

LAND PRESERVATION, PARKS, & RECREATION PLAN



2022



Garrett County, MD

Garrett County, Maryland Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan

Adopted June 20, 2022



Acknowledgements

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Kevin Null	County Administrator
Chad Fike	Assistant Planning Director
Siera Wigfield	Senior Planner
Tricia Kipp	Planning Technician

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RESOLUTION 22-__

FOR THE PURPOSE of Adopting the Garrett County Local Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan, WHEREAS the County Commissioners recognized the need to develop and implement a Local Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan; and allocated resources for the development and implementation of a Recreation Plan for the County; and

WHEREAS the Planning Commission and staff worked together to develop and review this Plan; and WHEREAS public involvement and outreach included public outreach and an on-line survey, public input was used to guide, direct and, when necessary, modify the development of the Plan; and

WHEREAS the Local Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan identifies existing recreational facilities, recognizes local and State of Maryland recreation goals, assesses projected short-term and long-term recreation needs of County residents, and recommends recreation planning and policy for the County; and

WHEREAS state and local resource and regulatory agencies, including: the Maryland Departments of Planning and Natural Resources, were provided adequate review; and the draft Plan were made available to the general public and were placed upon the County's Website; and

WHEREAS the Planning Commission unanimously Approved the Plan and forwarded it to the County Commissioners with a recommendation for "Adoption", and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Garrett County, Maryland that the 2022 Local Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan for Garrett County, MD is hereby Adopted; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect on the 20th day of June 2022
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

CERTIFICATION

I, Kevin Null, County Administrator of Garrett County, Maryland, a body corporate and politic, duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maryland, hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted at the public meeting of the Garrett County Commissioners held on the 20th day of June, 2022.

S E A L





CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan guides the future use of funds made available to the citizens of the County by the State of Maryland and the Federal government for the preservation of open space and for providing and improving recreational opportunities. By enumerating the goals, plans, and policies guiding the use of those funds, the County ensures successful investments to the population's quality of life. The Plan is scheduled to be adopted by the County Commissioners on or before July 1, 2022.



FIGURE 1 LOCH LYNN COMMUNITY TRAIL


PURPOSE


The State of Maryland requires that counties update their Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) every five years; one year following the revision of the statewide Maryland Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. Garrett County's LPPRP identifies future needs and priorities for parks, recreation and open space acquisition, facility development and rehabilitation in the County and its eight incorporated towns. These needs and priorities serve as a guide for land acquisitions and capital investments in the County's and towns' Capital Improvements Programs. Upon adoption, this 2022 LPPRP replaces the 2017 LPPRP and becomes one of several functional plans that informs implementation of the Garrett County Comprehensive Plan.

The LPPRPs qualify local governments for State Program Open Space (POS) grants, and other programs related to three land resource elements: recreation and parks; agricultural land preservation; and natural resource land conservation.

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Chapter 1 provides general geographic information, population, and demographic information. Plus, an introduction to the entire system of public parks and recreation facilities, preserved natural resource lands, and agricultural land.

 **Chapter 2** includes a Parks and Recreation executive summary and an overview of the parks and recreation system in the County. This chapter also includes a summary of parks and recreation focused information including relevant summary information from existing County plans and other pertinent public information and directs readers to other plans, program documents, reports or resources that provide more in-depth information. A discussion of County and state goals concerning parks and recreation, a list and summary of programs/funding sources used to achieve those goals, inventory of existing public parks and recreation facilities, a discussion of user demand, a level of service analysis followed by a discussion of the capital improvement plan to address the findings of the public outreach and analysis is also provided.

 **Chapter 3** is the Natural Resource and Land Conservation chapter and includes an overview of Natural Resource land conservation in the County along with County goals for natural resource land conservation. Included is an inventory of protected natural resource lands, mapping, and a plan for implementing ordinances and programs.

 **Chapter 4** addresses Agricultural Land Preservation in the County along with County goals and contains an inventory of existing preserved agricultural land and associated mapping.

PROCESS

The 2022 LPPRP was prepared by the Garrett County Department of Planning and Land Management (the Department). This 2022 LPPRP was developed in accordance with guidelines developed in 2021 by the Maryland Departments of Planning and Natural Resources. The 2022 LPPRP references and incorporates information from the 2017 LPPRP prepared by the Department. In addition, data and information from various other County documents are included where relevant. Documents reviewed for this plan are listed in



FIGURE 2: CREDIT: GARRETT COUNTY REPUBLICAN. GRANTSVILLE PUBLIC MEETING AUG 2, 2021

Table 1: Referenced Plans & Documents.



TABLE 1: REFERENCED PLANS & DOCUMENTS

Plan Name	Date	Organization/ Agency	Link
Facilities and Maintenance Plan	Oct 2021	Garrett County Board of Education	Link
Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission Final Report	Dec 2021	Maryland Department of Natural Resources Maryland Department of Commerce	Link
Travel/Tourism Related Economic Analysis for Garrett County, Maryland	Jun 2020	Garrett County Chamber of Commerce	Link
Maryland Lodging Monitor	Jun 2021	Maryland Department of Tourism	Link
Economic Development Strategic Plan	Feb 2011	Garrett County Economic Development	Link
Maryland Forestry Economic Adjustment Strategy Summary	May 2021	Western Maryland Resource Conservation & Development	Link
2011 Garrett County Heritage Area Management Plan	Oct 2011	Garrett County Heritage Area	Link
2004 Deep Creek Lake Boating and Commercial Use Carrying Capacity	Jun 2004	Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Link
Maryland Scenic and Wild Rivers: The Youghiogheny	1996	Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Link
Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan	7-Mar-16	Garrett County Board of County Commissioners and Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Link
2008 Garrett County Comprehensive Plan	Jul 2008	Garrett County Board of County Commissioners	Link
Travel/Tourism Related Economic Analysis for Garrett County, Maryland	Jan 2010	Garrett County Chamber of Commerce	Link
Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area Makes an Impact	Dec 2020	Garrett County Heritage Area	Link
Maryland Heritage Areas Program Makes an Impact Across all Reaches of the State	Dec 2020	Maryland Heritage Areas Authority	Link
Annual Report 2020	Dec 2020	Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Link
2020-2024 Appalachian Development Plan	Sep 2020	Maryland Department of Planning & Tri-County Council	Link
Cluster Target Industry Study	Jun 2018	I-68 Regional Economic Partnership	Link
Garrett College's 2021-25 Strategic Plan	Oct 2020	Garrett College	Link
2021- 2024 Garret County Health Inequalities Analysis	Jun 2021	Garrett County Health Department	Link
2021- 2024 Garret County Community Health Improvement Plan	Jun 2021	Garrett County Health Department	Link
2019-2023 Maryland LPRP Research Tends	Jan 2020	Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Link
2019-2023 Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan	Jan 2020	Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Link
Youghiogheny River Lake Master Plan	Update 2021	Army Corps of Engineers	Link
2019 Jennings Randolph Lake Master Plan	Aug 2020	Army Corps of Engineers	Link

The eight towns in Garrett County were contacted and consulted to update the recreation inventory, provide user data, review past recreation projects, and for localized public outreach. Summaries for each municipality can be found in Appendix C, Appendix D, Appendix E, Appendix F, Appendix G, Appendix H, Appendix I, and Appendix J.

The Department met with staff, the public, stakeholder groups, and held public outreach meetings for input to this plan. In addition, beginning in September 2021, the Department released an on-line survey to the public seeking input and comments in identifying needs and future priorities. The survey was advertised in local papers, utilizing local organization's email listings, and via the County website. The survey was available until November 2021.

A draft of this plan was completed in winter 2022 and underwent internal review. It was then sent to the eight municipalities and forwarded to the DNR and MDP for initial review and comment. Comments were received and incorporated into the document. The Garrett County Planning Commission reviewed the draft in March of 2022



FIGURE 3 CREDIT: GARRETT COUNTY REPUBLICAN. GRANTSVILLE PUBLIC MEETING

during their regular monthly public meeting. A public draft of the plan was released online on May 19, 2022 and public comments were open for 21 days. After subsequent inclusion of more comments the document was forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners in June of 2022 and adopted the plan.



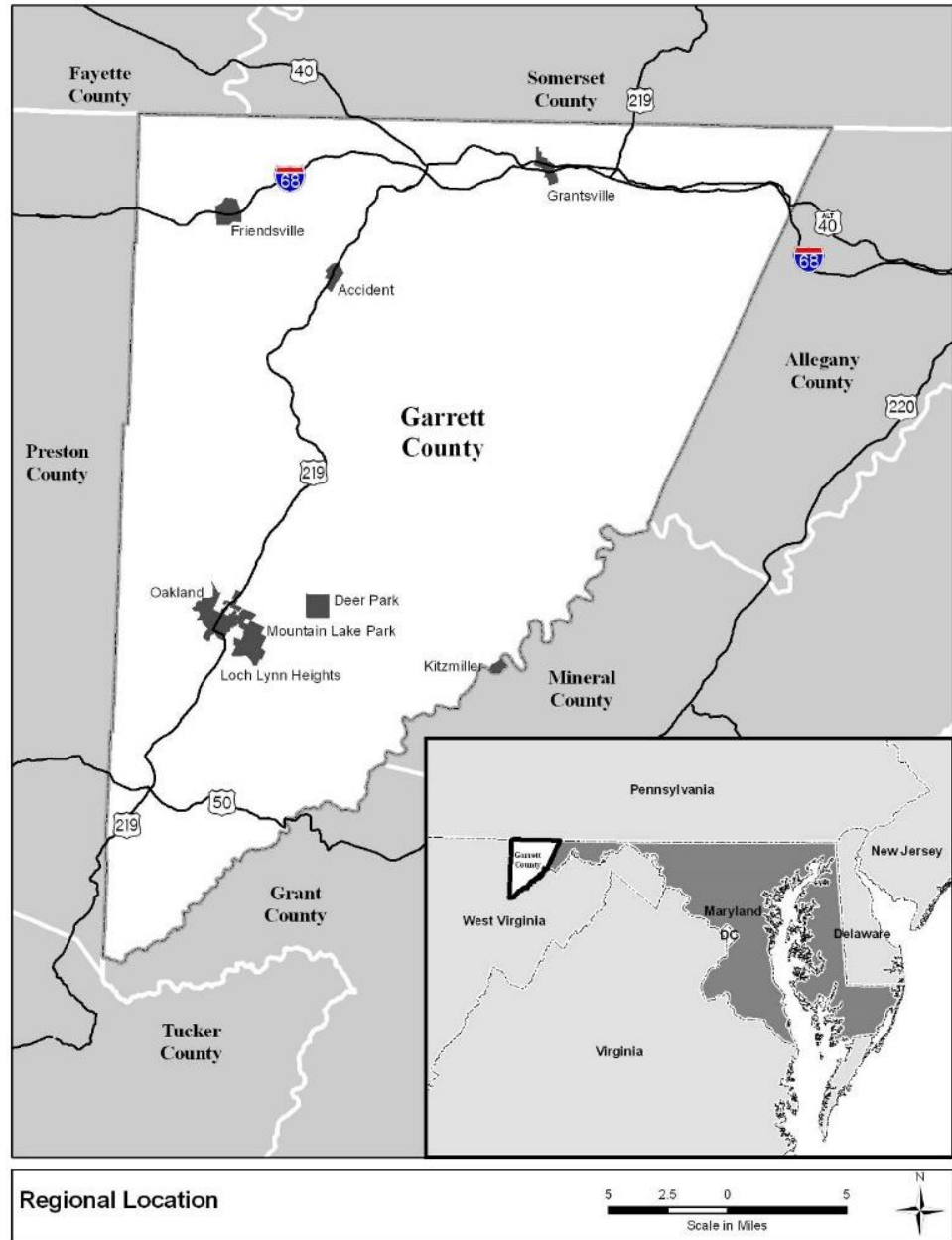
FIGURE 4 PICKLEBALL AT GRANTSVILLE COMMUNITY PARK

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Garrett County is Maryland's westernmost County. It is bordered to the north by Pennsylvania along the Mason–Dixon line to the south by the Potomac River and West Virginia, to the west by the Deakins line border with West Virginia, and to the east with Allegany County, Maryland. Garrett County contains eight incorporated towns: Accident, Deer Park, Friendsville, Grantsville, Kitzmiller, Loch Lynn Heights, Mountain Lake Park, and Oakland. See Map 1 for a locational map.

The County is located entirely within the highland zone of the Appalachian Mountains, also known as the Allegheny Mountains, the Allegheny Plateau, and the Appalachian Plateau. The County's highest elevations are located along four ridges that range to a height of 3,360 feet at Hoyer-Crest along Backbone Mountain, the highest point in the state of Maryland. The morphology of the Allegheny region is characterized by broad flat lands below the ridge crests that range in elevation from 2,500 to 3,000 feet. The center of the County is dominated by Deep Creek Lake, the largest inland body of water in Maryland with 69-miles of shoreline, and an elevation of 2,462 feet above sea-level. The lake is home to a wide variety of freshwater fish, and aquatic birds and covers approximately 3,900 acres.

Garrett County straddles the Eastern Continental Divide. The western two thirds of the County drains to the Gulf of Mexico via the Monongahela-Ohio-Mississippi Rivers system. The primary rivers in the system are the Youghiogheny River that drains the western and central part of the County and flows north from the County's central section into western Pennsylvania. The eastern third of the County drains in the Chesapeake-Atlantic via the Potomac River. The Savage River is in this basin and empties into the Potomac at Bloomington. Garrett County is the second-largest County in Maryland by land area. Garrett County contains



MAP 1 LOCATION MAP OF GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

approximately 419,667.2 acres (655,523 acres of water¹ 1.3%) and 414,144.00 acres 98.7% of land. The 2010 Land Use Summary from the Maryland Department of Planning indicates that approximately 284,457 acres (68%) of the County is forested, while about 89,323 acres (21%) is used for agriculture and approximately 1% is water cover. Most of the remaining 41,797 acres (10%) of total developed lands in the County are in and around the eight towns, areas in proximity to interchanges of Interstate 68, and around Deep Creek Lake. A total of 377,496 acres within the County (90%) are listed as resource lands

The County contains over 94,262.8 acres² of parks, lakes, and publicly accessible forestland, approximately 68% of the County's land area

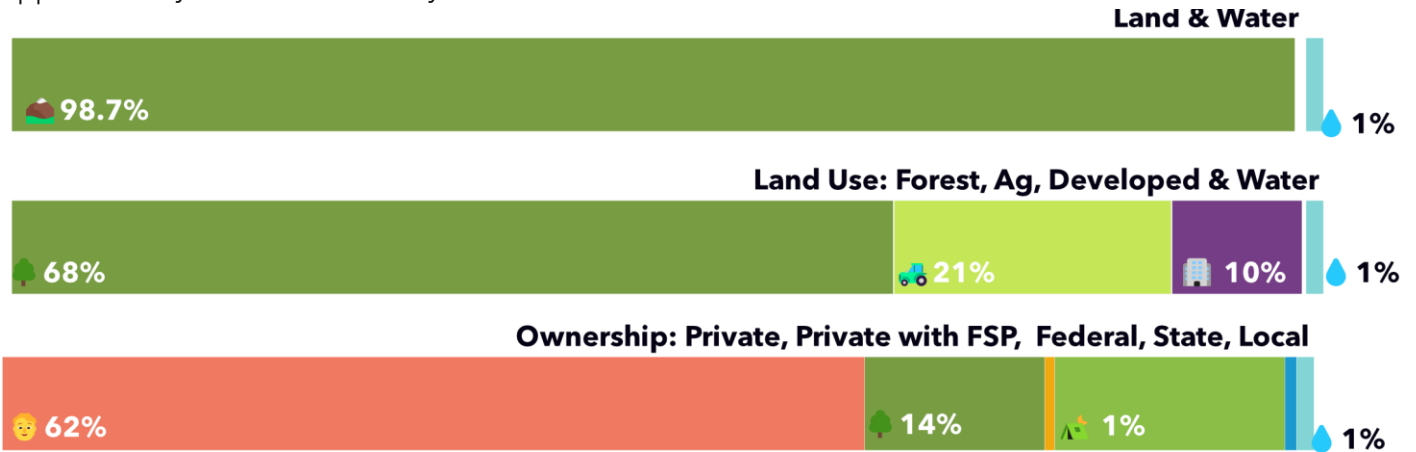


FIGURE 5 PROPORTION OF GARRETT COUNTY'S AREA

Garrett County's natural resource assets include scenic and wild rivers, three significant manmade lakes,



FIGURE 6 DEEP CREEK LAKE

large tracts of forested areas, and rolling rural landscapes of the Allegheny Mountain. The County's natural beauty is appreciated by residents and outdoor enthusiasts that regularly visit the County's many state parks and forests, for its hunting, fishing, biking, world-class whitewater, boating, and winter sports opportunities. The County benefits from recreation and resource land owned by the State of Maryland, other governmental agencies, the towns, large private tracts owned by mining, and timber companies and various conservation organizations.

¹ 2010 Census Internal Boundaries, url: [census.gov/geographies/reference-files/2010/geo/state-area.htm](https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/2010/geo/state-area.htm)

²Annual Department of Natural Resources Acreage Report FY 2021, url: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/pages/tracking-acreage.aspx>

POPULATION & DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Population Overview Residents & Visitors

28,852

Total Population

2020 Census

1,398,150

Annual Visitors

2019-2020 Travel /Tourism Related Economic I Analysis

Though the population of Garrett County averages 30,000 residents, visitors are attracted by the County's recreational opportunities. The County has a strong tourism sector, with Deep Creek Lake as the main attraction since its construction in 1925. The Garrett Chamber of Commerce estimated 1,398,150 annual visitors in 2019 based on 2,400 visitor surveys from the height of the COVID-19 lockdowns from March 2019 through February 2020. Garrett County's demand in outdoor and recreation declined during the COVID-19 pandemic but has made a strong recovery, as seen in the 103% increase in direct commuter tax impact from fiscal year 2019 to 2020³.

While these visitors and seasonal residents do not count toward the County's year-round population, they have impacts on community services and resources, like recreation and transportation. Garrett County recognizes its outdoor recreational assets and strives to balance economic development while protecting our natural resources. Since the visitors and part-time residents utilize Garrett County's recreation assets, **this plan exceeds the recreation demands of the residents of Garrett County, to provide capacity for visitors while protecting our natural resources.**



FIGURE 7 GRANTSVILLE DAYS EVENT, TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE MD

³ Maryland Tourism Development Board FY Report 2020 https://www.visitmaryland.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/FY20_Annual-Report.pdf & Maryland Tourism Development Board FY Report 2019 <https://commerce.maryland.gov/Documents/ProgramReport/maryland-tourism-development-board-annual-report-fy2019.pdf>

Garrett County population is homogeneous with respect to ethnicity. In the County the population is approximately 97.1% white, and 2.9% non-white: corresponding national figures are 23% non-white¹. Figure 8 shows other demographic trends Garrett County has higher percentages of poverty, populations with disabilities and lower household incomes than the national and state averages.

VISITORS

Garrett County benefits from tourism, the average visitor spends \$114.70 per day⁴. There are 4623 Seasonal houses⁵ in Garrett County according to the National Association of Realtors.

Visitor Statistics



\$114.70

Average Daily Spending



2.0 nights

Average Length of Stay



75.4%

Overnight



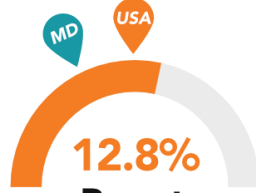
24.6%

Day-Tripper

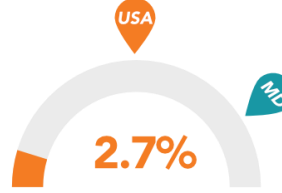
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The 2020 Census determined Garrett County's population was 28,852, a 2% decrease from 2015 population estimates and a 4.3% decrease from the 2010 census. See Table 2 Population Projection⁶

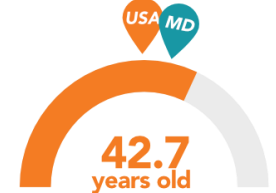
Population Statistics



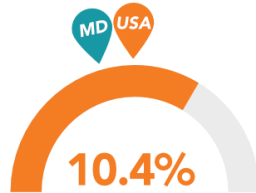
Poverty
The national rate of persons in poverty is 11.4% and 9% for Maryland.



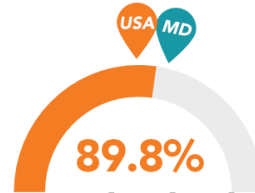
Racial Diversity
Racial diversity is very low in Garrett County. The national average is of 23.7% non-white population. Maryland's rate of non-white population is 41.5%.



Age
The national average age is 38.1 years old, Maryland's average age is 39 years old.



Disability
Garrett County's rate of persons with a disability is higher than the national average of 8.6%. The rate of Maryland is 7.5%.



High School Education
Garrett County exceeds the national average of people over 25 graduating from High School. The national average is 88% and 90.2% for Maryland.



Household Income
Garrett County's median household income is less than the the national average \$62,843 and Maryland's average household income of \$84,805.

FIGURE 8 POPULATION STATISTICS

⁴

⁵ 2021Vacation Home Counties Report <https://cdn.nar.realtor/sites/default/files/documents/2021-vacation-home-counties-report-06-15-2021.pdf>

⁶ Population Projections Prepared by the Maryland Department of Planning, and State Data Center, December 2020 https://planning.maryland.gov/MSDC/Pages/s3_projection.aspx

Garrett County’s population skews mature with the median age of 42.6 (2020 Census), while the national median age in 2020 is estimated at 38.31. In 2019, an estimated 22% of the County’s population was age 65 or older (compared to 11% statewide). This age group is expected to grow to 27% by approximately 2025. While the total projected increase is a change of only 1,103 persons, there is a significant change in age distribution. The population age 19 and under is projected to decrease by approximately 879 persons and will represent 21% of the population, down from 25%. The population age 65 and over is projected to increase by about 2,179 and will comprise 24 % of the population in 2025 compared to 17 percent in 2010.

TABLE 2 POPULATION PROJECTION

	Population	% Change
1970	21,476	
1980	26,490	23%
1990	28,138	6%
2000	29,846	6%
2010	30,097	1%
2015	29,600	-2%
2020	28,852	-3%
2025	29,698	3%
2030	30,254	2%
2035	30,506	1%
2040	30,756	1%
2045	30,997	1%

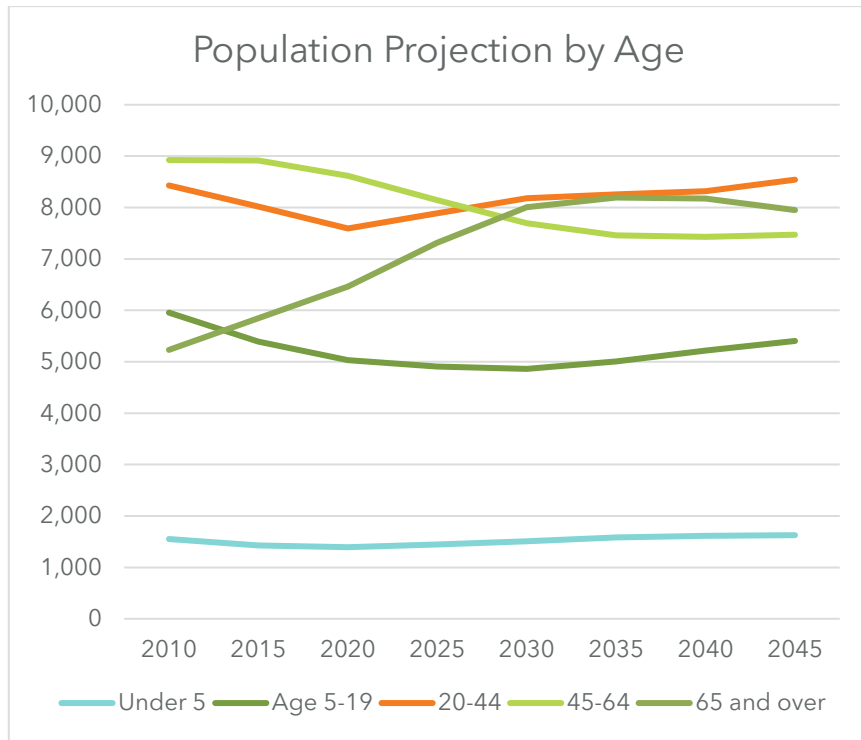


FIGURE 9 POPULATION PROJECTION BY AGE GRAPH

TABLE 3 POPULATION PROJECTIONS TOTAL AND OVER 65 YEARS OLD

	Population 65+	Total Population Projection	% 65+
2010	5,231	30,097	17%
2015	5,845	29,598	20%
2020	6,461	29,098	22%
2025	7,315	29,698	25%
2030	8,004	30,254	26%
2035	8,195	30,506	27%
2040	8,177	30,756	27%
2045	7,954	30,997	26%

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

Garrett County’s incorporated towns account for only 12% of the County’s population, but they own and operate many parks, playgrounds, and sports facilities. In planning the future development of parks, recreation, and natural resource conservation projects the following factors are considered due to the size and lack of population density in the County: travel time, parking, availability of volunteers (for coaching & maintenance), coordination, scheduling maintenance, fundraising, infrastructure, local law enforcement, and weather.

Municipal population trends have declined. 2010 to 2020, except for Mountain Lake Park which has increased five percent. Much of the growth in the County has been centered around the Deep Creek Lake, in McHenry and the Deep Creek Watershed, which is not a municipal area, but rather a location and watershed.

Though future population growth is expected to be modest, this LPPRP assumes increased leisure time for residents, due to the retiring population, and increased visitors and part-time residents. The local economy of the region is dependent on providing the amenities that fulfill the needs of the resident population and to draw visitors. The County’s numerous parks, preserved land, accessible local, state, and privately owned

forest land and other recreational opportunities are especially important to attract these visitors and sustain the needs of the County's residents. Other considerations are the recreational needs of the aging resident population, the changing popularity of lower impact/ lower intensity sports activities, and the improvement in information technology and internet access that allows for longer visits and added recreational activities.

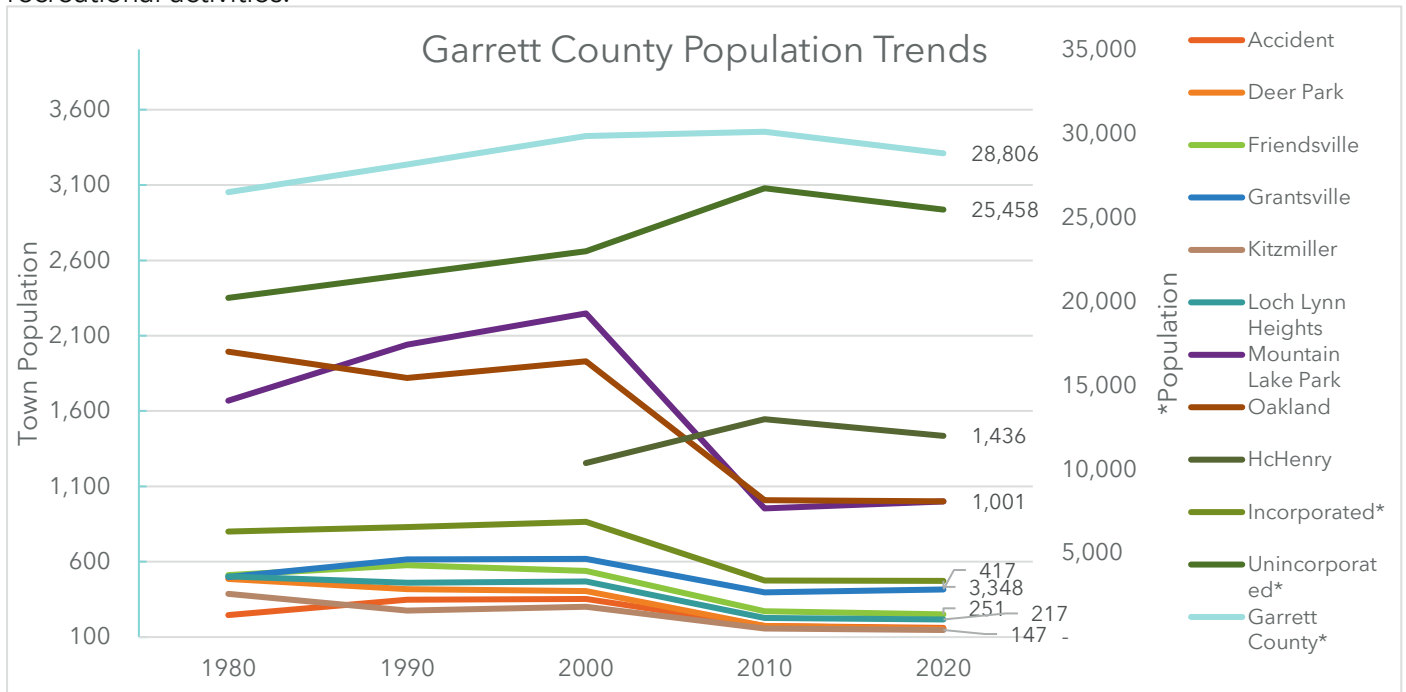


FIGURE 10 POPULATION TRENDS BY COUNTY & TOWNS

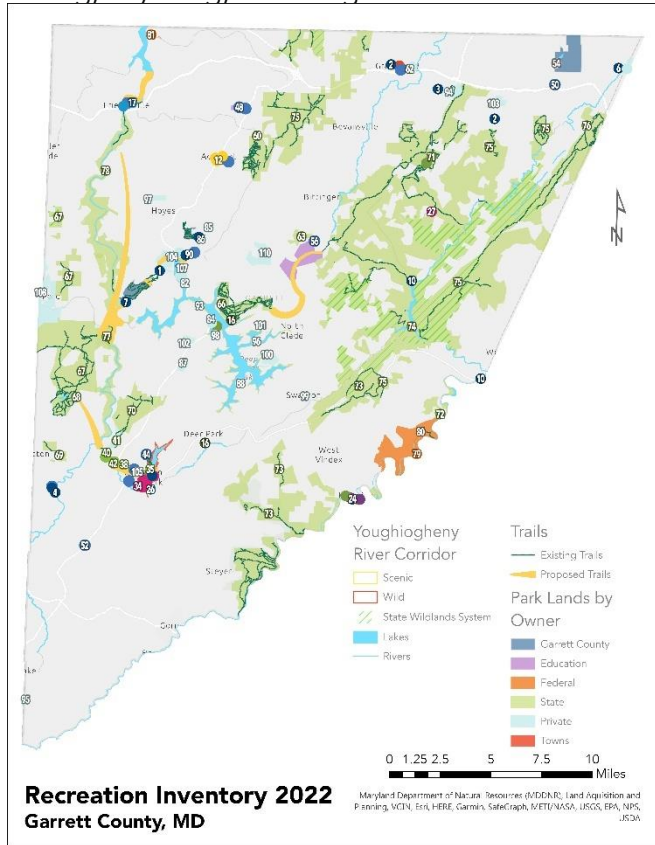


FIGURE 11 FORK RUN MOUNTAIN LAUREL

Overview of Preserved Lands and Natural Resources

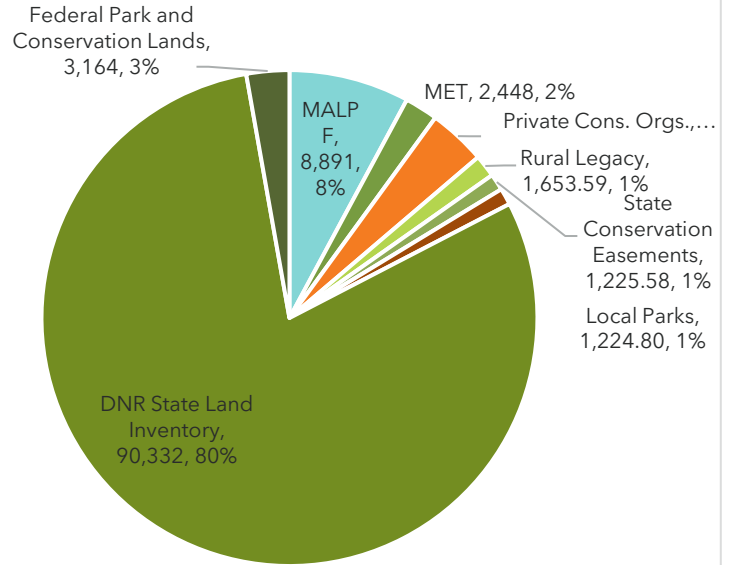
Garrett County has an abundance of park, trails, public lands, natural resource lands, and agricultural lands. Due to the density of these recreational opportunities and land preservation features the following series of maps have been developed for viewing Garrett County's Parks Inventory, Natural Resource Areas, and Land Preservation.

Map 1 illustrates Garrett County's Parks Inventory. The map includes parks and recreational sites owned by municipalities, the Garrett County Board of Education, and state and federal agencies. The County does not have a designated Parks Department to operate or maintain any parks or recreational sites. Certain water features are included as sites for public recreation. All publicly accessible water features are also included, as all of those sites are used for rafting, kayaking, or fishing.

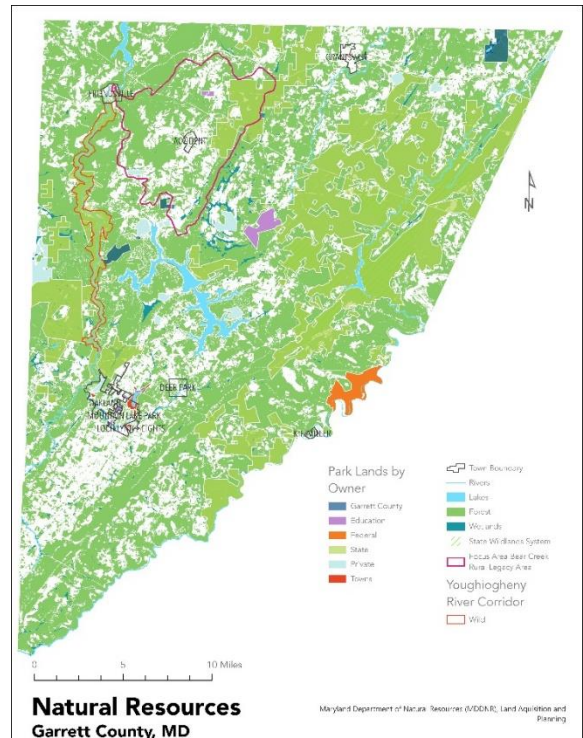


MAP 2 - LARGER VERSION OF MAP ON PAGE 19

Acres of Protected Lands In Garrett County

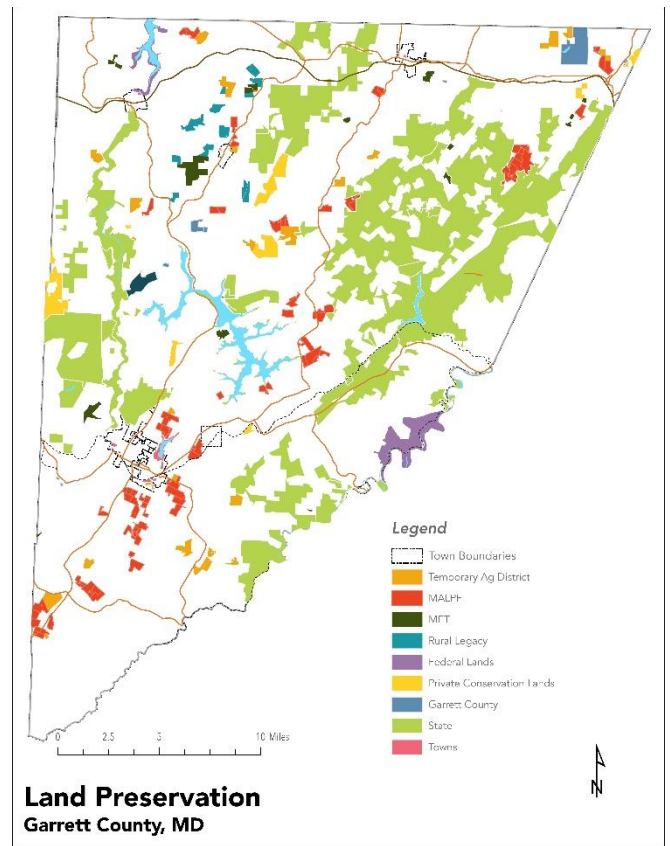


Map 2 illustrates Garrett County's Natural Resource Areas. We have defined those areas as state and federal owned lands, forested areas, and water features. All state and federal owned lands are forested but not all forested areas are state or federally owned, so overlap exists between these features as well.



MAP 3 LARGER VERSION OF MAP ON PAGE __

Map 3 depicts Garrett County's Land Preservation mapping. Depicted on this map are easements and districts associated with the Rural Legacy, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF), Garrett County's Agricultural Preservation District, and Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) Easement programs. Each of these maps and their associated programs will be discussed in more detail in the following chapters.



MAP 3 LARGER VERSION OF MAP ON PAGE __



FIGURE 12 NEW GERMANY STATE PARK BEACH & LAKE



CHAPTER 2 PARKS AND RECREATION OVERVIEW OF PARKS AND RECREATION

SYSTEM

Garrett County has a robust system of parks and recreation and natural resources lands, yet the County does not have a dedicated Parks and Recreation Department responsible for operating and maintaining County owned parks, trails, and open space. Over the years the County has maintained relationships with non-profit organizations like the Deep Creek Lions Club volunteers, Garrett Trails, and Towns, Board of Education, and other partners to develop, program, operate, and maintain public recreation assets. Appendix K is a proposed scoring matrix for objectively prioritizing recreation funding requests based on the goals in the LPPRP. The County administers Program Open Space funding, and the Board of County Commissioners decide the allocation of Program Open Space

funds. The Board of County Commissioners retains overall responsibility for coordinating the POS program throughout the County. The County coordinates Program Open Space land acquisitions in the unincorporated part of the County and land so purchased is titled to the County. Program Open Space land acquisitions in, or for, municipalities are handled by municipal agencies. Municipalities and community organizations are responsible for development of facilities, with the guidance and consent of the Board of County Commissioners.

The County facilitates public outreach County-wide and for the municipalities to assess whether recreation demands are met and to assure that new projects meet the needs of the community.

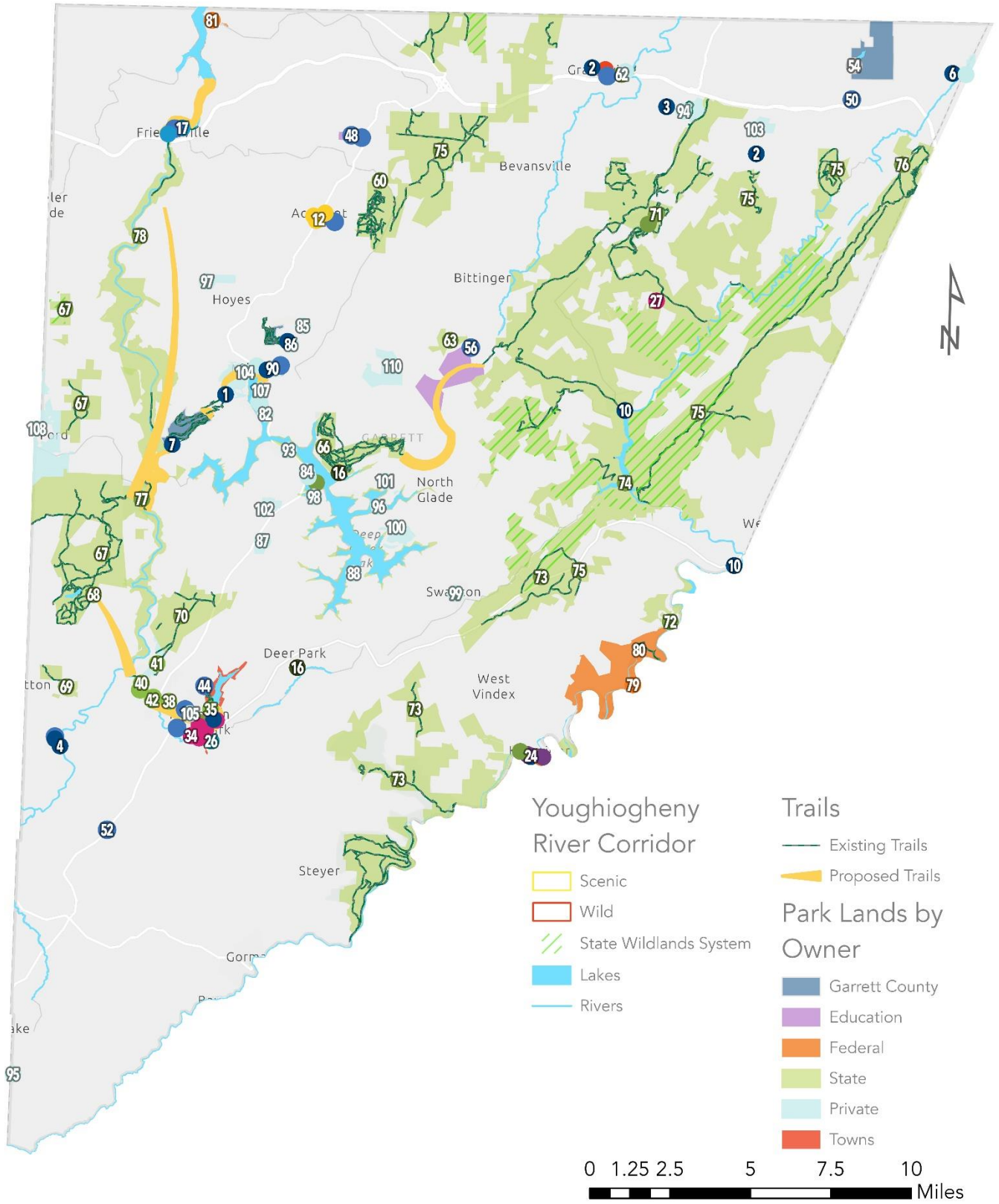
PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION INVENTORY

An updated inventory of existing public parks and recreation facilities in Garrett County was prepared in 2022 (Map 4.) The data were utilized in preparation of the 2022 LPPRP, The majority of these facilities are owned and maintained by the towns they serve within the County. Because additional parks and recreation facilities are outside the Towns and not owned by the County they are subject to State or federal laws and regulations for these reasons natural resource and agricultural lands are discussed separately in Chapters 3 and 4, respectively. is provided in this chapter. This inventory was completed as part of the 2022 LPPRP and that data was used as a basis for the inventory. A map that shows the location of the County's parks and recreation facilities can be found in this chapter and in Appendix B.



FIGURE 13 PAVILION AT DEER PARK

Garrett County parks, trails, and open spaces preserve, conserve, and manage natural resources, habitats, whilst designated recreation areas and facilities aim to meet needs of residents and visitors.



Recreation Inventory 2022

Garrett County, MD

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDDNR), Land Acquisition and Planning, VGIN, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

MAP 4 2022 RECREATION INVENTORY



PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Park and Recreation Facilities are classified to assist in planning for the community’s recreational needs in Table 4 Park Classifications. The park system provided by Garrett County and its partners is composed of a hierarchy of park types offering different active or passive recreation and/or natural area opportunities. While each park facility may serve only one function, collectively the system is intended to serve the full range of community needs.

Classifying parkland allows the park and recreation providers to evaluate those needs and to plan for an efficient, cost effective and coordinated park system. Classifications are not meant to be static, and they can change over time as conditions change. While the classifications are guidelines for identifying the targeted sizes, use, and amenities for each park type, acquisition opportunities and site characteristics will also influence park development.



FIGURE 14 BROADFORD LAKE BEACH

TABLE 4 PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Park Classification	Park Classification Definition
Town Parks	Accessible recreation close to residents; smaller in size; variety of amenities; walkable; may have parking & restrooms; may or may not include play area, sports courts, fields, picnic facilities, sitting areas, pathways;
Community Parks	Larger in size; serves wider base than town parks; supports group activities, restrooms, parking amenities above plus group picnic, amphitheater, family play destination (Broadford Park)
Special Use Areas	Non-public land sports fields used for public recreation by use agreement & programming (Garrett County Fairgrounds); Other community facilities, such as museums, community centers
Trails	Typically, non-motorized recreation and transportation networks generally separated from roadways. Accommodates multiple or shared uses.
Natural Resources Areas	Land not designated for specific park use & could be reclassified in future based on planning, design, & development; do not have permanent facilities but may have temporary facilities or some maintenance; areas may include open spaces that serves passive outdoor recreation & trails or provide access to water-based activities and may include natural riverbanks but does not generally include developed facilities.
School Recreation Areas	School playgrounds, sport court and sport fields, as well as indoor gyms. Some of these facilities may be open for public use outside of school hours.

COUNTY PARKS

Garrett County does not directly operate or maintain the nine County-owned parks and recreation lands. Local groups and organizations are responsible to operated and maintain parks under lease agreements with the County. For example, although the Casselman Valley Soccer Complex is owned by Garrett County, the Casselman Valley Soccer Association’s volunteers are responsible for upkeep, scheduling, and obtaining funding for improvements. The Deep Creek Lions Club Park is County owned and the volunteers of the Deep Creek Lions Club organization maintain and develop the park and the system of hiking and mountain bike trails on

adjacent County land. The Department of Public Works-Roads Division continues to provide in-kind services that include labor and/or materials for park and trail improvements. This cooperation is often leveraged as in-kind match for grant funding.

The County Commissioners own the Adventure Sports Center International (ASCI), which was home to the 2014 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships. The complex includes a manmade white-water course near Deep Creek Lake. The facility is operated by Wisp.

TABLE 5 COUNTY OWNED RECREATION INVENTORY

	Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas				
						Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch	
1	ASCI - Adventure Sports Center Int'l.	17.0	-	Special Use Area	ASCI	1				
2	Avilton Community Center	2.0	-	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners		5			
3	Casselman Valley Soccer Complex	15.5	-	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners		6			
4	Crellin Ballfield (Snow Meadow Park)	7.8	-	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners	1	1	1		
5	Crellin Community Park	1.5	-	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners					
6	Finzel Community Park	21.2	-	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners		5			
7	Fork Run Recreation Area	550.0	-	Special Use Area	Garrett Co. Commissioners				9.5	
8	Kitzmilller Elementary School	6.6	-	Town Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners		4			
9	McHenry Lions Club Park	31.7	-	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners		4	1		
10	Bloomington Fire Co. Town Park	3.0	-	Community Park	Bloomington Fire Co.		4			
11	Meadows Trail	11.0	-	Trail	Garrett Co. Community Action				1	
57	Garrett County Fairgrounds	48.8	-	Special Use Area	Garrett County Farm Board					
Totals		716.1				1	2	30	11.5	

MUNICIPAL & COMMUNITY

The County’s eight towns have their own town community parks in their jurisdiction. The Towns’ small staffs and volunteers maintain and operate Community Parks. The towns fund their parks and programs through a variety of sources, such as Program Open Space, Community Parks and Playgrounds, and other grants. The towns apply annually for POS funding through the County to maintain, update, and enlarge the existing parks and recreation opportunities in these communities. The towns or other organizations provide the ten-percent match required for POS grants. The County Commissioners allocate annual funding requests from the towns. In addition, the City of Frostburg, a municipality in Allegany County, maintains and operates the Piney Reservoir, the drinking water source for the City, located in Garrett County. Piney Reservoir is a popular fishing location.



FIGURE 15 OAKLAND DOG PARK

TABLE 6: TOWN OWNED PARKS

	Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
12	Accident Community Park East	4.1		Town Park	Town of Accident			5	0.3	
13	Accident Community Park West	12.5		Town Park	Town of Accident			1		
14	Accident Community Pond	2.4		Town Park	Town of Accident		1			
15	Accident Veteran's Park	0.5		Town Park	Town of Accident					
16	Deer Park Playground	0.6		Town Park	Town of Deer Park			2		
17	Friendsville Community Park	18.2		Community Park	Town of Friendsville		1	8	0.8	1
18	Recreational Parking & Veteran's Memorial	4.7		Community Park	Town of Friendsville					1
19	Grantsville Community Park	15.8	1.8	Natural Resource Area	Town of Grantsville		1	20		
20	Grantsville Town Park		1.7	Natural Resource Area	Town of Grantsville	1				
21	Harrison Handlin Children's Park	0.1		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller			1		
22	Kitzmiller Riverwalk Trail	.5		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	1	1			

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

	Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
23	Kitzmiller Botanical Garden	3.0		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	1	1			
24	Kitzmiller Community Park	7.0		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller			4	0.7	
25	Loch Lynn Community Park	23.3		Town Park	Town of Loch Lynn			2	2	
26	Loch Lynn Park (Old School)	2.0		Town Park	Town of Loch Lynn			3		
27	Bethel AME Historical Site	0.0		Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park					
28	Crystal Springs		100.7	Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	1				
29	Mountain Lake Park Ticket Booth Museum			Interpretive	Town of Mt. Lake Park					
30	Leo Martin Memorial Park	0.6		Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park			3		
31	Mountain Lake Park Conservation		50	Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	1				
32	Mountain Lake Park Tennis Club	1.0		Special Use Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park			4		
33	Veterans Park Bob Damon Park	0.8		Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park			2		
34	Wooddell Park	5.6		Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park	1		2	0.3	
35	Broadford Lake Recreation Area	399.0		Town Park	Town of Oakland	1	1	9	2	1
36	Fort Alice Trail	20.0		Trail	Town of Oakland				1	
37	Oakland B&O Train Station	0.7		Town Park	Town of Oakland					
38	Oakland Community Center (Armory)	4.0		Community Center	Town of Oakland			3		
39	Oakland Dog Park	1.4		Town Park	Town of Oakland			1		
40	Oakland Glades Town Park	18.9		Town Park	Town of Oakland	1		5	1	
41	Oakland Golf Club	224.0		Special Use Area	Town of Oakland	1				
42	Oakland Rotary Park	27.4		Town Park	Town of Oakland	1			1	
54	Piney Reservoir		1,371	Natural Resource Area	City of Frostburg	1	1	0		
	Totals	798.1	1525.2			11	7	75	9.1	3

School Facilities

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public recreation facilities that are owned and maintained by the Garrett County Board of Education and Garrett College are an especially important part of recreation provided in Garrett County. The Board of Education maintains eight elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, and the Hickory Environmental Center. All have a variety of playgrounds, athletic and walking paths. The Board of Education annually updates its Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Educational Facilities for Garrett County⁷. In the annual updates, Garrett County Planning and Land Management review the plan to allocate Program Open Space or other grant funds to improve these public facilities. Educational recreation developments funded through POS are coordinated by the Board of Education, which acts as the Local Sponsor as described above under the terms of a Joint Use Agreement cosigned with the County.



FIGURE 16 IMPROVED TRACK AND TURF FIELD FOR SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL

GARRETT COLLEGE

The Community Aquatic and Recreation Complex (CARC) is on the campus of Garrett College in McHenry. The facility is open to Garrett College students, faculty, staff, community members, and visitors to the area. There are two pools, a cardio and weight training fitness area, and a multi-purpose room. The mission of the Community Aquatic and Recreation Complex at Garrett College is to



FIGURE 17 GARRETT COLLEGE AQUATIC & RECREATION CENTER POOL

⁷ FY 2022 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

[https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/garrett/Board.nsf/files/C7LMZ55C93FA/\\$file/CMP%20Draft%202021.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/garrett/Board.nsf/files/C7LMZ55C93FA/$file/CMP%20Draft%202021.pdf)

provide a safe and accessible recreational facility and to promote a comprehensive healthy lifestyle option to a diverse group of customers.



FIGURE 18 GARRETT COLLEGE AQUATIC & RECREATION CENTER

TABLE 7 EDUCATIONAL LANDS INVENTORY

	Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
43	Accident Elementary School	9.6		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4		
44	Broadford Elementary & Southern Middle Schools	29.3		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			14		
45	Crellin Elementary School	11.3		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			3		
46	Friendsville Elementary School	4.6		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			5		
47	Grantsville Elementary School	7.3		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			6		
48	Hickory Environmental Education Center	75.0		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			1	1.5	
49	Northern High School/Middle School	45.2		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			14		
50	Route 40 Elementary School	6.3		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4		
51	Southern High School	30.0		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			16		
52	Swan Meadow Elementary School	3.2		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			1		
53	Yough Glades Elementary School	19.8		School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4	2	
55	Garrett College & Community Aquatic & Recreation Complex (CARC)	48.1	0.0	School Recreation Park	Garrett College Bd. Trustees			9		
56	Western MD 4-H Education Center	1,100.0	0.0	Special Use Area	University of Maryland		1	3	2	

Garrett County's current trail inventory calculates over 350 miles of hiking and biking trails. Since the 2017 Recreation Plan, many miles of trails have been developed under the direction of Garrett Trails, Garrett Trails is a nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to the development of a well-used network of high-quality, sustainable trails that provide access to Garrett County's historic, municipal, and environmental treasures which link to trails outside the County. Most recently the group has been working on the Meadow Mountain segment of the Continental Divide Loop trail system. Trail alignment and design have been completed and the group has tentative approval for construction of a segment of the trail.

In addition to their work on the Continental Trail Loop, they have also recently been working with the Department of Planning & Land Management and Garrett College in developing a trail network in McHenry that has its initial focus on providing a safe walking path for students from Garrett College to various points in the McHenry area including US 219 up to Pysell Road. Many of these students do not have vehicles and walk to the grocery store, urgent care, and many other places in the area. Currently no off-road path is available to them, creating a dangerous situation for both pedestrians and motorists.

Garrett Trails have received a grant and purchased an adaptive trail machine to take people with mobility challenges on the hiking and mountain biking trails.

Other Garrett Trails Projects being pursued include but are not limited to: ASCI to Fork Run, Fork Run to Swallow Falls, Swallow Falls to Oakland, Connectivity of all municipal trails, Meadow Mountain to Meyersdale, PA, Jennings Rail Bed to Grantsville, Friendsville to Youghiogheny Lake, Friendsville to Sang Run, the Deep Creek Lake Lions Club Trail, Deep Creek Lake State Park (Phase II and III), and the 4H Camp



FIGURE 19 TRAILS IN FORK RUN



FIGURE 20 CREDIT: GARRETT COUNTY REPUBLICAN - GARRETT COUNTY COYOTES TEAM IS AN INTERSCHOLASTIC MOUNTAIN BIKING TEAM FOR GARRETT COUNTY STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-12. THE TEAM IS A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC CYCLING LEAGUE (MIL)

to Deep Creek Lake State Park. In general, Garrett Trails will work to promote and market the usage of trails in Garrett County as well as the tristate area. For more information about the work and mission of Garrett Trails visit www.garretttrails.org.

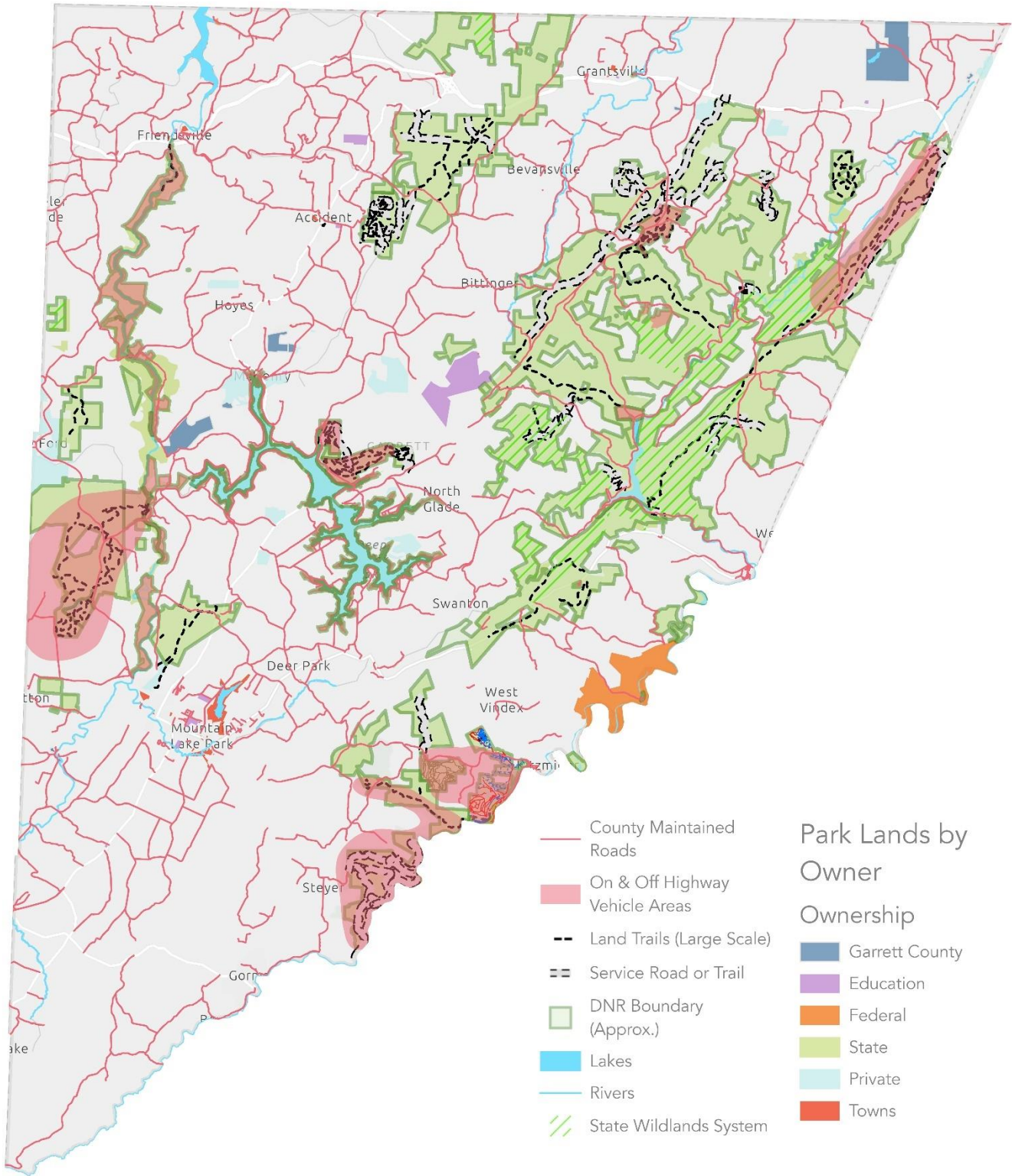
Garrett County has an active Youth Mountain Biking Team, composed of student athletes in grades 6-12, that compete in the Maryland Interscholastic Cycling League (MICL) a part of the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA.) The Youth Mountain Biking Team have coordinated with the Towns of Mountain Lake Park and Oakland to construct entry-level mountain bike trails for their team and the

community. In 2021 over three miles of trails were constructed and now open to the public. In addition to hiking and biking trails, On Highway Vehicles (OHV), Off Highway Recreational Vehicles (OHRV), motorcycles, All Terrain Vehicle (ATVs), and snowmobiles are very popular in Garrett County. The State has developed Saint John's Rock and Wolf Den Run State Parks to provide trails for these users. In addition, Garrett County offers permits to register ATV's and allow users to operate on Garrett County roadways not exceeding 2-miles. In 2022, the Maryland General Assembly expanded the definition of "all-terrain vehicle" in provisions governing the use of all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles in Allegany County and Garrett County to include off-highway motorcycles; and expanding the area of a highway from 2 miles to 5 miles on which Allegany County and Garrett County may authorize all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles to operate this is to go into effect as of October 1, 2022.⁸ See Map 5 Recreational Vehicle Access Map.



FIGURE 21 ATV RIDERS IN WOLF DEN STATE PARK CREDIT: TOWN OF KITZMILLER

⁸ Maryland General Assembly HB1143 <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/HB1143?ys=2022RS>



Off Highway Recreational Vehicle Trails Garrett County, MD

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDDNR), Land Aquisition and Planning, MDDNR, Land Aquisition and Planning, VGIN, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

MAP 5 RECREATIONAL VEHICLE ACCESS MAP

State Parks, and Recreation Facilities

Garrett County contains nine State Parks which see about 120,000-day-users annually. These parks are an attraction to Garrett County’s visitors and are utilized by the residents. During the COVID 19 Pandemic the parks were at full capacity in Garrett County and throughout the state. In response to highlighted importance of these facilities the State convened a State Park Investment



FIGURE 22 FUN AT HERRINTON MANOR STATE PARK BEACH

Commission that published a report in December 2021 with forty recommendations to increase capacity, provide access, conserve the state’s natural resources, and to invest in recreational opportunities across the state.

Since the 2017 LPPRP the State has invested in Off-Road Recreational Vehicle ORV and hiking trails and facilities. St. John’s Rock and Wolf Den Run are popular destinations for off road vehicles.

TABLE 8 STATE LANDS INVENTORY

Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
58 Wolf Den ORV Trails Bear Creek Hatchery Fish	927.0	0.0	Special Use Area	State of MD	x		0	10	
59 Mgmt. Area	0.0	113.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
60 Bear Pen Run Natural Area	0.0	241	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1		0		
61 Big Run State Park Casselman River Bridge State	300.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	2	1
62 Park Cunningham Swamp Wildlife	4.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD		1	0		
63 Mgmt. Area	0.0	257.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0	2	
64 Deep Creek Lake NRMA	4,714.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		

Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
65 Deep Creek Lake State Park	1,818.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	6	2
Fulcher P. Smith Conservation									
66 Area	0.0	70.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
67 Garrett State Forest	7,339.0	300.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0	18	
68 Herrington Manor State Park	365.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	4	10	1
69 Kindness Demonstration Trail	0.0	0.0	Trail	State of MD			0		
Mt. Nebo Wildlife Management									
70 Area	0.0	1,854.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
71 New Germany State Park	483.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	10	1
North Branch Potomac Fish									
72 Mgt. Area	0.0	279.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
73 Potomac State Forest	8,158.0	2,306.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0	20	
74 Savage River Reservoir	0.0	360.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1	1	0		1
75 Savage River State Forest	41,595.0	13,303	Natural Resource Area	State of MD		1	0	69	
76 St. John's Rock ORV Trail	500	0.0	Special Use Area	State of MD			0	23	
77 Swallow Falls State Park	257.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	1.5	
Youghiogheny Scenic & Wild									
78 River	0.0	4,129.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1	1	0	5.5	
111 Sang Run State Park			State Park	State of MD	1	1	0		
	66,460	23,212	-	-	9	10	4	177	2

Federal Lands

Federal lands in Garrett County are both projects owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jennings Randolph Lake and the Youghiogheny River Lake.

The Jennings Randolph Lake Project’s primary purpose is to control floods originating on the North Branch Potomac River, provide an adequate supply of water for domestic and industrial uses, and increase downstream water quality in the North Branch Potomac River. A major secondary use of the project lands and waters is recreation and environmental stewardship of natural and cultural resources. The Lake is heavily utilized by individuals and groups from near and far who participate in a variety of activities, like camping, boating, fishing, hiking, picnicking, and enjoying the great outdoors. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources constructed and operates a boat launch, to provide access to the lake from the Maryland side. The site includes a boat launch, a restroom facility, and paved parking lot. Maryland DNR charges a nominal fee of five dollars for use of the boat ramp. Maryland DNR also maintains the Robert S. Brown Overlook and a grant-funded 22-acre habitat restoration area within their leased land. There are no known planned improvements to the existing Maryland DNR Boat Launch.

The 2019 update to the Jennings Randolph Reservoir includes improving, extending, and adding designated natural surface multiuse trails, improving, and enhancing the overlook areas, and establishing hike-in and boat-in camping areas.

The Youghiogheny River Lake is 4,323.18 acres and became fully operational in 1948. Due to it location, it

is managed via outgrants to multiple jurisdictions. The Government outgrants 1,879.8 acres of land and waters to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, 829.3 acres to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 55.4 acres to Laurel Highlands Outdoor Center (Yough Lake Campground), 10.8 acres to Leskinen Enterprises LCC (Yough Lake Marina), and 9.1 acres to the Town of Friendsville.

The Mill Run Recreation Area provides water access, and is operated and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Its year-round facility includes 30 tent only campsites, a restroom, playground equipment, a popular swim beach, boat ramp and a trailer dump station.

The U.S Army Corps of Engineers have updated the Lake’s Master Plan. Improvements in the plan include increasing coordination and partnerships, facility modernization such as development of a Project Check-In app; extending Fisherman’s Trail and adding in new multi-use trails; and adding in courtesy dock & shower facilities to Mill Run Recreation Area.

The Master plan identified that the areas that need most improvement are the access road across the dam and the road leading to Mill Run Recreation Area, adding a courtesy dock to Mill Run Recreation Area, and expanding the no-wake zone near Yough Lake Marina at the Route 40 bridge. There is also interest in having Wi-Fi availability at the Outflow Recreation Area campground.

TABLE 9 FEDERAL LANDS INVENTORY

Park Name	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
78 Youghiogheny Scenic & Wild River	0.0	4,129.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1	1	0	5.5	
79 Jennings Randolph Lake	1,975.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Federal		1	0	1.7	1
80 Paul Sarbanes Trail	.9	0.0	Trail	Federal			0	1	
81 Youghiogheny River Lake, Mill Run Recreation Area	1,189.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Federal	1	1	0	0	1
	3,165	4,129			2	3	-	8	2

PRIVATELY OWNED

Garrett County is home to successful outdoor recreation due to its unique location, high concentration of public lands, large scale visitor attraction (i.e. Deep Creek Lake), and well established recreation facilities. The Wisp Ski Resort, located in the center of the County near Deep Creek Lake, is home to the County’s winter-tourism industry. The Wisp operates a ropes course and a canopy tour, golf, biking, a mountain coaster and other all-season activities. Table _ lists the inventory of other private recreation options located in Garrett County.

Garrett County has numerous creative and outdoor recreation development opportunities that require relatively small amount of effort and are relatively low risk opportunities like providing tours, increased marketing efforts, art co-ops, outdoor workshop series, and increased family focused activities. Prospective business or fundraising opportunities that would require significant organization and effort but can be done with existing resources are outdoor race series/events, creation of indoor recreational actives and expansion of existing outdoor recreation facilities. The combination of a public park and recreation business amenities creates a compelling picture of the wealth of affordable, high-quality recreation opportunities.

In addition, Garrett County Economic Development Department in partnership with Allegany County is working on attracting Recreational Manufactures to the area. The area’s array of recreational natural resources would aid such manufactures in developing and selling their products.

TABLE 10 PRIVATE RECREATION INVENTORY

	Park Name	Rec Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
82	Aquatic Center	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private		0	0	1	
83	Artisan Village	3.1	0.0	Special Use Area	Private	1	1	1	1	
84	Bills Marine Service, Inc.	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private		1	0	0	1
85	Bumble Bee RV Park & Campground	6.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
86	Camp Deep Creek	18.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		3	0		
87	Circle R Ranch	29.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
88	Deep Creek Lake Sailing Assoc.	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private	1	0	0	1	
89	Deep Creek Marina	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private	1	0	0	1	
90	Double G Campground	67.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		3	0		
91	Fun Time Watersports	0.9	0.0	Marine	Private		0	0		
92	Funland Family Fun Center	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		1	0		
93	High Mt. Sports / Traders Landing	0.4	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
94	Little Meadows Lake	228.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0	1	
95	Maryland High Point Trail	0.0	0.0	Trail	Private		0	0		
96	Patterson's Boat Company	2.0	0.0	Marine	Private	1	0	0	1	
97	Shady Acres Motocross	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	1		
98	Silver Tree Marina	4.0	0.0	Marine	Private	1	1	0	0	
99	Swanton Senior/Community Center	1.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		1	0		
100	Thousand Acres Lakeside Golf Club	193.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
101	Waterfront Greens Golf Course	17.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
102	Western Trails	170.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		1	0		
103	Winnfield Golf- Avilton	41.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
104	Wisp Resort	204.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		4	1		
105	The Alley	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
106	Monkey Business Adventure Park		0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
107	Deep Creek Axe Throwing Company		0.0	Special Use Area	Private		0	0		
108	Cranesville Swamp	0.0	1,023.0	Natural Resource Area	The Nature Conservancy	1	0	0		
109	Finzel Swamp (Cranberry Swamp)	0.0	326.0	Natural Resource Area	The Nature Conservancy	1	0	0		
110	The Glades- Nature Conservancy	0.0	601.0	Natural Resource Area	The Nature Conservancy		0	0		
		988.4	1,950.0			4	6	14	3	6



MAP 6 CLAY COURTS AT THE MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK TENNIS CLUB

MEASURING USER DATA

Public Outreach

COUNTY-WIDE RECREATION SURVEY

The Garrett County Planning Department developed and distributed a County-wide online Survey which collected 706 responses from September through November 2021. The response rate was 2.5% of the 2020 total population of 28,806. This survey was advertised and promoted at various events throughout the response period.

Age Distribution

The response rate skewed from the 2019 census age distribution, as a result of non-resident respondents. The median age of Garrett County Residents according to the 2019 American Community Survey is 42.6 years old. Over 51% survey respondents identified as Baby Boomers (ages 73-55.)

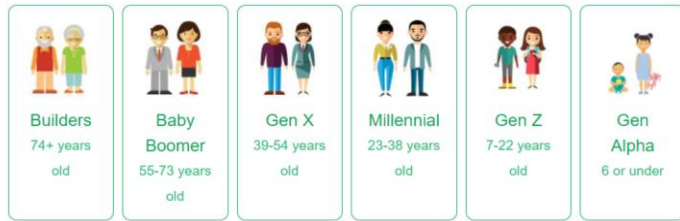
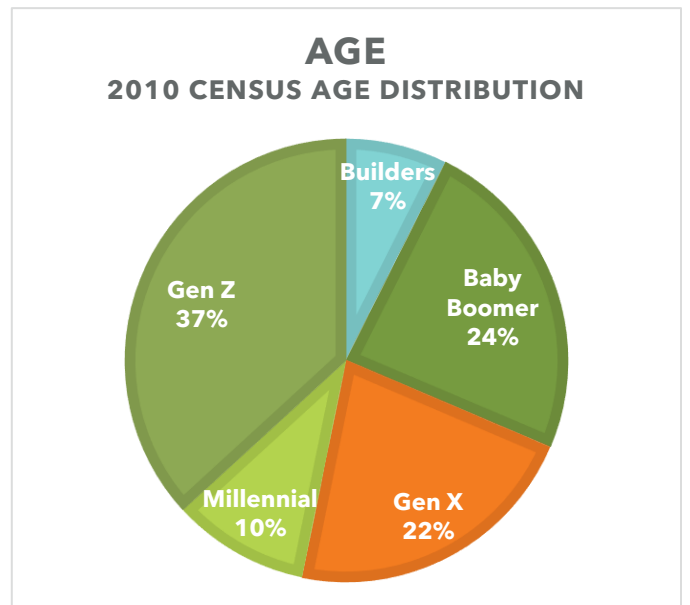
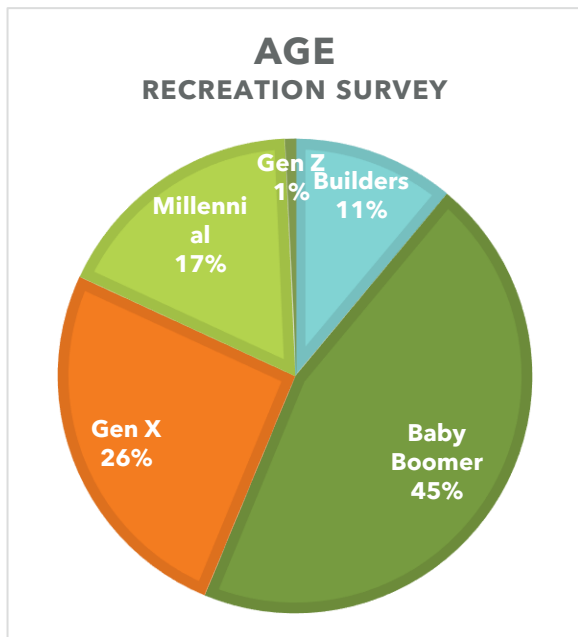


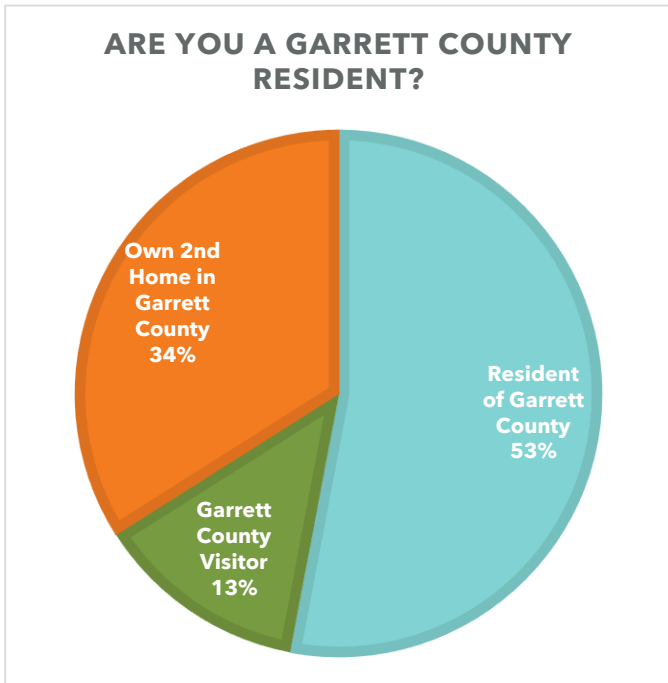
FIGURE 23 SOCIAL MEDIA FLYER FOR SURVEY

Takeaway: Results may skew in survey for mature residents in the County. In future surveys, outreach through Garrett County Schools may provide responses that reflect a more accurate age distribution for Garrett County.



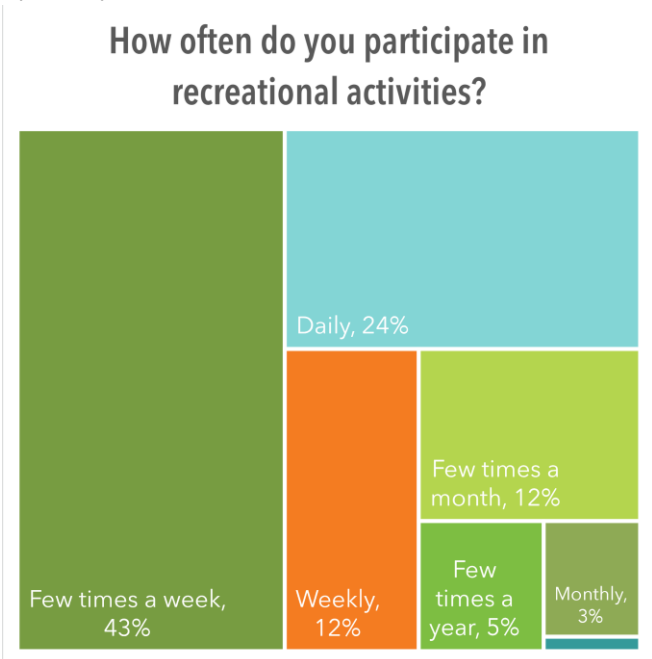
Resident or Visitor?

Since Garrett County has a strong tourism industry, the survey asked if they were County residents, visitors or second homeowners. Over 53% of respondents were County residents.



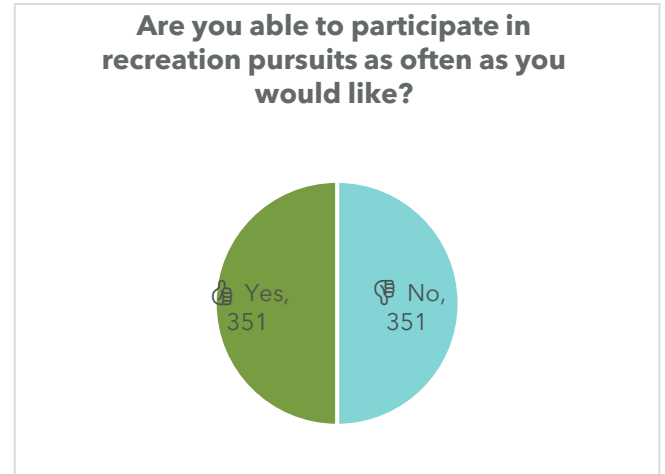
Frequency

The survey asked how often people participate in recreation activities; most (43%) participate a few times a week, 24% responded they recreate daily and zero people responded they never participated in recreational activities.

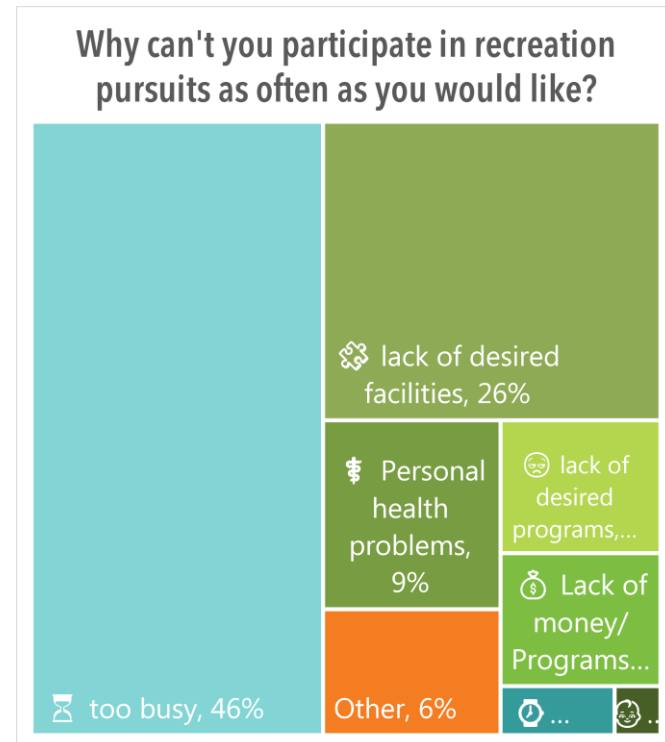


Adequate Recreation

When asked if people were able to recreate as often as they would like to, there was an even split 50%. Those who responded No, they do not recreate as often as they'd like cited lack of time 46%, followed by lack of facilities 26%. This makes sense for a rural county, where time is often needed to travel to recreational facilities.



Takeaway: Provide more convenient locations for recreation to be incorporated into the resident's lives. Investigate lack of facilities perception.



Recreation Activities

To gauge the popularity of recreation activities, we asked what recreational activities people like to participate in. There was no limit on how many types of activities they could choose. The top responses were hiking, walking, motorized boating, paddling, nature watching, fishing, swimming, picnicking, downhill skiing, use of public beaches and camping.

Takeaway: The level of service analysis will objectively review the distribution of the top uses: trail access, water access, and picnic facilities compared to the distribution of the population in Garrett County to determine if there is adequate opportunity and facilities for the top activities.



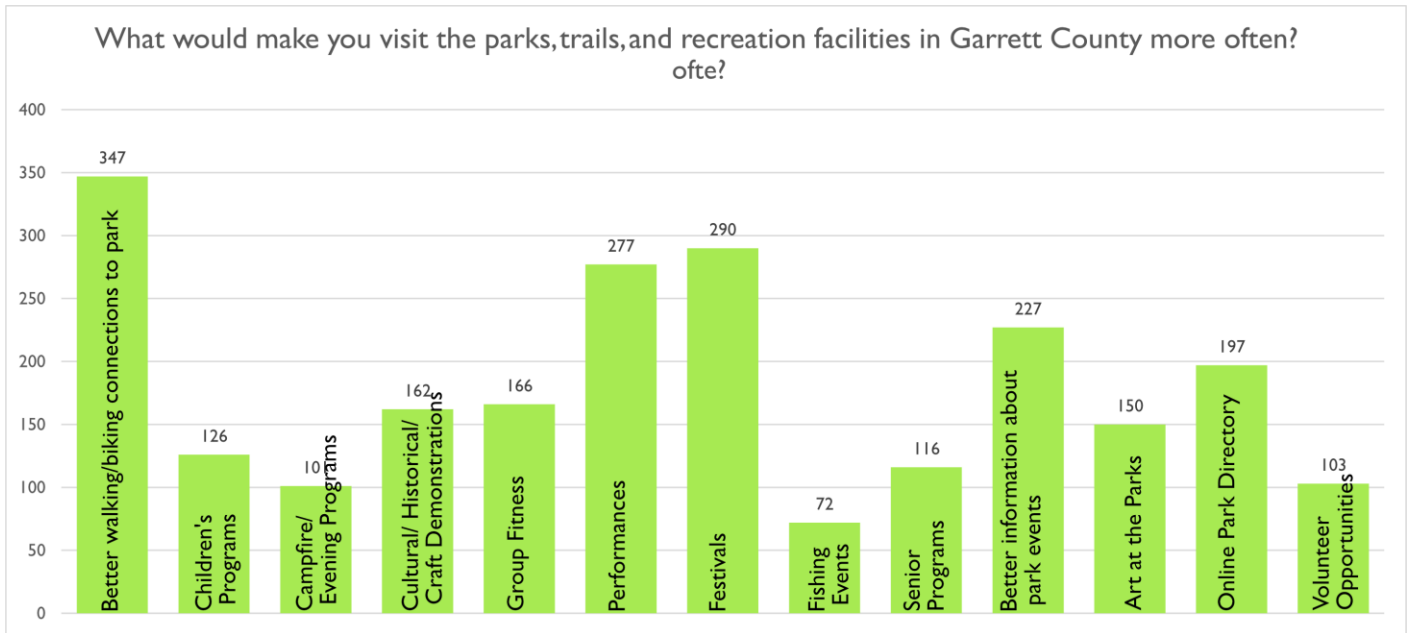
Programming Development

To prioritize projects that encourage people to use the existing recreation facilities the survey asked “What would make you visit the parks, trails, and recreation facilities in Garrett County more often?” The top responses were:

- Better walking connections to the park (49.3%)
- Festivals (41.1%)
- Performances (39.3%)
- Better information about park events (32.2%).

The County would like to prioritize safe walking and non-motorized connections throughout the County, raise awareness of facilities and programming, and streamline the process for programming park activities, like finding venues, and advertising events.

Takeaway: Trail and pedestrian connections to existing facilities will be prioritized. Work on improving information about existing parks, to streamline organizations and residents to program and market events in public spaces.



Mode

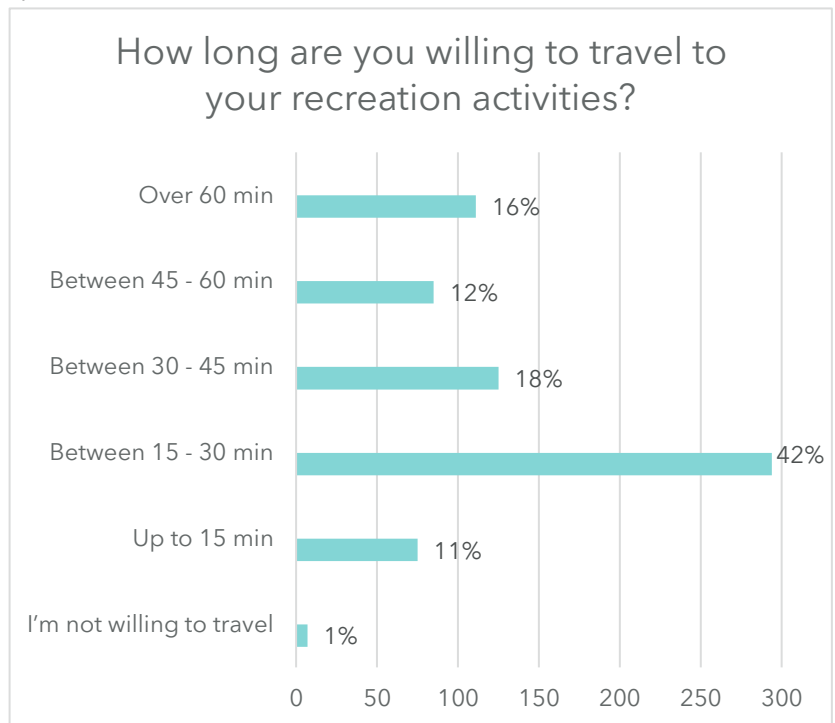
The Plan requires the County to do a needs analysis, to determine if there are any gaps in access. To develop the analysis method, we asked about mode of transportation in accessing. As expected over 55% of people drive to access recreation, but there many responses for walking, biking, and using an off-road vehicle for access

Access

The Plan requires the County to do a needs analysis, to determine if there are any gaps in access. To develop the analysis method, we asked about preferred duration of travel to access recreation.

42% of respondents are willing to travel for 15 to 30 minutes to their recreational activities, followed by 18% willing to travel 30 to 45 minutes.

Takeaway: Anaysis should target drive times from 15 - 30 minutes.



Facility Development

To assist the County in planning future recreation projects we asked What types of recreational facilities are we missing in Garrett County?

Top requests were:

- Ice Skating rinks or trails,
- Fitness Trails,
- Nature-based playgrounds,
- Indoor Sports Facility,
- Splash Pads.

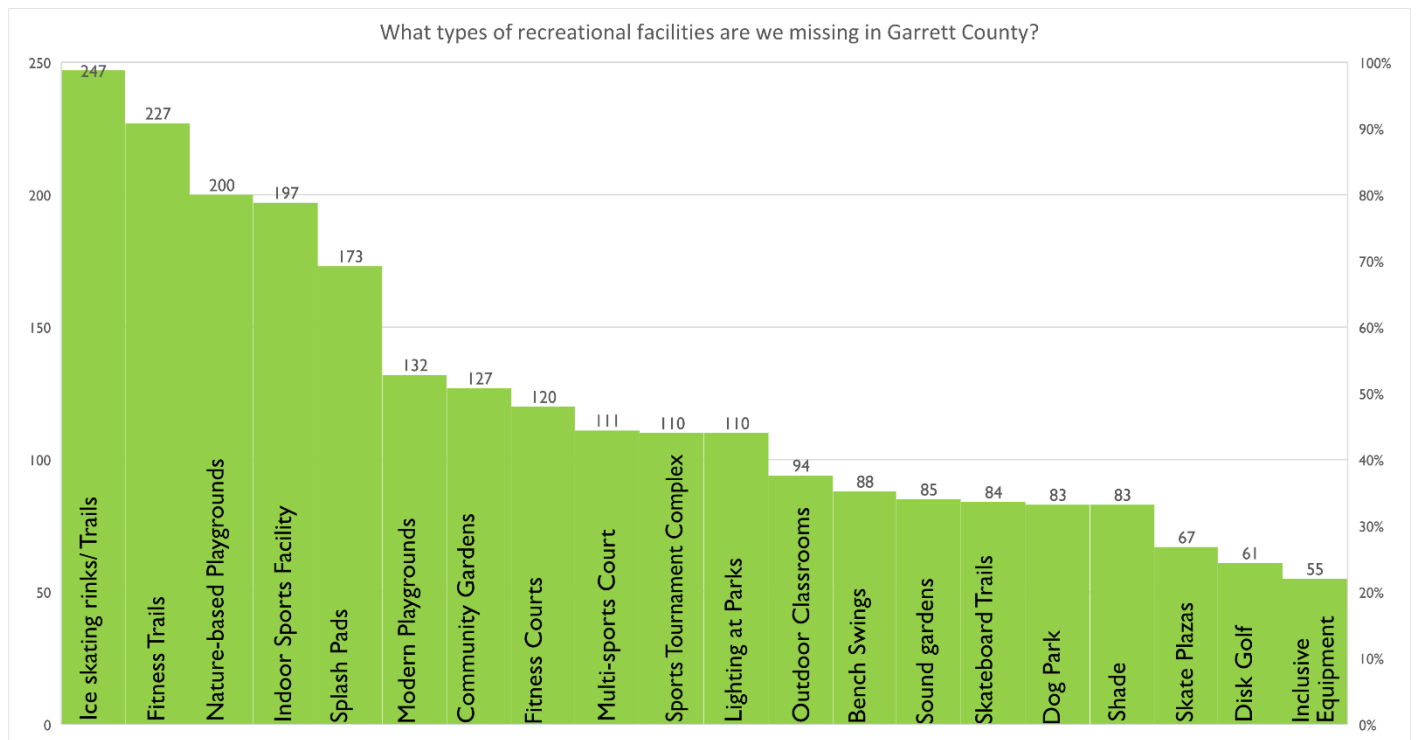
It is true that Garrett County is a four-season recreation haven, but there is not an ice-skating facility. There was a high request for Fitness Trails, which there are existing trails located in the town parks of Accident and Friendsville.

An indoor sports facility was also a high request, though more information is needed to determine what kind of indoor facility would benefit the County along with finding a location.



FIGURE 24 SNOW MUCH FUN

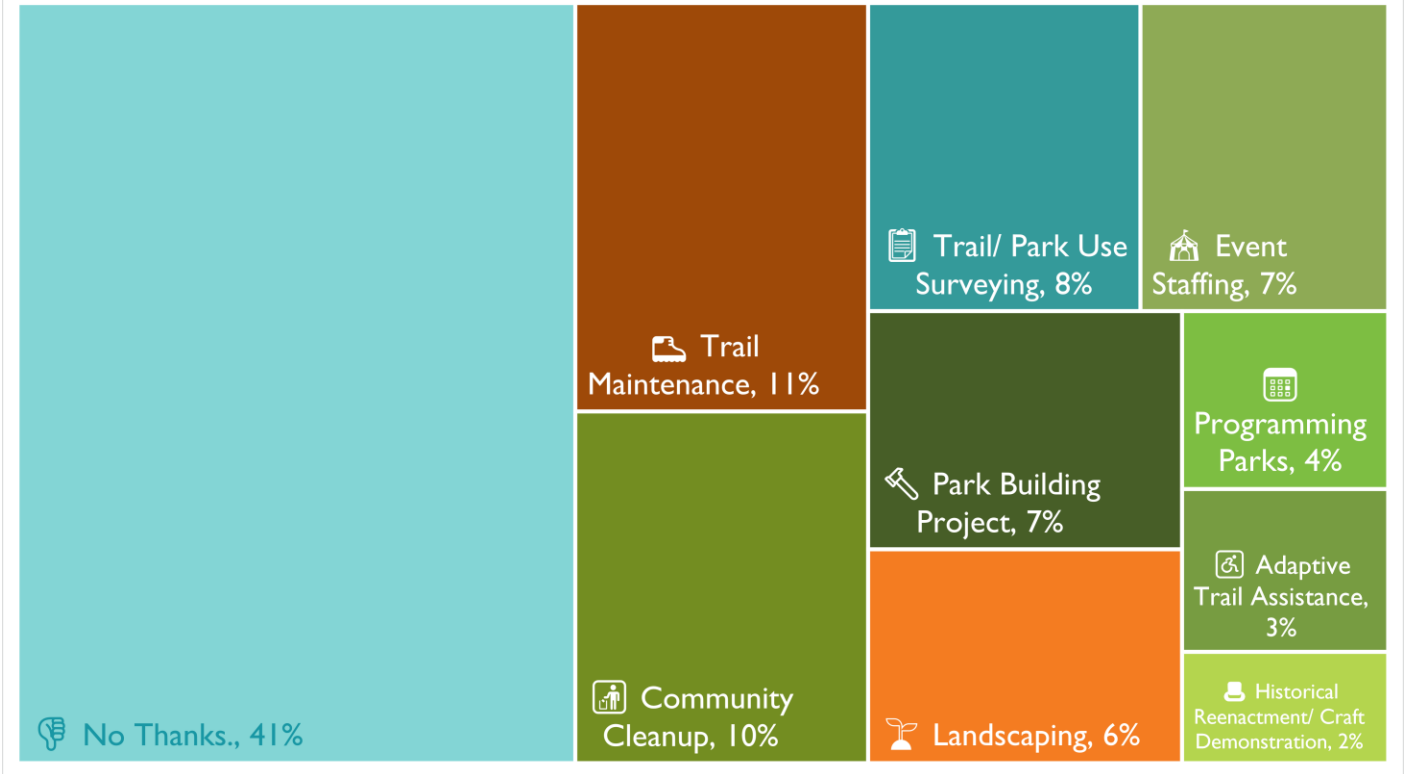
Takeaway: Plan will review feasibility of top requests in this plan's capital improvement section.



Volunteers

Since many of Garrett County parks and recreation facilities are managed and programed by volunteers, the survey looked into future volunteer prospects. Most survey respondents were willing to volunteer on various activities, only 41% responded "No thanks." Respondents will be contacted for future volunteer opportunities.

Are you interested in volunteering for the following:



General Comments

Figure 25 shows a word cloud, with the culmination of all the comment responses received from the recreation survey. Complete responses are in the Appendix on page 108.

Municipal Outreach

County Staff met with the Town of Oakland, Town of Accident, Town of Friendsville, Town of Grantsville, Town of Kitzmiller, Town of Loch Lynn, and Town of Mountain Lake Park to discuss their past recreation projects, gather usage data, provide outreach to their residents to gauge interest for future park projects and develop the Capital Improvement plan at the end of this chapter. The following table summarizes the public outreach for each municipality. The County Planning Department looks to continue this collaboration in future iterations of the Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan. Public Outreach materials and notes for each of the Towns are in the Appendix.



FIGURE 25 WORD CLOUD OF ALL COMMENTS FROM FREE RESPONSES ON RECREATION SURVEY

DATA ON USAGE & USER DEMANDS

Data on park usage gathered from sports teams, Towns, and State Parks.

TABLE 11 RECREATION USEAGE DATA

Site/ Org	Use	2018	2019	2020	2021	Notes
Herrington Manor State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	111,069	114,835	172,268		
	Cabins	14,657	19,758	16,257		
Jennings Randolph State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	4,439	3,987	8,470		
Swallow Falls State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	255,214	264,606	530,890		
	Camping	18,754	19,132	28,894		
	Cabins	-	88	-		
Wolf Den Run State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors		807	1,818		
	Camping		-	6		
Big Run State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	3,828	4,287	5,735		
	Camping	2,918	3,597	4,882		
Casselman River Bridge State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	5,641	4,855	5,701		
New Germany State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	19,184	17,932	21,180		
	Camping	8,445	9,635	12,049		
	Cabins	8,717	8,673	8,248		
Deep Creek Lake State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	475,248	621,452	697,402		
	Camping	18,785	19,225	22,442		
	Cabins	1,001	1,072	1,447		
Sang Run State Park						
	Day Use Annual Visitors	4,932	5,915	5,155		
CARC						
	Annual Visitor Estimate	53,000	46,000	28,000	39,000	
Loch Lynn Community Park						
	Pavilion Rental	18	20	3 (18 cancelled)		
	Mountain Top Soccer League			44 teams		children age 4 - 15
	Oakland Girls Softball League	x	x			participation unknown
	Pee Wee Football			x		participation unknown
	Lacrosse League			30		
	Trial Daily Visitors Estimate			360		
Glades Park, Oakland						
	Pavilion Rental	42	60	7		
Broadford Park, Oakland						

Site/ Org	Use	2018	2019	2020	2021	Notes
	Pavilion Rental	94	125	53		
Mountain Fresh Pavilion, Oakland						
	Pavilion Rental	34	55	38		
Oakland Youth Baseball						
	Girls Softball				79 players	ages 7-16
	Youth Baseball				187 players	
	Tee Ball Players				107 players	
Grantsville Community Park						
	Pavilion Rental	70	71	35		
	Sports Event Attendance				5400	120 games per season
	Grantsville Days		5000		4000	
	Oktoberfest		2000		1000	
	Mt. Beulh Bluegrass Festivals		200		100	
	Family Reunions					25-250 in attendance
	Landon's Library Youth Basketball			210 players		ages 5-10
	Mountaintop Soccer Association				500 players	ages 4-14
	Northern Youth Basketball				110 players	ages 5-10
	Central Garrett Baseball and Softball League				400 players	ages 5-14
	Grantsville AYSO Soccer League				130 players	



FIGURE 26 TOLLIVER FALLS

LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

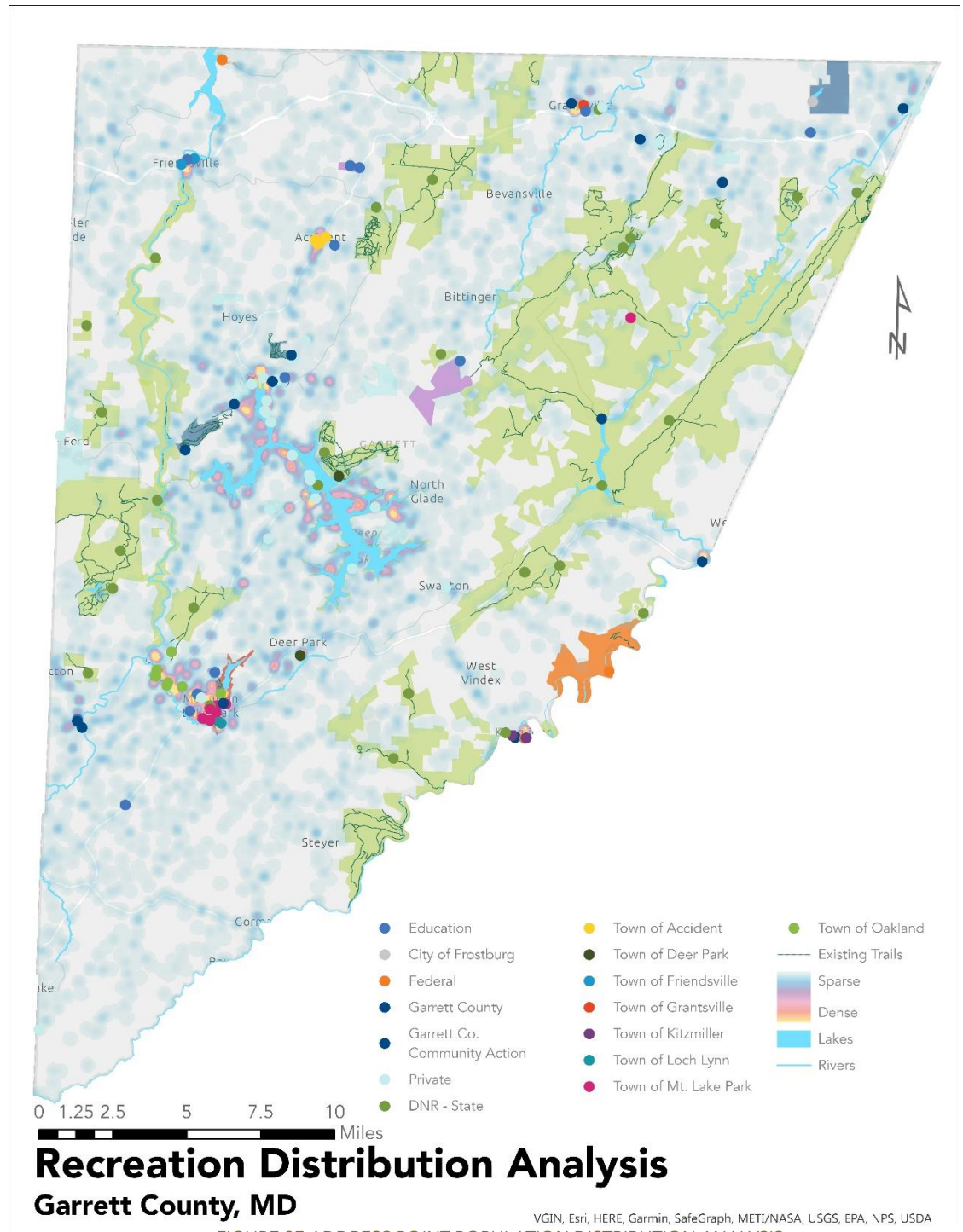
To visualize the level of service to determine deficiencies in park and recreation access, the County conducted both a proximity analysis and a park equity analysis. The proximity analysis determines access of all parks and popular amenities. The park equity analysis identifies underserved populations without easy access to recreation.

Proximity Analysis

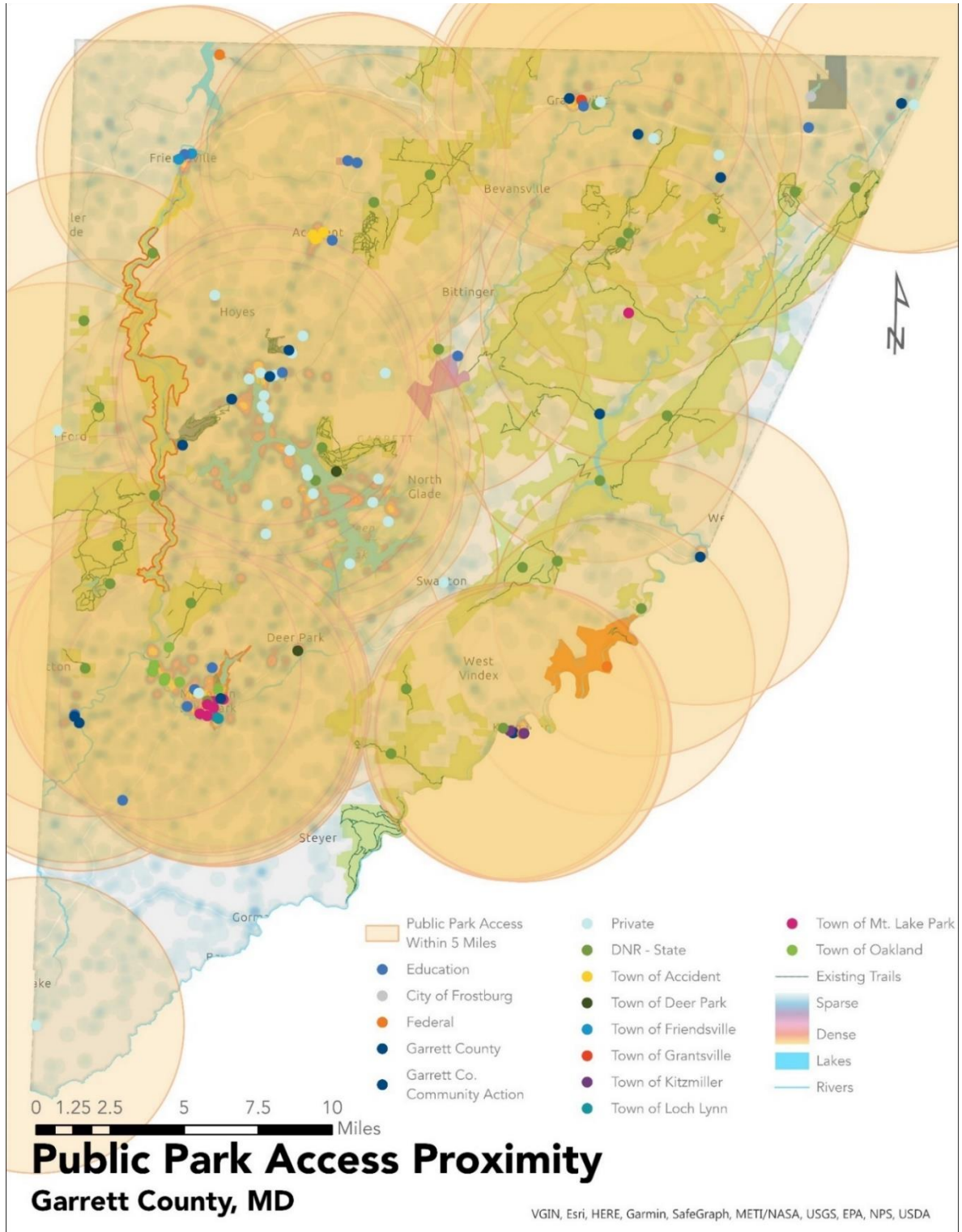
Based on the survey, 5-mile buffers were applied to park and recreation access points to approximate 15-to-30-minute drive times to public parks, access to trail heads, water access, and picnic areas. Address points are assigned to residences and commercial buildings. A heat map of County address points was generated to

approximate the distribution where people live and work in the County.

Garrett County's most densely populated areas are in Oakland and around Deep Creek Lake. The population densities compliment the State Parks and Forest and steep slopes in the County. The buffers overlayed with the population distribution will visualize gaps in park and recreation facilities.



The first proximity analysis, selected of only public recreation points and applied non-dissolved 5-mile buffers overlaid with the heat-map of address points. The result of this overlay is nearly complete coverage of the County, except for the area around Gorman which is not densely populated. Most of the land use in this area is extractive, forest, and agricultural. In addition, an area that is not covered is the ridge of Backbone Mountain.

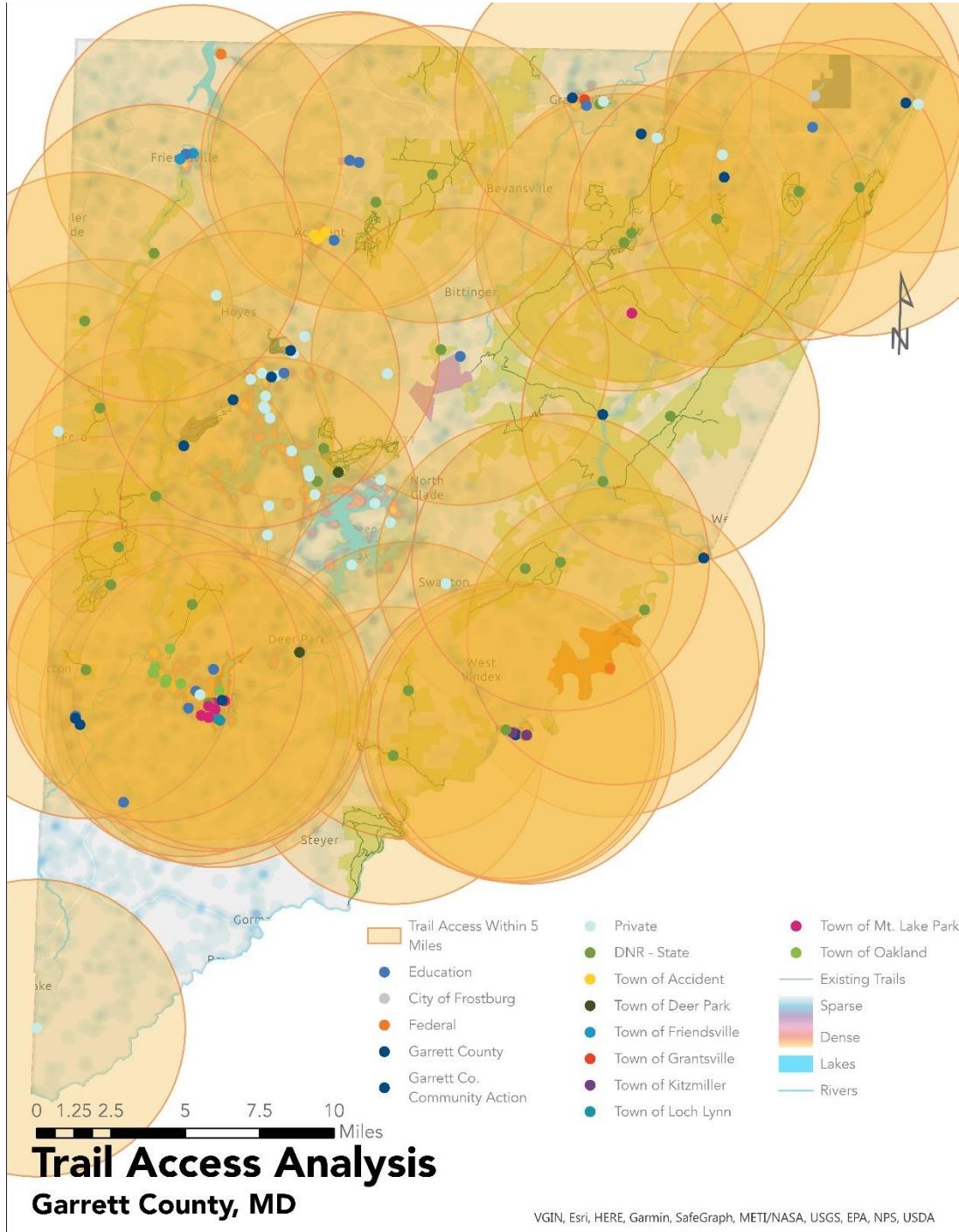


MAP 7 LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS FOR PUBLIC PARKS

Takeaway: There is adequate coverage of existing public parks in Garrett, County.

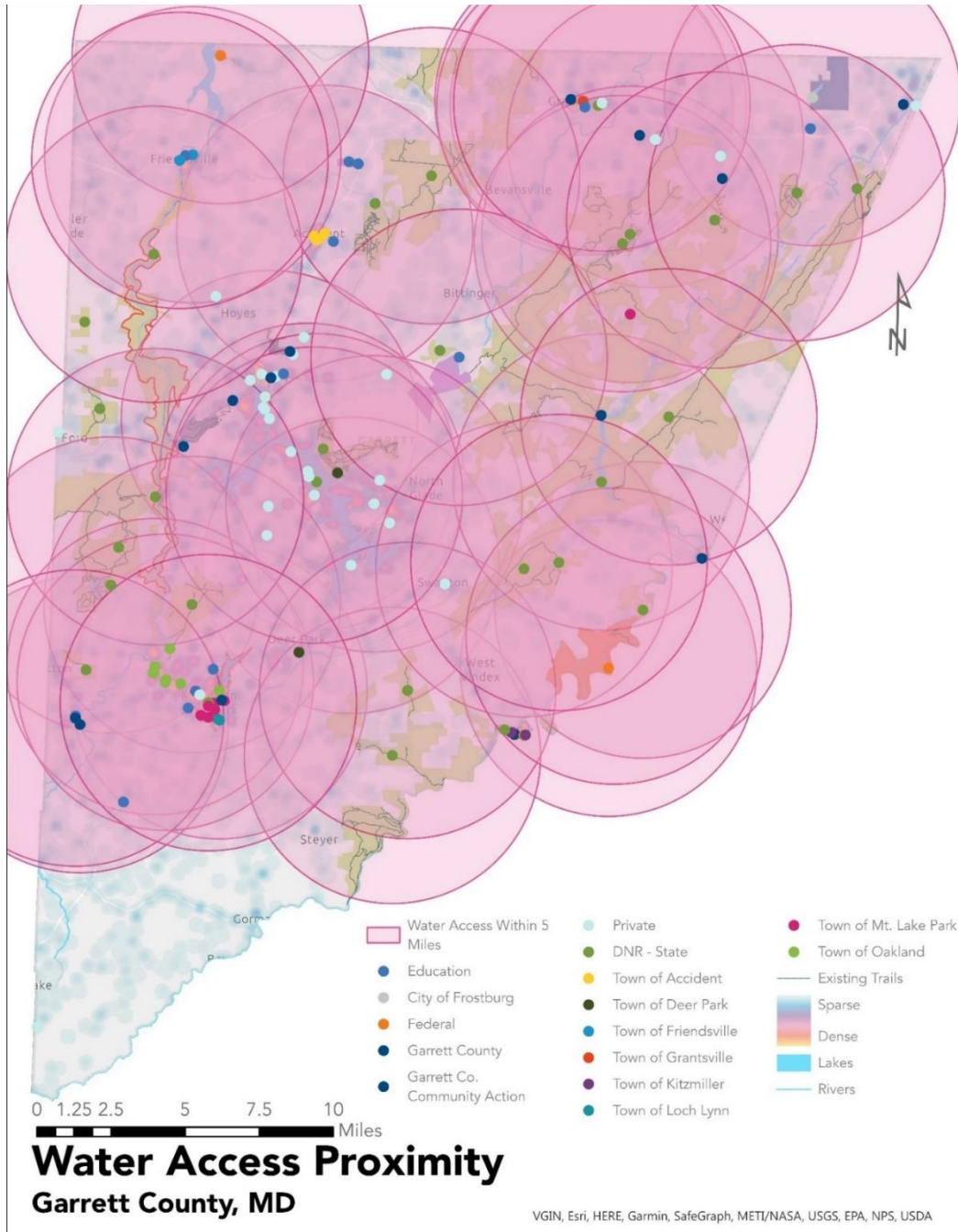
The following proximity analysis focuses on the most popular recreational uses based on the recreation survey for trail access, water access and picnicking.

In the trails analysis, recreation points that provided access to trails were selected. This included community walking tracks, athletic tracks, hiking, mountain biking trails and ORV trails. Again, for each trail access site non-dissolved a five-mile buffer was created. The buffers are transparent to visualize the density of sites and to allow the address point overlay. The only gap in this map is in Southern Garrett County, which is not densely populated but could provide connections to the other trails in Davis, West Virginia. Direct access to West Virginia through this area is provided by US 219 which is not suitable for bike and pedestrian activities. In addition, terrain in this area is challenging.



MAP 8 TRAIL ACCESS PROXIMITY ANALYSIS

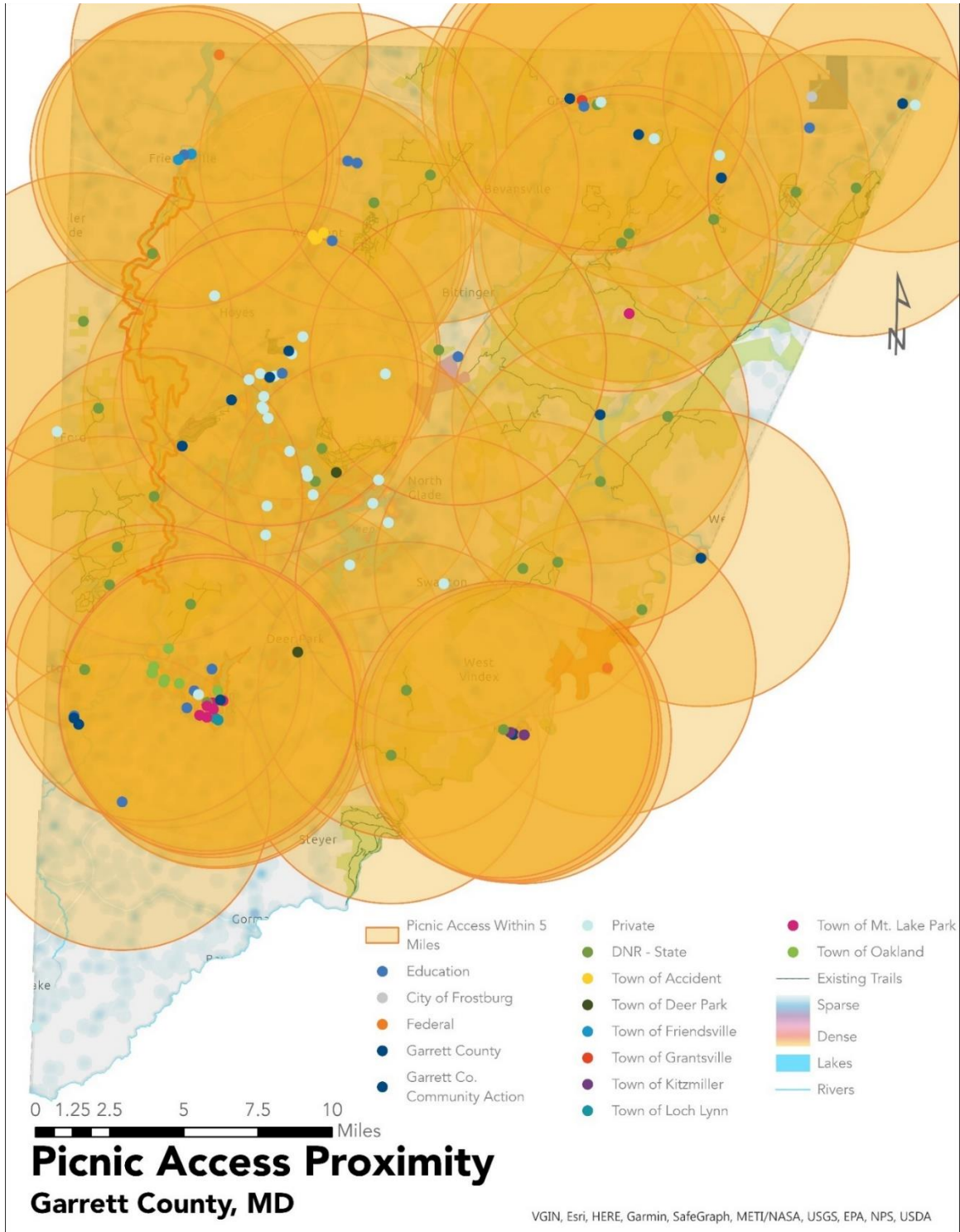
Many respondents to the recreation survey favored boating, paddling, swimming, fishing, and nature watching. All these activities require or are enhanced by access to water. Garrett County contains four man-made lakes and many rivers. Once again, the County is well covered by 5-mile buffers with access to water, except for the southern tip of the County. The eastern border of the County is the Potomac River, but access is not desirable for public recreational activities, due to lack of parking, access via vehicle, and typically low flows. Just south of Garrett County there are other public recreation water access points in West Virginia at Blackwater State Forest, Town of Thomas, Town of Davis, and Mount Storm Lake.



MAP 9 WATER ACCESS PROXIMITY ANALYSIS

Takeaway: There is adequate water access in Garrett County and our region provides near-by opportunities for water access in southern Garrett County.

Lastly a proximity analysis, which used the same method but selected for access to picnic areas that included picnic tables and pavilions. There is nearly complete coverage of picnic facilities in Garrett County, except for the County South of MD 50, which is not densely populated due to the steep terrain.

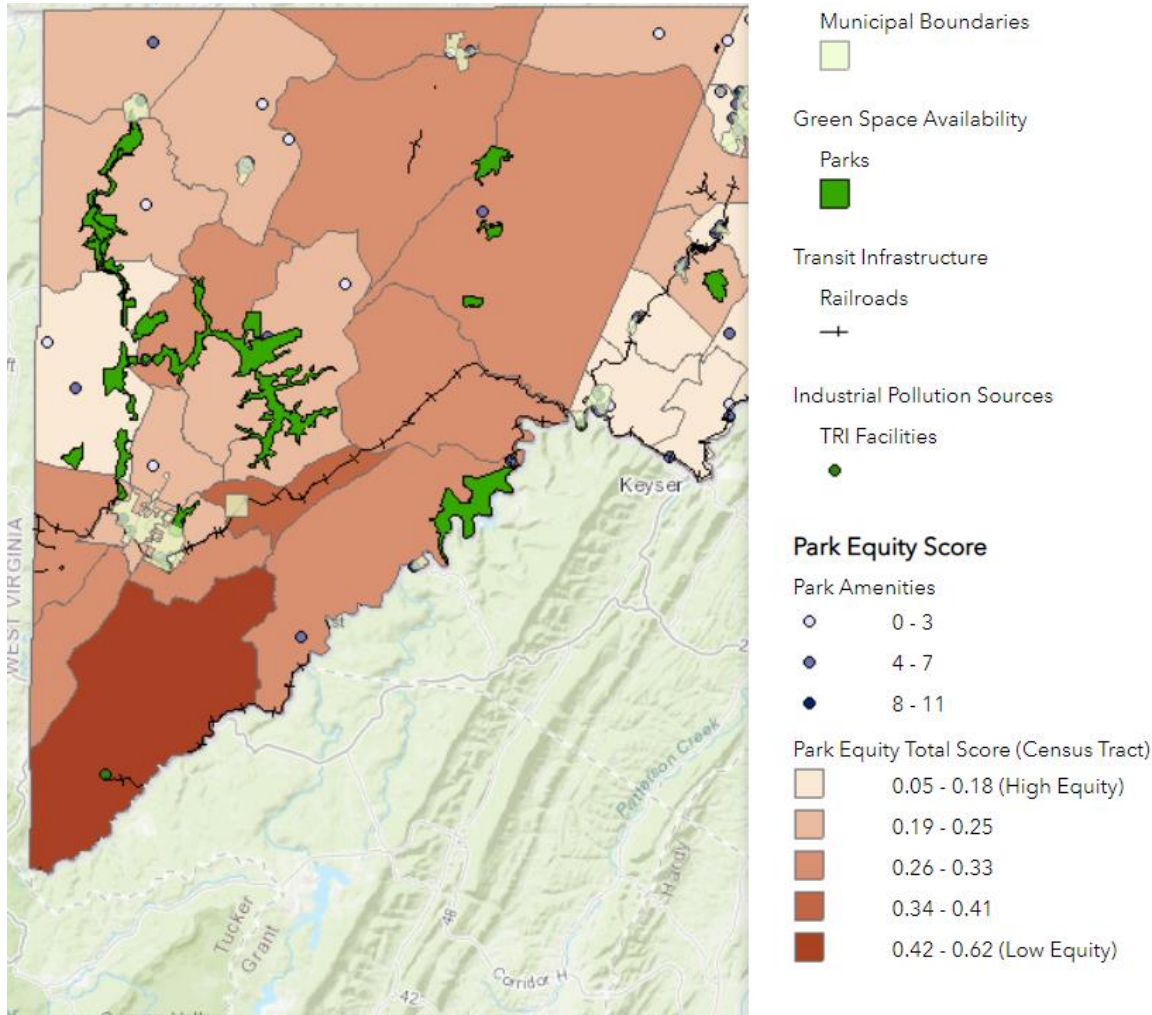


MAP 10 LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS FOR PICNIC AREAS

Takeaway: There is adequate picnic facilities in Garrett County. As a note, future recreation inventories for Garrett County should look at accessibility of picnic locations and facilities to plan retrofits that incorporate universal design and adaptive features.

Equity Analysis

We utilized the Maryland Park Equity Mapper⁹ application that combines demographic and environmental health data from a variety of sources and maps that data onto Maryland census block groups to identify disparities in park access and quality. This application allows users to evaluate the green space available in their community and see how it compares to the rest of Maryland. The Park Equity Mapper visualizes underserved communities or underutilized by existing park space communities. The Park Equity Map uses a combination of population density, low-income status, percent of children under 18, percent of adults over 65, non-white population, park distance score, public transit score, and walkability index score.



MAP 11 EQUITY ANALYSIS

Garrett County is a rural community with a large area and with that come challenges in distributing public services. The County’s Park equity score varies greatly throughout the county. First we will examine the five factors that contribute to the score. Based on this analysis Southern Garrett County has the lowest equity, mainly due to low walkability score, and distance to public parks. This area of Garrett County is not appropriate for future park development due to the terrain, mainly agricultural or extractive land use and lack of infrastructure. Instead of developing trails, non-motorized access to the north of the County should be investigated to provide safe access to the recreation facilities in Oakland, Mountain Lake Park and Loch Lynn.

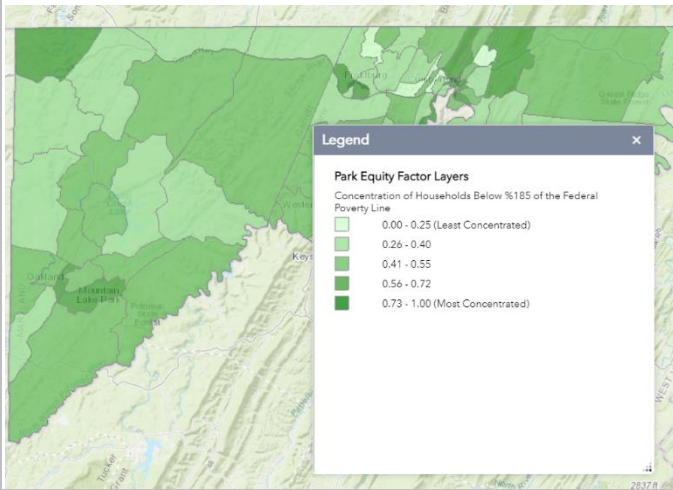
The other census tract that has a low equity score is around Deer Park, though some of the public

⁹Park Equity Mapper Website: <https://p1.cgis.umd.edu/ParkEquityEJ/>

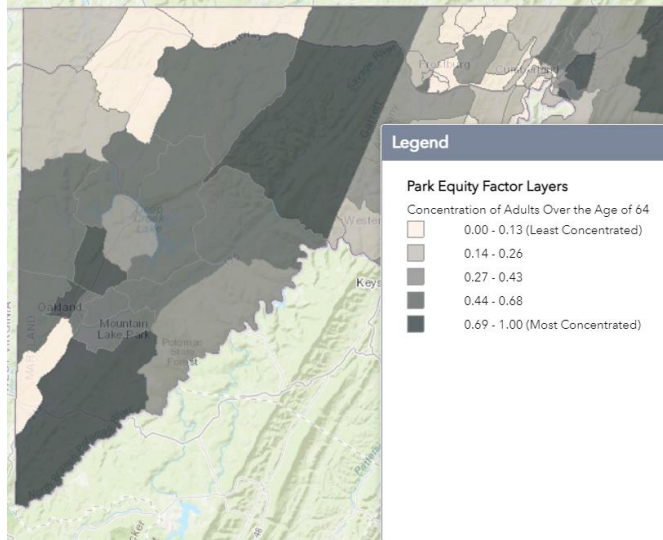
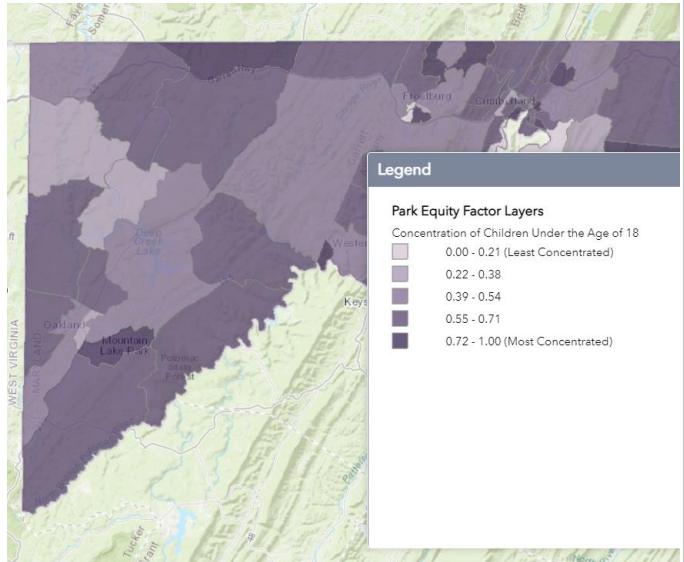
recreation facilities that exists were not identified in this Mapping Tool.

Takeaway: Garrett County parks equity analysis shows the County's vulnerable populations have sufficient access to parks. The areas identified with the lowest equity scores have low population densities and geographic barriers making park development unnecessary. Much of the land in this block group is owned by private hunting clubs land or mining operations. In addition, the residents in the southern part of Garret County have access to public parks in West Virginia.

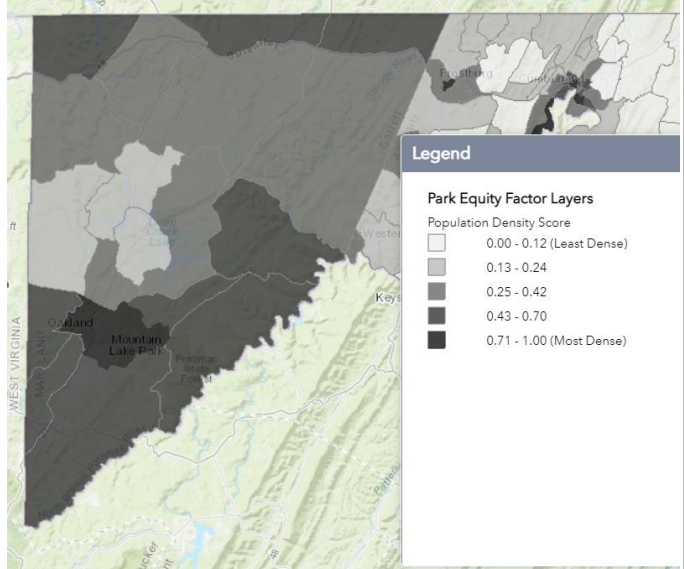
Overall, 26% or more households of Garrett County have Annual Income at 185% or less of the Federal poverty line. The highest concentrations are south of Mountain Lake Park and around Friendsville.



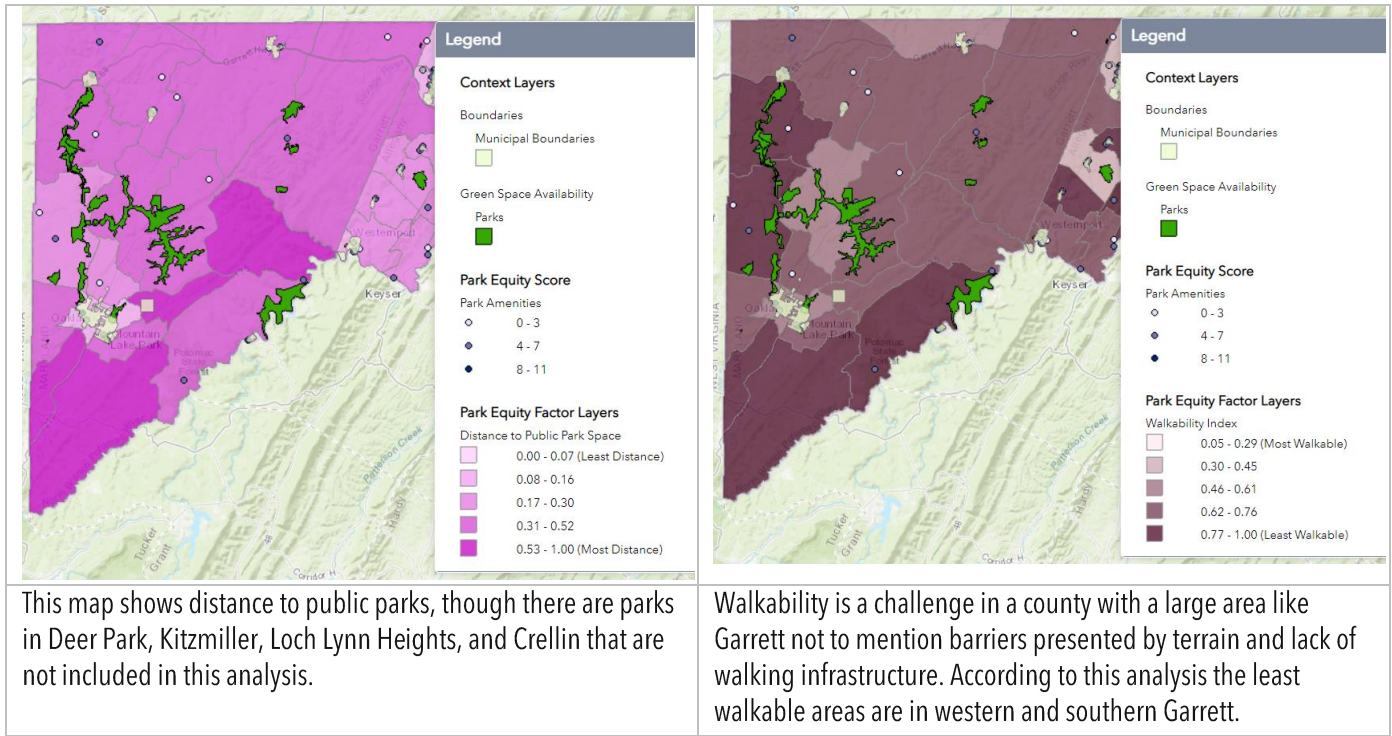
The highest concentration of children under 18 reside around the municipalities in Garrett County.



There is high concentration of adults over 65 in the Oakland and Eastern Garret and Southern Garrett County.



The populations are most dense in the Towns.



This plan’s implementation can increase park distance score, which is low, and make progress toward improving walking access to local parks is important.

To verify our conclusions of this analysis we referenced the 2021- 2024 Garrett County Health Inequalities Analysis, developed by the Garrett County Health Department.¹⁰ This report mirrored the low minority rates, and higher poverty rates. Though it’s worth noting “previous analysis of the region has focused on economic inequities, we are expanding the conversation to include racial and LGB inequities.... While these populations are small comparatively, these statistics present insurmountable difficulties for racial and sexual orientation minorities in our community and warrant further examination and consideration in developing equity-based practices to improve population health.”

The community is working toward making recreation more accessible to the economically disadvantaged. For example, in Spring 2022 the Garrett County Health Department is giving away Annual State Park passes, CARC passes, and Wildwood Athletic Center passes will be available for Garrett County residents while supplies last to provide direct access to fitness opportunities at no cost, removing a barrier for our most vulnerable residents.

Takeaway: Park and recreation facilities are adequate in Garrett County, though continuing to develop a county wide trail network and pedestrian access will increase equity to parks.

¹⁰2021- 2024 Garrett County Health Inequalities Analysis https://mygarrettcountry.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2021-2024-Garrett-County-Health-Inequalities-Analysis-1_compressed.pdf



MAP 12 MCHENRY PARK SENSORY ART INSTALLATION DESIGNED WITH THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED IN MIND

IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS

Administration

The Planning Department is responsible for organizing and administrating Maryland Department of Natural Resource (DNR) Program Open Space (POS) funding for Park and recreation development and acquisition projects. The Planning Department collaborates with the towns and organization to draft the Annual Plan and completing funding applications. The Planning Department oversees land preservation programs, and coordinates with various groups, and updates and implements the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. The Planning Commission, County Forestry Board, Ag Land Preservation Advisory Board, and the County Commissioners provide policy support, input, and guidance. Garrett County looks to work with the municipalities to apply for Land & Water Conservation Funds to supplement POS funding for larger projects.

Neither the County nor the municipalities have dedicated parks and recreation departments. The County depends on groups and organizations to operate and maintain County-owned parks.

CHALLENGES

The County and Towns’ lack of Parks & Recreation Departments means there are no dedicated staff to attend to parks, recreation, and trails related issues in the locally owned parks. In addition, the County and Towns rely on non-profits, and organizations like the Health Department, Garrett County Community Action, the Judy Center, and others to program events and activities in the parks. The Towns and County welcome use of their facilities for events. The Planning Department is working on developing a central map of all public recreation in the County along with a directory and possible calendar information to better plan, organize and market events and park sites.

If, at any point in time, the County takes on more responsibility for parks, trails and recreation facilities, the County will need to consider investing in creation of a Parks & Recreation agency with staffing.

BENEFITS

Residents and visitors seek out these trails, fishing, hunting, events, and other recreation enhancing the County’s tourism industry. Garrett County will continue to maintain and enhance parks and recreation systems for the environmental, economic, and health benefits for both residents and visitors.

Each year, visitors along with the residents substantially contribute to the County’s economy and their own health, while keeping the County in pristine condition. These active recreation and outdoor based recreation activities are vital for the health and wellbeing of the population and also to keep visitors coming back to the County.

TABLE 12 PROGRAM OPEN SPACE PROJECTS 2017 - 2021

FY	Town	Park	Project Description	Program Open Space 90%	Local 10%	Project Total Cost
2017	Town of Accident	Town Park East and West	Mulch for playground areas	\$1,890.00	\$20,332.20	\$22,222.20
2017	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	Acquire approximately 3.3 acre parcel	\$187.50		
2017	Town of Oakland	Bridge on trial near downtown	Restoration of walking bridge over Little Youghiogheny River	\$18,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00
2017	Town of Oakland	Armory/Community Center	Acoustic panel for the Oakland Community Center	\$12,150.00	\$1,350.00	\$13,500.00
2017	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Design of amphitheater at Broadford Stage/shell building	\$13,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$15,000.00
2017	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park	Replacement timbers	\$6,300.00	\$700.00	\$7,000.00
2017	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park	Replacement backboards	\$2,790.00	\$310.00	\$3,100.00

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

FY	Town	Park	Project Description	Program Open Space 90%	Local 10%	Project Total Cost
2017	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park	Refinish basketball and tennis courts	\$13,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$15,000.00
2017	Garrett County	Casselman Valley AYSO	Improvements to the road/walking path	\$2,322.00	\$258.00	\$2,580.00
2017	Garrett County	Casselman Valley AYSO	Used playground equipment purchase	\$900.00	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
2017	Garrett County	Casselman Valley AYSO	Stone, other material and equipment to install gravel parking area	\$3,946.50	\$438.50	\$4,385.00
2017	Garrett County	Garrett Co Board of Education	Northern Middle School tennis court improvements	\$12,960.00	\$1,440.00	\$14,400.00
2018	Town of Accident	Town Park East	Drainage trenches for ballfield	\$34,196.40	\$3,799.60	\$37,996.00
2018	Town of Oakland	Town of Oakland	Exercise area for dogs	\$32,130.00	\$3,570.00	\$35,700.00
2018	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Little League bleachers-Youth baseball field	\$4,320.00	\$480.00	\$4,800.00
2018	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Fencing and backstop-Oakland Softball league	\$16,393.50	\$1,821.50	\$18,215.00
2018	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	LED advertising sign	\$25,701.30	\$2,855.70	\$28,557.00
2018	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	Chain link fence	\$8,820.00	\$980.00	\$9,800.00
2018	Town of Loch Lynn H.	Athletic Complex	Security cameras	\$3,411.00	\$379.00	\$3,790.00
2018	Town of Loch Lynn H.	Wetlands Boardwalk	Educational signage	\$2,839.50	\$315.50	\$3,155.00
2018	Town of Loch Lynn H.	Athletic Complex	Eight protective bollards for lighting	\$796.50	\$88.50	\$885.00
2018	Garrett County	Garrett College	Replace field lights for the baseball field	\$9,900.00	\$1,100.00	\$11,000.00
2018	Garrett County	Garrett College	Install drainage pipe in the outfield	\$4,950.00	\$550.00	\$5,500.00
2018	Garrett County	Board of Education	Improvements at Southern High School baseball field	\$33,120.00	\$3,680.00	\$36,800.00
2018	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Security cameras	\$17,893.80	\$1,988.20	\$19,882.00
2018	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Four in-ground trash cans	\$1,440.00	\$160.00	\$1,600.00
2018	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Fencing around electric panels	\$2,781.00	\$309.00	\$3,090.00
2018	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Security cameras	\$7,138.80	\$793.20	\$7,932.00
2018	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Playground mulch	\$3,015.00	\$335.00	\$3,350.00
2019	Town of Accident	Town Park West	ADA Accessible Restroom	\$43,866.00	\$4,874.00	\$48,740.00
2019	Town of Oakland	Community Center-Oakland	Community Center Handicap Doors	\$15,139.67	\$1,682.19	\$16,821.86
2019	Town of Oakland	Glades Park-Oakland	Boardwalk Replacement	\$16,329.60	\$1,814.40	\$18,144.00
2019	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Little League Bleachers-Youth baseball field	\$17,229.60	\$1,914.40	\$19,144.00
2019	Garrett County	McHenry-Lions Park and Dog Park	Scoreboard, Restroom Upgrades, Trail and Drainage Upgrades	\$17,415.00	\$1,935.00	\$19,350.00
2019	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	ADA Accessible Restroom	\$32,926.50	\$3,658.50	\$36,585.00
2019	Town of Loch Lynn	Playground Wall-Loch Lynn	Retaining Wall	\$21,778.20	\$2,419.80	\$24,198.00

FY	Town	Park	Project Description	Program Open Space 90%	Local 10%	Project Total Cost
2019	Town of Loch Lynn	Playground Wall-Loch Lynn	Small Planter Bed	\$2,754.90	\$306.10	\$3,061.00
2019	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Replace Picnic Tables	\$7,200.00	\$800.00	\$8,000.00
2019	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Refinish Tennis Courts	\$34,200.00	\$3,800.00	\$38,000.00
2019	Town of Mountain Lake Park	Community Memorial Park	Priority 1-Projects 2 and 3-drainage, grading, wall, walkway, etc.	\$53,100.00	\$5,900.00	\$59,000.00
2019	Town of Mountain Lake Park	Community Memorial Park	Priority 2-Projects 1, 5 and 11 overview, trail and lawn	\$18,616.55	\$2,068.48	\$20,685.03
2019	Town of Friendsville	Parking Lot Along Rt. 742	Extension of Existing Parking Lot	\$18,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00
2021	Garrett Co Board of Ed	Northern High School	Football Field Turf	\$148,279.00	\$16,475.44	\$164,754.44
2021	Garrett Co Board of Ed	Southern High School	Football Field Turf	\$148,279.00	\$16,475.44	\$164,754.44
2020	Garrett College	Mosser Road Heritage Trail		\$45,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$50,000.00
2020	Town of Loch Lynn	Athletic Complex / Boardwalk Trail	Wetland Trail Interpretive Signs	\$4,572.86	\$508.10	\$5,080.95
2020	Grantsville	Community Park - Veteran's Memorial Walkway		\$22,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$25,000.00
2020	Town of Kitzmiller	Town Volleyball Court	Volleyball Court	\$6,308.33	\$700.93	\$7,009.25
2020	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Welcome Sign	\$1,237.50	\$137.50	\$1,375.00
2020	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	Pavilion Clean, Paint and Stain	\$1,350.00	\$150.00	\$1,500.00
2020	Garrett County	Fork Run Park	Concept Plan	\$67,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$75,000.00
2020	Town of Oakland	Oakland Community Center	Roof Repair/Replace	\$91,111.50	\$10,123.50	\$101,235.00
2020	Town of Oakland	Golf Club	Maintenance Shed Roof Repair/Replace	\$12,161.34	\$1,351.26	\$13,512.60
2020	Town of Oakland	B & O Museum	Outdoor Lighting Improvements	\$7,941.60	\$882.40	\$8,824.00
2020	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Stage/Amphitheater Sound Room Equipment	\$8,484.87	\$942.76	\$9,427.63

Progress from 2017

Table 12 above is a List of the Past Program Open Space Projects. Since the last update of the Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan the following projects have been completed:

Sang Run State Park - acquired 182 acres that supports diverse wildlife habitat and connects the park to the Youghiogheny River Natural Environment Area in Garrett County.

The acquisition of 1,986 acres in Garrett County will be managed as a new state park. Wolf Den Run State Park will provide a high-quality recreation experience and opportunity for off-highway/off-road vehicle riders. This purchase was made possible with a match from the National Park Service with a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. Between the municipal parks, state lands and handful of County-owned, privately maintained facilities, the County offers a plethora of opportunity for year-round outdoor recreation. The County has supported requests for new trails and updated facilities, like the artificial turf fields at both Northern and Southern High School. The Towns and County cooperate to update facilities.

Garrett Trails has continued their momentum to connect existing trail networks with the end goal of

having a trail network that covers most of the County and in parts can include a water trail (see all references to the Eastern Continental Divide Loop). Most notably, much work has been completed on the Meadow Mountain section which will eventually connect the Deep Creek State Park in the middle of the county with the town of Grantsville in the northern end of the county. Similarly, the State has also created trails for motorized off-road vehicles in Wolf Den, near Kitzmiller and St. Johns Rock. The County looks to cooperatively work with these groups to continue to provide trails to prevent conflicts with private landowners.

An Administrative Council composed of liaisons within the County, MDE and DNR has been specifically crafted for the implementation of a Watershed Management Plan¹¹ written for the Deep Creek watershed. The plan largely focuses on environmental stewardship but also contains elements relating to recreation. The establishment of this partnership is a model to be used in other watersheds and fosters a spirit of transparency and open communication with regards to projects, incentive programs and educational opportunities, not only between the agencies but also between the agencies and the public. The Garrett County Board of Education participates in the POS program and uses available funds to maintain their facilities that are open to the public. In fact, over \$1.1 million in funding over the past 5-years have provided the students and the communities around Northern and Southern High school with artificial turf fields for youth sports. They have effectively scheduled the use of their facilities with local organizations and sports teams to ensure maximum utilization. POS is also funding updates to Yough Glades Playground. Board of Education also shares its Annual Facilities Master Plan with the County every year to continue long term planning and coordination for funding.



FIGURE 28 PERFORMANCE & TICKET BOOTH MUSEUM AT THE 2021 THE VICTORIAN CHATAQUA CREDIT:VICTORIANCHAUTAUQUA.COM

PROGRAMMING

Developing robust parks and recreation opportunities for the community is not only the physical parks and capital improvements, another topic to be strengthened is programming. Garrett County and the Towns partner with the community and its agencies to provide programming.

For example, The Garrett County Health Department recently launched the GC In Motion¹² an initiative designed to increase opportunities for people to be physically active by removing barriers for Garrett County residents. This comprehensive program utilizes community collaboration and is specifically designed to keep people moving with a variety of activities in 2022! This includes stipends awarded to

¹¹ Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan Garrett County Board of County Commissioners and Maryland Department of Natural Resources <https://www.garrettcounty.org/resources/planning-land-development/pdf/Adopted%20DC%20Watershed%20Mgt%20Plan.pdf>

¹² A New Program Launches to Keep Garrett County Moving! <https://gogarrettcounty.com/a-new-program-launches-to-keep-garrett-county-moving/>

engage grassroots community organizations to create walking, biking, hiking, and running clubs. In addition, existing community organizations, agencies, and businesses are invited to apply for funding to host fitness opportunities.



FIGURE 29 GC IN MOTION PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

COUNTY GOALS

Access to public recreational open space and to a variety of active recreational opportunities promotes physical and mental health. Quality recreation facilities and opportunities enhance the quality of life for guests and visitors. In this regard, the provision of adequate recreational space and facilities is not simply a matter of providing for leisure time activities but is an essential part of maintaining public health, safety, and welfare, and promoting social and community cohesion. The County Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan Goals for Parks and Recreation remained the same for the 2017, 2012, 2005, and 1998 LPPR Plans. In this iteration of the plan, the County has updated the goals to recognize its accomplishments and to complement the County's Comprehensive Plan and the State's goals for parks and recreation. The Plan's public outreach, survey, and level of service analysis have informed the updates to the County's Park and recreation goals.

The County 2022 Parks and Recreation goals are as follows:

- 👉 GOAL 1: Provide diverse recreational experiences and opportunities readily accessible to residents and visitors, meeting current and future community needs.
- 👉 GOAL 2: Revitalize municipalities and community spaces to enhance residents' quality of life making Garrett County a desirable place to live work, play, and visit.
- 👉 GOAL 3: Maximize investments in public school facilities to support and complement community recreation opportunities to learn, play, and connect.
- 👉 GOAL 4: Promote non-profit organizations to provide inclusive recreation programming that contribute to the health and well-being of residents of all ages and abilities
- 👉 GOAL 5: Foster collaborative partnerships to leverage strengths and resources to expand, maintain, and promote an identifiable image of Garrett County recreation experiences for residents and tourists.
- 👉 GOAL 6: Expand the network of multi-use trails linking parks, schools, and community destinations to provide safe connections for transportation and recreation whilst decreasing the reliance on automobiles.
- 👉 GOAL 7: Determine the need for an oversight for County parks and recreation. Work with the local municipalities and other local agencies to collectively market, maintain and develop resources and services to provide the best recreational experience for residents and visitors of Garrett County.

The County is undertaking its update of the Comprehensive Plan and recreation, parks, and trails as a component of the plan to assure that growth areas have adequate facilities and facilities that continue to

be addressed to meet the community's recreation needs.

STATE GOALS

- 👁️ Make a variety of quality recreational environments and opportunities readily accessible to all of its citizens and thereby contribute to their physical and mental well-being.
- 👁️ 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.
- 👁️ Use state investment in parks, recreation, and open space to complement and mutually support the broader goals and objectives of local comprehensive/master plans.
- 👁️ To the greatest degree feasible, 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.
- 👁️ 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.
- 👁️ 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 and State Goals for Parks and Recreation Comparison

The County's and State's goals are aligned in addressing both specific and general aspects of recreation planning, such as preserving open space, natural resources, and meeting the needs of the community to make Garrett County and Maryland a place that is desirable to live, work and play. The County goals for parks and recreation mirror or slightly differ from the State's goals to promote access to recreation and encourage redeveloping facilities. Both sets of goals address access to recreational opportunities without reliance on the automobile.

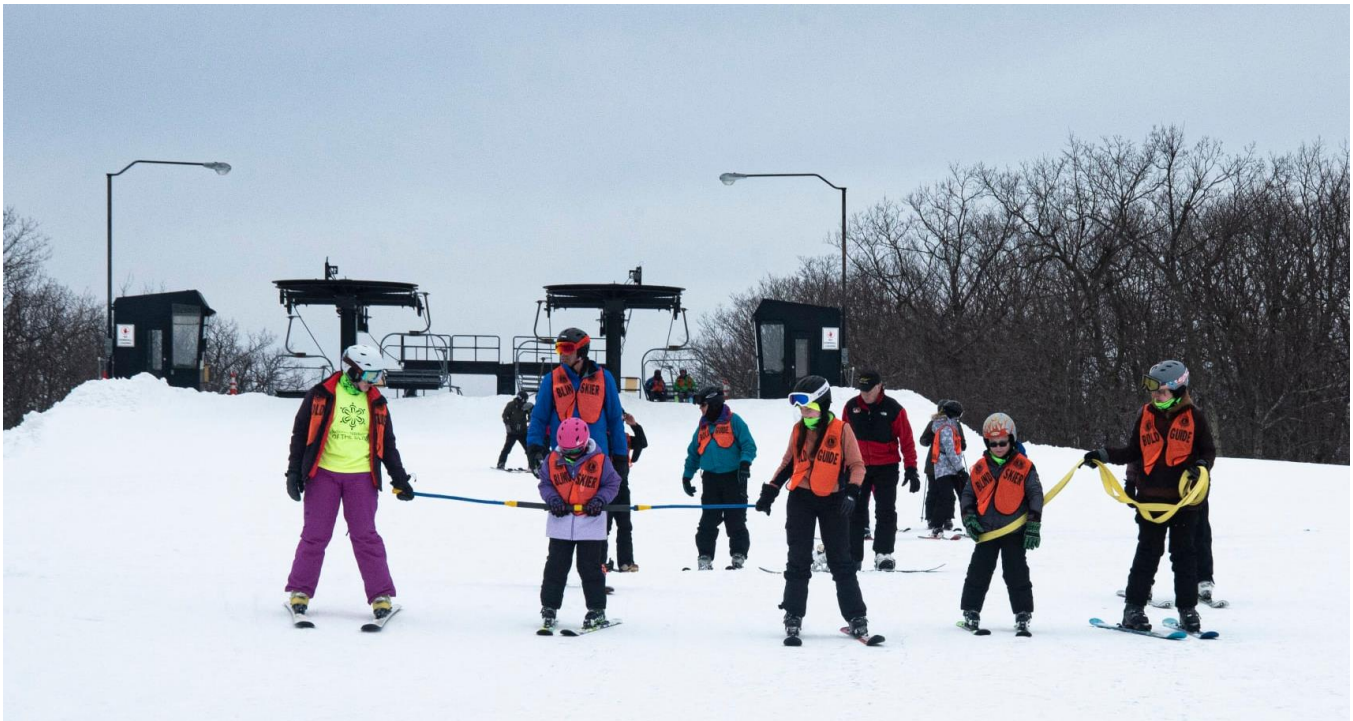


FIGURE 30 MCHENRY LIONS BLIND SKIER EVEN 2021

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The projects listed in the Capital Improvement Plan tables below note which parks and recreation goals they address.

Short Term FY 2022-2026

The 2022-2026 Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes future recreational projects from the input from public outreach sessions, organizations maintaining and developing parks, the Towns, and the County’s 2021 Transportation Priority Letter. The Parks and Recreation CIP contains only the current recreational proposals submitted by the County’s municipalities. Entries in the plan for FY 2022 include municipality projects in the FY 2022 Annual Plan for Program Open Space AND FY 2022 Local Parks and Playgrounds Grant.

The CIP projects in the table list the County’s recreations goals, to address the conclusions made from the public outreach and level of service analysis through the County’s seven recreation goals.

As illustrated in the County-wide Recreation Survey, many parks need new equipment and amenities, known as Capital Redevelopment. The County’s long-standing goal of improving existing parks accounts for much of the Program Open Space funding and Community Parks and Playgrounds funds where applicable.

Many of these projects improve access, through extending the times the facility can be used by adding lighting, weatherization improvements to extend seasons, or renovations that will provide better accessibility through universal design standards. Connectivity Trails and paths were requested from the public outreach, these community playground projects will try to incorporate walking paths and trails that communities can access without the reliance on automobiles.

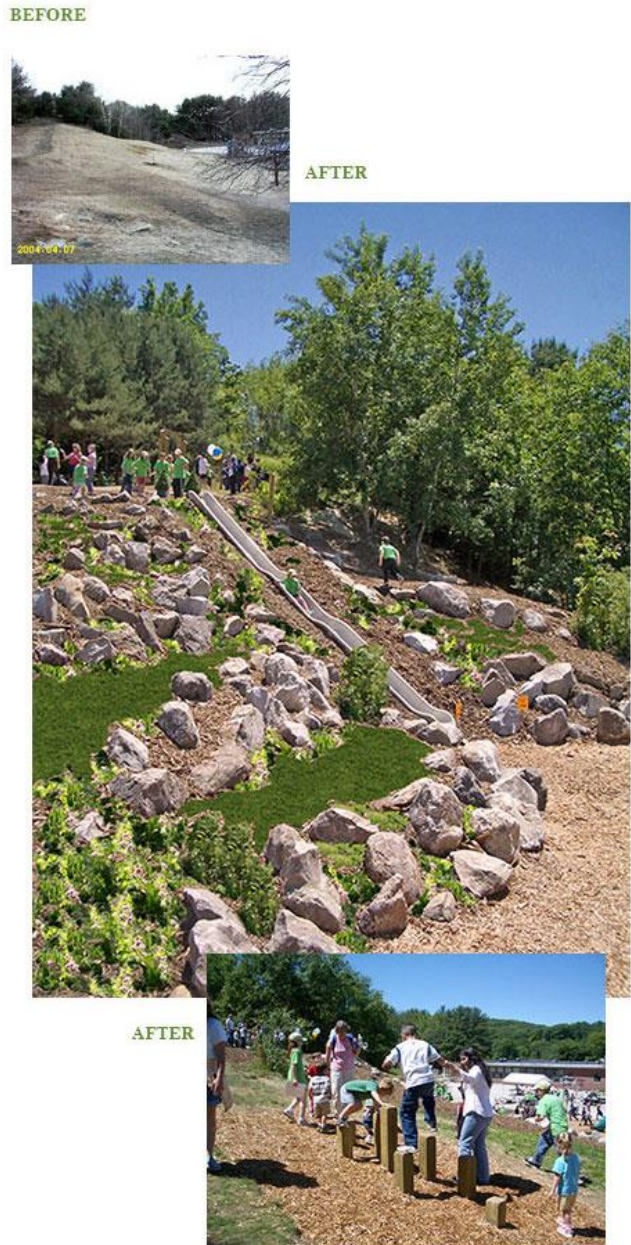


FIGURE 31 FIGURE 23 NATURE-BASED PLAYGROUND EXAMPLE FROM NATURALPLAYGROUNDS.COM

TABLE 13 SHORT TERM FY 22-26

Fiscal Year	Organization	Project	Estimate	Funding Source	Project Status	Goals
2022	Avilton Comm. Association	Avilton Community Park*ADA Accessible Restroom	\$48,433	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Friendsville	Friendsville Community Park Friendsville Batting Cage	\$7,732	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,
2022	Garrett College	Baseball Field Upgrades	\$7,700	POS/Other	Under Construction	2,
2022	Garrett County	Fork Run*Fork Run Parking and Access Improvements	\$4,000	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,4,5,6,7,

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

Fiscal Year	Organization	Project	Estimate	Funding Source	Project Status	Goals
2022	Garrett County Board of Ed.	Yough Glades Elementary School Replace Existing Playground Equipment	\$25,200	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,3,5,
2022	Garrett Trails	Fork Run Trail Improvements*Trail Bridge, Signs & Security Cameras	\$95,000	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,
2022	Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park Youth Sports Batting Cage	\$82,312	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,
2022	McHenry Lions Club	Lions Park Bicycle Track Fencing & Parking Improvements	\$2,800	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,4,5,6,7,
2022	McHenry Lions Club	Lions Park*McHenry Lions Park Pavilion and Bicycle Track	\$45,825	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,4,5,6,
2022	Mountain Lake Park	Woodell Park Basketball Lighting	\$3,550	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Accident	Town Park East ADA Swing & surface	\$3,500	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Accident	Town Park West ADA playground & site amenities	\$7,045	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Deer Park	Deer Park Community Park Parking lot paving	\$39,700	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park Improvements Field lighting system, landscaping, pavilion weather screening, and upgrade restroom	\$33,369	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Kitzmiller	Botanical Garden Park Improvements Restore Pond	\$179,500	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Loch Lynn	Athletic Field Lighting systems for two soccer fields	\$3,951	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Mountain Lake Park	Woddell Park Improvements–Upgrade basketball Court	\$314,820	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	B&O Museum Park Improvements Repaint Caboose	\$20,500	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Glades Park Pavilion Garage Doors Winterization & Site Improvements	\$4,500	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park Oakland Youth Baseball League Field Lighting & Boat house Renovation	\$36,000	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Mt. Fresh Garage Doors Phase II	\$187,900	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park Pavilion #1 Upgrades: Roof, Electrical, ADA Improvements	\$69,590	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Glades Park Basketball Courts Resurfacing & Pickleball	\$25,697	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Mt. Fresh Garage Doors	\$55,000	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park Parking Lot Paving	\$5,000	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Glades Park Pavilion Phase 3	\$7,500	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Mt. Fresh Mt Fresh Phase 3	\$1,200	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2022	Town of Oakland	Mt. Fresh Pavilion Garage Doors Phase 4	\$17,316	POS/Other	Under Construction	1,2,4,5,
2023	City of Frostburg	Accessible Fishing Pier	\$75,000	POS/other	Planning	1,2,5,6,
2023	Garrett County	Unifying Kiosks & Signs for County & Town Parks Phase 1	\$20,000	POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2023	Garrett County	Data Sharing & Park Directory		POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2023	Kitzmiller	ADA Picnic Tables	\$10,000	POS/Other	Preliminary	1,2,4,5,

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

Fiscal Year	Organization	Project	Estimate	Funding Source	Project Status	Goals
2023	Kitzmiller	Stencils for Riverwalk Trail Markings	\$1,000	POS/Other	Preliminary Estimate	1,2,4,5,
2023	Kitzmiller	Pavilion Roof Replacement	\$10,000	POS/Other	Preliminary Estimate	1,2,4,5,
2023	Loch Lynn Heights	Lighting Fields Phase II		POS/Other	Planning	1,2,4,5,
2023	Loch Lynn Heights	Restroom & Pavilion Accessibility		POS/Other	Planning	1,2,4,5,
2023	Mountain Lake Park	Bethel Center AME Attraction	\$15,000	POS/Other	Preliminary Estimate	1,2,4,5,
2023	Mountain Lake Park	Doggy Bag Trash Reception	\$1,000	POS/Other	Preliminary Estimate	1,2,4,5,
2023	Town of Grantsville	ADA Accessible Picnic Tables	\$15,000	POS/Other	Preliminary Estimate	1,2,4,5,
2023	Town of Oakland	Mountain Bike Skill Track	\$200,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,2,4,5,6,7,
2024	Deep Creek Lions Club	Paved multi-use path -	\$25,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2024	Garrett County	Marketing Design	\$15,000	Local	In-house	2,7
2024	Garrett County	Unifying Kiosks & Signs for County & Town Parks Phase 2	\$20,000	POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2024	Kitzmiller	Pavilion Restroom Renovation	\$30,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2024	Kitzmiller	Pickle ball Conversion	\$15,000	POS/Other	Preliminary Estimate	1,2,4,5,
2024	Kitzmiller	Portable Stage with Electric, PA	\$35,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2024	Kitzmiller	River Walk Surface Maintenance	\$50,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2024	Mountain Lake Park	Crystal Springs Boardwalk and Connection to Broadford Park	\$25,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2024	Mountain Lake Park	Woodell Park Benches and picnic tables	\$15,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2024	Mountain Lake Park	Security Cameras	\$10,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2024	Town of Grantsville	Teen-focused Project	\$300,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2024	Garrett Co Board of Ed.	Northern Middle Tennis & Basketball Court Resurfacing	\$10,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,3,
2024	Garrett Co Board of Ed.	Northern High School Tennis Court Resurfacing	\$8,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,3,
2025	Deep Creek Lions Club	Disc golf course	\$20,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2025	Garrett County	Unifying Kiosks & Signs for County & Town Parks Phase 3	\$20,000	POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2025	Kitzmiller	Pavilion Lighting	\$60,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2025	Loch Lynn Heights	Modernize Play equipment	\$300,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2025	Mountain Lake Park	Crystal Springs Boardwalk and Connection to Broadford Park	\$100,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2025	Mountain Lake Park	Renovate Bob Damon Park	\$10,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2025	Mountain Lake Park	Trash receptacles	\$5,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2025	Town of Grantsville	Backboards for tennis Courts	\$5,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,

Fiscal Year	Organization	Project	Estimate	Funding Source	Project Status	Goals
2025	Garrett County	Trail Section 1 - Fort Alice to Swallow Falls Rd	\$1,100,000	State/Fed	Cost Estimate	1,4,5,6,
2025	Garrett Co Board of Ed.	Camp Hickory Pool Renovation	\$100,000	Local	Planning	1,3,
2026	Deep Creek Lions Club	Dog park lighting and expansion	\$40,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2026	Deep Creek Lions Club	Reconstructed pioneer-era log cabin	\$30,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,4,5,
2026	Garrett County	Unifying Kiosks & Signs for County & Town Parks Phase 4	\$20,000	POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2026	Kitzmiller	Pavilion Parking and Accessible Retrofits	\$10,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2026	Kitzmiller	River Walk Surface Maintenance	\$50,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2026	Loch Lynn Heights	Maintain Boardwalk	\$20,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2026	Mountain Lake Park	Crystal Springs Boardwalk and Connection to Broadford Park	\$100,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2026	Mountain Lake Park	Tennis Court Improvements - Weather Cover	\$300,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2026	Mountain Lake Park	Shade for Bob Damon Park - trees and structures	\$100,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2026	Town of Grantsville	Pavilion Accessibility Retrofits	\$20,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2026	Garrett County	Fork Run Connection to Yough River Trail	\$10,000	State/Fed	Cost Estimate	1,4,5,6,
2026	Garrett Co Board of Ed.	Northern High School Stadium Lighting	\$400,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,3,
2026	Garrett Co Board of Ed.	Southern High School Stadium Lighting	\$400,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,2,3,

TABLE 14 5-10 YEAR FY 2027-2031

5-10 Year FY 2027-2031

Fiscal Year	Organization	Project	Estimate	Funding Source	Project Status	Goals
2027	Deep Creek Lions Club	Playground	\$200,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2027	Deep Creek Lions Club	Bathroom utility building for southern park area	\$60,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2027	Garrett County	Centralized scheduling system for County & Town Parks	\$15,000	POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2027	Kitzmiller	Kitzmiller School Modern Play Equipment	\$300,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,
2027	Kitzmiller	Children's Park Surface & Drainage Repairs	\$50,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,
2027	Mountain Lake Park	Renovate Building at Bob Damon Park	\$40,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2027	Mountain Lake Park	135 Trail/ Ped bridge	\$2,000,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2027	Town of Grantsville	Connection to Main Street	\$50,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2027	Town of Grantsville	Ultimate Frisbee	\$15,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2027	Garrett County	Connecting Oakland to Herrington Manor	\$500,000	State/Fed	ROW Acquisition	1,2,4,5,6,
2027	Garrett County	Trail Section 4 - Kendell to Friendsville	\$200,000	State/Fed	Cost Estimate	1,4,5,6,
2027	Garrett County	Oakland-Sang Run Road Pedestrian Improvements	\$20,000	State/Fed	Cost Estimate	1,4,5,6,
2028	Deep Creek Lions Club	Climbing boulder	\$30,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

2028	Kitzmiller	Nature-Based Play Area Town Park	\$75,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,
2028	Kitzmiller	River Walk Surface Maintenance	\$50,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,6,
2028	Mountain Lake Park	Lighting for Tennis Court	\$100,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2028	Mountain Lake Park	Walking Track Bob Damon	\$7,500	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2028	Town of Oakland	400' trail (Back Bone Shaker) in Broadford	\$20,000	POS/Other	Planning	1,2,4,5,6,
2028	Garrett County	Trails Connecting Friendsville to Oakland	\$500,000	State/Fed	ROW & Design	1,2,4,5,6,
2028	Garrett County	Trails Connecting Swallow Falls Rd to Sang Run Rd	\$60,000	State/Fed	Cost Estimate	1,4,5,6,
2029	Deep Creek Lions Club	Soccer field	\$75,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2029	Mountain Lake Park	Update Play Equipment Bob Damon	\$150,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2030	Deep Creek Lions Club	Covered basketball court	\$45,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2030	Kitzmiller	River Walk Surface Maintenance	\$50,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,6,
2030	LochLynn Heights	Maintain Boardwalk	\$20,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,6,
2030	Mountain Lake Park	Develop Natural area/ boardwalk at Conservation area	\$250,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2030	Mountain Lake Park	Basketball Court Conversion	\$50,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2030	Garrett County	Trails Connecting Friendsville Park to Old Morgantown Rd W	\$500,000	State/Fed	Cost Estimate	1,2,4,5,6,

10-15 Year FY 2032-2036

TABLE 15 10-15 YEAR FY 2032-2036

Fiscal Year	Organization	Project	Estimate	Funding Source	Project Status	Goals
2027	Deep Creek Lions Club	Playground	\$200,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2027	Deep Creek Lions Club	Bathroom utility building for southern park area	\$60,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,4,5,
2027	Garrett County	Centralized scheduling system for County & Town Parks	\$15,000	POS/Other	Planning	2,5,6,7,
2027	Kitzmiller	Kitzmiller School Modern Play Equipment	\$300,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,
2027	Kitzmiller	Children's Park Surface & Drainage Repairs	\$50,000	POS/Other		1,2,4,5,
2027	Mountain Lake Park	Renovate Building at Bob Damon Park	\$40,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2027	Mountain Lake Park	135 Trail/ Ped bridge	\$2,000,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,6,
2027	Town of Grantsville	Connection to Main Street	\$50,000	POS/Other	Conceptual	1,2,4,5,
2032	LochLynn Heights	Community Building/ Center	\$1,000,000	POS/Other	2032	1,2,4,5,

PARKS & RECREATION ACQUISITION GOALS

Garrett County does not have defiance's that require acquiring acreage based on the needs and equity analyses. However, the County looks to continue to improve connectivity and livability with the development and re-development of parks and trails. The tables below lay out land acquisition plans for the duration of this LPPRP planning period.

TABLE 16 2017 ACERAGE GOALS

Open Space and Park & Recreation Land Goals in 2017	Type & Location	Acres Needed	Acreage Acquired
Oakland	Pocket Park, Oak & 2nd St	0.1	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Oakland	Pocket Park, Alder St @ Englander's	0.1	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Oakland	Pocket Park, 2nd St	0.1	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Oakland	Pocket Park, Alder St @ Gregg's	0.1	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Loch Lynn Heights	Parcel 7 or 11	1.1	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Grantsville	Old Maranatha Church Ballfield	2.5	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Grantsville	SHA Parklet @ Rt 669 & Rt 40	0.6	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Deer Park	Deer Park Hotel Rd,	1-1.5	0 – moved to 2022 Goals
Mountain Lake Park	Purchase GCC property	0.2	0.2

TABLE 17 2022 OPEN SPACE AND PARK & RECREATION LAND ACQUISITION PLAN

Open Space and Park & Recreation Land Acquisition Plan	Type & Location	Acres Needed	Plan for Meeting Need
Oakland	Pocket Park, Oak & 2nd St	0.1	Work with Town and Business Owners
Oakland	Pocket Park, Alder St @ Englander's	0.1	Work with Town and Business Owners
Oakland	Pocket Park, 2nd St	0.1	Work with Town and Business Owners
Oakland	Pocket Park, Alder St @ Gregg's	0.1	Work with Town and Business Owners
Loch Lynn Heights	Parcel 7 or 11	1.1	Collaborate with Town
Grantsville	Old Maranatha Church Ballfield	2.5	Collaborate with Town
Grantsville	SHA Parklet @ Rt 669 & Rt 40	0.6	Collaborate with Town
Deer Park	Deer Park Hotel Rd, 1 - 1.5 Acres	1-1.5	Collaborate with Town
Site for Indoor Recreation	Near Population Centers	5-20	Develop Plans to meet County's indoor Recreation needs
Trails Connecting Friendsville to Oakland		TBD	
Connecting Oakland to Herrington Manor		TBD	



FIGURE 32 PINEY RESERVOIR SHORE LINE - PLANS FOR ACCESSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS



CHAPTER 3 NATURAL RESOURCE LAND CONSERVATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Garrett County is unique in the State because 90% of its land (377,496 acres) is resource land including 284,457 acres of forest 83% of the total County size 419,293 acres¹³. Indeed, recreational activities of County and visiting citizens are a significant factor supporting its economy. While these resource lands provide scenic beauty, sustain the existing ecosystem, support carbon sequestration, they contribute to the local economy through the forest products, and tourism industries. Benefits of the resource lands include improving land resilience, carbon dioxide sequestration, filtration of both air and water, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, reduced vulnerability to fire and insect threats and protection to environmentally sensitive areas. These lands require continued and enhanced preservation attention of private landowners as well as County, State, and Federal sources.

The former location of the Mountain Lake owned by the Town of Mountain Lake Park, is undeveloped conservation land near Broadford Park; there are existing plans to create a boardwalk and interpretive trails in this area. In addition, the Town of Mountain Lake Park owns 50 acres of conservation land adjacent to the Loch Lynn trail. There is opportunity to develop this conservation land for people to connect with nature and build the system of local trails.

Due to the high proportions of open space and protected land, Garrett County has no challenges providing citizens with opportunities to engage in natural spaces. Citizens and visitors to our County can recreate in the many State, municipal, or privately managed parks, mentioned in the previous chapter. Garrett County offers scenery enhanced by the open space protected under various preservation and easement programs, or they can choose to learn more about agriculture, culture, and history through various agritourism, historical and interpretive history opportunities. While existing opportunities abound, where additional opportunities may present themselves, especially regarding education, and tourism, the County will help facilitate bringing those opportunities to fruition.

FORESTED MANAGEMENT

Private and cooperate ownership of Garrett County’s forests account for 68% of the land cover and 49% of those forests are enrolled in a Forest Stewardship Plan¹⁴, either through the MD DNR - Forest Service or through a consulting forester. A Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) helps landowners identify and understand the value of their forestland and better predict the effects of any resource harvesting or disturbance of the land. Managing forest resources properly ensures sustainability of a natural living system and a range of possible benefits beyond the simple beauty of nature, including improved water and air quality, wildlife viewing and habitat for a variety of species, hunting and trout fishing opportunities, timber harvest, as well as fruit and nut production.

Potomac, Garrett, and Savage River State Forests are dual-certified by the two major internationally recognized forest certification systems for public land, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). The certification process involves a detailed review of the



¹³ 2010 Census Internal Boundaries, url: [census.gov/geographies/reference-files/2010/geo/state-area.htm](https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/2010/geo/state-area.htm)

¹⁴ 2021 Totals from the Garrett County Forest Service office

environmental, social, and economic values of the forests so they can remain healthy and viable into the future.

The Maryland Forestry Economic Adjustment Strategy (EAS) Report¹⁵ outlines how Maryland can foster a resilient and sustainable transition by rebuilding and modernizing the forest products industry. This reports highlights Maryland’s unique assets, resource diversity, and environmentally engaged consumers to build sustainable markets for Maryland’s forest product entrepreneurs.

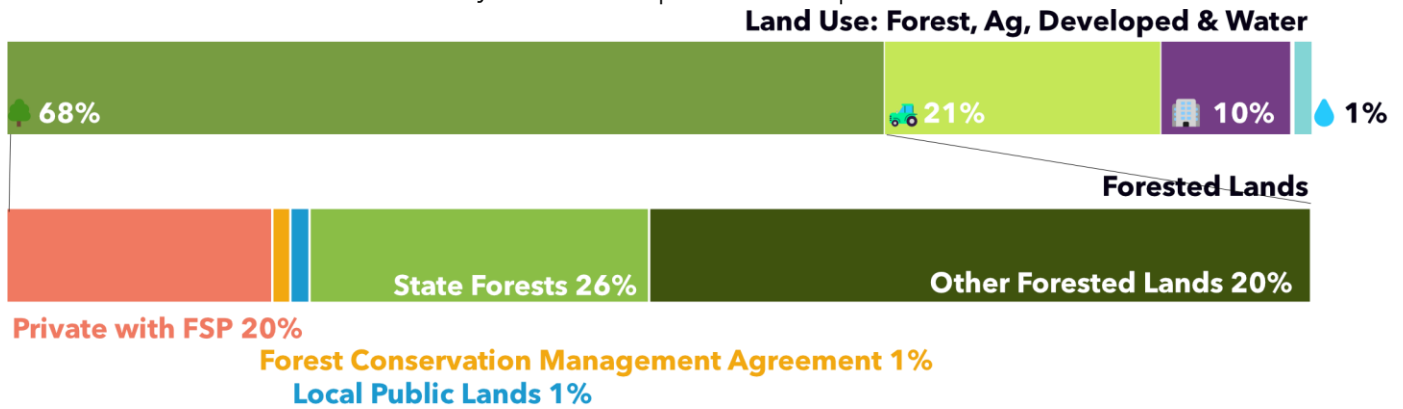


FIGURE 33 MANGED FORESTS IN GARRETT COUNTY

PROTECTED AREAS

Wild Lands

State Designated Wild Lands are designated by the General Assembly as wildlands areas. These lands are managed for passive recreation such as, including hiking, hunting, fishing, bird watching, horseback riding and nature interpretation. Ten of the State’s 38 designated wildlands are in Garrett County totaling 15,909 acres. Most of these sites are classified as Type 1, meaning a primitive area which by its size and location is in effect untouched by urban civilization and can offer the experience of solitude and self-reliance. Type 1 wildlands are usually lands located at higher elevations that protect watersheds and are ecologically vulnerable to human interferences.¹⁶

TABLE 18 STATE WILD LANDS

Site	Type	Project Acreage	Location	County
Big Savage Mountain	1	2,879	Savage River SF	Garrett
Bear Pen	1	1,517	Savage River SF	Garrett
Middle Fork	1	2,932	Savage River SF	Garrett
High Rock	1	650	Savage River SF	Garrett
Savage Ravines	1	2,789	Savage River SF	Garrett
Upper White Rock	1	300	Garrett SF	Garrett
Backbone Mountain	1	1,706	Potomac SF/Savage River SF	Garrett
Maple Lick Run	1	600	Potomac SF	Garrett
Puzzley Run	1	457	Savage River SF	Garrett
South Savage	2	2,079	Savage River SF	Garrett
		15,909		

¹⁵ Economic Adjustment Strategy for MD’s Forest Products Sector-Full Report October 2021 <http://wmrcd.org/economic-adjustment-strategy-for-mds-forest-products-sector-summary-document-available-now/>

¹⁶ COMAR for Wild Lands <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/08/08.01.02.02.htm>

Youghiogheny Wild and Scenic Corridor

The Youghiogheny River Corridor is a unique environmentally sensitive area and recreational resource and has been protected by the State through the Scenic and Wild Rivers System Act, since 1968. In 1971, the Youghiogheny River was designated as a Scenic River into the State System. In 1976, a 21-mile-long segment, from Miller's Run just north of Oakland to the town of Friendsville was designated as Maryland's first Wild River. This corridor is managed by the Maryland Park Service to preserve the wild and natural scenic, geologic, historic, ecologic, recreational, fish, wildlife, and cultural resources. The remaining portions of the Youghiogheny River Corridor (YRC) are designated as the Scenic River, which is defined as a "free-flowing river whose shoreline and related land are



FIGURE 34 YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER CREDIT: GARRETT TRAILS

predominantly forested, agricultural, grassland, marshland, or swampland with a minimum of development for at least 2 miles of the river length"¹⁷ A Wild River is defined a "free-flowing river whose shoreline and related land are undeveloped, inaccessible except by trail, or predominantly primitive in a natural state for a least 4 miles of the river length"¹⁸

More details of the management of the YRC can be found in 1996 Maryland Scenic and Wild Rivers¹⁹: The Youghiogheny. The County's responsibility in this Plan was to form the Youghiogheny River Advisory Board (YRAB), participate as a voting member of the Board, participate as an officer on the Board on a rotating basis, and to provide technical assistance to the Board. The YRAB is responsible for carrying out the management plan and performs a key role for citizen input in the management decisions.

Deep Creek Lake Watershed

The Deep Creek Lake area is a unique and special place. The 3,900-acre freshwater lake is the largest in Maryland and is set amid scenic mountains and stream valleys. The combination of water, mountains, and forests in the Lake area offers year-round recreation opportunities but is most popular during the summer months. The Deep Creek Lake area has become the County's most important economic engine and is an increasingly popular place for new year-round and seasonal housing. Owned by the state of Maryland, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for managing the lake and buffer zone. However, many concerns extend beyond the authority of the State-owned property, and a result, the County, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and DNR, along with other stakeholders prepared the Deep Creek Lake Watershed Management Plan (WMP), which was adopted in 2016. As of the writing of this Plan, the WMP remains the most significant plan relative to the future water quality and economic vitality of the Lake. The Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan serves as a comprehensive assessment of community issues about land use, water quality, recreation, stormwater, septic and

¹⁷ [Natural Resources Article, 8-402(d)(2)].

¹⁸ [Natural Resources Article, 8-402(d)(3)].

¹⁹ 1996 Maryland Scenic and Wild Rivers¹⁹: The Youghiogheny https://spcwater.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Yough_WildScenic_1996.pdf

sewerage, and impacts from growth within the Deep Creek Lake Watershed. It proposes recommendations for policy changes, restoration actions, best management practices, and public outreach to address these concerns. Even with the modest growth, over the years, the Deep Creek Lake community, the County and DNR have shown a growing interest in ensuring that the quality and recreational value of the lake is maintained.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The WMP provides a course for protecting, enhancing, and restoring the resources of the Deep Creek watershed. The plan sets forth strategic goals along with the needed action and a timeframe for addressing them. Some actions are already completed and underway through State or County management. Most importantly perhaps, has been the progress in establishing the organizational infrastructure to advance and implement the goals, objectives, and strategies of the WMP. First and foremost was the establishment of the Administrative Council (AC), which is comprised of representatives of the three main governmental agencies with regulatory control within the watershed – Garrett County, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The AC was formalized via the signing of an initial Memorandum of Understanding in 2016 and a signing of a second Memorandum of Understanding in 2018, which continued the agency collaboration. The third Memorandum of Understanding expires on February 2023. The primary charge of the AC is to oversee the implementation of the WMP by ensuring project design, funding, and oversight is provided and administered by the appropriate individuals in every agency. In addition, AC representatives attend meetings of other local organizations to educate others on the environmental and economic importance of the Lake and its watershed, to provide information on resources to advance the WMP and to coordinate activities as needed. The AC meets monthly and provides an Annual Report to the Garrett County Commissioners. Garrett County is looking to fill a Watershed Coordinator position to serve as staff to the AC and to also act as the liaison between the AC and local stakeholders.

EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The WMP recognized the importance of engaging private property owners to encourage voluntary best management practices within the watershed rather than relying on a top-down regulatory approach. The AC also recognized the importance of receiving advisory input from citizens regarding the opportunities to improve communication through public education, information exchange and citizen engagement. As such, in 2017 the Educational Advisory Committee (EAC) was formed to continually assess the community’s communication and outreach needs and to report those needs to the AC. The EAC is comprised of 8-10 volunteers representing agriculture, business, education, forestry, marketing, recreation, and property owners within the watershed.

MARYLAND’S STATE LAKES PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FUND

During the 2018 Maryland legislative session, Senator George Edwards and Delegate Wendell Beitzel spearheaded SB 501 and HB 801 and Governor Hogan approved \$1,000,000 annually for three years for the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund. In the 2022 legislative session, another three years of \$1 million annually was added to the Fund.

These funds are intended to protect and restore Maryland State-owned or managed lakes. The Department of Natural Resources was tasked with developing a budget and



projects for best utilizing these funds in coordination with local governments, organization, and citizens. The purpose of the funds is to protect State-owned lakes by removing sediment, treating contaminated sediment, preventing the spread of invasive species, improving ecological and recreational value, and taking any other action deemed necessary to protect the lakes.

Deep Creek Lake, as the largest lake in Maryland and the economic engine for western Maryland received approximately \$1.5 million for protection and restoration activities over the first three years of the program. Specifically, the funds provided Deep Creek Lake have supported the chemical treatment for eradicating *Hydrilla*, an invasive aquatic vegetation, offsetting homeowner costs for installing shoreline stabilization structures for controlling sediment erosion and providing fish habitat.

Other Garrett County lakes available to receive funding from the Fund are Herrington Lake, New Germany Lake and Savage River Reservoir.

DEEP CREEK LAKE WATERSHED FOUNDATION

During the development of the WMP, it became apparent to the Steering Committee formulating the plan that the County, DNR and/or MDE would not be able to provide or sustain the funding necessary to implement the efforts, programs and projects recommended in the WMP. To address this need, the Deep Creek Watershed Foundation (the Foundation) was formed in 2016. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization whose goal is to engage in fundraising activities to sponsor educational programs, to support scientific initiatives and to apply for grants in furtherance of implementing the goals of the WMP. To this end, the Foundation has raised funds for several projects that advance the WMP.

GOALS

Natural resource conservation lands provide many environmental and social benefits including natural filtration of air and water, outdoor recreation opportunities, economic and public health benefits, and wildlife habitat and biodiversity. Preserving natural resources sustains a functioning ecosystem, which in turn provides benefits to all humans, including but not limited to improved resilience, reduced vulnerability, improved sediment transport and better water quality.

FIGURE 35 FIGURE 33 BOATING ON DEEP CREEK LAKE

Garrett County's Sensitive Areas Goal as stated in the Sensitive Areas chapter of the County's 2008 Comprehensive Plan is to "continue to protect Garrett County's sensitive environmental resources and natural features". The 2017 Garrett County LPPRP reiterated this goal and the following objectives for achieving the goal:

- 🌿 Limit development in and near sensitive environmental areas, including steep slopes, streams, wetlands, 100-year floodplains, and the habitats of threatened or endangered species.
- 🌿 Conserve agricultural and forest resource land.
- 🌿 Protect scenic resources.
- 🌿 Support increased use of soil and water conservation practices.
- 🌿 Preserve 20,000 acres of farmland by 2020.
- 🌿 Protect public wellhead resource areas.
- 🌿 Continue to provide public input and information to protect resources through existing Board and groups.

The State goals for natural resource lands conservation preservation are as follows:

- 🌿 Identify, protect, and restore lands and waterways in Maryland that support important aquatic and terrestrial natural resources and ecological functions, through combined use of the following techniques:
 - Public land acquisition and stewardship.
 - Private land conservation easements and stewardship practices through purchased or donated easement programs.

- Local land use management plans and procedures that conserve natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas and minimize impacts to resource lands when development occurs.



FIGURE 36 POTOMAC RIVER AT KITZMILLER, MD

- Support incentives for resource-based economies that increase retention of forests, wetlands, or agricultural lands.
 - Avoidance of impacts on natural resources of publicly funded infrastructure development projects; and
 - Appropriate mitigation response, commensurate with the value of the affected resource.
- 🌿 Focus conservation and restoration activities on priority areas, according to a strategic framework such as the Targeted Ecological Areas (TEAs) in GreenPrint (which is not to be confused with the former easement program also called GreenPrint).
 - 🌿 Conserve and restore species of concern and important habitat types that 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.)
 - 🌿 Develop a more comprehensive inventory of natural resource lands and environmentally sensitive areas to assist state and local implementation programs.
 - 🌿 Establish measurable objectives for natural resource conservation and an integrated state/local strategy to achieve them through state and local implementation programs.
 - 🌿 Assess the combined ability of State and local programs to achieve the following:
 - Expand and connect forests, farmlands, 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 forestland base and forest resource industry, emphasizing the economic viability of privately owned forestland.

Progress to date

The County maintains the 2017 goals in this update to the LPPRP and continues to work towards them mainly through the administration of several adopted Ordinances, which are listed in total in Section 5 of this Chapter. The Sensitive Areas Ordinance helps conserve important natural features by providing regulations regarding steep slopes; stream buffers; wetlands; floodplains; source water protection areas and habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species. Garrett County’s Floodplain Management Ordinance, Stormwater Management Ordinance, and Sediment & Erosion Control Ordinance also help to protect important natural resources and provide for increased use of soil and water conservation practices. Conservation of agricultural land and protection of farmland are discussed in the next chapter. County goals mostly complement the State Goals. An example of cooperation towards achieving these shared goals is evidenced by the County, MDE, and DNR partnering to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan for Deep Creek Lake. Completed in 2014 and updated in 2016, The Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan will serve as a comprehensive, best practices guide to protect the lake’s sensitive natural resources and address water quality and recreational activities. One of the goals of the Plan was to “manage stormwater infrastructure to decrease pollution from both existing and proposed development to ensure healthy watershed conditions”. To help achieve this goal, the County completed a stormwater assessment of the North Glade Watershed that identified locations of excessive erosion, their sources, and recommended solutions for remediation. The intent of the County is to obtain a model for assessment that can be repeated in other sub watersheds in the future.

Inventory of Protected Natural Resource Lands

TABLE 19 PROTECTED LANDS ACRES BY CATEGORY

Protection Type	Acres	% Of Total County Area = 419,667.2 Acres
MALPF	8,890.5	2.118%
MET	2,488	0.583%
Private Cons. Orgs.	4,236	1.009%
Rural Legacy	1,653.59	0.394%
POS Stateside Conservation Easements	1,225.58	0.292%
Next Gen. Farmland Acquisition Program (MARBIDCO)	0	0.000%
ISTEA/ Forest Legacy/ CREP/ FRPP-ACEP	0	0.000%
TOTAL Under Easement	16,922.17	4.032%
LPPRP Local Parks and Recreation (incl. Local-Side POS)	1,224.80	0.292%
DNR State Land Inventory	90,332	21.525%
LPPRP Federal Park and Conservation Lands	3,164	0.754%
Total	128,670	30.660%

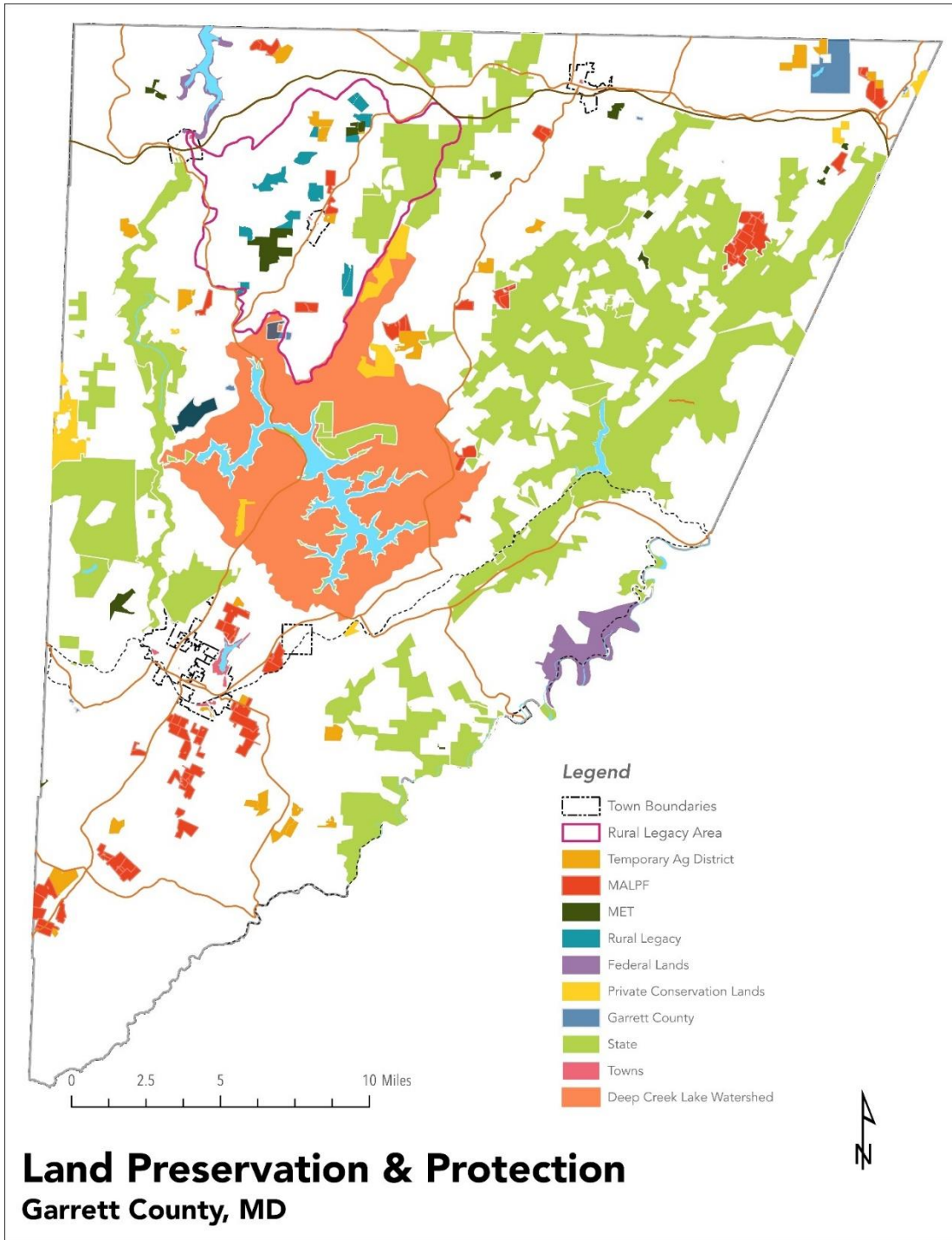
Over 30% of Garrett County’s area is preserved and protected. The largest category is DNR State Land Inventory 21.525% and 90,332 acres.

State Resources Lands Inventory

Site Name	Federal, State, Local acres	Description / Outdoor Recreation Amenities
Bear Creek Hatchery Fish Mgt. Area	113	Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Big Run State Park	300	Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Casselman River Bridge State Park	4	Hiking, nature watching, hunting

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

Cunningham Swamp Wildlife Mgt. Area	328		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Deep Creek Lake NRMA	4707		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Deep Creek Lake State Park	1169		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Elder Hill FT	1		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Fulcher Smith Conservation Area (MET)	70		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Garrett State Forest	7,741.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Herrington Manor State Park	365.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Jennings Randolph	7.0		Supports fishery resources
Mt. Nebo Wildlife Management Area	1,854		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
New Germany State Park	504.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
North Branch Potomac Fish Mgt. Area	279		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Piney Reservoir		1,371	Fishing, drinking water
Potomac State Forest	10,836.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Sang Run State Park	264.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Savage River Reservoir		360	Habitat protection
Savage River State Forest	55,288.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Swallow Falls State Park	257.0		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Wolf Den ORV Trails	2,042.0		Hiking, nature watching, ORV Trails
Youghiogheny Wild River NEA	4,180		Hiking, nature watching, hunting
Total Acreage	90,332	1,731	

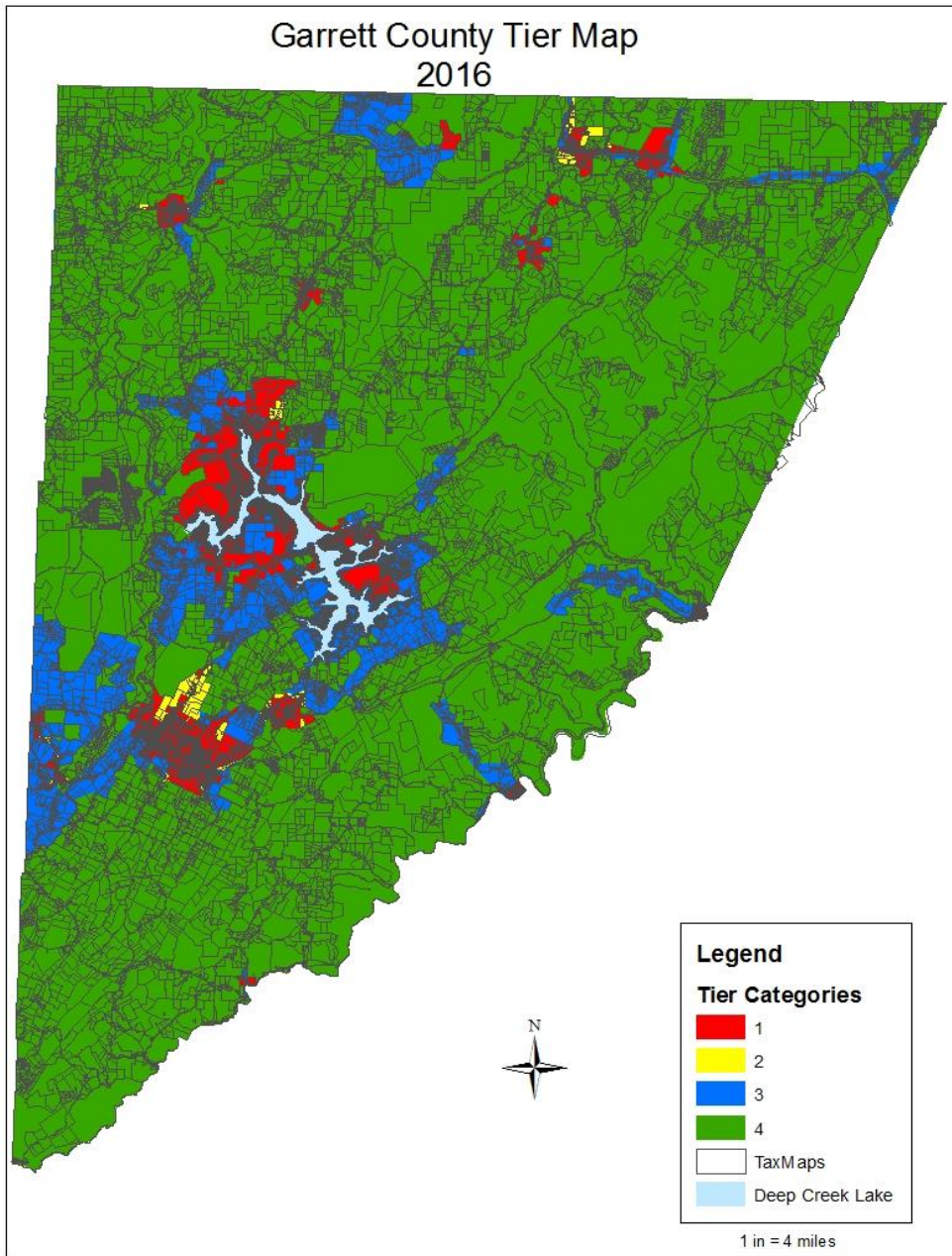


MAPPING

Tier Map

The Maryland General Assembly approved the Sustainable Growth & Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 (Senate Bill 236) during the 2012 General Assembly session. The law, which took effect on July 1, 2012, is sometimes referred to as the Septic Bill since it seeks to limit the spread of residential development on septic systems.

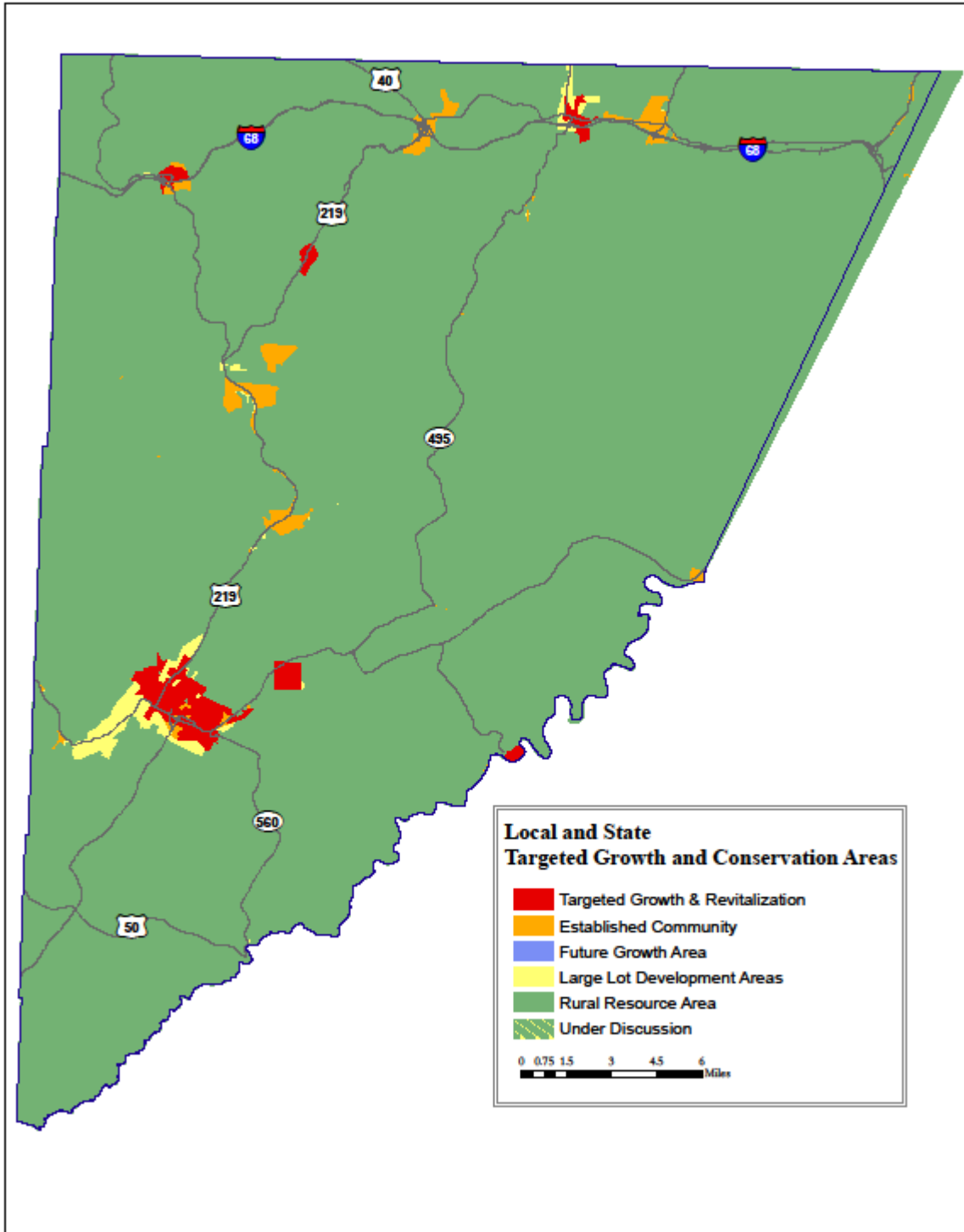
The Act required all jurisdictions, including Garrett County, to adopt land use categories called Tiers. The Tiers were created based on certain criteria in the Act that established where major and minor residential subdivisions may be located and what type of sewerage system will serve them. No major subdivision (greater than 7 lots) can be located in lands designated as Tier 4. All subdivisions submitted on or after December 31, 2012 must comply with the Tier Map and other provisions of the Act.



MAP 14 TIER MAP 2012

Targeted Growth and Conservation Areas

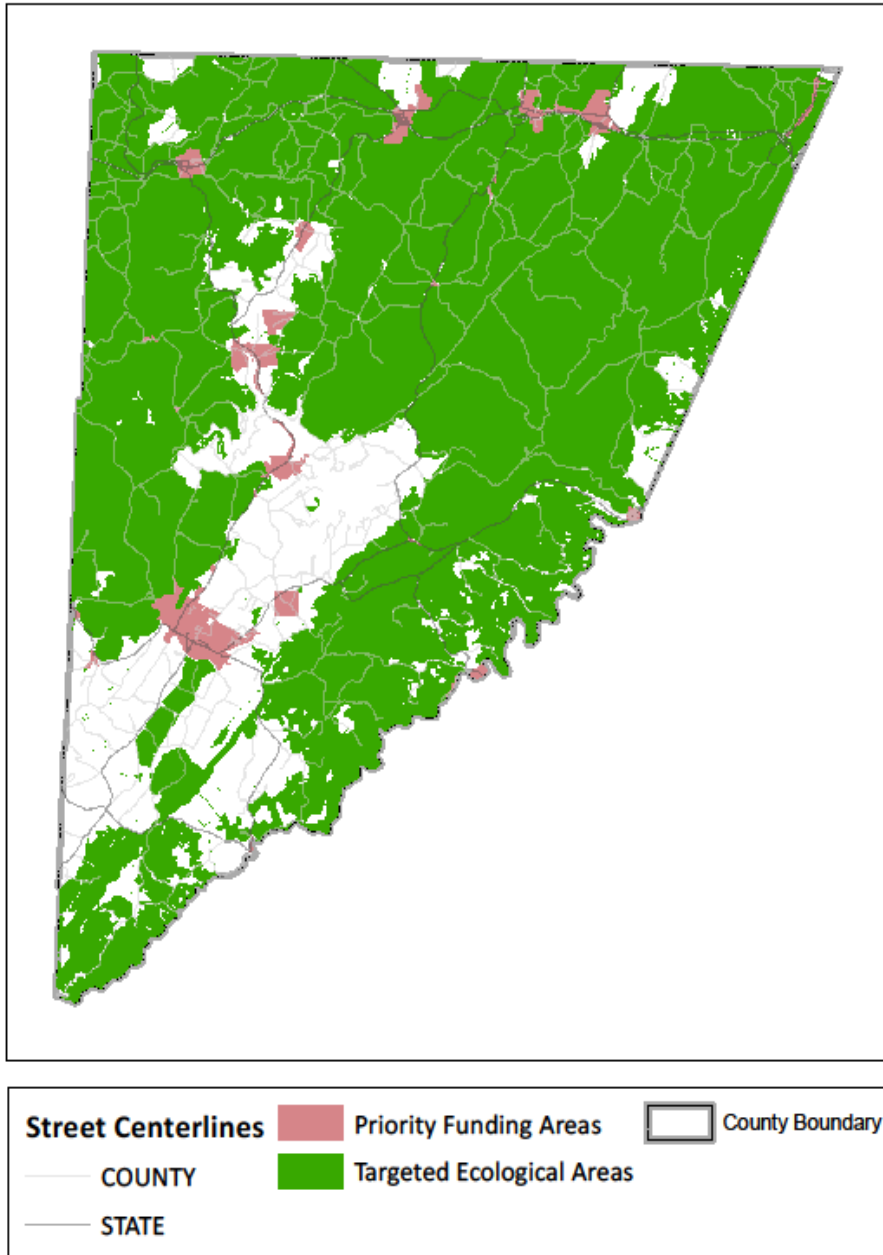
Targeted growth and conservation areas are locations for coordinated planning, management, and resource allocation. The purpose of these areas is to identify where and how local and state government, as well as the private sector, can work together to achieve common goals.



MAP 15 TARGETED GROWTH & CONSERVATION

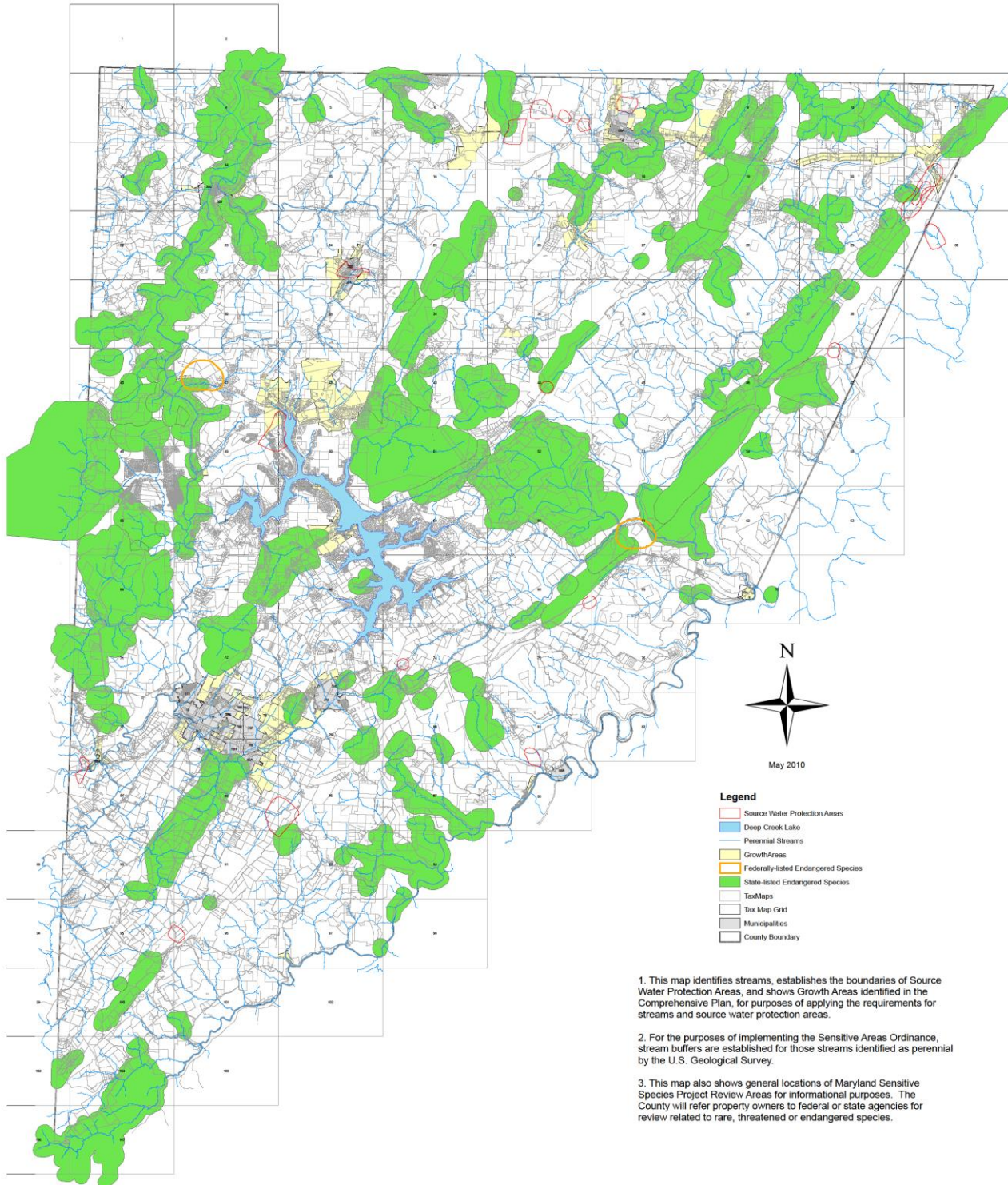
Priority Funding and Targeted Ecological Areas

1997 Planning Legislation capitalizes on the state's influence on economic growth and development. This law directs state spending to Priority Funding Areas (PFA). Priority Funding Areas are existing communities and places designated by local governments that states where they want state investment to support future growth. Targeted Ecological Areas are a limited number of areas that rank exceptionally high for ecological criteria and that have a practical potential for preservation. The criteria for PFAs are set by the MD Department of Planning, while the criterion for targeted ecological areas is set by the MD Department of Natural Resources.



Sensitive Areas; Map 1

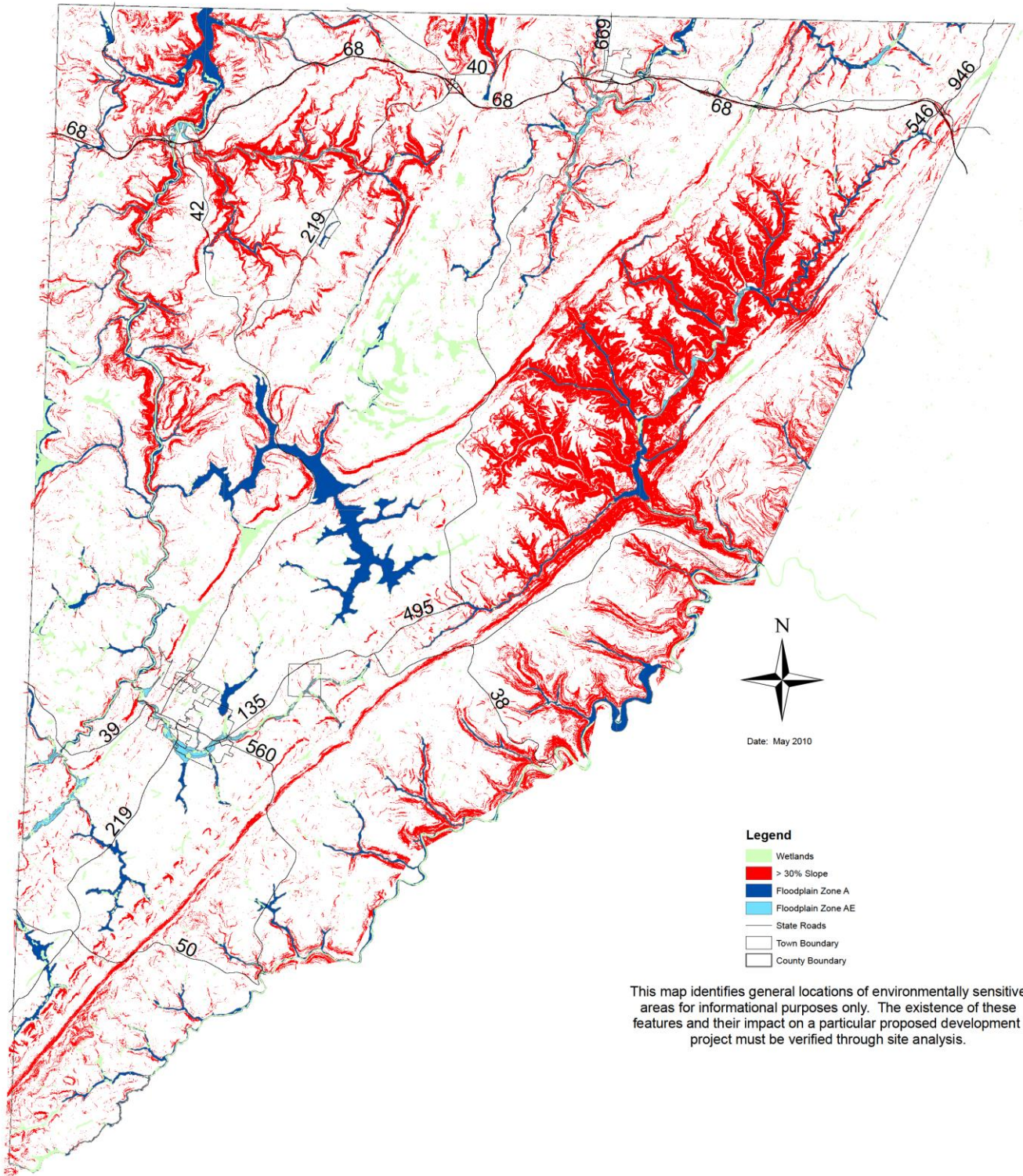
Streams, Growth Areas, Habitats for State & Federal Endangered Species and Source Water Protection Areas



MAP 16 SENSITIVE AREAS 1

Sensitive Areas; Map 2

Steep Slopes, Floodplains and Wetlands



MAP 17 SENSITIVE AREAS 2

IMPLEMENTING ORDINANCES AND PROGRAMS

The following ordinances and programs are used by the County to work towards achieving its goals for the conservation of natural resource land:

- [2008 Garrett County Comprehensive Plan](#)- Encourages development in suitable areas and promotes the protection of sensitive areas and resources areas.
- [Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Ordinance](#)- Encourages orderly development, appropriate use of lands, and promotes the conservation of natural resources within the Deep Creek Watershed.
- [Garrett County Sensitive Areas Ordinance](#)- Provides regulations regarding steep slopes; stream buffers; rare, threatened or endangered species; wetlands, and source water protection areas as shown on Sensitive Areas Maps 1 and 2.
- [Garrett County Subdivision Ordinance](#)- Establishes development standards with a focus on preserving natural features.
- [2010 Stormwater Management Ordinance](#)- Establishes minimum requirements and procedures to control the adverse impacts associated with increased stormwater runoff and help restore, enhance, and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of streams.
- [2013 Erosion & Sediment Control Ordinance](#)- Establishes minimum requirements and procedures to control the adverse impacts of land development on water resources and help maintain the physical and biological integrity of streams.
- [2019 Garrett County Floodplain Management Ordinance](#)- Establishes regulations for floodplain development, helping to protect the vital functions of floodplains including maintenance of water quality, prevention of erosion, habitat for diverse natural wildlife populations, recreational opportunities, and aesthetic quality.
- [2014 Garrett County Water and Sewerage Master Plan](#)- stipulates services should not be extended where this would allow inappropriate growth in areas where the Comprehensive Plan calls for conservation of resource land.

SUMMARIES OF DEFICIENCIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The County's unique, sensitive, and valuable natural resources land are abundant. Special care will continue to be taken when locating development in these areas for recreational or economic development. In addition, the County continues to support the monitoring of these sensitive areas and to play a role in proactively mitigating any minor issues to maintain natural resource lands. For example, The County has received funding from DNR to dredge Arrowhead Cove in Deep Creek Lake. Concurrently with this project the County is looking for grants and projects upstream of the cove to reduce sedimentation from "undoing" the dredging work.



FIGURE 37 BROADFORD LAKE BEACH



CHAPTER 4 AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION

Garrett County has a long history of agriculture since the County's creation when it was split from Allegany County in 1872. Approximately one-fifth of the County's land cover is Agriculture (88,953.83 acres). Since 1973 the County has seen a loss in agricultural land cover of 13,718 acres. The County has not adopted zoning regulations that would severely limit the develop of agricultural land. Instead, the County has used Agricultural Land Preservation Programs to save farmland. Garrett County officials recognize

that farms are a public benefit by helping to continue this tradition and by protecting valuable farmland for future generations.

Agricultural easements are currently acquired under three programs in Garrett County: the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF); Rural Legacy; and the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET).

The first land preservation

easement sponsored by Garrett County occurred in 1983 with the purchase of the development rights of the Mason Farm located south of Oakland. This program preserves agricultural land by working with private landowners to sell their development rights to MALPF while retaining the right to continue to use the land for farming. There are currently 71 MALPF easements within the County totaling 8,890.5 acres.

Maryland's Rural Legacy (RL) program was created in 1997 to protect large, contiguous tracts of Maryland's most precious cultural and natural resource lands though grants made to local applicants for land and easement acquisitions. Garrett County's 31,000-acre Rural Legacy Area covers the Bear Creek watershed near the town of Accident. There are currently 16 Bear Creek Rural Legacy easements totaling 1,650 acres.

The Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) is a land trust that acquires easements (by purchase or donation) on agricultural and natural resource lands throughout the state. MET holds approximately 21 easements in the County covering approximately 2,448 acres. The County is not directly involved with administration of MET easements

Garrett County has also adopted the Garrett County Agricultural Land Preservation District program to preserve productive local farmland and woodland. Districts are in effect for a minimum of 3 years and help screen and pre-qualify landowners wanting to sell a perpetual conservation easement to MALPF or Rural Legacy. Approved District properties are also eligible for a County Tax Credit on all agricultural lands and woodlands. There are currently 29 Districts totaling 4,413.75 acres.



FIGURE 38 FARMLAND IN GARRETT COUNTY CREDIT: IVY OPEL

Program	Overview	Quantity	Acres Preserved
MALPF	Purchased or donated perpetual agricultural easement. When MALFP purchases a voluntary agricultural preservation easement on your property, you are selling your development rights. This prevents development of that farm for residential, commercial, or industrial use. Preserving the land for agricultural and silvicultural use without exception now and in the future. <i>Eligibility & Criteria:</i> Is a Garrett County Agricultural District. See Below.	71	8,890.5
Rural Legacy	Land owners voluntarily donate or sell their development rights and still retain ownership. The easement is a purchased conservation perpetual easement. Is a Garrett County Agricultural District. See Below.	15	1,653.0
MET	To protect scenic open areas, including farm and forest land, wildlife habitat, water-front, unique or rare areas, and historic sites. This is a donated conservation perpetual easement. <i>Eligibility & Criteria:</i> Program prefers 25 acres or more. MET considers such factors as: cropland, pastureland, woodland, undisturbed open space, ecologically significant areas, scenic landscapes or features, historic sites/districts, and other unique features.	25	2,488.6
Temporary Ag Districts	<i>Eligibility & Criteria:</i> Property must be at least 50 acres, unless contiguous to existing permanent easement, meet soils criteria, and be outside the 10-year water and sewer area	29	4,413.7
Totals		140	16,937.2



FIGURE 39G GARRETT COUNTY FARMLAND IN BEAR CREEK

COUNTY GOALS

County goals for agricultural land preservation found in the 2008 Comprehensive Plan are to conserve agricultural and forest resource land (page 3-1) and preserve 20,000 acres of farmland by 2020 (page 7-1). As of the end of 2020, the County had a total of 16,937 acres preserved. The County will continue to strive for this goal, by 2025. Currently there are a total of 6 farms and over 1,0000 acres in the Agricultural District Process and or working for a permanent easement.

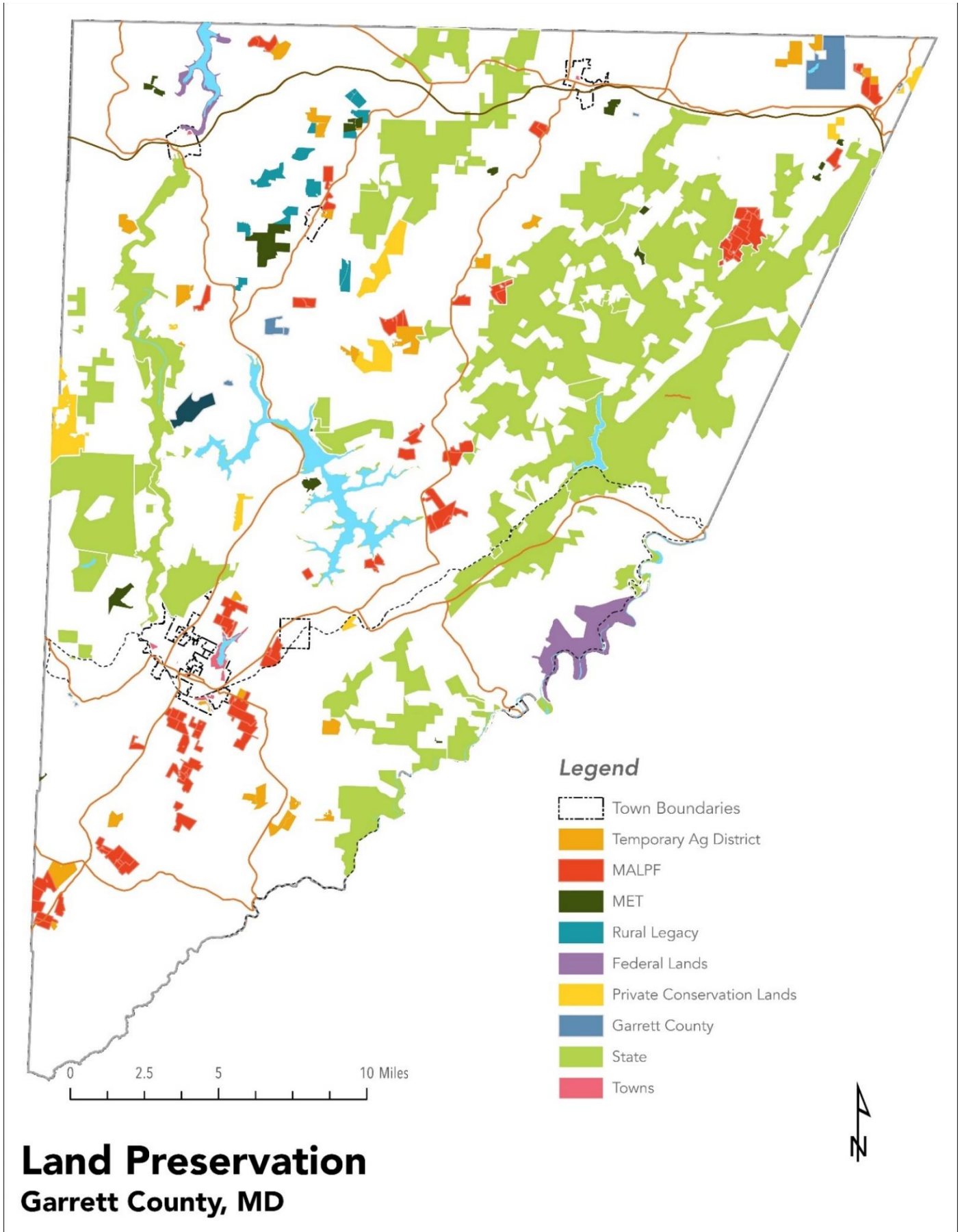
From 2008 through 2017 there were no new easements on properties with active gas leases in the Bear Creek Rural Legacy Area due to concerns over potential development of Marcellus Shale natural gas reserves., DNR revisited that policy, and in 2018 and allocated additional funding to purchase easements provided the land is not deemed to be at high risk for shale development. This fund has preserved over 300 acres during its grant cycle.

STATE GOALS

- 👉 Permanently preserve agricultural 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 investment is reasonably well supported by both local investment and land use management programs;
- 👉 Work with local governments to achieve the following
 - 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;
 - 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.

COMPARISON OF COUNTY AND STATE GOALS

Generally, Garrett County’s goals for Agricultural Land Preservation are relatively consistent with the State Goals shown above. Since the County does not have County-wide zoning, the County has limited land use management authority to limit the control of development in most rural areas, though the County continues its efforts in using temporary and permanent land preservation easements as tools in saving productive agricultural lands.



MAP 18 PRESERVED LAND IN GARRETT COUNTY

ADDITIONAL AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION GUIDELINES

The following section evaluates strategies and actions (in italics) presented in the 2017 LPPRP and describes whether or not they were implemented.

-  ***Continue to support the purchase of agricultural easements.*** The County has continued to assist landowners wishing to pursue agricultural easements through the MALPF program. Since 2008, the County's support of easements in the Bear Creek Rural Legacy Area and DNR have allocated funding to the County purchase more easements provided the land is deemed to be at low risk for shale gas development.
-  ***Encourage development to occur in designated Priority Funding Areas (PFAs)*** and clustering of new housing development in locations outside designated PFAs. Garrett County continues to encourage development to occur in PFAs. This goal has been difficult to achieve by the fact that only a small percent of the County is located within PFAs. The 2008 Comprehensive Plan included options for clustering of new lots that included density incentives in the Agricultural and Rural Resource Areas. The subdivision restrictions forced on the County by the Agricultural Land Preservation Act of 2012 have severely undermined these provisions. There is no longer any incentive for clustering due to the Act's prohibitions against major subdivisions in most areas of the County. The County is working on an update to the Comprehensive Plan. Development patterns and trends are being reviewed and ordinance changes will be considered if warranted.
-  ***Encourage farmers who must sell their farms to sell to other farmers.*** This recommendation would have established a farm brokerage program matching older farmers with younger ones and sellers with prospective farmer buyers, including an incubation program that would link new farmers with established farmers who might assist in transitioning ownership or purchase of farm equipment over an extended period. This recommendation has not been implemented. Garrett County's farm turnover rate is low and usually involves family transfers precluding the current need for a farm brokerage program. Since the County has limited involvement in the sale of private land this does not appear to be a relevant goal for the future.
-  ***Continue to avoid extension of public water and sewer facilities into prime agricultural areas.*** The 2008 Comprehensive Plan stated that no extensions of public water or sewer services would be permitted in land designated AR and RR except to correct health or safety problems in existing developed areas (pages 3-12 and 3-13). The 2014 Garrett County Water and Sewerage Master Plan adopted on December 9, 2014 reiterated and formalized these restrictions.
-  ***Continue to participate in the Rural Legacy program*** to extend the resources available through MALPF to purchase easements on farmland and forest in the Bear Creek watershed.
-  ***Continue to utilize the County Tax Credit Program to provide incentive to farmers*** to maintain Agricultural Preservation Program Districts and to encourage formation of additional designated Agricultural Preservation Districts. Garrett County continues to utilize both programs. A Garrett County District Agreement is a voluntary agreement that remains in effect for a minimum of three years. The District Agreement provides the security of knowing that the land is protected from development and is a valuable first step in securing more permanent protection. Approved District properties are eligible for a County Tax Credit on all agricultural lands and woodlands. Taxes continue to be assessed on all residential and agricultural structures but the property tax on all real estate is 100% rebated under the program. Garrett County currently has a total of 29 Districts containing approximately 4,413.7 acres. Fourteen of these Districts are taking advantage of the County Tax Credit Program. Seven of these District properties have pending MALPF easement applications.
-  ***Encourage formation of a private, non-profit Local Land Trust to support current efforts to protect farmland.*** The Allegheny Highlands Conservancy (AHC) was formed in 2004 with a mission "To conserve the natural resources, scenic beauty, and rural character of the Allegheny

Highlands of Maryland". AHC partnered with the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) to protect ten properties and over 1,200 acres in Garrett County. In August of 2015 the board of the AHC voted to dissolve the organization and transfer all of AHC's remaining assets to MET. An August 20, 2015 press release from AHC cited factors such as reduced interest in land conservation, the potential impact of Marcellus shale gas extraction and decreased interest and participation in the organization as factors that limited their viability. Although Garrett County would continue to support local land trusts, the experience of AHC indicates that such groups may not be feasible. Therefore, encouraging formation of such groups may not be a practical future goal.

The update of the Garrett County Comprehensive Plan will not establish priority preservation programs. The County's goals are implemented through the Garrett County Subdivision Ordinance and Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Ordinance by establishing lot size requirements. The County monitors the effectiveness of these programs during review of the Comprehensive Plan.

SUMMARY OF DEFICIENCIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

For Garrett County to reach its land preservation goals, streamlining the Agricultural Land Preservation process for the County and for landowners will make it more achievable. The following recommendations are specific actions to improve the current processes.

1. Consider Rural Legacy Area and Agricultural Districts separately

- a. Rural Legacy properties currently must meet the Agricultural District Soil requirements. In order for the County to protect this sensitive area of Bear Creek it should look to preserve the entire area and should eliminate Agricultural District Soil requirements. Other environmental, historic, and scenic values should be evaluated in its place to prioritize properties in this area. Also, for potential Rural Legacy Easements they would not have an Agricultural District and therefore the property owner would not be eligible for the tax credit, unless they go through this process.
2. The current timeline for landowners from an inquiry to creation of Agricultural District can be up to one year. The result of several reasons such the time reired for a complicated soils analysis.
 - a. The County will work with Soil Conservation District to create a digital map product to quickly determine if property is eligible for Agricultural District and the MALPF program.

APPENDIX A. PROGRAM OPEN SPACE PROJECTS FY 2017- 2021

				Program Open Space 90%	Local 10%	Project Total Cost
2017	Town of Accident	Town Park East and West	Mulch for playground areas	\$1,890.00	\$20,332.20	\$22,222.20
2017	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	Acquire approximately 3.3 acre parcel	\$187.50		
2017	Town of Oakland	Bridge on trail near downtown	Restoration of walking bridge over Little Youghiogheny River	\$18,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00
2017	Town of Oakland	Armory/Community Center	Acoustic panel for the Oakland Community Center	\$12,150.00	\$1,350.00	\$13,500.00
2017	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Design of amphitheater at Broadford Stage/shell building	\$13,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$15,000.00
2017	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park	Replacement timbers	\$6,300.00	\$700.00	\$7,000.00
2017	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park	Replacement backboards	\$2,790.00	\$310.00	\$3,100.00
2017	Town of Grantsville	Grantsville Town Park	Refinish basketball and tennis courts	\$13,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$15,000.00
2017	Garrett County	Casselman Valley AYSO	Improvements to the road/walking path	\$2,322.00	\$258.00	\$2,580.00
2017	Garrett County	Casselman Valley AYSO	Used playground equipment purchase	\$900.00	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
2017	Garrett County	Casselman Valley AYSO	Stone, other material and equipment to install gravel parking area	\$3,946.50	\$438.50	\$4,385.00
2017	Garrett County	Garrett Co Board of Education	Northern Middle School tennis court improvements	\$12,960.00	\$1,440.00	\$14,400.00
2018	Town of Accident	Town Park East	Drainage trenches for ballfield	\$34,196.40	\$3,799.60	\$37,996.00
2018	Town of Oakland	Town of Oakland	Exercise area for dogs	\$32,130.00	\$3,570.00	\$35,700.00
2018	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Little League bleachers-Youth baseball field	\$4,320.00	\$480.00	\$4,800.00
2018	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Fencing and backstop-Oakland Softball league	\$16,393.50	\$1,821.50	\$18,215.00
2018	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	LED advertising sign	\$25,701.30	\$2,855.70	\$28,557.00
2018	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	Chain link fence	\$8,820.00	\$980.00	\$9,800.00
2018	Town of Loch Lynn H.	Athletic Complex	Security cameras	\$3,411.00	\$379.00	\$3,790.00
2018	Town of Loch Lynn H.	Wetlands Boardwalk	Educational signage	\$2,839.50	\$315.50	\$3,155.00
2018	Town of Loch Lynn H.	Athletic Complex	Eight protective bollards for lighting	\$796.50	\$88.50	\$885.00
2018	Garrett County	Garrett College	Replace field lights for the baseball field	\$9,900.00	\$1,100.00	\$11,000.00
2018	Garrett County	Garrett College	Install drainage pipe in the outfield	\$4,950.00	\$550.00	\$5,500.00
2018	Garrett County	Board of Education	Improvements at Southern High School baseball field	\$33,120.00	\$3,680.00	\$36,800.00
2018	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Security cameras	\$17,893.80	\$1,988.20	\$19,882.00

Garrett County Land Preservation, Parks, & Recreation Plan 2022

				Program Open Space 90%	Local 10%	Project Total Cost
2018	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Four in-ground trash cans	\$1,440.00	\$160.00	\$1,600.00
2018	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Fencing around electric panels	\$2,781.00	\$309.00	\$3,090.00
2018	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Security cameras	\$7,138.80	\$793.20	\$7,932.00
2018	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Playground mulch	\$3,015.00	\$335.00	\$3,350.00
2019	Town of Accident	Town Park West	ADA Accessible Restroom	\$43,866.00	\$4,874.00	\$48,740.00
2019	Town of Oakland	Community Center-Oakland	Community Center Handicap Doors	\$15,139.67	\$1,682.19	\$16,821.86
2019	Town of Oakland	Glades Park-Oakland	Boardwalk Replacement	\$16,329.60	\$1,814.40	\$18,144.00
2019	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park	Little League Bleachers-Youth baseball field	\$17,229.60	\$1,914.40	\$19,144.00
2019	Garrett County	McHenry-Lions Park and Dog Park	Scoreboard, Restroom Upgrades, Trail and Drainage Upgrades	\$17,415.00	\$1,935.00	\$19,350.00
2019	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	ADA Accessible Restroom	\$32,926.50	\$3,658.50	\$36,585.00
2019	Town of Loch Lynn	Playground Wall-Loch Lynn	Retaining Wall	\$21,778.20	\$2,419.80	\$24,198.00
2019	Town of Loch Lynn	Playground Wall-Loch Lynn	Small Planter Bed	\$2,754.90	\$306.10	\$3,061.00
2019	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Replace Picnic Tables	\$7,200.00	\$800.00	\$8,000.00
2019	Town of Grantsville	Community Park	Refinish Tennis Courts	\$34,200.00	\$3,800.00	\$38,000.00
2019	Town of Mountain Lake Park	Community Memorial Park	Priority 1-Projects 2 and 3- drainage, grading, wall, walkway, etc.	\$53,100.00	\$5,900.00	\$59,000.00
2019	Town of Mountain Lake Park	Community Memorial Park	Priority 2-Projects 1, 5 and 11 overview, trail and lawn	\$18,616.55	\$2,068.48	\$20,685.03
2019	Town of Friendsville	Parking Lot Along Rt. 742	Extension of Existing Parking Lot	\$18,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00
2021	Garrett County Board of Education	Northern High School	Football Field Turf	\$148,279.00	\$16,475.44	\$164,754.44
2021	Garrett County Board of Education	Southern High School	Football Field Turf	\$148,279.00	\$16,475.44	\$164,754.44
2020	Garrett College - McHenry	Mosser Road Heritage Trail		\$45,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$50,000.00
2020	Town of Loch Lynn Hts.	Athletic Complex / Boardwalk Trail	Wetland Trail Interpretive Signs	\$4,572.86	\$508.10	\$5,080.95
2020	Grantsville	Community Park - Vereran's Memorial Walkway		\$22,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$25,000.00
2020	Town of Kitzmiller	Town Volleyball Court	Volleyball Court	\$6,308.33	\$700.93	\$7,009.25
2020	Town of Friendsville	Community Park	Welcome Sign	\$1,237.50	\$137.50	\$1,375.00
2020	Garrett County	Avilton Community Association	Pavilion Clean, Paint and Stain	\$1,350.00	\$150.00	\$1,500.00
2020	Garrett County	Fork Run Park	Concept Plan	\$67,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$75,000.00
2020	Town of Oakland	Oakland Community Center	Roof Repair/Replace	\$91,111.50	\$10,123.50	\$101,235.00
2020	Town of Oakland	Golf Club	Maintenance Shed Roof Repair/Replace	\$12,161.34	\$1,351.26	\$13,512.60
2020	Town of Oakland	B & O Museum	Outdoor Lighting Improvements	\$7,941.60	\$882.40	\$8,824.00

				Program Open Space 90%	Local 10%	Project Total Cost
2020	Town of Oakland	Broadford Park Stage/Amphitheater	Sound Room Equipment	\$8,484.87	\$942.76	\$9,427.63

APPENDIX B. RECREATION INVENTORY UPDATE

Park Name	Rec Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
1 ASCI - Adventure Sports Center Int'l.	17.0	0.0	Special Use Area	ASCI		1	0		
2 Avilton Community Center	2.0	0.0	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners			5		
3 Casselman Valley Soccer Complex	15.5	0.0	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners			6		
4 Crellin Ballfield (Snow Meadow Park)	10.0	0.0	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners	1	1	1		
5 Crellin Community Park	1.5	0.0	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners			0		
6 Finzel Community Park Eastern Garrett Co. Recreation Area	21.2	0.0	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners			5		
7 Fork Run Recreation Area	550.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Garrett Co. Commissioners	1		0	9.5	
8 Kitzmiller Elementary School	6.6	0.0	Town Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners			4		
9 McHenry Lions Club Park	31.7	0.0	Community Park	Garrett Co. Commissioners			4	1	
10 Bloomington Fire Co. Town Park	3.0	0.0	Community Park	Bloomington Fire Co.			4		
11 Meadows Trail	11.0	0.0	Trail	Garrett Co. Community Action	1			1	
12 Accident Community Park East	4.1	0.0	Town Park	Town of Accident			5	0.3	
13 Accident Community Park West	12.5	0.0	Town Park	Town of Accident			1		
14 Accident Community Pond	2.4	0.0	Town Park	Town of Accident		1			
15 Accident Veteran's Park	0.5	0.0	Town Park	Town of Accident					
16 Deer Park Playground	0.8	0.0	Town Park	Town of Deer Park			2		
17 Friendsville Community Park	18.2	0.0	Community Park	Town of Friendsville	1		8	0.8	1
18 Memorial Recreational Parking & Veteran's	4.7	0.0	Community Park	Town of Friendsville					1
19 Grantsville Community Park	15.8	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Town of Grantsville		1	2	0	
20 Grantsville Town Park	1.7	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Town of Grantsville	1				
21 Harrison Handlin Children's Park	0.5	0	Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller			1		
22 Kitziller Riverwalk Trail	0.0	0.0	Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	1	1			
23 Kitzmiller Botanical Garden	3.0	0.0	Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	1	1			
24 Kitzmiller Community Park	2.4	0.0	Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller			4	0.7	
25 Loch Lynn Community Park	23.3	0.0	Town Park	Town of Loch Lynn			2	2	
26 Loch Lynn Park (Old School)	2.0	0.0	Town Park	Town of Loch Lynn			3		
27 Bethel AME Historical Site	4.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park					
28 Crystal Springs	0.0	100.7	Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	1				
29 Mountain Lake Park Ticket Booth Museum	0.1	0.0	Interpretive	Town of Mt. Lake Park					
30 Leo Martin Memorial Park	1.7	0.0	Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park			3		
31 Mountain Lake Park Conservation	0.0	50.0	Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	1				

Park Name	Rec Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
32 Mountain Lake Park Tennis Club	1.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park			4		
33 Veterans Park Bob Damon Park	1.7	0.0	Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park			2		
34 Wooddell Park	5.6	0.0	Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park	1		2	0.3	
35 Broadford Lake Recreation Area	399.0	0.0	Town Park	Town of Oakland	1	1	9	2	1
36 Fort Alice Trail	20.0	0.0	Trail	Town of Oakland			1		
37 Oakland B&O Train Station	0.7	0.0	Town Park	Town of Oakland					
38 Oakland Community Center (Armory)	4.0	0.0	Community Center	Town of Oakland			3		
39 Oakland Dog Park	1.4	0.0	Town Park	Town of Oakland			1		
40 Oakland Glades Town Park	28.6	0.0	Town Park	Town of Oakland	1		5	1	
41 Oakland Golf Club	224.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Town of Oakland	1				
42 Oakland Rotary Park	1.5	0.0	Town Park	Town of Oakland	1		1		
43 Accident Elementary School	9.6	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4		
Broadford Elementary & Southern							1		
44 Middle Schools	29.3	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4		
45 Crellin Elementary School	11.3	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			3		
46 Friendsville Elementary School	4.6	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			5		
47 Grantsville Elementary School	7.3	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			6		
Hickory Environmental Education									
48 Center	75.0	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			1	1.5	
							1		
49 Northern High School/Middle School	45.2	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4		
50 Route 40 Elementary School	6.3	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4		
							1		
51 Southern High School	30.0	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			6		
52 Swan Meadow Elementary School	3.2	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			1		
53 Yough Glades Elementary School	19.8	0.0	School Recreation Park	Board of Education			4	2	
		1,371							
54 Piney Reservoir	0.0	.0	Natural Resource Area	City of Frostburg	1	1	0		
Garrett College & Community									
Aquatic & Recreation Complex									
55 (CARC)	48.1	0.0	School Recreation Park	Garrett College Bd. Trustees			9		
	1,100								
56 Western MD 4-H Education Center	.0	0.0	Special Use Area	University of Maryland		1	3	2	
57 Garrett County Fairgrounds	48.8	0.0	Special Use Area	Garrett County Farm Board			0		
58 Wolf Den ORV Trails	927.0	0.0	Special Use Area	State of MD	x		0	10	
59 Bear Creek Hatchery Fish Mgmt. Area	0.0	113.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
60 Bear Pen Run Natural Area	0.0	241.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1		0		

Park Name	Rec Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
61 Big Run State Park	489.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	2	1
62 Casselman River Bridge State Park	4.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD		1	0		
63 Cunningham Swamp Wildlife Mgmt. Area	0.0	257.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0	2	
	4,714								
64 Deep Creek Lake NRMA	.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
	1,818								
65 Deep Creek Lake State Park	.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	6	2
66 Fulcher P. Smith Conservation Area	0.0	70.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
	7,339								
67 Garrett State Forest	.0	300.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0	18	
68 Herrington Manor State Park	365.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	4	10	1
69 Kindness Demonstration Trail	0.0	0.0	Trail	State of MD			0		
	1,854								
70 Mt. Nebo Wildlife Management Area	0.0	.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
71 New Germany State Park	483.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	10	1
72 North Branch Potomac Fish Mgt. Area	0.0	279.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0		
	8,158	2,306							
73 Potomac State Forest	.0	.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD			0	20	
74 Savage River Reservoir	0.0	360.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1	1	0		1
	41,59	13,30							
75 Savage River State Forest	5.0	3.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD		1	0	69	
76 St. John's Rock ORV Trail	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	State of MD			0	23	
77 Swallow Falls State Park	257.0	0.0	State Park	State of MD	1	1	0	1.5	
	4,129								
78 Youghiogheny Scenic & Wild River	0.0	.0	Natural Resource Area	State of MD	1	1	0	5.5	
	1,975								
79 Jennings Randolph Lake	.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Federal		1	0	1.7	1
80 Paul Sarbanes Trail	0.0	0.0	Trail	Federal/ Co. Maintained			0	1	
	1,189								
81 Youghiogheny River Lake, Mill Run Recreation Area	.0	0.0	Natural Resource Area	Federal	1	1	0	0	1
82 Aquatic Center	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private			0	0	1
83 Artisan Village	3.1	0.0	Special Use Area	Private	1	1	1	1	
84 Bills Marine Service, Inc.	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private		1	0	0	1
85 Bumble Bee RV Park & Campground	6.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
86 Camp Deep Creek	18.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			3	0	
87 Circle R Ranch	29.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
88 Deep Creek Lake Sailing Assoc.	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private	1	0	0	0	1

Park Name	Rec Acres	Resource Acres	Classification	Ownership	Natural Areas	Water Access	Sports Field	Total Trails	Public Boat Launch
89 Deep Creek Marina	1.0	0.0	Marine	Private		1	0	0	1
90 Double G Campground	67.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			3	0	
91 Fun Time Watersports	0.9	0.0	Marine	Private			0	0	
92 Funland Family Fun Center	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			1	0	
93 High Mt. Sports / Traders Landing	0.4	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
94 Little Meadows Lake	228.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	1
95 Maryland High Point Trail	0.0	0.0	Trail	Private			0	0	
96 Patterson's Boat Company	2.0	0.0	Marine	Private		1	0	0	1
97 Shady Acres Motocross	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	1	
98 Silver Tree Marina	4.0	0.0	Marine	Private	1	1	0	0	
99 Swanton Senior/Community Center	1.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			1	0	
100 Thousand Acres Lakeside Golf Club	193.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
101 Waterfront Greens Golf Course	17.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
102 Western Trails	170.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			1	0	
103 Winnfield Golf- Avilton	41.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
104 Wisp Resort	204.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			4	1	
105 The Alley	0.0	0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
106 Monkey Business Adventure Park		0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
107 Deep Creek Axe Throwing Company		0.0	Special Use Area	Private			0	0	
		1,023							
108 Cranesville Swamp	0.0	.0	Natural Resource Area	The Nature Conservancy	1		0	0	
109 Finzel Swamp (Cranberry Swamp)	0.0	326.0	Natural Resource Area	The Nature Conservancy	1		0	0	
110 The Glades- Nature Conservancy	0.0	601.0	Natural Resource Area	The Nature Conservancy			0	0	

APPENDIX C. TOWN OF ACCIDENT OUTREACH



- County Staff met with Town Administrator on June 19, 2023
- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
- Developed Community Survey
- Discussed Current Projects

Inventory

Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation
12 Accident Community Park East	4.1	Town Park	Town of Accident	Owner	Owner
13 Accident Community Park West	12.5	Town Park	Town of Accident	Owner	Owner
14 Accident Community Pond	2.4	Town Park	Town of Accident	American Legion Post#	Owner
15 Accident Veteran's Park		Town Park	Town of Accident	Owner	Owner
Drane House		Interpretive	Town of Accident	Owner	Owner

Current Projects

Removal of Slide at West Park



Play Cubes at West Park



ADA Fishing access at Pond

Basket Swings at Parks



Future Projects Public Outreach

- Town & County Staff Developed Short Survey for citizen input for the Town of Accident.
- Town mailed survey to residents and posted on social media from ___ to October 1, 2021

Survey Results: 24 Surveys





FIGURE 40 PAVILION AT ACCIDENT PARK WEST

1. What is your age?

2. Are you a Resident of the Town of Accident?

- 21% 74+
- 29% 39-54
- 8% 7-22
- 0% 6 or under
- 83% Yes
-
- 25% 55-73
- 17% 23-38

3. Which parks in Accident you are familiar with?

- 96% Accident Cmty. Parl West 
- 96% Accident Cmty. Park East 
- 100% Accident Community Pond 
- 96% Accident Veteran's Park 

4. Do you support any of these improvements?

- 58% Bench Swings 
- 38% Group Fitness 
- 67% Modern Playground 
- 58% Small Disk Golf Course at West Park 
- 58% Multisport Court 
- 38% Community Garden 
- 79% Fitness Trail 

5. Do you have any other ideas for improving recreation in the Town of Accident?

How many young children do we have in the Town of Accident that use our parks? I never see any at West.

A lot of improvements could be made to the town pond.

Improve Pond landscaping (fill in the ditch, remove the stumps, etc.).

Pond

Safe sidewalks from South Main Street up to the parks would be nice. It's too dangerous to walk there. (The small section of 219 by the S curves where the shoulder narrows)

Drane Drive area to South Street. I see so many walking with little kids from the apartments across from the park to the Dollar General and back along that section of 219, and there is no shoulder room without walking in someone's yard. It would be nice to have a sidewalk along that section. I know I would walk to the park with my grandchildren more it were safer. We do walk up Drane Dr. to Main St. extension to where we can get to a sidewalk along 219, but these roads don't have sidewalks either. (But much less traffic.) Crossing 219 twice this route has its own challenges on busy traffic days. Thank you for the opportunity to give opinions & suggestions.

Shooting Range at the Town Park West. Leave the slide at Town Park West, put in a merry-go-round.

Need to redo the arboretum in the Town Park West and make a trail through it.

Fitness Trail at West Park

Hiking Trails

Dog Park, In Door Community Center

Kids Bike Trail

Pickleball Court

Cornhole Game at one or more of unused horseshoe areas.

We would love to see more modern playgrounds and weed removal in them
A splash water park
Group fitness, modern playground, fitness trail improvements, multi sport court, updated tennis and basketball court

6. Would you volunteer to help with landscaping at the Community Parks? (weeding, mulch, plantings)

33% Yes

7. Would you attend a public meeting about the Accident Community Parks?

15%
Yes

Conclusion

- Town look to continue to make improvements to Community Pond
- Investigate Town's walking connections
- Review Town's Tree Inventory
- Trail development in Arboretum
- All suggested improvements were supported by the majority of respondents
- Only 15% of respondents would attend a public meeting, no Town Recreation meeting was held
- Town has a small staff, consider hosting community clean up days to maintain parks, 1/3 or respondents said they would volunteer
- Future outreach efforts for staff to attend public events in the parks

APPENDIX D. TOWN OF DEER PARK

- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
-

Inventory

	Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation	Comments/Amenities
16	Deer Park Playground	0.6	Town Park	Town of Deer Park	Owner	Owner	Playground, basketball court, Pavilion, restroom
X	Deer Park Community Center		Special Use	Town of Accident	Owner	Owner	

APPENDIX E. TOWN OF FRIENDSVILLE OUTREACH

- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
- Future Outreach at Friendsville Days Event

Inventory

	Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation
17	Friendsville Community Park	18.2	Community Park	Town of Friendsville		
18	Recreational Parking & Veteran's Memorial	0.0	Community Park	Town of Friendsville		

APPENDIX F. TOWN OF GRANTSVILLE OUTREACH



- County Staff met with Town Administrator on July 12, 2021
- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
- Developed Community Survey
- Discussed Current Projects
- Scheduled Public Outreach Meeting at Community Park on August 2, 2022
- Future public outreach set up table at Grantsville Days Events

Inventory

Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation	Comments/Amenities
47 Grantsville Elementary School	7.3	School Recreation Park	Board of Education	Owner	Owner	School playground and multipurpose field Pavilions, baseball field, basketball, tennis, pond, short walking trail, picnic tables
19 Grantsville Community Park	15.8	Natural Resource Area	Town of Grantsville	Owner	Owner	Nature Area
20 Grantsville Town Park		Natural Resource Area	Town of Grantsville	Owner	Owner	

Public Outreach

- Town & County Staff Developed Short Survey for citizen input for the Town of Grantsville.
- Town mailed survey to residents and posted on social media from July 21, 2022 to September 1, 2021
- 26 people attended the meeting on August 2, 2021
- 56 Responses received ~ 8.7% of Grantsville's Population (2019 ACM)
- Notes from meeting below

Have your say on the future of the Grantsville Community Park

PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, August 2, 2021
4:00pm

Grantsville Community Park
Pavilion 3
Miller St & Hershberger Ln, Grantsville, MD

Open House at 4:00 pm
Presentation at 4:15pm - discussion to follow

Survey results will be shared at meeting
garrettcountry.org/GrantsvilleRec

For more information, please contact:
Grantsville Town Hall
info @ visitgrantsville.com
301-895-3144

Siera Wigfield, Senior Planner
swigfield @ garrettcountry.org
301-334-7477



Survey Results: 56 Surveys

1. What is your age?

- 15% 74+
 22% 39-54
 0% 7-22
 41% 55-73
 22% 23-38

2. How often do you visit the Grantsville Community Park?

- 27% Daily
 16% Few times a month
 2% Rarely
 36% Few times a week
 0% Never
 9% Weekly
 2% Monthly
 7% Few times a year

3. What would make you visit the Park more often? – choose up to three

23% Improve walking/biking connections to the park



12% Group Fitness



45% Festivals



12% Better awareness of programs/facilities offered



15% Cultural/Historical/Craft Demos



15% Community Garden



27% Campfire/Evening Programs



38% Performances



Senior Programs



18% Children's Programs



4% Kid's Fishing Events



4. Do you like any of these ideas for improvements?

42% Swing Benches



39% Skateboard Trail



14% Ice Skate Trail



42% Bridge over pond



48% Splash Pad



8% Multisport Court



21% Fitness Court



8% Outdoor Classroom



5. Is the Grantsville Park well maintained?

97% Yes

6. Are you attending the Park Meeting? details on reverse

63% Yes

9% No

28% Maybe

Park Meeting Notes

Maintenance Needs

- Clean up after pet signs at entrances
- Concerns about restroom cleanliness and preventing abuse
- Clear entrances with Park Rules
- Concerns about vandalism

Discussion of Needs

- Target teen's & families
- Ropes Course - Ninja Corse
- Rock Climbing
- Dog Park
- Stake Park/ Stake Trail/ Stake Plaza - possibly on Basketball Court
- BMX Pump Track
- ADA Accessible Picnic Tables
- Backboards for tennis Courts to play alone - hardball or racquet ball
- Splash Pad- Town would like to see its use in Mountain Lake Park - Cost benefit
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Indoor recreation in winter - YMCA, bowling, pool tables,
- Path to Pond
- Accessible parking to pavilions and event spaces
- Connection to town- lack of sidewalks

Programming

- Movie night in the park
- Local Music
- Craft Classes in the park
- Bingo
- Wintertime activities

Organizations

- Lions Club
- Grantsville Rotary
- Men's Christian League
- Hot Stove Baseball
- Library

Capital Projects

- Stake trail design
- ADA picnic Tables
- Universal Design upgrades to pavilions
- Backboards for Tennis Court
- Scheduling & Marketing for Events & Programing
- Kiosks & Sign for Parks
- Connection to School and Other Points of Interest

Conclusion



FIGURE 41: CREDIT: GARRETT COUNTY REPUBLICAN



- Town look to continue to make improvements to Community Pond
- Investigate Town's walking connections
- Review Town's Tree Inventory
- Trail development in Arboretum
- All suggested improvements were supported by the majority of respondents

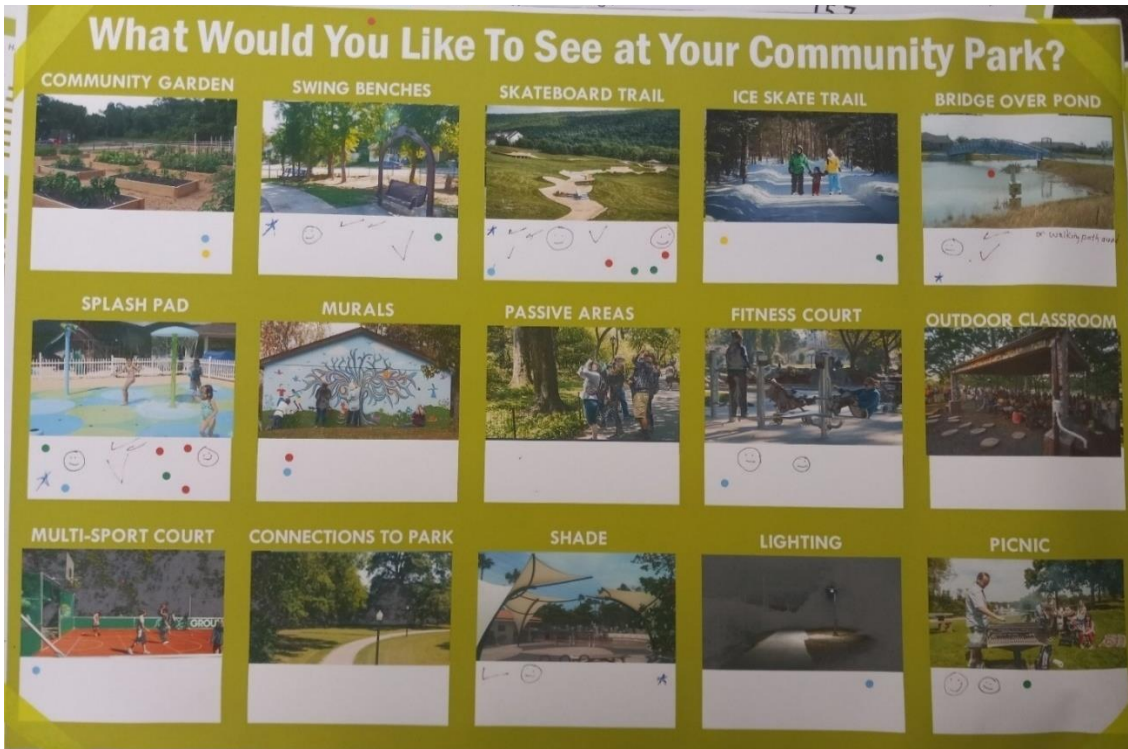


FIGURE 42 PUBLIC INPUT BOARD FROM GRANTSVILLE MEETING AUG 2

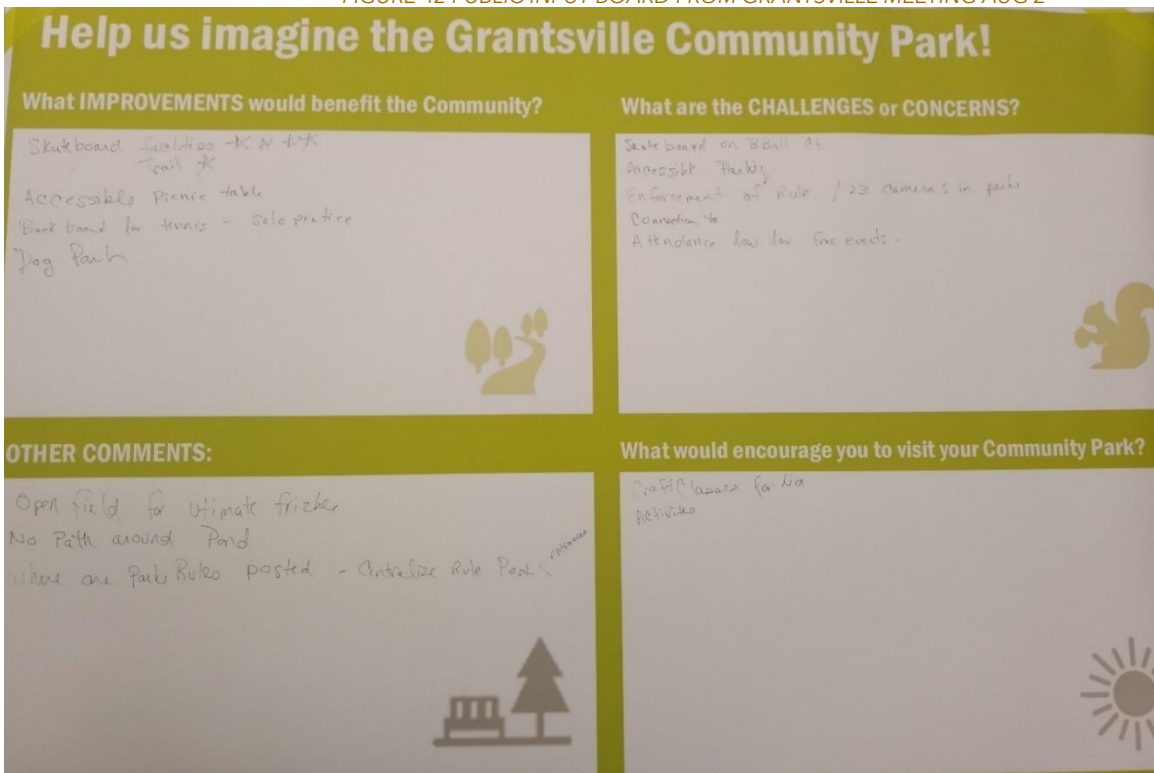


FIGURE 43 PUBLIC COMMENT BOARD FROM GRANTSVILLE PARK MEETING

APPENDIX G. TOWN OF KITZMILLER OUTREACH

- County Staff met with Town Administrator, Peggy Jamison, and Mayor on September 22, 2021
- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
- Developed Community Survey
- Discussed Current Projects
- Scheduled Public Outreach Meeting and survey results at Town Meeting on November 22, 2021
- Future public outreach set up table at Kitzmiller Homecoming Events and through Health Department's Community Empowerment Programs

Inventory

Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation	Comments/Amenities
21 Harrison Handlin Children's Park		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	Owner	Owner	
22 Kitzmiller Riverwalk Trail		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	Owner	Owner	
23 Kitzmiller Botanical Garden		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	Owner	Owner	
24 Kitzmiller Community Park 7		Town Park	Town of Kitzmiller	Owner	Owner	

IMPACT YOUR SPACE
 What would you like to see in the future?
Take the survey
garrettcountry.org/KitzmillerRec
 Paper surveys available at the Kitzmiller Town Hall
 Results will be shared at the November 22, 2021
 Town Council Meeting.
For more information contact:
 Siera Wigfield, Senior Planner
swigfield@garrettcountry.org
 301-334-7477
 LAND PRESERVATION
 PARKS & RECREATION PLAN

Public Outreach

- Town & County Staff Developed Short Survey for citizen input for the Town of Kitzmiller.
- Town mailed survey to Kitzmiller Zip Code Recipients and posted on social media from October 14, 2021 to November 20, 2021
- ~25 people attended the meeting on November 22, 2021
- 37 Responses received
- Notes from meeting below

SURVEY RESULTS: 37 SURVEYS

Kitzmilller Recreation Survey Results

Age

- Gen 1, 3
- Baby Boomer, 11
- Gen X, 9
- Gen Y, 4

throughout
equipment
stand
water
park
older
Add
school
concession
children

37 Total Responses
12% Kitzmilller 2020 Population (299)

Activity	Count
Building Project	5
Event Staffing	9
Landscaping	8
Organize Events	10
Community Cleanup	13
Trail Maintenance	9
Craft Demonstration	8
Historical Reenactment	5
No Thanks	8

What would make you visit the Park more often?

Factor	Count
Additional Open Space	15
Restrooms	10
Community Building	10
Children's Play Area	15
Lighting	25
Additional Event Space	20
Additional Picnic Tables	10
Additional Seating	15

Public Input Purpose

- Invite feedback
- increase awareness
- Resolve conflicts before they arise
- Find alternatives
- Set Priorities
- Achieve Consensus
- List of Improvements

Recreation Inventory

- Kitzmilller Botanical Gardens
- Kitzmilller School Park
- Kitzmilller Town Park
- Children's Park
- Community Building
- River Walk

Choose your TOP 3 Recreation Improvements for Kitzmilller:

Improvement	Count
Pavilion	10
Lighting	25
Modernized Playground	20
Restrooms	10
Public Ball Court	10
Additional Open Space	10
Seating	10
Additional Picnic Tables	10

activities
again
trees
school
weeds
pumpkin
park
child
town

Park Meeting Notes

Top Projects

- Restroom for Town Park Pavilion
- Lighting Pavilion
- Lighting Parking Lot
- Modernized Playground
- Pickleball conversion of Basketball Court
- Stencils and markings for Riverwalk Trail
- Projects 2027-2030
- New A/V Equipment
- ADA picnic facilities
- Children's Park Drainage and Surface Repairs
- Portable Stage/ Amphitheater for Main Street



APPENDIX H. TOWN OF LOCH LYNN HEIGHTS

- County Staff met with Mayor and Town Staff on July 12, 2021
- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
- Developed recreation survey for Town Newsletter. Survey was not published.
- Outreach for future: Town Picnic held in late summer, Durin Mountain Top Soccer Events

Current Projects

- Lighting for Soccer Fields

Future Projects

- Restroom & Pavilion Accessibility
- Update Play equipment
- Community Building/ Center



FIGURE 44 LOCH LYNN COMMUNITY PARK PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT 2021

What Would You Like To See at Your Community Park?








COMMUNITY GARDEN 	SWING BENCHES 	MODERN CLIMBER 	BASKET SWING 	NET SPINNER 
DOUBLE SWING 	MURALS 	PASSIVE AREAS 	FITNESS COURT 	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM 
MULTI-SPORT COURT 	INCLUSIVE SPINNER 	SHADE 	LIGHTING 	PICNIC 

Figure 45 Public Input Board Developed for Loch Lynn Outreach

This survey is to gather public feedback on the outdoor recreation demands, identify improvements, and establish priorities for the future development of parks, facilities, programs, and services in your community, and to assist Garrett County Planning & Land Management Department in its update to the Land Preservation and Recreation Plan.

1. What's your age?

- 75+
- 55-73
- 39-54
- 23-38
- 7-22
- 6-under

2. How often do you use the Park or Trail in Loch Lynn?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Few times a month
- Monthly
- Few times a year
- Rarely
- Never

3. What would make you visit the Park more often? – choose up to three

- Improve walking/biking connections to the park

- Cultural/Historical/Craft Demo:

- Senior Programs

- Group Fitness

- Community Garden

- Children's Programs

- Festivals

- Campfire/Evening Programs

- Kid's Fishing Events

- Better awareness of programs/facilities offered

- Performances

- Other:

4. Do you like any of these Ideas for Improvements?

- Swing Benches

- Skateboard Trail

- Lighting

- Nature-based Play structure

- Splash Pad

- Multisport Court

- Fitness Court

- Outdoor Classroom


Other ideas or comments:

5. Are the Loch Lynn Park & Trails well maintained?

- Yes
- No

6. Are you attending the Park Meeting? *details on reverse*

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

FIGURE 46 SURVEY DEVELOPED FOR LOCH LYNN RECREATION

APPENDIX I. TOWN OF MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK OUTREACH

- County Staff met with Town Administrator and Mayor on July 12, 2021
- County Staff attended Town Meeting on September 9, 2021 and Scheduled Public Outreach Session on October __, 2021
- Reviewed Town's Recreation Inventory
- Developed Community Survey
- Discussed Current Projects
- Public meeting October 7, 2021
- 7 people in attendance
- Future public outreach set up table at Chataqua
- Redesign of Veterans Park
- Event Space
- Hillside play structures
- Parking/ accessibility address issues
- Connection to Meadows Trail, Crystal Springs, Broadford and Veteran's Park
- MLP Conservation Area Boardwalk
- Tennis Court Covers- extend early season to Feb
- Hillside Park
- Event Holding Space at Bob Damon
- Public Meeting at Bob Damon Veteran's Park



Capital Improvements

- Crystal Springs Boardwalk and Connection to Broadford Park
- Tennis Court Improvements - Weather Cover
- Renovate Shed at Bob Damon Park
- Bethel Center AME Attraction
- Woodell Park Benches and picnic tables
- Security Cameras
- 135 Trail/ Ped bridge
- Lighting for Tennis Court
- Purchase GCC property
- Bob Damon:
- Shade for Bob Damon Park - trees and structures
- Trash Receptacles
- Walking Track Bob Damon
- Doggy Bag Trash Receptacle
- Fitness Trail



FIGURE 47 SWINGS AT WOODELL PARK

- Skate Park Bob Damon
- Basketball Court Conversion
- Develop Natural area/ boardwalk at Conservation area

Issues

- Draw people to Tennis Courts
- Need volunteers to help
- Groundskeeping
- Tennis
- Partner with High School Team & Garrett College

Inventory

Town Museum Ticket Booth
Leo martin

- Splashpad
- Pavilion
- Outdoor Stage
- Walk Rounds
- Playground equipment- themed lighthouse
- Gas fireplace

Bob Damon

- Building- former a pavilion- is a shed
- Lighting
- Playground - aging
- Basketball courts
- Flagpoles
- Benches
- Hills for sled riding

YOUR PARKS. YOUR VOICE.
What would you like to see in the future?
PUBLIC MEETING
Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 4:30pm

Veterans Memorial Park
L Street, Mountain Lake Park, MD

Survey results will be shared at meeting
garrettcountry.org/MLPRec

For more information contact:
Siera Wigfield, Senior Planner
swigfield@garrettcountry.org
301-334-7477

LAND PRESERVATION
PARKS & RECREATION PLAN

Inventory

Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation
27 Bethel AME Historical Site		Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
28 Crystal Springs		Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
29 Mountain Lake Park Ticket Booth Museum		Interpretive	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
30 Leo Martin Memorial Park	0.6	Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
31 Mountain Lake Park Conservation		Natural Resource Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
32 Mountain Lake Park Tennis Club	1	Special Use Area	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
33 Veterans Park Bob Damon Park	0.8	Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner
34 Wooddell Park	5.6	Town Park	Town of Mt. Lake Park	Owner	Owner

APPENDIX J. TOWN OF OAKLAND OUTREACH

- County Staff met with Town Administrator and Town Staff on July 20, 2021
- Reviewed Town’s Recreation Inventory
- Do you like any of these ideas for improvements?

Potential Improvements for Oakland Parks

- Community Garden
- Skateboard Trail/ Plaza
- More Trees
- Fitness Court
- Winter activities - ice skate, sledding,
- outdoor classrooms
- heated pavilions
- more trails
- Lighting
- Shade structures?
- Anything else?
- Look for more passive/user-based revenue streams for Broadford Lake?

	Park Name	Acres	Classification	Ownership	Maintenance	Operation
35	Broadford Lake Recreation Area	399	Town Park	Town of Oakland	Owner	Owner
36	Fort Alice Trail		Trail	Town of Oakland	Owner	Garrett Trails
37	Oakland B&O Train Station Oakland Community Center	0.7	Town Park Community	Town of Oakland	Owner	Owner
38	(Armory)	4	Center	Town of Oakland	Owner	Owner
39	Oakland Dog Park		Town Park	Town of Oakland	Owner	Owner
40	Oakland Glades Town Park	18.9	Town Park	Town of Oakland	Owner	Owner
41	Oakland Golf Club	224	Special Use Area	Town of Oakland	Owner Oakland	Owner
42	Oakland Rotary Park	27.4	Town Park	Town of Oakland	Rotary Club	Owner

APPENDIX K. PROPOSED SCORING



Program Open Space Project Scoring

			Points	Max
Project aligns with LPPRP Goals and/or project addresses local recreation need for the community and general public - Max 60 points			0	60
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Provide diverse recreational experiences and opportunities readily accessible to residents and visitors, meeting current and future community needs.		10
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Revitalize municipalities and community spaces to enhance residents' quality of life making Garrett County a desirable place to live work, play, and visit.		10
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Maximize investments in public school facilities to support and complement community recreation opportunities to learn, play, and connect.		5
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Provides enhanced natural resource conservation and ecological value; helps to protect natural open spaces and resources		6
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Foster collaborative partnerships to leverage strengths and resources to expand, maintain, and promote an identifiable image of Garrett County recreation experiences for residents and tourists.		9
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Expand the network of multi-use trails linking parks, schools, and community destinations to provide safe connections for transportation and recreation whilst decreasing the reliance on automobiles.		10
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Determine the need for an oversight for County parks and recreation. Work with the local municipalities and other local agencies to collectively market, maintain and develop resources and services to provide the best recreational experience for residents and visitors of Garrett County.		10
Applicant & Application - Max 40 points			0	40
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Application's contact information is complete		2
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Application has clear project description and need		
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Project total costs are justified with estimates		5
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Can realistically provide local matching funds (10% of project costs)		5
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Project is "shovel-ready" and the applicant demonstrates ability to complete project in a timely manner		5
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Schedule is realistic and <u>clear</u> , able to be completed in 2 years or less		2
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Re-application for project		2
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Applicant has record of spending Program Open Space funds in a timely manner		2
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Applicant has Operations & Maintenance Agreement with County to maintain park		5
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Funding request for additional funds to complete existing POS or L&WCF project		2
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Future Project requests are thoughtful, prioritized, and display input of community or organization		5
Project Score			0	100

APPENDIX L. SURVEY RESPONSES

Do you have any suggestions for new types of recreational facilities or improvements to existing facilities?

"Offroad trail need"

"Love the trails between swallow falls and heggington and also loved the new phase biking trails in broadford lake for the kids"

"We need a WMCA with an indirect pool and sauna!"

"More fun activities for the kids"

"restoration projects adopt streams"

"I love all the parks and recreational facilities in Garrett County. They're very well maintained. I don't have to drive far to enjoy The Nature."

"I would love to see more ORV trails added in Garret Co. Myself and many other off road enthusiasts are willing to travel from other areas of Maryland to enjoy these trails"

"There should be a "Locals" card to access all parks for free. We already pay local and state taxes- we should have park access for free. an Olympic size pool for swim teams for youth Free and Reduced price access for Garrett County residents for CARC both high schools and the college. Free and Reduced price access for Garrett County residents for CARC "Wisp State Parks Broadford Park etc"

"Public tennis courts and directory thereof"

"A Beach on Maryland side of Jennings."

"I'd like more places for non-motorized boating; Deep Creek Lake is full of power boats but New Germany Park's lake is tiny. Are there calm rivers or times when boaters can have a peaceful non-motorized experience?"

"Grantsville Town Park - more/updated playground equipment"

"An affordable community pool would be great for the community. An ice skating rink for the winter is needed too."

"I lived in Garrett County through Middle and High School and then moved down to Towson"

"Shooting range"

"None at this time."

"More comprehensive trail guides with info about parking access."

"More OHV trails"

"Trails of all kinds. We lack diversity of skill level. Focused trails for biking & hiking. The area would greatly benefit from a flat(ish) rail trail for kids & elderly to exercise"

"Public swimming pools and recreation centers throughout the county not just the CARC. I am surprised these were not included in the above selections. Historic sites.""

"Would like to see a disc golf course or two on public properties in the county. I play occasionally but currently driving to Blackwater/Morgantown/Hagerstown to do so. Would play more if I didn't have to drive as far."

"OHV/ORV trails. Dispersed/primitive vehicle camping opportunities."

"Need to better utilize infrastructure built by Garrett Trails. Accessible in most communities"

"Splash pads!! improved town parks, outdoor community pool recreation area."

"We need more facilities for seniors. Also"

"Patrol walking the parks to keep vandalism down"

"Trails at Deep Creek Lake State Park could be better marked"

"Natural surface"

"STOP OVERBUILDING and Leave Nature Alone!"

"We need kid-friendly paved bike trails"

"More pickle ball courts outdoor and indoor. Online activity index and interactive map.""

- "Existing Bike lanes widened and added to roads that are high traffic.... We have the space to widen all the roads in general. Which is safer for both bikers and motorists."
- "Rail trails for biking. Kendall Trail is nice but certainly not long enough. Most of Garrett County's bike trails are mountain biking which are not appropriate for all."
- "We need a centralized multi purpose sports center."
- "More focus on cross-country skiing trails that are groomed. There is also a lack of real-time accurate information about conditions. Laurel Highlands provides excellent information and even a web-cam to visually check on conditions. I would hope a similar effort could be done for skiing venues in Garrett County."
- "Make people on pedal bikes ride on the bike paths instead of roads with no shoulder."
- "Pump Track; Connected trails for biking/hiking; Better overall park information/communication."
- "Would love to see a Frisbee golf course here"
- "Nature trails"
- "MORE FOR KIDS! Maybe even some indoor options for kids! Much of our year is spent dodging rain"
- "More OHV trails to include off-road motorcycles and snowmobiles."
- "ORV trails"
- "Would love it if it were easier and less dangerous to walk around the area more (excluding the downtown areas)-- walking paths or sidewalks along roads"
- "BMX pump track/race trackMountain bike trails"
- "Bike park"
- "More connections between trails and expanding them for multi use. There are too many restrictions on the existing offerings. Families and pets need to be able to play outside together. Including some directional trails for off-road stuff would be really awesome for dirt bikes"
- "More road bike trails"
- "Bike trails"
- "Trail maintenance on Swallow Falls to Harrington and the Savage Mountain trail."
- "More Mt biking trails"
- "More dedicated lap swimming times"
- "Perhaps to better communicate the available resources we already have"
- "More areas that are stroller & wheelchair accessible. More playground equipment that is special-needs adapted. Areas that are fenced in for safety of autistic children."
- "Less Rental boats on the lake - they are ruining the lake"
- "ICE SKATING RINK OR TRAIL PLEASE!!! That's a huge gap during the winter!!!"
- "ORV trails - especially connected systems from existing trails to DCL area. Including snowmobile opportunities too. Please."
- "increased bike trails"
- "More hiking trails and connections between existing trails; Longer trails with bed & breakfasts inns or other lodging spaced and easily accessible Bird watching locations with towers Bridges over creeks along the lake to allow longer walks along the shore Some flat trails for walking and biking" "
- "Sidewalks or walking designated areas on side of roads since few walking trails are convenient to everyone"
- "Better communication of opportunities in Garrett County for recreation"
- "I would like to see updates to the Finzel Park"
- "connect the walking trails teach truck to share the road with bicycles make orv parks have days for non-orv folks"
- "Put a walking track in at Garrett College."

"Bathrooms"

"I prefer to see more natural environments... I don't think we should build large complexes that will not be utilized. I also t we should limit the activities on the lake. We have enough marinas and rental boat facilities."

"need to get more parks with public access. Dog parks"

"A walking/biking trail around the lake"

"Better biking/walking connectivity for parks and trails"

"Trail systems should connect to each other....especially the snowmobile trails."

"Bmx Track"

"maintain what we have"

"Definitely a water park"

"Archery Range 100 yards + with permanent butts, Sporting Clays, shooting stations. Parking. Skeet & Trap non profit for the public with small fees for sustainability & maintenance-Like the New Germany Shooting Range. Parking.""

"Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports. Currently"

"1. More biking trails"

"Outdoor Swimming Pool"

"Better walking communities - traffic safety within Oakland."

"Garrett County already has plenty of outdoor recreational facilities"

"Need to improve docks at deep creek. Increase/double price for visitor or out of state especially launch pass"

"An executive golf course that is open to public."

"Better cycling trails"

"More events"

"We need to protect our native trout population as it becomes more stressed by warming. We need more fishing areas that are easily accessible for seniors. A few more ponds with public access would be good. Ponds with some benches."

"More sidewalks and bike lanes around Deep Creek Lake."

"Ice skating "

"Build a nice 3 or 4 feet wide bike/walking lane on Glendale Road from RT 219 to RT 495."

"Trails accessible to physically challenged individuals."

"pump track for the biking community. Better hiking trails to accommodate parents with baby strollers and toddlers."

"We'd love to see bike trails like the great Allegheny passage."

"Color coded degree of difficulty trail maps. More trail signage. Bike pathways around near the lakeguided"

"More mountain bike trails! Trail between Swallow Falls and Herrington Manor needs complete makeover."

"Additional access to Deep Creek Lake."

"More trails throughout the County."

"More property should be purchased so more people can access the lakefront for water sports or swimming. The lake is huge and the state park public beaches are such a small portion of the lake. The beaches are so awesome"

"Well-marked hiking trails with clearly marked maps of altitude and roads for access. Better and clearly marked bike lanes. Speed signs and room to walk on side of roads"

"More options for hiking with better signage. There are plenty of places to go"

"Yes"

"More biking options for kids and nature based playgrounds with options for slightly bigger kids versus most of our playgrounds right now focus more towards younger kids. For example"

"Orv parks"

"As a resident of Mountain Lake Park cleaning up the veteran's park and monitoring it for unlawful use and people leaving drug paraphernalia behind. Numerous times have myself and others found unsafe and disturbing items in the park left behind. Giving the community youth something besides State parks would be wonderful."

"More walking paths"

"Yes--add hiking trails in the east part of the county AND maintain the ones that exist there a bit better. Also"

"All the playgrounds should be fully fenced in. All the sports fields should be fully fenced in. More handicap access to parks. We should have Atleast one previllion that is fenced in for families with small kids/ kids with autism."

"Provide the poor bike riders along Rock Lodge"

"i suggested an ice rink but i believe that there is not likely enough interest to support a rink."

"Promote XC skiing. Offer lessons groom some trails""

"Ice skating"

"Given the cold weather this place cries for skating rinks. The lake is not usable for skating"

"I would love to have a designated bicycle lane that makes an entire loop"

"Shooting Range"

"Need an indoor sports facility for young people. Preferably a skating rink with room for other activities."

"Pump tracks and skills areas for bikes. More trails with more connectivity."

"Golf cart lane for socializing"

"More bike trails"

"more enforcement regarding speed in recreational areas (driving too fast)"

"More information about safe bike paths/routes in Garrett County"

"More arts events"

"pump track (like a dirt loop to practice jumping and tricks on a mountain bike) for both adults and kids"

"DCL used to be ""Maryland's Best Kept Secret"" - no longer. We really don't need more visitors"

"There needs to be a nice local park on deep creek lake"

"Myself being in a wheelchair would like to see everything more accessible. More access to hunting fishing and water activities."

"We need sports complex for our children to play"

"The loss of OHV trails from the closure of the Greenridge trail system has never been addressed. There is still a lack of a decent trail system for off road motorcycles in particular."

"Add more trails and improve existing trails."

"Kayak/small boat launch away from main lake access on deep creek lake"

"More mountain bike trail features"

"ORV trails"

"Pump track"

Please share any additional comments about parks and recreation in Garrett County.

"DO NOT MAKE THIS A VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM PUT OUR TAX DOLLARS TO USE AND HIRE ASI GRADUATES!!!"

"NA"

"More beginner family friendly mountain bike trails! A nice modern playground and an indoor track would be great!"

"Garrett County needs a park and rec department"

- "The need for facilities in the southern parts of Garrett county. Everything is at the lake. The new splash pad in mtn lake is going to be FANTASTIC!!! I cannot wait to use it."
- "I think Garrett County does a nice job with managing all things related to outdoor recreation."
- "We need more for the locals-too much for the tourists. A survey at schools. Our local youth need affordable or free passes and transportation as well. Most locals are poor and can't use any of what's here. I know many can't wait to leave here"
- "Bike lane on Glendale Rd from Rt 219 to the bridge is hazardous."
- " updated playgrounds that are safe, swimming areas"
- "Would like to see more Permaculture and other farm based outdoor education"
- " specifically motorcycle only singletack""
- "Way too many rental boat on the lake every weekend unqualified operators running these boats and a lot of alcohol on them."
- "Longer boating season would increase my time in Garrett County. Lowering of lake in late summer means I have to remove my boat from my dock slip early in September."
- "Groomed and maintained cross country skiing trails"
- "Senior specific programming"
- "The amount of broadleaf around the docks is prohibiting the enjoyment of swimming which is especially difficult for smaller children. I don't remember vegetation in lake ever being this bad and whilst I understand fish habitat etc it is really getting bad around my dock and cove. I'd love to see a solution."
- " such as State Park road. We have tons of bike riders and walker on State Park trying to take advantage of facilities"
- "Research has proven a positive correlation between exercise and mental health. Expanding programming to include fitness trainers instructors etc making presentations about this research and the benefits to ""movement"" .""
- "The most available recreation opportunity for most people is walking"
- " I would rather go somewhere else than deal with them.""
- "Love the parks! One of our best assets in Garrett Co"
- "Don't allow ORV infrastructures ruin the peace...."
- "Do not allow motorized vehicles trails adjacent to residential area or near enough for noise disturbance"
- "Swanton could use a nice playground for kids"
- "Most gc residents tend to stay close to home so keep improving the small town's parks trails..courts..etc. have to involve children...fun and challenging park activities...provide recreational programs ...supervised by a qualified professional or garrett college's adventure sport's students...travel to each of the small towns."
- "I'll end up participating in a lot of the below with involvement in a number of groups!"
- "Actually"
- "Garrett County has some of the best Road Bicycling around and now we are becoming known for Mountain biking. There is so much to do in Garrett County. A bike pump track would be nice so people could work on their skills. Some easier beginner mountain bike trails would be nice also."
- "Advocate for more money!"
- "I want to thank you for supporting the OHV community with Wolf Den State park. Please work with the MD DNR on making Wolf Den a successful OHV riding area. Thanks"
- "We have to do something to educate the bicyclists to stay off our County roads. It's become a real problem for us motorists on these narrow winding roads. They sometimes ride side by side"
- " many of which are in need of better maintenance. Any kind of programming for kids will obviously bring families to a facility. I would suggest focusing on maintaining our existing facilities and providing well advertised programming at those facilities rather than building a new facility.""

"A walking bridge crossing the river behind the train station"

"Work with Garrett County Emergency Services when opening trails to ensure EMS crews have trail access"

"Broadford hidden jewel current care very nice"

"Some side roads need more space for walkers - our road"

" I know that public transportation is a HUGE problem in Garrett County including access to recreation. Also connection of Garrett Trails should be a continued area of focus. We do not need more ORV trails! I live about 1 mile from St. John's Rock Trails which is grossly underutilized and a huge waste of tax payers money. Further development of recreation should be based on health & well being not fossil fuel emissions."

" protect and clearly mark/document via map the walking and hiking trails."

"excise tax on alcohol to pay for healthy outdoor activities"

"Re-opening ASCI. Its also a terrific facility and is going to waste."

" they need to recognize tht Facebook abd Twitter etc probably do not reach 30-40% if the over 50 yr population. DNR's website defied comprehension and is essentially so complicated that it is un-useable. Trying telephone as a soulrce of outdoor activity by contacting GC and DNR is at best trying because of lack on staff I guess"

"Thank you for all you do to support our parks & recreation facilities!"

" I prefer nature areas with limited ORV access. ORVs are damaging to the ecosystems and limit my access and enjoyment of biodiversity."

" and for hiking they require very long and steep hikes once committed to taking a trail"

"Would like to see an interconnected network of biking and walking trails between towns in Garrett County. I'm NOT in favor of ORV trails in Garrett County."

"Advertise in Pittsburgh and Maryland like Ocean City does. Not enough people know where we are."

"but they used to publish trail maps of the state parks and forests. Now it's mostly on-line. I don't want to take the cell with me when I'm in the woods. I'd rather have a plain ole paper map."

"There is a large void for activities for young children. An outdoor pool and a splash pad would be ideal. The CARC is an indoor option"

"I use and enjoy the CARC extensively. I desire swimming beach and playground facilities for grandchildren. We REALLY need SAFE bicycle paths and walking shoulders especially around Deep Creek Lake."

" Big Run Road area."

"Single track trails across the country are highly desired. They bring affluent spenders who boost local economies they visit."

" countywide but also field trips through school would be beneficial alongside with programs educating kids about our connection with nature and the importance of protecting these plants animals the earth and how to be a better steward and accept the reality of humans contributions to climate devastation and how to mitigate some of the damage we have done. Many of the children's only experience in nature is on ATVs which tears on the trails is loud and removes oneself from the experience of being in nature further contributing to climate change via fuel consumption."

"My suggestion for improvement is more education on Leave No Trace for visitors. With more people recreating there has been an increase in trash and users not knowing trail etiquette. I have NOT been using the local trails as much because of the increase in visitation. More funding is needed on education and environmental protection."

"partner with whitewater kayaking and climbing communities"

"4 wheelers are worse on cty roads since you all granted 'licenses'"

"Do it right the first time. Residents opinions should count more even thou I am not one."

"Quiet is nice for birdwatching and hiking."

"also public beach fishing area on that end of the lake"

"Add nature access whether it is hiking or offroad vehicles"

"Basketball courts"

"The need for a indoor public sports complex is much needed. With the schools not allowing indoor sports due to Covid and the Oakland Armory building being booked a lot we would really benefit from a indoor sports complex with multiple basketball courts."

"people are lost. Better more signs and trail marks are needed. Also trail lengths are sort of misleading on main sign. Need to clarify you walk over other trails to get to short trails making the seemingly shorter hike actually longer. The trail marking could be a good Eagle Scout project."

"We like low key off the grid type parks - Jennings"

"Get bike paths off public roadways. It's not safe."

" create memberships program to help fund and maintain while keeping from becoming overcrowded. The area around wisp has so much but you have to drive to all of it due to no walking areas."

"More WIDE bike paths in GC the Glendale Rd. bike path is a Travesty !"

"I love the forested nature trails and the trails alongside streams and other waterways. Bird watching is great in Garrett Co. The parks are also great places for learning to identify plants and fungi. I always come away feeling calm and refreshed."

" indoor recreation such as trampoline parks, indoor water parks etc. something on the Oakland end would be great"

"Having clearly marked trails & handicap accessible."

"none"

"Also some solution suggestions more emphasis on native species and removal of invasives such as the honeysuckle. A boot scraper or something for people to clean their shoes before entering the parks or forests which may or may not be possible in all circumstances. Some of the areas in WV etc. I would also like to see an initiative to outlaw garden centers from selling invasive plants and trees; i.e. Bradford pear have these with a poster as to why it's important. (There is a pan to step in before entering the Raptor Rescue at the Discovery Center for example). Recommending clean off road vehicles and enforcement of out-of-county firewood Japanese barberry burning bush etc. because that ultimately affects the ecosystem of the forests and parks. Take the environmental programs to the schools. Thank you."

"Establish a Parks and Recreation organization in the County Government to provide comprehensive planning"

"Putting more stuff near the lake doesn't benefit anyone but the tourists who come to visit."

"More nature center programming for out of town visitors."

"See <http://www.mdohvalliance.org/>"

"County is doing a great job with parks and recreation. My concern is that boating has gone under-regulated for too long."

"Don't let off-road vehicles spoil it for everybody else. Please keep them out of Garrett County. (We don't allow them at home in Baltimore County.)"

" and connect to sidewalks etc."

" a dedicated and connection to the GAP would be great."

"kid-friendly bike trails- long straight and flat preferably"

"Fewer motor boats on the Lake"

"Blackwater State Park in WV offers lots of nature programs for kids"

"more trails and more expansive and interconnecting atv/ snowmobile trail system (kind of like a downsized Hatfield and McCoy trail system (southern WV)..... less restrictive wildlands... come on"

"We have too many people trespassing on private land. We need to educate people to stay off of private land."

"It would be great to have more public places to fish that are well designated"

"Succeed to West Virginia. We have no real representation in Western Maryland . The values of the people in Annapolis are completely different than ours up here. The legislature in Maryland only wants to keep Garrett county for the lake. They also charge some of us a "flush tax" for water that doesn't even go into the Chesapeake bay. We would be better off with West Virginia."

"Off road"

"Weight programs available for seniors"

"I'd like to see more bike trails and areas for swimming."

"connecting trails and safe bike paths"

"an Olympic size pool for swim teams for youth"

"Need to save more coal company discarded land now. Wolf Den Park should be a starting place."

"Would like to see more mountain bike trails"

"Whatever changes are made, preserving the natural character of the parks and minimizing impervious surfaces toxic materials etc. is crucial. Garrett Co is known for its natural beauty and it's key to keep the health of ecosystems front and center."

"Locals day discounts might draw more to these."

"Nothing at this time."

"Tell the Army Corps of Engineers to quit draining the Yough lake every summer and fucking everything up."

"It is tIme for a county recreation and parks department."

" Garrett county is in desperate need for AFFORDABLE things for kids and families to do. Everything is geared toward the tourists with \$\$."

"Need better Verizon cell signals to help with navigation around the County"

" all purpose trails. For better enjoyment of nature.""

"STOP OVERBUILDING and Leave Nature Alone!"

"We need better maintenance for existing trails and roads."

"More information that is accurate and timely. DNR's app provides only general information"

"Please care about the locals instead of always only the tourists.""

" water sports classes activities accessible by boat""

"Wolf Den Run is outstanding. Well Done!!!"

"Keep up the good work! Making more information available about existing options would be great!"

" and quads.""

"Love what you do and your efforts to keep thing improving."

"Build a second pool near Oakland"

"Love Garrett County . My Mother was born here and I've had a home here for more than 20 years but at my age. I'm happy to just enjoy the view."

" the shore and tax paying homeowners property and don't care. The owners of the rental boat stores are all on the Boards in the community and are making a ton of money while the lake is getting ruined and no one is doing anything about it. There are very few property owner boats on the lake on any given day - it is rental boats and it is extremely dangerous and the DNR is not policing enough. Every weekend there are pontoon boats full of drunks all around the coves acting like idiots and driving jet skis and the rental boats drunk and no one is doing anything about it. It's not fair to the property owners who are heavily invested in this area and pay for everything. The marinas are making a fortune at our expense - Rental boat operators don't know the rules come so close to other boats docks etc. It is so scary and our beautiful lake is getting ruined for Marina owner's wealth. SO NOT FAIR. Someone needs to step up and limit rental boats before it's too late.""

- "I prefer to walk from home w or w/o dog and it is downright dangerous on many streets and roadways."
- "basketball court needs redone little league field needs to be converted to pickleball courts. Playground equipment needs updated. Volleyball net needs put back up. This is definitely a Project Open Space need grass is still being cut and paid for even though no one uses it."
- "sad to hike and mtn bike and have orv chase you down support garrett trails ask soke farmers to have waler right of ways like europe"
- "Follow the trends and continue to make Garrett County a recreational mecca. Don't allow development that could mar the natural beauty people crave and are willing to travel to see. Undeveloped land is becoming increasingly rare and it should never be taken for granted."
- "I think we need to be careful about how many new complexes are built. For example... is the college facilities used enough or should we improve those facilities and promote the facility more. I know that the county can not control all the businesses that spring up but for example Monkey Business climbing was built and it is not very attractive and I am not sure if it is utilized enough. There is also the Deep Creek Marina Club... large parking structure that does anything to beautify the lake. So if the county just builds unattractive facilities that don't add to the naturally beauty of the lake and county"
- "Pump track and skills courses for biking Covered basketball courts Disc golf"
- "Kids need things to do at not cost"
- "Would like to see some French & Indian/Revolutionary War & Civil war re-enactments. Uniforms, Muskets, Cannon. Bayonet Charge, Pipes & Drums, Flags, horse calvery, etc. Maybe the Fort Alice engagement of 1863?"
- " just take care of what is here. A few public-access ball fields would be good."
- "Consider giving better access to handicap people for hunting like issuing keys or key card for gates."
- "More organized pickleball groups for varying abilities especially beginners/advanced beginners."
- "We moved here to be outdoors more and this place is doing just that."
- "skate park for kids affordable swimming/gym other than having to go to the lake"
- "A little creative thinking would not be a bad thing."
- "Our interest is Deep Creek Lake. We have been part time residents since 1978. We are concerned about power boating"
- "We love your parks. They are a big part of why we retired here. Have no complaints"
- "Guided walks or hikes"
- " we need more of them. I own my own lakefront and recognize that this shouldn't be a luxury only afforded to those who can afford it. The lake should be more accessible to our community."
- "I have tried to access info on hiking trails many times but it always is quite confusing."
- " have online information about trail heads and access points. More mountain biking trails/dual purpose trails would be nice too."
- "We need a senior trail park for disabled kids/ adults in wheelchairs. We also need a part similar to the dog park that has low risk of falling for extra awesome kids like my children who have autism."
- "most of the activities that i participate in i am able to do with the facilities in GC"
- "Ice skating"
- "Parks and recreation opportunities in Garrett County have long been excellent and well managed. Along with the lake and Wisp"
- "The challenge--raise enough private grant funds for an indoor skating rink."
- "Garrett County needs a dedicated Parks and Recreation Department."
- "The new Garrett trails CEO is doing a great job. Give him all the support he needs"
- "Try bringing lake and town people together."

APPENDIX M. AGRICULTURAL LAND INVENTORY

#	Last Name	Map	Parcel	Total Acreage	Easement Date	Status	Easement Program
0	Panther	71	127	67.21	12/24/2004	Easement	MET
0	Paradise Enterprises	89	10	16.34	11/2/1993	Easement	MET
0	Wright, Jr	18	16	78.64	4/28/1994	Easement	MET
0	James IV	18	32	46.19	9/20/1995	Easement	MET
0	Moors	04	113, 140	97.78	11/15/1999	Easement	MET
0	DNR	41	43	81	9/22/2008	Easement	MET
0	Garrett Co Comm.	49	118	550	1/6/2003	Easement	MET
0	MET	50	510	69.67	8/1/1988	Easement	MET
0	Herrington Place, LLC	71	114	85.76	12/24/2004	Easement	MET
0	Weise	58	306, 451, 635	64.72	12/3/2007	Easement	MET
0	Putman	26	181	47.17	5/26/2005	Easement	MET
0	Bear Creek Ranch LLC	33	1	745.06	3/19/2009	Easement	MET
0	Braitman	20	179	24.56	12/3/2008	Easement	MET
0	Raesly	29	59	24.23	12/6/2007	Easement	MET
0	Boyer & McDowell	36	57, 63	66.56	11/29/2006	Easement	MET
0	Weise	58	85, 617	60.45	12/3/2007	Easement	MET
0	Cottrell Trust	27	25	27.85	10/10/2003	Easement	MET
0	Vu	58	705	5.87	8/1/1988	Easement	MET
0	James	18	32	46.19		Easement	MET
0	MET	50	688, 689, 690	2.2	8/1/1988	Easement	MET
0	DNR	27	137	11.8	10/10/2003	Easement	MET
0	Wright	71	114	37	12/24/2004	Easement	MET
0	Thomas	71	114	37	12/24/2004	Easement	MET
0	Cropp	87	65	15.27	8/31/2010	Easement	MET
0	Weise	66	302	0.226	12/3/2007	Easement	MET
0	Gates	29	89, 91, 96	29	12/23/2013	Easement	MET
1	SY CH-LO-MA Farms LLC	85	10, 113, 150	175.33	4/1/1983	Easement	MALPF
3	SY Arnold	85	196	70	4/24/1985	Easement	MALPF
3	SY Mattingly	85	12	34.57	4/24/1985	Easement	MALPF
3	SY Kinsinger	85	34	41.87	4/24/1985	Easement	MALPF
3	SY Peachy	85	42	27.85	4/24/1985	Easement	MALPF
4	SY Riley	85	107	106	1/17/1984	Easement	MALPF
8	SY Mattingly	85	13	53.23	10/10/1990	Easement	MALPF
9	PC Ganoë	10	8	112.72		District	

#	Last Name	Map	Parcel	Total Acreage	Easement Date	Status	Easement Program
10	PC Ganoë, Jr.	11	61	107.5		District	
10	PC Ganoë, Jr.	11	78	103.8	2/28/2007	Easement	MALPF
11	SY Ridder	95	35	236.87	6/25/1987	Easement	MALPF
12	SY Miller	95	67	11.8	6/25/1987	Easement	MALPF
13	SY Bachtel	100	102	26.58		District	
13	SY Bachtel	99	5	73.06	11/18/2011	Easement	MALPF
14	SY Roth	100	6	87.95	10/25/1984	Easement	MALPF
15	SY Ridder	95	116	43.53	10/21/2005	Easement	MALPF
18	BC Kolb Farms, Inc	24	5	201.45	8/4/1989	Easement	MALPF
24	SY Green	72	35	197.76	3/4/1991	Easement	MALPF
25	DC Custer	67	14	71.76	9/18/1990	Easement	MALPF
25	DC Custer	68	81, 82	84.41	9/18/1990	Easement	MALPF
25	DC Pristine Farm LLC	67	770	224.91	9/18/1990	Easement	MALPF
26	SY Mason	85	207	23.64	6/29/1987	Easement	MALPF
27	SR Brown	37	11	191.27	1/4/1989	Easement	MALPF
28	SR Brown	28	19, 25	205.8	10/22/1987	Easement	MALPF
29	SY Hauser	95	98	190.5	12/28/1987	Easement	MALPF
30	BC Kolb Farms, Inc	24	33	70.3		District	
32	PC Ganoë	10	11	314.4		District	
33	SY Moyer	99	27	104.16	1/16/1990	Easement	MALPF
35	SR Bequette	29	40	139.42	12/27/1990	Easement	MALPF
36	SR Stafford	37	3	122.35	8/3/1995	Easement	MALPF
40	SR Wilhelm	38	1	316.17	2/7/1995	Easement	MALPF
41	CR Beitzel	43	2, 83	98.66	5/16/1996	Easement	MALPF
42	CR Glotfelty	43	25	144.09	9/20/1994	Easement	MALPF
50	DC O'Brien	59	45	115.29	3/4/1998	Easement	MALPF
51	SR Brown	28	47	36	12/1/1998	Easement	MALPF
52	NCY Bishoff	41	97	104.41	12/31/1999	Easement	MALPF
53	NCY Bishoff	32	35	188.76		District	
55	CR Turner	35	87	204.07	8/7/2000	Easement	MALPF
56	CR Meadow Mt. Sports Club	35	100	20.34	8/25/2000	Easement	MALPF
57	SR Stafford	37	3	120.25	3/27/2001	Easement	MALPF
58	SR Conner	37	1	166.11	1/8/2001	Easement	MALPF
59	CR Turner	35	87	204.07	12/13/2001	Easement	MALPF
60	SY Harsh	94	8	93.33	8/19/2003	Easement	MALPF
61	SY Schmidt	72	42, 79, 84	198.9	7/9/2002	Easement	MALPF

#	Last Name	Map	Parcel	Total Acreage	Easement Date	Status	Easement Program
62	SR Custer	60	60, 79	132.11	1/11/2002	Easement	MALPF
62	SR Custer	60	7	145.03	1/11/2002	Easement	MALPF
65	CR Streets	26	81	109.96		District	
67	DC Mernone	51	69	15.16	9/3/2002	Easement	MALPF
67	DC Mernone	59	601, 604	101.84	9/3/2002	Easement	MALPF
68	BC Shane	16	19	150.87	4/18/1984	Easement	MET
69	NCY Friend	22	45	168.11		District	
70	SY Tribbey	91	2, 85, 91, 101, 143, 145	182.065	4/17/2003	Easement	MALPF
72	DC Opel	43	9	117.1		District	
73	SY Bernard	85	55	104.18	6/29/2004	Easement	MALPF
74	CR Maust	17	12, 13	139.07	12/19/2003	Easement	MALPF
76	SY Brenneman	91	40	197.47	8/26/2004	Easement	MALPF
77	SY Kepple	95	106, 107	47.41	5/1/2006	Easement	MALPF
78	SY Hebb	100	8	103.02	8/21/2006	Easement	MALPF
80	BC Harman Farms LLC	33	36	158.45	5/27/2004	Easement	Rural Legacy
81	BC Englar	15	16	49.574	5/21/2004	Easement	Rural Legacy
82	BC Sherrard	24	19	172.3	5/27/2004	Easement	Rural Legacy
86	BC Bender	16	73	70.88	1/14/2005	Easement	Rural Legacy
87	BC Kahl Farm LLC	42	460	149.17	5/22/2007	Easement	MALPF
88	BC Bender	16	40	152.92	6/1/2006	Easement	Rural Legacy
89	DC Sunny/Steiding	67	122, 249	112.07	3/11/2008	Easement	MALPF
89	DC Sunny/Steiding	74	237	9.24	3/11/2008	Easement	MALPF
90	SY Petersheim	84	53	66.25	3/12/2008	Easement	MALPF
91	SY Miller	91	103	65.77	6/30/2008	Easement	MALPF
92	SY Swartzentruber	85	48	122.99	4/28/2008	Easement	MALPF
93	BC Broadwater	24	71	267.32	11/13/2008	Easement	Rural Legacy
94	SY Kern	95	36	122.5	4/8/2009	Easement	MALPF
95	BC Devine	15	29	139.943	1/15/2008	Easement	Rural Legacy
96	SY Evans	79	175, 47, 311	151.35	5/26/2010	Easement	MALPF
97	BC Margroff	16	11	114.42	6/24/2008	Easement	Rural Legacy
100	NY Vitez	5	38	135.6	11/30/2010	Easement	MALPF
101	NY Vitez	5	182	55.14	11/8/2016	Easement	MALPF
102	NBP Riley	92	164	71.29		District	
103	CR Shawley	44	3	101.4	10/23/2012	Easement	MALPF
104	BC Beitzel	33	51	86.51	12/13/2011	Easement	Rural Legacy
105	PC Ganoë II	11	258, 40	51.36	10/19/2011	Easement	MALPF

#	Last Name	Map	Parcel	Total Acreage	Easement Date	Status	Easement Program
106	BC Klotz	32	106	81.96	6/9/2011	Easement	Rural Legacy
107	DC Parandhamaia	59	64	159.79	4/16/2010	Easement	MALPF
109	BC Schmuck	24	314	102.76	8/30/2011	Easement	Rural Legacy
110	BC Margroff Enterprises	15	17	106	12/21/2021	Easement	Rural Legacy
111	BC Berkebile	24	323	51.92	7/26/2019	Easement	Rural Legacy
112	BC Berkebile	24	30	46	7/26/2019	Easement	Rural Legacy
113	BC Rush Price	24	321	52.99	7/26/2019	Easement	Rural Legacy
114	BC Bentz	15	10	169.23		District	
115	SR Hughes	29	18, 14	234.32		District	
116	BC Shane	16	36	10		District	
117	SY Baker	86	163	24.397	8/25/2014	Easement	MALPF
117	SY Baker	85	3	98.687	8/25/2014	Easement	MALPF
118	SY White	79	80	98.92	6/25/2014	Easement	MALPF
119	DC Gosnell	73	122	50	4/21/2017	Easement	MALPF
120	PC Ganoë	11	79	134.52	6/9/2016	Easement	MALPF
121	SY Valley Of Hope Farms, LLC	78	43	51.31		District	
121	SY Valley of Hope Farms, LLC	85	9	339.03	12/22/2018	Easement	MALPF
122	SY Hummel	95	18, 70	664.95		District	
122	SY Hummel	95	18, 70	664.95	10/21/2021	Easement	MALPF
125	NY Sherbin	41	44	78.02		District	MALPF
127	CR Buckel	43	28	387.39		District	MALPF
128	SY Bender	90	176	117.12		District	
129	NY Vitez	5	55	0		District	MALPF
130	SY Kinsinger	85	1	33.44	2/26/2019	Easement	MALPF
131	NB DCL 5 Properties	92	19	227.56		District	MALPF
132	CR Beitzel	35	17	143.67		District	MALPF
133	NB Wells	86	20, 24, 47	198.51		District	MALPF
134	SY Hayhurst	72	227	51.69		District	
135	NB Steyer	92	8, 55	68.57		District	MALPF
136	NB Steyer	92	24, 46	215.07		District	MALPF
137	SY Schalbach	90	8	182.89		District	MALPF
139	SR Four Mile Ridge Sportsman	29	46	148.71		District	MALPF
140	BC Rosser	24	32,76	126.04		District	Rural Legacy
141	NB Margroff	15		51.98	12/21/2021	District	Rural Legacy

