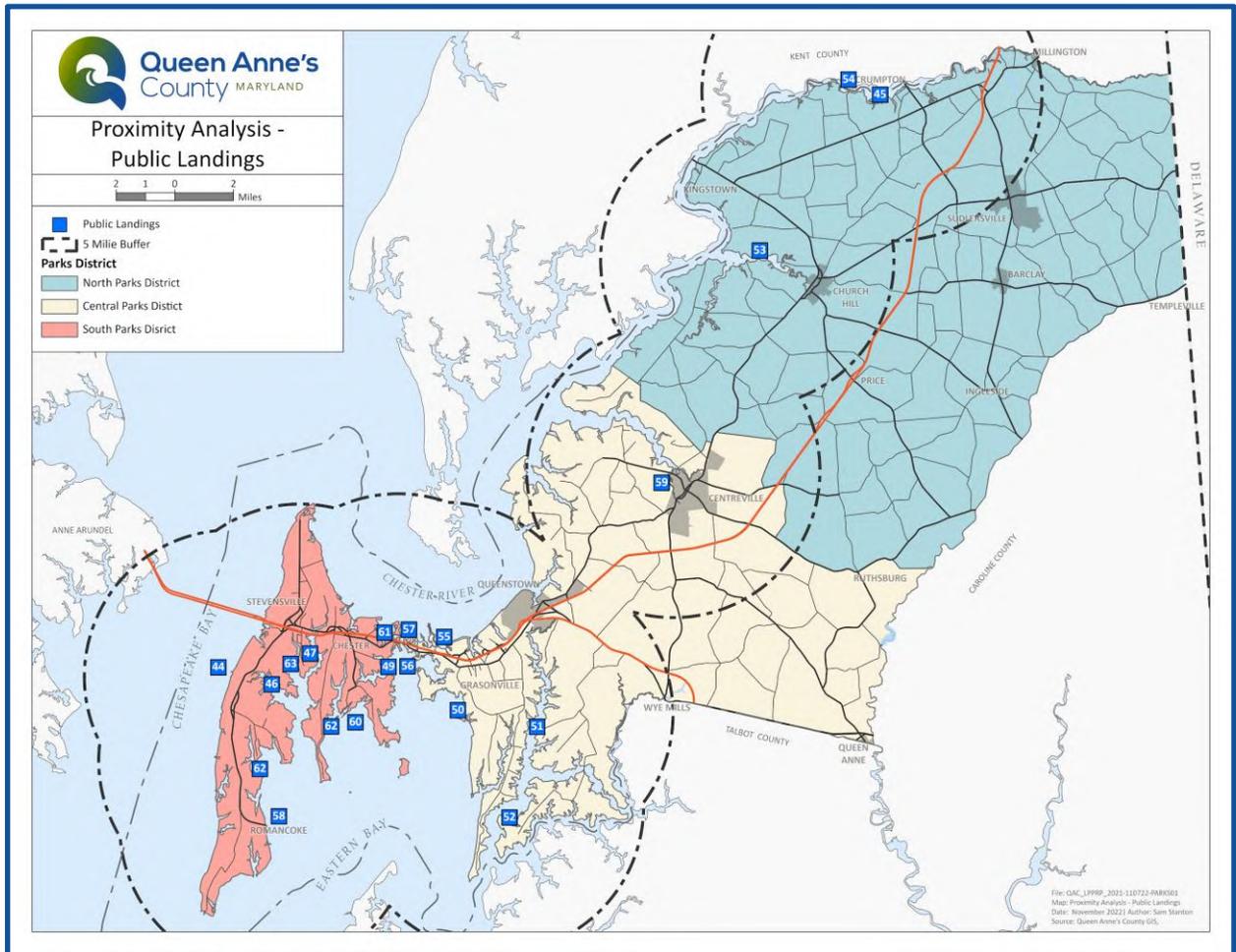
Map II-7 Areas within Five Miles of Recreation Facilities with Picnic Areas or Playgrounds



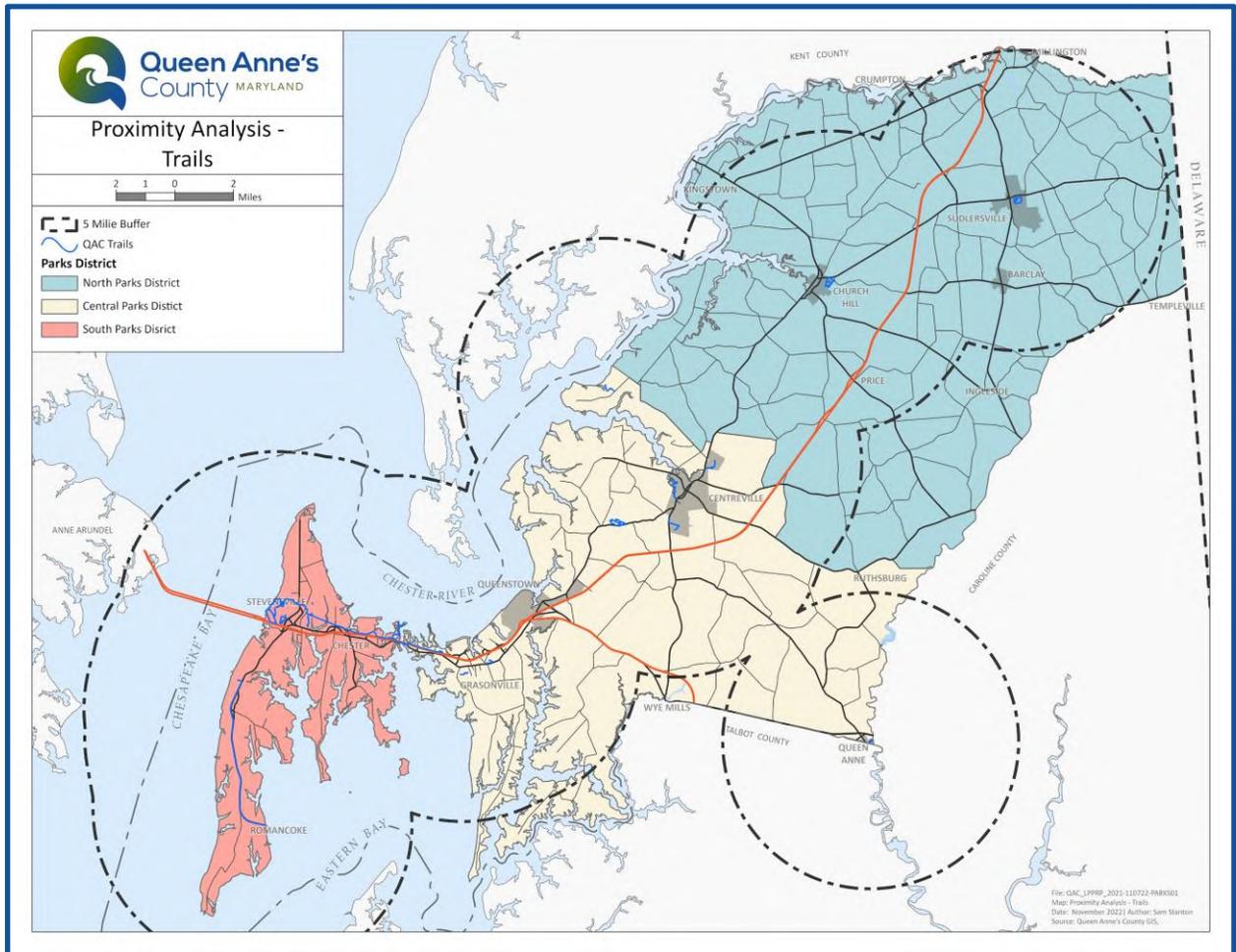
Map II-8 Areas within Five Miles of Sports Fields



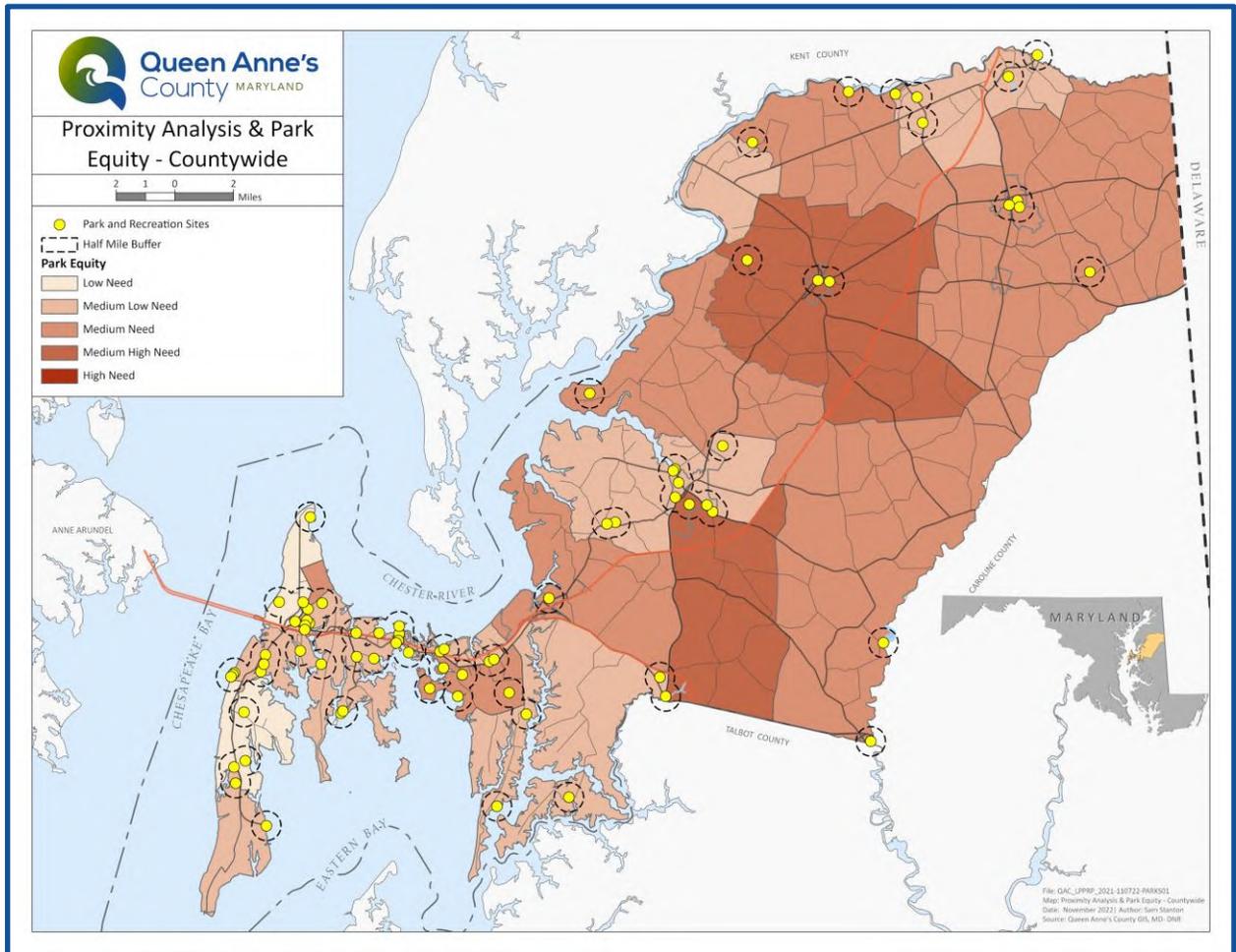
Map II-9 Areas within Five Miles of Public Water Access



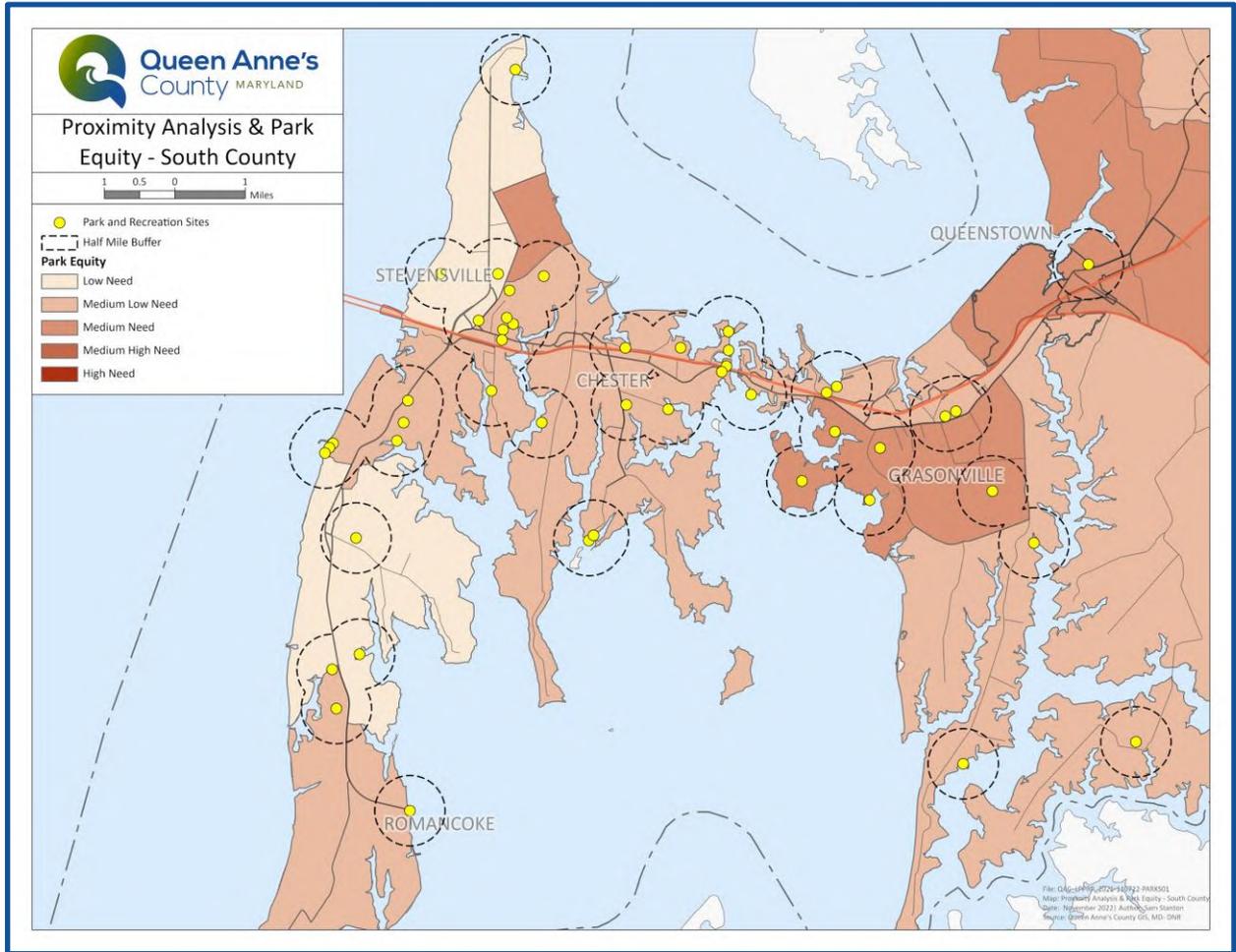
Map II-10 Areas within Five Miles of Trails



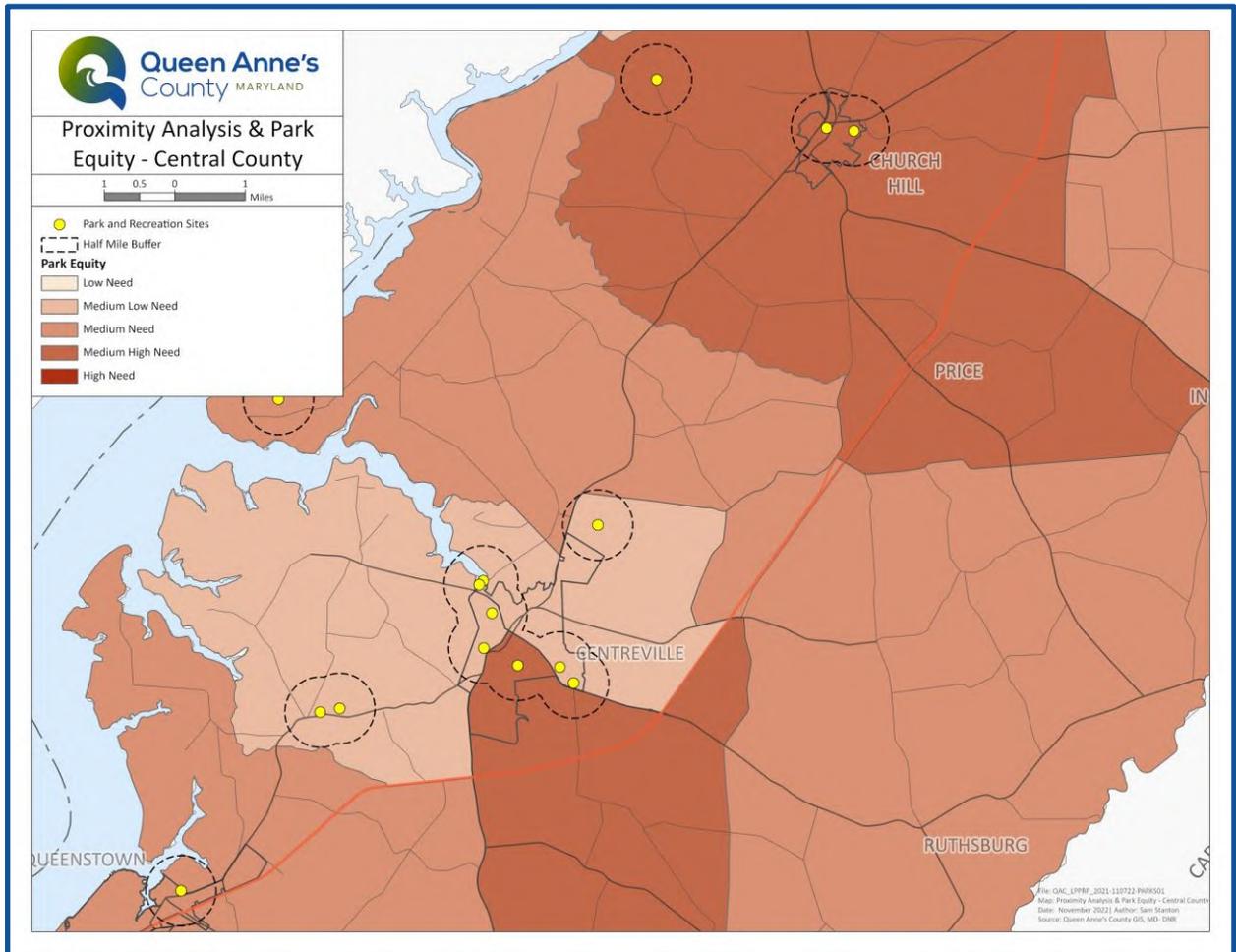
Map II-11 Park Equity in Queen Anne's County



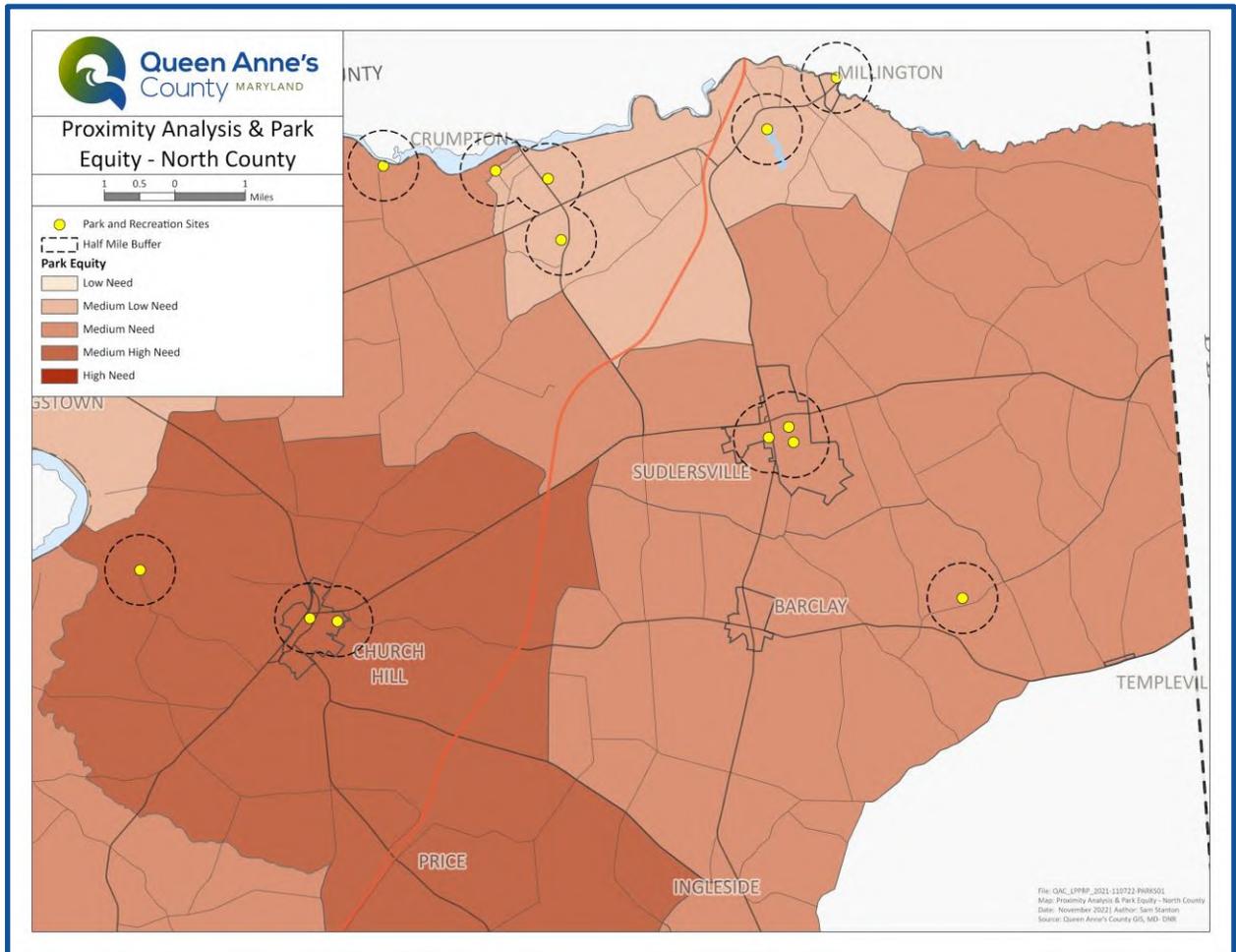
Map II-12 Park Proximity & Equity - South



Map II-13 Park Proximity & Equity - Central

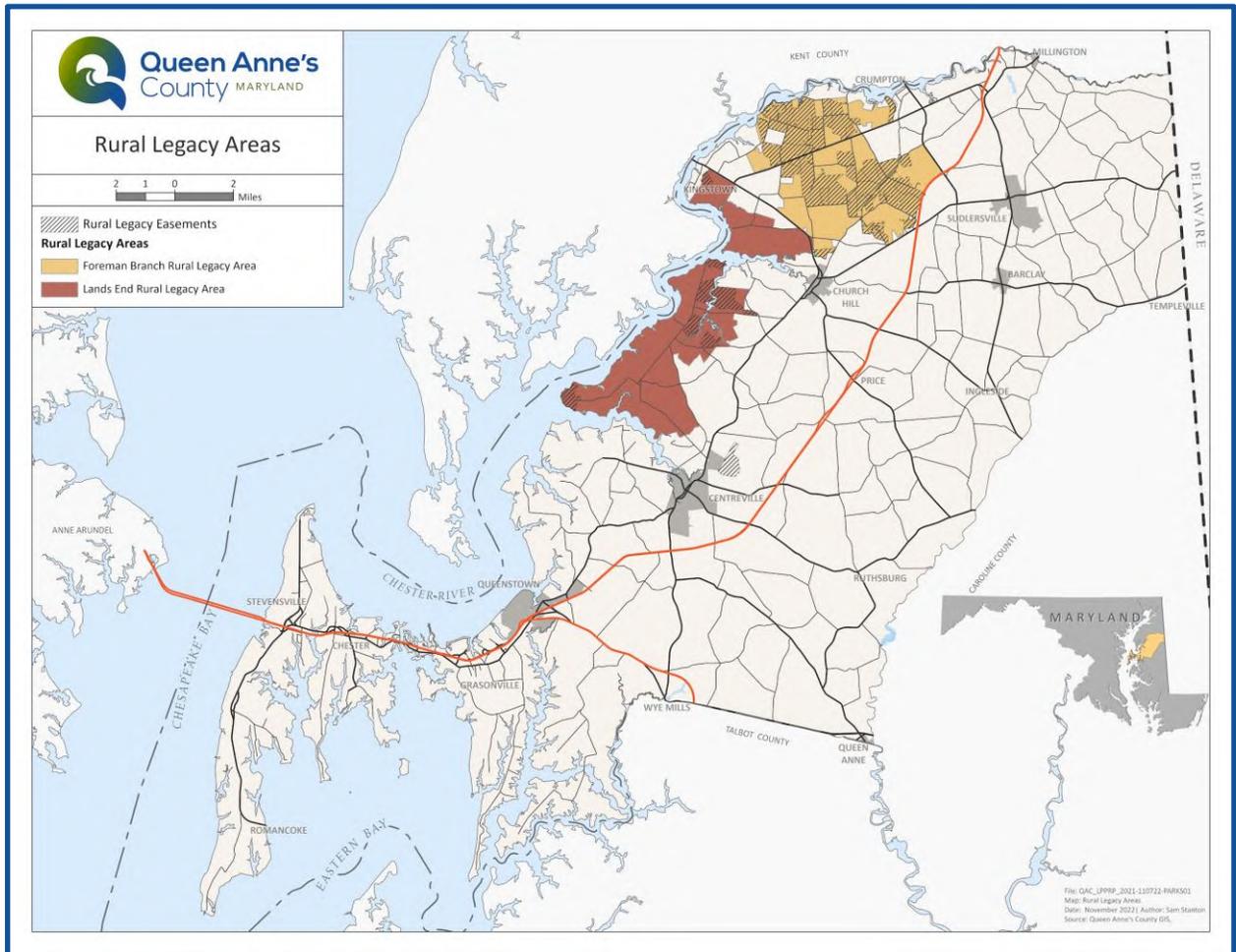


Map II-14 Park Proximity & Equity - North

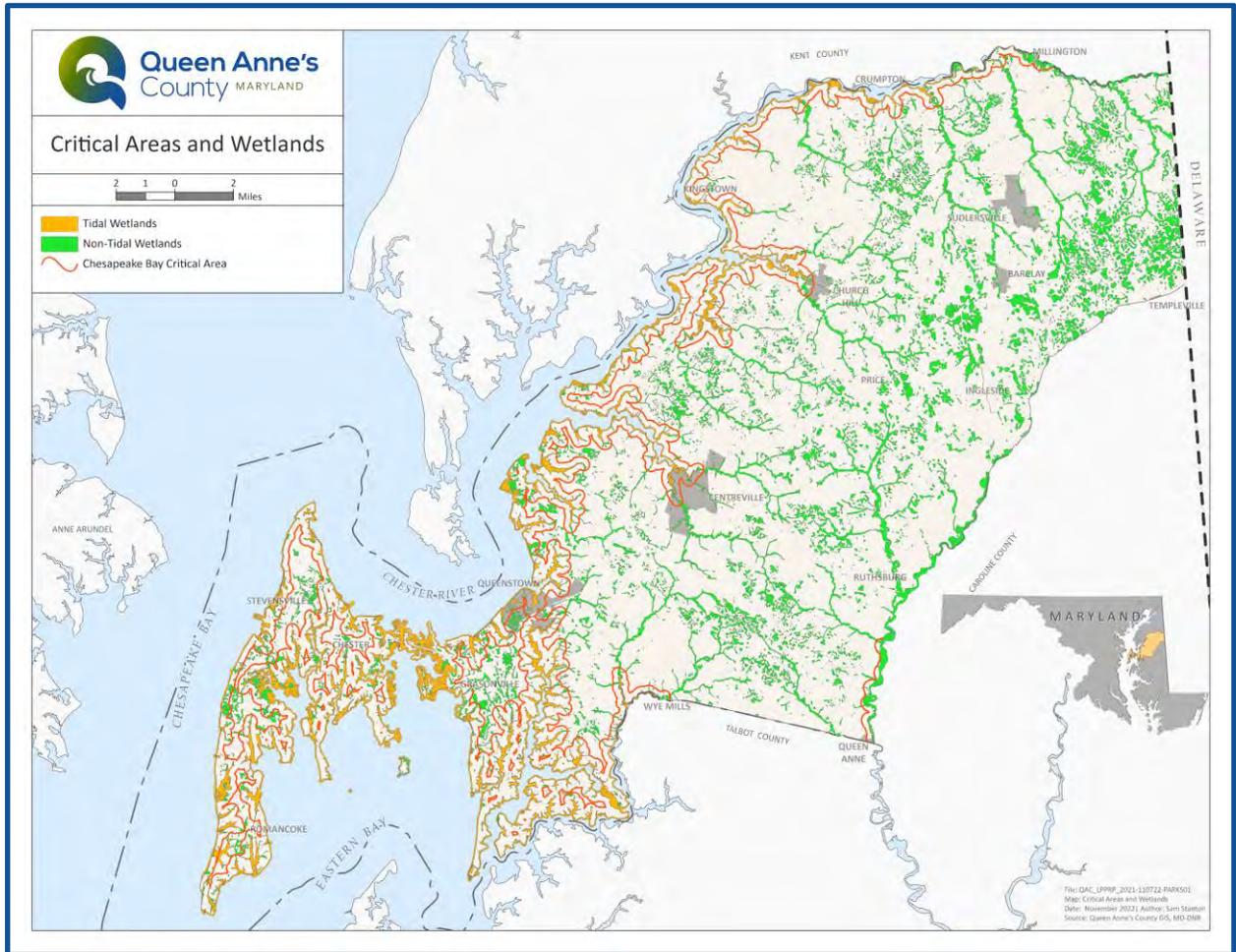


Chapter III: Natural Resource Land Conservation

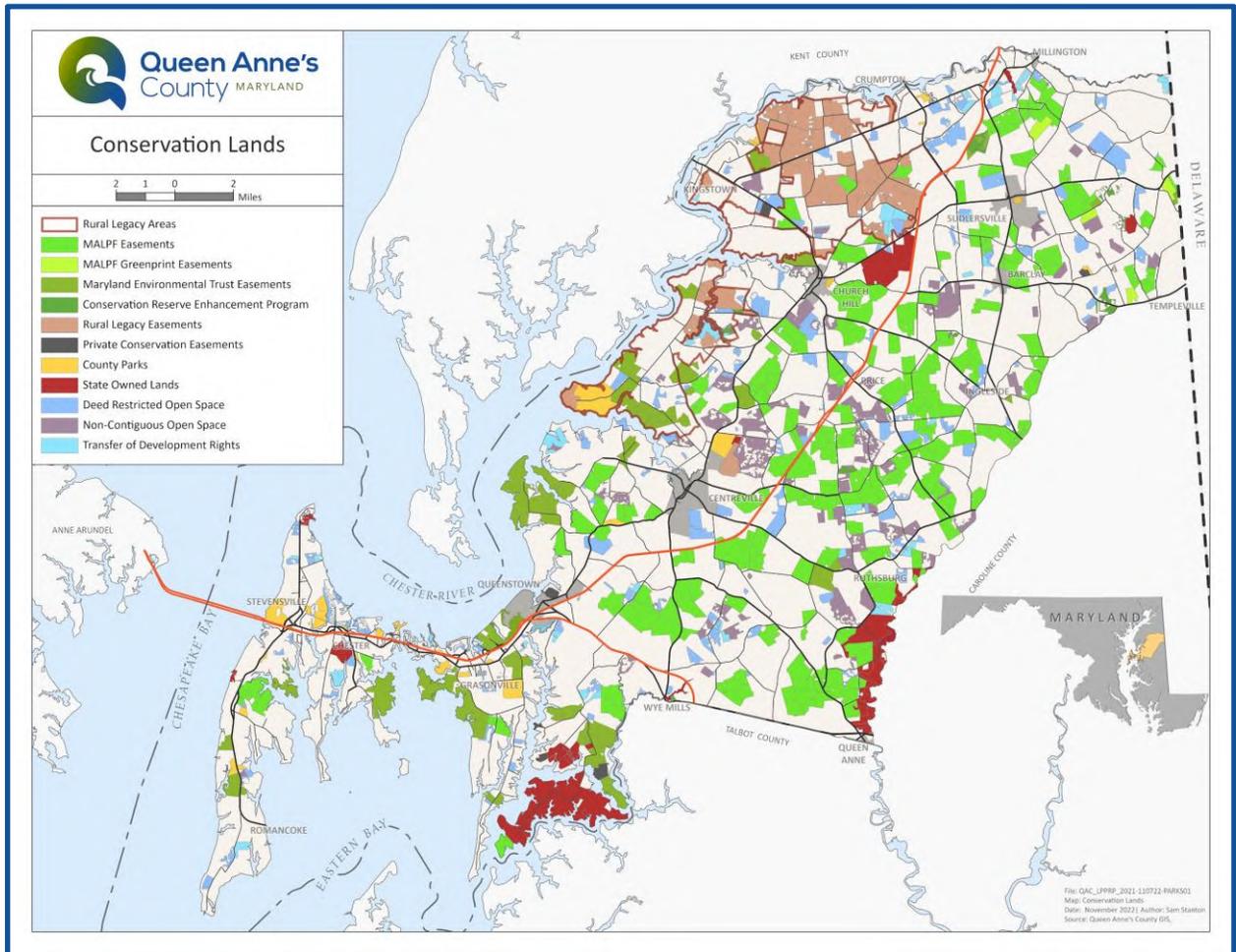
Map III-1 Rural Legacy Areas



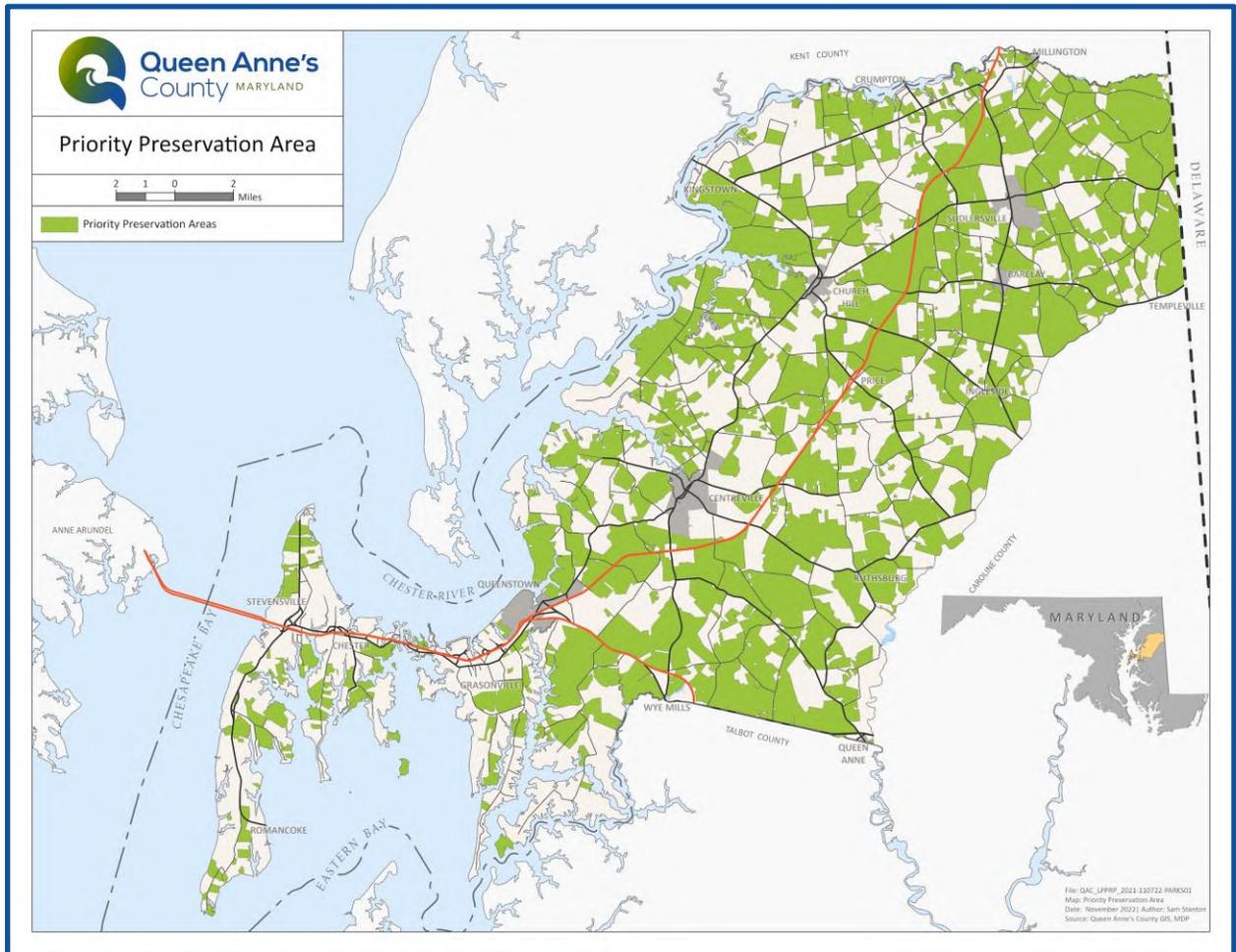
Map III-2 Critical Areas



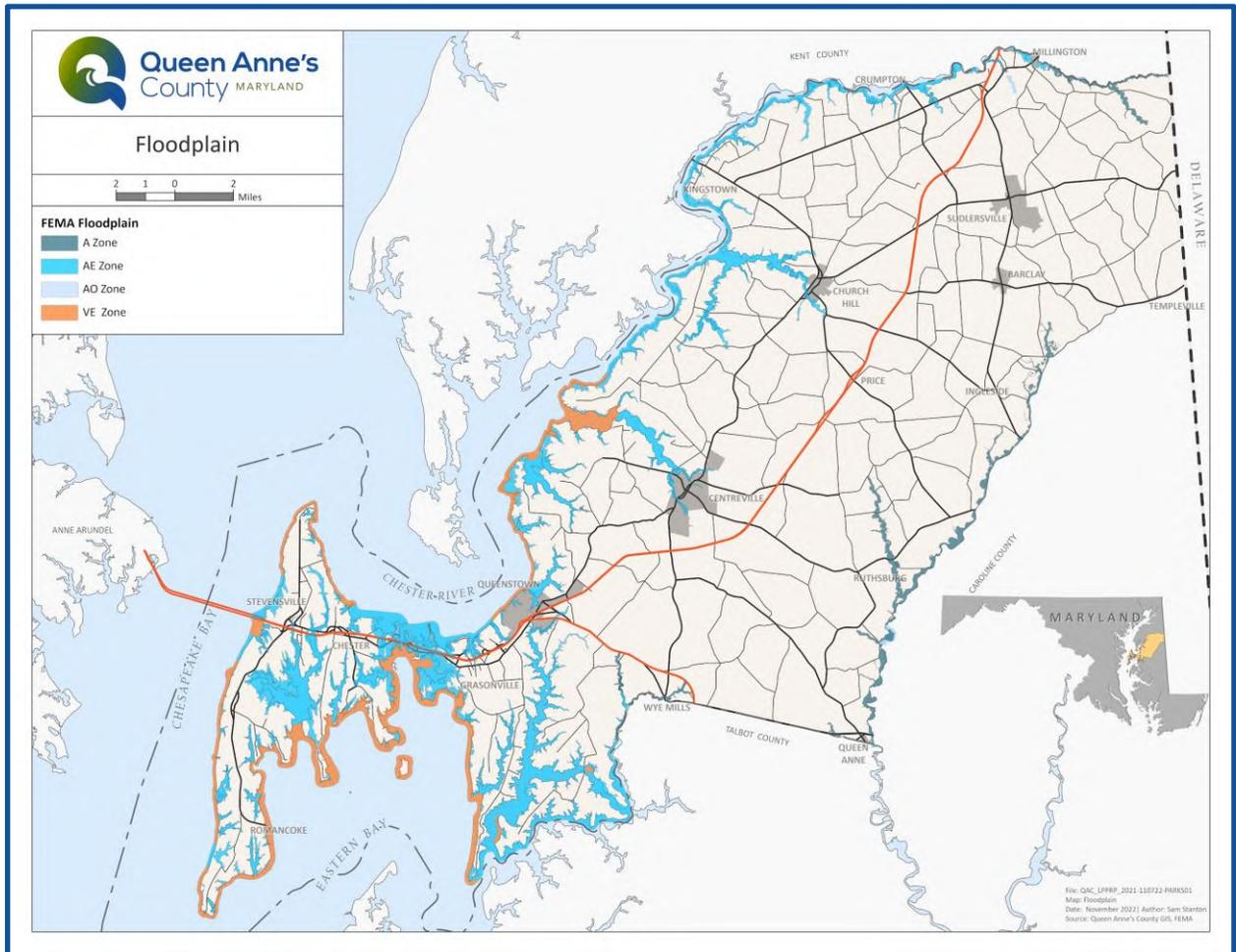
Map III-4 Conservation Lands



Map III-5 Priority Preservation Areas

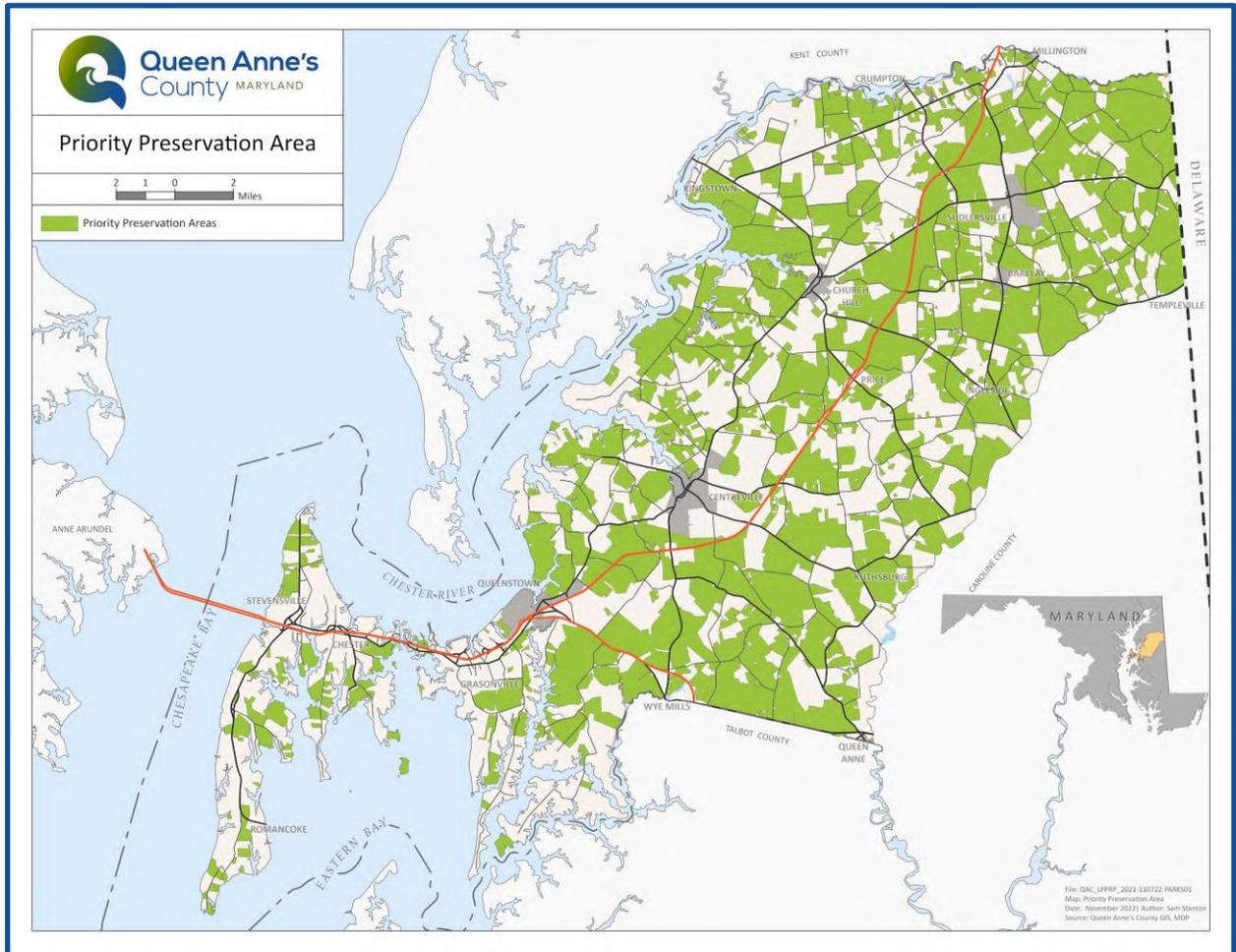


Map III-6 Queen Anne's County Floodplain

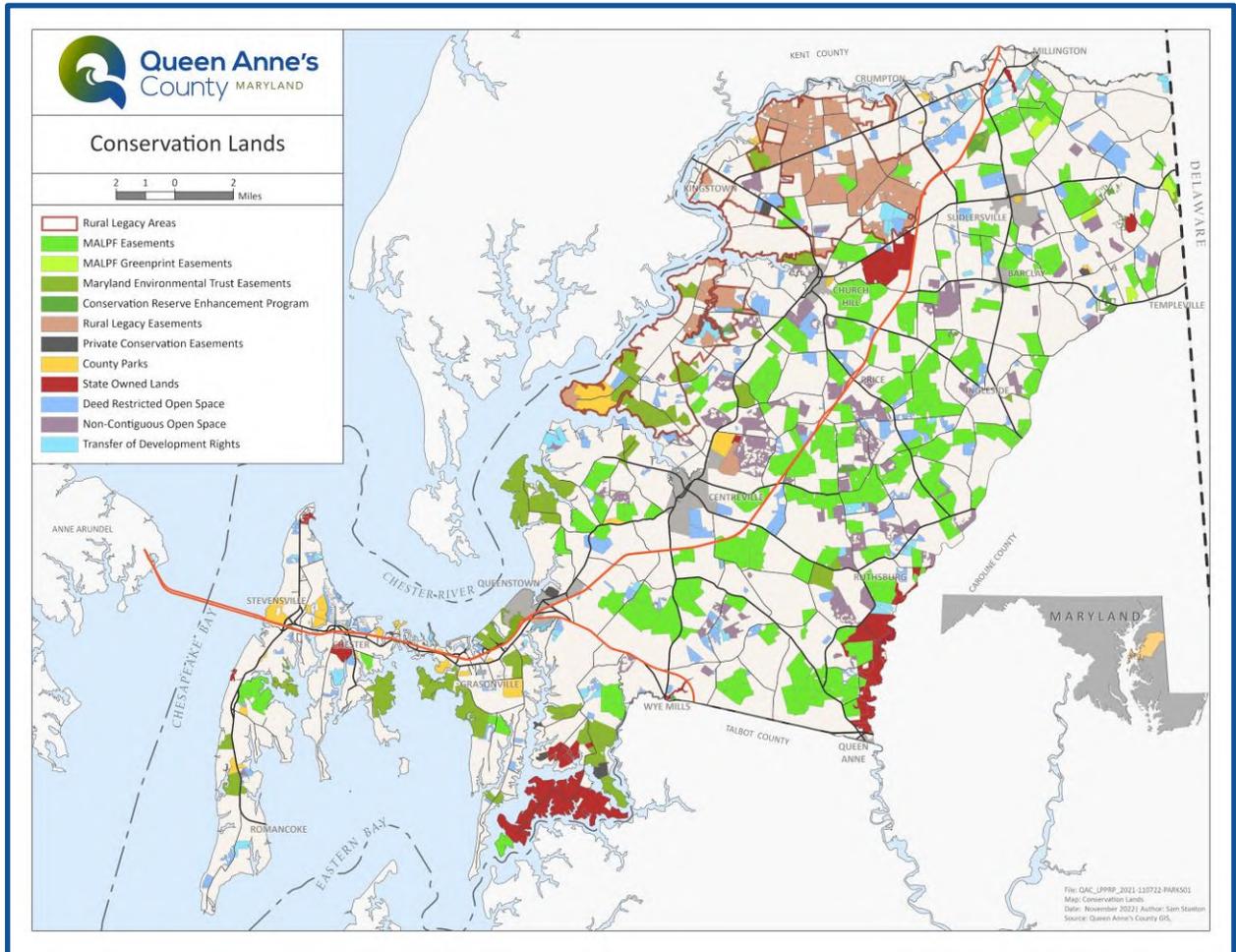


Chapter IV: Agricultural Land Preservation

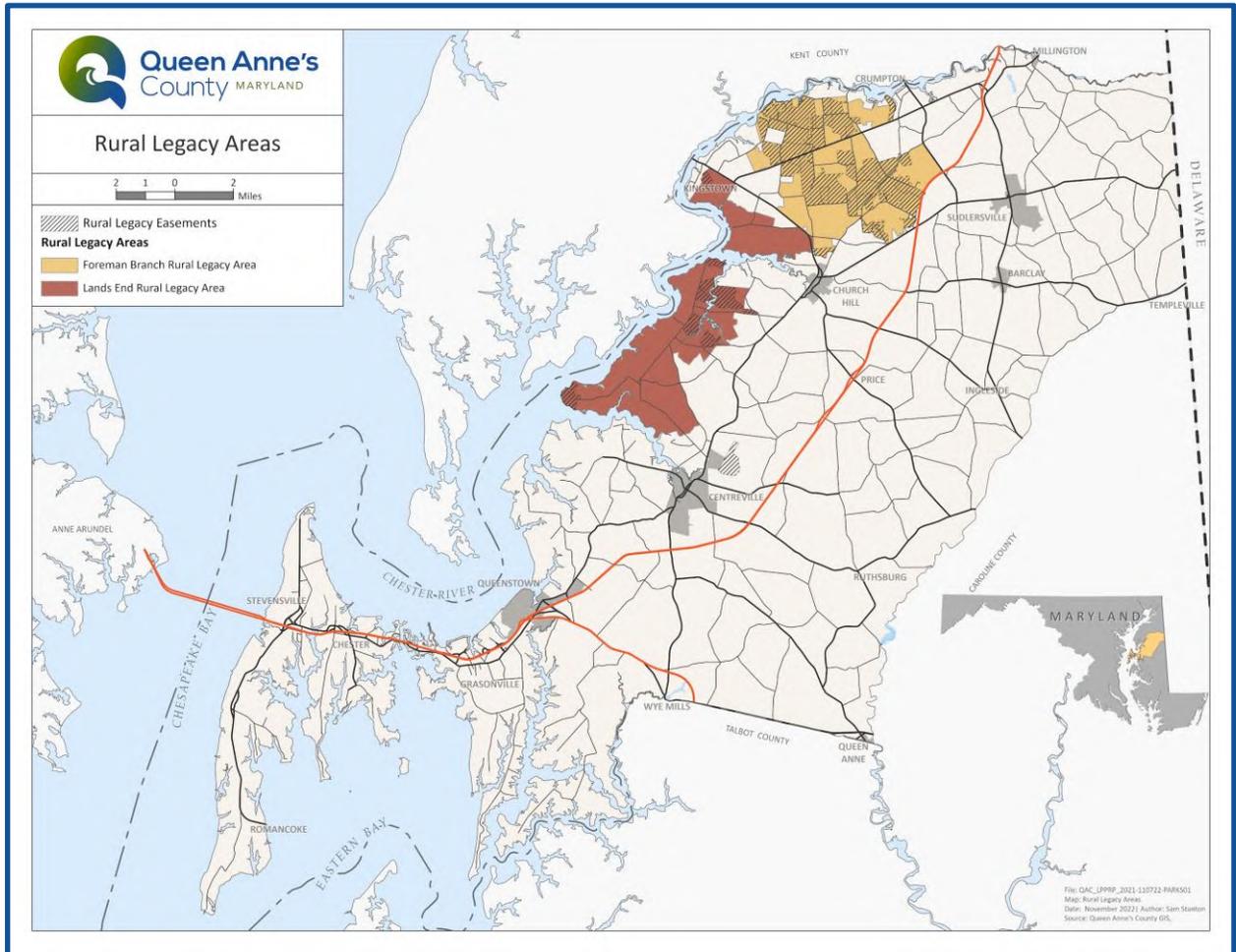
Map IV-1 Priority Preservation Area



Map IV-2 Queen Anne's County Conservation Lands



Map IV-3 Rural Legacy Areas



APPENDIX B: Queen Anne's County Inventory

Park Type	Map #	Service Area	Size (Acres)	Park Type	Parking Spaces	Restrooms	Picnic Tables	Tennis Courts*	Pickleball Courts*	Outdoor Basketball Courts*	Indoor (Gym) Courts	Playgrounds	Artificial Turf Fields*	Multipurpose Fields*	Baseball Diamonds*	Volleyball Courts*	Inline Hockey	Concessions	Bleachers (sets)	Fees	Trails (Miles) E=Eques	Pavilions	Access Control	Fishing (Shoreline & Piers Feet)	Golf (holes)	Disc Golf (holes)	Boat Ramps (lanes)	Boat Slips	Dog Park	Horseshoe pits	Beaches (miles)			
Browns Landing	47	S	0.1	N	—															Y			1											
Little Creek Landing	48	S	1	N	15															Y			1											
Goodhand Creek Landing	49	S	1.5	N	12															Y			1											
Cabin Creek Landing	50	C	2.6	N	6															Y			1											
Bryantown Landing	51	C	0.5	N	10															Y			1											
Bennett Point Landing	52	C	1.5	N	8															Y			1											
Southeast Creek Landing	53	N	0.3	N	6															Y			1											
Deep Landing	54	N	0.7	N	12															Y			1											
Jackson Creek Landing	55	C	1.5	N	4															Y			1											
Wells Cove Landing	56	S	2	N	74															Y			1	150										
Kent Narrows Landing	57	S	1	N	33															Y			2											
Romancoke Pier	58	S	2.5	N	43	4	2													Y			1	600										
Centreville Landing	59	C	1	N	37	2														Y			1											
Dominion Marina	60	S	0.5	N	6															Y			1											
Watermans Boat Basin	61	S	1.7	N	145	4														Y			1											
Shipping Creek Landing	62	S	2.5	N	24															Y			1											
Thompson Creek Landing	63	S	1	N	21															Y			2											
Subtotals - Landings and Piers			24.3		522	14	10	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	1400	0		16	172	0	0	0	0		
Totals - Queen Anne's County Park System (Excl.State/Federal)			3125.08		2891	83	151	8		9		14	2	47	29	3	1	3	36		45.08	19	80	6637	18		16	172	1	9	0.91			
Board of Education																																		
Bayside Elementary School	64	S	16	N						2	1	2		1	1																			
Centreville Elementary School	65	C	14.2	N							1	2		1	1																			
Centreville Middle School	66	C	54	C						2	1			3	3																			
Church Hill Elementary School	67	N	8	N							1	2		2									1											
Grasonville Elementary School	68	C	35.5	N						1	1	2		1	1																			
Kennard Elementary School	69	C	26.2	N							1	2		2																				
Kent Island Elementary School	70	S	13.7	N							1	2		1																				
Kent Island High School	71	S	57.7	C				4			1		1 *	5	2				2															
Matapeake Elem/Middle Schools	72	S	40	N							2	2		4	3																			
Queen Anne's High School	73	C	13.3	C				6		2	1		1 *	6	2				2															
Sudlersville Elementary School	74	N	10.3	N						4	1	2		2	1								1											
Sudlersville Middle School	75	N	19.8	C				2			1			3	2																			
Stevensville Middle School	76	S	11.7	C						2	1			1	0																			
Totals - Queen Anne's County Board of Education			320.4		0	0	0	12		13	14	16	4	32	16	0	0	0	4		0	2	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

1 Service Area: N - North, C - Central, S - South

2 Park Type: N - Neighborhood, C - Community, Co - Countywide/ Special Use

3 Acreage of school sites is calculated by dividing recreational acreage by 60%, per MDP/DNR guidelines

4 Parking & Restrooms for Ferry Point Park is located at the Chesapeake Exploration Center.

5 Matapeake is The County's only public beach, includes separate area where dogs are allowed

* Indicates lighted fields or courts.

APPENDIX B: Inventory ~ MALPF

MALPFE_ID	FileNo	Farm Name	Last Name	Map	Parcel	Parcel1	Acres	Date	TaxID
17-01-00-04	17-01-00-04		Kinnamon	13	7		125.81	8/17/2004	1801008226
17-01-00-05A	17-01-00-05A		Walls	18	79		48	1/29/2004	1801015338
17-01-00-10	17-01-00-10		Smith	20	20		127.5	7/6/2004	1801007467
17-01-00-12A	17-01-00-12A		Lester	26	7		86.7	11/9/2007	1801004654
17-01-01-02	17-01-01-02		Bostic	24	18,99		178.736	4/5/2004	1801000225
17-01-83-02	17-01-83-02		Cole	*	**		143.343	12/19/1985	1801001620
17-01-86-16	17-01-86-16	Canterwood	Stitely	24	1		173.101	11/1/1987	1801008323
17-01-86-17	17-01-86-17	Village View	Story	24	42		86.6	1/7/1987	1801004387
17-01-86-22A	17-01-86-22A		Winterstein	13	43		98.56	11/22/1989	1801010174
17-01-86-24	17-01-86-24		Winterstein	13	1		216.716	1/26/1989	1801010166
17-01-88-08	17-01-88-08		Winterstein	13	44		304.78	11/22/1989	1801000802
17-01-90-06	17-01-90-06	Oxdale Farm	Conover	32	1		250	1/18/1991	1801001825
17-01-90-09	17-01-90-09		Ferrell	32	17,26		189.434	8/6/2002	1801012398
17-01-90-10A	17-01-90-10A		Palamatary	32	22		67.724	9/16/2002	1801012932
17-01-90-13	17-01-90-13	Shallow Pond	Bostic	24/31	**		310.87	3/19/1998	1801000586
17-01-90-25	17-01-90-25	Tullahoma	Holland	24	82		208.136	6/19/1998	1801012479
17-01-91-04	17-01-91-04		Proud	13	21		106.6	2/27/1998	1801002074
17-01-94-01	17-01-94-01		Clark	19	pt 41		168.453	10/26/2001	1801001299
17-01-94-02	17-01-94-02		Clark	19	pt41		174.001	9/4/2001	1801001299
17-01-95-04	17-01-95-04		Leager	18	27		102.88	5/15/2000	1801005081
17-01-97-02	17-01-97-02		Ferrell	32	4		137.119	2/9/1999	1801006517
17-01-97-03	17-01-97-03	Laurel Oak Farm	Bagley	18	18		31.582	8/13/2003	1801008587
17-01-97-04	17-01-97-04		Elborn	25	2		109.273	6/1/2000	1801010247
17-01-97-07	17-01-97-07		Walls	18	8		123	9/1/1999	1801009273
17-01-97-09	17-01-97-09		Cronshaw	18	9,125		137.756	6/14/1999	1801001906
17-01-97-10A	17-01-97-10A		Walls	18	79		90.829	7/24/2000	1801009265
17-01-98-01	17-01-98-01	Rose Hill Farm	Walmsley	18	20		102.458	8/21/2002	1801007041
17-01-98-04A	17-01-98-04A	The Other Place	Darling	13	pt 45		50	3/26/2009	1801017187
17-01-98-05A	17-01-98-05A		Smith	13	pt 45		50	3/26/2009	1801002082
17-01-99-10	17-01-99-10		Story	19	39		152.96	4/26/2001	1801004778
17-02-02-01	17-02-02-01	Cedar Run	Dodd	17	6		97	1/23/2006	1802005115

17-02-84-01	17-02-84-01	Double L Acres	Kinnamon	31	25,26		305.966	1/12/1988	1802005786
17-02-85-01	17-02-85-01		Morris	30	49,22		337	12/19/1986	1802005468
17-02-86-09	17-02-86-09		Brown	29	53		168.013	6/27/1990	1802010321
17-02-86-13	17-02-86-13		Scott	16	6		100.713	1/6/1988	1802011867
17-02-86-14	17-02-86-14	Parsons Green Farm	MacGlashan	22	43		117.026	4/23/1996	1802008963
17-02-86-15	17-02-86-15		McDonald	23	***		255.47	9/11/1987	1802004399
17-02-86-18	17-02-86-18	Hayden View	Morris	37	27		184.45	3/8/1988	1802008688
17-02-88-06	17-02-88-06		Morris	31	10		208	12/14/1989	1801009885
17-02-89-03	17-02-89-03		Taylor	31	24		190.952	9/17/1990	1802010771
17-02-89-04	17-02-89-04		Taylor	31	20		254.497	9/17/1990	1802012952
17-02-89-05A	17-02-89-05A		Taylor	31	95		70.22	9/17/1990	1802017377
17-02-89-06	17-02-89-06		Smith	29	6		150.671	8/14/1990	1802007541
17-02-89-07	17-02-89-07		Warner	23	132		287.272	2/12/1991	1802009927
17-02-89-09	17-02-89-09		Karbaum	30	46		351.26	1/9/1991	1802003996
17-02-89-09S1	17-02-89-09S1		Van Dyke	30	46		23.46	1/9/1991	1802023873
17-02-89-09S2	17-02-89-09S2		Heller	30	132		22	1/9/1991	1802023822
17-02-91-05A	17-02-91-05A		Brown	22	42		99.475	11/6/1995	1802010429
17-02-91-06	17-02-91-06		Patchett	23	22		293.87	4/17/2003	1802013711
17-02-91-08	17-02-91-08	Donwaland Holsteins/ Wayne McFarland	McFarland	31	***		173	11/14/2007	1802011972
17-02-91-09	17-02-91-09	Donwaland Hosteins/ Wayne McFarland	McFarland	31	***		172	12/27/2007	1802011972
17-02-99-03	17-02-99-03	Peacock Farm	Embert	17	25		219.908	12/12/2002	1802007738
17-02-99-04	17-02-99-04	Towsend Farm	Embert	17	15		170.5322	11/28/2001	1802007711
17-02-99-09	17-02-99-09	New Hope Farm	Sheubrooks	23	11		185	11/20/2001	1802005352
17-02-99-13	17-02-99-13		Burgess	23	29		154	4/27/2001	1802015625
17-03-00-01	17-03-00-01		Hatfield	52	8		211.06	3/22/2002	1803006646
17-03-00-02	17-03-00-02		Hatfield	52	10		262.735	3/22/2002	1803006654
17-03-00-06A	17-03-00-06A		Leager	29	27		25	6/3/2004	1803008673
17-03-02	17-03-02		Denny	62	5		163.004	12/6/2007	1806003176
17-03-02-02	17-03-02-02	Content Farm	Babe	45	20		94.568	1/27/2006	1803000168
17-03-81-01	17-03-81-01	Peace and Plenty	Covington	52	4		189	2/2/1984	1803015386
17-03-82-04A	17-03-82-04A		Sheubrooks	43/81	93		213	9/26/2007	1803018881
17-03-82-04Bs1	17-03-82-04Bs1		Rhodes	43	9		293.486	9/25/2007	1803011364
17-03-82-04Bs2	17-03-82-04Bs2		Rhodes	43	21		157.841	11/19/2001	1803005089

17-03-86-03	17-03-86-03		Hicks	29	25		154	11/27/1989	1803006913
17-03-86-06	17-03-86-06		Brown	28	38		178.44	10/16/1989	1803010597
17-03-86-19	17-03-86-19	Clannihan Shop Farm	Wood	29	28		99.696	6/23/1998	1803015262
17-03-86-20	17-03-86-20	Holton Farm	Clark	43	45		145.226	9/22/1987	1803003035
17-03-86-21	17-03-86-21	Charfield Farm	Clark	34	50		228.318	12/18/1995	1803003019
17-03-87-04	17-03-87-04		Sultenfuss	53	8		178.95	1/22/1990	1803013014
17-03-89-01	17-03-89-01		Gambriel	61	17		118.815	8/17/1990	1803008975
17-03-89-08	17-03-89-08		Miles	61	7,8		211.227	4/8/1991	1803009688
17-03-90-01A	17-03-90-01A		Handzo	29	107		60.69	1/17/1991	1803028526
17-03-90-01B	17-03-90-01B		Putman	29	30		20	1/17/1991	1803001687
17-03-90-01C	17-03-90-01C		Lane	29	102		12.852	1/17/1991	1803025780
17-03-90-07	17-03-90-07		Patchett	36	9		208.25	1/10/1991	1803003469
17-03-90-11	17-03-90-11	Bachelor's Hope	Morris	44	14		135.6546	9/2/1998	1803009939
17-03-91-01	17-03-91-01		Leager	29	**		146.98	3/5/1997	1803008673
17-03-93-06	17-03-93-06		Potter	53	4		101.54	3/20/1998	1803004899
17-03-98-07	17-03-98-07		Cannon	28	50		122.913	10/6/2000	1803012999
17-03-98-08	17-03-98-08		Adams	53	3		118.542	8/29/2000	1803008924
17-03-98-09	17-03-98-09		Adams	53	3		115	6/19/2001	1803008924
17-03-99-05	17-03-99-05	Quail Hollow Farm	Dulin	45	21		213.21	7/24/2001	1803010678
17-03-99-12C	17-03-99-12C	J C K Farms, LLC	Leager	29	31,10		192.27	2/16/2001	1803030865
17-04-86-26	17-04-86-26		Schulz	57	***		99.1	2/25/1988	1804090039
17-04-88-09C	17-04-88-09C	Wye River Enterprises Inc		63	**		377.875	3/16/1990	1804003543
17-04-88-10C	17-04-88-10C	Wye River Enterprises, Inc		63	182		100.195	12/29/1989	1804100638
17-04-88-11C	17-04-88-11C	Wye River Enterprises, Inc		63	31		108.425	1/11/1990	1804090446
17-05-86-05	17-05-86-05		Dodd	66	62		270	12/29/1987	1805026555
17-05-88-05	17-05-88-05		Whitby	66	11		216.763	9/22/1989	1805004535
17-05-90-15	17-05-90-15	Mr. Hope Farm	Bauer	65	10		195.789	12/19/1995	1805004063
17-05-93-05	17-05-93-05		Carroll	43	31		201	9/23/1997	1805016037
17-05-93-09	17-05-93-09	Wright Farm	Whaley	52	18		442.475	4/9/1996	1805018676
17-05-94-05	17-05-94-05	Cedar Dale	Whaley	52	31		288.383	1/13/1998	1805018668
17-05-94-06	17-05-94-06		Dudley	52	16,71		179	1/26/1998	1805004861
17-05-94-07	17-05-94-07		Dudley	52	19		160.76	1/26/1998	1805026598
17-06-00-03	17-06-00-03		Downes	55	1		134.759	3/18/2002	1806002927

17-06-00-14	17-06-00-14		Dean	46	15		147.47	11/8/2001	1806000584
17-06-00-15	17-06-00-15		Kimbles	38	12B		213.108	12/16/2002	1806002013
17-06-01	17-06-01		Dulin	45	25B		54.762	12/7/2007	1803027384
17-06-01-01A	17-06-01-01A		LePore	26	8		91	3/11/2004	1801008269
17-06-01-05	17-06-01-05		Eaton	62	8		187	4/1/2003	1806000266
17-06-01-07	17-06-01-07	Quail Hollow Farm	Dulin	45	12		145.825	11/4/2002	1806001270
17-06-01-08	17-06-01-08	Quail Hollow Farm	Dulin	45	13		159.788	11/4/2002	1806001270
17-06-01-09	17-06-01-09		Cook	37	13		215.492	7/31/2002	1806000835
17-06-02	17-06-02		Elborn	25	60		25.857	12/28/2007	1801010255
17-06-02-03	17-06-02-03		Downes	55	1		52	10/13/2004	1806002927
17-06-02-05	17-06-02-05		Callahan	69	1		88.032	3/3/2004	1806000525
17-06-02-06	17-06-02-06	Ashlyn Acres	Hickman	36	17		28.678	3/10/2004	1806000118
17-06-02-07	17-06-02-07		Morris	36	70,71		137.75	8/30/2004	1806009700
17-06-09	17-06-09		Smith	14	54		39.946	4/21/2008	1801011383
17-06-86-11	17-06-86-11	Starr Farm	Beaver	46	29		283.32	9/6/1989	1806000207
17-06-86-12	17-06-86-12		Moore	46	5		218.38	4/28/1987	1806002560
17-06-87-02	17-06-87-02		Warren	47	6		168.851	11/14/1988	1806000215
17-06-87-03	17-06-87-03		Moore	46	26		248.564	4/3/1989	1806002552
17-06-88-02	17-06-88-02		Sullivan	46	25		202.67	10/3/2005	1806001068
17-06-88-03	17-06-88-03	Mary's Choice	Leager	37	3		154.31	11/29/1990	1806002099
17-06-88-07	17-06-88-07		Willis	37	4		226.13	8/31/1989	1806003818
17-06-89-02	17-06-89-02	Reading Farm	Cahall	37	23		171.28	9/26/1990	1806000452
17-06-90-02	17-06-90-02		Claggett	62	11		199.073	12/31/1990	1806001203
17-06-90-03A	17-06-90-03A		Claggett	62	63		75.384	12/31/1990	1806008364
17-06-90-04C	17-06-90-04C		Warren	47	**		197.67	10/25/1991	1806001335
17-06-90-05C	17-06-90-05C		Warren	38	11		150	2/8/1991	1806001343
17-06-90-14	17-06-90-14		Lippy	38	9		252.825	1/21/2004	1806003354
17-06-90-16	17-06-90-16	Coleraine Farm	Eaton	69	10		121.53	8/28/2000	1806001173
17-06-91-13	17-06-91-13		Downes	47	1		118	3/5/2003	1806001092
17-06-93-10	17-06-93-10		Wood	47	5		214.608	12/22/1999	1806000436
17-06-95-01A	17-06-95-01A		Moore	37	25		88	3/6/2000	1806002382
17-06-95-02	17-06-95-02		Moore	37	35		98.862	11/26/2001	1806002382
17-06-95-03	17-06-95-03		Rice	38	23		97.994	6/8/1998	1806003079

17-06-95-06	17-06-95-06	Norwich Creek Farm	Bramble	68	13		213.749	7/27/1999	1806003168
17-06-96-02C	17-06-96-02C			38	pt 24		118	8/13/1999	1806003753
17-06-96-03C	17-06-96-03C			38	pt 24		119	7/16/1999	1806003753
17-06-97-06A	17-06-97-06A		Hollingsworth	68	12		80.351	10/16/2001	1806001734
17-06-97-08A	17-06-97-08A		Bramble	68	34		92.103	12/26/2000	1806008372
17-06-97-11	17-06-97-11		Wood	61	27&32		146.794	1/7/2002	1806003583
17-06-98-02A	17-06-98-02A		Leager	37	40		56.169	7/13/2001	1806000398
17-06-98-11	17-06-98-11		Jackson	61	40		337	6/14/2000	1806001890
17-06-99-01	17-06-99-01		Kimbles	38	12A		157.74	11/5/2001	1806008682
17-06-99-02	17-06-99-02		Wilson	36	19		305.286	7/10/2001	1806003877
17-06-99-06	17-06-99-06	Mulberry Hill Farm	Barton	69	3		161.062	10/11/2000	1806000169
17-06-99-15	17-06-99-15		Foster	38	2		113.916	3/9/2001	1806001394
17-07-00-07C	17-07-00-07C	Pondtown Farm, LLC	Schultz	11	57		138	2/2/2005	1807011415
17-07-00-13	17-07-00-13	Hiortdahl Farm	Hiortdahl	11	9		168.96	9/25/2002	1807005156
17-07-05	17-07-05		Clark	31	2		150.001	4/23/2010	1802014335
17-07-07	17-07-07		Smith	30	134		103.431	3/26/2018	1802023830
17-07-87-01	17-07-87-01		Winterstein	7	17		150.72	11/16/1988	1807006101
17-08-02	17-08-02		Smith	7	14		131.851	5/24/2012	1807007701
17-08-08	17-08-08		Rhodes	44	13		99.492	3/22/2010	1803005070
17-08-10	17-08-10		Leaverton	36	24		373.666	4/30/2010	1806002935
17-08-11	17-08-11	Wye Farm	Senecal	60	12,34		436.21	11/12/2008	1805017734
17-09-02	17-09-02		Roe	37	22		256.494	3/13/2010	1806003060
17-09-03	17-09-03			46	28		200	2/15/2012	1806001912
17-09-04	17-09-04		Higgins	37	29		26.446	7/13/2010	1806002242
17-11-01	17-11-01		Moore	62	14		178.237	4/17/2012	1806002528
17-13-01	17-13-01		Leager	52	21		235.873	3/7/2014	1805007429
17-13-02	17-13-02		Glanding	7	15		84.856	3/5/2014	1807004141
17-13-03	17-13-03		Collins	53	2		523.952	5/7/2014	1803003280
17-13-05	17-13-05		Barton	69	8	8	169.196	11/28/2014	1806000193
17-13-06	17-13-06		Dean	23	10	12,19	486.755	8/15/2014	1802004879
17-13-07	17-13-07		Draper	54	39		272	5/6/2015	1806003540
17-15-02	17-15-02		Bostic	6	50	3	274.597	8/26/2016	1801000551
17-15-04	17-15-04		Cannon	45	23	1	138.607	7/8/2016	1803010090

17-15-05	17-15-05			68	14		147.962	2/21/2017	1806000770
17-15-06	17-15-06			10	29		244.96	1/20/2016	1802010291
17-15-07	17-15-07		Hastings	68	35		198.047	3/22/2017	1803006603
17-17-01	17-17-01		Appenzeller	7	10		106.808	7/3/2018	1807000200
17-17-02	17-17-02		Bryan	77	2		163.846	10/27/2018	1805001897
17-17-03	17-17-03		Callahan	68	2		251.03	11/29/2017	1803002284
17-17-05	17-17-05		Mullikin	45	4		84.303	4/13/2018	1803010082
17-17-06	17-17-06		Shuebrooks	12	21		151.389	4/11/2018	1801003127
17-17-08	17-17-08			18	21		140.806	8/14/2018	1801004514
17-19-01	17-19-01		Bostic	6	135		112.492	11/21/2019	1801007874
17-19-03	17-19-03		Councell	47	3		100.888	7/23/2019	1806000630
17-19-04	17-19-04		Dean	30	5		131.703	7/28/2020	1802012472
17-19-05	17-19-05		Eaton	69	9		151.603	8/30/2019	1806000541
17-19-06	17-19-06		Haines	14	5		99.694	8/21/2019	1801003682
17-19-07	17-19-07		Boyles	7	16		142.96	12/23/2019	1801000675
17-19-08	17-19-08			18	36		130.81	10/4/2019	1801015389
17-19-10	17-19-10			54	10		270.142	4/22/2020	1806002285
17-19-11	17-19-11			37	17		229.2	7/24/2020	1806000282
17-19-12	17-19-12		Staver	38	14		298.817	3/3/2020	1806001297
17-20-01	17-20-01		Leager	37	80		92.453	9/7/2021	1806005489
17-20-03	17-20-03			23	30		162.935	11/5/2020	1802009625
17-20-06	17-20-06			68	11		148	11/18/2020	1806000762
17-20-07	17-20-07			6	39		103.858	2/25/2021	1801008935
17-20-08	17-20-08		Jackson	69	4		158.06	11/24/2020	1806001874
17-20-09	17-20-09		BABE	45	49		56.206	10/16/2020	1803016390
17-20-10	17-20-10			12	24		165.479	1/13/2021	1801001663
17-21-01	17-21-01		Denny	54	1		225.663	5/9/2022	1806000037
17-21-02	17-21-02	Parson Green Farm	MacGlashan	22	43		224.763	8/19/2022	1802008963
17-21-05	17-21-05		Leaverton	54	39		272.945	9/10/2021	1806003540
17-21-06	17-21-06		MacGlashan	44E	16		134.987	7/7/2022	1803004651
17-21-10	17-21-10		Wood	30	4		157.03	2/14/2022	1802004011
17-22-12	17-22-12		Moore	7	2		218.783	8/10/2022	1801002414
17-22-13	17-22-13		Sheubrooks	23	9		197.393	7/21/2022	1802006561

17-82-03	17-82-03	Chestnut Manor	Rhodes	52	9		169.275	3/22/2010	1803002381
17-86-04s	17-86-04s		Elliott-Rossing	39	4		10.994	1/22/1987	1801014560
17-86-04s1	17-86-04s1		Green	39	8		63.64	1/22/1998	1801015362
17-86-04s2	17-86-04s2		Green	39	1		58.9	1/22/1987	1806001262
17-86-04s3	17-86-04s3		Green	39	1		63.64	1/22/1998	1801002430
17-99-08	17-99-08		Anders	53	15		270.826	3/22/2005	1806001165
17-99-19	17-99-19		Staver	47	6		155.3	11/7/2006	1806001114

APPENDIX B: Inventory ~ METS

MET_ID	ELECT	TAXID	YEAR	LIBER	FOLIO	Deed_Ac	Calc_Ac	Map	Parcel	Lot	P_O_Parcel	CoHold	PrjName
011WHI76	4	1804062450	1976	113	369	541.43	537.75	64	32				White
020TIL77	5	1805017416	1977	121	40	100	143.83	43	11		x		Tilghman
034DOB79	5	1805004527	1979	158	634	189.23	201.59	43	12				Dobbin
053FER80	5	1805005647	1980	170	439	412.68	400.48	34	6	1/2/2003			Ferguson
080SMI82	3	1803030423	1982	191	396	187.23	180.41	34	76/3				Smith
083TIL83	5	1805017416	1983	202	675	265	222.61	43	11		x		Tilghman
095TIL84	5	1805017416	1984	223	487	449.35	396.04	43	11		x		Tilghman
099KEN85	4	1804044002	1985	232	472	300.59	258.05	70	40				Kent Island Joint Venture
1015BBF10	2	1802001098	2010	1959	1	218.66	213.27	16	21			ESLC	Browns Branch Farm, LLC
1016FKE10	2	1802009668	2010	1962	620	267.38	267.38	10	7			ESLC	Frizz-King Enterprises, LLC
1029BIO11	1	1801005332	2011	2037	601	111.67	104.13	6	52	2		CWH	Biophilia Foundation
1036GRA11	3	1803019446	2011	2069	276	204.05	182.13	35	9			ESLC	Calvin and Constance Gray
1037GRA11	3	1803046958	2011	2069	244	113.99	114.09	35	9	2		ESLC	Calvin and Constance Gray
1046MIL12	3	1803008932	2012	2126	238	270.02	270.17	29	29			ESLC	Milliken
105MAR85	3	1803023362	1985	1171	297	170.8	170.86	21	26/29				Marshall
1062QAC12	4	1804097297	2013	2246	9	5.27	5.27	56	333	2/3		ESLC	Eisinger
113WOO86	3	1803015270	1986	268	430	333.36	319.59	28	2				Wood/Read/Conger
1159TAI22	5	1805038480	2021	3954	271	327.15	326.77	73	117			ESLC	Aspen Institute
1160TAI22	5	1805126755	2021	3955	1	259.82	257.94	73	79	2		ESLC	Aspen Institute
119NES86	5	1805038251	1986	267	727	299.82	258.35	58	15/16		x		Nesbit
151OYS88	4	1804020030	1988	232	472	202.65	209.99	56	202		x		Oyster
158LEW89	4	1804077563	1989	322	703	5.15	6.24	56	289		x		Lewis
196WIN90	5	1805000742	1990	362	308	212.3	207.4	66	21				Windfall Farm, Inc
218NES92	5	1805012376	1992	391	678	47.22	39.55	58	465/16		x		Nesbit
289WAT94	5	1805018439	1994	477	426	24.83	23.05	58A	24			ESLC	Watson
366JUD96	3	1803008495	1996	552	905	51.85	50.66	28	22				Judge, Possum Point
367EMO96	3	1803004988	1996	552	888	259	252.17	28	21				Emory
380GRE96	3	1803024652	1996	555	373	22.64	20.96	43	104	1		ESLC	Greytak
435WIL98	5	1805046408	1998	617	111	307	267.15	65	12			ESLC	The Wildfowl Trust
436CON98	5	1805017912	1998	617	125	155.35	168.71	58	29			ESLC	The Conservation Fund
440CWH98	5	1805019664	1998	624	107	284	279.36	59	38/39				Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage

441WAL98	1	1801009362	1998	624	218	50	48.3	14	24			ESLC	Walmsley
452BLA98	3	1803001113	1998	647	436	241.29	239.6	28	25			ESLC	Blackwood
462CAR98	4	1804007255	1998	650	972	109.31	121.63	63	41			ESLC	Carvel
463NEI98	3	1803010376	1998	650	937	51.2	44.82	35	1			ESLC	Nielsen
464KUD98	5	1805010225	1998	650	953	650	606.7	65	5			ESLC	Kudner
506EVA99	3	1803027872	1999	714	313	100	103.51	28	171			ESLC	Evans
552DUR00	3	1803009580	2000	771	648	175.53	157.9	35	7		x	ESLC	Durham
553STA00-a	5	1805006023	2000	771	631	231.94	231.47	66	8/111			ESLC	Stagwell
553STA00-b	5	1805035201	2007	1749	81	39.85	39.43	66	99/100			ESLC	Stagwell
554FL000	3	1803005178	2000	771	617	303.75	300.17	28	17	1/2		ESLC	Flower
555GRE00	3	1803025977	2000	771	597	28.22	29.71	43	108	2			Greytak
589EAT05	3	1803002977	2005	1498	371	142	142.14	43	1/105			ESLC	Eaton
719WAT02	5	1805011876	2002	1006	429	27.21	27.59	72	13	1			Waterman
773SUG03	2	1802021544	2003	1193	410	62.22	63.02	22	209			ESLC	Sughrue
815SCH04	3	1803021904	2004	1346	429	25	25.85	28	162			CWH	Schnoebelen
858ALT05	5	1805025729	2005	1498	398	17.98	17.22	72	61				Altman
865WHI06	5	1805018765	2006	1523	210	60.15	55.01	72	14			ESLC	White
871ASP06	5	1805033918	2006	1573	581	250.38	264.94	73	79		x	ESLC	Aspen Institute
899PUP07	3	1803024695	2007	1640	680	43.15	48.61	28	173	1			Pupke
909BIS07	3	1803046931	2007	1719	183	98	100.22	35	9	1		ESLC	Bisciotti
910TRI07	1	1801014951	2007	1723	334	49.56	50.04	13	117	2		ESLC	Trinity Farm, LLC
940ASH07	6	1806001785	2007	1750	216	401.78	411.2	54	25/54	B,C,D			Ashley
945WBT07	5	1805018293	2007	1750	190	205.03	201.47	51	10		x	ESLC	Washington Brick & Terra Cotta
946WAT07	5	1805016290	2007	1750	239	42.57	42.37	59	23			ESLC	Waterman
965ZIM08	1	1801013394	2008	1816	711	27.03	26.09	31	113				Zimmer

APPENDIX B: Inventory ~ Rural Legacy

RLAID	RLA	Acres	Map	Parcel	Date	Clerk	Liber	Folio	TaxID	Name
1	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	218.69	2	1	1/14/2008	SM	1754	579	1803003264	Hawes
2	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	210.82	17	5	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1802011905	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
3	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	611.3	11	166	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019262	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
4	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	569.68	11	56	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807008775	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
5	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	712.6	10	3	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807008643	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
6	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	91.45	10	167	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019335	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
7	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	161.26	10	107	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019300	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
9	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	344.37	10	106	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019270	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
10	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	228.8	10	109	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019688	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
11	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	298.71	10	104	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019505	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
12	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	494.91	4	104	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019491	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
13	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	111.13	4	107	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019637	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
14	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	177.38	4	2	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807008910	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
15	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	177.02	4	109	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019521	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
16	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	174.87	4	106	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019408	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
17	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	415.32	4	109	11/7/2001	SM	852	309	1807019378	Grasslands Plantation, Inc.
18	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	174.83	11	8	9/12/2008	SM	1812	281	1807009569	Stevens
19	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	229.3	11	11	12/17/2009	SM	1919	213	1807007523	Patterson
20	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	47.62	15	3	12/17/2009	SM	1917	36	1803029956	Reed
21	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	47.78	15	6	12/17/2009	SM	1917	10	1803029948	Reed
22	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	163.65	11	66	3/25/2010	SM	1936	472	1807009593	Stevens
23	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	174.97	11	63	7/7/2010	SM	1956	712	1807010362	Hutton
24	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	152.03	11	74	8/6/2010	SM	1963	322	1807009585	Stevens
25	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	114.48	21	25	5/20/2011	SM	2027	554	1803019586	Reed
26	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	237.51	11	145	7/27/2011	SM	2038	522	1807006187	Hutton
27	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	74.01	17	8	5/22/2012	SM	2107	81	1802001454	Cooper
28	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	132	21	12	11/23/2015	SM	2484	164	1803008916	Waterman Family Trust
29	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	102.28	21	12	4/10/2018	SM	2879	266	1803009254	Pappas
30	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	114.88	5	6	1/2/2018	SM	2837	123	1807006284	Vansant
31	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	134	5	23	1/10/2018	SM	2833	242	1807009364	Arnold
32	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	99	5	45	12/21/2018	KBH	3018	62	1807004877	Arnold

33	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	398.67	22	1	1/7/2019	KBH	3025	136	1802008084	Marylor Corporation
34	Not in a recognized RLA	305	36G	12	11/19/2019	KBH	3206	245	1803008339	Dulin
35	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	34.09	5	315	6/16/2020	KBH	3375	262	1807020104	Patterson
36	Lands End Rural Legacy Area	163.37	21	7	8/13/2020	KBH	3419	260	1803009467	HCB Jr. Partners Ltd.
37	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	273.57	5	24	10/14/2020	KBH	3522	138	1807007507	Patterson
38	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	97.37	17	9	7/8/2021	KBH	3777	241	1802004267	Everett and Fisher
39	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	94.66	9	58	1/14/2022	KBH	3963	152	1802011719	Beachy
40	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	58.82	5	52	3/29/2022	KBH	4006	282	1807007515	Patterson
41	Foreman Branch Rural Legacy Area	98.57	5	11	3/24/2022	KBH	4021	45	1807000227	Armiger

APPENDIX C: CIP ~ COUNTY PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCHEDULE

NOTE: Project listing does not imply priority. Budget values reflect a combination of capital grant funds and general tax funds					Estimated Short-Range (2023-2025) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2026-2028) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2029-2031) Cost (\$1,000s)		
Projects	Location (area)	Description of Land Preservation and Recreation Park Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	Acres to be Acquired	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
Dog Park	Centreville	Construct a dog park at White Marsh Park	\$ 111			\$ 111							
Ball Diamond Field Lighting	Centreville	Install ball diamond lights at White Marsh Park	\$ 1,200			\$ 1,200							
Pavilion	Centreville	Construct a pavilion at White Marsh Park	\$ 90						\$ 90				
Fencing	Centreville	Fencing around White Marsh Shop Area	\$ 80			\$ 80							
Camping Area	Centreville	Construct a camping area at White Marsh Park	\$ 40						\$ 40				
Water and Sewer	Centreville	Construct water and sewer line to White Marsh Park	\$ 500			\$ 500							
Artificial Turf Field	Centreville	Install two multi-purpose fields at White Marsh Park	\$ 3,000						\$ 3,000				
Basketball and Pickleball Courts	Chester Harbor	Striping for one basketball and two pickleball courts, and replace court lights at Round Top.	\$ 177				\$177						
Multi-Purpose Fields	Chester Harbor	Construct 4 new multi-purpose fields at Round Top Park	\$ 300						\$ 300				
Comfort Station	Chester Harbor	Construct a comfort station at Round Top Park	\$ 250						\$ 250				
Artificial Turf Field	Church Hill	Install a multi-purpose field at Church Hill Park	\$ 1,646			\$ 1,646							
Trail Repair	Church Hill	Mill, patch and overlay of existing trail at Church Hill Park	\$ 200							\$ 200			
Court Lighting	Church Hill	Add court lights at Church Hill Park	\$ 150									\$ 150	
Parking Lot Paving	Crumpton	Pave parking lot at Crumpton Park	\$ 70										\$ 70
Dog Park	Crumpton	Construct a dog park at Crumpton Park	\$ 60						\$ 60				
Court Lighting	Grasonville	Add court lights at Grasonville Park	\$ 150						\$ 150				
Comfort Station	Grasonville	Construct a comfort station at Grasonville Park	\$ 100						\$ 100				
Basketball Court	Pondtown	Color coat and replace court lights at Pinkney Park	\$ 158				\$158						
Trail Paving	Pondtown	Construct and pave trail at Pinkney Park	\$ 400						\$ 400				
Covered Dugouts	Queen Anne's County	Install covered dugouts at other various county parks	\$ 95			\$ 95							
Artificial Turf Field	Stevensville	Install a multi-purpose field at Batt's Neck Park	\$ 1,513			\$ 1,513							
Skate Park	Stevensville	Install a skate park at the Lands of Terrapin Park, Cockey Lane	\$ 600			\$ 600							
Trail Extension	Stevensville	Construct and pave trail extension for Route 8 trail system	\$ 1,114			\$ 614			\$ 500				
Trail Extension	Stevensville	Kent Island Trail easements	\$ 200		\$ 200								
Comfort Station	Stevensville	Replace existing comfort station at Matapeake Beach	\$ 180				\$180						
Parking Lot	Stevensville	Construct a parking lot at Terrapin Nature Park	\$ 100			\$ 100							
Park Improvements	Stevensville	Construct a comfort station, observation deck, and pavilion at Blue Heron Nature Preserve	\$ 490						\$ 490				
Pavilion and Grill Area	Stevensville	Add a pavilion and grill area to Batt's Neck Park	\$ 70									\$ 70	
Picnic Area	Stevensville	Construct a second picnic area at Terrapin	\$ 160						\$ 160				

APPENDIX C: CIP ~ COUNTY PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCHEDULE

NOTE: Project listing does not imply priority. Budget values reflect a combination of capital grant funds and general tax funds					Estimated Short-Range (2023-2025) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2026-2028) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2029-2031) Cost (\$1,000s)		
Projects	Location (area)	Description of Land Preservation and Recreation Park Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	Acres to be Acquired	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
Playground Replacement	Stevensville	Replace playground at Mowbray Park	\$ 1,015							\$ 1,015			
Covered Dugouts	Stevensville, Centreville	Install covered dugouts at Old Love Point, Batt's Neck and Route 18 Park.	\$ 70			\$ 70							
Basketball and Tennis Courts	Sudlersville	Re-pave the basketball and tennis courts at Sudlersville Park	\$ 160				\$160						
TOTAL COST			\$ 14,449	0	\$ 200	\$ 6,529	\$675	\$ -	\$ 5,540	\$ 1,215	\$ -	\$ 220	\$ 70

FY23 Waterway Improvement Projects			
Projects	Location (area)	Description of Land Preservation and Recreation Park Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)
Boat Ramp	Centreville	Replace ramp, raise parking lot and roadways at Centreville Landing	\$ 250
Bulkhead and Boat Ramp	Crumpton	Replace bulkhead and boat ramp at Deep Landing	\$ 250
Shoreline Protection	Grasonville	Design shoreline protection for erosion issue at Jackson Creek	\$ 10
Dredging	Grasonville	Dredge shoaled areas in Chester River Northern Approach to Kent Narrows Channel	\$ 1,000
Parking Lot Improvements	Grasonville	Improve drainage at Little Creek Landing	\$ 10
Boat Ramp	Stevensville	Replace boat ramp and boarding pier at Matapeake Landing	\$ 350
TOTAL COST			\$ 1,870

APPENDIX D: Queen Anne's County Parks and Recreation

NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

January 11, 2021

Prepared By:

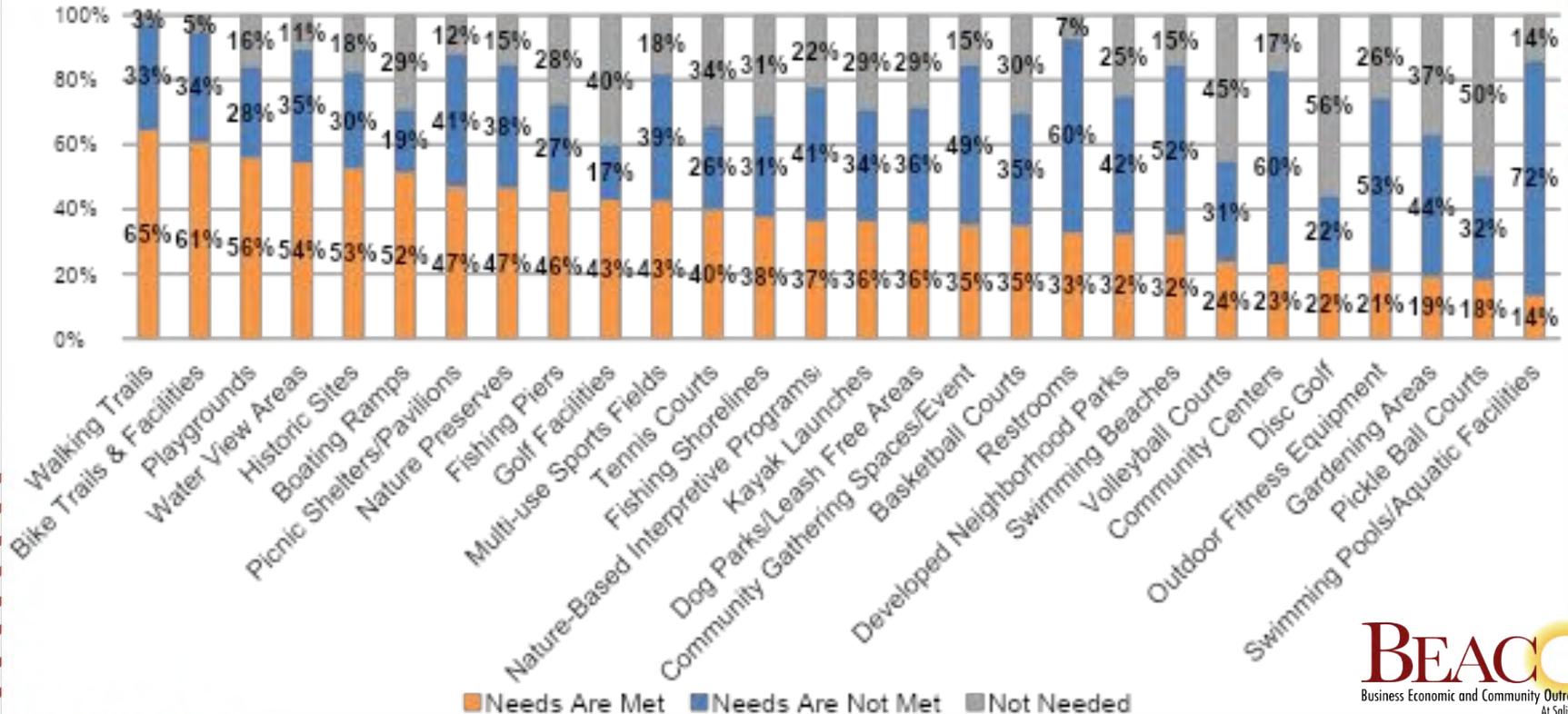


Introduction

- The survey utilized for the 2020 Needs Assessment Survey was a revised version of the 2017 survey.
- The 2020 survey was released online and promoted through a variety of avenues including:
 - Social Media: Facebook (numerous County and local pages), Instagram
 - Email blasts to: local schools, athletic organizations, non-profits, civic organizations, and home owner associations
 - County staff email blast
 - A headline on the Queen Anne's County website with a QR code and live link
- The survey was available online from October 28th to November 20th
- A total of 537 respondents participated in the survey.

Question 1

Of the following types of park facilities and areas, please indicate whether your personal needs are met, not met, or not needed. (Response Count: 535)



Question 1 (continued)

Open-ended response summary (178 respondents provided comments)

- More recreational options are needed for children and teenagers
- A community center is needed that serves all ages and provides a variety of recreational amenities (particularly indoor and outdoor pools)
- More off-leash dog areas are needed including a dog park in mid-county
- Fields need lighting, parking lot lighting, restroom facilities, more/better waste and recycling management and better maintenance and upkeep
- More athletic and multipurpose fields are desired
- Nature: incorporate more native plants in natural areas, eradicate invasive species, more Green initiatives, neighborhood gardens
- Parks need adequate and clean restrooms, sufficient trash and recycling receptacles, and to remain open later
- Comments addressed needs specific to particular parks as well

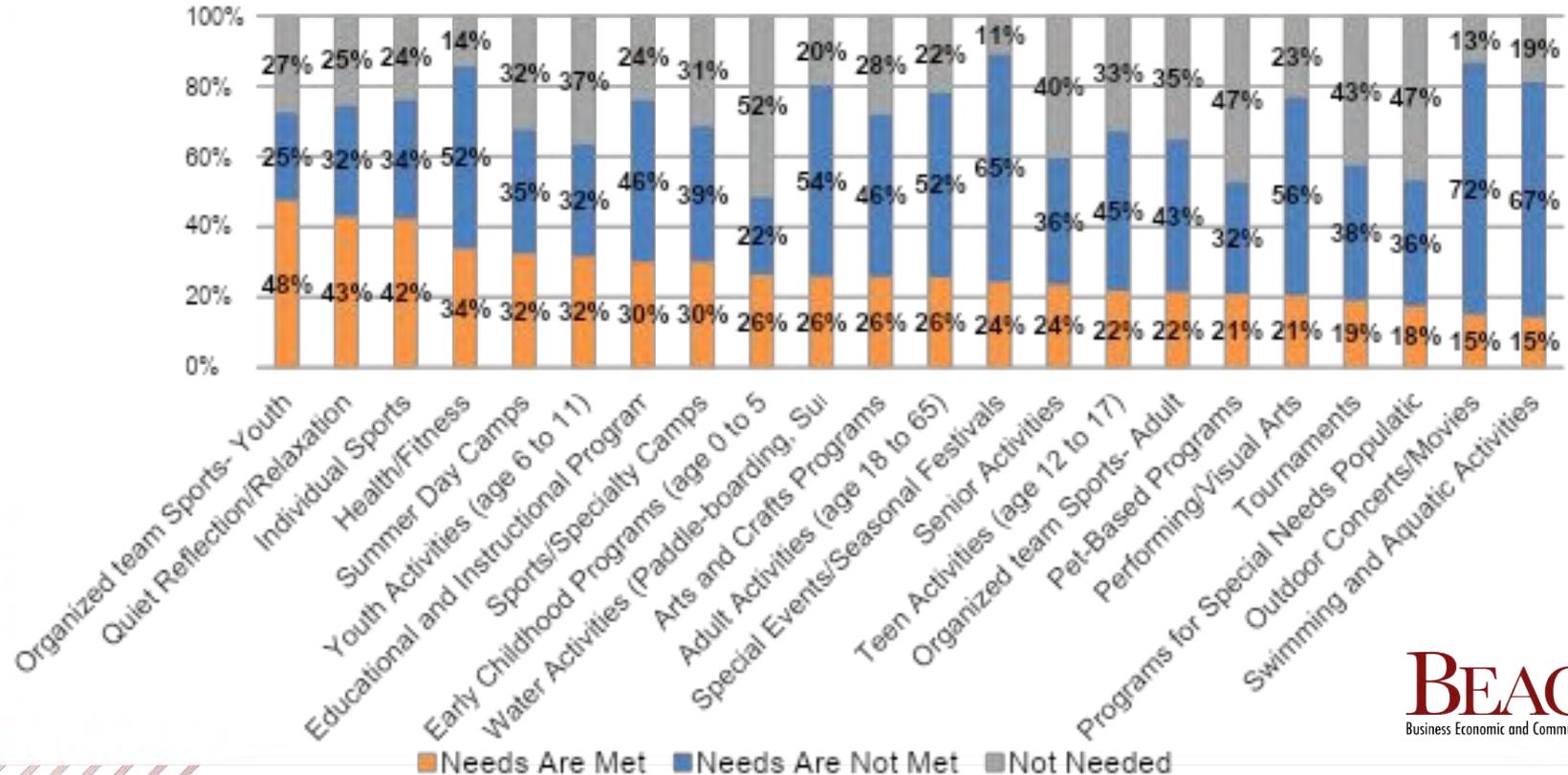
Question 1 (continued)

Open-ended response summary (178 respondents provided comments)

- Strong support for one or more public swimming pools within the county
- Additional pickleball courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, golf course, and disc golf courses are desired
- The county needs an indoor sporting facility
- Much support for additional bike and walking trails
- Comments also addressed additional trail connections/segments of interest and feedback related to specific trails
- Water Access: more access and swimming opportunities are desired; open Conquest Beach to the local public for general recreation, and trash/litter control needs to be enhanced

Question 2

Of the following types of programs and services, please indicate if your personal needs are met. (Response Count: 522)



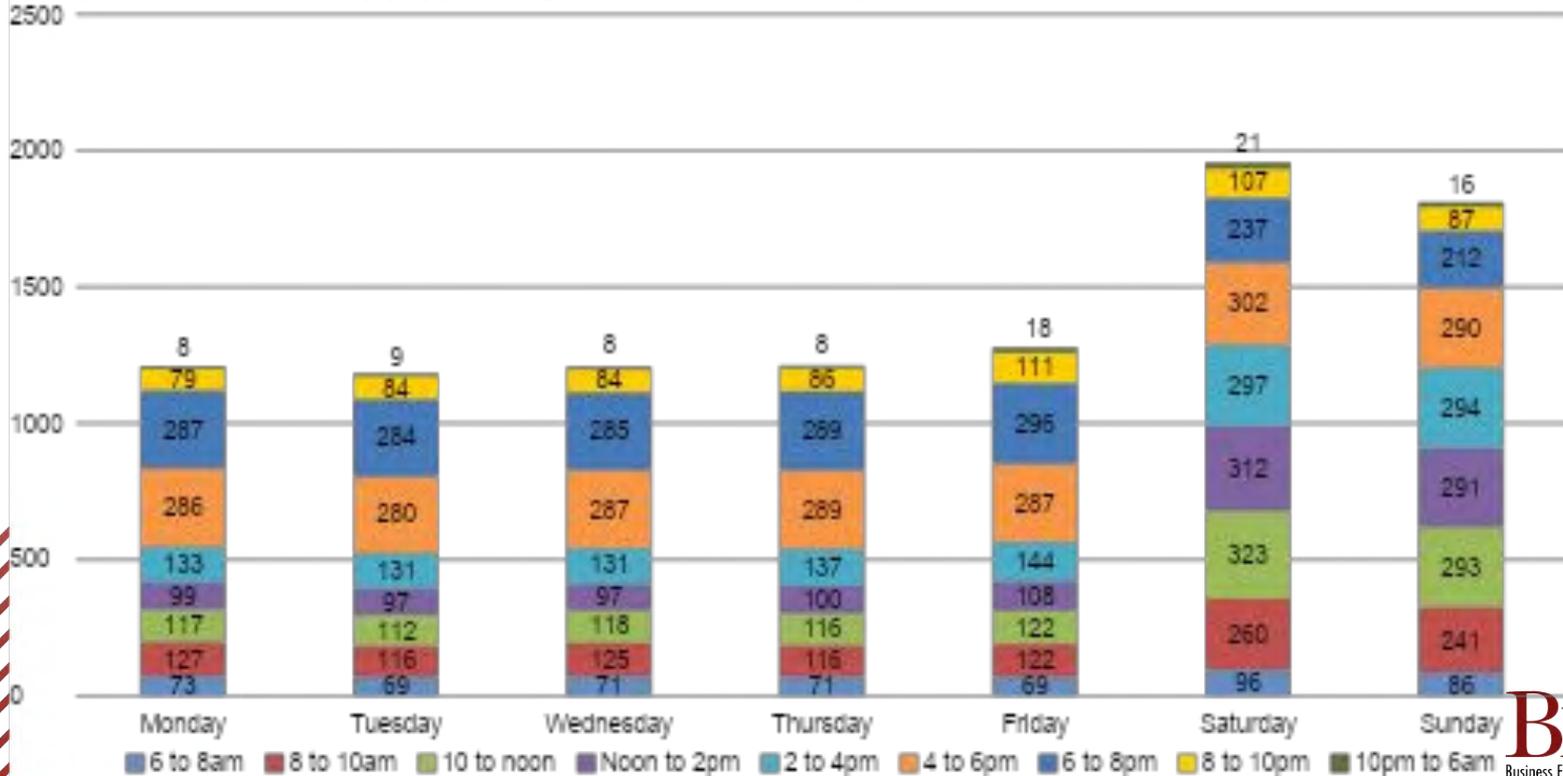
Question 2 (continued)

Open-ended response summary (67 respondents provided comments)

- **Accessibility-** need to be handicap accessible and more activities are for special needs populations are desired
- **Adults-** More activities, programs, and educational opportunities for adults
- **Aquatics-** a pool, more paddle board launches, classes, recreational groups and aquatic programs
- **Children-** More activities for youth and teens, outside of organized sports, are needed
- **Events-** better marketing of existing events, an outdoor venue, more: ethnic, music, social, seasonal, and family-friendly events
- **Sports-** organized sporting tournaments, putt-putt and driving ranges open to public, motorsports, lighted pickleball and tennis courts, sports for older adults, outdoor yoga, walking groups, indoor/outdoor skate park

Question 3

Please indicate the time you are most likely to participate in some form of recreation/visit a park. (Select all that apply) (Response Count: 497)



Question 4

Of the following facilities, please list the top five facilities you plan to use in order from 1-5.
(Response Count: 420)

	1 (most often)		2		3		4		5 (least often)		Average Ranking (of those who ranked the identified facility)	Percent of Respondents who Ranked Facility in Top 5
	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents		
Batts Neck Park (Batts Neck Rd., Stevensville)	8	2%	22	5%	11	3%	11	3%	14	3%	3.02	16%
Bennett Point Landing	2	0%	2	0%	2	0%	1	0%	3	1%	3.10	2%
Blue Heron Golf Course (Romancoke Rd., Stevensville)	13	3%	15	4%	13	3%	6	1%	14	3%	2.89	15%
Bryantown Landing	0	0%	3	1%	0	0%	0	0%	2	0%	3.20	1%
Cabin Creek Landing	3	1%	0	0%	2	0%	0	0%	1	0%	2.33	1%
Centreville Landing	13	3%	13	3%	10	2%	8	2%	7	2%	2.67	12%
Chesapeake Heritage and Visitor Center (Piney Narrows Rd., Chester)	4	1%	9	2%	14	3%	14	3%	8	2%	3.27	12%
Church Hill Park (Sudlersville Rd., Church Hill)	28	7%	26	6%	20	5%	12	3%	8	2%	2.43	22%
Conquest Preserve (Conquest Beach Rd., Centreville)	6	1%	7	2%	6	1%	15	4%	9	2%	3.33	10%
Corsica River Water Trails	3	1%	6	1%	5	1%	6	1%	2	0%	2.91	5%
Cross Island Trail (Kent Island)	89	21%	64	15%	35	8%	21	5%	25	6%	2.27	56%
Cross Country Connector Trail (Grasonville)	7	2%	13	3%	10	2%	7	2%	8	2%	2.91	11%
Crumpton Landing	1	0%	0	0%	2	0%	2	0%	2	0%	3.57	2%
Crumpton Park (Dudley's Corner Rd., Crumpton)	1	0%	2	0%	1	0%	2	0%	1	0%	3.00	2%
Deep Landing	2	0%	3	1%	2	0%	2	0%	2	0%	2.91	3%

Question 4

Of the following facilities, please list the top five facilities you plan to use in order from 1-5.
(Response Count: 420)



	1 (most often)		2		3		4		5 (least often)		Average Ranking (of those who ranked the identified facility)	Percent of Respondents who Ranked Facility in Top 5
	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents		
Ewing Pond Park (Main St., Grasonville)	1	0%	0	0%	2	0%	1	0%	4	1%	3.88	2%
Ferry Point Park (Piney Narrows Rd., Chester)	9	2%	18	4%	17	4%	26	6%	16	4%	3.26	20%
Goodhand's Creek Landing	4	1%	2	0%	2	0%	1	0%	2	0%	2.55	3%
Grasonville Park (Perry's Corner Rd.)	2	0%	5	1%	2	0%	4	1%	2	0%	2.93	4%
Island Dog Park (State St., Stevensville)	2	0%	6	1%	9	2%	6	1%	11	3%	3.53	8%
Jackson Creek Landing	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	1%	0	0%	3.25	1%
Kent Island Water Trails	0	0%	2	0%	5	1%	7	2%	7	2%	3.90	5%
Kent Narrows Fishing Pier/Picnic Pavilion	2	0%	2	0%	4	1%	7	2%	9	2%	3.79	6%
Kent Narrows Landing	1	0%	5	1%	5	1%	9	2%	1	0%	3.19	5%
Little Creek Landing	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0.00	0%
Long Point Park (Long Point Rd., Grasonville)	2	0%	3	1%	3	1%	2	0%	8	2%	3.61	4%
Matapeake Clubhouse and Public Beach (Marine Academy Dr., Stevensville)	2	0%	6	1%	18	4%	13	3%	16	4%	3.64	13%
Matapeake Fishing Pier & Ramp	2	0%	1	0%	5	1%	2	0%	5	1%	3.47	4%
Mowbray Park (Romancoke Rd., Stevensville)	27	6%	14	3%	19	5%	16	4%	10	2%	2.63	20%

Question 4

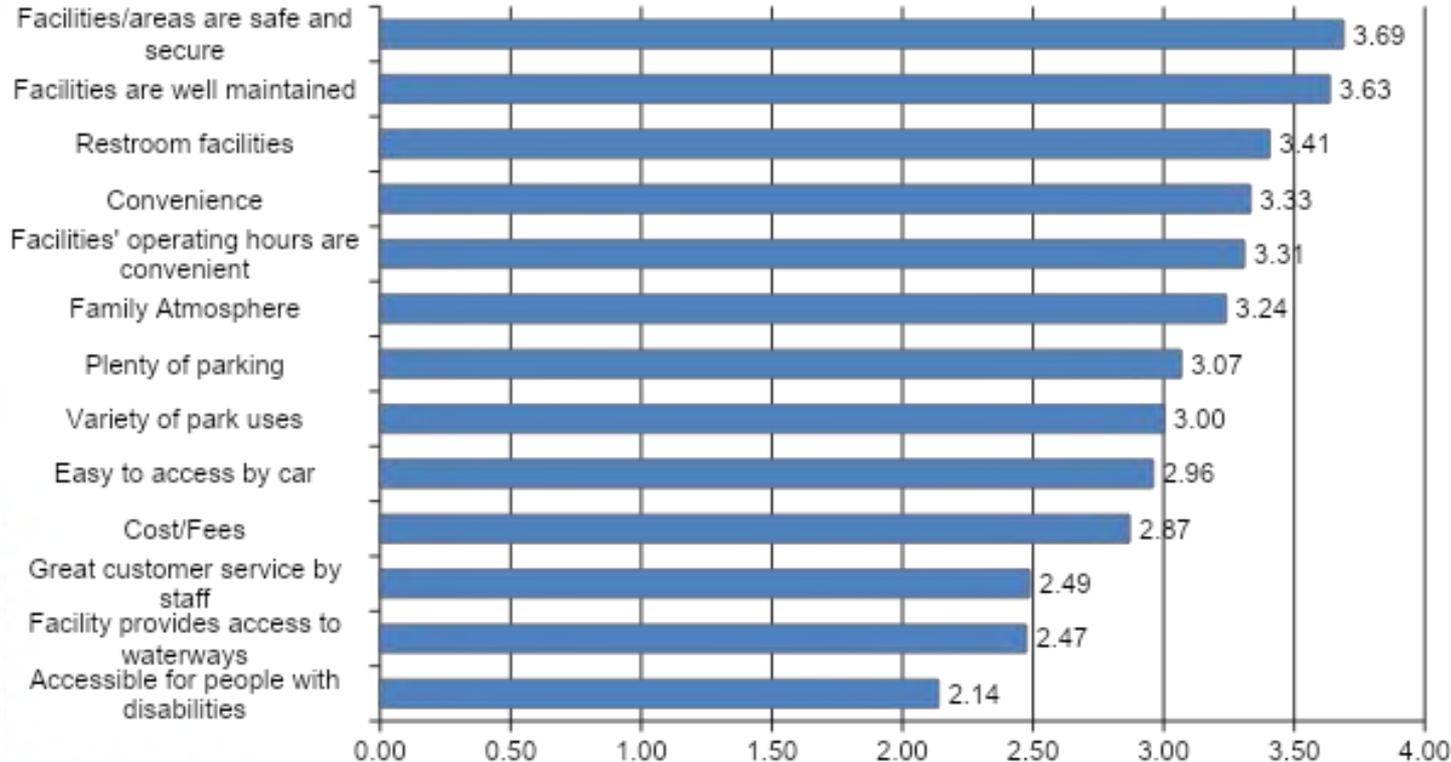
Of the following facilities, please list the top five facilities you plan to use in order from 1-5.
(Response Count: 420)



	1 (most often)		2		3		4		5 (least often)		Average Ranking (of those who ranked the identified facility)	Percent of Respondents who Ranked Facility in Top 5
	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents	#	% of all Respondents		
Old Love Point Park (Old Love Point Rd., Stevensville)	34	8%	23	5%	24	6%	14	3%	16	4%	2.59	26%
Pinkney Park (Dudley Corners Rd., Pondtown)	8	2%	1	0%	2	0%	1	0%	3	1%	2.33	4%
Public Landings/Boat Launches	5	1%	7	2%	15	4%	10	2%	3	1%	2.98	10%
Romancoke Fishing Pier	2	0%	1	0%	1	0%	7	2%	2	0%	3.46	3%
Roosevelt Park (Park Ave., Queen Anne)	3	1%	1	0%	3	1%	0	0%	3	1%	2.90	2%
Roundtop Park (Park Ln., Chestertown)	2	0%	3	1%	6	1%	5	1%	16	4%	3.94	8%
Route 18 Park (4-H Park Rd., Centreville)	32	8%	42	10%	19	5%	16	4%	2	0%	2.23	26%
Shipping Creek Landing	0	0%	1	0%	2	0%	1	0%	15	4%	4.58	5%
South Island Trail (Kent Island)	9	2%	8	2%	16	4%	20	5%	1	0%	2.93	13%
Southeast Creek Landing	0	0%	3	1%	2	0%	2	0%	3	1%	3.50	2%
Stevensville Pocket Park (Love Point Rd., Stevensville)	2	0%	3	1%	0	0%	4	1%	6	1%	3.60	4%
Sudlersville Park (East Main St., Sudlersville)	12	3%	9	2%	9	2%	7	2%	40	10%	3.70	18%
Terrapin Nature Area (Log Canoe Cir., Stevensville)	26	6%	29	7%	30	7%	43	10%	12	3%	2.90	33%
White Marsh Park (Route 213, Centreville)	48	11%	19	5%	24	6%	16	4%	0	0%	2.07	25%

Question 5

When choosing to visit or use a park facility or area, what criteria would you identify as being most important to you? (Response Count: 442)



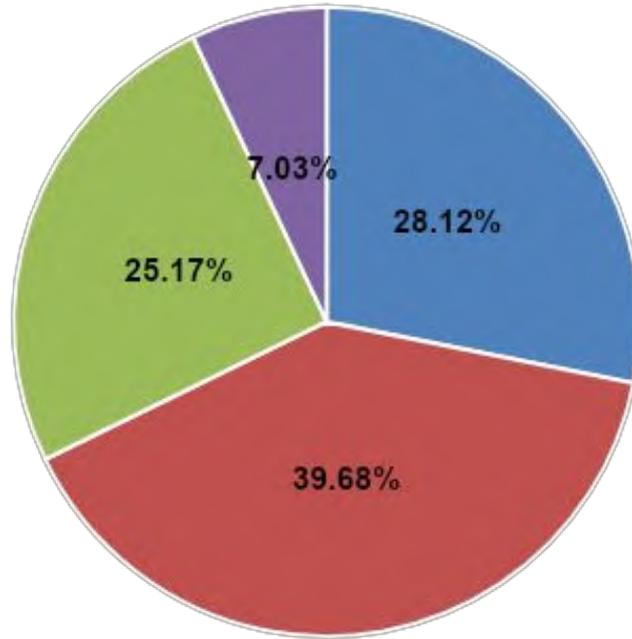
Question 5

When choosing to visit or use a park facility or area, what criteria would you identify as being most important to you? (Response Count: 442)

- Mixed response on fees- depend on season, type of place, and services offered; should be associated with visitors but not for locals (or reduced for locals)
- Use parking meters to control over-used areas in the high season.
- Overcrowding by non-residents at parks and piers is an issue
- Preferred hours for residents before opening to out-of-state residents
- More parks and facilities need access by bikers and on foot
- Other
 - Maintenance/cleanliness
 - Clean, accessible restrooms with running water
 - Safety
 - Proper lighting of parks and parking lots
 - A variety of accommodations
 - Accessibility and inclusivity

Question 6

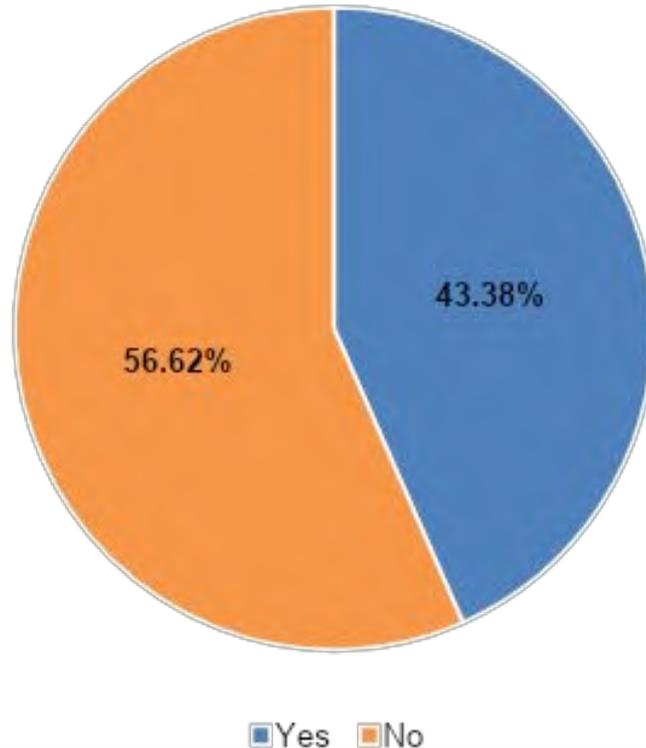
If an annual fee were to be implemented to support Parks and Recreation what level of such a fee would you support (per household)? (Response Count: 441)



■ \$0-\$5 ■ \$6-\$20 ■ \$21-\$50 ■ \$51+

Question 7

Would you support admittance fees for use of specific park system facilities/sites by county residents? (Response Count: 438)



Question 8

If you have a specific amenity or facility request that you would like to see in Queen Anne's County, please list or describe your request here (be specific, where in the county would you like to see this amenity or facility?). (Response Count: 221)

- **Children-** more and improved playgrounds; more activities for children, teens, and young adults
- **Community center-** with a wide variety of suggested features and the following location suggestions: Central Queen Anne's County, Centreville, Kent Island, Queenstown
- Additional **dog parks** with the following location suggestions: Central county, North County, Rt. 18 Park, White Marsh, Centreville
- **Equipment:** bike, kayak and boat rentals; outdoor adult exercise equipment at Long Point Park and South Island Trail
- **Events-** More cultural events and public areas of events and concerts
- **Fields-** more turf fields, better field drainage, more field and parking lot lighting

Question 8 (continued)

- **Parks-** bike park, skate park, suggestions related to specific parks (White Marsh, Love Point, Pinkney Parks)
- **Pool-** A year-round, indoor/outdoor community pool (many location suggestions)
- Public access to beaches for swimming
- **Recreational facility-** with a variety of amenities and the following location suggestions: Old outlets on the Narrows, the Kmart building, Kent Island, Queenstown, Grasonville, Stevensville
- **Restrooms-** more permanent restrooms; trail restrooms with drinking water; keeping restrooms unlocked and clean
- **Sports-** resurfacing of pickleball courts and additional lighted courts, disc golf, mini golf, bowling, skate park, street/ice hockey, race circuit
- **Trails-** additional walking/biking trails, additional trail connections, more hiking and off-road bike trails, bike maintenance stations
- **Water access-** greater access for swimming and fishing, kayak access, and additional water amenities (floating docks, dog beach, splash pad, more boat

Question 9

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions you would like to offer regarding facilities, amenities and programs provided by Queen Anne's County Parks Department?

(Response Count: 154)

- **Access-equitable** access to amenities throughout county, overcrowding at various locations
- **Adults-** a broader selection of adult activities, sports, and recreation opportunities both individual and group
- **Children-** more activities for children and teens (educational programs, recreational classes for skills/sports, summer camps, movies, skate park); more options and equipment for the girls' sports
- **Fees-** mixed support for imposing fees (some respondents in favor with various considerations; other not in favor of any fees)
- **Fields-** more sports and multipurpose fields, more turf fields, better maintenance, more lighting
- **Maintenance-** maintenance of existing facilities is important before expanding, maintenance of fields and courts

Question 9 (continued)

- **Marketing-** regular advertising/publicity of all that is available (weekly/monthly, mailed/email to homes, promoting hours and park info with upcoming events, etc.)
- **Parking-** more parking is needed at some locations
- **Pool-** a public pool
- **Programs-** allow private enterprises to utilize county facilities/parks to provide programming; more educational and performing arts programs
- **Recreational facility-** more indoor spaces are needed for programs and recreation, esp. for children; all facilities should have clean public restrooms with running water
- **Sports-** another golf course, adult sports leagues, pickleball courts in northern area
- **Trails-** more biking/walking trails; extend Cross Island Trail to Centreville
- **Waste Management-** more trash receptacles and recycling at community parks and facilities, put up "clean up your trash" signs in several languages at all fishing areas
- **Water access-** open Conquest Beach for swimming, boat launch etiquette signs, boat preparation lane at Kent Narrows, more kayak and small boat launches and rentals
- **Gratitude-** many respondents expressed gratitude for the work done by the

Question 10

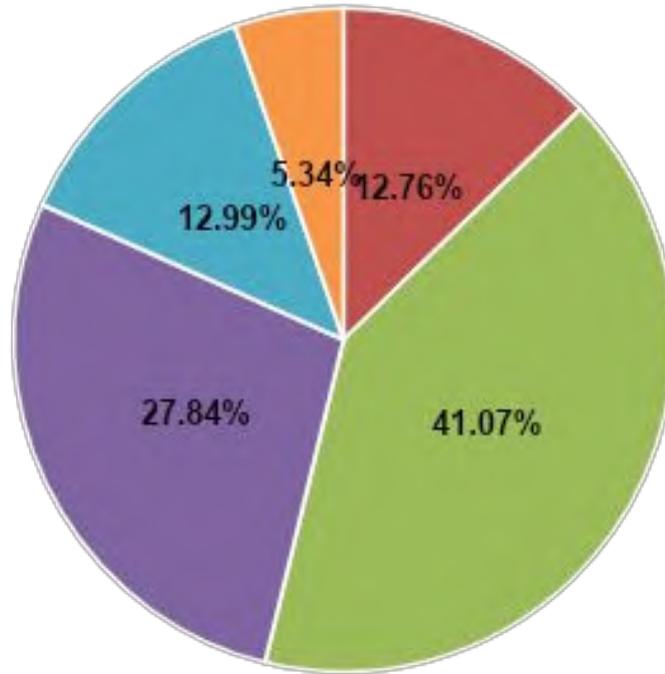
What is the zip code of your primary residence? (Response Count: 344)

Zip Code	Count	Percent
21607	ND	
21617	84	24%
21619	49	14%
21620	22	6%
21623	9	3%
21628	ND	
21629	ND	
21638	35	10%
21639	ND	
21644	ND	
21651	6	2%
21657	ND	
21658	32	9%
21666	92	27%
21668	ND	

Response counts under 6 are Not Disclosed (ND)

Question 11

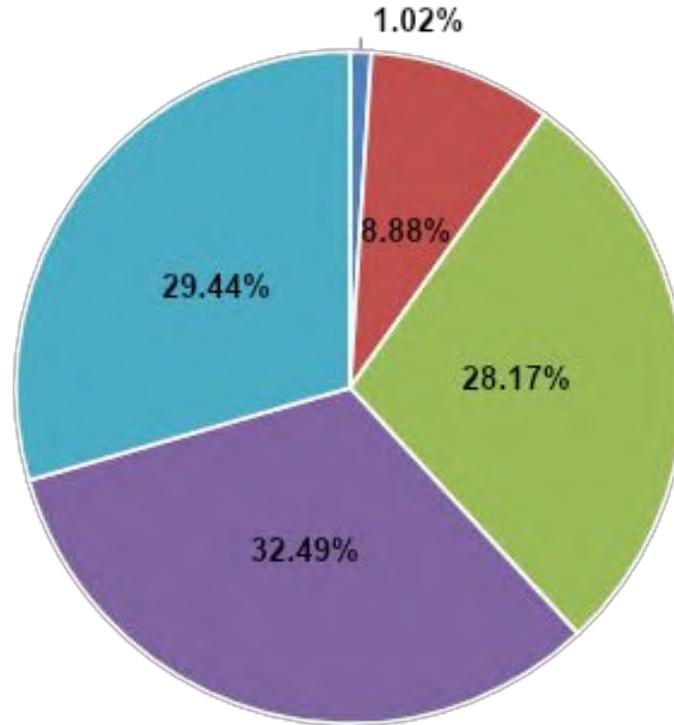
What is your age? (Response Count: 431)



■ 8-17 ■ 18-35 ■ 36-50 ■ 51-65 ■ 66-74 ■ 75+

Question 12

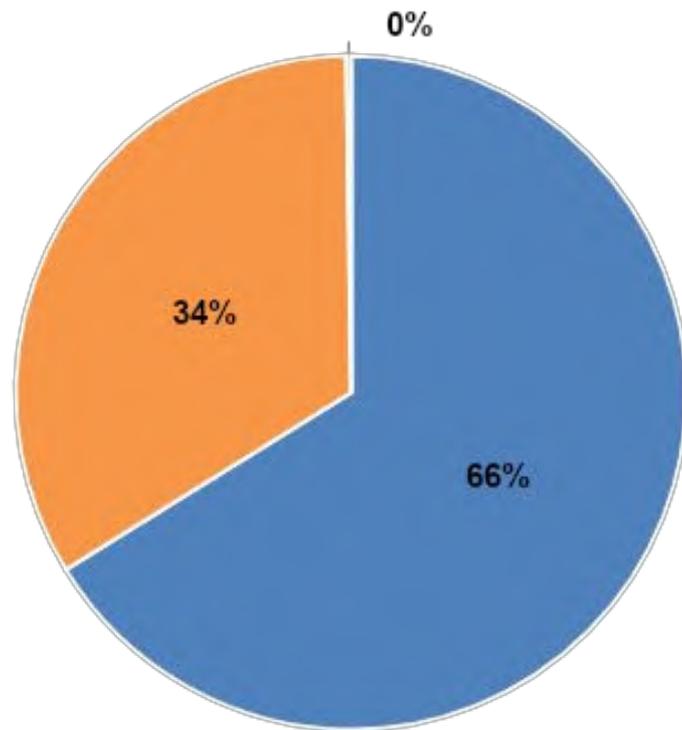
What is your approximate average household income? (Response Count: 394)



■ Under \$24,999
■ \$25,000 to \$49,999

Question 13

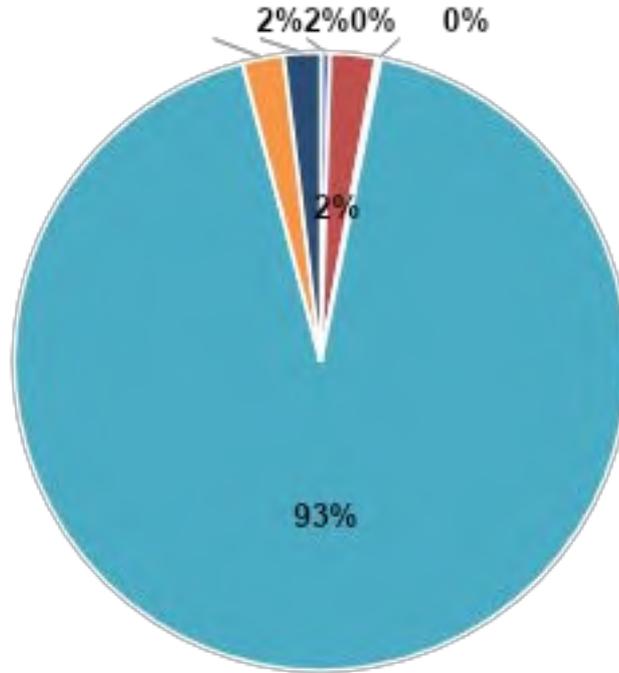
What is your gender? (Response Count: 426)



■ Female ■ Male ■ Non-binary

Question 14

What is your race or ethnicity? (Response Count: 413)



- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native American or Alaska Native

APPENDIX E:
Queen Anne's County

2022 Comp Plan

&

2017 LPPRP



Queen Anne's
County MARYLAND
WHERE SHORE LIVING **BEGINS**