

Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan

A Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan

July 1998

Prepared by the

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning
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NOTICE TO READERS

The **Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan (PROS Plan)** provides a set of **comprehensive recommendations and guidelines for the use of publicly owned parkland in Montgomery County**. The PROS Plan also fulfills the State of Maryland's requirement to assess the park system every five years in order to maintain eligibility for Program Open Space funds. Though updated each five years, projections are carried out 10+ years for planning purposes.

Within The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) the term "park" is used to describe a variety of land owned by the Commission. "Parkland," as it is called, is used for recreation, conservation, and historic preservation purposes, and often serves a combination of these uses. Readers will notice that the PROS Plan is organized primarily on the status of facilities (e.g. "Current Status, Trends, and Projections," "Facility and Resource Needs," etc.). As a result, recreation, conservation and historic preservation topics are not consolidated, but instead are found within each chapter as appropriate.

A word of clarification about the distinction between the Montgomery County Planning Board and the Commission. "Board" refers to the Planning Board, a five-member group appointed by and responsible to the Montgomery County Council for advising and assisting in planning, zoning, subdivision, and other duties. In Montgomery County the Planning Board also acts to plan, acquire, maintain and operate the county's park system. "Commission" refers to The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), which is comprised of the Planning Board members from both Montgomery and Prince George's County. The Commission is cited as the owner of non-municipal parkland within Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

It is also useful to understand the relationship between M-NCPPC, the Montgomery County Recreation Department, and other providers. Generally speaking, the Recreation Department coordinates and conducts programs, often at Commission owned recreation facilities, and is in charge of facilities such as swimming pools and staffed recreation centers. Activities that fall under M-NCPPC's purview include site improvements such as playgrounds, trails, ballfields, and campgrounds; enterprise endeavors, including golf courses, ice skating rinks, and indoor tennis facilities; and other location-related facilities such as nature centers and historic sites. There are also private concessionaires who, through agreements with M-NCPPC, operate facilities such as boat docks and horseback riding stables.

The PROS Plan focuses on overall community needs as well as services and facilities throughout the park system in the context of how to best meet demand. It does not focus on the entity delivering those services.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

What needs and demands exist for parks, outdoor recreation, and resource preservation in Montgomery County? What must be done to meet the present and projected needs? To answer these questions, the 1998 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (hereinafter referred to as the PROS Plan) comprehensively looks at present and future needs for recreation facilities, natural and historic resources, and open space. The Plan includes recommendations for addressing these needs;

The PROS Plan is the Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan adopted by the County in Maryland to maintain eligibility for Program Open Space grant funds. It provides overall policy guidance for park and recreation planning in the County. As in the past, an important element of the Plan is providing for future recreation facilities needs; however, this year, the State desires for additional participation. It requests an increase in emphasis on natural and historic resource preservation needs. Another significant change from the previous PROS Plan is inclusion of information on Montgomery County Department of Recreation programs and recommendations from that Department's Recreation Facility Development Plan and Aquatic Facility Plan.

PARKS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Plan includes information on the various types of parks and open spaces that serve the County's 810,000 residents. The majority of County parks and recreation facilities are provided by the 28,000-acre park system owned and operated by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). It is categorized into types, based on the service area of each park, physical size, natural features, cultural resources, and the kind of facilities it contains. All of these parts interrelate as a unified system serving urban/suburban/rural and rural areas of the County. Larger parks that serve regional recreation or conservation needs are termed countywide parks. Small parks that are primarily used by residents of nearby areas are called as community parks. Information on natural



"Wings of a Butterfly Exhibit, Brookside Garden"

State, and municipal parks that are located in the County is also included in the Plan.

FUTURE NEEDS FOR PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACES

The PROS Plan looks at how tomorrow's park system can accommodate the physical and social changes taking place in the County, and estimates future recreation facility, and natural and cultural resource needs through the year 2010. These estimates consider how many people use parks and recreation facilities, Where they live and how far they have to travel to parks, and also incorporate the results of several surveys conducted to provide input into this Plan.

County-wide Park Facility Needs

County-wide recreation facilities are designed to serve all County residents, but also help serve local needs of nearby neighborhoods. County-wide facility need estimates are included in Chapter 6 of the Plan. The estimated additional facility needs for year 2010 at County-wide parks are: 9 tennis courts, 18 ballfields, 100 picnic tables, and 3 large playgrounds. The Plan also identifies needs for additional recreation centers, aquatic facilities, and trails, and discusses many other types of recreation opportunities such as camping, boating, fishing, etc.

Community Use Park Facility Needs

This Plan also includes year 2010 updated community use park facility needs for tennis and basketball courts, playgrounds and ballfields for each of the County's 26 Planning Areas. Needs for ballfields have dramatically increased in recent years due to a large expansion in the number of sports teams, and increased population projections. As a result, there are higher deficiencies for

ballfields than for any other facility. Playground and basketball court needs are also significant in local parks.

Highest needs for additional recreation facilities for the year 2010 are estimated in the I-270 and Route 29 corridors and the Travilah Planning Area, where population growth is highest. The down-County planning areas of Bethesda, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park also indicate very high needs for ballfields. Total County needs for additional community use facilities for the year 2010 are: 9 tennis courts, 56 playgrounds, 48 basketball courts, and 101 ballfields.

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION NEEDS

The PROS Plan discusses important natural, cultural, and historic resource protection programs and policies. The Plan also identifies several important environmental areas that should be considered for future acquisition, including: Little Bennett Stream Valley Park, Upper Paint Branch Stream Valley Park, River Road shale barrens, Piney Meetinghouse Road serpentine area, and Hoyles Mill Protection Area. These areas are currently included in the long range park acquisition program. The Plan also includes recommendations for acquisition of land to interconnect Seneca, Northwest Branch and Rock Creek stream valley parks with the Patuxent River Regional Greenway.

Information on historic and archeological resources is also included in the PROS Plan. Over the last decade tremendous progress has been made in the preservation and stabilization of cultural sites. The Plan includes a listing of the highest priority historic preservation sites on County parkland. There is a need to provide interpretive education programs about the significance of these sites. These programs can foster a community sense of identity and strengthen public

understanding of these physical links to the cultural past.

PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEETING FUTURE PARK AND RECREATION NEEDS

The Plan recommends a variety of techniques to meet future facility needs including: new park construction within the Capital Improvements Program; expanded community use of school facilities; and development of parks through public/private partnerships, particularly in connection with new subdivisions. Increased land acquisition for active recreation facilities is important to assure that future needs can be met. Innovative ways to provide needed facilities should also be considered. In areas where needs cannot feasibly be met, consideration should be given to serving residents with facilities in adjacent areas, and increasing efforts to maximize the use of current facilities through redevelopment or changes in programming or policies.

The Plan specifically recommends focusing on providing new recreation opportunities for needs highlighted by recent park surveys, including increasing opportunities for natural-surface and hard-surface trails, in-line skating, roller hockey, and bicycling. The PROS Plan also recommends strategizing ways of providing increased ballfields because this is the greatest facility need for the year 2010. A new type of community use park is recommended that would cluster ballfields in a larger local recreation complex so that they are easier to maintain and cause less disturbance to the community. Providing improved field maintenance and expanded usage by partnering with Montgomery County Public Schools is also suggested.

Balancing the development of recreation facilities with the need to preserve sensitive natural and - cultural areas is also stressed. It is

recommended that a sufficient amount of non-environmentally sensitive land be acquired to provide for future active recreation facilities without impacting natural areas. New park development should follow a hierarchy of environmental feature impact avoidance, minimization and mitigation. Additional opportunities for passive recreation and preservation and interpretation of historic and cultural resources should also be provided.

The Plan indicates that access to major parks and recreation areas should be facilitated through an interconnected system of greenways and trails that provide corridors for wildlife and opportunities for recreational trails.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROS PLAN REPORTS

A staff planning document entitled *Montgomery County Parks for Tomorrow* serves as a supplement document to the PROS plan and looks broadly at park and open space planning as we prepare to move into the 21st century. It includes proposals for: Recreation Facilities; Urban Open Spaces; Private Recreation Areas in New Residential Developments; Natural Resources; Historic and Cultural Resources; Recreational Trails; and Greenways.

The implementation of the PROS Plan will be provided through the *1999 PROS Plan Implementation Study* which will recommend specific sites for the development of future recreation facilities and the acquisition and preservation of natural areas, historic and cultural resources, and greenways.

FOUNDATIONS OF THE PLAN

This chapter includes the purpose of the 1998 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan (PROS Plan) and an overview of the park planning process. This is followed by the 1988 Guiding Policy for Parks, 1997 Guidelines for Parks in Urban Areas, information on the County's 1964 General Plan (On Wedges and Corridors) as well as the 1993 General Plan Refinement of the Goals and Objectives for Montgomery County, and the 1992 State Planning Act's Seven Visions. The PROS Plan's relationship to these documents is also discussed.

OVERVIEW

The basic purpose of the PROS Plan is to answer two questions: 1) What is the demand for recreation facilities and programs within the County's park system? and, 2) What important natural and historic areas in the County need to be preserved? The plan includes recommendations that respond to these questions and includes information on existing parks, open space, recreation programs, future needs, and plan implementation. A chart summarizing the planning process used to develop the PROS Plan is listed as Figure 1.

The 1998 PROS Plan is a comprehensive revision that supersedes previous editions of the PROS Plan. The first PROS Plan was prepared in 1978, at the direction of the County Council, to assist in establishing priorities for parkland, acquisition, and recreation facility development in Montgomery County. The PROS Plan serves as the County's Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan which is mandated to maintain eligibility for Program Open Space grant funding. In order to keep pace with changing patterns of need, updates to the Plan have been prepared every five years, with the last update occurring in 1993. The PROS Plan represents a refinement of the overall framework for parks and recreation contained in the County's 1964 *General Plan for the Maryland-Washington Regional District Within Montgomery and Prince George's County* and in existing park

acquisition and development guidelines. It compares the facility needs for each planning area in the County so that decision makers have the information necessary to establish priorities in an era of high competition for limited resources.

To determine park needs it is necessary to understand the changing patterns of urban and suburban life, the state of the park and recreation facilities within the County, and the process followed to determine future recreational opportunities. An age-sensitive demographic model was employed reflecting the age distribution of residents in each planning area of the County, and participation rates in major recreational activities. Chapter 6 includes an explanation of this methodology and also identifies future park and recreation facility needs for each planning area.

The 1997 population of Montgomery County was approximately 810,000, and is projected to expand to over 933,000 by the year 2010. Provision of adequate public facilities to serve this growing population takes careful planning. This ensures that sufficient lands for present and future residents are set aside for: attractive urban open spaces to relieve the vast expanses of concrete and asphalt found in heavily developed areas; opportunities to protect stream valleys and important historic, archeological and natural areas; opportunities for outdoor recreational and educational for the young and old; and an integrated system of

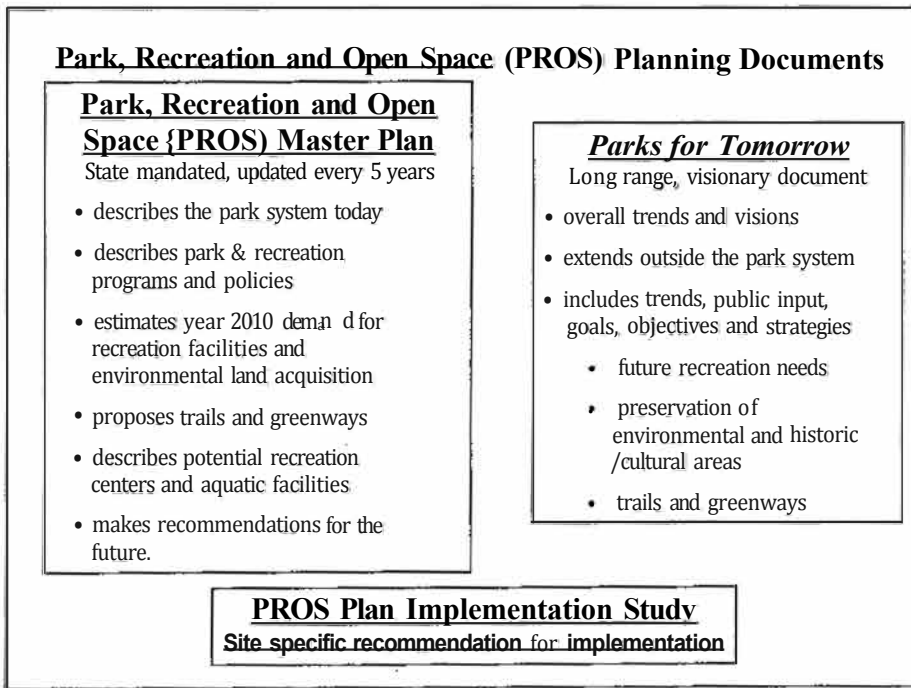
greenways and trails. Adequate maintenance and renovation of deteriorated facilities is also critical to provide the most effective supply of park resources.

The Montgomery County park system has been in existence for over 70 years. During the initial formative years in the 1930s, '40s and '50s the focus was primarily on the acquisition of the County's stream valley park system which provided conservation and passive recreation areas. The 1960s, '70s and '80s placed a higher priority placed on the development of active recreation facilities to serve the County's rapidly growing population. During the 1980s, historic and archeological preservation programs led to the stabilization of many of the parks cultural resources, many of which are located in the stream valley areas where early settlers initially lived. In the 1990s, increasing concern about preservation of sensitive natural areas prompted renewed interest in conservation and protection of natural areas.

The M-NCPPC can continue to provide residents with valuable natural, historic and recreational experiences while fulfilling its obligation to protect resources. The major challenge facing the PROS Plan is to provide an adequate balance between the need for active recreation facilities for the County's expanding population while meeting the need to preserve important resources. Seeking a balance between the need to provide a variety of recreational facilities and experiences with the need to preserve and protect our natural and historic resources will assure the broadest range of park experience. These important goals are compatible if stewardship responsibilities are considered at each stage of the planning process.

RELATED PARK PLANNING STUDIES

There are two additional studies that are companion documents to the PROS Plan and are important to the park planning process:



- A visionary document titled *Montgomery County Parks for Tomorrow* is a supplemental staff report to this PROS Plan. *Montgomery County Parks for Tomorrow* differs significantly from the PROS Plan in that it provides long-range goals that may apply to parks and open spaces both within and outside the public park system. The document was created primarily from input from the public, recreation and government center advisory boards, user

Figure 1.1

THE PLANNING PROCESS

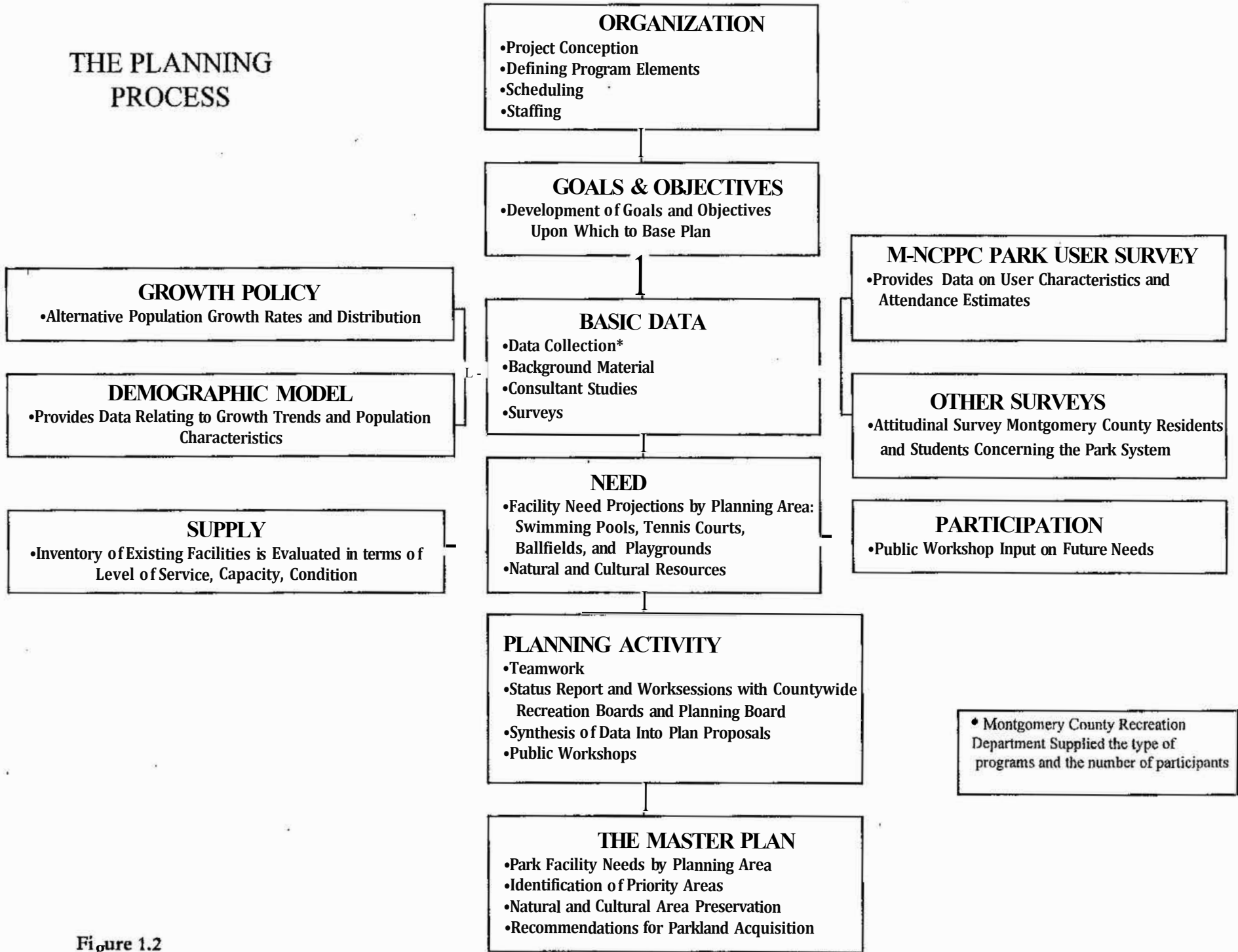


Figure 1.2

- groups, the Recreation Department, other public agencies, and staff from Park and Planning. It includes existing challenges, trends, public input, goals, objectives, and strategies for recreation needs, urban open spaces, private recreation areas in new residential developments, natural resource protection, preservation of historic and cultural resources, recreational trails, and greenways.
- A PROS Plan Implementation Study is prepared following the completion of each PROS Plan to determine how recreation facility needs can most feasibly be met in each planning area. The 1999 PROS Plan Implementation Study will propose specific sites for meeting the needs identified by the PROS Plan and further explore alternatives for public/private partnerships and joint development with other agencies.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

Obtaining information on public use of parks and opinions as to future needs was a critical part of the development of this plan. The public input process for the PROS Plan had three primary aspects:

- Meetings with Recreation Advisory Boards and Government Center Boards, as well as some citizens associations and user groups, regarding the PROS Plan Update approved work program and issues.
- Public workshops on PROS Plan issues, as well as a Montgomery County Planning Board public hearing to obtain input on future needs and Plan recommendations.

GUIDING POLICIES, PRINCIPLES, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES

"Policy for Parks"

This section highlights the goals and objectives used in planning for Montgomery County Parks. In 1988 the Montgomery County Planning Board adopted the "Policy for Parks" which includes the following goals and objectives for the park system. The goals and objectives are still valid and are re-affirmed by this document. These guiding policies should be followed whenever possible. Exceptions may be made by the Planning Board when it is deemed to be in the best public interest.

To acquire and maintain a system of natural areas, open spaces, and recreation facilities developed in harmony with the County's natural resources to perpetuate an environment fit for life and fit for living.

Objectives:

Acquisition of Park Land: The objectives of the program for parkland acquisition shall be:

1. Acquisition of land for a balanced park system in the region in order to:
 - Provide citizens with a wide choice of both active and passive recreation

- opportunities as major factors in enhancing the quality of life.
 - Provide adequate parklands to accommodate conservation and preservation needs.
2. Acquisition of parkland based on the following considerations:
 - Local and regional demand for public park and recreation facilities based on , current need and projected population changes.
 - Protection and preservation of natural areas.
 - Protection and preservation of watersheds.
 - Protection and preservation of cultural and historical sites.
 3. Encouraging the private dedication of land as a means of parkland acquisition.

Development and Management of the Park System

1. The objectives of the planning, design, construction, and management of the park system shall be based on:
 - Meeting the needs of recreation and preservation in a manner that is harmonious with the natural beauty and parkland physiography, reflecting concern for the environment.
 - A planned and scientific approach to resource management, cognizant of the ecological interdependencies of people, the biota, water, and soil.
2. To preserve natural resources, the Department of Park and Planning shall:
 - Limit the development of active-use areas in regional parks to no more than 1/3 of their total park acreage, with the remaining acreage designated as natural areas and/or conservation areas. Development in other categories of parks shall be determined on a case-by-case basis with full consideration of the values of the natural features.

- Prepare an environmental evaluation as part of park development or rehabilitation plans where deemed appropriate by the Park Commission.
- Review as necessary the impact of park use, development, and management practices on parkland.

Relationship to Other Public Agencies, Education, and the Private Sector.

1. The Department of Park and Planning shall encourage other public agencies, as well as the private sector, to assist in providing compatible open spaces, natural areas, and recreation facilities and opportunities in the region.
2. The Department of Park and Planning shall encourage and support research in the environmental sciences by other public agencies, institutions of higher learning, and the private sector, and support programs in outdoor education and recreation in the school system.
3. Lands and facilities under the control of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission are held as a public trust for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations. The Commission is pledged to protect these holdings from encroachment that would threaten their use as park land. The Commission recognizes that under rare circumstances non-park uses may be required on park property in order to serve the greater public interest.

"Guiding Principles For Development of Parks in Urban Areas"

The "Guiding Principles for Development of Parks in Urban Areas" were approved by the Planning Board in 1997 and will be utilized in

planning for parks and open spaces in our County's urban areas.

Goal The overriding goal for parks in urban areas is to provide a comprehensive system of interconnected urban parks and open spaces.

Guiding Principles:

1. **Develop, Implement, and Maintain a Varied, Well-Distributed Public Open Space System**
 - Continue the commitment to long-term stewardship of open space.
 - Provide guidance for identification, acquisition and development of new urban park and open space sites to serve residents, workers and visitors.
 - Locate urban parks and open spaces where they will contribute to revitalization.
 - Encourage alternative methods of providing and maintaining public open spaces.
2. **Emphasize Connectivity, Ease of Access, and Safety**
 - Improve connections to the County-wide trails and bikeways system.
 - Provide green boulevards as vital links in the urban park and open space system.
 - Locate and design urban parks and open spaces with public safety in mind.
 - Use unneeded public lands as elements of the urban park and open space system.
3. **Serve the Needs of Diverse Communities**
 - Provide facilities for a wide range of ages, backgrounds, and interests.
 - Incorporate cultural, historical, and natural themes that reflect the communities linked by the open space system.
 - Renovate existing facilities in response to changing community needs.
4. **Promote a More Attractive and Inviting Urban Environment**

- Use public open space and street trees to "green the city" and soften the hard edges of the urban environment.
- Use shade trees to create the attractive green boulevards integral to the system.
- Use public parks and open spaces as amenities to support urban revitalization.

THE ROLE OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN THE GENERAL PLAN

The 1964 *General Plan for the Maryland-Washington Regional District in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties* describes parks, recreation, and open space in broad terms. Portions of the 1993 *General Plan Refinement of the Goals & Objectives for Montgomery County*, an amendment to *The General Plan*, that relate to parkland and protection of environmental and historic resources are included in Appendix 1. The 1998 PROS Plan addresses the park-related issues in greater detail. The thrust of *The General Plan* is still relevant and is complemented and extended, rather than altered, by the PROS Plan.

To further describe the role of parks, recreation, and open space as an element of *The General Plan* the following section examines the General Plan's contents in terms of: urban form and design, community development, community identity, conservation, and recreation.

Urban Form and Design

The concept of form and design expressed in the General Plan focuses on the capability of parks and green space to help create and guide a pattern of growth in the County that ultimately provides a pleasing aesthetic appearance for overall County development.

The General Plan calls for the maintenance of large amounts of open space, uninterrupted by scattered urban development, and the acquisition of additional parkland using state and federal matching funds where possible. It mandates park development at a pace that is in step with the County's population growth and coordination of the park acquisition program with the corridor and wedge form of development.

In general, local parks, park schools, and urban parks are to be placed in the communities where they are most accessible to resident users. Stream valley parks are, as the name implies, located along the County's major streams, and regional parks are located where they can form a boundary between urban and rural environments or form boundaries to separate urban settlements. Regional Parks often generate large open space areas or provide a boundary or transition between suburban or urbanized development and less densely populated areas. Open spaces also help shape the urban form and define the character of the surrounding area.

The General Plan seeks to prevent urbanization of the open spaces now existing between the radial corridors it describes. Public acquisition of all land outside the corridors is obviously impossible financially. Thus, restricting land uses to rural use through the exercise of zoning powers has been the most feasible method available to protect open space areas, and is considered imperative.

Local parks also play a role in establishing urban form and design. These parks may be used to delineate boundaries between communities or between different types of land uses. They are more frequently used, especially in new developments or master plans, as focal points of activity in the overall design of a community.

Community Development

The concept of community development expressed in the General Plan focuses on the role of park spaces as integral components in the shaping of the various types of land uses within the County, and on the manner in which each use relates with others.

One of the design concepts that lends imagination, integrity and identity to an area—whether it is a new town, a cluster development, or an existing community—is the separation of developed areas by open spaces or greenways. These belts of open space may range from rows of trees or conservation areas in a cluster development to developed recreation areas.

In new area master plans and in the administration of planned developments, the location and use of both public and private open space is an integral part of the total development process.

Community Identity

The concept of community identity expressed in the General Plan focuses on the unique and important role that parks play in creating a sense of neighborhood identity. Parks and schools have been important and highly visible public investments at the community level. In many instances, development plans have called for them to be developed jointly in order to emphasize not only economics through joint use, but to reinforce the community focus of these public facilities. Increasingly, parks are used as part of the County's strategy of strengthening a sense of place and identity with a community. Parks may also serve to define communities, by separating neighborhoods or uses, and by providing an edge to a business district or high-density residential area, or by providing a visual or physical barrier between neighborhoods. Parks may also be used to link neighborhoods by bringing them together in a common space or by providing a common

pathway system for them to use. Parks serve an important role as prime spaces for community gathering and community activities.

Conservation

The concept of conservation expressed in the General Plan focuses on the acquisition of parkland for conservation and the use of low-density zoning to protect open space in the wedge-areas of the County.

Cooperation and coordination with the numerous state, federal, and local programs for rural development, conservation, and open space acquisition are crucial. Area master plans identify important conservation areas. For example, the Upper Rock Creek Watershed Plan is based on the public policy of protecting that watershed from both flooding and excessive urbanization. Similarly, the General Plan identifies important park areas that combine conservation with active recreation. This applies to all stream valley parks, conservation areas and special parks that contain areas of natural resources, local or historical interest, and protect water supply sources.

Recreation

The concept of recreation expressed in the General Plan focuses on the potential recreation capability of all park and open space land. Meeting the phenomenal demand for outdoor recreation spurred by rising living standards and increasing leisure time is seen as requiring the use of private land as well as public parks.

Many active sports can be enjoyed in urban areas on local parks and school facilities including highly land-intensive facility uses such as ballfields, tennis courts, playgrounds, and basketball courts. Hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, swimming, horseback riding, boating, water skiing, and other outdoor sports, however, require more space. The large expanses of water, shore front, forests, and fields required for these activities obviously cannot be provided

adequately within urban areas. Thus, large County regional parks and nearby State and National Parks supplement local opportunities.

THE PROS PLAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE OF MARYLAND PLAN AND THE SEVEN VISIONS

Information from the park plans prepared by each Maryland County will be incorporated into the Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan, which provides an inventory of existing recreation and open space resources and a summary of the facility and acreage requirements of each County. County park plans are referred to as Land Preservation and Recreation Plans (LPRP) and must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 5, Subtitle 9 of the Natural Resources Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

State guidelines for the preparation of the park plan indicate that they should relate to the seven visions of the Governor's Commission on Growth in the Chesapeake Bay Region, with particular emphasis on the protection of sensitive areas and the provision of ample recreation opportunities to attract growth to existing and planned population centers. Recommendations pertaining to natural and cultural areas and recreation facilities included in the Montgomery County PROS Plan adhere to these principles.

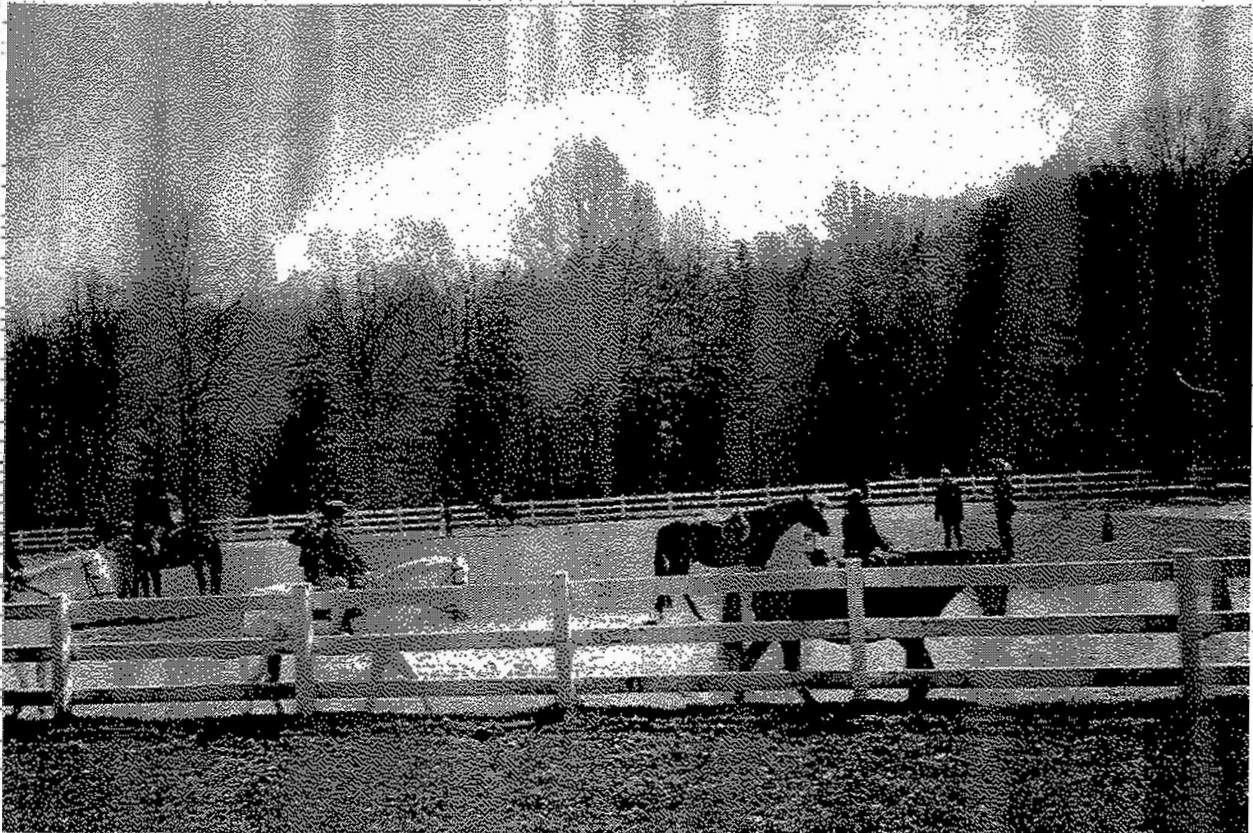
The Seven Visions are intended to ensure that:

- Development is concentrated in suitable areas.
- Sensitive areas are protected.
- In rural areas, growth is directed to existing population centers and resource areas are protected.

- Stewardship of the Bay and the land is a universal ethic.
- Conservation of resources, including reduction in resource consumption, is practiced.
- Economic growth is encouraged and regulatory mechanisms are streamlined.
- Funding mechanisms are addressed to achieve these visions.

Consistency with the State of Maryland's seven visions was considered throughout the PROS Planning Process. The sections of the Plan dealing with recreation needs are consistent

with the vision that encourages development in suitable areas and the vision that encourages economic growth. The sections of the Plan that address natural and cultural resources programs and needs serve to implement the visions that relate to the protection of the Bay, environmentally sensitive areas, and the conservation of natural resources. The section on Agriculture is consistent with the vision that in rural areas growth is directed to existing population centers and resource areas are protected.



Wheaton Park Stables

PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AND POLICIES

This chapter presents a summary of Plan recommendations for the provision of future park and recreation facilities and preservation of natural and cultural resources in Montgomery County. These recommendations focus on meeting the rapidly growing recreational needs of the County's residents while providing stewardship of County parkland and natural and cultural resources.

RECREATION FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Adequately provide for the recreation needs of County residents, giving consideration to recreation trends and priority need areas.

Acquire Land Suitable for the Development of Active Recreational Facilities

- Examine the extent to which property owned by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission can accommodate active recreation without environmental conflicts.
- Acquire additional land where feasible in order to minimize negative impacts to natural and cultural resources.

Provide New Recreation Opportunities To Fill Needs Highlighted by Recent Park Surveys

- Provide opportunities for natural and hard surface trails in park-like settings

- Expand ballfield opportunities by increasing the number fields, improving scheduling, and other means.
- Provide for new recreation trends in a timely manner including opportunities for in-line skating, roller hockey, and mountain bicycling.
- Provide opportunities for aquatic facilities, community recreation centers, and interpretive programs.
- Consider innovative techniques and locations to provide facilities particularly in urban areas, such as use of parking garage rooftops for roller hockey and skateboard facilities.

Reduce Ballfield Deficiencies

- Provide new ballfield initiatives to help meet local field needs in ways that provide the least impact on the community.
- Consider the increasing number of soccer and baseball teams when planning new fields.
- Convert older fields when it is determined that they could be utilized more efficiently for another sport.
- Avoid overlapping fields where possible to reduce wear and minimize programming conflicts.
- Maximize field use by lighting additional fields, particularly at middle and high schools.
- Construct ballfield complexes at countywide recreational parks as soon as possible.

- Reconfigure fields in older parks where possible to meet changing needs.
- Establish new permitting policies to increase the efficiency of ballfield use and re-evaluate field use periodically to determine if future changes are needed.
- Fully integrate park and school fields into a unified permit system and work together with the school system to maximize use by providing improved condition of school ballfields.

Give Priority in Capital Improvements Programing to Locations with Highest Facility Needs

- Consider PROS Plan need estimates for each area of the County when prioritizing CIP park projects.
- Provide additional Community Use and County-wide parks in areas where substantial growth is occurring, such as the 1-270 corridor, the Route 29 corridor, and the Travilah area.
- Acquire additional sites suitable for park development in areas where there is a deficit of land owned by M-NCPPC.

2. Use new methods and innovative techniques to address future recreation needs in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Create a New "Community Recreation Complex" Category for the park classification system.

- When appropriate, cluster future local park ballfields and other recreation facilities in "community recreation complexes" to facilitate programming, maintenance, and reduce impact on adjacent residential areas.

- Provide clustered ballfield areas with adequate parking in locations where they are not directly adjacent to homes.

When Feasible and Appropriate, Foster Partnerships with Public Schools to Increase Recreation Possibilities.

- Coordinate with Montgomery County Public Schools to provide improved maintenance and increased use of school ballfields whenever possible to meet community use needs.
- When possible utilize park/school sites to provide clustered recreation facilities.
- Consider surplus school property where feasible to provide additional ballfield needs.

Encourage Public/Private Partnerships in the Development of New Park Facilities.

- Use public/private partnerships, where feasible and appropriate, to construct and operate new park facilities. Examples of this cooperation may include building community recreation facilities, constructing features such as indoor ice rinks or indoor soccer fields, and providing additional fields or improving the quality of existing facilities.
- Update site design guidelines and design standards in the Recreation Guidelines Report to assure appropriate design and construction of private recreation areas.

Maximize use of new technology to provide improved information for decision making.

- Complete the GIS system mapping of the County's natural resources.
- Develop a web page of historic resources for the general public.

- Produce and maintain a geographic database inventory of historic and archeological resources for internal use:
- Explore the use of the Internet as a primary distribution source of digital cartographic trail information: arid-maps,

3. Maximize use of the park system by maintaining facilities in an attractive, safe, and usable condition with special consideration for the needs of the disabled.

Keep Existing Parks and Facilities Well Maintained.

- Increase support for maintenance efforts to reduce future maintenance costs and potential safety hazards.
- Rehabilitate older parks to keep them safe and usable when necessary.

Increase Training and Coordination Opportunities for Volunteers to Assist with Park Maintenance.

- Foster "Friends" and volunteer groups to augment staff and other resources,
- Increase the involvement, training, and coordination of volunteers for projects such as natural surface trail maintenance and construction.

Continue to Emphasize Safety in Park System.

- Attract the efforts of pedestrians, equestrians, and bicyclists.
- Maximize the use of design principles such as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) to help ensure park safety.
- Continue to encourage citizen involvement through park watch programs.
- Revitalize current urban area parks through redevelopment projects.



Mills Creek Towne Local Park

Provide Accessibility to County Parks and Facilities for Disabled Residents.

- Design new park development with the needs of the disabled in mind.
- Modify existing parks to accommodate the disabled.

4. Provide a trail and greenway network that links people, parks, and community facilities.

Provide an Interconnected Trail System That Serves the Entire County.

- Offer geographic parity with natural and hard surface trails between up-County and down-County.

Provide Safe Road Crossings for Trail Users.

- Ensure safe road crossings by implementing consistent design standards for safe, predictable, and uniform road signs, surface treatment, and striping such that motor vehicles will be aware of the potential to encounter trail users.
- Incorporate bridges, underpasses, etc., into new construction and renovation projects through the Capital Improvements Program or in connection with new private developments.

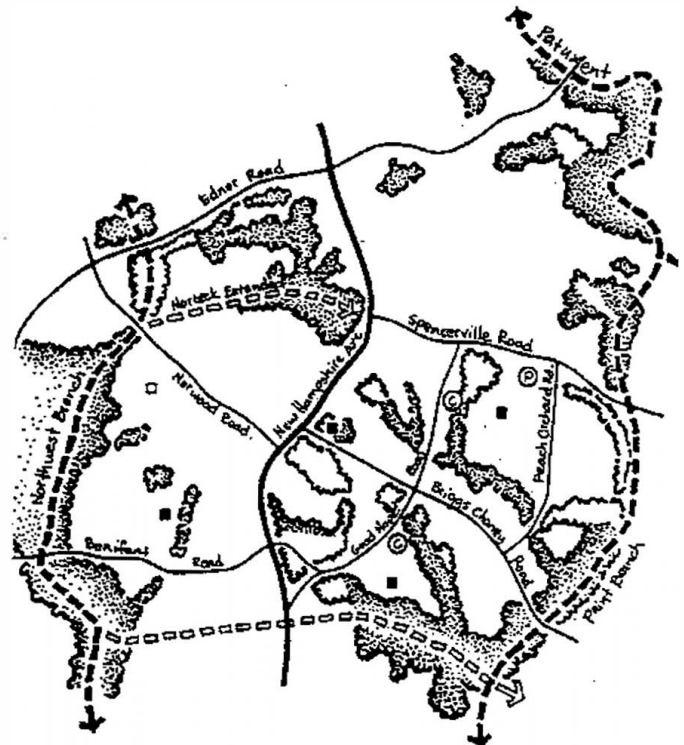
Provide Historical, Cultural, and Environmental Education Along Trail Corridors.

- Evaluate trail corridors for their potential to offer historical, cultural and environmental education experiences.

- Provide trail markers and maps that educate the public as to the importance of these resources.

Connect the Park System with a Network of Interconnected Trails and Greenways.

- Obtain public trail easements and develop a monitoring system to identify, protect, and enforce them.
- Encourage public dedication of greenways through the subdivision process where they provide community connections to parkland.



Existing Facilities

- Schools
- Ⓜ P.O./Office
- Ⓜ Community Center
- ◇ Parkland/Open Space

Proposed Facilities

- School
- (; " . :) Public Parkland
- c c C J Greenway Connectors
- • • Major Greenway

NATURAL RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop the park system on the basis of sound conservation principles and practices.

- **Meet the needs of recreation and preservation** in a manner that is harmonious with the natural beauty and parkland physiography, reflecting full concern for the environment.
- Consistently use a planned approach to resource management, cognizant of the ecological interdependencies of people, the **biota, water, and soil.**

Park Planning Strategies

- **Prepare an environmental evaluation as part of park development or rehabilitation plans**, including: review of the environmental guidelines, identification of stream buffers and floodplains, biodiversity areas, soils with severe limitations for development, contiguous forest habitat, and special fisheries **management areas.**
- Follow a hierarchy within parks of impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation when considering each element of any land use or development proposal affecting existing or master-planned parkland.
- Limit development of active-use areas in regional parks to no more than 1/3 of their total park acreage, with the remaining areas designated as natural areas and/or conservation areas. Development in other categories of parks should be determined on a case-by-case basis with full consideration of the of the recreation opportunity to be provided as well as the value of the natural and historical features.
- Limit construction on soils and slopes not suited for development.
- Provide opportunities to meet demands for passive recreational activities on parkland

(e.g., hiking, bird watching, wildlife viewing, picnicking, etc.).

- Ensure that development guidelines are reviewed periodically to make certain that they are environmentally sensitive and reflect current technologies and knowledge of the environment.
- Provide public information regarding the importance of natural areas and environmental studies that are prepared, and techniques proposed to minimize environmental impacts during construction.

Park Acquisition Strategies

- Prior to parkland acquisition, consider the environmental and engineering feasibility of potential park development proposals or potential conservation areas.
- Encourage other public agencies and the private sector to assist in providing compatible open spaces, natural areas, recreation facilities and opportunities, greenways and greenway connections, stormwater management facilities, and other mitigation facilities.
- Encourage private dedication of land as a means of parkland acquisition.
- Examine the impact of increased maintenance and policing of facilities and resources dedicated to the Commission from the private sector during the subdivision process.

Park Management Strategies

- Review as necessary the impacts of park use, development, and management practices on parkland.
- Protect lands and facilities under the control of the M-NCPPC from encroachment that would threaten their use as parkland.
- Maintain awareness of state-of-the-art environmental research and management techniques.
- Encourage and support research in the environmental sciences through other public agencies, institutions of higher learning, and the private sector.

- Support programs in outdoor education and recreation in the school system.
- Continue and expand public education about natural, historical, and archaeological resources issues affecting park operations, including development of educational programs regarding the importance of preserving natural areas, trail etiquette, etc.
- Preserve conservation areas and rare, threatened, and endangered species within the park system, including biodiversity areas.

2. *Connect parks and environmentally sensitive areas to form an open space and greenway system*

- Plan for and encourage the provision of greenways to connect urban and rural open spaces, to provide access to parkland, and to connect major stream valley park areas.

Park Planning Strategies

- Work cooperatively to protect park connections and greenways throughout the planning and regulatory process.
- Identify locations to implement a County-wide trail system within parks in an environmentally sensitive manner.

Park Acquisition Strategies

- Expand major stream valley park areas along smaller tributaries and river ridges between watersheds to provide greenway linkages and protect stream water quality.
- Provide connections between stream valley parks to create a network of greenways.

3. *Conserve county waterways, wetlands, and sensitive parts of stream valleys to minimize flooding, pollution,*



Northwest Branch Strim Valley Park

sedimentation, and damage to the ecology, as well as preserve natural beauty and open space.

- Minimize impacts from construction and operation of public and private facilities located in stream valleys, buffers, and floodplains; first priority should be given to preserving environmentally sensitive areas (avoidance), second priority to minimizing impact, and third priority mitigation.

Park Planning Strategies

- Identify and protect wetlands and other sensitive parts of watersheds.
- Give consideration to stream and wetland buffers, stormwater management, and tree conservation early in the planning process.

Park Acquisition Strategies

- Continue parkland acquisition in key stream valleys.

- Require open space dedications in new subdivisions that maximize protection of stream valleys and other sensitive environmental features.

Park Management Strategies

- Develop programs to rehabilitate damaged streams.
- Plant and retain trees and other vegetation near streams.

4. Preserve high-quality forests

Park Planning Strategies

- Consider tree conservation early in the park planning process.
- Identify and designate forest preservation and tree-planting areas.
- Ensure forest land conservation, tree planting, and related maintenance in new development.
- Minimize forest fragmentation to protect habitat continuity where the provision of recreation facilities can be accommodated near park perimeters.
- Encourage a pro-active urban forestry program.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Identify historic and archeological resources

- Produce and maintain a geographical database inventory of historic and archaeological resources.
- Research and analyze the significance of historic and archaeological resources in connection with area master plan updates.

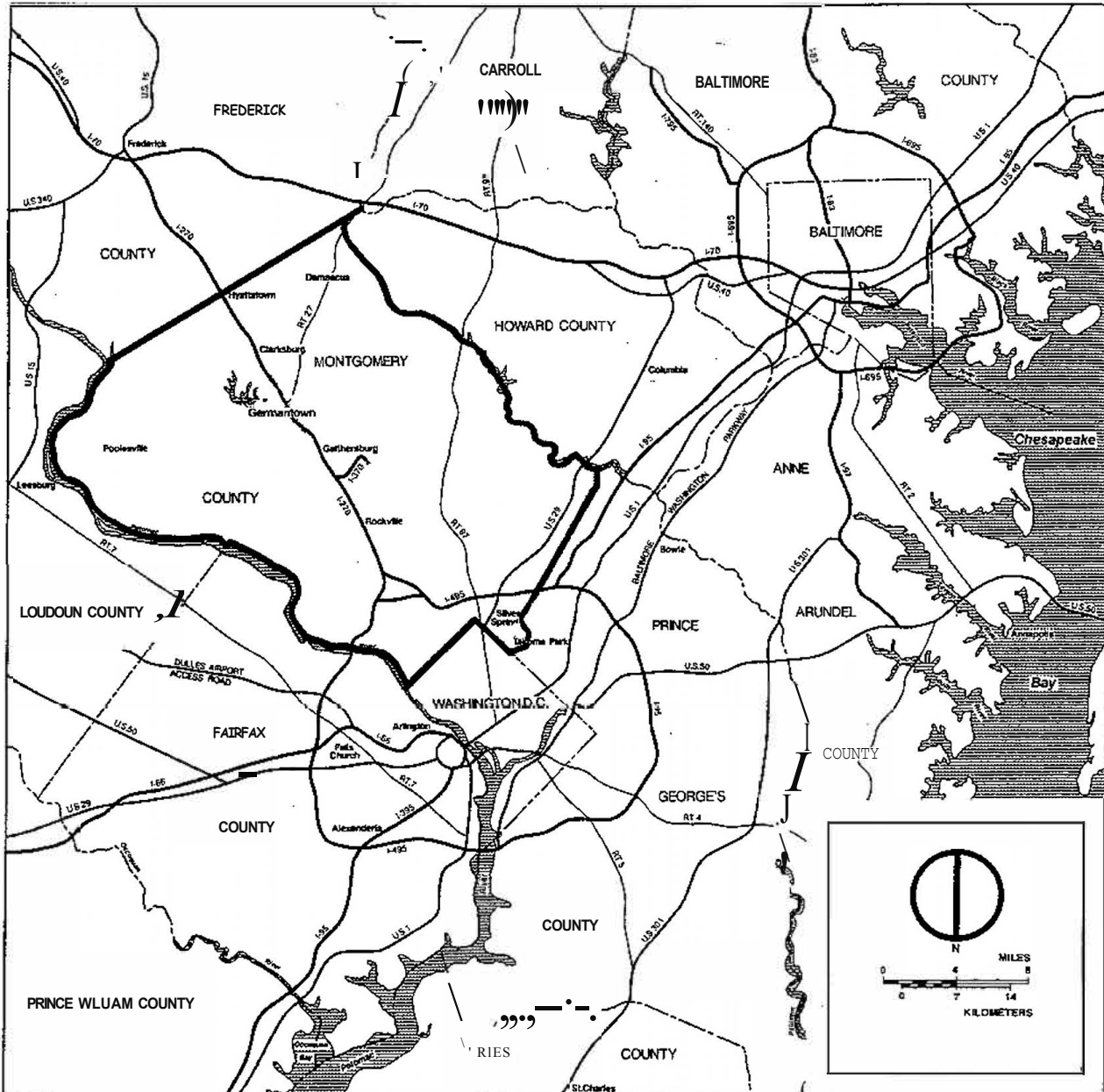
2. Preserve and protect historic and archeological resources

- Facilitate viable uses for historic properties, which will aid in stabilization and continuing maintenance.
- Protect the historic context of historic properties, including walkways, vistas, historic landscaping, agricultural open space, and other features of environmental setting.
- Expand public/private partnership program to decrease the fiscal burden of maintenance.
- Renovate buildings through park property management program.
- Train Central Maintenance crews in restoration construction.
- Preserve appropriate sites, with their environmental settings and districts, that are representative of a period or style, architecturally important, or associated with important persons, events, or activities.
- Preserve, with their environmental settings and districts, appropriate archaeological sites and landmarks of historical or cultural value.

3. Interpret historic and archeological resources

- Provide regular interpretive and educational programs.
- Work with community residents to make historic sites important park focal points and viable elements of the community.
- Increase public access to historic sites in connection with railways, bikeways, and easements.
- Integrate interpretive programs into park master plans.

DESCRIPTION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



Location Map



DESCRIPTION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY: CURRENT TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS

This chapter includes elements requested by the State for inclusion in each County's Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan. It includes discussions of the County's physical setting, demographics, and socioeconomic characteristics. The chapter also reviews population growth as well as the socioeconomic and fiscal benefits of recreation and land preservation. Supplemental data is included in the Appendix.

PHYSICAL SETTING

The fifth largest county in the State of Maryland, Montgomery County roughly measures 500 square miles and contains 324,000 acres (including water). The Potomac River forms the County's southwest boundary, separating it from Loudon and Fairfax Counties in Virginia. The Patuxent River flows down the northeastern side of the County, forming a boundary with Howard County. The northwest boundary is a straight line from the headwaters of the Patuxent to the Potomac at the mouth of the Monocacy River. Sharing that boundary is Frederick County. To the southeast lies Prince George's County. Due to the City of Takoma Park's annexation into Montgomery County in mid-1997 the County line now follows its city limits, and appears as a small triangle into what was a portion of Prince George's County. Adjacent to the southeastern corner of Montgomery County is the District of Columbia.

The County lies almost entirely in the Piedmont Plateau on the east bank of the Potomac River, just 30 miles west of the Chesapeake Bay and approximately 100 miles from the Atlantic Ocean. Coastal plain

sediments overlap on the eastern edge of the County. Between the coastal plain and the Piedmont is a drop, shown in the many falls and rapids in this area, which is known as the "fall line." All of these features and water bodies exert influence in different ways on the recreational habits and patterns of Montgomery County residents.

Montgomery County is characterized by gently sloping topography, laced with numerous small streams in relatively narrow valleys, interrupted only where streams have created narrow valleys for themselves. Low ridges of hills stretch green fingers across the central County, separating the branches of Seneca Creek and the watersheds of Rock Creek, Muddy Branch, and Watts Branch which drain into the Potomac River. Northwest Branch, Long Branch, and Sligo Creek in the eastern portion of the County drain into the Anacostia River, which ultimately flows into the Potomac River in the District of Columbia. The portion of the County draining to the Patuxent is more dramatic, with steep slopes and cliffs. The Potomac watersheds have glens and palisades. It is along these waterways that civilization and industry developed. Early peoples followed the waterways as roads, leaving historic evidence of their presence behind. Eventually people settled

in more permanent locations, and later farmers chose the same fertile soils along waterways for cultivation. In later years these same streams and rivers were harnessed for power to operate mills. In the present day and age water resources in the parks system serve as appealing features for residents, visitors and students.

The northwestern area is distinguished from the rest of the County by way of its higher elevation. Slopes are predominantly moderate, with more severe slopes occurring along streams and rock outcrops. The lowest elevation in the County occurs where the Potomac River enters the District of Columbia (52 feet above sea level), while the highest point is just north of Damascus (850 feet) in the upcounty area. Slopes run southeastward and southwestward away from this point. Parr's Ridge defines the boundary between the major watersheds of the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers. Additional information on the physical characteristics of the County including soils, vegetation, watersheds, etc. is included in the Appendix.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

At the heart of effective park planning is the goal of providing adequate facilities to effectively and efficiently serve the people of the County and meet the needs of the park facility users both today and tomorrow. Meeting this goal requires a thorough understanding of existing and forecasted demographics, including issues such as the effect of economic trends on population growth and decline, population density and its disbursement, and character of the population as reflected by age groups and other data.

The Economy and Growth

Because of its proximity to Washington, D.C. employment trends in Montgomery

County have typically reflected the Washington regional economy, which has fared well historically. Overall the County has experienced significant growth, and moderate growth is expected for the foreseeable future.

Until recent years, the majority of Montgomery County's population worked in the Washington, D.C. and down-County areas; as a result, the majority of the population lived in and near the communities in the southeast portion of the County. However, land use patterns along the I-270 Corridor are continuing to encourage new employment centers, and the growth of technology-based enterprises in that area. As a result more and more people are moving to the communities along the I-270 corridor.

Along with this expansion in the traditional County-wide employment centers, the population in areas further away from D.C. has continued to grow faster than the rest of the County due to factors such as housing availability and affordability. Germantown and Gaithersburg in particular have experienced dramatic growth compared to the rest of the County, due in no small part to the preponderance of technology-based businesses locating along the I-270 corridor. The changes in population density and location brought about by business development and the economy have significant impacts on the community's need for park and recreation facilities.

Evidence of this expansion is reflected in information about the at-place employment percentage distribution. For example, the years 1975, 1985 and 1995 saw a decrease in the percentage of Montgomery County residents employed by the Federal government, the number falling from 17.2% to 12.4% to 11.0% respectively. On the other hand, employment in the service sector, which most strongly reflects technology-related endeavors, rose over the same period of time from 22.2% in 1975, to 29.5% in 1985, then 34.5% in 1995.

Montgomery County Population Change

By Planning Area: 1995-2010

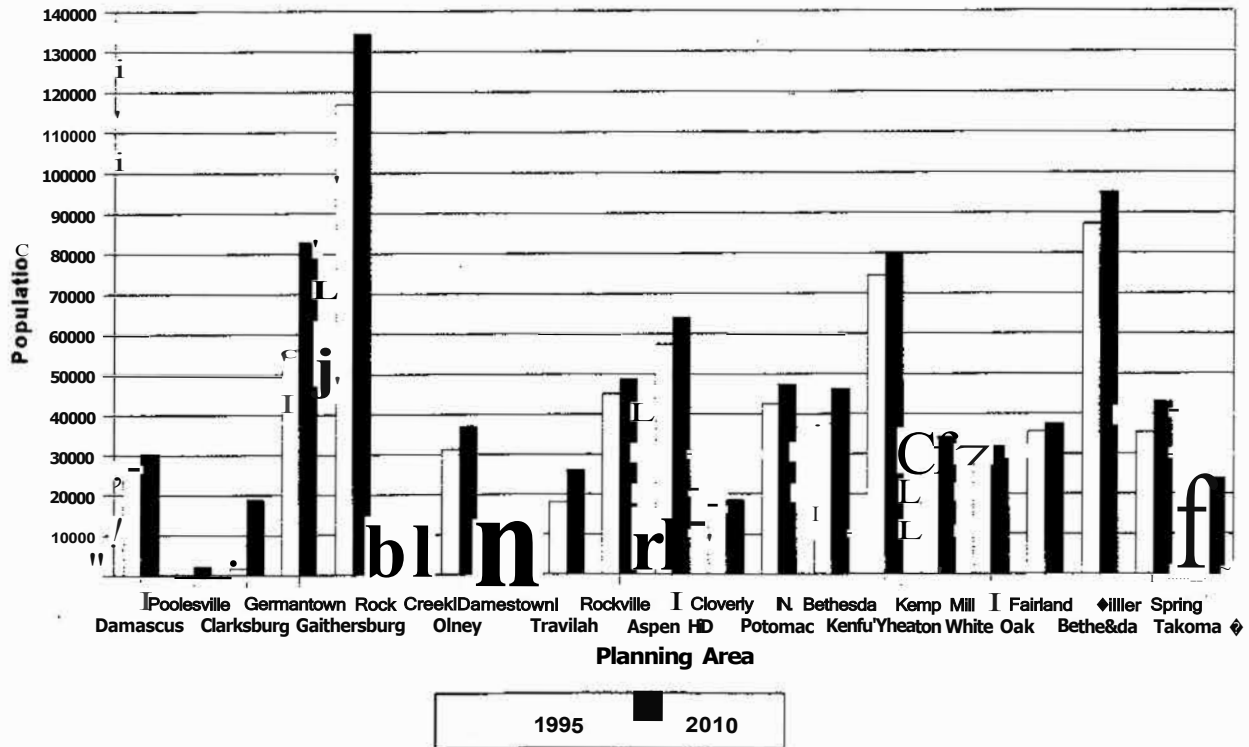


Figure 3.1

Population

In the years since the previous PROS Plan examined population information, Montgomery County has experienced an overall increase in population. From 1985 to 1990 the population grew dramatically from 628,000 to 757,027, over 17%. Population growth slowed in the early 1990 as a result of the recession, and increased a relatively modest 7% from 757,027 to 810,000 in the five years from 1990 to 1995. During that entire ten-year period the majority of the growth

has occurred in the Germantown and Gaithersburg planning areas.

Projections from the M-NCPPC Research and Technology Division, as shown on the previous page, indicate that population increases through the year 2010 will resemble the pre-recession growth rates. By the year 2010 the total County population is expected to reach 933,000 and be approximately one million by the year 2020.

The population growth in the I-270 corridor has other implications on a County-wide level. The 1988 PROS Plan noted that over half the County's population was clustered in the down-County areas of Silver Spring, Takoma Park, Bethesda, North Bethesda, Kemp Mill, Aspen Hill, and Wheaton. Because these areas contain less than 20% of the County's land area, the result is a highly urban environment. However, the population increases that have taken place in the I-270 corridor as well as the area along US 29 are causing an expansion of what has traditionally been defined as the County's urban area. According to the 1994 Census Update, approximately 32% of the total County population now lives in the down-County area; ten years ago the same down-County area had over 50% of the County's population. This is not the result of population decreases down-County, but instead reflects the population increases up-County.

It is important to note that the County's population increases are primarily the result of new residents coming into the area. The population density increase in areas other than the traditionally urban down-County area brings with it increased need for recreation facilities, as well as the need to preserve land for future facilities and resource preservation.

Character and Age of Population

Both the quantity and type of facilities necessary to serve the community are a direct reflection of the population and its characteristics. Likewise, the age of the population has a significant relationship to the use of park and recreation facilities. As a result, understanding of changes and shifts in the population of an area is a very useful indicator of future needs.

- Park use is typically heaviest by individuals between the ages of 25 and 34.
- The recreation needs of the elderly vary from that of the typical park user.
- High growth areas tend to have more young families and have higher needs for facilities such as playgrounds and ballfields.

Demographic forecasts show the anticipated changes in age distribution throughout the county between 1995 and the year 2010. The

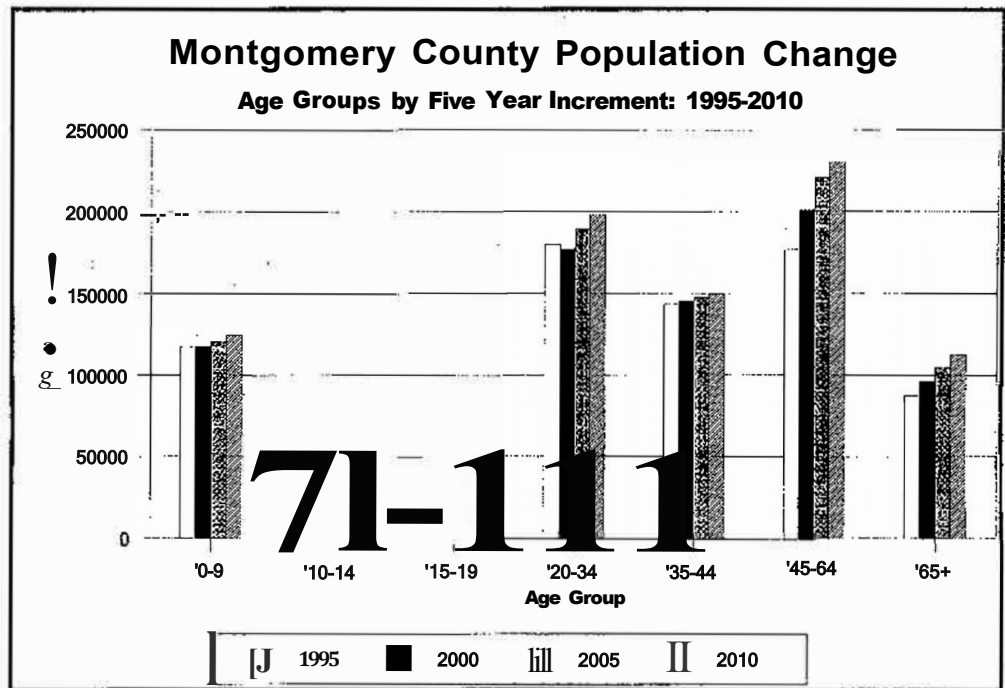


Figure 3.2

most dramatic increases are anticipated in the 45-64 and the 65+ age group (Figure 3.1). This increase in the number of adults over the age of 45, attributed to the aging of the 'baby boomer' generation, is likely to contribute to the need for facilities such as walking paths and golf facilities.

LAND USE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Land use has an important impact on the number, type and location of parks and recreation facilities needed. Present and projected growth patterns of a community have a great influence on both the location and type of recreation and resource needs an area experiences.

Existing and future land use information is an integral part of the methodology that was used to develop the park needs projections in the PROS Plan. The resulting needs tables, maps, and methodology information is located in Chapter 6 of this Plan. Additional information on land use trends in Montgomery County can be found in the various area Master Plans for sections of the County and also the *General Plan Refinement of the Goals and Objectives for Montgomery County*.

SOCIOECONOMIC AND FISCAL BENEFITS OF RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION

The advantages of a good recreation system are many and diverse. The value to the individual user is the most obvious benefit, but there are many values to the community, the environment, and the economy that flow from

a well designed park system. At the individual level, recreation opportunities reduce stress, improve self esteem, provide an outlet for creative energy, and generally improve an individual's quality of life. For the community at large, recreation facilities provide opportunities to gather for social experiences, to build a sense of community and civic pride, to build ethnic and cultural understanding, opportunities for individuals and groups to interact with nature within an urban setting, and give families a place to grow and connect with each other. What the natural environment gains from the preservation of County parkland is striking: benefits include pollution reduction, protection of the ecosystem, and preservation of habitat. In Montgomery County the preservation of stream valleys, greenways, and other significant natural areas is an especially important aspect of the area's quality of life. These features also provide opportunities for individuals and groups to interact with nature in an urban setting.

Perhaps the most overlooked benefit of a good park system is the economic impact. Increased land values, opportunities for increases in tourism, and improvements in the overall health of the community have many direct impacts and innumerable ancillary benefits to the fiscal well-being of an area. Many homes sell for a premium price due to the immediate accessibility of a park.

Parks and recreation facilities (and programs) also represent an "investment" with great potential to save future public expenditures by providing children with safe, accessible recreation areas. Children and youth in any community who require the attention of police are frequently the children without a safe and accessible place to play in their neighborhood. Young adults who are turned away from playing organized sports because there are not enough fields to meet their needs may find destructive ways to spend their time. When this alternative use of time involves alcohol and drugs, it can

become a public expense and a serious concern to the community. Early investment in leisure facilities pays healthy dividends and can even save public dollars in the long run. This aspect of recreation and park facilities adds its importance to the "quality of life" in Montgomery County should it be overlooked,



Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

This Chapter contains information on existing parkland and open spaces in Montgomery County, including the M-NCPPC park system, municipalities, State and Federal parkland, greenways, and other public open spaces. Additionally, a description of existing techniques for protection of natural and cultural resources is also included.

A CHRONOLOGY OF THE M-NCPPC PARK SYSTEM

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission was created in 1927 - seven decades ago - to preserve stream valleys and coordinate development in the suburbs north and east of Washington, D. C. The Commission was conceived as a regional agency that would acquire, develop, and maintain a system of stream valley parks and parkways, oversee development of adjacent lands, and assure the provision of adequate roads and schools. It was one of the nation's first regional planning agencies, and its bi-county authority over Montgomery and Prince George's Counties made it unique at the time.

The first two properties acquired by the Commission, in 1928 and 1929, were both less than an acre in size. One was in the heart of Silver Spring, the other in the Little Falls Stream Valley. Concerns about stream valley preservation in the context of suburban development prompted the passage of the Capper-Crampton Act in 1930, which made federal funds available for cost-sharing on stream valley land purchases. The system began to take form as acreage in several stream valleys was acquired. Initial acquisition of stream valley park land was targeted for down-County areas where population was beginning to spread out from Northwest Washington - first, Sligo Creek in

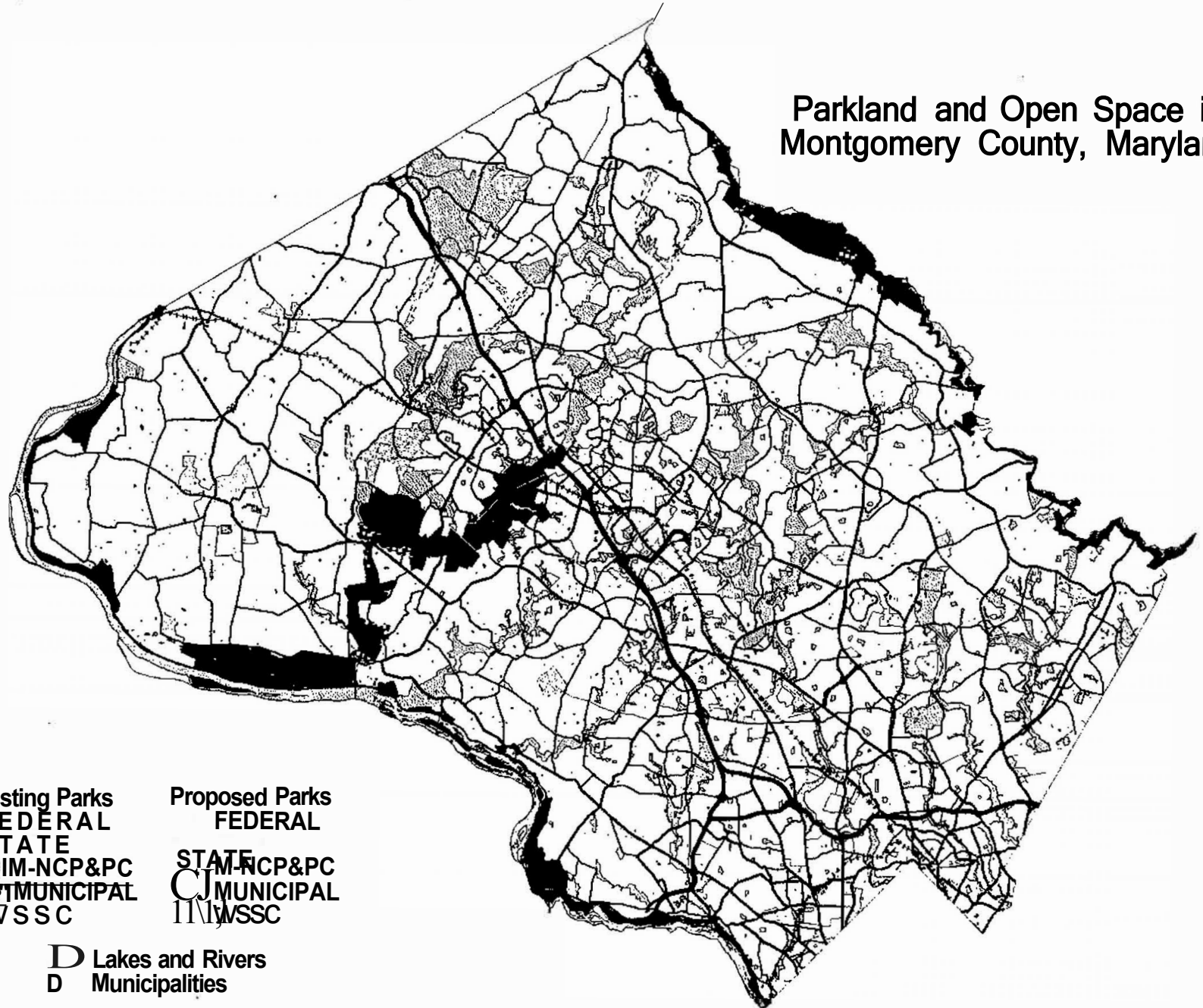
1930, followed by Rock Creek, Little Falls, and Cabin John Creek. Jesup-Blair became the County's first local park, when in 1933, 14-1/2 acres were conveyed by an estate for a park.

The explosive growth of the suburbs tested the Commission's ability to respond to public need for open space during the post-war growth boom of the '50's and '60's. Vast new subdivisions appeared almost overnight on former farmland. The County's population increased over 300% between 1940 and 1960 - from 84,000 to 341,000 residents. In order to meet the recreation and open space needs of this growing population, the Commission began a dramatic effort to increase County parkland. From 1962, through 1971, the System's acreage grew four-fold - from approximately 4,000 acres to over 16,000

Since 1970, the park system has received much needed funds for park acquisition and development through Program Open Space State grant funds. The system has continued to grow through the addition of local and County-wide park acquisition and development to meet the needs of County residents.

Today, the Commission has approximately 28,350 acres of parkland in Montgomery County, including 344 park and open space areas, 242 of which are developed. The system encompasses the entire County with the exception of several

Parkland and Open Space in Montgomery County, Maryland



Existing Parks	Proposed Parks
- FEDERAL	FEDERAL
- STATE	
IM-NCP&PC	STATE-NCP&PC
MUNICIPAL	MUNICIPAL
-WSSC	WSSC

D Lakes and Rivers
 D Municipalities

M MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING
 THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
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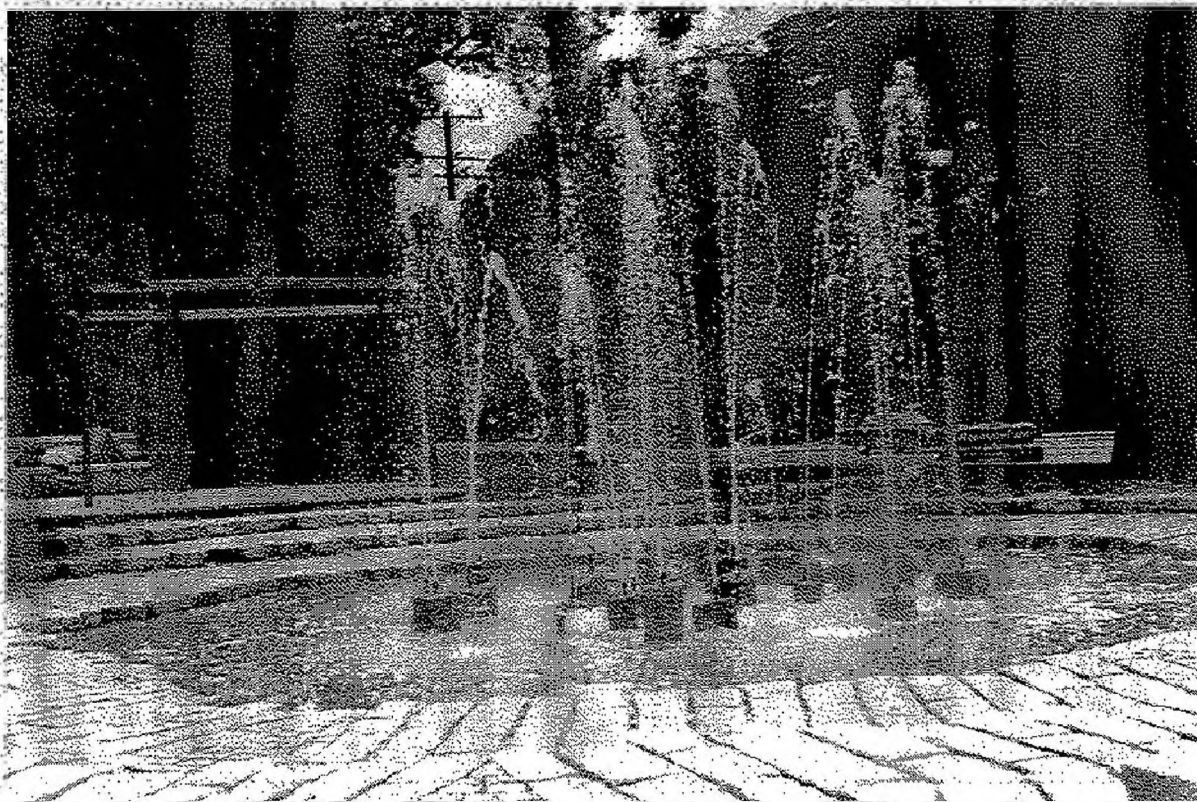
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Figure 41

**M-NCPPC
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARK SYSTEM SUMMARY'**

PARK TYPE	NUMBER OF PARKS		TOTAL PARKS	TOTAL ACRES
	DEVELOPED	UNDEVELOPED		
COLLETTVILLE PARKS				
STREAM VALLEY ...	---	30	30	11,983
REGIONAL	5	---	5	7,827
RECREATIONAL	6	4	10	2,709
CONSERVATION AREAS	---	9	9	2,167
SPECIAL	13	0	13	879
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL	24	43	67	25,565
COMMUNITY-USE PARKS				
URBAN	19	3	22	22
NEIGHBORHOOD	74	9	83	595
LOCAL	125	15	140	1,928
NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION AREA	---	32	32	244
COMMUNITY-USE SUBTOTAL	218	59	277	2,789
TOTALS	242	102	344	28,354

* As of December 5, 1997
Figure 4.2



Woodside Urban Park

municipalities, the largest of which are Rockville and Gaithersburg. The variety of parks within the County includes those developed for active use, and undeveloped areas for passive recreation use and conservation. They provide thousands of acres of woodlands and many miles of trails; contain numerous athletic fields, tennis and basketball courts, and playgrounds; and offer other recreation opportunities for ice skating, boating, fishing, golfing, horseback riding, nature observation, etc.

While they may vary dramatically in size, shape and focus, all of the parks interrelate as a unified system serving urban, suburban, and rural areas of the County, and most provide some type of active or passive recreation.

M-NCPPC PARK CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The M-NCPPC park system is categorized into different park "types" for budgeting and planning purposes. The park types are based in part on the service area of each park, its physical size, natural features, and the kind of facilities it contains. This section will describe and help define the distinctions between different types of parks. The table "M-NCPPC Montgomery County Park Classification System" contains a summarized description of each type of park, including approximate park size and typical recreation facilities.

County-wide Parks

Larger parks that serve regional recreation needs or conservation needs are called County-wide Parks. Over 90% of the total County park acreage, more than 25,000 acres, is in County-wide parks. There are five types of County-wide parks: regional, recreation, special conservation, and stream valley. Of these, the regional, recreational, and special park categories are recreation-oriented parks, while the conservation and stream valley

parks belong to a sub-category of County-wide Parks known as conservation oriented parks.

Recreation-Oriented Parks

Regional, recreational and special parks are large parks serving County-wide recreation needs. They provide opportunities for active and passive recreation, but also generally contain areas without facilities that serve conservation purposes.

Regional parks are large, typically over 200 acres, and contain a wide range of recreation opportunities and facilities, while retaining 2/3 of the park for conservation. Regional parks are the most popular of the County's parks. In 1995, surveys of developed portions of regional parks indicated visits by several million people annually. Many other informal users enjoy the undeveloped portions of the park.

Montgomery County has five developed regional parks offering a variety of recreation opportunities within a reasonable driving time of most County residents. Three of these parks serve the lower and mid-County areas. Wheaton, the System's first regional park, was opened to the public in 1961 and is easily reached by southeastern County residents. Cabin John Regional Park is accessible to southwestern County residents, and Rock Creek Regional Park by people living in the middle and upper-County areas. Many recreational facilities are provided including lighted tournament quality athletic fields, year-round tennis courts, ice rinks, trains, and a carousel. Rock Creek offers golf, boating and other water oriented recreation activities. Additionally, each of these parks furnishes other recreation opportunities, such as nature centers, playgrounds, trails, and picnic areas, and Wheaton has a large botanical garden.

The two regional parks that serve the northern Area of the County have large acreage of open space and conservation area. Little Bennett has a golf course and a large campground, while Black Hill offers opportunities to enjoy picnicking and water-related recreation as well as a many miles of trails.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARK CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

PARK TYPE	PARK TYPE DESCRIPTION	TYPICAL FACILITIES*	APPROXIMATE SIZE
COUNTY-WIDE PARKS - Parks in this category serve all residents of Montgomery County			
- Recreation Oriented Parks			
Regional Parks	Large parks that provide a wide range of recreational opportunities but retain 2/3 of the acreage as conservation areas.	Picnic /playground areas, tennis courts, athletic fields, golf course, campgrounds, water-oriented recreation areas	200 acres or more
Recreational Parks	Parks larger than 50 acres in size that are more intensively developed than Regional Parks, but may also contain natural areas.	Athletic fields, tennis courts, multi-use courts, picnic/playground areas, golf course, trails, natural areas.	50 acres or more
Special Parks	These parks include areas that contain features of historic and cultural significance.	but may include agricultural centers, garden, small conference centers, historic structures, etc.	Varies
- conservation Oriented Parks			
Stream Valley Parks	Interconnected linear parks along major stream valleys providing conservation and recreation areas.	Hiker-biker trails, fishing, picnicking, playground areas.	Varies
Conservation Area Parks	Large natural areas acquired to preserve specific natural archaeological or historic features. They also provide opportunities for compatible recreation activities.	Trails, fishing areas, nature study areas, informal picnic areas.	Varies
COMMUNITY USE PARKS - Parks in this category serve residents of surrounding communities			
Urban Parks	Very small parks, serving highly urban areas	landscaping, sitting/picnic areas, play equipment courts, and shelters.	1 Acre
Neighborhood Parks	Small parks providing informal recreation in residential areas.	Play equipment, play field, sitting area, shelter, tennis and Multi-use courts. (Does not include regulation size ballfields)	25 Acres
Local Parks	Larger parks that provide ballfields and both programmed and unprogrammed recreation facilities	Ballfields, play equipment, tennis and multi-use courts, sitting/picnic area, shelters, buildings and other facilities	15 Acres
Neighborhood Conservation Areas	Small parcels of conservation oriented parkland in residential areas, generally dedicated at the time of subdivision.	Generally undeveloped, may include a storm water management pond and related facilities.	Varies

Figure 4.3

* This list is not all inclusive, but includes facilities typical of each park type.

Recreation Parks is a category that includes parks with intensive development similar to that found in the ballfield and tennis court complexes at regional parks; however, they differ from regional parks in that they do not limit 2/3 of their development to conservation uses. Small picnic/playground areas are also included in this category. Presently, Montgomery County has three such developed parks - Olney Manor, Martin Luther King and Damascus. Fairland Recreational Park is under construction, and there are several other undeveloped recreational parks which are planned for future development including Ovid Hazen Wells, Ridge Road, Muncaster, Gude and Northwest Branch Recreational Parks.

Special Parks preserve historic or culturally significant features and have distinguishing characteristics that set them apart from other park classifications. McCrillis Gardens, Woodlawn Manor House, Rockwood Manor Park, and the Agricultural History Farm Park are good examples of special parks in the County. They are often used for small conferences, social events, specialized education, and art exhibits. Important historic sites are preserved in all types of parks. Examples of these are the Silver Spring in Acorn Urban Park, Woodlawn Manor House with its smoke house, and the Needwood Mansion.

Conservation-Oriented Parks

There are two types of County wide conservation oriented parks: stream valley parks and conservation area parks. Both protect important environmental areas; however, they differ in that stream valley parks are linear parks acquired to protect stream valleys and conservation parks are large natural areas acquired to preserve specific natural, archaeological or historical features. Both types of parks are managed to provide stewardship of sensitive areas, but may include trails and other low impact recreation areas when carefully designed to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate environmental impacts.

Stream Valley Parks form the foundation of the park system, extending as greenways throughout the urban areas and into the countryside, puning the natural environment within close reach of all Montgomery County citizens. They separate communities with green open space buffers and provide easy access to nature for adjacent residents. Just as they were seventy years ago, stream valley parks today are acquired primarily for conservation purposes. They hold the key to watershed protection throughout the County by reducing flooding, sedimentation, and erosion, and they furnish valuable habitat for many species of wildlife. Some stream valleys, such as the Upper Paint Branch Stream Valley, are also design_nated as special protection areas. These areas are so sensitive that they are subject to a special set of regulations designed to protect them.

Stream valley parks also preserve some of the County's most beautiful and interesting terrain, providing long, interconnected greenways of parkland that provide corridors for trails and wildlife. There are 30 such parks in the County, which include nearly 12,000 acres of parkland. In urban areas, clusters of active recreation facilities in parks adjacent to stream valley parks were developed many years ago to serve as local parks for nearby residents. More recent environmental regulations now limit or prevent intensive development along stream banks to reduce sedimentation and erosion and environmental degradation caused by urban runoff.

Conservation Area Parks are generally large areas that preserve specific natural, archaeological, or historical features; are typically located in upland areas; and are acquired specifically for environmental preservation purposes. Conservation area parks may include outstanding examples of natural communities, sell sustaining populations of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, or unique archaeological and historical resources. Given the sensitive nature of the resources in conservation parks, development is very limited and generally restricted to passive recreation areas and

opportunities such as trails, fishing and picnic areas, and nature study. Opportunities for interpretation of the protected environmental, historic, and archeological elements should be maximized through self-guided nature trails, interpretive signage, and naturalist programs. There are nine conservation parks in the County, which include over 2,160 acres of parkland.

Community Use Parks

Smaller types of parks that are primarily used by local residents and nearby areas are group in the classification system under the category of community use parks. These parks are sometimes referred to as local parks, and provide everyday recreation needs for residents close to home.

Currently there are over 200 developed community use parks. Many are located in the

downcounty area where they were placed to serve County development in the 1950s and 60s. As new park construction tries to keep pace with an ever expanding County population, more parks are now being developed in rapidly growing upcounty areas.

The classification system presently includes four types of community use parks: urban, neighborhood, and local parks, and neighborhood conservation areas.

Urban Parks serve central business districts or other highly urban areas, providing green space in an often otherwise concrete environment. These parks serve as a buffer between adjacent residential, office and commercial districts, and contain landscaped sitting areas, walkways, and in several cases, play equipment, handball and paddle ball courts. Urban parks serve an important role as

M-NCPPC INVENTORY OF MAJOR PARK FACILITIES*

Community Use Parks

	Ballfields	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts	Playgrounds
Urban Parks	0	4	2.5	10
Neighborhood Parks	7	55	38	76
Local Parks	207	181	86	116
Neighborhood Conservation Areas	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	214	240	126.5	202

County-wide Parks

	Ballfields	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts	Playgrounds
Regional Parks	12	21	3	6
Recreational Parks	20	20	6	4
Special Parks	3	0	1	3
Stream Valley Parks	3	2	1	6
Conservation Oriented Parks	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	38	43	11	19
TOTAL	252	283	137.5	221

* as of April 2, 1998

Figure 4.4

gathering places for the community and accommodate activities such as concerts and performances, celebrations, fairs, and outdoor spaces for area employees to have lunch. Nearly all of the County's 19 developed urban parks are located in the down-County with concentrations in the Bethesda and Silver Spring areas.

Neighborhood Parks are small, walk-to parks providing informal leisure opportunities and recreation in heavily populated areas. They often provide about five acres of open space developed with a sitting area, play ground, informal play field, and tennis and/or basketball courts. There are 74 developed neighborhood parks in the County, with the largest number found in the Wheaton, Silver Spring, and Bethesda areas where they were developed to serve early concentrations of single-family housing.

Local Parks provide both programmed and informal recreation opportunities within reach of all area residents. Typically about ten to fifteen acres in size, these parks contain athletic fields, tennis and basketball courts, picnic and play ground areas, and sometimes recreation buildings and other facilities.

The major difference between neighborhood and local parks is that the local parks provide regulation size athletic fields that can be reserved for game play. Over 40% of the people visiting local parks in 1996 were either league players or league game spectators. Ballplayers attend games on fields near their homes, or travel to other parts of the County to challenge opposing teams. Therefore local parks often have large service areas. Many people drive to local parks, while many neighborhood parks are within walking distance.

Many down-County local parks include small recreation centers that are used for classes, social events, and other similar activities. Some local parks also include other facilities as swimming pools that serve large areas of the County. Some of these parks, such as Sligo-Dennis, are located adjacent to stream valley park areas and provide both active and passive recreation opportunities.

The Commission cooperates with other agencies in order to use tax monies as wisely as possible. Parks provide facilities for many of the programs sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Many local parks are adjacent to schools and give school children more room to play during the day and families more recreation spaces on the weekend.

Neighborhood Conservation Areas are small pieces of parkland preserved in residential areas. They are generally conveyed to M-NCPPC during the subdivision process and frequently contain streams or drainage areas and adjacent wooded slopes. They remain undeveloped and benefit the neighborhood by providing open space, reducing storm water runoff, and bringing nature into an urban environment.

COMPARISON OF THE M-NCPPC PARK CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM WITH THE STATE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The Maryland Office of Planning has developed a new park classification system that is outlined in the 1998 Guidelines for the Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plans, and differs substantially from that used for the Montgomery County park system. It divides recreation and natural resource land into five groups: Non-Resource Based Recreation Land, Natural Resource Based Recreation Land, Historic/cultural Resource Land, Natural Resource Land, and Agricultural Land.

The M-NCPPC classification system is not directly comparable with the State's. The primary difference is that some County parks include both natural resource land and non-resource based recreation land. In order to provide as close a

COMPARISON OF M-NCPPC PARK ACREAGE BY STATE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARK SYSTEM SUMMARY*

MD. Office of Planning/Dept. of Natural Resources CLASSIFICATION	TOTAL ACRES	M-NCPPC CLASSIFICATION
NON-RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	2,709	COUNTY-WIDE PARKS RECREATIONAL STREAM VALLEY REGIONAL *** SPECIAL CONSERVATION AREAS REGIONAL
NATURAL RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	11,983	
NON-RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	2,583	
HISTORICAL	879	
NATURAL RESOURCE LAND	2,167	
NATURAL RESOURCE LAND	5,244	
	25,655	COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL
NON-RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	22	COMMUNITY-USE PARKS URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION AREA
NON-RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	595	
NON-RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	1,928	
NATURAL RESOURCE LAND	244	
	2,789	COMMUNITY-USE SUBTOTAL
TOTALS BY STATE CATEGORY		
NON-RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	7,837	
NATURAL RESOURCE BASED RECREATION LAND	11,983	
HISTORICAL	879	
NATURAL RESOURCE LAND	7,655	
PARK ACREAGE TOTAL	28,354	PARK ACREAGE TOTAL

◆ As of December 5, 1997

*** Regional Parks are both Natural Resource Land and Non-Resource Based Recreation Land as 2/3 of the Regional Park acreage is undeveloped. Some Regional Park acreage could also be considered Natural Resource Based Recreation Land, but this acreage total can not be differentiated.

NOTE: The State categorization scheme does not coincide with the M-NCPPC categories. The above table compares the park facility types as closely as possible.

Figure 4.5

comparison as possible the following table, "Recreation and Open Space Acreage By State Classification System," contains the 'crosswalk' between the State classification system for open space resources and the M-NCPPC Park classification system.

These state categories are described in more detail below:

Non-Resource Based Recreation Land is generally more dependant than Resource Based Recreation Land on physical improvements for recreational opportunities, and includes basketball courts, softball fields and swimming pools. M-NCPPC parks in this category include: Recreational, Regional, Urban, Neighborhood, and Local. The M-NCPPC development policy states that active use areas in regional parks should generally not exceed 1/3 of total park acreage. Therefore, 1/3 of the regional park acreage is classified as Non-Resource Based Recreation Land.

Natural Resource Based Recreation Land is primarily dependant on the presence of natural resources and examples include beach swimming, backpacking, camping in the woods, and hiking in the woods. M-NCPPC park areas devoted to holdings in this category include Stream Valley Parks.

Historical/Cultural Resource Land includes cultural resources, historical structures, and archaeological sites which are important for protection, preservation, and education. M-NCPPC holdings in this category include Special Parks.

Natural Resource Land focuses on land and/or water areas for which protection or preservation of one or more natural resources is of primary importance. This land may support recreational, economic, or other uses to the extent that does not conflict with protection or preservation of that resource. M-NCPPC holdings in this category include Conservation Areas, Neighborhood Conservation Areas, and those areas of Regional Parks that do not have active recreation facilities.

The M-NCPPC development policy states that active use areas in regional parks should not exceed 1/3 of total park acreage. Therefore, 2/3 of the regional park acreage is classified as Natural Resource Land.

Agricultural Land refers to land and/or related water areas that support, or have the potential to support, farming as a private, profitable, and predominant use. This land may also support other economic, natural resource, and recreational uses incidental to the agricultural purpose.

FEDERAL, STATE, MUNICIPAL AND OTHER PARKLAND AND OPEN SPACE

Montgomery County also benefits from parkland and recreation areas provided by other jurisdictions. These are the National Park Service, the State of Maryland, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, and various municipalities.

National Park Service

The principal Federal park in Montgomery County is the C&O Canal Historical Park, which provides 3,146 acres of parkland. The park includes 3.67 miles of the old towpath for hiking and biking, and opportunities for picnicking, fishing, and bird watching. In addition, a limited number of primitive campsites are located along the towpath. The major access point and the area of highest use in the C&O Canal Park is the Great Falls recreation area. In addition to a historic tavern, canal locks and towpath, there are sixteen miles of hiking and natural trails available in the Great Falls area. The Carderock area of the canal below Great Falls provides opportunities for rock climbing enthusiasts. Access to the C&O Canal above Great Falls occurs primarily at the old canal lock sites. There is a boat ramp and parking at the Pennyfield Lock site, which provide boat access to

**M-NCPPC - MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARK SYSTEM"
OTHER PARKLANDS AND OPEN SPACE HOLDINGS**

STATE OF MARYLAND	ACRES
DIERSSEN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA	40
ISLANDS OF THE POTOMAC WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA	515
MATTHEW HENSON STATE PARK	100
McKEE BESHERS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA	1,971
MONOCACY NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AREA	5
PATUXENT RIVER STATE PARK	3,179
SENECA CREEK STATE PARK	6,290
STRIDER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA	267
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL:	-12367
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	ACRES
C&OCANAL	3,146
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL:	3,146
WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION	ACRES
TRIADELPHIA WATERSHED	1,300
T. HOWARD DUCKETT WATERSHED	1,800
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL:	3100
PRIVATE OPEN SPACES	ACRES
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE- DAMASCUS	93
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE - GAITHERSBURG	63
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE - GAITHERSBURG	56
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE - GAITHERSBURG	50
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE - NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	33
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE- POOLESVILLE	365
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE - ROCKVILLE	8
SYCAMORE & RUPERT ISLANDS - POTOMAC RIVER	75
AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY - CHEVY CHASE	40
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - C&O CANAL	16
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - SUGARLOAF MT. AREA	1,127
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - SUGARLOAF MT. AREA	437
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - SUGARLOAF MT. AREA	286
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - POTOMAC	14
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - BLACK HILL REGIONAL PARK	16
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - PATUXENT STATE PARK	63.7
MD. ENV. TRUST EASEMENT - POTOMAC RIVER ISLAND	3.4
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL	-2,746
UTILITY CORRIDORS	ACRES
Potomac Edison Power Company (PEPCO)	2,553
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL	2553
TOTALS	23,912

*As of December 5, 1997

Figure 46

the Potomac. Parking is also available at Violets and Swains Locks.

Other national park sites in Montgomery County include the Clara Barton National Historical Site and the Glen Echo Park, both located in the Glen Echo area of the County.

State of Maryland

As of 1997 State parkland in Montgomery County had risen to 12,367 acres. Approximately 6,300 of these acres are in the Seneca State Park which extends from the Potomac river to Germantown. A significant portion of this park is developed with picnic, boating, and trail facilities. The area also contains the 90-acre Clopper Lake, an archery range, and provisions for horseback riding.

The second largest State holding is the undeveloped Patuxent State Park, which lies along the Patuxent River on the Montgomery and Howard County boundary. This park, which primarily serves conservation purposes, also includes opportunities for hiking, fishing, and horseback riding. Future development of this park is in the planning stage.

The McKee-Bershers Wildlife Management Area encompasses 1,971 acres and is adjacent to the C&O Canal in the western portion of the County. This area is managed for wildlife and is significant because it is one of the few public sites available for hunting in the County. During the off-season, this area is also used for bird watching and ice skating.

Municipalities

A number of municipalities in Montgomery County have their own park systems. The chart "Municipality Inventory of Park and Recreation Facilities" shows the park acres and facilities located in each municipality. Municipalities provide a significant amount of recreational facilities, and the cities of Gaithersburg, Rockville,

and Takoma Park also provide recreational programs for their citizens.

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)

The WSSC owns 3,100 acres of open space land in Montgomery County along the Patuxent River. The Triadelphia Watershed comprises 1,300 acres with a reservoir containing 576 acres. The T. Howard Duckett Watershed contains 1,800 acres including a 259-acre reservoir. Although the primary purpose of the WSSC land is for water supply, recreational use of the land is Permitted and encouraged. The activities allowed include fishing, boating, picnicking, hiking, and horseback riding on an established trail system.

Large, Private Open Spaces

Conservation-oriented groups in Montgomery County have privately preserved a total of 2,746 acres for open space purposes. This land is listed on the table "M-NCPPC - Montgomery County Park System, Other Park Lands and Open Space Holdings." In addition, the Maryland Environmental Trust preserves land through the donation of conservation easements which allow the property to remain under the ownership of the easement donor.

Summary

Montgomery County has a total of 55,811 acres of parkland, recreation space, and open space. As indicated on the following table summarizes the information presented in the previous section, showing that there is a total of 47,412 acres of local, County, State and Federal national parkland available to County residents. Additionally, public school and municipal open space provide another 3,545 acres bringing the total public park and recreation acreage to nearly 50,000. There is also over 8,000 acres

MUNICIPALITY INVENTORY OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES •

Municipality	Total Acreage	Softball	Baseball	Soccer	Total fields	Tennis Courts	Playgrounds	Basketball Courts	Hiker/Biker Trails (miles)
City of Barnesville	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
City of Brookeville	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Town of Chevy Chase	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chevy Chase Village	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Town of Garrett Park	0.83	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.13
City of Gaithersburg	405.00	5.00	2.00	4.00	11.00	15.00	20.00	7.50	6.50
Town of Glen Echo	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Town of Kensington	6.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	1.00	0.00
Town of Laytonsville	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Town of Poolesville	32.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	6.00	4.00	5.00	2.00	3.00
City of Rockville	799.30	0.00	25.00	8.00	33.00	35.00	45.00	43.50	0.00
Town of Somerset	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	1.50
City of Takoma Park	11.71	0.00	2.00	1.00	3.00	0.00	7.00	2.50	0.00
Washington Grove	115.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Total	1401.39	7.00	33.00	16.00	56.00	58.00	82.00	58.50	11.13

• as of December 5, 1997

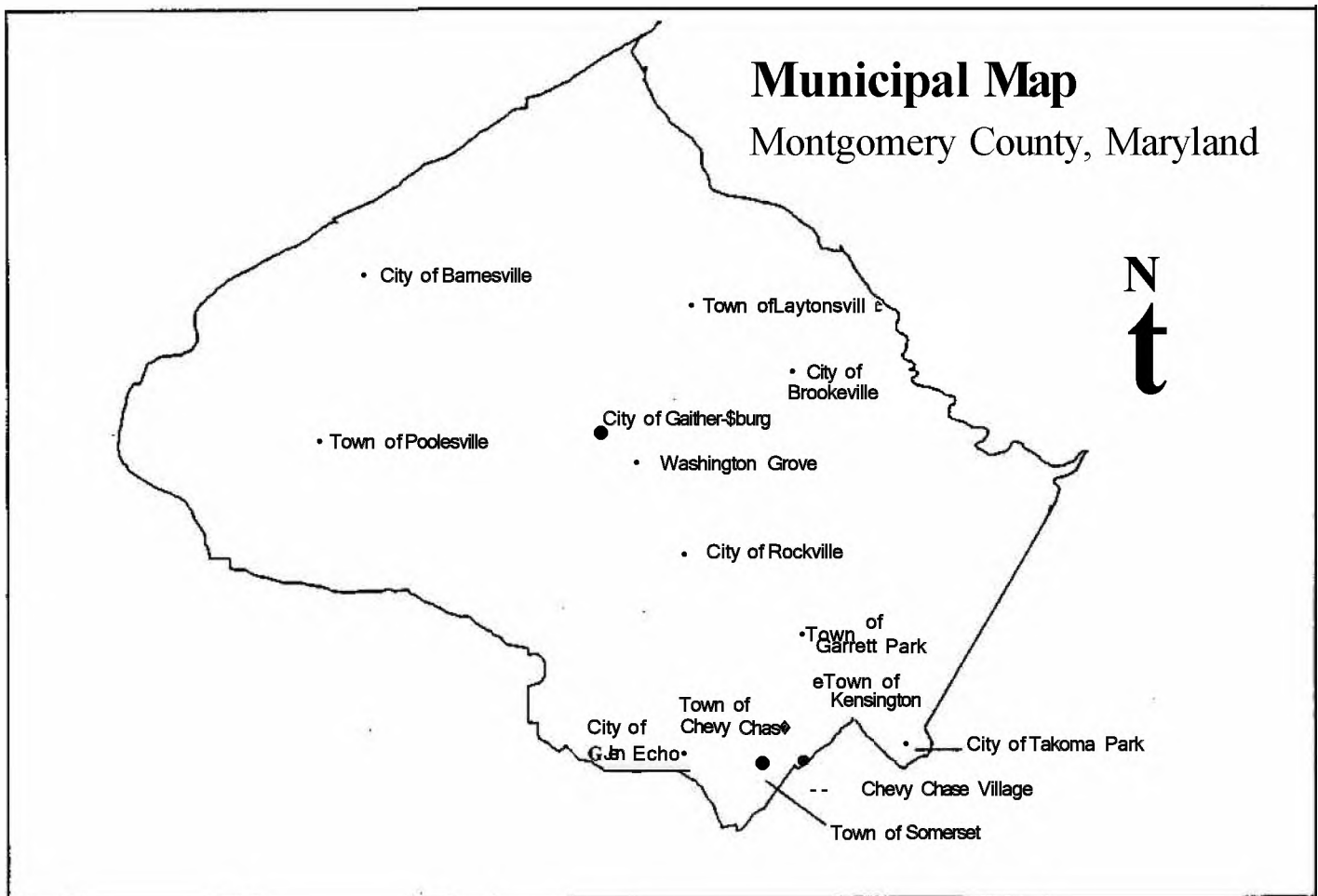


Figure 4.7

**1998 TOTAL PUBLIC PARK AND OPEN SPACE
IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

I PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATION SPACE	
A. Public Park Acreage	ACRES
M-NCPPC	28,354
State of Maryland	12,367
National Park Service	3,146
County-wide Subtotal	43,867
B. Public Recreation Acreage	ACRES
Municipalities	1,401
Public School Recreation Space (60% of 3,200)	1,920
Undeveloped Public School Property	224
County-wide Subtotal	3,545
TOTAL PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATION ACREAGE	47,412

II. OTHER OPEN SPACE ACREAGE	
A. Other Open Space Acreage	ACRES
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)	3,100
Potomac Edison Power Company (PEPCO)**	2,553
Private Open Spaces	2,746
County-wide Subtotal	8,399

* Transmission Lines Only

GRAND TOTAL - PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ACREAGE	55,811
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* as of December 5, 1997

Figure 4.8

of other open space including Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, private conservation areas, and Potomac Edison Power Company (PEPCO) transmission lines.

GREENWAYS IN PUBLIC PARKS

Greenways are another important type of open space. This plan examines the public park greenways in Montgomery County which are interconnected open spaces that are primarily comprised of the stream valley parks providing corridors for wildlife and trails. At the State level, greenways are considered such important open spaces, a Maryland Greenways Commission has been created to further promote their establishment and protection. The Maryland Greenways Commission, established in 1990, has identified 27 greenway corridors within Montgomery County in the publication the *Maryland Greenways Atlas*. The atlas provides an overall map of identified greenway corridors listed alphabetically and complete greenway descriptions. Montgomery County greenways identified in the atlas are fully described in the Appendix.

The greenway system forms an interconnected web of open space that preserves wildlife corridors, much of which is overlain by a network of natural-surface and hard-surface trails linking communities to natural areas and parks. Greenways can be that common thread that connects people and nature's interaction and sparks a greater environmental education and awareness. By joining people and nature together, increasing interest in the greenways concept has spurred a preservation of additional open spaces to provide inter-connected greenway corridors for both trail systems and wildlife habitat by both the public and private sector.

Definition

There is not a discrete or definitive rule which determines what qualifies as a greenway. There are no physical standards or performance criteria that apply uniformly in defining a greenway characteristic. Instead, greenways have been loosely defined and flexibly applied to fit individual area circumstances on a case by case basis. All the definitions have similar common threads: connectivity, linearity, linkages, corridor, preservation, open space and recreation. Greenways also may serve many purposes - conservation, transportation, recreation, infrastructure, and flood control.

In summary, greenways are about connecting: connecting the gaps between the headwaters of adjacent watersheds; connecting across stream valleys; providing trail connections to the public trail and park network; and connecting people with the natural world.

The following working definition of greenways was approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board in 1993 and included in the 1993 *Park, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Master Plan*:

Greenways are linear corridors of open space which may follow various natural or man-made terrain features such as streams, ridge lines, shorelines, utility rights-of way, existing and abandoned transport rights-of way or rail lines. Greenways frequently include bicycling or hiking trails and can link together neighborhoods, parks, population centers, historic sites, and natural areas in open space networks.

Greenways often provide a natural preserve for wildlife propagation and migration as well as a trails system for recreation access and enjoying nature. Through careful planning these two needs often can be mutually accommodated in a greenway. There is also the possibility of conflict where the greenway is either narrow or encompasses an environment particularly sensitive

to human intrusion. As a result, there may be greenways that will not offer trails.

Purpose

The purposes of developing greenways are numerous. With proper planning, greenways can provide quality recreation opportunities as well as conserve natural resources. Many specific benefits that can be achieved through the preservation of greenways:

- Protect environmentally sensitive areas such as streams, steep slopes, and wetlands as well as habitat for endangered plant and animal species that enhance the natural diversity of the area.
- Provide buffers between developed areas and streams or wetlands, helping control water pollution and flood damage by naturally filtering stormwater runoff.
- Provide the opportunity to acquaint the public with cultural, historical, and environmental information when they connect and access these features.
- Provide trails suitable for hiking, horseback riding, and bicycling, which furnish the public with increased recreational opportunities and natural interpretation experiences, and providing linkages to park areas and open spaces.
- Provide much more edge, or apparent open space, than consolidated parks.
- Add value to communities through improvement to quality of life and contribution to "sense of place."
- Provide travel corridors between larger forest tracts to allow mixing of the animal gene pool and supplement animal population declines.
- Prevent decline in the number of forest interior birds by preserving large tracts of interior forest habitat.

Greenways, primarily through the stream valley park system, are the backbone of the publicly owned land in the County. Stream valley parks are the prototypical example of a greenway because they provide all the elements associated with a greenway: connectivity, linearity, linkages, corridors, preservation, open space and recreation. The 12,000 acre stream valley park system also serves many of the purposes of greenways: conservation, recreation, transportation, and flood control. There are also few public greenways located outside stream valley parks, such as the Capital Crescent Trail and portion of the Matthew Henson Greenway.

The 1993 General Plan Refinement stated as Land Use Objective 8 *"Provide a coordinated and comprehensive system of parks, recreation and open space."* An identified strategy to achieve this objective is *"Plan for and encourage the provision of greenways to connect urban and rural open spaces, to provide access to parkland, to connect major stream valley park areas, and for recreational purposes such as walking and biking."*

The 1993 General Plan Refinement also states in Environment Objective 2 *"Preserve natural areas and features that are ecologically unusual, environmentally sensitive, or possess outstanding natural beauty."* An identified strategy to achieve this objective is *"Connect parks and conservation areas to form an open space and conservation oriented greenway system."*

Many greenways have been identified in recent area master plans. The *Germantown Master Plan* adopted in 1989 identified a greenbelt surrounding the Germantown area. The *Aspen Hill Master Plan* adopted in 1994, identified one major new east-west open space corridor: the Matthew Henson State Park and the Matthew Henson Greenway (former Rockville Facility right-of-way) that connects Rock Creek Stream Valley Park and Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park. The *Clarksburg Master Plan*, adopted in 1994, identified four proposed greenway corridors: Ten Mile Creek Greenway, Little Seneca Greenway, Ovid Haven

Wells Greenway, and Little Bennett Creek Greenway. The *Four Corners Master Plan* adopted in 1996 and the *Cloverly Master Plan* adopted in 1997 both recommend the Northwest Branch Stream mainstream be designated as a greenway. The *Cloverly Master Plan* also recommends protecting a continuous greenway between the Patuxent River and the Paint Branch via the Burtonsville Local Park and the Right Fork of the Paint Branch.

As each future master plan is updated, a greenways section will identify current corridors, propose gaps in the system to be filled, and how to fill them.

Major Greenways in Montgomery County

The Montgomery County greenway system has received assistance through both Federal and State efforts. State parks, wildlife management areas and Federal parks all contribute to the greenway system. The Patuxent River State Park and the C&O Canal form the northern and southern spines of the County greenway system. The Seneca Greenway, when completed, will be one major north and south link between the C&O Canal and the Patuxent River State Park.

The following is a geographic categorization and brief description of existing Montgomery County multiple purpose greenway corridors. These greenways provide the framework for the county-wide trail network in the *Plan for Park Trails*.

There are three major corridors that form the framework of the public greenway system: Patuxent River, C&O Canal, and the Seneca Greenway. The first two run generally parallel to each other in an east/west direction and form the northern and southern boundary of the County. The Seneca Greenway corridor runs generally north and south and will eventually connect to the

first two. Each major greenway links to smaller supporting greenways to form the overall network.

Patuxent River Corridor - The Patuxent River State Park includes 6,647 acres bordering Montgomery and Howard Counties along the Patuxent River Valley. The Montgomery County portion extends from MD 27 east to MD 97. This undeveloped stream valley park has a self-guided nature trail and a portion of the park has been designated as a State wildland area. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) controls approximately 2,200 acres extending from MD 97 east to the Prince George's County line. One of the greenways that adjoins the Patuxent River Corridor is the Hawlings River which originates at the Patuxent River and links to Reddy Branch Stream Valley Park and Rachel Carson Conservation Park.

C&O Canal Corridor - The C&O Canal extends from Washington, D.C., to Cumberland Maryland, parallel to the Potomac River, for 184 miles, of which approximately 38 miles are in Montgomery County. This thin corridor is supplemented in width by the McKee Beshers Wildlife Management Area and the Seneca Creek State Park. Parts of the canal have been re-watered and parts have been filled over time with trees and shrubs. Four linear M-NCPPC stream valley parks intersect the C&O Canal: Muddy Branch, Watts Branch, Cabin John, and Rock Run, forming a secondary greenway system that flows into the Potomac River.

Seneca Greenway Corridor - State and County parkland and proposed acquisition areas combine to form a 25-mile greenway along the Seneca Creek from the Potomac River to within one mile of the Patuxent River. About half of the corridor, from the Potomac to MD 355, is contained in Seneca Creek State Park. Most of the portion northeast of MD 355 is owned and managed by M-NCPPC as the Great Seneca Extension Stream Valley Park. This greenway offers important connectivity between the Potomac Greenway and C&O Canal and the Patuxent Greenway, which includes the Patuxent River State Park and WSSC reservoirs on

the Patuxent. The Seneca Greenway has a one-mile gap that, if filled, would connect the Patuxent to the Potomac Rivers. Two greenway segments supplement the Seneca corridor: in the southern portion, D_{ry} Seneca Creek originates just south of Route 107 near Poolesville and connects with Great Seneca Creek; in the north, the Magruder Branch originates south of Damascus and connects to Great Seneca Creek.

Clarksburg Greenways - The Clarksburg Master Plan identified four proposed greenway segments. The Ten Mile Creek Greenway follows the stream and will link Little Bennett Regional Park with Black Hill Regional Park. The Greenway is proposed to include a natural surface trail. The Little Seneca Greenway ties together Little Bennett, Black Hill, and Ovid Haven Wells Park. A hard surface recreational trail is proposed. The Ovid Hazen Wells Greenway provides access between Ovid Hazen Wells Park and Damascus Recreational Park. This greenway is proposed to include a hard surface trail. The Little Bennett Creek Greenway connects Little Bennett Park to Oak Ridge Special Park. A natural surface trail is proposed.

Supporting Greenways - In addition to the major greenway corridors, there are four smaller supporting public greenway corridors in the County: Northwest Branch, Rock Creek, Capital Crescent, and the Eastern County/Paint Branch. Each supporting greenway helps to bring the greenway concept geographically closer to residential neighborhoods. The supporting greenways can allow both public access via trails, and wildlife habitat via natural corridors. This concept is described in more detail in the trails section of chapter 6, and the supporting greenways are described in the Appendix.

Corridor Gaps and Future Greenway Planning

The Seneca Greenway Corridor has a two and one-half mile gap between the Great Seneca Extension Stream Valley Park and the Patuxent

River State Park. Closing this one gap will achieve interconnection amongst the three major greenway corridors in the County: The Patuxent Regional Greenway, the Seneca Greenway, and the Potomac River Greenway. The Patuxent River Corridor has one gap between Rachel Carson Conservation Park and the Patuxent River State Park. In the mid-County area, a final identified gap prevents the Muddy Branch Greenway from connecting the City of Gaithersburg with the Rock Creek Corridor. These gaps could be closed with a combination of State, Commission, and private efforts.

The extraordinary number of identified public greenway corridors is testimony to 70 years of protecting stream valley corridors. However, future greenway acquisitions will be needed to complete some of the identified County greenway corridors. These greenways will make possible an interconnected greenway network that will form a protected natural infrastructure through the County, helping to sustain wildlife and maintain ecological processes.

In the future, the area master planning process will be the primary vehicle to identify greenway components and gaps. To complete the greenway system, each identified greenway component could be protected through fee-simple acquisition, donations, easements, or other means.

PROTECTION OF M-NCPPC NATURAL RESOURCES

The commitment of the Montgomery County Planning Board to responsible environmental stewardship is extensive and dates back to its creation in 1927. Over the years, approximately 28,000 acres of parkland have been set aside to conserve water, trees, soil, floral and faunal communities and open space while concurrently providing a variety of recreational opportunities. These actions have contributing immeasurably to

the quality of life in Montgomery County and to the Planning Board's reputation as a responsible steward of the County's park land resources.

In recent years, the Planning Board has expanded its efforts to include greater consideration of natural resources protection and preservation in the planning, development, and management of the park system. The Planning Board has made efforts to greatly increase its knowledge of where valuable resources are located, how to protect and preserve them, and how to best manage the County's parks and open spaces to achieve and maintain a rich and diverse variety of plants, trees and wildlife, and to maintain clean and healthy streams filled with diverse aquatic life.

This increased natural resources information has also guided the Planning Board in its acquisition of new parkland which has resulted in: 1) the acquisition of high-quality natural areas; 2) the protection and preservation of many rare, threatened, endangered, and watchlist species of plants and animals; and 3) the improvement of the County's stream quality and aquatic life by acquiring land at the headwaters of streams.

Natural Resources has 5 major protection techniques: inventory and monitoring, planning, management, research, and education and outreach.

Inventory and Monitoring

Developing and maintaining inventories of the wildlife, aquatic life, vegetation, and exemplary natural areas in the County's parks and open spaces is an essential basis for the effective protection and management of our natural resources. Particular emphasis is placed on identifying populations of rare, threatened, endangered, and watchlist plants and animals. By knowing what natural resources and exemplary natural areas the County has, and where they are located, strategies can be developed and implemented to preserve and enhance these resources for all residents to enjoy. Also, steps can

be taken to prevent the unknowing destruction of these resources.

After completing an inventory, the diversity and abundance of species and natural communities are then quantified and summarized. This information, along with other valuable geographic, hydrologic and similar types of useful information, is organized and entered into the Geographic Information System (GIS). The GIS is a computer mapping and database system that allows quick and easy access to information which can then be incorporated into and displayed as maps or tables for use in park planning. Appendix 5 shows the information which is recorded into the GIS system. To assure maximum usefulness, the information is updated and the status of the resources monitored on a continual basis.

Planning

Information regarding the County's natural resources and natural resources management policies have been increasingly incorporated into the park planning and master planning process to assure that these resources are fully and carefully considered. Examples of that include provisions for the protection, preservation and management of the County's natural resources and exemplary natural areas include: The General Plan, which sets out broad park facility and resources policies; Area Master Plans that are developed for each geographic planning area such as Potomac or Fairland; Functional Master Plans specific to certain park uses such as Trails and Bikeways or the PROS Plan; Park Master Plans that are developed for each major park in the County; and Natural Resources Management Plans, which incorporate information on geology, soils, topography, knowledge of past land use, and plant and animal inventory data.

Management

The information gained from inventories and research is used and applied to ensure the best management of natural resources for the ukimate

Management

The information gained from inventories and research is used and applied to ensure the best management of natural resources for the ultimate benefit of both park users and the natural environment. Natural resources data are the key to successfully balancing the Planning Board's stewardship responsibilities for County parkland with the need to provide park users with a variety of high-quality recreational experiences. Wise stewardship will help to ensure that future generations experience parks with high natural diversity and high natural value. The Planning Board's actions are guided by regulation, policy, and the accumulated knowledge and understanding of the County's natural resources. Natural resources information is therefore analyzed, summarized, and used in making decisions regarding the use and care of the County's parkland. Natural resources information is also used when making acquisition decisions.

Site-specific natural resource management techniques are frequently used to manage particular resources. For example: 1) open land is reforested to protect streams and create habitat for forest-dwelling species; 2) exotic invasive plants are managed to minimize their impacts on select native plant populations; 3) fields are mowed seasonally to maintain necessary habitat for species such as meadow larks, field sparrows, grasshopper sparrows, bobwhite quail, and meadow voles; 4) vernal pools are created to establish habitat for certain amphibians and reptiles; and 5) nest boxes are constructed and installed to provide shelter for certain species, such as bluebirds and flying squirrels, to help sustain their populations in the County.

Research

Scientifically valid methodologies are used to assess the effects of land use change or management activities on natural resources. The information gained from short-term and long-term research increases the knowledge of how parks function

ecologically, and this knowledge is applied in the planning and management process. For examples: studying the effects of the County's increased white-tailed deer population on forest regeneration; studying the effects of Little Bennett golf course on downstream water quality and aquatic resources; researching the effects of hard surface trails on surrounding natural resources; and studying the effects of culverts on fish populations.

Education and Outreach

Sharing the information acquired, promoting and encouraging citizen involvement in the planning and management of the County's natural resources, and promoting a sense of stewardship for the parks is important. Efforts are made, whenever possible, to offer opportunities for volunteers, such as installing and maintaining of nest boxes; collecting of native seeds for our native plant nursery; making bird counts for the Breeding Bird Survey; assisting in the collection of fish and macroinvertebrate data; performing radio telemetry studies of wildlife; and planting and maintaining reforestation projects.

PROTECTION OF M-NCPPC HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

M-NCPPC's enabling legislation, which mandates natural resources protection, also requires protection of historical and archaeological resources. The Commission is the largest single owner of historic resources in the County, having acquired 76 sites as it has acquired land for parks.

In 1989, the County Council authorized the M-NCPPC to begin an archaeology program. The M-NCPPC has identified and inventoried over 280 prehistoric and historical archaeological sites. The number of identified historical and archaeological sites undoubtedly will increase as more of the park system is surveyed and expanded.

Public interest in local history has been very high in the last decade. The heritage tourism industry has grown as visitations of historic and archaeological sites has increased. In a recent survey, Montgomery County residents rated protection of historic areas a high funding priority. Historic resources greatly enhance the educational and recreational value of Commission owned land and add to its visual attractiveness.

These cultural resources are found throughout the park system with many located in regional and stream valley parks. These resources include structures and sites that contribute significantly to the cultural heritage or visual beauty and interest of the County. There are other historic properties, although not acquired solely for their historical or archaeological significance, located in park property that at one time were settled or farmed, and acquired to meet other park and open space needs.

Historic and Cultural Resource Preservation has four main protection techniques: identification, preservation, interpretation, and archeology.

Identification

Cultural resources include both standing historic structures and archaeological sites. Approximately one hundred structures have been identified in the *M-NCPPCH Historic Park Properties Inventory*. Over two hundred and eighty archaeological sites have been identified during the course of development impact reviews and related work. A listing of the historic sites owned by the Commission are included in Appendix 4.

Many of these properties are designated on the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation in Montgomery County* and are subject to the Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the County Code. Each property on the Inventory has been placed in one of three categories for the purpose of establishing historic or architectural significance.

Category 1: Historic properties of importance that contribute significantly to

the cultural heritage or visual beauty and interest of the County, park, or facility and its environs, and which should be preserved.

Category 2: Historic properties of value that contribute to the cultural heritage or visual beauty and interest of the County, park or facility and its environs, and that should be preserved if practicable.

Category 3: Any property that has been inventoried but does not qualify in one of the above categories, indicating little historic or architectural basis for retention.

Preservation

As the single largest owner of historic resources in the County, the Planning Board faces a tremendous challenge to protect and maintain these resources with limited funds and personnel. Many historic sites are located in remote areas that render them vulnerable to arson and vandalism. As with the private sector, the Commission is bound by the Preservation Ordinance (County Code, Chapter 24A), which requires that historic resources that are designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation must be preserved and maintained. Since many of the Commission's properties are designated historic resources, proposed changes to the exterior or the setting are subject to review by the Historic Preservation Commission.

The only significant funding source available for repair work is the CIP project fund called "Restoration of Historic Structures" that represents approximately 1% of the total park program. The fund has been used to stabilize structures. The Planning Board has consistently won awards for its restoration projects such as Battery Bailey in Westmoreland Hills Local Park.

In recent years, the Planning Board has initiated several new programs to meet funding needs for preservation. These programs must continue to be developed to meet stabilization and restoration needs. They include the following:

Public/Private Partnerships Structures are leased to private individuals and groups at a low rate in exchange for renovation of the buildings for compatible uses such as Bed & Breakfasts.

Park Property Management A large number of historic resources come under this program. Rental money is earmarked for repairs to historic structures. Tenants have successfully renovated historic properties in exchange for rental reductions. More historic properties have the potential to be renovated under this program.

Training of Maintenance Staff Specialized restoration construction training is offered by National Park Service experts to Central Maintenance crews.

Cooperative Ventures Historic resources in parks adjacent to development are restored through cooperation between community groups and developers. Examples include Acom Park in Silver Spring and the Waters House in the Milestone Development.

Interpretation

The recent survey of County residents underscores the high level of interest in historic sites and related programs. Now that historic sites have been identified and much progress has been made in their stabilization, the historic preservation program must focus more attention on interpretation of the cultural significance of historic sites. Public education and outreach is vital for increasing public awareness of historic sites and their significance to community life. The identity of individual neighborhoods and communities can be enhanced through the interpretation of historic sites within those communities.

Historic Sites Markers and Plaques This program identifies to the general public significant historic sites, such as Hyattstown Mill, Acom Park, and the Jesup Blair House.

Brochures and Exhibits A recent Silver Spring Armory program featured African-American culture including foods, vendors, exhibits, lectures, and a "jumping the broom" wedding. A grant from the Montgomery County Commission on the Humanities funded a brochure on the Oakley Cabin, which is a well preserved example of a typical 19th century rustic log dwelling residence used by slaves and tenant farmers.

Historic Sites Tours Guided and self-guided tours have been developed. New programs should focus on individual sites or clusters of sites within a park or neighboring parks, and on sites related to a theme, such as the Underground Railroad or Montgomery County Mills.

Public Events A recent event celebrated Emancipation Day at Oakley Log Cabin. An article about the Commission's recent "re-creation of the underground railroad" program for children and adults appeared in the National Association of Interpreters' magazine, Legacy December 1997.

The most important goal for the future is to initiate new programs at high-priority sites, defined by high visibility, accessibility, and historic significance. More focus is needed on cultivating new volunteer opportunities as well as training interpreters and docents for future school programs and week-end events. In addition, training of existing staff would enable new and supplemental programs to be offered at parks throughout the County.

Archaeological Sites

Just as the County's parklands contain a great variety of historic and architectural resources, they are also rich in archaeological resources. The large number of stream valleys

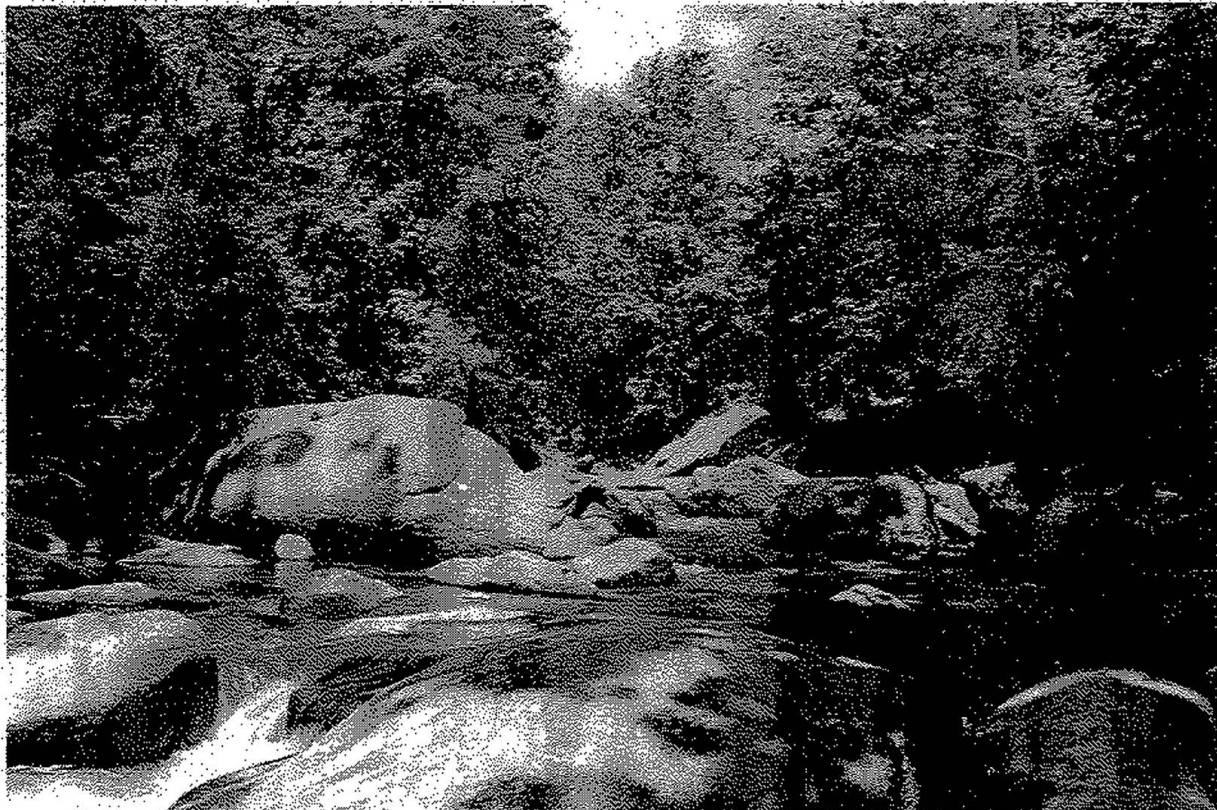
and creek drainages in the park system have great natural potential for both prehistoric and historic sites. Prehistoric sites include remains of Native American encampments. Historic archaeological sites include mill sites from the 1700s to 1900s and Civil War fortifications. These resources are found throughout the park system but, unfortunately, they often go unrecognized and are vulnerable to destruction.

According to the Maryland Historical Trust, "With the current and past intensive level of development in Montgomery County, a large portion of its archaeological record has been lost and this loss increases daily." In order to stem this loss of archaeological sites on parkland and to comply with Federal and State regulations, the County Council authorized the Commission to begin an archaeology program. The program's purpose is to identify, manage, and interpret archaeological resources within our parks through an ongoing effort of protection, including a strategy for mitigating the effects of any stabilization, restoration, or construction on affected archaeological resources.

Close to 300 sites were discovered on or near parkland. The number of discovered sites will continue to increase as more of the park system is researched and/or expanded. Because the County's Piedmont stream valleys and creek drainages contain great natural potential for both prehistoric and historic sites, the continued identification, acquisition, and management of these areas will best preserve the County's dwindling, non-renewable archaeological resources.

Much has been accomplished with the use of skilled volunteers and a successful partnership with Montgomery College allows archaeology students to investigate park archaeological sites.

Efforts will continue to identify, manage, and interpret the historical and archaeological resources within the Montgomery County park system in compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations and guidelines.



Muddy Branch Stream Valley Park

EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES AND RESOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAMS

This chapter addresses existing recreation facilities, including those operated by the M-NCPPC Enterprise Division and the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Also discussed is natural and cultural resource protection, and agricultural preservation programs at the state and local levels.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Recreation programs provide several key values and benefits for individuals, families, and the community, including creating critical community focal points, offering activities that strengthen the family unit, promoting health and wellness, reducing isolation and facilitating social and cultural interaction, providing positive alternatives to drug and alcohol use, enhancing public safety, and promoting economic growth and vitality.

The recreation programs also provide accessible leisure, educational, and personal skill development activities for individuals with disabilities through main streaming and adaptive programs, and provide programs for the families of participants. The activities available to residents with disabilities are often the only opportunities these residents have for leisure activities. There are few private sector alternatives.

The Recreation Department is responsible for operating large recreation centers, as well as

indoor and outdoor pools. Many of the wide variety of programs offered and facilities operated by the Montgomery County Recreation Department are located in M-NCPPC parks while others are located on County owned property. Areas of the County where future community centers and pools are planned can be found in Chapter 6.

Recreation Center Facilities

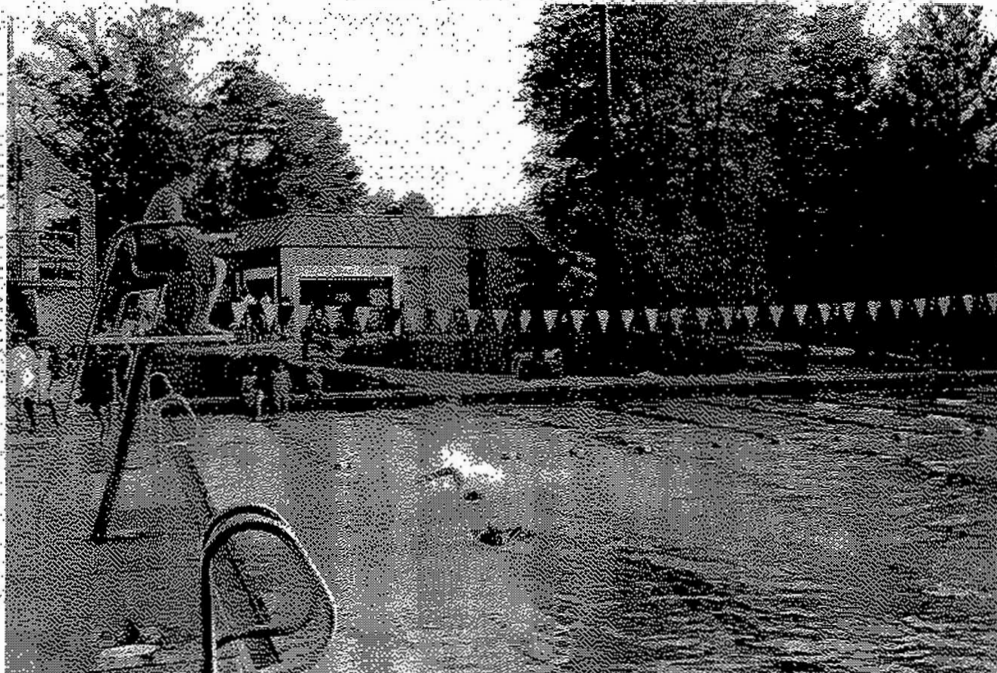
Many Recreation Department programs are currently provided in small, Commission-owned centers located primarily in local parks. In the 1950s and 1960s, M-NCPPC built many one-room recreation buildings that ranged in size from 900 to 1,800 square feet and included one large room, two restrooms, and a small kitchen space with a refrigerator and a range. These facilities now serve as space for daycare programs, community meetings, limited recreation classes, and support activities held at park ballfields or picnic areas. While they still provide vital services, the size of community centers has increased over the years to improve efficiency and better serve the needs of the community.

The Recreation Department began constructing large recreation centers in the 1960s. As described in Chapter 6, the current program for these facilities meets residents' needs much more effectively. The Department currently has 16 community recreation centers located throughout the County. These programs are provided by local government, state and federal agencies and community organizations. Community recreation centers provide leisure activity, social interaction, family participation, and neighborhood civic involvement, and promote community cohesion and identity. Programs are available for all ages and interests. These facilities are designed to support sports, fitness, dance, social activities, and arts programs. Activities include instruction in swimming, aerobics, and exercise, recreational clubs and hobby groups, access to facilities for all populations, and summer camps. In addition, they offer important community meeting space. Center spaces are available for parties, rentals, receptions, and meetings. User fees are charged for room, rental, and special programs, and services offered at each facility.

Aquatic Facilities

Public outdoor pools provide opportunities during the summer months for thousands of citizens to swim, compete, and learn lifesaving skills. These pools serve swimming needs for area daycare groups, summer playground programs, and summer camps, and are especially important for the disabled. They are particularly important to serve those who have no access to private pools. The aquatics program provides recreational, fitness, instructional, competitive, therapeutic and rehabilitative water activities that serve all citizens.

The first public pool opened in Montgomery County in 1968. The Department of Recreation now operates six outdoor and four indoor pools. The outdoor pools operate seven days a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The indoor pool operates seven hours a day, approximately 340 days a year. In addition, there are two municipalities: With indoor and outdoor pools, and three YMCA pools in the County. This supply of pools is supplemented by private swimming clubs and apartment pools. In the 1980s and 1990s, the Recreation Department developed



Upper County Outdoor Pool

modern designs for multi functional swimming facilities that serve significant regions of the County with features and programs that attract regular and occasional users.

Public indoor pools provide the opportunity for lap swimming, water aerobics classes, and physical rehabilitation opportunities that are in great demand year-round. Swim team members (youth and adults) who wish to continue training during winter months, and families looking for indoor, healthful recreation opportunities use public or private indoor pools. The public school system also uses Recreation Department pools to conduct high school varsity swim and dive programs.

Recreation Department Programs

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation offers a wide variety of recreation programs to serve all age groups of County residents. The mission of the Department is to provide and maintain quality programs and facilities that meet the recreational, social, cultural, and physical needs of a diverse and changing community. The following section briefly describes the various types of programs offered by the Recreation Department in 1997.

Camps and Playgrounds:

The camps and playgrounds program is designed to meet the needs of youths, ages 5-12, during the summer and winter holiday breaks. Teenagers 13-18 participate in programs and services designed specifically to meet their needs. A large population of youth, some of whom are latch-key children, are served by playgrounds, super summer centers, Fill-in-the-Gap (FIG) programs, and day camps. Winter camps are also provided at community centers during the holiday breaks to serve children in kindergarten through third grade. Kids Day Out is a program designed to assist parents and employees on

isolated school holidays when children are out of school, but parents must work. Parents drop off their children on the way to work at one of five locations around the County for a full day of activities.

Classes

Recreational and skill development classes are offered to adults and youths. Leisure classes are scheduled and advertised four times each year in the major categories of arts, crafts, exercise, music, performing and social dance, and special interest areas. Physical activity classes are offered in the martial arts, in-line skating, golf, tennis, volleyball, gymnastics, fencing, and racquet ball. Special intensive schools and clinics are also offered during school vacation times. Recreation, social, and early childhood development activities are also offered for children ages 1 to 5 years, incorporating child-parent interaction, creativity, independence, fitness, and wholesome fun. The preschool activities consist of Tiny Tot classes which are established by age groups and subject matter. After-school classes and programs are also offered for elementary and middle school students throughout the County.

Senior Adults

The senior adult program offers services for adults age 55 and above such as clubs, classes, sports, trips, and special programs for the frail and isolated. There are also senior centers and senior clubs. The senior centers are open three to six days per week and provide social, physical, recreational, educational, and community-oriented activities. Recreation opportunities range from organized classes such as fitness, art, and computer skills to more informal activities such as billiards, discussion groups, and guest speakers. These centers are focal points for delivering a variety of recreation, community, and health services to senior adults. The senior citizen clubs are groups of 20-70 individuals, who meet in recreation centers near their homes one or two days each week. The clubs offer special

interest classes, trips, social activities, and food services at selected sites.

Special Events

County-wide special events include the Ethnic Festival, First Night, Oktoberfest, and many others which offer a variety of benefits such as enhancing a sense of community, encouraging family participation, and providing a positive image for the County. Special events offer opportunities for interaction among the various segments of the County's multi-cultural community and provide a chance to celebrate its rich cultural diversity.

Sports

The sports program administers and delivers an extensive program in youth and adult sports throughout the County. Programs include instructional sports for K-2nd grade youth in soccer, basketball, T-ball; competitive leagues for grades 3-12 in basketball, baseball, softball, flag football and in-line hockey. Leagues are also offered for grades 6-8 in basketball and grades 3-12 in tackle football and baseball (Montgomery County Baseball Association).

For adults, competitive leagues are offered seasonally in tennis, soccer, flag and touch football, volleyball, basketball and softball. Tournaments and instructional clinics complement the league offerings for all age groups. Benefits include building self esteem, building strong bodies, and reducing stress. Additionally, in response to the increasing popularity of roller hockey among youth, the Recreation Department has instituted an instructional program in this sport.

Teen Adventure and Therapeutic Recreation

Teen programs provide positive social alternatives to alcohol and drug use. Teen Clubs serve middle and high school aged youth by sponsoring events on holidays and weekends such as dances, activity nights and trips. Teen

Centers, jointly operated by the Department, the private sector, and community/civic organizations, provide after school and weekend drop-in facilities or special activities for youths, ages 13 to 18. 'Drawing the Line' and 'Under 21' programs are specifically designed to combat underage alcohol use with activities such as parties after football and basketball games and after prom events. Some programs are in partnership with private sector establishments. 'After Hours' is a program to provide special events strictly for the middle school students from October to April. High adventure activities are provided to the general public, and especially targeted to at-risk youth. In these activities, youth are exposed to caving, rock climbing, wind surfing, canoeing, back packing, biking, skiing, and camping programs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Park Enterprise Facilities And Programs

M-NCPPC sponsors many recreation programs through the Enterprise Division. The Park Enterprise Fund was established to account for the operation and maintenance of various facilities and services which are entirely or primarily supported by user fees. These facilities provided more than 13 million recreational uses in FY 97 with no impact on the tax-supported Park Fund Operating Budget. Currently there are over 30 revenue-generating enterprise facilities/operations.

Golf Courses

This program includes the operation of Northwest, Needwood, Little Bennett, and Sligo

Creek Golf Courses. Northwest is a challenging 27-hole course. Needwood offers an exciting Nine in addition to the regulation 18-hole course. Little Bennett is the newest 18-hole course. Sligo is a 9-hole course that is particularly popular with seniors, juniors, and beginners. Needwood, Northwest, Little Bennett, and Sligo Golf Courses offer pro-shop, carts, equipment rentals, and snack bars. Northwest, Needwood, and Little Bennett offer driving ranges and lessons. Additionally, during 1997, the M-NCPPC began operating the 9-hole golf course at the former Naval Surface Warfare Center in White Oak on a temporary basis. It is hoped that a long-term agreement can be negotiated to ensure that this course remains available to County residents.

Ice Rinks

Wheaton and Cabin John Ice Rinks are popular park facilities. Both ice rinks accommodate hockey and figure skating

programs and provide group and private lessons, general and special sessions, therapeutic skating, skate rentals/facility leasing and snack bars. Cabin John Ice Rink also offers a studio rink and a pro-shop. Cabin John Ice Rink is open and operates seven days a week; eleven months a year. Wheaton is a covered outdoor rink which operates seven days a week from late October through March.

Construction on a new, enclosed Wheaton Ice Rink is scheduled to begin next year. When the new ice rink is opened for business, the existing facility will be used for inline (rollerblade) skating. Repairs and improvements to the Cabin John Ice Rink, to include the addition of a second full-sheet of ice, are scheduled to begin in 1999. There is the potential for a major new two-sheet ice rink at Ridge Road Recreation Park, which would provide an ice skating facility for the upper County area.



Sligo Creek Public Golf Course,

EXISTING MONTGOMERY COUNTY ENTERPRISE FACILITIES

ICE RINKS

Wheaton Ice Rink and Snack Bar
Cabin John Ice Rink and Snack Bar

GOLF COURSES

Sligo Golf Course
Northwest Golf Course
Needwood Golf Course
Little Bennett Golf Course
White Oak Golf Course

CONFERENCE CENTERS

Woodlawn
Rockwood Manor
Lodge at Little Seneca Creek
Waters House

INDOOR TENNIS CENTERS

Cabin John Indoor Tennis
Wheaton Indoor Tennis

PARK FACILITIES

Northern Region

Black Hill Boats
Little Bennett Campsites
Lake Needwood Boats and Snack Bar

Agricultural History Activities Building
Black Hill Visitors Center*
Meadowside Nature Center*

Southern Region

Cabin John Train and Snack Bar
Wheaton Picnic Snack Bar
Wheaton Train
Wheaton Carousel
Brookside Nature Center"
Locust Grove Nature Center*
Brookside & McCrillis Gardens"

CONCESSIONS

Wheaton Stable
Meadowbrook Stable
Potomac Horse Center

* - Park Fund operations w/revenue producing programs accounted for in the Enterprise Fund.

Figure 5.1

Source: M-NCPPC Enterprise Division, 2/23/98

Social/Conference Centers

Rockwood Manor, Woodlawn Conference Center, and the Waters House have been preserved and restored as conference center resources for residents of Montgomery County. The much newer Lodge at Little Seneca Creek rounds out this complement of rental facilities managed and operated by the Commission.

Armory Place, located in the downtown Silver Spring area, began operating in 1981 and has served a variety of groups and organizations as well as individual clients. In 1998, the Armory will close to make way for the re-development of Silver Spring.

Rockwood is a special park comprised of the Manor House, Skyview Lodge, and French

House which offer conference rooms of various sizes and overnight accommodations on a fee/reservation basis. These facilities are suitable for weddings, parties, receptions and other social gatherings as well as business conferences and retreats. The park also has three dormitory buildings which are particularly well-suited for youth groups.

Woodlawn Conference Center opened in 1985. This Manor House is located on lovely grounds with trees, a stone barn, and a gazebo. The manor and grounds are available to individuals or groups and are particularly well-suited for weddings and receptions.

The Lodge at Linle Seneca Creek opened in 1991. This lodge, located in upper Montgomery County near Germantown, is suitable for weddings, receptions, and parties as well as meetings and retreats for small groups.

The historic Waters House was renovated and deeded to the Commission in 1997, and should be available to the public for limited use next year.

Indoor Tennis

The Commission operates two indoor tennis facilities: Cabin John and Wheaton. The Wheaton Indoor Tennis Facility has six courts and is covered by a rigid shell structure with canvas-covered portals that can be opened to provide ventilation and a view of the outdoors in mild weather. Restrooms, showers, lockers, a seating area, and office are contained in an attached service building. Cabin John Indoor Tennis is a six-court facility housed in a permanent building with a central service core that contains restrooms, showers, lockers, pro shop, a large customer lounge, and staff offices. Both offer seasonal court reservations, spot time play, facility rental, and group or private lessons.

Other Revenue Producing Park Facilities

A number of other revenue producing facilities, both park-operated and concessionaire-operated, are included in the park system. In the northern part of the County, these facilities include the Lake Needwood Boating Facility, revenue producing programs at Black Hill Visitor's Center and Meadowside Nature Center, the Campgrounds at Little Bennett, and the Activities Building at the Agricultural History Farm Park. In the southern portion of the County, these facilities include the Cabin John and Wheaton Miniature Trains, the CaQin John Train Snack Bar, Wheaton Carousel, the Wheaton Picnic Area Snack Bar, revenue-producing programs at the Locust Grove and Brookside Nature Centers, and fee based activities (tours, facility rentals, educational programs) at Brookside and McCrillis Gardens. Revenue-producing facilities operated by concessionaires include the Potomac, Wheaton, and Meadowbrook Equestrian Centers.

Natural Resource Programs and Plans

The natural environment of Montgomery County, its soils, streams, rivers, wetlands, and woodlands, support a variety of plants and animals. This environment contributes to the County's high quality of life, visual quality and character. Due to its proximity to the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, Montgomery County is expected to continue developing at a fairly rapid pace. The critical concern is how to protect the County's air, water, land, and wildlife resources while managing growth and making development more environmentally sensitive.

Environmental issues are given much greater weight now more than ever when park planning decisions are made. Park plans consider a variety of environmental factors including soil type,

hydrology, drainage, slope, non-tidal wetlands, stream and wetland buffers, rare, threatened and endangered species; forest interior birds, ornamental plants; exotic plants; edge effect, natural 'community' type, stormwater management; tree preservation, restoration, and mitigation)

A number of plans and programs designed to identify, protect, preserve and manage the County's natural resources have been developed and are currently ongoing or soon to be implemented. These programs assist in the implementation of the seven visions of the Governor's Commission on Growth in the Chesapeake Bay Region that relate to the protection of sensitive areas, stewardship of the Bay and conservation of resources. Some of these programs are summarized below.

Nature Centers

The M-NCPPC operates four nature facilities in Montgomery County with a mission

to bridge the gap between people and nature, and to encourage the fullest appreciation of both human and natural resources. The facilities are staffed by Naturalists, whose role is to educate and impart an understanding of our 'natural world' through hands-on experiences, and to inspire appreciation and responsibility for these natural resources. The goal is to provide safe and accessible facilities where a variety of programs are available to a diverse population. The program offerings span a broad range of natural and cultural history interests. The Park Naturalists strive to present programs and exhibits that meet the evolving needs and interests of today's society.

Interpretation plays an important role in how park visitors view public lands, and ultimately affects their overall environmental outlook. & park visitors gain knowledge and appreciation for natural habitats and their inhabitants, they become advocates of the park system, offering community support and quality of life. Many programs frequently revisit



Brookside Nature Center

the nature centers and, with over 300,000 visitors to nature centers in 1997, it is evident that County residents heavily use them and enjoy their programs.

Biodiversity Areas

Significant natural communities enhance the biodiversity of the County. These areas contain one or more of the following natural resources:

- Populations of rare, threatened, endangered, or watchlist plants or animals.
- Unusual or unique types of habitat.
- Examples of high quality or otherwise significant natural communities.
- Plant or animal species with importance to the County or locality.

The locations of biodiversity areas, including some buffer area around them, are mapped by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on existing parkland. This information is intended to assist the M-NCPPC in the management, acquisition, use, and development of parklands by identifying these resources. It is also used to help guide the development of Park Management/Master Plans, and in the planning and implementation of specific development projects, both public and private, that will affect parklands.

Breeding Bird Mapping and Census Project

Observing a diverse variety of bird species is an excellent indicator of environmental health and a source of significant pleasure to many County residents. To assure that the park planning process carefully considers and preserves habitats necessary to support the most rich species diversity, particularly those species that are native to the County, the M-NCPPC is collecting data on the locations and relative numbers of birds of each of the species in the County's parks. The goal is to map bird distribution within County parks and eventually

beyond park boundaries and to track the distribution electronically using a Geographic Information System (GIS) for use in assuring the preservation of bird diversity.

"Stream Striders" Volunteer Training and Community Outreach Program

This program, supported by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, was established in September 1997. The objective of the program is to train volunteers who will lead (with park staff help) community members in park-based stream stewardship activities, including stream clean-ups, stream bank plantings, habitat enhancement projects, and watershed advocacy and outreach. Initial program efforts will focus on the Anacostia watershed, particularly the Upper Paint Branch Park streams.

Strategic Plan for Water Quality Protection

The M-NCPPC has been providing inventory and monitoring activities on the County's streams since 1995 to provide chemical, biological, and physical data fundamental to good planning and decision making. In 1996, Volumes I and II of the *Strategic Plan for Water Quality Protection* were completed by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection in cooperation with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Volume I sets out the goals, objectives, and implementation strategy to improve the County's stream quality. Volume II tracks the progress made toward achieving the water quality goals and objectives stated in Volume I.

In February 1998 Volume III of the *Strategic Plan for Water Quality Protection*, referred to as the "Montgomery County - County-wide Stream Protection Strategy," was completed. This comprehensive volume provides an assessment for each of the County's watersheds. The overall stream and habitat conditions are

analyzed, and specific goals and strategies established to protect stream quality and restore good aquatic habitat and the biological community to those streams that have been damaged. This information is invaluable for prioritizing those areas in need of protection or restoration, and to identify land for possible acquisition as a protective measure.

Little Bennett Creek Watershed Trout Management Plan

To expand and enhance the recreational trout fishing opportunities in Montgomery County, the *Little Bennett Creek Watershed Trout Management Plan* was completed in October, 1997. The plan sets out goals and implementation strategies for improving the stream conditions that limit the trout population, with the goal of establishing Little Bennett Creek and its park tributaries as "Catch and Release" trout fishing streams. Successful implementation of this plan will augment the number of high-quality, passive recreational options available to the County's residents. Management efforts will include: reforestation where tree cover is sparse in order to lower the water temperature to that which can support a breeding trout population; acquisition of additional parkland to surround the watershed tributaries; and stream bank protection and stabilization, storm water management, and in-stream habitat enhancement to reduce sedimentation, prevent excess erosion, create better spawning habitat, and otherwise improve the stream conditions necessary for a successful trout population.

County-wide Forest Management Plan

A comprehensive plan is being developed for the protection and restoration of forest habitat, early successional fields, and stream valley riparian habitat throughout the County. Some of the management issues addressed are: identification and protection of important

vegetation resources, restoration of damaged forest, field and stream valley habitat, control of exotic invasive plants, establishment of goals and strategies for the acquisition of priority forest tracts and areas with high quality plant resources, and expansion of education and volunteer programs.

Comprehensive Management Plan for White-tailed Deer in Montgomery County

In the fall of 1995 The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the M-NCPPC, and the U.S. Department, of the Interior began implementing a comprehensive deer management plan. The plan provides for public education about deer; the collection of current, accurate data on deer impacts (e.g., deer-auto collisions, and damage to agricultural crops, home landscaping, gardens and natural vegetation); and research on deer ecology and population dynamics in Montgomery County. It describes available management options and evaluates the associated costs, viability, and practicality of each.

Historic and Cultural Resource Protection Programs, Plans, and Preservation Guidelines

Cultural resources include archeological sites, historic structures and sites both within and outside the park system. In 1976 the M-NCPPC prepared the *Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County*, an inventory of over 1,000 potential historic resources located throughout the County. Atlas resources are researched and evaluated for eligibility to be designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Designated historic resources are protected under the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the County Code.

Preservation Programs and Plans

Historic Park Properties Inventory

An inventory of cultural properties within **the County park system includes approximate ly 100 resources.** This inventory is used to assist planners in recognizing, monitoring, and managing historic and archaeological resources located on parkland. In addition, policies and guidelines have been adopted for maintaining and rehabilitation of these resources.

A summary of historic **park properties is in** the Appendix. Many of these properties have been designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, while others have not yet been evaluated for designation. The inventory includes a prioritization of preservation work needed for each property. Historic and archaeological resources are scheduled to be included in the Geographic Information System which will assist in identifying the location of park historic resources along with additional information including environmental setting and Master Plan status.

Maryland Heritage Preservation and Tourism Areas

This program is designed to help communities use cultural tourism as a way to build local economies while protecting, developing, and promoting cultural, historical, and natural resources. Cultural tourism is travel by those seeking to discover the authentic culture, history, and natural resources of a community or region. The program provides matching grants to partnerships of local government and private interests to develop plans to guide public and private investment in the development of cultural tourism opportunities. Once such plans have been adopted locally and accepted into the program, communities become Certified Heritage Areas

and are eligible for targeted financial and technical assistance.

Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan

In 1997 Montgomery County enacted a Rustic Roads program to provide a rational system for evaluating, protecting, and enhancing the scenic roadways that reflect the agricultural character and rural origins of the County for the benefit of present and future generations. The Rustic Roads program reinforces land use policies that preserve the less-developed areas of the County, while guiding growth. Many of the Rustic Roads protected by this program are located in or adjacent to County parks.

Regulations and Guidelines for Historic Preservation

The Master Plan for Historic Preservation includes historic sites on both public parkland and private land. The Master Plan has two parts: the official, current list of the County's historic sites, and the adopted Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Master Plan for Historic Preservation

The Master Plan is designed to protect and preserve Montgomery County's historic and architectural heritage. When a historic resource is placed on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, the adoption action officially designates the property as a historic site or historic district, and subjects it to the further procedural requirements of the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Designation of historic sites and districts serves to highlight the values that are important in maintaining the individual character of the County and its communities. It is the intent of the County's preservation program to provide a rational system for evaluating, protecting, and

interpreting the County's cultural heritage for the benefit of present and future generations of Montgomery County residents.

When historic resources are evaluated for designation in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, it must meet at least one of the following criteria as listed in Section 24A-3 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. The criteria are:

Historical and cultural significance:

The historic resource:

- Has character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the County, State, or Nation.
- Is the site of a significant historic event.
- Is identified with a person or a group of persons who influenced society.
- Exemplifies the cultural, economic, social, political or historic heritage of the County and its communities.

Architectural and design significance:

The historic resource:

- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.
- Represents the work of a master.
- Possesses high artistic values.
- Represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- Represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community, or County due to its singular physical characteristic or landscape.

Historic Preservation Designation Process

In order for any property in Montgomery County, either public or private, to be designated as a historic site on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, the resource must

follow a historic preservation designation process. Resources are evaluated to determine if they meet the criteria for historic, cultural, or architectural significance that would warrant their protection. The evaluation schedule includes public comment opportunities and review by the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Board, and County Council. The Council makes the final decision on whether or not a resource is designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. This decision forms an approved and adopted amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

Historic Preservation Ordinance

The Historic Preservation Ordinance was adopted in 1976 and is part of the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Once historic resources are designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, they are subject to the protection of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the County Code. Any substantial changes to the exterior of a resource or its environmental setting must be reviewed before work commences by the Historic Preservation Commission and a historic area work permit issued under the provisions of the County's Preservation Ordinance, Section 24A-6.

Public improvements in County parks can profoundly affect the integrity of a historic area. Section 24A-6 of the Ordinance states that a Historic Area Work Permit for work on public, which includes Commission owned historic properties, or private property must be issued prior to altering an historic resource or its environmental setting. The design of public facilities in the vicinity of historic resources should be sensitive to and maintain the character of the area. Specific designation considerations should be reflected as part of the Mandatory Referral review processes.

In the majority of cases, decisions regarding preservation alternatives are made at the time of public facility implementation within the process established in Section 24A of the Ordinance. This method provides for adequate review by the public and governing agencies. In order to provide guidance in the event of future public facility implementation, the amendment addresses potential conflicts existing at each site and suggests alternatives and recommendations to assist in balancing preservation with community needs.

In addition to protecting designated resources from architecturally incompatible alterations and insensitive redevelopment, the County's Preservation Ordinance also empowers the County's Department of Environmental Protection and the Historic Preservation Commission to prevent the demolition of historic buildings through neglect.

Historic Area Work Permits

For any construction, demolition, or alteration to a designated historic site or structure, a Historic Area Work Permit is required. Examples of projects requiring a historic area work permit include construction of an addition, removal of a porch, construction of a new garage, and removal of live trees. Historic Preservation Commission approval is not needed for painting non-masonry surfaces, repair work that matches that which is already in place, or planting trees or shrubs.

Standards for Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation standards adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission provide guidance for property owners, builders, and others undertaking alteration and restoration of historic resources in Montgomery County. The standards address issues of compatible use; retaining the historic character of a property; recognizing a property as a physical record of its

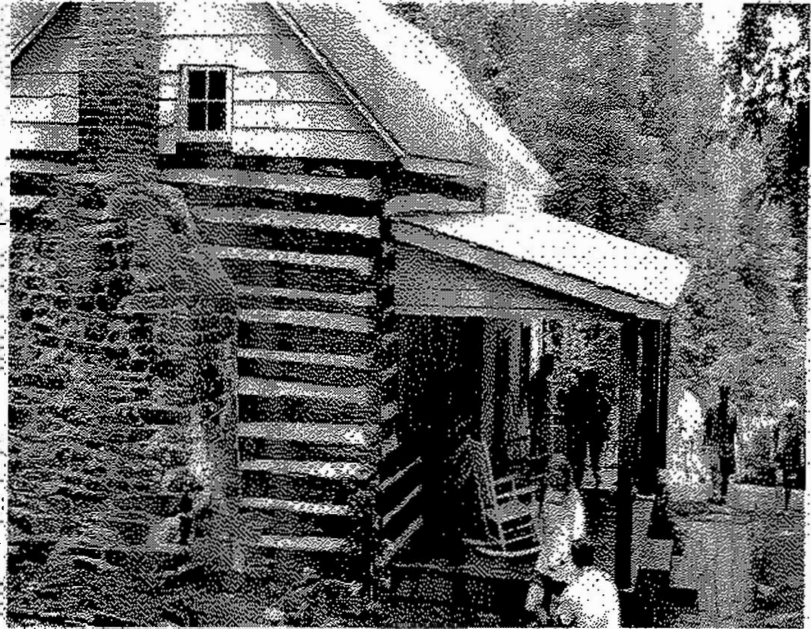
time, place, and use; preservation of changes to properties that have acquired historic significance in their own right; protecting distinctive examples of construction techniques or craftsmanship; repair of deteriorated historic features rather than replacement; avoidance of chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials; protection of significant archaeological resources; compatible yet differentiated additions or new construction that preserve the form and integrity of a historic property.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

Planning and Policy Development

County efforts to preserve farmland began in 1964 when the County adopted the *General Plan* (On Wedges and Corridors). This plan envisions a land use pattern where intensive development is confined to a series of Corridor Cities located along major transportation arteries and separated by wedges of rural open space, low-density residential uses, and farmland. When the agricultural wedge concept was introduced, its function was to provide and protect large open spaces for recreational opportunities; provide a rural environment in which farming, mineral extraction, and other natural resource activities could be carried out; and conserve and protect the public water supply and recreation. In 1969, when the General Plan was updated, it confirmed the 1964 *General Plan* recommendations.

In 1974, after extensive study by the Montgomery County Planning Board, the County Council approved a new Rural Zone to protect the wedge areas from increasing development pressure. This new zone imposed a five-acre minimum lot size on approximately one-third of the County. The Rural zone was designed specifically to preserve farmland and further implement the recommendations of the General Plan.



• Pleasant Hill Farm, featured in the Montgomery County Farm Tour

In the following years, it became evident that the Rural Zone (in combination with State Agricultural Assessment Program) was not sufficient to protect farmland. In 1975-1979, almost 12,000 acres of farmland were subdivided, primarily for homes. As a result, from 1976-1980, County Planning staff, the Montgomery County Planning Board, County Council, a Council-appointed Agricultural Task Force, and a cross section of County residents wrestled with the problem of farmland and rural open space preservation:

discourages residential uses by restricting residential development to one dwelling unit per 25 acres. Use of the RDT Zone significantly reduces fragmentation of farmland, stabilizes farmland value, minimizes development pressure, protects agricultural practices, and maintains critical mass of farmland.

The Transfer of Agricultural & Rural Open Space Functional Area Plan was adopted by the MCNCPCC and approved by the County Council in 1980 to address the issue of the loss of farmland on the urban fringe. The Functional Plan proposed the creation and application of two zoning techniques, the Rural Density Transfer (RDT) and the Rural Change (RC) Zones, in conjunction with a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) system.

In return for this loss of development potential, the TDR system provides the opportunity for an economic return of farmland placed in the RDT Zone by allowing the owner of the farmland to sell development rights at a rate of one TDR per five acres. This is equivalent to the development density permitted under the 1974 Rural Zone before the 25-acre minimum downsizing. The development rights may be utilized in specifically designated TDR receiving areas in various parts of the County determined suitable for growth. When TDR's are sold for transfer to a receiving area, a legal easement is placed on the sending area restricting the use of

The RDT Zone gives strong preference to agriculture, forestry, and open space uses, as well as allowing a wide variety of agriculturally related commercial and industrial uses. It

the sending area to agricultural or open space purposes.

Development rights are therefore determined to be commodities that can be sold to developers and transferred to designated areas of the County where growth and development are desired. The private marketplace establishes the value of development rights, and the County is responsible for tracking the sale and transfer of rights through its records. The TDR system has the advantage of using the private sector to fund the protection of farmland.

In 1993, the County approved the *"General Plan Refinement of the Goals & Objectives for Montgomery County"*. This document updated the General Plan goals and objectives, outlining challenges, and providing a vision for the approaching 21st century. The vision for the agricultural wedge is to preserve farmland and rural open space by employing the strategies listed in Appendix 1.

Current Programs

Montgomery County currently has four programs available for land preservation: Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation, Montgomery County Agricultural Easement Program and Transfer of Development Rights Program (TDR) and the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) easement programs. The new Rural Legacy Program will add a fifth program to Montgomery County's "toolbox" of Land Preservation Program Options for landowners.

Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) Act – State Agricultural Preservation Program

Through its Department of Agriculture, the State of Maryland allows owners of agricultural

land located in an approved Agricultural Preservation district to make written application to sell agricultural preservation easements to the Montgomery County Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation of the Maryland Agricultural Board. The Foundation purchases agricultural preservation easements directly from landowners for cash.

The agricultural preservation program is completely voluntary and involves the establishment of Agricultural Preservation Districts in which the landowner agrees not to develop the land for at least a five year period. In exchange, normal agriculture activities (i.e., noise, odor, night operations, machinery operations, etc.) become protected activities in the district. Once a farm has been accepted into a district, the owner is eligible, but not obligated, to sell a development right easement to the Foundation. To sell the easement is to sell only one of many rights the property owner enjoys. When an easement is sold, the owner continues to own the farm or may sell it, but the farm will remain undeveloped. As of June 30, 1997, 1,806 acres have been preserved under this program.

The Montgomery County Agricultural Easement Program

The Montgomery County Agricultural Easement Program provides the County the ability to purchase agricultural land preservation easements contingent upon the land being zoned Rural, Rural Cluster, Rural Density Transfer, or the land subject to being designated as an approved State or County Agricultural Preservation District.

The County's purpose in creating the program is to increase both the level of voluntary participation and range of eligible farmland parcels. This program has increased the effectiveness in targeting easements as part of reaching the goal of protecting 70,000 acres of

land by the year 2005. As of June 30, 1997, 5,398 acres have been preserved under this program.

The Montgomery County Transfer of Development Rights Program (TDR)

The Montgomery County TDR Program was established in 1980 as part of the the Preservation of Agricultural and Rural Open Space Functional Master Plan. The history, purpose and functional details of this program were discussed earlier in the Planning and Policy Development Section. Montgomery County has been recognized as having one of the most successful TDR programs in the nation, having preserved 39,180 acres of important agricultural land as of June 30, 1997.

The Maryland Environmental Trust

The Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) was established by the Maryland state legislature in 1967 to encourage landowners to donate an easement on their property to protect scenic open areas, including farm and forest land, wildlife habitat, waterfront, unique or rare areas and historic sites. MET accepts both donated and purchased easements. In the donated easement program, the landowners are eligible for certain income, estate, gift and property tax benefits. As of December 5, 1997, 1,963.1 acres have been preserved under this program.

1997 Rural Legacy Program

Another tool for rural preservation recently developed by the State of Maryland is the Rural Legacy Program. Passed in May of 1997 as part of the Smart Growth Legislation, the Rural Legacy Program encourages local governments and private land trusts to identify Rural Legacy areas and to competitively apply for funds to complement existing land conservation efforts or create new programs.

Through this program, greenbelts and greenways dominated by farms and forests can be conserved through the voluntary purchase of conservation easements or fee-simple acquisitions. The program provides the focus and funding necessary to protect contiguous tracts of land and other strategic areas from sprawl development, and to enhance natural resource, agriculture, forestry, and environmental protection through cooperative efforts among state and local governments and private land trusts. Two aspects of this program are its selective approach, intended to save the best or most strategic farmland from development; and the evaluation process, which gives high priority to farmland that provides important natural resource benefits, such as wildlife habitat and watersheds.

Montgomery County has applied for two Rural Legacy area designations. The two separate applications represent different public-private partnerships and involve multiple jurisdictions. The first application, in conjunction with Frederick and Washington Counties and a number of private land trusts, has a joint objective of protecting land along the Potomac River. The second application, a partnership with Howard County and two private land trusts, has a joint objective of protecting land in the upper Patuxent River watershed and the historic Village of Sandy Spring.

The first application was approved by the State of Maryland in June 1998. The second application was not funded and will be revised and resubmitted in the next Rural Legacy funding application period.

THE DEMAND SIDE

This chapter includes information on the estimated need for both recreation facilities and natural area preservation in Montgomery County between now and the year 2010. It includes discussions on survey results, park demand, and projected needs.

Determining future needs for recreation facilities is a difficult process. Different recreation activities rise and fall in popularity, and community populations change in number and age composition. Prior to estimating future needs for public recreation facilities in **Montgomery County, a great deal of background material was collected on use of existing facilities, current sports programs, age of users, and future population projections.** The following sections discuss needs for public recreation facilities at **both county-wide and community-use parks.**

There are also certain parklands for which quantitative methodology cannot be readily applied. These are the conservation-oriented parks (a category that includes both stream valley and conservation parks) and special parks. Such parks are resource based, and preserve important historic and natural sites throughout the County.

SURVEYS OF COUNTY RESIDENTS ON RECREATION PREFERENCES AND PRESERVATION NEEDS

Three surveys were conducted to provide public input on the need for parks and recreation, open space, and preservation of environmental and historic areas.

- A *1995 Park User Survey* conducted by M-NCPPC recorded actual park use at all types of County parks, and provides information on facility use by each age group. This data is essential to the projection of specific recreation facility needs for each Planning Area.
- A Public Attitude Survey, titled *Park, Recreation, and Open Space Survey for Montgomery County*, conducted by the University of Maryland in 1997 for the M-NCPPC, provided information on opinions and priorities of the general public over age 18. An important aspect of the survey was to obtain opinions from persons who are not necessarily frequent park users.
- A *Student Survey of Montgomery County Park and Recreation Facilities*, conducted by Montgomery County Public Schools in 1997, gives special insights into the recreational needs of middle and senior high school students.

A brief summary of the survey results is as follows:

1995 Park User Survey

The *1995 Park User Survey*, which focuses on active recreation use, recorded use at 60 selected parks throughout the County including local, neighborhood, urban, regional, and recreational parks, and observed nearly 57,000 persons participating in various park activities. This survey is conducted every 5 years to note trends

In the use of different types of parks and facilities.

This survey showed:

- Local parks have shown the greatest increase in use - 27% since 1990. This rise is primarily due to the increased popularity of ballfields. Ballfields, basketball courts and playgrounds were the most heavily used facilities. As a result, PROS Plan need projections are likely to increase.
- Tennis court use has significantly declined since 1990; thus, PROS need projections are also likely to decline.
- Neighborhood and urban park use has remained fairly stable since 1980. Many urban parks are used both for informal recreation by adjacent neighborhoods and as lunchtime eating places for Central Business District employees.
- Observed use at regional and recreational parks declined slightly from the 1990 survey, which may be due to the fact that the 1995 summer survey period was exceptionally hot.
- The largest group of users were between the ages of 20 and 44, with children under 14 the second largest user group. Age group data provides essential input into PROS Plan projections because age is the greatest factor influencing the type of recreational use.

Park, Recreation, and Open Space Survey for Montgomery County

The 1997 *Park, Recreation, and Open Space Survey for Montgomery County* included responses from 1170 households that were representative of the demographic profile of the county and the seven community based geographic areas. This survey was coordinated

by the M-NCPPC Research and Technology Center with the assistance of County-wide Park Planning and other divisions.

This survey showed:

- Walking, hiking, or nature walks in parks was the most common recreation activity.
- Informal park use to enjoy nature was reported by over three-fourths of the persons surveyed.
- Other top recreation activities include: playing/watching ball games; playground use; and picnicking.
- Protecting natural and historic areas and upgrading existing park facilities were highest-ranked funding priorities.
- County residents feel that parks meet the recreation needs of their household, are safe to use, and are well maintained.

Student Survey of Montgomery County Park and Recreation

To learn more about the recreational preferences of youth the Montgomery County Public Schools Research Section surveyed students in three high schools and three middle schools in 1997. Schools were selected from the upper, lower, and eastern sections of the County and questions were based on those in the University of Maryland Survey (which had included only adults 18 and over). Students were asked about their use of Montgomery County Parks, paved and unpaved trails, need for future recreation facilities and natural areas, and needed park improvements. Results indicated that students use parks at a higher rate than adults. Their most popular recreation activities were using parks to meet friends, enjoy nature and walk, bike, play field sports, play basketball and rollerblade. Highest perceived shortages by youth were hiker-biker trails and swimming pools.

M-NCPPC PARKLAND ACQUISITION NEEDS

County-wide Parkland

The County has 28,000 acres of M-NCPPC parkland, about 30 acres of parkland per 1,000 County residents. The proposed acquisition needs for County-wide parkland acreage for the year 2010 is summarized, by park type, in the table "M-NCPPC - Montgomery County Park System Future Land Acquisition Needs to the Year 2010." A total of 4,135 acres of County-wide parkland is proposed for acquisition, nearly 3,000 of which are for the protection of stream valleys, approximately 635 for active recreation, and nearly 500 for conservation area parks. The County will acquire as much as possible of this new parkland through private dedication.

Future County-wide park acquisition in the six-year Capital Improvements Program includes the following:

- Stream Valley Parks - Parkland in the Paint Branch Stream Valley Park is the primary focus of the future land acquisition program in Montgomery County. Acquisition needs in Upper Paint Branch are particularly

significant and dominate the program; some acquisition is also planned for Reddy Branch.

- Regional Parks - Regional Park acquisition is substantially complete at this time. Additional acquisitions are currently proposed in Black Hill Regional Park.
- Recreational Parks - To meet acreage needs in the recreational parks, acquisitions are planned in four parks. Over half of this amount is for recommended acquisition in Gude Drive and South Germantown Recreational Parks, with additional acquisition recommended for Ridge Road and Fairland Recreational Parks.

PARK TYPES	ACRES
CO. COUNTY-WIDE	
STREAM VALLEY	2,971.4
REGIONAL	274.6
RECREATIONAL	316.4
CONSERVATION	498
SPECIAL	75
COUNTY-WIDE SUBTOTAL	4,135.4
COMMUNITY-USE	
URBAN	0
NEIGHBORHOOD	0
LOCAL	334
NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION	0
COMMUNITY-USE SUBTOTAL	334
TOTALS	4,469.4

* As of December 5, 1997

Figure 6.1

Community-Use Parkland

It is essential that we give priority to acquisition of parkland to accommodate recreation facilities needed in developing areas of the County. Some new local parkland will have to be acquired through purchase, and it is anticipated that a great deal of it will be conveyed to the park system during the subdivision process. Some surplus school sites are also being made available by the County. It is recommended that in the future, when schools are closed that outdoor recreation areas be reserved for continued public recreation use, and that all sites officially declared surplus be considered for future parkland.

Approximately 330 additional acres of community-use parkland will be needed by the year 2010. Current Capital Improvements Program recommendations for acquiring local parks focus on space for additional athletic fields and include sites in eastern Montgomery County, including the Damascus, Four Corners, and Norbeck areas.

FUTURE M-NCPPC RECREATION AND PARK FACILITY NEEDS

County-wide Parks

County-wide parks serve a much broader segment of the population than local parks. They not only provide space for active and passive recreation, but also play a significant role in the conservation of natural areas. In Montgomery County, County-wide parks include the following park types: regional, recreational, stream valley, conservation, and special parks.

The need for parks that serve County-wide recreation and conservation purposes is determined by:

- 1) Application of specific criteria for non-local park acquisition, location, and development, and
- 2) Quantitative analysis of selected recreation facility needs.

Quantitative facility needs are included in this Chapter and are derived by analyzing and projecting current recreation facility participation rates.

This section of the PROS Plan includes recommendations for additional recreation facilities, including ballfields, tennis, courts, picnic areas and playgrounds, for the years 2000, 2005, and 2010, that will be needed in large parks in various areas of the County. The methodology used to derive these needs can be found in the Appendix. These needs estimates provide essential input to future park development plans and to the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and help to prioritize facility needs. Updated need estimates for County-wide use parks are fairly consistent with those included in the 1993 PROS Plan. The need for future recreation facilities in regional and recreational parks is estimated on a county-wide basis because these parks serve large segments of the County. The individual character of each County-wide park influences which facilities are appropriate for that particular location. The County-wide facilities augment park facilities close to home in smaller community/local parks, but may also serve some of the local recreation needs of nearby residents.

A composite of these County-wide need estimates appears in the table titled "County-wide Park Facility Needs." Although needs are determined on a County-wide basis, construction of new County-wide recreation facilities should be concentrated in new growth areas, predominately in the I-270 Corridor in the northern part of the County, and in the eastern County's US 29 Corridor.

COUNTY-WIDE PARK FACILITY NEEDS

Current Inventory	2000 Needs	2005 Needs	2010 Needs	
46	5	7	9	TENNIS COURTS
34	13	16	18	BALLFIELDS
500+	54	82	100	PICNIC TABLES
2.7	2	3	3	PLAYGROUNDS
7	-	-	-	BASKETBALL COURTS

Note: The large playground complexes at Wheaton and Cabin John are each counted as one playground, and the smaller playgrounds at other County-wide parks are pro-rated against these two.

Figure 6.2

Needs in the County-wide Park Category can be met through the year 2010 through the development of the following facilities:

- Fairland Recreational Park in the eastern portion of the County is currently under construction and will include athletic fields, tennis courts, and a picnic/playground area.
- Ovid Hazen Wells Park will include athletic fields and other facilities.
- South Germantown Recreational Park will include athletic fields and other facilities.
- Little Bennett, Black Hill and Rock Creek Regional Park will provide opportunities for hiking, fishing and enjoyment of natural areas.
- Additional opportunities for future facility development include Muncaster, Gude, and Northwest Branch Recreational Parks

Active Recreation Needs

The following section discusses the estimated needs for several active recreation facilities provided by County-wide parks.

Tennis Courts - There are 46 tennis courts located in athletic complexes at regional and recreational parks. The 1995 Park User Survey showed a declining use of these facilities; therefore, future needs projected by this Plan are low and address the developing areas of the County. It is estimated that 5 more outdoor County-wide tennis courts will be needed by 2000 for a total of 9 by the year 2010. Consideration should be given to placing some of these courts in an up-County tennis bubble or indoor tennis facility, because there is a high demand for indoor courts.

Athletic Fields - County-wide athletic fields serve a different purpose than local park fields. County-wide fields are large, fenced, tournament

fields that are restricted to use for league games. County-wide athletic fields are costly facilities from both a construction and an operational standpoint. In order to maintain them in top quality condition, play is limited and the fields are maintained on a daily basis. Team members pay a fee to help offset field maintenance costs. It is estimated that 13 more County-wide fields will be needed by 2000 and a total of 18 more by 2010. The Capital Improvements Program currently includes funding for 7 new fields with facility planning money for several more.

To reduce maintenance costs, a change in policy was suggested in the 1993 PROS Plan that is also recommended in this plan regarding these new fields: It is proposed that they be constructed to regional park standards, including fencing, bleachers, and adequate parking. However, the fields would not be maintained daily nor would a staff person be available on-site during ball games. It is also suggested that several of the new County-wide fields be designed as multi-use rectangular fields, which can accommodate sports such as soccer, football, lacrosse and rugby. At the present time only two of the existing 25 fields are rectangular.

Large Playground Complexes- Need projections for large County-wide playground complexes are difficult to determine because the amount and type of equipment can vary dramatically from park to park. For this reason playgrounds are not always counted on a one-to-one basis. For example, when determining the need for large playgrounds, the Cabin John and Wheaton Park playground areas are each considered one complex. Small playgrounds, such as the one at Olney Manor, are considered to count as only a tenth of a playground as it has approximately 1/10 the amount of equipment. In the final analysis it is estimated two additional large playground complexes will be needed by 2000 and three by 2010.

Basketball Courts • No additional basketball courts are recommended at County-wide parks because basketball courts are primarily local facilities. Experience has shown that existing

courts at most regional and recreational parks receive minimal use.

In-line Skating/Roller-blading - Recent national surveys from the National Sporting Goods Association and Sporting Goods Manufacturing Association have documented the dramatic increases in this recreation activity from 3.9 million users in 1990 to 25.9 million users in 1996. While the majority of in-line skaters are under 19, the mix of genders is almost equal a substantial number of adults are in-line skaters. In-line skaters hockey players, freestylers interested in complex maneuvers and aerial acrobatics, and street coursers who enjoy skating on trails and sidewalks. Based on the national data there are almost 79,000 in-line skaters in the County.

Formal in-line hockey rinks are located in the interim park in Silver Spring, the Wheaton Ice Rink during summer months, and at the Potomac Community Center. The rink at Potomac Community Center will be used solely by children once it reopens for play. An adult rink was proposed for the Noah's Ark in Cabin John Regional Park but has been deferred pending further analysis, including the investigation of other possible locations outside of the park. Many users have been removing the nets on tennis courts and using tennis courts in local parks for in-line hockey on an ongoing basis, which has resulted in a large number of complaints. Other users have previously created their own rink areas on a closed school property or other large paved areas.

Skateboarding - Participation in skateboarding has been cyclic, occurring in approximately 10 year cycles. The sport is currently in a growth phase and there is considerable debate whether the cyclic nature will continue due to the national television coverage and growth in the industry in the past few years. The overwhelming majority of skateboarders are young males who participate in freestyle and "street coursers." Skateboarders particularly enjoy the challenges presented by many elements typical of an urban landscape, including

handrails, low walls, steps and ramps. Of particular interest is that in-line skaters are now using the these same type of facilities and doing the same acrobatic tricks. Due to a lack of appropriate facilities, most skateboarders are using private areas that were designed for landscaping. Which conflicts with the (Q: on md: tseli) of the services as well as the ability to use, the available art



often prohibited from using areas such as central business districts, shopping centers, and open space in front of office buildings. Using the national data there are an estimated 14,000 skateboarders in Montgomery County.

M-NCPPC is conducting a study analyzing the need for these facilities in greater depth and researching the many issues associated with these facilities such as liability, size, staffing needs, and potential locations.

Passive Recreation Needs

Many County residents and groups are looking for passive recreational experiences that often depend on the presence of natural areas and require little modification of the environment.

Some of the passive recreational experiences available in Montgomery County include: camping, boating, picnicking, birdwatching, hiking, nature walking, wildlife viewing/photography, nature photography, wildflower viewing, fishing, canoeing, and horse-back riding.

A large number of organizations have the pursuit of passive recreational activities and/or environmental advocacy at the core of their missions. Examples include the Allston Naturalist Society, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Maryland Native Plant Society, and Today's Inland, a variety of nature-related programs are offered at each of Montgomery County's three nature centers, and equestrian activities are offered at Montgomery County Parks three equestrian centers. There are also a

large number of businesses that organize nature-related activities, such as bird walks and the maintenance of bluebird trails (e.g., Back Yard Naturalist at the Wood Bird Center). As shown by annual reports of volunteerism in the county, a large number of County residents derive a high degree of personal satisfaction from giving their time and energy to "park-based" stewardship activities such as reforestation projects, the construction, installation and monitoring of nest boxes for wildlife, trail maintenance, and stream clean-ups.

In general, the quality of a passive recreational experience is directly related to the quality of the natural environment within which the activity is taking place. High-quality natural environments are characterized by a diversity of native plants and animals, an absence of exotic invasive plants, and the necessary quiet and solitude to enjoy the outdoors.

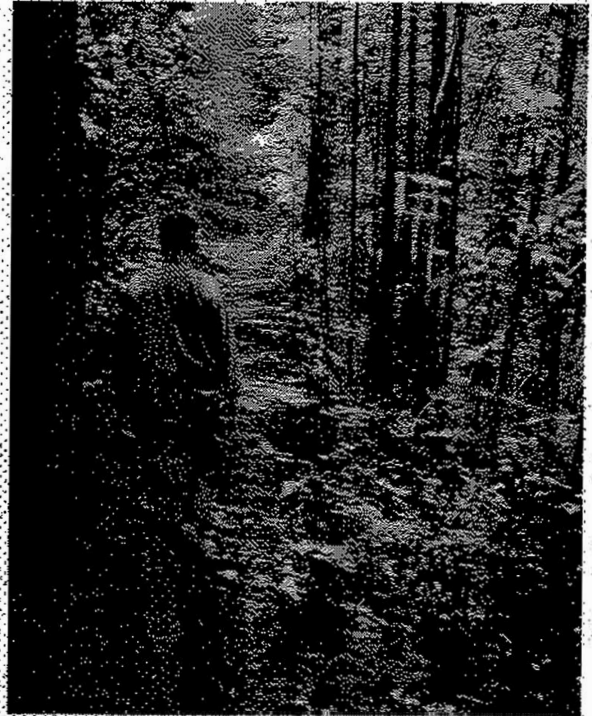
There is insufficient data available to project future needs for passive recreation facilities using a qualitative methodology. The following sections discuss camping, boating, picnicking, birdwatching, fishing, and wildflower viewing areas, and also include recommendations for their future.

Camping - Overnight camping is available at Little Bennett Regional Park and, to a limited extent, at Wheaton and Cabin John Regional Parks. The Park and Stream Valley Park in the Washington County, at the Wheaton and Cabin John Campgrounds has declined over the past several years. However, it is recommended that additional camping opportunities be made available in the down-County area.

Attendance at the larger Little Bennett Campground in the upper County has increased significantly, and the 91 campsites are heavily used on weekends. Additional recreation facilities are constructed at the park, attendance will increase. It is recommended that a study be conducted to evaluate the need for new campsites. Recommendations for the campground at Cabin John and Little Bennett Regional Parks will be included in the Park Master Plans that are currently underway for these parks.

Boating - Boat rental has been available for several years at Lake Needwood in Rock Creek Regional Park, and at Black Hill Regional Park since 1987. The 74-acre Lake Needwood accommodates 79 boats, including rowboats, paddle boats, canoes, and sailboats. Heavy use of the boats is experienced on most summer weekends. The visitors' center parking area is

extremely overcrowded with picnickers and boaters, with many unable to park. A master plan for Rock Creek Regional Park currently underway is considering relocation of the boat



.../ * i i 8 t m Valky l'ark

to relieve overcrowding. Some of the use to areas of Black Hill park that are underutilized.

Picnicking - Picnic areas are provided at all regional parks. Three large group picnic areas that may be rented are at Cabin John Regional Park, Vey Mill Special Park, and Park View Special Park. These group picnic areas are fenced and have shelters, restrooms, and an open play area. Groups using these picnic facilities are assessed a user fee; individual picnic shelters at Black Hill, Wheaton and Cabin John Regional Park may be reserved for a fee. The group picnic areas are in great demand nearly every Saturday and Sunday during the summer. Increased opportunities for large-group picnicking should be provided.

Fishing - Fishing opportunities are available in various water bodies throughout the County.

Little Seneca Lake, in particular, has become widely acclaimed throughout the mid Atlantic region for high-quality bass fishing. Great Seneca Creek, Northwest Branch, Lake Needwood, Kings Pond, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Pond, and Pine Lake are state stocked with trout, and sections of Pine Branch and Little Seneca Creek are designated by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources as Special Trout Management Areas for "Catch and return" fishing. To maintain the quality of these fishing experiences, it is necessary to have good water quality, which requires protection of the watersheds in which these streams, lakes, and ponds are located. Stream buffers, with as few roads, paved trails, and active uses as possible, will help to protect these lakes and streams and will provide the relative solitude that many consider important for a quality fishing experience.

Birdwatching Birdwatching is one of the fastest growing outdoor recreational activities in the United States according to the 1994-95 National Survey on Recreation and the Environment. Bird Watchers look for a natural, enjoyable outdoor setting and a wide variety of bird species. Meeting these requirements depends on the preservation of large, high-quality natural areas supporting a variety of habitats, especially wetlands, old fields, extensive meadows, and large tracts of contiguous forest. Large County-Wide parks encompassing stream valleys and adjacent upland support greater numbers of common and uncommon bird species. Not surprisingly, many of Montgomery County's common birds are also found in older suburban areas with mature landscape material, whereas uncommon birds such as the vireos, warblers, thrushes, waterfowl, and raptors (i.e., hawks and owls) are found most often in larger stream valley, regional, or conservation parks.

Wildflower Viewing - As with birdwatching, high quality natural areas encompassing wetlands, meadows, and large forested tracts provide the necessary background for a high-quality wildflower viewing experience. Due to their delicately balanced adaptation to a specific

range of habitat conditions, many wildflowers cannot grow in altered, disturbed environments. Extensive forested areas of Montgomery County's regional stream valley, and conservation parks draw large numbers of citizens for spring ephemeral wildflower viewing. Beginning with the unique skunk cabbage bloom in February, throughout the season of spring beauties, may peeples and native orchids, to the fall asters and goldenrods, people also walk, hike, jog, and bike through parks in order to enjoy the peace, solitude, and "beauty of nature" close to home.

The need for people to enjoy passive recreation activities in peaceful solitude will become increasingly important as their daily lives become more hectic and the County grows more developed. The potential of a park to offer these amenities depends in large part on its size, location, and surrounding use. Protection of core areas within parks that provide quiet trails and the buffering effect of natural settings is an important yet often overlooked concern that will be incorporated, to a greater degree, in future park development priorities.

Community Use Parks

Smaller parks providing "down-to-home" recreation opportunities are an important part of the everyday lives of Montgomery County residents. As discussed in Chapter 5, there are four types of community use parks: urban parks, neighborhood parks, local parks, and neighborhood conservation areas. The following section discusses the parkland need for each of these types of parks.

This plan estimates the number of ballfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, and playgrounds needed to serve future local recreation needs. Ballfields (softball, baseball, football, soccer, etc.) playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts are the primary recreation facilities found in community use parks. Needs estimates in the PROS Plan help provide guidance for area master plans and

the Capital Improvements Program. Special circumstances (such as major obstructions like the beltway, large distances from nearby facilities; etc.) will also be taken into consideration during the preparation of area and park master plans.

Library, park, and other generally established during the area master planning process. Specific sites are identified to provide green spaces where people can sit, stroll, eat their lunch, or bring their children to play. They also serve as buffer areas between central business districts and adjacent residential communities.

Neighborhood park needs will be minimal in new housing areas because increasing housing developers are either required to include private recreation use as part of their development plans. To help meet existing needs, some neighborhood parks are proposed for acquisition and construction. Currently unserved urban areas. The demand for neighborhood parks is generally determined by recreation facility needs which are discussed later in this Chapter. Needs for neighborhood parks are also identified during the master planning process. In new residential subdivisions, if certain thresholds are exceeded, developers are required to provide private recreation areas and facilities for neighborhood use based on the Recreation Guidelines in New Residential Developments.

Local parks provide ballfields and other programmed and informal recreation facilities for area residents. The need for these parks is therefore, directly related to the facility needs (particularly ballfields) described in the next section, as well as to the acquisition and local criteria included in Appendix-6. Large local park sites should be acquired because of new environmental regulations, forestation requirements, and the availability of existing facilities for efficient programming and maintenance.

Neighborhood conservation areas are open space areas generally dedicated during the subdivision process which contain drainage areas and adjacent wooded slopes. The demand for this

type of park is individually determined at the time of subdivision. They are usually left undeveloped and essentially have little impact on the Capital Improvements Program.

How Community Use Park Facility Needs are Determined

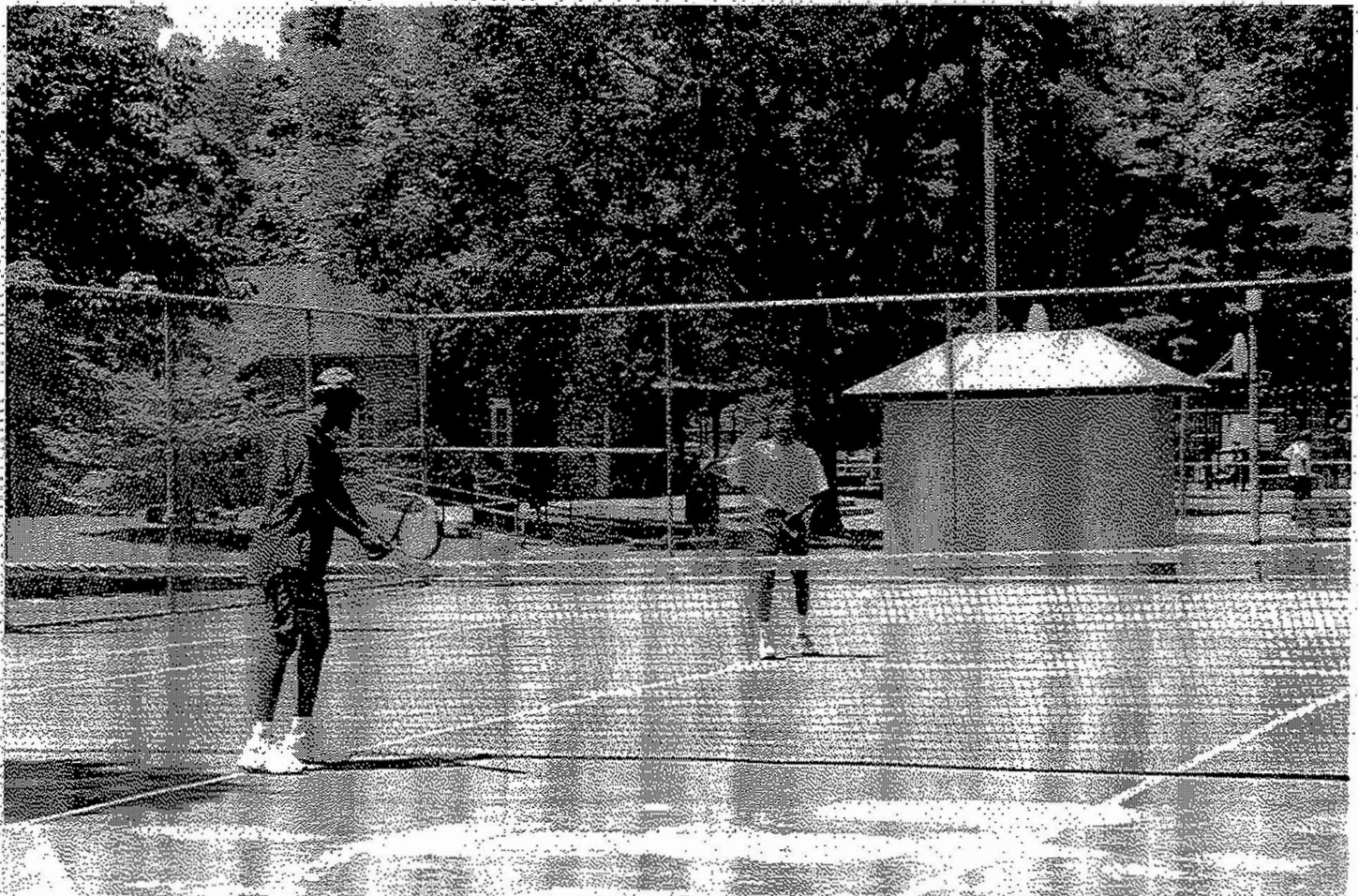
- The need for community use park facilities is projected by using a methodology based on age group participation rates for each facility as observed in the 1995 Park User Survey. These participation rates are projected to the years 2000, 2005 and 2010 using population forecasts prepared by The M-1/CPJ, C Planning and Park Department. Unit needs are then calculated for each of the County's 26 planning areas using appropriate standards and updated inventory information for each recreation facility.
- Recreation need estimates are derived from a methodology based on current use of existing facilities by age group and future population projections of each age group by planning area.
- Ballfield estimates based on the number of sport teams and participants in each recreation area, derived from special survey conducted in 1995. Age-based participation rates are then developed and multiplied by the future population projections to derive the number of field hours needed to accommodate weekly games and practices. This in turn is divided by an estimated field capacity to determine the number of fields needed. Field capacity takes into account available 24-hour hours (on weekdays, after school and work, and weekends), time needed between games, and a small amount of time to reduce neighborhood impact on weekend mornings and wear and tear on field. Existing field inventories are subtracted from gross field need estimates to determine unmet needs. Two examples of this methodology appear in Appendix 8.

- Estimated needs for other facilities are based on '1995 Park User Survey' counts which are used to derive participation rates by each age group. Participation rates are multiplied by projected population estimates for age groups in each planning area and divided by facility capacities to determine gross facility needs. The current facility inventory is subtracted to determine net needs. Lower capacities are attributed to school facilities to account for their institutional, intramural, and competitive programs.
- Billfield needs are based on sport team needs for the month of May, which represents peak use because : sports in all age groups are playing at this time and many soccer fields

that overlap softball or baseball fields are not available. However, peak need has been rapidly expanding to all seasons, as many organized sports are increasingly being played year-round, with soccer, softball, baseball, and lacrosse, played in the spring, summer, and fall.

Community Use Park Facility Future Need Estimates

Future needs for community use park facilities are the greatest in the 12700 corridor, Florida, and Trivoli areas and priority for new development should generally be given to parks in these planning areas. Basketball and basketball court deficiencies within the urban ring are also



Medtlowbrook Local Park

very high but may be difficult to resolve because of the scarcity of available suitable vacant land. Because many low income residents of the urban ring do not have the opportunity to drive to adjacent areas, high priority should be given to renovating local and neighborhood parks to serve these more densely developed areas.

A comparison of facility need estimates over the last 10 years indicates that the I-270 corridor, Silver Spring, and Bethesda poli_cy areas have had continuing deficits. More recent growth in the Fairland and Travilah areas has resulted in a significant recent increase in unmet recreation facility needs in those areas. The following chart titled *Future Unmet Community Use Park Ballfield, Tennis Court, Basketball Court, and Playgrounds Needs By Planning Area* illustrates

future Community Use park facility needs for ballfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, and playgrounds.

Future- public facilities at both parks and schools will serve to meet these additional recreation needs as well as some private facilities in new residential developments. The PROS Plan Implementation Study to be conducted in FY 99 will examine alternative strategies for meeting needs in each planning area. In some instances communities may be served by facilities in adjacent planning areas, and in some cases it will be impossible to meet all needs. In these instances, efforts will be made to make more efficient use of existing facilities.

Future Unmet Community Use Parks Ballfield, Tennis Court, Basketball Court, and Playground Needs By Planning Area

Planning Area	Ballfields			Tennis Courts			Basketball Courts			Playgrounds		
	2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010
Damascus FA (10, 11, 14, 15)	2	2	3	1	1	2	-	-	-	4	4	5
Poolesville FA (12, 16, 17, 18)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
PA 13 Clarksburg	-	1	7	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	2	6
PA 19 Germantown	14	19	20	3	6	6	8	14	15	15	18	18
PA 20 Gaithersburg	9	10	12	-	-	-	-	3	5	9	10	11
PA 22 Rock Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2
PA 23 Olney	2	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 24 Darnstown	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 25 Travilah	7	9	11	-	-	-	5	6	7	2	3	4
PA 27 Aspen Hill	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	5
PA 28 Cloverly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 29 Potomac	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 30 North Bethesda	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
PA 31 Kensington/Wheaton	2	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 32 Kemp Mill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 33 White Oak	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 34 Fairland	4	3	3	-	-	-	5	6	6	4	3	3
PA 35 Bethesda	14	17	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA 36 Silver Spring	3	6	6	-	-	-	2	5	6	-	-	-
PA 37 Takoma Park	9	8	7	-	-	-	5	5	5	-	-	-
TOTALS	69	88	101	4	7	9	25	39	48	39	48	56

NOTES:

1. Needs are based upon the spring season which is the peak time.
2. The needs for each year represents the total facilities needed to met the demand for that year

Figure 06-3

Tennis Courts: Tennis court usage at local use parks appears to have slightly declined. The 1995 Park User Survey noted that although most courts were well used in the evenings and on weekends, relatively few persons were observed waiting to play and weekday use was extremely low. Additional court needs are low partially because many new courts have been constructed at new schools and parks since 1986, and many new residential developments are providing tennis courts in their private recreation areas.

Additional unmet tennis court needs are minimal; with the only significant needs anticipated in upper Montgomery County. It is estimated that four additional courts will be needed there by 2000, and a total of 9 by 2010. These courts are predominantly needed in the Germantown area, with some needs in Damascus, and, by the following year, the Clarksburg area. Tennis Court needs are graphically depicted on the map Titled *Unmet Tennis Courts Needs Estimate Year 2010*.

Unmet Tennis Courts Needs Estimate Year 2010

Planning Area Map:
Montgomery County, Maryland

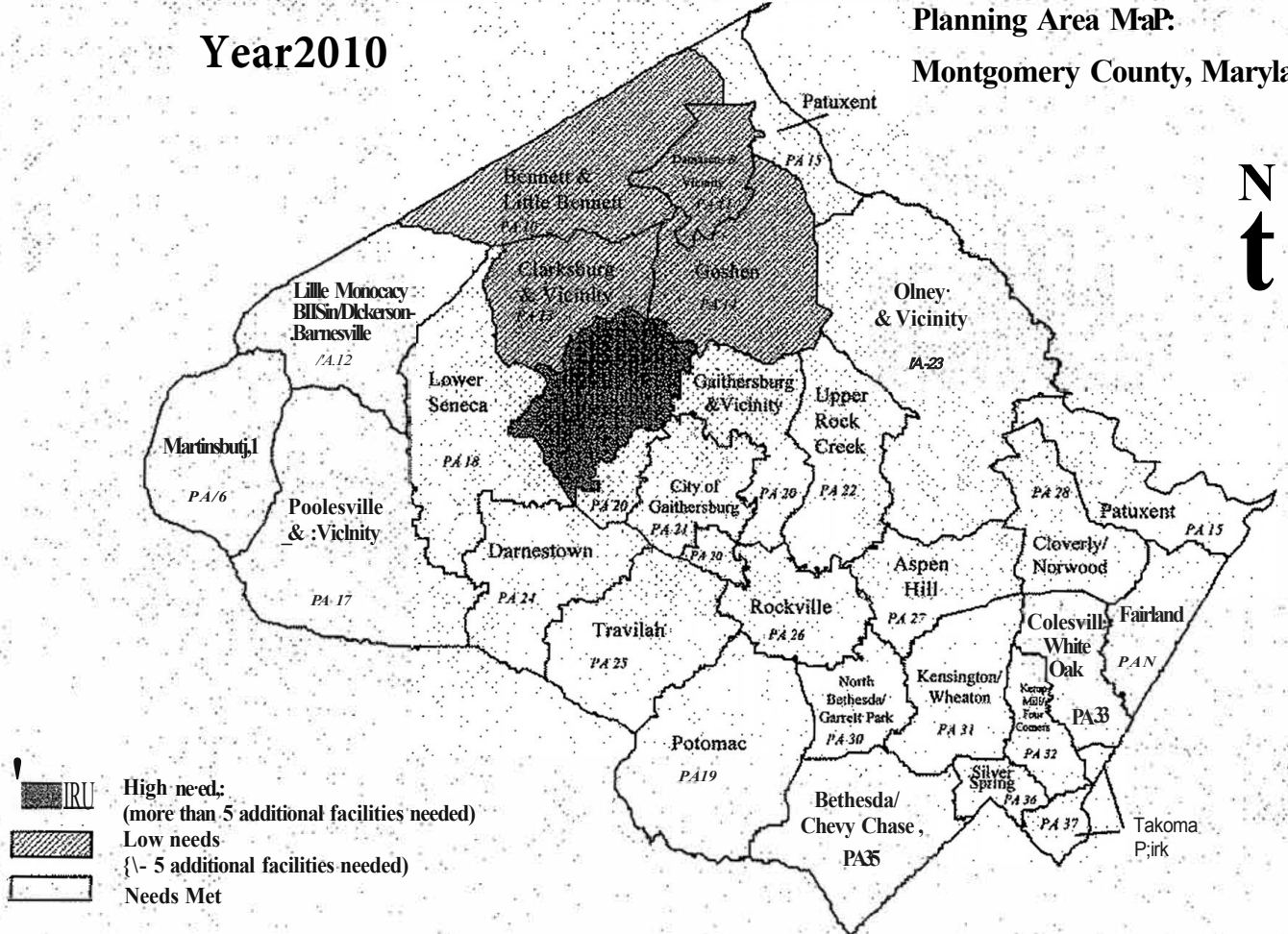


Figure 6.4

Playgrounds - Playgrounds are one of the most heavily used recreation facilities at community-use parks. For this reason, all new local and neighborhood parks should include playgrounds. Playgrounds should also be considered for urban parks that are adjacent to residential areas.

Projected growth of young children in the upper Courty, Fairland, Open Hill, and Travilah

areas result in a need for 39 additional playgrounds in 2000, and a total of 56 by 2010 as shown on the table *Future Unmet Community Use Park Needs By Planning Area*. Playground needs in each planning area are shown on the map titled *Unmet Playground Needs Estimate year 2010*.

Unmet Playground Needs Estimate Year 2010

Planning Area Map
Montgomery County, Maryland

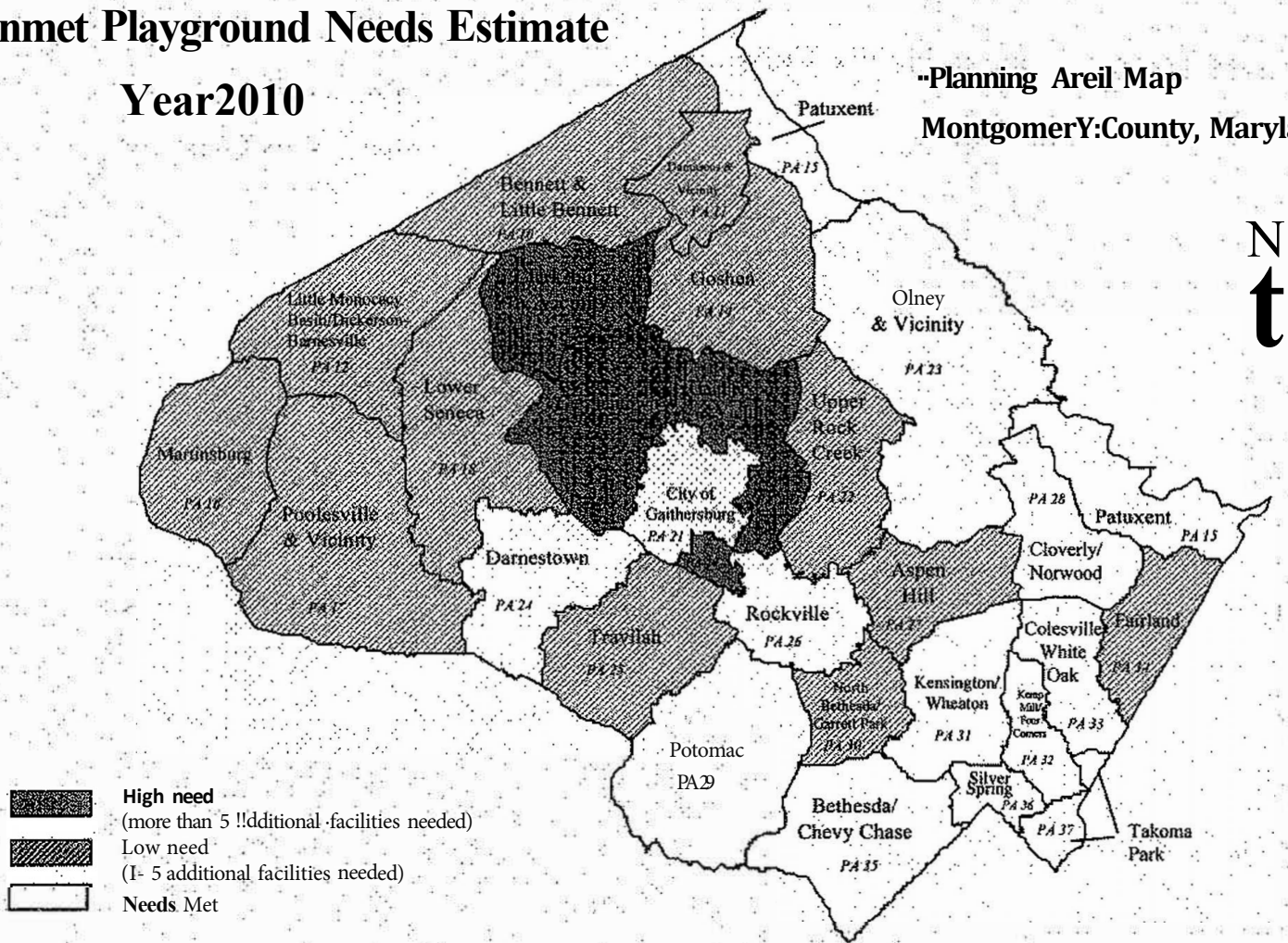


Figure 65

Basketball/Multi-Use Courts - & shown on the table Future Community Use Park Needs By Planning Area; a total of 25 additional basketball courts allocated to be erected in the County by 2000, and a total of 48 by the year 2010. Some of the courts will be provided by new elementary schools, but they also should be located in most new community use parks because they serve important recreation needs for teens and young adults. Basketball courts can also be used for roller

skating or roller blading, riding big toys or tricycles, or playing other Court games.

In general, future basketball needs are highest in the Germantown planning area. However needs are also high in the Gaithersburg, Fairland, Silver Spring, Travilah, and Takoma Park areas. The map titled Unmet Basketball Court Needs Estimate Year 2010 shows the geographic distribution of future basketball court needs in the county.

Unmet Basketball Court Needs Estimate Year 2010

Planning Area Map
Montgomery County, Maryland

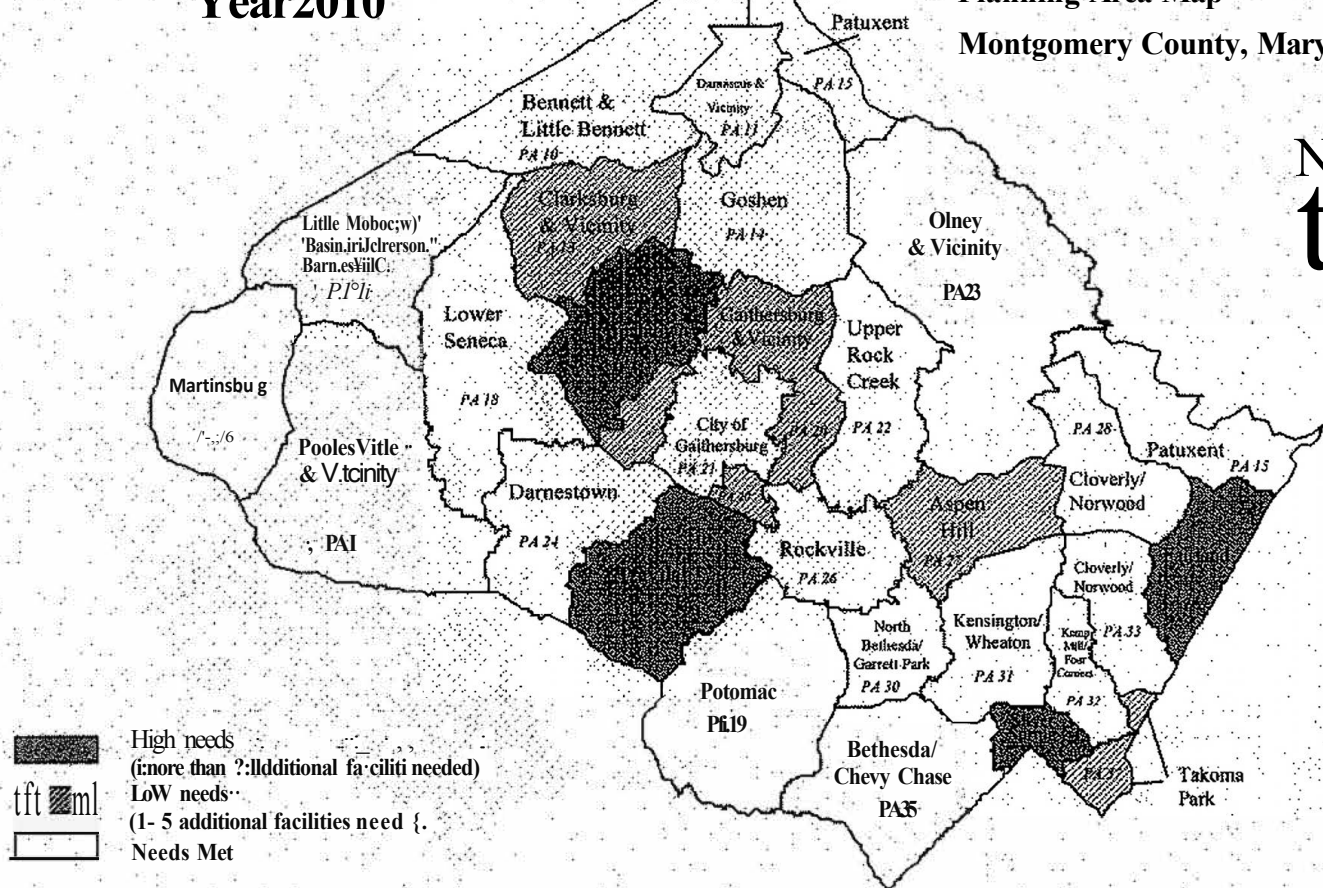


Figure 6.6

Ballfields • The need for local park ballfields is greater than for any other recreation facility. Ballfields require large level areas and consume more space than any other local park facility. The number of ballfields needed, therefore, has a significant impact on both the number of parks needed in certain areas as well as their size, shape, and topography.

Ballfields receive more use than any other local park facility. According to the 1995 Park User Survey, more than one-third of the total use at local parks was related to ballfields. In addition to the players themselves, friends and family are often spectators, making the ball game a social event.

Unmet Ballfield Needs Estimate Year 2010

Planning Area Map
Montgomery County, Maryland

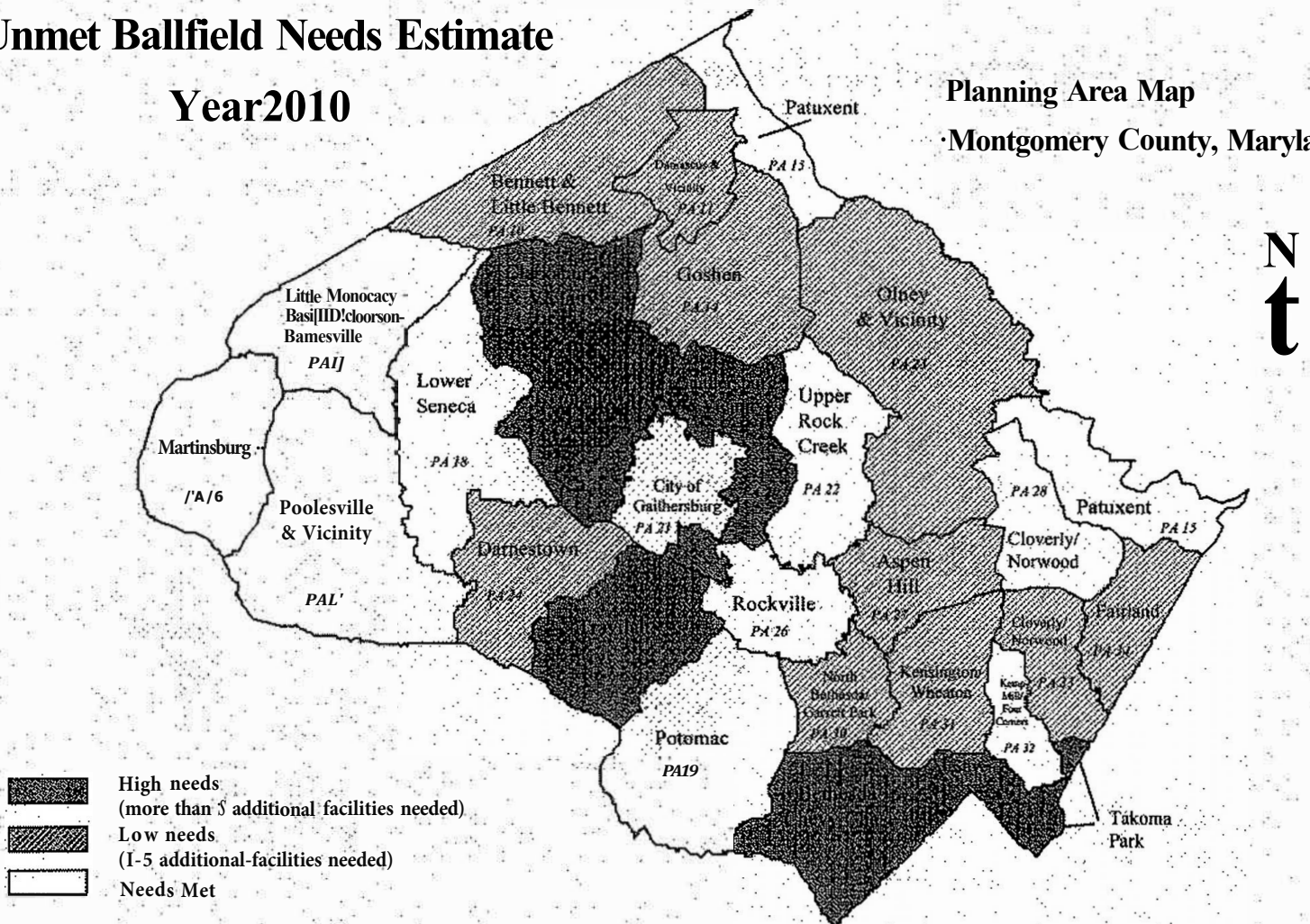


Figure 6.7

The PROS Plan estimates the total need for ballfields for all types of sports, and does not include a specific breakdown by sport. This is because fields can be used for more than one sport when they have soccer or football boundaries overlaying a softball or baseball field. Development of a level multi-use playing field area provides maximum flexibility in adjusting to changing trends in ballfield usage.

In examining the escalating need for ballfields it is important to look at more than just demographic increases in specific areas of the County. It is also important to consider the increasing interest in field sports and the trends in ballfield usage. Since 1988, the trend toward an increase in soccer has continued and, in addition to organized play, there are many players that are utilizing fields informally. Soccer is emerging as a growing sport in many ethnic groups with an increasing number of teams and large numbers of players gathering to play soccer at fields throughout the County. An upsurge in baseball for youths has also occurred in the last few years, with a few new groups forming with teams in the County. Lacrosse and rugby are also sports that may increase in the future. The number of baseball teams has increased significantly since 1995, particularly in the 5-19 year age group.

Sports teams are increasing at a tremendous rate. Projected field needs are based on a substantial increase in teams from 1990 to 1995. Since 1995, teams have escalated at an even greater rate. One major sport group, Montgomery Soccer Incorporated (MSI), alone serves 14,500 youths and increased by 300 teams last year. These teams are not even counted in current field estimates which were based on 1995 statistics. MSI had to turn away 560 children last year because of lack of field space.

Organized sports are becoming a life-long experience, beginning at age 5 and extending to many teams in the over 45 league. As shown in the Appendix, Montgomery County population is projected to grow in all age groups, which will increase the needs for athletic fields.

The need for ballfields has literally exploded in recent years. It is estimated that by 2000 an additional 69 ballfields will be needed to serve County residents and that this number will increase to 101 by the year 2010. Unmet field needs are greatest in the I-270 corridor, the urban ring and the Travilah area. The map titled *Unmet Ballfield Needs Estimate Year 2010* shows the geographic distribution of future ballfield needs in the county.

Although many of the ballfield needs will be provided at new parks and schools, it may not be possible to locate all future ballfields in the planning area where they are needed. This is particularly true in the down-County area, because field construction requires large, cleared, level sites which are in short supply in developed portions of the county. As a result league players may have to drive to fields in nearby areas for their games.

Park Accessibility for Disabled Individuals

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990, there has been a higher degree of visibility for all accessibility-related issues. The Department of Park and Planning has attempted to respond with new and innovative designs for playgrounds and renovations of existing structures.

Martin Luther King Playground, Mill Creek Towne Local Park playground and a section of the Wheaton Regional Park Adventure Playground have been specifically designed with the needs of disabled children in mind. There are two additional projects that are specifically focused on accessibility and will be completed in the near future. Hadley's Playground at Falls Road Local Park is an accessible playground that is being funded by a private donor through a combination of public and private funding. It will be a combination of several separate but connected theme play areas with safety surfacing under the equipment that allows wheelchair access. Additionally a County funded program is underway to replace the seats at all playground

swings in parks With accessible seats for use by disabled individuals.

A summary of the Policy and Goals for Montgomery County Park Accessibility is included in the Appendix of this Plan.

RECREATION CENTER AND AQUATIC FACILITY NEEDS

This section describes proposed recreation center and aquatic facilities in Montgomery County. These are important County-wide recreation facilities and the majority of these facilities are under the jurisdiction of the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Information in this section was provided by the Recreation Department.

Community Recreation Centers

IMPORTANT NOTE: The following information includes recommendations from the Montgomery County Recreation Department's 1997 *Recreation Facility Development Plan*.

Since the Recreation Department began developing centers in 1977 it has continued to promote multi-purpose centers in the 20,000 to 23,000 square foot range. The philosophy of the County's Recreation Department is not to promote specialized facilities to serve specific age groups, but to develop a sufficient number of facilities that are sized and designed with proper versatility to serve all groups near the communities where they live.

The Department of Recreation proposes a prototype community center that maximizes program flexibility and provides an opportunity to adapt to changing community demographics and leisure interests. The centers will be only slightly larger (24,000 net square feet) than the Department

has developed during the past decade and will incorporate features that will save capital, operating, and maintenance costs. The centers include spaces for sports and fitness, social activities and dance, arts, community meetings, partnership space, and administration.

The preferred location for a recreation center is a park-like setting, on land large enough to support active outdoor play space. In non-urban areas, typically ten acres or more is desirable. Wherever practical, other public facilities may be co-located on site with the community center. These could include other recreation/park amenities such as outdoor or indoor pools or skating rinks or facilities serving other public needs such as libraries or child care centers. It is important that the site be accessible to all potential users. It should have good visibility, be served by public transportation and be near the densest part of the service area. The site should be inviting to all potential users, including very young children and individuals with disability challenges. It is very important that centers be located where they can be most effective in generating and sustaining community identity.

Seven existing neighborhood centers are considerably smaller than the recommended prototype. They are: Clara Barton-located on Cabin John Local Park; Good Hope- located on Good Hope Road in Silver Spring; Plumgar-located in Plumgar Local Park; Rosemary Hills-located in Rosemary Hills Local Park; Scotland - located in Potomac; Ross Boddy - located on Brooke Road in Sandy Spring; and Wheaton - located on Georgia Avenue. Some offer little opportunity for future expansion while others have future expansion potential.

The Recreation Department recommends that an assessment of each of these centers be completed within the next three years to determine the feasibility and desirability of renovation/expansion. This review should include extensive community involvement. Once completed, the Department of Recreation should recommend the relative priority of these projects in relation to the development of new centers. A

separate project description forms (PDF) should be included in the CIP for each of the renovation projects.

The National Recreation and Parks Association standard for development of community recreation facilities calls for one center of 25,000 net square feet for every population unit of 20,000 people. This would require a total of 42 facilities to serve the projected population over the next two decades. Based on the rationale that Montgomery County will maintain the public policy of maximizing community use of public school buildings and will not compete with private-sector leisure providers, the Recreation Department recommends a departure from this national standard. It recommends one center of 24,000 net square feet for every 30,000 unit of population. This will require the addition of 18 new facilities, with 11 of them recommended for construction by the year 2010.

The criteria and sequencing (i.e., the ranking of potential projects that results from the use of the criteria) is based on extensive input from two years of public forums conducted by the Recreation Department and Recreation Advisory Boards. The public forum information leads to the development of guidelines considered equitable and logical:

- Population density that is currently unserved by existing facilities
- Geographically isolated communities
- Population socio-economic make-up, with communities of more children, higher diversity and/or fewer leisure options, being given priority
- The availability of time sensitive cost-savings opportunities, such as Federal grants, private sector donations or dedications, or efficiencies in construction costs by joining projects
- Expressed interest and support from specific communities.

The Montgomery County Recreation Department is recommending the same rate of development of community centers that has been sustained throughout the past few years.

After completion of the Germantown, Fairland, eastern County, and Rosemary Hills recreation centers, which are approved in the current CIP, the Recreation Department recommends the following sequence of development for new centers: Damascus; Mid County; North Bethesda; White Oak/Kemp Mill; Western County; and Kensington.

Public Aquatic Facilities

IMPORTANT NOTE: The following information includes recommendations from the Montgomery County Recreation Department's 1997 Aquatic Facility Plan.

This section identifies the existing public indoor and outdoor pools, as well as the municipal pools, and the geographic areas they serve. Using population data by planning areas, the current and future level of service is given for each region served. The determination of future recreational needs is based on needs assessment (including population projections, park usership, and survey results) and community input. It also identifies the regions still unserved by any public indoor or outdoor pool.

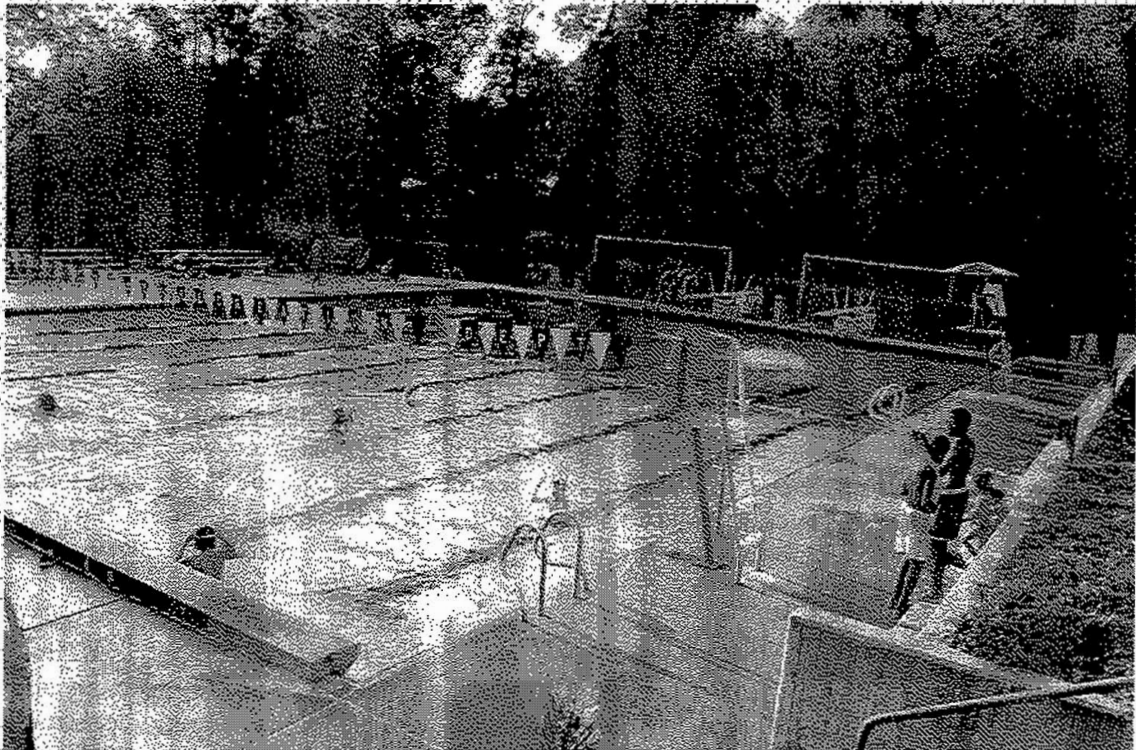
The *Aquatic Facility Plan* describes the prototype indoor pool that Montgomery County has successfully built in recent years. The newest, the Olney Indoor Swim Center, contains the basic elements necessary to serve an entire region, as well as enjoyable amenities that have proved successful in other pools. The outdoor pool prototype is the Germantown Outdoor Pool recently designed and opened to the public in June of 1998. The Germantown pool also has many features popular in the water park industry, but found suitable for public pools. The Recreation Department recognizes that certain regions may require designs of facilities of different sizes, but still predicated upon the prototypical design elements. These prototype facilities provide planners with models for selecting appropriate sites, as well as developing construction and operating costs for future facilities.

Future CIP submittals must address not only unserved regions of the County, but also integrate the costs for major renovation and modernization of existing pools. While some will be in need of refurbishment beyond routine and planned maintenance, others may need total replacement on the same or adjacent site. Renovation to pools built before 1978 will need to be evaluated in the near future. Facilities built after 1978 should not need more than regular maintenance until the next planning process.

- | |
|--|
| <p>CURRENT CIP PROJECTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Replacement of Wheaton/Glenmont Outdoor Pool <p style="text-align: center;">PROPOSED PROJECTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Martin Luther King, Jr. Outdoor Pool Swim Center - Phase U ● Bethesda Outdoor Pool Renovation and Modernization ● Germantown Indoor Swim Center ● Damascus/Clarksburg Indoor Swim Center ● Clarksburg/Damascus Outdoor Pool ● Olney/Sandy Spring/Norwood Outdoor Pool ● Western County Indoor Swim Center ● Renovation of Upper County Outdoor Pool |
|--|

The *Aquatic Facility Plan* recommends the regions now unserved by public pools that justify the need for indoor pools by the year 2010. Whether with the new indoor pools, a network of facilities will serve each region and its schools,

with at least a minimal level of service. Similarly, the recommended outdoor pools will provide reasonable access to all populations and groups seeking summertime swim opportunities. The following lists summarize the recommendations.



Upper County Outdoor Pool

Public Indoor Pools - Regions Served- The public indoor pools in Montgomery Colllity serve geographic regions as follows:

Name	Service area
Martin Luthei- King, Jr. Swim Center	NE Montgbmery County, along the New Hampshire Ave/US 29 corridor north of the Beltway.
Montgomery Aquatic Center	Down-County Bethesda vicinity, including Kensington, Garrett Park, South Rockville, Ch _e v _y Chase, and part of Potomac.
Rockville Municipal Swim Center	The greater Rockville region, including Potomac, Darnestown, areas south of Gaithersburg, and Norbeck
Gaithersburg Aquatic Center	Gaithersburg and surrounding areas such as Laytonsville and Derwood.
Olney Indoor Swim Center	The MD 97 corridor, Brookeville/Sandy Spring, and Aspen Hill, and the area between the Rockville, Montgomery, Manin Luther King, Jr., swim centers.

Note: Though not a public facilities, the presence of YMCAs in Silver Spring, Bethesda and Upper-County help off-set the need for some facilities;

Regions Unserved by Public Indoor Pools- The areas of the County that are not served by a public indoor swimming facility but have the population to support a public facility are the Germantown and the Damascus/Clarksburg region.

Area	Population information	Proposed
Greater Germantown Region	92,000 + by the year 2005.	An indoor swim center to serve the Germantown region. Consideration should be given to duplicating the size and many of the features of the Montgomery Aquatic Center.
Damascus/ Clarksburg Region	64,000+ by the year 2010.	An indoor pool similar to the Olney Swim Center to serve the region. Few private facilities in this rather isolated area.

Note: The Western County area should be included in future considerations for year-round (indoor) swimming opportunities due to geographic isolation. While population projections do not support the construction of a prototype indoor public pool facility, an interim solution may be to cover the main pool at the outdoor facility.

The following map shows the approximate locations of existing and proposed outdoor pools on a Planning Area map.

Planning Area Map

Montgomery County Maryland

Indoor Public Pools

(County, Municipal, YMCA)

- Existing in 1996
- ▲ Proposed by 2005
- Proposed by 2010

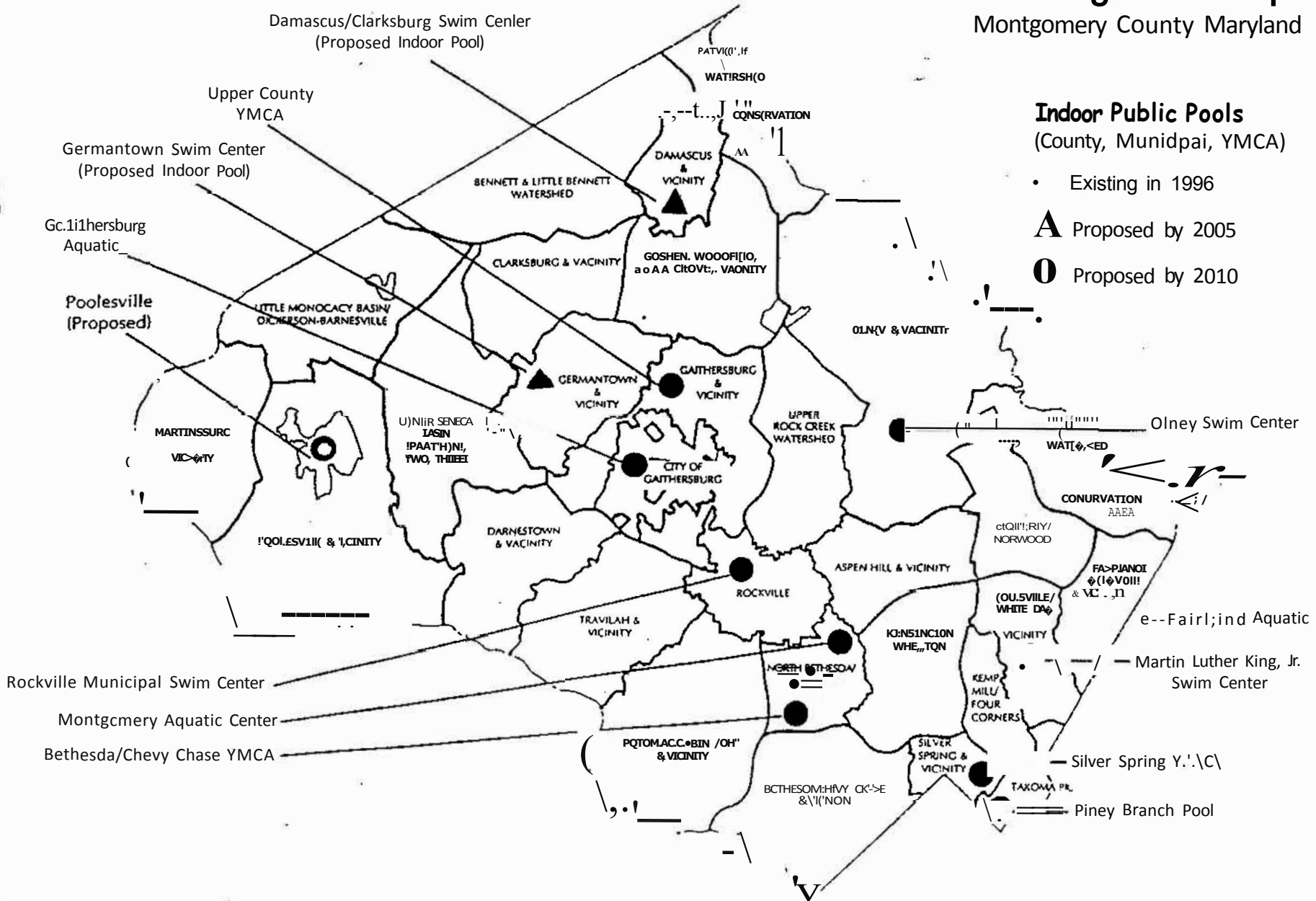


Figure 6.8

Public Outdoor Pools - Regions Served- The existing public outdoor pools serve these regions:

Name	Service Area
Bethesda Pool	The lower Bethesda area from the Washington, D.C., border in areas south of the Beltway.
Wheaton-Glenmont Pool	The Greater Wheaton area from Silver Spring to the south through to Glenmont, Kensington, and Aspen Hill to the north.
Long.Branch Pool	The Takoma Park and east Silver Spring area.
Upper-County Pool	The communities east of the City of Gaithersburg and northwest of Olney.
Western County Pool	The greater Poolesville/Martinsburg/Boyd's area.
City of Rockville pools	City of Rockville citizens, the communities north of Glenmont, and south of the City of Gaithersburg, and communities to the west.
Summit Hall Pool	The citizens of Gaithersburg and the many areas of Darnestown and MD 28 corridor not served by the Western County Pool.
Germantown Outdoor Pool	Germantown west of I-270 and the communities east of the Western County Pool.

Regions Unserved by Public Outdoor Pools- The two regions with no outdoor public pool opportunity are northeast Montgomery County and the Damascus/Clarksburg region.

Name	Proposed
Northeast Region	Complete Phase II of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Swim Center project and construct an outdoor pool complex on the adjacent site. Facility should include a leisure pool with water play features and slides incorporated into a 50-meter lap training area.
Damascus/ Clarksburg Region	Area is not currently served by any public pool. The recommendation is to provide a 50-meter outdoor pool complex to serve the growing Damascus/Clarksburg community
Olney Region	The region north of Aspen Hill to Brookeville, and east along MD 108, including Sandy Spring and Norwood, is unserved by a public outdoor pool. The recommendation is to provide a 50-meter outdoor pool complex to serve the Olney/Sandy Spring/Norwood region.

The following map shows the approximate locations of existing and proposed outdoor pools on a Planning Area map.

Planning Area Map

Montgomery County Maryland

Outdoor Public Pools (County, Municipal, YMCA)

- Existing in 1996 (or planned)
- ▲ Proposed by 2005
- Proposed by 2010

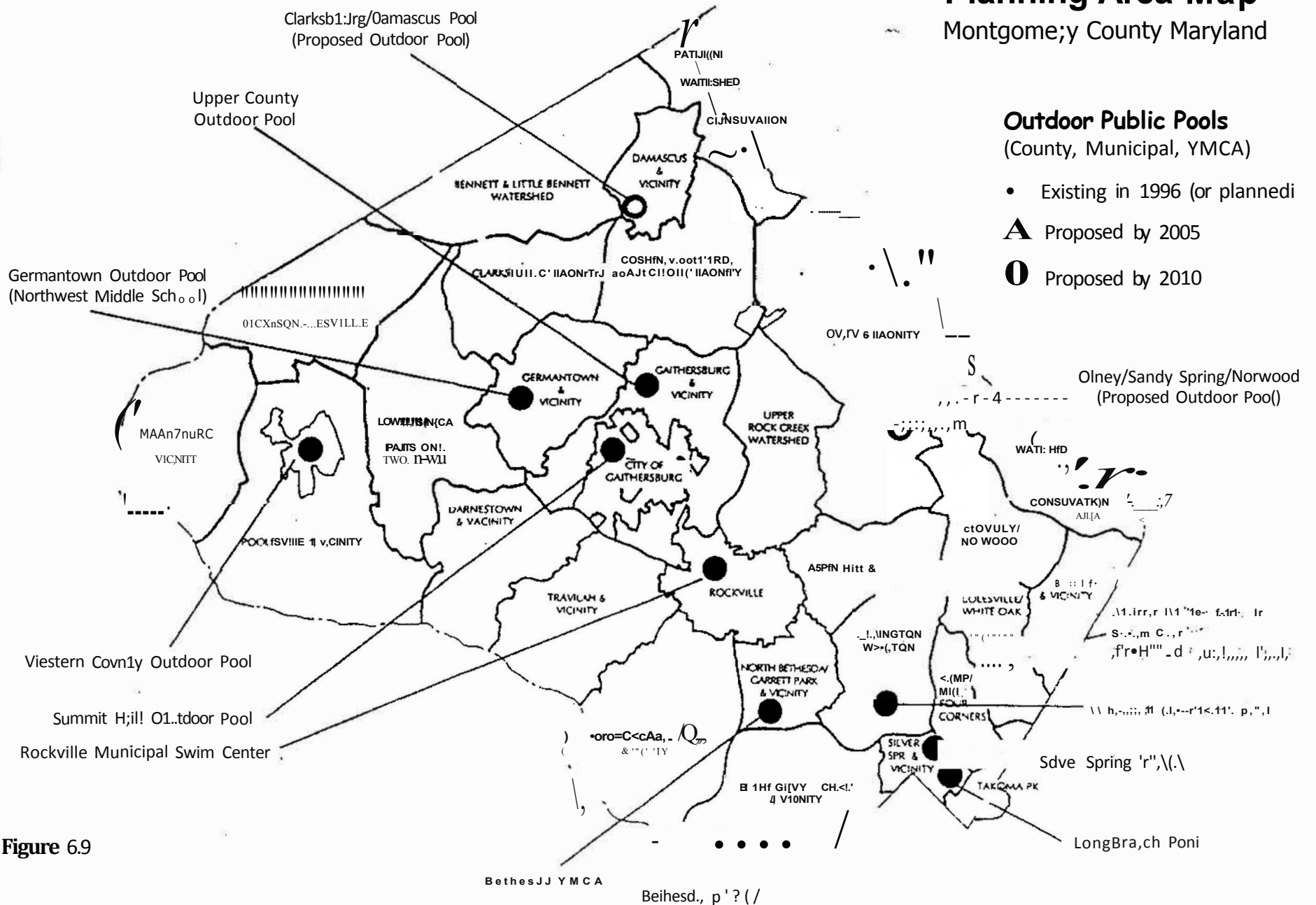


Figure 6.9

NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION NEEDS

Public Attitudes Regarding Resource Protection

Public surveys act as an important gauge of the need and public desire for these natural resources. The 1997 *Park, Recreational, and Open Space Survey for Montgomery County* clearly illustrates that County residents enjoy the parks in many different ways, often to take advantage of the opportunity to be close to the natural environment. The survey highlights the concern of County residents for protection of the County's natural resources. Among the findings that clearly illustrate this demand for resource protection are the following:

- When County residents were asked about what should have the higher funding priority, 73.5% chose "protect wildlife" while 17.5% chose "build recreation facilities".
- Approximately 93% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "park land should be set aside for the protection of wildlife."
- County residents were asked to indicate the degree of priority they would give to protection of streams, endangered species and forests. With a 1 being low priority, and a 5 being high priority, 75.4% of respondents gave "protection of streams" a 4 or 5 priority rating, 64.6% indicated a 4 or 5 priority rating for "protection of rare and endangered species", and 75.4% gave "protection of forests" a 4 or 5 priority rating.
- A majority (76.1%) of County adult resident respondents had gone to a County park at least once during the year just to enjoy nature or the outdoors, rather than to participate in a sport or use a recreational facility. Over one third (1/3) of these residents had made such

nature-oriented visits more than 10 times during the year.

- "Walking, hiking or nature walk" was the activity most often, or second most often participated in by 58.6% of County adult residents.
- The results of a May 1997 survey of Montgomery County public high school and middle school students revealed similar results, with 71.4% of these students using the parks to "enjoy outdoors/nature" and 54.8% using the trails in the parks for walking or hiking.

Natural Resource Needs

When looking to the future of natural resources preservation and protection, careful consideration should be given to the acquisition of properties in the County which contain a rich diversity of resources, unique natural resources, or resources of special importance to the County. The preservation of these areas would assist in protecting important wildlife habitat areas and assist in the implementation of the Governor's visions for protection of sensitive areas, natural resources and the Chesapeake Bay. The following paragraphs describe some of the properties that if acquired, would greatly enhance the biodiversity of the County's park system:

Piney Meetinghouse Road Serpentine Area - The 257.99-acre Piney Meetinghouse Road property, also known as the Big Pines Serpentine Barrens, is one of the few remaining examples in Montgomery County of the rare botanical community type known as the serpentine barren. Big Pines Serpentine Barrens has been surveyed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Biodiversity and Conservation Program and is described in at least two publications. Acquisition of this property would protect the unique biological community found there, as well as preserve the rare, threatened and endangered species on the site.

Hoyles Mill Protection Area - Unusual habitats, geology (diabase formation) and rare species make Hoyles Mill Protection Area a significant site to be considered for M-NCPPC park acquisition. The 335-acre Hoyles Mill Protection Area is now known to support at least three State endangered, two State-threatened, one highly rare, and ten uncommon plant species, as well as a butterfly species officially listed as "in need of conservation". The acreage has been field surveyed by the Maryland State Department of Natural Resources Conservation and Biodiversity Program (1992-1996) and described as a significant site for preservation of biodiversity on both the County and State level.

River Road Shale Barrens - The approximately 340-acre property off River Road and Mt. Nebo Road known as the River Road Shale Barrens is considered the best remaining example of the triassic shale barren biological community in the County. Because of their low nutrient levels, shale barrens support a unique vegetative community. The Maryland State Department of Natural Resources did a survey of this acreage in 1986 and 1987 and noted that this is the only triassic shale barren in the State with recorded rare species. Acquisition of this property is important for protection of rare species and preservation of this unique habitat and biological diversity.

Little Bennett Stream Valley Park - A 92.5-acre parcel stretching along the upper main stem of Little Bennett Creek upstream of Burnt Hill Road would connect the existing small portion (approximately 15 acres) of the Little Bennett Stream Valley Park to the Oak Ridge Conservation Park. This addition to the park system, which is approximately 1 mile long, would protect over 6.5 continuous stream miles of the main stem of Little Bennett Creek. The Little Bennett Creek watershed is one of the best-quality and least-developed in the county, and Little Bennett Creek supports a population of naturally reproducing brown trout and populations of other pollution-intolerant species such as longnose dace, northern hogsucker, mottled sculpin, Potomac sculpin, and greenside darter.

Upper Paint Branch - The Paint Branch stream system flows from its headwaters in Montgomery County to the Anacostia River and ultimately into the Chesapeake Bay. In 1974 the Paint Branch and all its tributaries upstream of the Capital Beltway were designated as Use III waters by the State Water Resources Administration after it was discovered that a naturally reproducing trout population inhabited the upper Paint Branch watershed. The presence of a naturally reproducing trout population is indicative of the highest measure of water quality; as a result, stream systems supporting trout are afforded the highest order of resource protection under State law. Maryland Department of Natural Resources designated the entire Paint Branch watershed upstream of Fairland Road as a "special trout management area" in 1980. This was the first designation of its kind in the State and was intentionally designated to give designated streams special status and maximum protection afforded by State regulations. The upper Paint Branch watershed is comprised of the following four major tributaries and the mainstem:

- Good Hope tributary has the greatest number of springs and seeps that provide a continuous steady supply of cold water and provide a gravel substrate making ideal conditions for trout spawning. This tributary accounts for 75% of the annual trout reproduction.
- Gum Springs is also spring-fed and possesses similar characteristics to Good Hope. It is the second most consistent and reliable spawning and nursery area.
- The Right Fork has better water quality, but somewhat poorer spawning habitat than the Good Hope or Gum Springs tributaries. It therefore contributes to the maintenance of trout habitat in the mainstem.
- The Left Fork provides limited spawning and some adult trout habitat.

Together, the four tributaries and the mainstem form a stream ecosystem that supports a trout fishery and it is important to the

continuation of successful spawning in the stream system that the quality of each of the four tributaries be uncompromised. Consequently, all the properties recommended in the 1995 *Upper Paint Branch Watershed Planning Study* should be added to the Paint Branch Stream Valley Park system, or be retained as open space or park land through an alternative method such as development easements or land trusts.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCE NEEDS

Public Attitudes Regarding Historic and Cultural Resource Preservation

Because the need for historic and cultural resources can be difficult to quantify, surveys and other forms of data collection act as tools in determining need. As demonstrated in the most recent PROS survey, a great demand exists for interpretive and educational programs in the County park system.

- Sixty-five percent of respondents found protection of historic sites to be important.
- While one-third of residents polled had visited historic sites in a Montgomery County park in the previous year, many said they would benefit from new educational services, including guided tours, self-guided tours, live demonstrations, and lectures.
- In prioritizing the protection of historic buildings and sites on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest priority, 31% of respondents gave a 5 priority, 57% gave a 4 or 5 priority, and only 4% gave it the lowest priority.

Historic and Cultural Resource Needs

In the last decade tremendous progress has been made in the conservation and restoration of historic buildings. Yet essential work must be done to stabilize and repair key resources. Those sites still requiring conservation work have been prioritized, as seen in the table *M-NCPPC Historic Park Properties* found in the Appendix. A list of the twenty sites most in need of attention is included in this chapter.

As the accompanying chart shows, most of the sites identified as having the best potential for public visitation are currently in a "good" state of repair. Several have, in fact, received awards for restoration work. Others, however, continue to be endangered and must be scheduled for protective measures.

Archaeological sites both prehistoric and historic continue to be threatened by neglect and vandalism. One example is Blockhouse Point, which features the remains of an important Civil War encampment on the Potomac River that is currently subject to looting by the use of metal detectors and unauthorized horse trails. A comprehensive mapping of the resource is urgently needed because on-site enforcement of park regulations is exceedingly difficult in such remote sites.

A number of ruins such as Valley Mill and Waters Mill must also be protected from further abuse. These ruins exemplify early economic enterprise that are interpreted with signs for the benefit of park visitors. Efforts are currently underway to have stabilization work completed by 1999. As the Restoration of Historic Structures Capital Improvement Program is primarily a stabilization fund, the further use of park personnel will be necessary to maintain these resources.

The Historic Preservation office currently offers only occasional educational and interpretive programs at park historic and archaeological sites.

HISTORIC SITES IN THE COUNTY PARK SYSTEM

Selected for priority consideration in the PROS Plan

Among the approximately 100 sites in the park system, the following are identified as ones deserving special consideration.

They represent resources which have high potential interest to the public, are accessible, and could benefit from special attention in planning for renovation and interpretive programs. "Good" condition implies that they are accessible and at least moderately stabilized, but maintenance and protection are continuing needs.

<u>Site Name</u>	<u>Overall Condition</u>	<u>Work Needed</u>	<u>Park Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
1 Valley Mill House	Good	Arch. plans, structural exam, repoint	Stream Valley	Colesville
2 Valley Mill Site	Poor	Complete stabilization	Stream Valley	Colesville
3 Water's Mill Site	Fair	Clearing, repointing, fencing, maintenance	Regional	Black Hill Reg/Boyds
4 Bussard Farm House	Good	Retrofit for museum	Regional	Ag Hist/Rock Creek
5 Oliver Watkins House	Good	Complete barn stabilization	Special	Cedar Grove
6 Woodlawn House	Good	General maintenance and painting	Woodlawn Special Pk.	Sandy Spring
7 Oakley Log Cabin	Good	Protection and maintenance	Stream Valley Park	Brookeville
8 Hyattstown House	Good	Protection and maintenance	Regional	Clarksburg
9 Hyattstown Mill House	Good	Protection and maintenance	Regional	Clarksburg
10 Battery Bailey	Good	Protection and maintenance	Local	Bethesda
11 The Silver Spring	Good	Protection and maintenance	Urban Park	Silver Spring
12 Loughboro Mill Site	Good	Protection and maintenance	Capital Crescent Trail	Bethesda
13 Blockhouse Point	Fair	Site protection., archaeology	Conservation Park	Seneca
14 Upton Darby House	Good	Protection and maintenance	State Park	Seneca
15 Needwood Mansion	Good	Protection and maintenance	Regional	Derwood
16 Charles Browning House	Good	Interior work	Regional	Little Bennet/Clarksburg
17 Zeigler Mill Site	Fair	Archeology	Regional	Clarksburg
18 Zeigler Log House	Fair	Asbestos removal, new roof, paint	Regional	Clarksburg
19 Kingsley One Room Schoolhouse	Fair	Interior security, sprinklers	Regional	Clarksburg
20 Nathan Dickerson	Good	Exterior and Interior	Conservation	Great Falls
21 Wheaton Farmhouses	Fair	Ryan House, asbestos removal, gen. maint.	Regional	Wheaton
22 Ned Watkins Farmhouse	Good	General maintenance, barn structural	Special	Cedar Grove
23 Rock Creek Stables	Good	Blacksmith shop repairs, general maint.	Regional	Chevy Chase

Figure 6,10

While most historic buildings have been stabilized and many are in advanced stages of restoration, the majority of these sites are not open to the public on a regular basis due to a lack of financial resources. Educational and outreach is vital to increase public awareness and satisfy public desire for recreational uses such as guided or self guided tours of historic sites. Regular educational programs are needed, especially at high-priority sites, defined by high visibility, accessibility, and historical significance.

The interpretation of these resources will also require a financial commitment to support these programs, because volunteers must be recruited, trained, and supervised in accurate and safe procedures and techniques. To this end, programs in public archaeology and "Friends" groups such as those that currently support the Agricultural History Farm Park, Oakley Cabin, and Hyattstown Mill can expand and improve the public's awareness, education, and enjoyment of their park system.

TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS NEEDS

This section of the plan examines the need for additional County-wide trails to serve current and future County residents. Provision of trails is particularly important because they can be used by all age groups including the elderly and the very young. Recently conducted surveys indicate that County residents use hiker-biker trails more frequently than any other park facility, for a wide variety of activities, including walking for pleasure, exercise, transportation, to enjoy nature, jogging, and bicycling.

Proposed County-wide Network

A future County-wide network of recreation-oriented trails and transportation-oriented bikeways should be based on the following guiding principles:

- Maintain a county-wide perspective

- Emphasize connectivity
- Provide variety
- Seek balance among recreation, transportation and environmental concerns
- Establish the priority of key components of the County-wide network
- Designate a network which is responsive to population centers, both existing and planned
- Recommend implementation strategies, including trail planning and design guidelines

The proposed network of trail and bikeway "corridors" focuses on needed connections between parks and facilities. The accompanying table, "Key Features of Recreation-Oriented Trails and Transportation-Oriented Bikeways," describes the key features of these trails and bikeways. It indicates that the planning and design aspects of transportation-oriented bikeways and recreation-oriented trails are very different in terms of key destinations, characteristics of users, types of facilities, and implementation issues.

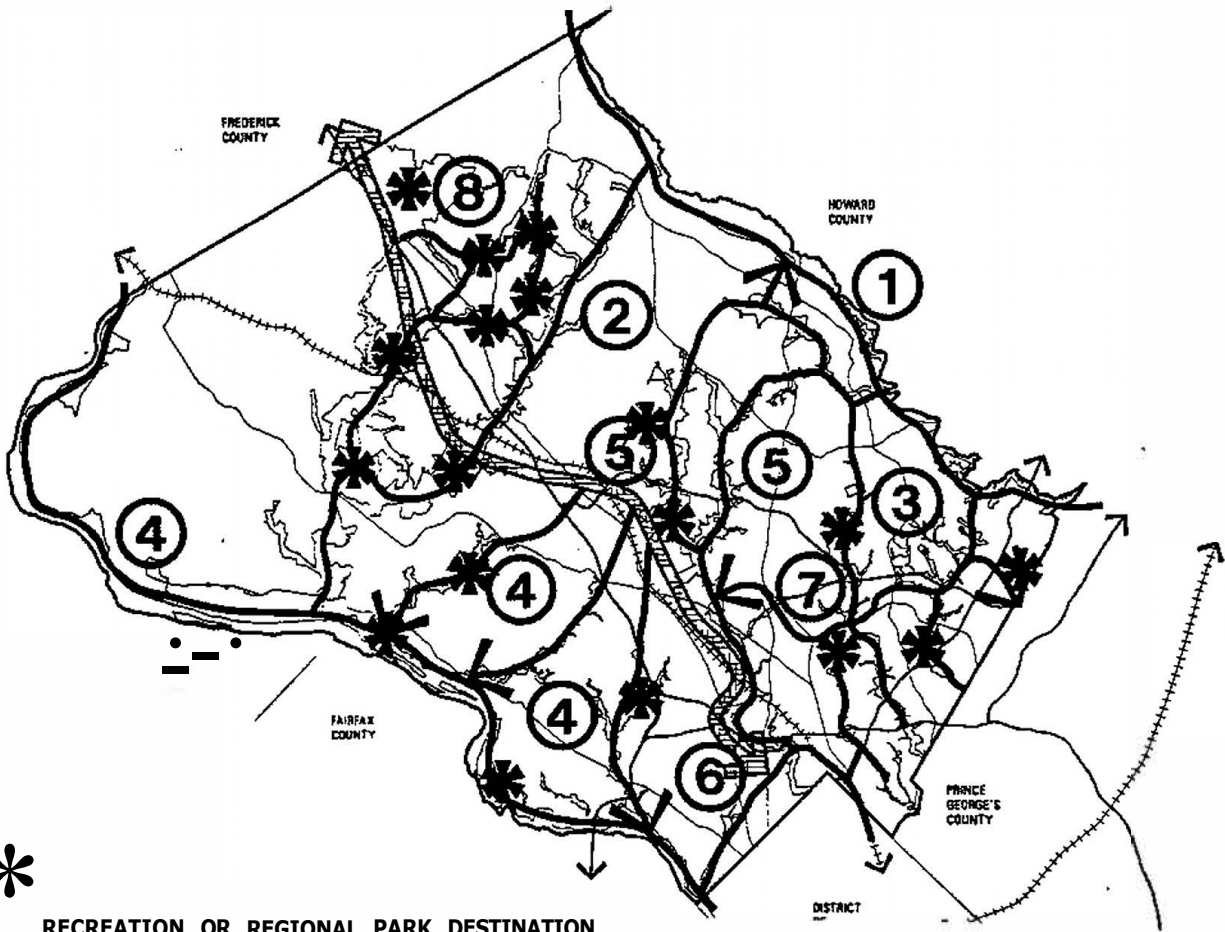
The trail and bikeway system should have destinations (provide access to parks and facilities), environmental sensitivity (proper design and maintenance), and geographic parity (hard-surface and natural surface trails to serve all areas of the County).

Planning for Trails

The *County-wide Park Trails Plan*, approved by the Planning Board in July 1998, is based on the principles above, and identifies an overall County-wide system for both recreation and transportation. This Plan proposes eight recreational trail corridors, which are described on the following pages and include both hard-surface and natural-surface trails that connect the County's Parks. These corridors are consistent with PROS planning policies and should form the foundation of the County's future trail system.

People using recreation-oriented trails-whether they be unpaved hiking paths or paved multi-use paths-seek recreational experiences, are usually less

COUNTYWIDE RECREATIONAL TRAIL CORRIDORS



RECREATION OR REGIONAL PARK DESTINATION

1-270 CORRIDOR BIKEPATH

Trail Corridor	Plan Objectives
1. Patuxent River	Provide a continuous natural surface trail system along the river.
2. Seneca Greenway	Provide a continuous natural surface trail from the Potomac to the Patuxent.
3. Northwest Brannen	Provide a natural surface trail that provides a high-quality passive recreational experience.
4. C&O canal	Improve trail connections to the C&O Canal towpath.
5. Rock Creek	Expand the trail system in Rock Creek Regional Park northward to Olney and the Patuxent River.
6. Capital Crescent	Provide a continuous trail corridor through Bethesda and Silver Spring to the Metropolitan Branch Trail in the District of Columbia.
7. Eastern County	Enhance east-west hard surface trail connectivity between parks and park trail systems.
8. Upcounty	Provide a hard surface recreational trail to serve the existing and future residents of Gennantown, Clarksburg, and Damascus.

Figure 6.11

interested in speed and efficiency and more interested in pleasant park-like surroundings and the character of the trail experience. Recreation-oriented trails are often destinations in themselves.

Recreation-oriented trails can also be classified by the amount and type of use they receive. An example of different types of trails are Environmental Appreciation Trails, which are relatively narrow natural surface trails in parks that provide nature enjoyment and recreational opportunities in a natural setting; Medium Use Recreation Trails, which provide the linkages to the major trail network and can be either natural surface or hard surface; and High Use Recreational Trails, which are the major trails included in the County-wide hard surface trail system such as the Capital Crescent Trail and the C&O Canal towpath. These trails carry extremely large volumes of users and form the backbone of the regional trail system.



Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park

The recreational trail corridors are keyed to parks and recreation areas of County-wide significance, whether they are owned by Federal, State, County, or municipal agencies. The recreational trail corridors interrelate to create a natural-surface and hard-surface trail network for the county. The Patuxent River, Seneca Greenway,

Nonhwest Branch, and C&O Canal include the most important elements of the proposed natural-surface trail network. The Rock Creek, Capital Crescent, Eastern County, and Upcounty corridors include the most important elements of the hard surface trail network because they are located in high-density population areas.

Planning for Bikeways

People using transportation-oriented bikeways seek safe, efficient access to their destinations whether it be work, transit, or a community center. Advanced or experienced cyclists who place a high value on speed and efficiency prefer riding on the roadway itself so they can move with the flow of traffic at higher speeds. Basic or casual cyclists also seek safe, efficient means using bicycles as a means of transportation, but they prefer separate bikepaths that provide separation from the vehicular traffic and are more willing to take longer, more circuitous routes.

It is also important to have safe, well-designed transportation-oriented bikeways because these routes often form an important link that gives area residents access to recreation trails in parks. Placing grade-separated bike paths, bike lanes, safe crossings, and traffic signal devices where appropriate on roads near parks help users reach parks more safely. Design and management considerations should also be given to the fact that some

county trails and bikeways in parks may serve a dual purpose of providing a transportation corridor for some users and a recreation facility for others.

To meet the transportation needs of various users, an update of the *Master Plan of Bikeways* is

needed to implement the *Master Plan of Trails* recommendations for safe bikeway connections between park trail corridors as well as other destinations. Such approaches might include identifying "bicycle boulevards" (streets specifically designed to be bicycle-friendly), and bike paths which should receive special signing and treatments.

Challenges for the Future

To make the goal of a comprehensive, integrated trail and bikeway system a reality, some key challenges must be addressed:

Providing Safe Road Crossings - With increased urbanization, it is difficult to travel any considerable distance without intercepting vehicular traffic. At some point, trails will have to cross roads either by an at-grade, or grade-separated, crossing. For at-grade crossings, policies and design standards for safe, predictable, and consistent road signs, surface treatment, and striping need to be developed that will make motor vehicle drivers aware of the potential for encountering trail users.

Grade-separated crossings provide optimum safety and should be provided wherever feasible. Developing the road conditions, traffic counts, and safety consideration guidance necessary will assist in the determination of when grade-separated trail crossings are feasible. Early input should be provided to CIP bridge reconstruction projects that may provide the opportunity for elevating the span to provide space for both trail users and wildlife to pass safely under the road.

Providing Community Trail Connections - It will be essential to provide community trail connections to the major trail network, parks, schools, shopping, and work. Evaluation of proposed subdivisions is particularly important to determine where trail connections are needed and to incorporate them where feasible.

Creating a Corps of Volunteers - Montgomery County Parks have over 60 miles of unpaved trails.

To keep up with the patrolling, construction and maintenance needs of park trails, a well-organized volunteer program is essential. Volunteer programs will also foster cooperation and tolerance on multiple use trails.

Developing New Methods for Trail Construction in Sensitive Areas - Environmental protection and recreation objectives must be balanced at every stage of the trail-planning process. Environmental impacts should be avoided, minimized, and mitigated when developing new trails. Trails should be designed to avoid sensitive environmental areas, including biodiversity areas, whenever possible. Placement of new hard-surface trails through wetlands and their State regulated non-tidal wetland buffers should also be avoided whenever possible. Retention of the tree canopy is important to encourage interior species and discourage exotic invasive plants. Boardwalks, end-on-end construction, and other new technologies should be used to minimize impacts in sensitive areas.

Designing Trails to Meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - The design challenge is balancing the goal of getting trails out of the floodplain where it is relatively flat, and providing ADA-accessible trails for an aging population. The aging of the baby-boomers will continue to put pressure to provide accessible facilities.

Making Trail Decisions With Public Input - Trail decisions must be made based on a broad range of information reflecting the needs and interests of the full spectrum of trail users and interested citizens. In addition to testimony received at public meetings and public hearings, it is important to consider information derived from surveys of both youth and adults. Input from user groups and site surveys of existing trail use also can provide useful information on trail needs that may assist in making trail decisions.

Resolving User Conflict Issues - Resolving user conflicts will be an important issue for the future. While it is important to reserve some trails (particularly near nature centers) for hiking and nature enjoyment, many trails in Montgomery

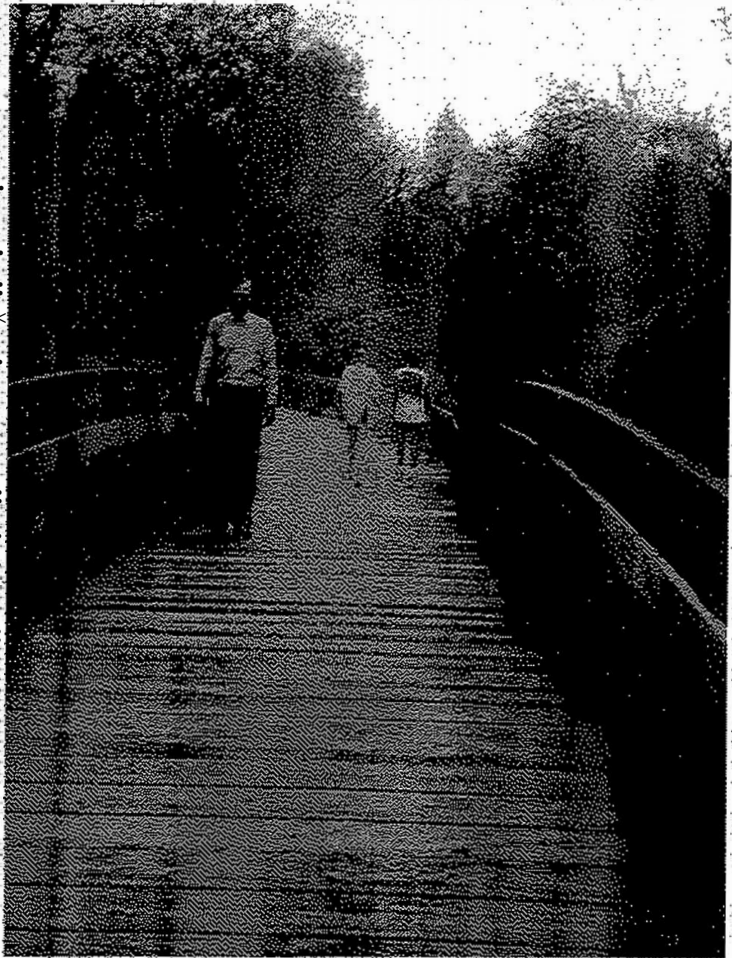
County can support a variety of users with different and sometimes conflicting needs and expectations. It will be important to work toward education and management programs to facilitate the use of multiple-use trails. Wider trails in high use areas (such as down-County) can also help minimize user conflicts. It is hoped that in the future, multiple-use will mean multiple stewardship that fosters a cooperative spirit to preserve and protect their common resource.

Providing Public Trail Information
 With the increasing demand for and use of trails, it becomes more important to provide adequate trail information for the public. Trail maps should be clear, and trail information must be in a form that is accessible, understandable, and easily updatable.

Educating the Public that Trails Tend to Discourage Crime Rather Than Increase It

The relationship between crime and trails has been studied. Many eyes on an area help prevent mischief, not increase it. Crime statistics do not bear out the fear of increased criminal activity because of trails. Studies by trail groups actually show that trails next to homes can increase property values. If the vision of an interconnected trail system is to become a reality, the common perception from adjacent property owners that trails bring crime and threaten the social order must be overcome.

Using the Use of Utility Rights-of-Way as Trail Corridors - Utility rights-of-way are generally open corridors that are often well suited for trails. The predominant north-south orientation of the park system will require more east-west oriented connections. Streets are one connection option, although many were signed with automotive concerns only and not the best candidates for hikers or bicyclists unless expensive retrofitting is constructed. Another option to consider is the utility corridors.



Magmde-Branch

WSSC sewer rights-of-way and service roads and PEPCO and gas transmission lines are generally kept mowed and many are used informally as trail corridors. Their use as trails can be particularly beneficial because the corridor has already been disturbed and would minimize additional environmental impacts resulting from new construction. Utility companies have been reluctant to give official permission to use utility rights-of-way because of liability. More research needs to be done on the co-existence of trails and utilities nationwide and how this concept can be applied locally. Utility companies could also be better educated to learn where corridor-sharing works and the benefits of allowing trails on utility corridors.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The previous chapters discuss needs and recommendations for park and recreation facilities, as well as natural and cultural resource protection, through the year 2010. This chapter describes how these generalized needs are implemented and translated into specific park proposals, and describes the PROS Plan Implementation Study. It also discusses the PROS Plan implementation process as it relates to community master plans, park master plans, subdivision development plans and the Capital Improvements Program proposals.

The PROS Plan proposals are implemented in a variety of ways, including:

- PROS Plan Implementation Study
- Community Master Plan Park Proposals
- Park Master Plans
- Subdivision Review Process
- Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Park Proposals
- Planning and Coordination with Other Public Agencies or Private Entities
- PROS Plan Implementation Through Environmental Guidelines and Regulations

The following section further discusses how each of the implementation methods above are used to implement needs and recommendations in the PROS Plan.

PROS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STUDY

The first step in the implementation of the PROS Plan is the preparation of the PROS Plan Implementation Study which translates the generalized facility needs identified by the Plan into site specific proposals for each planning area. The Implementation Study will:

- Determine how many of the needed facilities could be met by new parks or schools on currently owned sites,
- Consider where future facility needs would be met by currently proposed park sites that are on master plans,
- Identify where additional parks may be necessary in planning areas with older area master plans.

It may not be possible to meet recreation facility needs projections for each planning area in all cases. Where current proposals will not meet future facility needs, consideration should be given to fulfilling needs in adjacent planning areas whenever feasible.

The PROS Plan Implementation Study will also consider opportunities for dedication of new parks through the subdivision process and long term-lease, acquisition, or land exchange of vacant County land, particularly school sites that are not proposed for development. It will examine ways of implementing natural and cultural resource proposals in the Plan, including consideration of new funding sources, and educational programs. Additionally, it will include an update of planning processes and criteria for park acquisition, location and development.

The PROS Plan Implementation Study will also consider innovative ways of meeting recreation needs particularly in urban areas

PROS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS AND PROCESSES

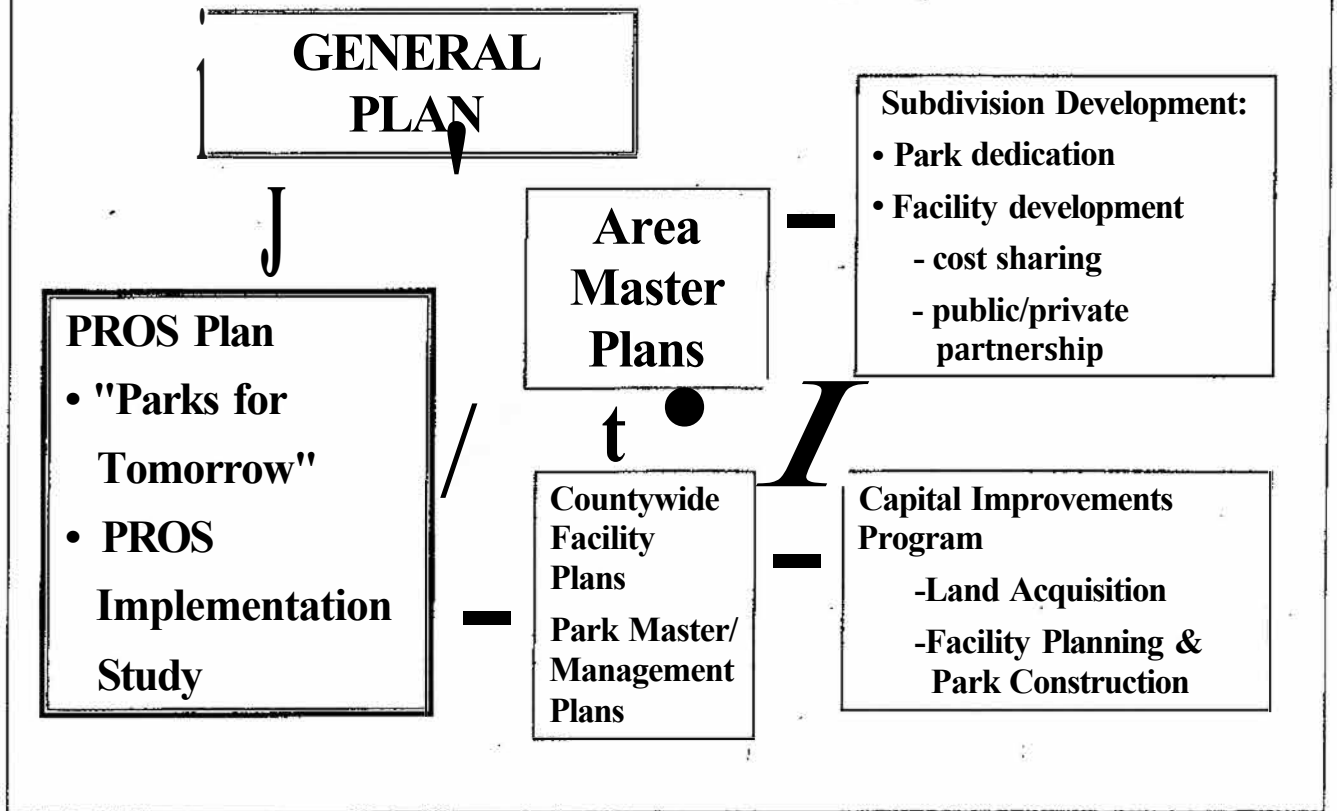


Figure 7.1

where parkland is scarce. For example, roller hockey courts, and multi-use courts should be considered for the top of parking garages; basketball hoops could be provided in employee parking lots for residents' use on weekends and evenings; and small paved areas could be turned into skateboard areas.

Converting PROS Facility Needs into Specific Park Proposals

In converting the PROS facility need estimates into specific park proposals the PROS Plan Implementation Study will consider: the number of new parks or new recreation areas that are needed; and general

and specific locations where new parks will be needed.

Determining the Number of New Parks or New Recreation Areas That Are Needed.

The number of new County-wide parks needed is based on recreation facility needs projections and identification of specific natural and historic resources to be protected. Current County-wide parks are assessed to determine their desirability to include needed facilities based on site size, vegetation, natural features, and existing nearby recreation facilities.

In the case of community-use parks, a similar procedure is followed. Currently owned parkland and proposed new schools are considered for their potential to provide additional new park facilities. The number of facilities that can be accommodated at each site is determined and adjacent planning areas with no unmet needs are also looked at for their potential to provide new park development. Special consideration will be given to potential sites for the proposed new type of local park "community recreation complexes," which cluster ballfields and other park facilities in larger park sites to facilitate efficient programming and maintenance and reduce community impacts.

Selecting General and Specific Locations Where New Parks Will Be Needed

New parks are needed where there are existing or anticipated concentrations of people that are not adequately served by nearby existing park facilities. Following analysis and selection of unserved areas, specific new park acquisition and development proposals will be incorporated into future community master plans and park master plans.

Selection of specific sites for parks to provide future recreation facility needs generally gives consideration to the following:

- Establishing the geographic area where the park is needed with respect to population to be served.
- Determining the needed site size and potential facilities to be accommodated.
- Examining the potential of existing undeveloped park (or school sites) to provide needed facilities including identification of sensitive environmental areas and analysis of natural resource impacts.
- Locating other potential sites, evaluating existing natural and cultural resources and the ability of those sites to provide needed facilities without excessive clearing and grading.

- Providing safe and convenient pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access.

The park location process also takes into account requests by the Recreation Advisory Boards and area residents when they are consistent with the PROS Plan. The County has four Recreation Area Advisory Boards that provide input on the implementation of park and recreation matters proposals. They provide a liaison between area citizens and Recreation Department and Department of Parks staff. They also make recommendations on the CIP and budget.

COMMUNITY MASTER PLAN PARK PROPOSALS

Community master plans provide an important vehicle for implementation of PROS Plan proposals. During the community master planning process, needs for future public facilities, including parks, are given careful consideration. The importance of protecting significant natural areas such as stream valleys is also identified and incorporated into proposed land acquisition proposals and included in community master plans. Land use considerations, topography, vegetation, access and projections of future population are given particular weight. A floating park symbol may be placed on a master plan map where future needs are apparent but it is desirable to defer selection of a specific site. Parks identified in community master plans are implemented through the development of park master plans, through the subdivision process, and through the Capital Improvements Program.

PARK MASTER PLANS

Park master plans also serve an important role in implementation of the PROS Plan. PROS County-wide recreation facility needs and preservation of natural and historic resources are

most often provided by regional and recreational Parks. Park master plans and management plans are prepared for these parks and include proposals that meet recreation needs while providing stewardship of the park's natural resources.

SUBDIVISION REVIEW PROCESS

Acquisition and development of new parks through the subdivision process is an increasingly important method of implementing PROS Plan needs and will become even more critical in the future. Cost-sharing or public/private partnership proposals with developers will become a key way of meeting recreation needs in an efficient manner with minimal impact on County taxpayers.

Each subdivision plan for new development should be reviewed with respect to park and recreation needs and consider the following:

- The need for a community-use park to serve the development as evidenced by PROS Plan or Area master plan proposals. If a park is needed, an easily accessible, level site of at least 15 acres should be chosen. If at all possible, the site should be located on a main road and not adjacent to homes. In the case of cluster or planned-unit developments, the site should generally be conveyed to M-NCPPC free of charge.
- The need for preservation of natural areas or historic and cultural sites. Stream valley areas are frequently dedicated to park use during the subdivision process when their preservation is important for conservation and watershed protection or to provide connectors to existing or proposed parkland (particularly where trail connectors are needed). Drainage areas or storm water management ponds should only be accepted in dedication when they will provide a significant public benefit.

- The need for trails or access paths to existing or proposed parkland. Need for new trails or access paths to existing or proposed parkland trails should be given careful consideration during the subdivision process. It is essential that developers dedicate and construct pathways to allow residents access to adjacent parks, schools, or other public facilities. Pathways should be carefully located so that they are convenient and eliminate the perceived need to "cut through" neighbors' yards to reach the adjacent parkland. Wide access strips or setting homes farther from the pathways should be encouraged to minimize impact on adjacent residents.
- The need to provide private recreation areas. The *Recreation Guidelines* approved by the Planning Board in 1992 include requirements for developers to provide private recreation areas to fulfill the need for informal neighborhood facilities for new residents. Walk-to facilities such as play grounds, multi-use courts, and informal playfields are some of the types of private facilities that are needed to serve new residential developments.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) PARK PROPOSALS

The Capital Improvements Program implements the PROS Plan by including proposals for land acquisition and construction of recreation facilities identified in the Plan. Following the identification of park needs and specific site proposals in the PROS Plan Implementation Study or community or park master plans, individual park projects may then be considered for inclusion in the six-year Capital Improvements Program: first for facility planning and site design, and second for construction. The CIP is submitted every two years and includes all acquisition and

Year 201 OPROS Plan Minimum Facilities and Proposed CIP Projects

PARK TYPE (Countywide & local Use)	BALLFIELD			TENNIS			PLAY			BASKETBALL		
	PROS Needs	Parks CIP	MCPS CIP	PROS Needs	Parks CIP	MCPS CIP	PROS Needs	Parks CIP	MCPS CIP	PROS Needs	Parks CIP	MCPS CIP
COUNTY-WIDE PARKS	18	30	-	9	6	-	3	1	-	0	3	0
LOCAL USE PARKS												
SILVER SPRING												
PA 36 Silver Spring	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
PA 37 Takoma	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
PA 32 Kemp Mill-Portion South Of Beltway Only	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 1 Total	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0
CICHTHURGA												
PA 30 North Bethesda	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
PA 35 Bethesda	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 2 Total	20	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
•270												
PA 13 Clarksburg	7	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	3	0	0
PA 19 Germantown	20	3	8	6	2	7.2	18	2	0	15	2	9
PA 20 Gaithersburg	12	6	0	0	4	0.0	11	3	0	5	1	0
PA 26 Rockville	Not Applicable			Not Applicable			Not Applicable			Not Applicable		
Area 3 Total	39	9	8	7	6	7.2	35	5	0	23	3	9
•0, VMA												
PA 24 Darnestown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PA 25 Travilah	11	2	0	0	2	0	4	1	0	7	0	0
PA 29 Potomac	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 4 Total	12	2	0	0	2	0	4	1	0	7	0	0
GEORGIA AVENUE												
PA 22 Rock Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	0	0	0	0	0
PA 23 Olney-Southern Half	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
PA 27 Aspen Hill	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0
PA 31 Kensington	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PA 32 Kemp Mill-Portion North Of Beltway Only	0	0	6	0	0	4.8	0	0	0	0	0	3
Area 5 Total	9	3	6	0	2	4.8	7	1	0	1	0	3
MONTGOMERY COUNTY												
PA 28 Cloverly	0	0	2	0	0	4.8	0	0	0	0	0	3
PA 33 White Oak	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PA 34 Fairland	3	3	0	0	1	0	3	4	0	6	1.5	0
Area 6 Total	5	3	2	0	1	4.8	3	4	0	6	1.5	3
RURAL												
Damascus												
PA's 10.11.14	3	0	0	2	0	0.0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Poolesville												
PA's 12.16.17.18	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
PA 23 Olney-Northern Half	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 7 Total	3	0	0	2	0	0.0	6	0	0	0	0	0
LOCAL USE PARK TOTALS	101	17	16	9	11	16.8	56	11	0	48	4.5	15
TOTAL FOR ALL PARKS	119	47	16	18	17	16.8	59	12	0	48	7.5	15

Source: Master Plan, Parks CIP = Montgomery County Proposed, 1999-2004 Capital

Improvements Program (CIP), and MCPS CIP = Montgomery County Public Schools Proposed FY 1999-2004 CIP.

Chart and the PROS Plan do not include outdoor recreational facilities provided by private developers.
 Subtotals and totals may not add up because some areas have met or exceeded the minimum facilities needed.
 See Community Based Planning Area map for locations of Areas 1-7 and small planning areas (PA) 10-37.
 Revised December 6, 1997.

development to be completed within the following six years.

Implementation of the specific recreation facility needs projected in the 1998 PROS Plan will be primarily provided by CIP proposals for parks and schools. The table entitled "Year 2010 PROS Plan Minimum Facilities and Proposed CIP Projects." shows the relationship between PROS Plan facility need estimates and current CIP proposals.

CIP projects in other agencies can often assist in the implementation of the PROS Plan. For instance, needs for bikeways, and safe road crossings, including bridges and underpasses, should be incorporated into transportation CIP projects at early planning stages so that they can be included in facility designs and cost estimates. Trail construction is also often feasible in conjunction with water or sewer line projects.

PLANNING COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES OR PRIVATE ENTITIES

Planning coordination with other agencies or jurisdictions will be important in the implementation of the PROS Plan. Implementation of PROS Plan proposals will occur through partnerships with other public agencies or private organizations or groups. Joint recreation facility, natural or historic resource preservation projects that are achieved cooperatively with another public agency or cost shared with private developers will become more important in the future. "Friends" groups and volunteers can also greatly expand M•NCPPC resources in providing and maintaining park facilities.

Close coordination must occur with several County Departments and agencies on new park development projects or major renovations. The Recreation Department and the Recreation Advisory Boards under their jurisdiction, provide essential input on proposed park development plans and projects that will meet needs identified in this Plan. Working with the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Permitting Services, and the Department of Public Works and Transportation is essential to facilitate park construction permits as well as for consideration of potential joint projects.

Partnerships with Montgomery County Schools could greatly increase the usability of school fields and other facilities. Placing additional facilities at school sites or lighting school facilities at middle and high schools would expand the capacity of ballfields and should be considered where possible. Agreements between M•NCPPC and schools to improve school field maintenance is important to maximize the use of existing ballfields. Additionally, the new coordinated County-wide permitting system will facilitate utilization by user groups and eliminate duplicate permit requests.

At the State level, coordination with departments such as the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Office of Planning is particularly important as it relates to park and trail issues and grant programs such as Program Open Space and Rural Legacy. It is also necessary to coordinate with the U.S. Department of Interior regarding the C&O Canal and the Rock Creek Stream Valley Park and trail system is important to facilitate access to these important trail areas for County residents.

PROS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

Environmental regulations and guidelines are important in the implementation of the POS Plan. The overriding objective of the Plan is to achieve a balance between the provision of recreation facilities and the preservation of important environmental areas. Environmental guidelines and regulations are the key to providing this balance and are important factors in the determining the ability of specific sites to meet PROS Plan needs and obtain park construction pennies. An environmental analysis is the first step when considering what development is feasible and desirable and should give consideration to the regulations and guidelines cited below.

State and Local Environmental Regulations

Tree Preservation Regulations

Regulations involving forest conservation and tree preservation have had a profound effect on the park planning process. Maryland's Forest Conservation Act, passed in 1991, requires forest and tree retention and replanting as part of the approval of development. The county's program, mandated by this state legislation, requires a natural resources inventory, forest stand delineation, and forest conservation plan for all new development projects as well as all park rehabilitation projects that result in the removal of 5,000 square feet or more of tree cover or 40,000 square feet of land disturbance.

Public park land development under the regulations will be required to retain a minimum of 20% of existing forest and provide reforestation for trees removed, or to afforest 15% of the site if there is sufficient existing forest. Under some circumstances, replanting will be allowed away from the development site.

Wetlands Regulations

Wetland regulations, adopted by the State in 1991 have also had an effect on the future development of park land. The important role of wetlands as natural filters in maintaining water quality is acknowledged at the Federal, State, and local levels. It is recognized that loss of wetlands mean decreased water quality protection, flood control, and wildlife habitat. The intent of wetland guidelines is to first, avoid impacts; second, minimize and mitigate impacts; and third, replace wetlands lost through development. The creation of functional and sustainable replacement wetlands is both land intensive and expensive. The impacts of wetland avoidance and mitigation play a critical role in the development of public facilities and private projects.

Wetlands are defined by the Planning Board's guidelines for Environmental Management of Development in Montgomery County, Maryland as "an area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation." Information on the location of major wetland areas in the county is available through Maryland Department of Natural Resources maps, but a more detailed delineation is required as part of the subdivision and permit review processes.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has identified twelve areas in Montgomery County as non-tidal wetlands of special state concern. These include the

Germantown Bog, Canal Bottomland, and McKee-Beshers West Swamp and are identified in state regulations and on DNR wetland maps. Wetlands of special state concern are protected from excavation, filling, or other modification within a buffer of 100 feet. Disturbance within these wetland areas or their buffers requires state permits. In contrast, disturbance of other non-tidal wetlands requires state permits only within a 25-foot buffer. Both cases require water quality certification by the Maryland Department of the Environment as required by the Federal Clean Water Act.

Stormwater Management and Sediment Control Requirements

Stormwater management requirements have become increasingly stringent for our future park developments. Stormwater Management (SWM) refers to a variety of active and passive techniques provided at the time of development, or later in previously developed areas, to reduce the amount of sediment and pollutants entering the stream system and to keep stormwater flows at non-erosive levels. These measures are designed to reduce the peak flow of streams, to minimize erosion, and to complement normal flood protection. Recently, there has been an increased emphasis on storm water management for our urbanized areas.

Discharges into waters and wetlands require permits from the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Permits are issued based on compliance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) and state statutes. The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection regulates stormwater management, erosion, and sediment control.

State and county regulations identify infiltration as the preferred stormwater management (SWM) technique, where it is feasible. Infiltration allows stormwater run-off

to be detained in an area so that it can percolate into the soil to recharge groundwater as well as filter pollutants which would otherwise be transported directly to streams. SWM techniques, in order of preference, are: infiltration, flow attenuation by use of vegetated areas and swales, retention (wet ponds) and detention (dry ponds), or combinations of these. Wet ponds are usually not allowed in watersheds where stream systems are characterized by cool or cold-water conditions (e.g., use Class III, natural trout waters).

M-NCPPC's Environmental Guidelines

M-NCPPC's Environmental Guidelines were approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board in 1983, revised in 1997, and should be considered during the review of proposed park developments. The revised document sets out a procedure for identification and protection of natural resources potentially affected by construction activities for both public and private development projects. The guidelines are intended to ensure that development plans give adequate consideration to the following environmental management objectives: protection of stream water quality, water supply reservoirs, steep slopes, treed areas, wildlife habitat and exemplary natural communities including rare, threatened, and endangered species; maintenance of biologically, viable and diverse streams and wetlands; reduction of flood problems; protection against development hazards on areas prone to flooding, soil instability, etc.; and provisions of visual amenities and areas for recreation and outdoor education activities.

LIST OF APPENDICES

- 1. General Plan Objectives and Strategies**
- 2. Glossary of Park Planning Terms**
- 3. Physical Description of Montgomery County, MD**
- 4. M-NCPPC Historic Park Properties**
- 5. Natural Resources Inventory of Parkland Owned, Leased and/or Maintained**
- 6. Inventory of all M-NCPPC Facilities and Parkland Owned, Leased and/or Maintained**
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- 8. Ballfield and Tennis Demand Methodology Flow Chart
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- 9. Montgomery County Projected Population Changes**
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- 11. Montgomery County Greenways**
- 12. Policy and Goals for Montgomery County Park Accessibility**

1993 GENERAL PLAN REFINEMENT OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The following Park and Recreation objectives and strategies are included in the recently developed Land Use, Environmental, and Identity elements of the *1993 General Plan Refinement-Goals and Objectives for Montgomery County*. Only those sections relating to parks have been excerpted. They are compatible with the policy for parks as well as guidelines and objectives for parkland acquisition and development.

A. Land Use Objectives Relating to Parkland and Open Space Preservation

Objective: Provide a coordinated and comprehensive system of parks, recreation, and open space.

Strategies:

- Give priority to open space, park, and recreation investments in areas with the greatest existing or proposed residential density and in areas with important environmental features.
- Use open space, parks, and recreation facilities to shape and enhance the development and identity of individual neighborhoods, cluster developments, and existing communities.
- Integrate open space, parks, and recreational facilities into urbanized areas to promote public activity and community identity.
- Plan for and encourage the provision of greenways to connect urban and rural open spaces to provide access to parkland, and to connect major stream valley park areas.

Objective: Preserve farmland and rural open space in the Agricultural Wedge.

Strategies:

- Strengthen land use policies that encourage farmland preservation and rural open space preservation in the Agricultural Wedge.

- Strengthen incentives and regulations to encourage agricultural uses and discourage development within the Agricultural Wedge.
- Limit non-agricultural uses to those that are low intensity or otherwise identified in master plans.
- Continue the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program as well as the County and State farm easement programs as important elements of preserving farmland.
- Continue the function of existing rural centers as the focus of activity for the surrounding countryside.
- Ensure that rural centers primarily serve rural lifestyles and are compatible in size and scale with the intent of the Agricultural Wedge.
- Continue agriculture as the preferred use in the Agricultural Wedge.

B. Environmental Objectives Relating to Parkland

Goal: Conserve and protect natural resources to provide a healthy and beautiful environment for present and future generations. Manage the impacts of human activity on our natural resources in a balanced manner to sustain human, plant, and animal life.

Objective: Preserve natural areas and features that are ecologically unusual, environmentally sensitive, or possess outstanding natural beauty.

Strategies:

- Protect natural resources through identification, public acquisition, conservation easements, public education, citizen involvement, and private conservation efforts.
- Connect parks and conservation areas to form an open space and conservation-oriented greenway system.

- Require open space dedications in new subdivisions that maximize protection of stream valleys and other sensitive environmental features.
- Ensure that development guidelines are reviewed periodically to make certain that they are environmentally sensitive and reflect current technologies and knowledge of the environment.
- Limit construction soils and slopes not suited for development.

Objective: Conserve county waterways, wetlands, and sensitive parts of stream valleys to minimize flooding, pollution, sedimentation, and damage to the ecology and to preserve natural beauty and open space.

Strategies:

- Identify and protect wetlands and other sensitive parts of watersheds.
- Continue parkland acquisition in key stream valleys.
- Limit the potential damage to life and property from flooding.
- Prohibit development too close to streams, in the 100-year ultimate floodplain, and in flooding danger reach areas of dams, unless no feasible alternative is available.
- Maintain the natural character of drainage areas in the immediate vicinity of streams, rivers, and lakes.
- Plant and retain trees and other vegetation near streams.
- Minimize impacts from construction and operation of public and private facilities located in stream valleys, buffers, and floodplains; first priority should be given to preserving natural areas (avoidance), second priority to mitigation, and third priority to replacement with functional equivalents.
- Develop programs to rehabilitate damaged streams.
- Mandate "no net loss" of wetlands.

C Identity Objectives Related to Parkland

Objective: Identify and preserve significant historic, scenic, and cultural features and promote art in public areas.

Strategies:

- Evaluate historic resources for inclusion in the Master Plan for **Historic Preservation**.
- Preserve appropriate sites with their environmental settings and districts that are:
 - representative of a period or style
 - architecturally important
 - locations of important events or activities
 - associated with important persons
 - archeological sites
 - cultural landmarks, or
 - historic or cultural value.
- Protect historic sites permanently.
- Encourage the preservation, restoration, and use of historic sites and community landmarks to foster community identity.
- Use financial incentives to minimize the impacts of maintaining and restoring historic properties.
- Promote art and cultural opportunities at appropriate public and private locations.
- Encourage compatible development that highlights and enhances historic resources in development or redevelopment near historic resources and in and around historic districts.

GLOSSARY OF PARK PLANNING TERMS

A

Active-Use Areas: The sum total of acres of land developed for public use. These areas include managed trails, roads, nature centers, buildings, picnic areas, campgrounds, golf courses, ballfields, soccer fields, horticultural gardens, parking lots, lawns, boat docks, etc.

Advanced Land Acquisition Revolving Fund (ALARF): A M-NCPPC bond-funded acquisition program to purchase lands for highway, schools, libraries, parks, recreation centers, government buildings and other public uses in advance of their need. Projects must be included in an adopted master plan and acquisitions must be approved by the County Council.

Afforestation: The creation, on a tract that is not presently in forest cover, of a biological community dominated by trees and other woody plants, at a density of at least 100 trees per acre with at least 50 of the trees and other woody plants having the capability of growing to a diameter (measured 4.5 feet above the ground) of 2 inches or more within seven years.

Agricultural Reserve: Areas of Montgomery County planned and zoned for agricultural uses, which include the majority of the County's remaining working farms and certain other non-farm land uses.

Amenity: Privately provided facilities within a development that enhance public enjoyment. Amenities can include physical enhancements to public and private spaces which make those spaces more inviting to the general public.

B

Best Management Practice (BMP): A practice or combination of practices that is determined to be the most effective, practicable (including technological, economical and institutional considerations) means of preventing or reducing the amount of pollution generated by non-point sources to a level compatible with water quality goals.

Bikeway: Any road, path or way which is designated as being open to bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are exclusive or shared. (See a s s I, II, III Bikeways.)

Bicycle Lane (Dike Lane): A portion of a roadway which has been designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. Sometimes referred to as a s s II bikeway.

Bicycle Path (Dike Path): A bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way. Sometimes referred to as a s s II bikeway.

Biodiversity Area: These areas are designated by the Maryland Natural Heritage Program in the document titled Inventory for Rare Plants and Significant Habitats on M-NCPPC Parklands in Montgomery County. They contain rare threatened, endangered or watch list species; unusual or unique habitat; high quality or otherwise significant natural communities; or plant or animal species with importance to the County or locality. These areas appear in many of the proposed trail corridors. Special care must be taken when planning, designing and constructing trails in these areas.

Boulevard: A divided roadway with a wide median and a formal streetscape of regularly spaced trees on both sides, as well as the median. (See Urban Boulevard)

Bufferine: Isolation or separation of different land uses by a third land use, by open space, or by a physical separator such as a wall, vegetation or open space. Low density offices and townhouses are frequently used as buffers to separate commercial and detached residential areas.

C

Capital Improvements Program (CIP): A six-year comprehensive statement of the objectives of capital programs with cost estimates and proposed construction schedules for specific projects. The CIP is submitted annually to the County Council by the Executive.

The CIP is the tool through which locally funded public facilities such as sewers, local roads, storm drains, schools, libraries, parks, etc., can be scheduled and built, in coordination with, and guided by, the Annual Growth Policy and area Master Plans. It is used in conjunction with the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance in terms of programming for public facilities needed to serve subdivisions.

Central Business District (CBD): A major commercial center characterized by large buildings, high volumes of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and substantial numbers of local trips. In Montgomery County, central business districts are also areas in which certain high density zones may be used. There are four designated in the County: Bethesda, Friendship Heights, Silver Spring, and Wheaton.

Class I Bikeway: An off-street, one or two-way bike path.

Class II Bikeway: An on-street bike path designated by striped lanes.

Class III Bikeway: A bike path that shares an on-street travel lane with cars.

Cluster Development: An optional method of development in residential zones that encourages the provision of community open space, active or passive recreation, and the preservation of trees. Lots can be of varying sizes and shapes and may be smaller than the minimum permitted in a conventional subdivision in the same zone.

Community Master Plans: Plans that cover all aspects of a specific geographic planning area within the County (Potomac, Aspen Hill, etc.)

Concept Plan: A generalized idea or set of ideas that forms the basis for a master plan or development plan.

Conservation: The continuing protection and management of natural resources.

Conservation Areas: The sum total of acres of land that are managed to maintain select, viable, native populations of plant and animal species. These areas include the following managed habitats: pond, deep marsh, shallow marsh, scrub swamp, forested swamp, meadow, oldfield, coniferous forest, mixed forest, and deciduous forest. Conservation areas may also be designated within a contour approximating the normal spillway elevation of man-made lakes provided that these areas are managed for the benefit of both wildlife and people.

Conservation Easement: A restriction of land shown on the record plat of subdivision. Its term and conditions are recorded in the County's land records. Most commonly, the agreement prohibits removal of healthy, mature trees and shrubs, and prohibits changes to the scenic character of land without written permission from M•NCPPC's Planning Department.

◆: A small stream that serves as the natural drainage course for a drainage basin of small size.

D

Dedication: Donation of parkland in connection with the development of a subdivision.

Development: Changes in land forms and biota caused and managed by man which alter their function and/or appearance.

Development District: A special district in which government may levy special assessments or taxes on real property to help pay for infrastructure improvements for that district.

Development Plan Review: Some zones require approval of a development plan at the time of rezoning. The development plan shows the layout, unit mix, uses, building densities, circulation, parking and open space configuration. When a development plan is required, the subsequent site plan must be in conformance with it. The preparation of an acceptable development plan helps to assure that the intent of the master plan is achieved.

Drainage Area: The size of a drainage basin or watershed, usually expressed in acres or square miles. Also called a watershed, catchment area or river basin.

E

Easement: A contractual agreement to gain temporary or permanent use of, and/or access through, a property, usually for public facilities and access ways.

Encroachment: Unauthorized uses occurring within parkland generally by an adjacent property owner.

Environmental Evaluation: An analysis of physical and biological characteristics of a park to determine areas which should be preserved and areas capable of supporting development.

Environmental Mitigation: A series of actions, ranging from avoidance to replacement, intended to ameliorate the negative impacts of development on the environment.

F

Fall Line: A line joining the waterfalls on a number of rivers and streams. This line marks the boundary between the upland Piedmont Plateau and the lowland Atlantic Coastal Plain.

Floodplain: A relatively flat or lowland area adjoining a river, stream, pond, storm water management structure, or watercourse subject to periodic, partial or complete inundation; or an area subject to unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface water as a result of an upstream dam failure.

Forest: A biological community dominated by trees and other wood plants covering a land area of 10,000 square feet or greater. Forest includes: (1) areas that have at least 100 trees per acre with at least 50 percent of those trees having a 2-inch or greater diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground; and (2) forest areas that have been cut but not cleared. Forest does not include orchards.

Forest Conservation Plan: Outlines the strategies and specific plans proposed for retaining, protecting and reforesting or afforesting areas on a site pursuant to the 1991 Maryland Forest Conservation Act.

Formal Trail: A trail that is designated, signed, and maintained.

Functional Master Plan: A document addressing a system such as circulation or environment, or

policy such as agricultural preservation or public facilities. A functional plan supplements the General Plan.

G

General Plan: The Countywide comprehensive plan entitled "On Wedges and Corridors," adopted in 1964, and updated in 1969 and 1993. It provides the overall framework for the County's future. Each master plan and sector plan adopted since 1969 amends the General Plan.

Geomorphic Information Systems (GIS): The integration of data with computerized maps enabling the generation of high quality maps based on the analysis of underlying layers of geographic information. GIS allows all information in the database to be integrated for any location covered by the database.

Green Corridors: Roadways that are extensively landscaped along their sides and in their medians.

Greenway: A linear corridor of open space following natural or man-made features including communities, environmental preservation and environmental and recreational facilities.

Group Picnic Area: Separate picnic area reserved by large groups •generally includes shelter and sometimes play equipment and ballfield.

Guidelines: Guidelines are a set of limits and objectives, less binding than regulations used to guide development or plan proposals.

H

Hard Surface Trail: Any firm and stable trail surface capable of supporting most on-road or hybrid bicycles. May include concrete, asphalt, crushed stone, packed gravel or other hard surface and bridges or boardwalk where necessary.

Hiker/Biker Trail: A paved trail used for both walking and bicycling.

Hiker Trail: Unpaved trail generally through woodland areas.

Historic Preservation: The identification, designation and regulation-for purposes of protection preservation and continued use and enhancement-of those sites, structures with their appurtenances and environmental settings, and districts that are of historical, architectural, archaeological or cultural value. In Montgomery County, historic preservation activities are directed by the Master Plan for Historic Preservation and the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code.

Homeowners Association (HOA): When development occurs under the cluster provisions of the subdivision regulations, a homeowners' association is frequently required to assure the maintenance and operation of private open space, recreational facilities private streets or other common space in the subdivision. The homeowners association generally levies a fee in the form of a property assessment to maintain these facilities. It also must provide a management structure to supervise orderly maintenance.

I

Informal Trail: An undesignated trail that is informally used.

Interpretive Facilities: Nature Centers and other facilities used to teach the public about the natural environment.

Impervious Surface: That portion of the land surface through which water cannot penetrate.

ISTEA: The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. The federal transportation law passed which includes provisions for 'transportation enhancements' such as trail and bike facilities,

M

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR): State agency responsible for protecting, restoring and enhancing the land, water and living resources in the State of Maryland.

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC): A bi-county agency created by the General Assembly of Maryland in 1927. The Commission's geographic authority extends to the great majority of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The Regional District (M-NCPPC planning jurisdiction) comprises 1,001 square miles, while the Metropolitan District (parks) comprises 919 square miles, in the two counties. The Commission has three major functions: (1) the preparation, adoption and occasional amendment or extension of the General Plan for the physical development of the Maryland-Washington Regional District; (2) the acquisition, development, operation and maintenance of a public park system; (3) in Prince George's County only, the operation of the County public recreation program.

Master Plan: A document that guides the way an area should be developed. In Montgomery County, master plans amend the County's General Plan and provide more detailed recommendations for a local area. (See Functional Master Plan.)

Master Plan for Historic Preservation: A document listing properties protected by the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code. Listed properties have been approved for designation by the Historic Preservation Commission, the Planning Board, the County Executive and the County Council. Any proposals for exterior alteration, new construction, subdivision or demolition of these properties must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission.

N

Natural Area: The sum total of acres of land not developed for public use, and encompassing those natural resources being preserved to maintain a diversity of native natural communities as a legacy for future generations. Within these communities, natural processes and desirable ecological changes should be allowed to take place. Management activities should be limited to those necessary to mitigate the influence of humans as well as non-native and undesirable species (e.g. gypsy moth, Lymantria dispar).

Natural Heritage Protection Area: An area defined by the Maryland Natural Heritage Program as containing rare, threatened and endangered plant species, unusual or unique habitat types, or examples of significant or high quality natural communities.

Natural Resources: Things in nature, such as soils, water, landforms, plants and animals, that are of value to society.

Natural Resources Inventory (NRI): A complete analysis of existing forest, natural features and tree cover on a site. The natural resources inventory must cover the development site and first 100 feet of adjoining land around the perimeter or the width of adjoining lots, whichever is less. Natural features include topography, steep slopes, perennial and intermittent streams, major drainage courses, 100 year floodplain, wetlands, soils and geologic conditions, critical habits, aerial extent of forest and tree cover, and necessary buffers. The inventory also includes cultural features and historic sites.

Natural Surface Trail: Typically a narrow (2-4 ft.) dirt trail. May also include wood chips or stones. Generally involves no major tree cutting but may involve water bars, boardwalk, or erosion control measures where necessary.

Non-Tidal Wetland: An area inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater that normally supports vegetation typically adapted for saturated soil conditions (hydrophytic vegetation). If the Maryland Department of Natural Resources designates a non-tidal wetland, desirable ecological changes should be allowed to occur and management activities should be limited to those necessary to mitigate the influence of humans and undesirable species (e.g., gypsy moth and others).

O _____

Open Spaces: Areas usually intended for recreational, agricultural, preservation or scenic purposes.

p _____

Park: A tract of land or water that provides for public leisure activities and/or the protection of natural resources.

Park Acquisition (Park-Take) Lines: Designated boundary lines for proposed parkland

Park-Take Lines: Proposed boundaries for park acquisition and inclusion in the County park system. Areas considered for stream valley parks generally include floodplains, steep slopes and sites of environmental sensitivity.

Perennial Stream: A stream which has base flow all year.

Public Use Open Space (POS): State fund which provides money to local jurisdictions to purchase parkland.

Public Right-of-Way: Property owned by the public and occupied or intended to be occupied for use as a public roadway, bikeway, shoulder, sidewalk, transitway, or for utility pipes, transmission lines or public open space amenity. Typically, public right-of-way is separate and distinct from a privately owned lot or parcel.

Public Use Space: Space sometimes required by the sector plan or other space devoted to uses for public enjoyment such as gardens, malls, plazas or walks. This space doesn't include areas for parking or maneuvering vehicles.

R _____

Railhead: Area that includes such facilities as parking, trail maps, signs, bulletin boards, water, restrooms, etc.

Recreation Activities: Leisure activities that are voluntarily pursued for personal satisfaction and enjoyment.

Recreation-Oriented Trail: A trail designed primarily for those seeking a recreational experience. Usually located in separate right-of-way such as a park.

Reforestation: The re-creation of a biological community dominated by trees and other wood plants including plant communities, the understory and the forest floor.

Resource Management: Restoration and/or maintenance of the environment.

Rights-of-Way: A strip of land occupied or intended to be occupied by a road, crosswalk, railroad, electric transmission line, oil or gas pipeline, water main, sanitary or storm sewer main or for other special use. To be shown on a record plat as separate and distinct from the adjoining lots or parcels and not included within their dimensions. Rights-of-way maintained by a public agency shall be dedicated to public use on the plat.

Rural Density Transfer Zone (RDT): The zone applied to the Agricultural Reserve. Development is limited to one house per 25 acres, with the provision that such development can be clustered on lots of 40,000 square feet (approximately one acre). The property in the Agricultural Reserve is designated as a "sending area" that maintains development rights at one dwelling unit per five acres, and can be sold and transferred to designated "receiving areas." (See Receiving Areas and Sending Areas).

Rural Open Space: Areas abutting suburban development where the critical mass of farms has already been eroded by subdivision activity. The preservation of farmland in an appropriate combination with low density residential development is the objective.

Rustic Roads: A County Council-designated historic and/or scenic road that reflects the County's agricultural character and rural origins. Rustic roads are to remain essentially as they are at the time of their designation.

S

Scenic Easement: A contractual agreement to gain permanent preservation of the visual character of a piece of property.

Schematic Development Plan: A development plan for Planning Board review and County Council approval submitted as part of an application for the rezoning of land into floating zones at the option of the applicant. Such schematic development plans limit development to that specified in the application.

Sensitive Areas: Are defined as streams and their buffers, 100-year floodplains, habitats of threatened and endangered species, and steep slopes as well as other areas that a jurisdiction (i.e., the Montgomery County Planning Board) may elect to protect. [Codified at 3.05(a)(1)(viii), Article 66B, Annotated Code of Maryland.] (Maryland Office of Planning and Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 1993).

Shared-Use Roadway: This is a travel lane with little or no shoulder. Sometimes referred to as a Class III bikeway.

Shoulder: This is the smooth paved surface adjacent to the roadway's travel lane.

Site Plan: A detailed plan, required in certain zones, that usually shows proposed development on a site in relation to immediately adjacent areas. It indicates roads, walks, parking areas, buildings, landscaping, open space, recreation facilities, lighting, etc. Site plan review is required of all floating zones and as a result of the use of optional development provisions of other zones. Further, certain parking facilities that fall under the provisions of the off-street parking section of the Zoning ordinance are also subject to site plan review. The Planning Board approves the site plan after preliminary subdivision plan approval and before building permits can be issued.

Specimen Tree: A tree that is particularly impressive or unusual example of a species due to its size, shape, age or any other trait that epitomizes the character of the species.

Steep Slope: - A slope in which the percent slope equals or exceeds 25 percent, or 15 percent when the associated soils are considered highly erodible by the USDA Soil Conservation Service Highly Erodible Land Report for Montgomery County.

Storm Runoff: That portion of the total runoff that reaches the point of measurement within a relatively short period of time after the occurrence of precipitation.

Stormwater Management (SWM): The application of various techniques for mitigating the adverse effects of stormwater runoff.

Stream Valley Buffer: An undisturbed strip of natural vegetation contiguous with and parallel to the bank of a perennial or intermittent stream, which may be designed: (1) protect hydraulically adjacent slope areas; (2) maintain or improve the water temperature regimen/water quality of the stream(s); (3) protect natural wetlands; (4) provide groundwater storage/recharge for a stream; (5) complement regulations pertaining to the 100-year ultimate floodplain; (6) provide wildlife habitat, open space, or both; (7) complement on-site erosion/sediment control measures by serving as a filter trap.

Streetscape: The environment of the public right-of-way as defined by adjacent private and public buildings, character of the pavement and street furniture, and the use of the right-of-way.

Subdivision: (1) The division of a lot, tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, plots, sites, tracts, parcels or other divisions for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale or building development. (2) The recombination of lots previously created into a new configuration.

T

Two-Way, One-Way, or One-Way, One-Way: A bikeway designed primarily for cyclists making transportation-oriented trips. Usually in a road right-of-way.

U

Urban Boulevard: The major street or streets in a CBD, with well-defined streetscape consisting of wide sidewalks, a distinct type of street tree and wide, clearly marked pedestrian crossings.

Urban District: A County special purpose tax area for an urban location. Urban districts are established in Bethesda, Silver Spring and Wheaton.

Urban Street: Central Business District streets that accommodate a mix of users and are enhanced with streetscape elements.

W

Watershed: The area contained within a topographic divide above a specified point on a stream; the area that drains into that stream; all lying within a sub-basin defined in water quality regulations adopted by the Maryland Department of the Environment under Maryland State Code (COMAR) 26.08.02.08. (See Drainage Area.)

Wetland: An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support under normal circumstances a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation.

Wide Curb Lane: This is a shared-use facility where the outside curb lane is at least 14 feet wide. The wide curb lane may be striped to indicate separate spaces for the motorist and bicyclist.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

Montgomery County covers approximately 316,160 acres, lies adjacent to Washington, D.C., and is bounded on the west and southwest by the Potomac River and on the northeast by the Patuxent River. The northwest slopes up toward the Triassic lowlands at the foothills of the Appalachian Ranges. About 97% of the county lies on Maryland's Piedmont; a small area along the county's eastern boundary lies on the coastal plain. Long, narrow stream valleys drain the gently rolling topography.

CLIMATE

With a 40-inch annual precipitation, Montgomery County is classified as a humid climate. Alternate surges of cold, dry air from the north and warm, humid air from the south occur frequently, however, the net effect of the mountains to the west and the ocean to the east results in a moderate climate: warm summers and mild winters. Thunderstorms occur an average of 30 days per year, primarily in the spring and summer. Prevailing winds are from west to northwest except in the summer when they become more southerly.

GEOLOGY

The County is almost entirely within the Piedmont Physiographic Province. Coastal plain sediments overlap on the eastern edge of the county, and Triassic sandstones and shales occur in the west and in the bends of the Potomac to the west. Between the coastal plain and the Piedmont is a drop, shown in the many falls and rapids in this area, known as the "fall line." Of unique interest are areas of granite, serpentine and diabase rock. The Sykesville formation, a metamorphic granite type mass, extends into east central Montgomery county in a massive wedge of submarine slide material. Granite gneiss occurs around Norbeck, and occurs again at Kensington. Serpentine occurs in Travilah, Hunting Hills, Washington Grove and Emory Grove. A diabase dike occurs along a north-south line in the western part of the county.

TOPOGRAPHY

The County is characterized by gently sloping topography, laced with numerous small streams in relatively narrow valleys. The area draining to the Patuxent is more dramatic, with steep slopes and cliffs. The Potomac watersheds have glens and palisades. The northwestern area is distinguished by higher elevations, including unique topographical features such as Sugarloaf Mountain and Parr's Ridge. Slopes are predominantly moderate, with more severe slopes occurring along streams and rock outcrops. The lowest elevation in the County occurs where the Potomac enters the District (52 feet above sea level), The highest point is just north of Damascus (850 feet). Slopes run southeastward and southwestward away from this high point. Parr's Ridge defines the boundary between the major watersheds of the Patuxent and the Potomac.

STREAM SYSTEMS

Streams in the county are generally perennial, and thus receive a certain amount of flow from groundwater recharge all year. Pollution brought on by human activity has been a major cause of concern for water quality, both for drinking water supplies and for habitat. In addition, the stream valley system has become the major source of recreational activity in our park system. The streams continue to receive enormous stress as the area continues to develop.

Much attention has been paid to conserving and improving water quality. (PAX PMA, Paint, Clarksburg, and Piney SPA's) According to the State's Use Classification system, there are five streams designated as use Class III (natural trout waters); four streams designated as use Class IV (recreational trout waters); and 13 Use Class I (water contact recreation) streams.

SOILS

Montgomery County's soils have been organized into three groups according to their position on the landscape: upland soils, old-stream terrace soils, and floodplain soils (Matthews, et. al., 1961). Within these topographic groups, soils vary due to drainage and the parent material from which they developed.

Upland soils are predominately excessively drained or well drained, account for 91.7% of the county's area, and include soils of the Piedmont plateau (282,405 acres) and coastal plain (7,624 acres). The former soils developed from material weathered from igneous and metamorphic rocks (244,037 acres), or old sedimentary rocks, mostly shale or sandstone (38,368 acres). The latter soils occur in the eastern part of the county on the edge of the coastal plain, and in small areas in the western part of the county within the big bend of the Potomac River. About 5% of the upland soils (13,622 acres) are classified as hydric.

Old stream terrace soils are predominately well drained, account for less than 1.0% of the county's area (2,133 acres), are well above present stream channels, and occur mostly along the Potomac River. These soils consist of old alluvium that washed from soils underlain by limestone or crystalline rocks. About 12% of the old-stream terrace soils (260 acres) are classified as hydric.

Floodplain soils account for 7.6% of the county's area (23,998), are poorly drained to moderately drained, and consist of recent alluvial deposits underlain by marble. The kinds of soils that are present depend primarily on the kinds of rocks and soils from which the material washed. Most floodplain soils are periodically flooded. About 61% of the floodplain soils (14,553 acres) are classified as hydric.

VEGETATION

Montgomery County is included in the Piedmont section of the oak-chestnut (now oak-hickory) forest region (Braun, 1950). Estimates of the county's forest cover range from 22% (Whitcomb, et. al., 1981) to 29% (Powell and Kingsley, 1980). These estimates vary due to differing

definitions of forest cover. Brush, et al. (1980) mapped Maryland's forest associations at a scale of 1:250,000. According to the vegetation map (Brush, et al., 1980), four upland deciduous forest assemblages occur in Montgomery County: tulip poplar association, chestnut oak association, shingle oak association, and chestnut oak-post oak-blackjack oak association. The tulip poplar association predominates, followed by the other associations as listed.

The tulip poplar association occurs in the central, eastern, and southern sections of the county on moderately deep to deep, well-drained soils that developed from material weathered from fine-grained schist, gabbro, granite, and gneiss. This association is composed of the following common tree species in addition to the characteristic tulip poplar: red maple, flowering dogwood, black gum, white oak, sassafras, black cherry, mockemut hickory, pignut hickory, black oak, American beech, and red oak.

The chestnut oak association occurs in the northern section of the county on well-drained soils that developed from material weathered from coarse-grained schist, and quartzited ridges surrounding gneiss. This association is composed of the following common tree species in addition to the characteristic chestnut oak: red maple, white oak, sassafras, red oak, black cherry, black gum, black oak, pignut hickory, flowering dogwood, serviceberry, blueberry, mountain laurel, and root sprouts of American chestnut.

The shingle oak association occurs in the western section of the county on shallow to moderately deep, moderately well drained soils that developed from materials weathered from diabase. This association is composed of the following common woody plant species in addition to the characteristic shingle oak: black cherry, poison ivy, Virginia creeper, grape, white ash, mockemut hickory, white oak, flowering dogwood, red maple, sassafras, black gum, and green brier.

The chestnut oak-post oak-blackjack oak association occurs in two small areas on soils that are temporarily arid. One is in the eastern part of the county on soils underlain by gravel and fragipan; the other is in the western part of the county on soils that developed from materials weathered from serpentinite. This association is characterized by any two of chestnut oak, post oak, or blackjack oak. However, chestnut oak and blackjack oak rarely intermix in stands. This association also includes chinquapin, sassafras, Virginia pine, red cedar, pitch pine, blueberry, huckleberry, and mountain laurel. Stands often appear with a stunted canopy.

The vegetation map (Brush et al., 1980) also shows two floodplain deciduous forest assemblages: sycamore-green ash-box elder-silver maple association, and river birch-sycamore association. Both floodplain associations occur on alluvial deposits underlain by marble. The former association occurs in the upper stream valleys and changes to the tulip poplar association where streams are of first or second order. The latter association occurs in the lower stream valleys and along the Potomac River. The sycamore-green ash-box elder-silver maple association is characterized by any two of sycamore, green ash, box elder, or silver maple. This association also includes flowering dogwood, grape, red maple, white oak, Virginia creeper,

poison ivy, and spicebush. Tulip poplar, black walnut, and poison ivy are associated with sycamore. Slippery elm and green ash are associated with box elder. The river birch-sycamore association is characterized by river birch and/or sycamore. This association also includes slippery elm, green ash, spicebush, poison ivy, red maple, Virginia creeper, green briar, southern arrow-wood, tulip poplar, and black gum.

M-NCPPC Historic Park Properties

The following table identifies approximately 100 historic resources located in Montgomery County Parks. It includes a prioritization of preservation work needed for each property. The Historic Preservation Office maintains policies and guidelines for maintaining and rehabilitating these resources. The Park Historian has published the **M-NCPPC Historic Park Properties Inventory** which includes physical descriptions and statements of significance for each resource. Please note that the table is only a partial list of Park archaeological sites, for which a complete list is maintained by the Park Archaeologist.

KEY TO THE TABLE:

Year in CIP:

PIP-Public/Private Partnership

PM=Property Management Program

Conservation Status:

A.R.=Removal of Asbestos Shingle Siding

A\WARD=Restoration project recognized with a *Historic Preservation Award* from Montgomery Preservation, Inc.

Marker:

#=Sites identified with the highest need for interpretive markers

Yes= Sites already enhanced with interpretive marker

Significance:

Category 1: Historic properties of importance that contribute significantly to the cultural heritage or visual beauty and interest of the county, park, or facility and its environs, and which should be preserved.

Category 2: Historic properties of value that contribute to the cultural heritage or visual beauty and interest of the county, park or facility and its environs, and that should be preserved if practicable.

Category 3: Any property that has been inventoried but does not qualify in one of the above categories, indicating little historic or architectural basis for retention.

A: Archaeological resource

Special: Other properties of special character including cemeteries and natural sites

Status:

MP= Designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation

LA= Included on the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites but not yet evaluated for (Master Plan designation

R= Removed from Locational Atlas: found not eligible for Master Plan designation

NR= listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Park Abbreviations:

AH	Agricultural History Fann Park	PB	Paint Branch Stream Valley
Armor	Armory Place Urban Park	PF	Pope Fann Nursery
BCC	Bethesda Chevy Chase Local Park	MHC	Maryland Horse Center Special Park
BH	Black Hill Regional Park	RCa	Rachel Carsen Regional Park
BP	Blockhouse Point Conservation Area	RB	Reddy Branch Stream Valley
BLP	Burtonsville Local Park	RCr	Rock Creek Regional Park
CJL	Cabin John Local Park	RCr3	Rock Creek Stream Valley
CJR	Cabin John Regional Park		Unit 3
CJ	Cabin John Stream Valley Park		
DRP	Dickerson Regional Park	RCr4	Rock Creek Stream Valley
EF	East Fairland Local Park		Unit 4
EG	Emory Grove Local Park	Rcr15	Rock Creek Stream Valley
GG	General Getty Local Park		Unit 15
GSE	Great Seneca Extensn Stream Valley	RR	Rock Run Stream Valley Pk
GF	Green Farm Conservation Area	SS	Seneca State Park Land Holdings
JB	Jesup Blair Local Park	SCI	Sligo Creek Stream Valley Unit I
KC	Kensington Cabin Local Park	SG	South Germantown Regional Park
LB	Linle Bennen Regional Park	UMB	Upper Magruder Branch Stream
LF	Linle Falls Stream Valley		Valley
MB	Muddy Branch Regional Park	WB	Watt, Branch Stream Valley
MCP	Meadowbrook Community Park	WH	Westmoreland Hill Local Pk
MRS	Meadowbrook Riding Stables	WE	Wheaton Claridge Local Park
MNC	Meadowside Nature Center	WR	Wheaton Regional Park
MH	Middlebrook Hills Neighborhood	WA	Willard Avenue Neighborhood Park
	Conservation Area	WC	Woodlawn Cultural Special Park
MB	Muddy Branch Regional Park		
N-MM	Norbeck-Muncaster Mill		
	Neighborhood Park		
NB	North Branch Stream Valley		
NWG	Northwest Branch Public Golf		
	Course		
NWS	Nonhwest Branch Stream Valley		
OR	Oak Ridge Recreational Park		
OHW	Ovid Hazen Wells Special Pk		

M:NCPPC HISTORIC PARK PROPERTIES

HISTORIC RESOURCE	PRIORITY	YEAR IN CIP	CONDIT	DESCRIPTION OF WORK NEEDED	MARKET #	IGNIF	PARK	STATUS	ID#
B&O RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY	WW	NOT	FAIR	CLEARING, REPOINTING	12A		BH	Me	31/0-1
BATTERY BAILEY	HIGH	PIP PROJECT	GOOD	RECENTLY RESTORED, AWARD	YES	A		R	-032
'eELI'S MILL SITE	LOW	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY	#	3A			129101
BLACK HILL GOLD MINES	MEDIUM	NOT	GODO		YES	A	IH		
JESUP BLAIR HOUSE	HIGH	PIP LEASE	GOOD	AWARD	YI:s.	1	JB	Me	381006
WILKINS POINT	HIGH	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY, SITE PROTECTION	#	1A			
WILLIAMS	WW	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY, SITE PROTECTION	YI:s.	A	RB	Me	231069
WILSON SITE	WW	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY, SITE PROTECTION			RB		
WILSON LEASE	HIGH	FM LEASE	GOOD	INTERIOR WORK			IB	Me	100/32
WILSON BROWNING HOUSE	HIGH		GODO				IB	Me	101052
WILSON BROWNING BARN	HIGH		GOOD				IB	Me	101052
WILSON BROWNING DAIRY BARN	HIGH		GOOD				IB	Me	101052
WILSON BROWNING SUMMER KITCHEN	HIGH	NOT	GOOD				IB	Me	101052
WILSON BROWNING WOODSHED	HIGH	NOT	FAIR	STRUCTURE POINT/WINDOWS/PAINT			IB	Me	101052
WILSON BROWNING SPRING HOUSE	HIGH	NOT	10000				IB	MP	101052
WILSON BROWNING OR RIB	HIGH	NOT	0000				IB	Me	1052
WILSON BRING	LOW	NOT	POOR	SHOULD BE DEMOLISHED			IB	Me	101052
WILSON BRING	MEDIUM	FM LEASE-FUTURE CIP	FAIR	STRUCTURE ARIA XT REST/ARCH PLANS			IB	LA	101054
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	LOW	NOT	GOOD				BCC	LA	
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	LOW	NOT	GOOD				AB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	HIGH	CIP CONT	1000	OMPLET STRUCTURAL, INTERIOR	YES		AC	Me	22/007
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD	REPAIR ROOFS AND FOUNDATION			RC	Me	35/023
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	PIP LEASE	FAIR	LOG REPAIR/REPAIR BARN			RC	R	2/004
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	FAI	LOG REPAIR/INTERIOR T. MEISRY			RC15	R	221022
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	HIGH	FM LEASE	GOOD				SS	MP/NR	1/081
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	HIGH	PIP LEASE	0000	EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR			GF	MP	10100 t
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD				MB	MP	24/017
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD				EG	R	291008
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	FAIR	IP. CEJA QLOG'	YES	12A	9.	LA	
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD				MA		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR				B	Me	21045
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	PIP LEASE NOT	FAIR	EXTENSIVE RESTORATION			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR				RC		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR				LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	HIGH	PIP LEASE	GOOD				LB	WP	76
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	FM LEASE NOT	FAIR				MH	R	251007
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	09/90	ARCHAEOLOGY					
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY			NB	R	33/005
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	FAIR	GENERAL MAINTENANCE			KC		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY			IB	R	10/03
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	PIP LEASE	FAIR	STRUCTURAL REPAIRS, REPAINTING			SG		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	HIGH	FM LEASE	FAIR	INTERIOR. REPAIRS/REPAIRS			LB	MP	101048
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	fat	ARCHAEOLOGY			A		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	10000	GENERAL MAINT. FOR SITE AND PARK			SPEC	MP	101014
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD	GENERAL MAINT. FOR SITE AND PARK			1SPEC		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	HIGH	1993	GDOD		YES#		LB	R	3
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	LOW	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY			BH		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	PIP LEASE	FAIR	EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR					
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD	ARCHAEOLOGY			MCP	A	
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		
WILSON ANIMAL INDUSTRY STATION	MEDIUM	NOT	GOOD	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB		

MONTMORENCY srrE	ow	N m	POOR	REMOVAL AND REUSE OF STONE		2A	NWG	R	27/005
!!C:MIT R MIL RUINS	HIGH	1993	POOR	REPO1NT WALLS		2A	NWS	R	22/028
!:-0J!<?QQJfANS J9N {DAIRY. SMg}	HIGH		0000				RC	MP	221036
NEWMANTOWN	MED1UM	NOT	GOOD				AH		221008
NEWPORT MILL SITE	MED1UM	NOT	POOR-R	/ARCHAEOLOGY		J A	RC	R	131/006-2
NORBECK SCHOOL	MED1UM	NOT	GOOD			2	MVM	R	231113-2
NORWOOD FARM LOG HOUSE	MED1UM	NOT	GOOD	ROOF/FENCE FOR TOBACCO HOUSE		2		LA	101050
QAK EY OG Q BIN	HIGH	URE	POOR	AR.IREPAINTISECURE CELLAR 0 AY,ARD		1	IB	MP	231080
OURSLEF FARM	MED1UM		r			2		MP	
.J.I.R.9.0! CELLAR, \$t.10KE fSE									
JOWENS MILL sm	cow	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY		#	aA	NB	
PRATHER FAMILY CEMETERY	MED1UM	NOT	FAIR	LEA L G, MA INTANCE FENG		#	SPEC	MNC	R
PRESIDENT'S TREE	cow	NOT	POOR	CANNOT BE SAVED BYING		YES	SPEC	SC	R
PUMPHREY'S STABLE	MED1UM	NOT	GOOD	GI, MAINT, OF BLDGSIGROUNDOS		2	WC		
RICETT'S FAMILY CEMETERY	cow	NOT	POOR	CLEARING, MAINTENANCE, FENCE		#	SPEC	MH	R
()9 C:FE STABH	HIGH	1992	GOOD	BLACKSMITH REPAIR. GEN. MAINT.		YES	1	MRS	MP
ROCK RUN GOLD MINES	HIGH	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY, FENCING		IA	1	RR	MP
!JENEC STORE	HIGH	PM LEASE	GOOD			1	SS	MPINR	29/033
T !:UUY !:R S !:Q (ACORN PARK)	IGH	PIP	GOOD			YES	1	1ACORNUR	MP
SILVER SPRING ARMORY	HIGH	NOT - !:RPR IE	GOOD	CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW		1	ARMRY	MP	3 /05
SLIGO CABIN	HIGH	NOT	FAIR	REQUEST REMOVAL-LACK OF USE					
Idqo f REEK WATERWORK S	cow	NOT	POOR	GENERAL MAINTENANCE		2A	SCS	R	371001
STUBBS HOUS.!, BARN, SMOKEHSE	ME 0 UM	NOT	GOOD			2	WR	R	31/003
T RUNDLE HOUS	LO !:	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY		3A	DRP	R	19/008
VALLEY MIL HOUSE / MILL	HIGH	PM LEAS - Fu jU:1:e c11 00	GOOD	ARCHAEOLOGY		VE s"	1	IPB	MP
WATERS CABIN SITE	cow	1993	GOOD	ARC:1: f LANSITRUCT EXAMIREPOINT					331007-
WATERSHOITSE.				BOND BILL FOR BARN RESTORATN					1911
lvv IER8 !:- SITE	HIGH	CURRENT	FAIR	CEA mf.JGIMA1NT1REP01NT1FENCE		YES	A	BH	MP
"!0- JK"! FARM 110! SE/OVD WELLS	HIGH	PM LEASE	GOOD	GENERAL MAINT. BARN STRUCTURE		1	OHW	MP	1310.1
OLIVER WATKINS FARM HOUSE	HIGH	cuRRENT	GOOD	COMPLETE BARN STABILIZATION-		i	10HW	MP	141027
Richardii WATKINS FARM iOGHOiisE	cow	HIC!	POOR	use RII:IS HAVE BEEN eMovEo		3			
1WAIKIN MILLSITE	MED1UM	NOT	POOR	fil:HAEOLOGY		#	2A		R
!WHEATON FARMHOUSES	HIGH	PM,pIP L !:ASE	FAIR	:(A:1 !:ISE-A.R.IGENL MAINTENANCE		2			! IQ91
JOSEPH WHITE FARM		NOT	FAIR	RECENTL !: srABIUZED					
WILSO'S ILL SITE	LOW	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY		VE ;	A		R
WOODLAWN HQUSE	HIGH	1992	FATR	GEN'L MAINT PAINT		1:		MP	10-049
WOODLAWN BARN				TRUCTIJ .L EPAIR		1		MP	-14
WOODLAWN LOG HOUSE				INTERIOR RESTORATION		1		MP	10!
WOOD 1/2 CARRIGE HOUSE				STRUCTURAL REPAIRS		1		MP	281.!
WOODLAW! TENA !IT O BE				EXT AN NT RENOVATION		1		MP	2 { !!
YOUNG FAMILY CEMETERY	HIGH	NOT	POOR	L ING, M NT NANCE, FENCE		SPISC :	WC	LA	11/013
ZI:IQ!:: 0 HQUS	HIGH	PM/FUTURE CIP	FAIR	RA, NE RO9F. REPAINT		2	UMe	MP	101? !
ZEIGLER MILL SITE	HIGH	NOT	FAIR	ARCHAEOLOGY			LB	MP	101055
ZEIGLEB, STQ NE HOUSE	cow	NOT	POOR	ARCHAEOLOGY		#	IA	R	10/058

The Natural Resources Management Unit is collecting specific types of information for parks and open spaces throughout Montgomery County. Since this information is continually used in park planning and resource management decisions, the collected data is being recorded into the **GIS** (Geographic Information System) to facilitate quicker and easier access. The information being accumulated and recorded for the County parks includes:

Aquatic Resources

- a. Continuous Water Temperature Data
- b. Water Chemistry Data
- c. Dissolved Oxygen, pH, & Conductivity
- d. Fish Inventory
- e. Macroinvertebrate Inventory
- f. Habitat Description
- g. Rare, Threatened, & Endangered Species

Wildlife Resources

- a. Butterflies
- b. Amphibians & Reptiles
- c. Winter Birds
- d. Breeding Birds
- e. Mammals
- f. Beaver Lodge Counts
- g. White Tailed Deer Counts
- h. White Tailed Deer Browse Plots
- i. Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species

Forest Resources

- a. Plant Species List
- b. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)
- c. Forest Stand Delineation (FSD)
- d. Forest Conservation Plan (PCP)
- e. Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species
- f. Invasive & Exotic Weed Inventory
- g. Reforestation/Habitat Restoration

Mapping and GIS

- a. Biodiversity Areas
- b. Soils
- c. Slopes
- d. Bedrock
- e. Topography
- f. Aerial Photo
- g. Floodplains
- h. Nontidal Wetlands
- i. Brush's Forest Associations
- j. Hydrology, (Including Seeps, Springs and Streams)
- k. M-NCPPC Stream & Wetland Buffers
- l. Management Plans
- m. Park Master Plans
- n. Agricultural Lease Inventories & Buffers
- o. Other Map Related Information Including Archaeological & Historic Sites in Parks

Many of these inventories have already been completed and are continuously being updated at the large Regional Parks including Black Hill, Rock Creek, Cabin John, Little Bennett, and Wheaton Regional. Extensive inventories have also been accomplished in every major Stream Valley Park in the County and at Conservation Parks such as Rachael Carson and Blockhouse Point.

Appenmxo

INVENTORY OF ALL FACILITIES & PARKLAND OWNED, LEASED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY MNCPPC
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Updated: 0711498 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=No. A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School
 Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=Northern

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	AREA	NAME AND TYPE	ACREAGE	PARK AREA	SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	FLO	BBT	MUCTS	LIGHTED BBCTS.	TENNIS CTS.	LIMITED TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	FIELD	OPEN SHELTER	BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES	COMMENTS
24	E24	SG	ABERDEEN LP	14.4666	1		D					2						Volleyball, Hiker-Biker	
27	002		AQUARIUS LP	11.2101	2		0											Undeveloped	
31	003		ARCOLA LP	4.0000	2		2	1		1				1				Fields Overlap	
32	004	SCJ	ARGYLE LP	8.9000	2		0	1				2							
27	F01		ASPEN HILL LP	39.4000	2		2			1				1					
29	F10	SCJ	AVENEL LP	20.6586	1		0	1			0.5				3				on Sha Park/fdg
29	D05	SCJ	AYRLAWNLP	14.2775	1		2	1		1		2		1					Rae. Bldg. Closed & Leased
27	M01	SWH	BAUER DRIVE LP	8.0000	2		0			1		2		1					MORO Recreation Center
29	008	SCJ	BEVERLY FARMS LP	8.4243	1		1	2		1				2					Gymnasium
25	009	SG	BIG PINES LP	11.1053	1		0												Undeveloped
20	D10	SG	BLUEBERRY HILLS LP	20.7353	3		0	1						2					
14	F16		BLUNT ROAD LOCAL PARK	10.0000	1		0												
22	D11	SC	BOWIE MILL LP	10.0000	3		1								2				
35	013	SCJ	BROADACRES LP	3.8055	1		1			1		2			1				Tennis Courts on BOE Prop.
37	014		BROADACRES LP	10.8400	2		1			2				2					
37	015	SVC	BROOKVIEW LOCAL PARK	12.3825	2		0	1				1							
36	E57	SMS	BULLIS LP	4.0000	2		0								1				
36	D17	SCJ	BURNING TREE LP	11.2470	1		1			2				1					
5	D18	oM	BURTONSVILLE LP	29.2000	2		0	1			1								
29	D19	SCJ	CABIN JOHN LP (CJSV#1)	5.9200	1		1			1				2					
34	F0J	SVC	CALVERTON FAIRLAND LP	52.1813	2		0	1		1				2					2 Tennis Courts are Closed
33	D20	SVC	CANNON ROAD LP	25.7361	2		1			2									
31	021	SMB	CAPTOL VIEW-HOMEWOOD LP	15.4146	2		1	1		1				1					
19	E84	NSH	CEDAR CREEK LP	101	3														
20	F17	NSG	CENTERWAY LP	21.1000	3		1	1		1					1				Exercise Course, Hiker-Biker
23	002	oM	CHERRYWOOD LP	12.2786	3		0			1					1				Volleyball
35	D24	SMB	CHEVY CHASE LP	3.0899	1		0			1		0.5							Volleyball
13	E47		CLARKSBURG LP	3.7766	3		1	1		1				1					Recreation Center
19	027	NEH	CLEARSPRING LP	28.9823	3		1	1		1					1				
26	D29	oM	CLOVERLY LP	15.0000	2		1	1		1				2					Park-School
33	D30	SVC	COLESVILLE LP	6.0000	2		2	1		1				2					
34	F02	oM	COLUMBIA LP	25.2364	2		0	1		2		1							
35	E88	SCJ	CONCORD LP	5.4000	1		0					15							
24	031		DARNESTOWN LP	10.0448	3		0	1		1				2					
31	032	SM	DEWEY LP	14.5000	2		0	1		1				4					
12	033	NSH	DICKERSON LP	3.5000	3		0	1		1									
25	034		DUFIELP	15.3577	1		1	2							3				
29	035	NOM	EAST NORBECK LP	24.7520	3		0	1		1				1					
5	D36	oM	EDNOR LP	24.2118	2		0	1		1				2					
	M3'	SWH	ENGLISH MANOR E. \$. (Closed)	4S	2		2	1											Rec. Center Closed & Leased
29	038	SCJ	FALLS ROAD LP	19.8900	1		0			1					1				Maintained by MNCPPC
30	D39	SCJ	FARMLAND DRIVE LP	6.6799	1		1	1		1									
35	040	SCJ	FERNWOODLP	5.6121	1		2	1		1					2				Adjacent closed elem. school
																			leased to private school
30	041	SCJ	FLEMING LP	12.8000	1		0	1		1				2					
20	E00	NSG	FLOWER HILL LP	14.5197	3		1	1		1									
34	D42	SVC	GALWAY DRIVE LP	9.0566	2		1	1		1									
		SMB	GARRETT PARK ESTATES LP	3.6187	2		1	1		1									1 Recreation Center
31	044	SWH	GEORGIAN FOREST LP	8.2348	2		0	1		1									
19	045		GERMANTOWN EAST LP	8.0765	3		0												
25	F05	SCJ	GLEN HILLS LP	12.7562	1		0	1		1					2				
31	047	SWH	GLENFIELD LP	11.3000	2		1	1		1									Exercise Coursa
31	D48	SWH	GLENMONT LP	21.2095	2		1	1		1									
28	D49	SVC	GOOD HOPE LP	13.6526	2		0	1		2									MORO Rec. Center
25	E59	"50	GREENBRIAR LOCAL PARK	25.0715	2		0												Undeveloped
23	D61	NOM	GREENWOOD LP	28.2036	3		1	1		2									Exercise Coursa, Hiker-Biker
23	E53	SWH	GRIFFITH LP	18.9895	1		0												Undeveloped
19	D62	SWH	GUNNERS BRANCH LP	65.4044	3		0	1		1									
19	D63	SWH	GUNNERS LAKE LP	8.9398	3		1	1		1									

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- 9=Stream Valley Park&

Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School
Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=North m

PLAN AAEA	PARK CODE	REG/ AREA	NAME AND TYPE	PARK ACRES	REC/N AREA	PARK/ SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	BB CTS	LIGHTED CTS	LIGHTED TEN. CTS	F/S OVERLAY	F/S SLD	PLAY FIELD	AREA	SHELTER	BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES	COMMENTS
33 D64	SML		HILLDALE IP	24.2330	2													
20 D23	NSG		HUNTERS WOODS IP	19.9500	3	0												Trellis
32 055	SMB		INDIAN SPRING TERRACE IP	11.4087	2	0												
36 D68	SMB		JESUP-BLAIR IP	15.1265	2	0												Historic, Single Parent Housing
20 D37	NSG		JOHNSONS IP	9.9894	3	0												
32 D57	SWH		KEMP MILL ESTATES IP		2	0												
31 D58	SMB		KENGAR PALISADES IP	20.2000	2	0												
31 D69	SMB		KENSINGTON CABIN IP	4.2818	2	0												Bldg. Leased
13 D61			KINGS IP	13.7000	3	0												SWM POND
27 F00			LAYHILL IP	32.5000	2	0		2										
27 D63	SWH		LAYHILL VILLAGE IP	10.1168	2	0		2	0.5									
14 004	NRC		LAYTONSVILLE IP	11.4153	3	0		2										
19 D48	NBH		LEAMAN IP (Garr. Estates)	8.0000	3	0												
32 D65	SMB		LONG BRANCH IP	14.0520	2	0												MCRD Center+ Pool
32 D66	SMB		LONG BRANCH-WAYNE IP	6.1306	2	0												
23 087	NOM		LONGWOOD IP	10.0000	3	0												
30 D88	SCJ		LUXMANOR IP	6.4932														
36 069	SMB		LYNNBROOK IP	5.8397		2												
23 E85	NOM		MANOR OAKS IP	23.4713														Undeveloped
35 D71	SCJ		MAPLEWOOD-ALTA VISTA IP	10.3223		0												Recreation Department
31 L09	SMB		MARGARET SCHWEN HAUT CT	4.5000	2	0												
36 F08	SMB		MEADOWBROOK IP	16.6000	2	0		3										
33 072	SML		MEADOWOOD IP	18.5894	2	0												
20 D75	NSG		MILL CREEK TOWNE IP	11.1024	3	0												
23 076	NRC		MOUNT ZION IP	12.2111	3	0												
11 C17	NLB		MOYER ROAD IP	25.9128	3	0		0.5										
22 E86	NRC		MUNCASTER MANOR IP	10.0610	3	0												Undeveloped
34 E38	NOM		MCKNEWLP	22.5132	1	0												Undeveloped
31 077	SMB		NEWPORT MILL IP	9.3340	2			2		3								Exercise Courts
20 E82	NSG		NIKE MISSILE LOCAL PARK	18.2879	3	0												4.5 Acre easement for access road from Snoufflers School.
36 078	SMB		NOLTE IP	18.2996	2	0	2											
35 079	SMB		NORTH CHEVY CHASE IP	31.7000		0												
32 D80	SWH		NORTH FOUR CORNERS IP	7.9146	2	0												
27 081	SWH		NORTH GATE IP	8.4398	2	0		0.5										
35 D07	SCJ		NORWOOD IP	17.4910		0												
19 D83	NBH		OLD GERMANTOWN IP	8.0027	3	0												Undeveloped
17 086	NBH		OWENS IP	20.0789	3	0												
27 F03	SWH		PARKLAND IP	8.5000	2	0		2										
27 D87	SWH		PARKLAWN IP	13.8000	2	0												
33 088	SML		PILGRIM HILL IP	18.0000	2	0												
32 089	SML		PINECREST IP	5.8000	2	0												
31 D90	SMB		PLEASANTVIEW IP	3.8138	2	2												
19 D91	NLB		PLUMGARIP	8.4800	3	0												MCRD Rec. Center
29 052	SCJ		POTOMAC COMMUNITY	5.2888		0												
24 092	NSG		QUINCE ORCHARD KNOLLS IP	9.5563		0												
30 093	SMB		RANDOLPH HILLS IP	18.0000	2	0		2										
36 094	SMB		RAYS MEADOW IP	9.9000	2	0												
20 095	NSG		REDLAND IP	10.1209	3	0		0.5										Equestrian Course, Hiker-Biker
31 M37	SMB		ROCK CREEK HILLS IP	13.3874	2	0		0.5										
36 D98	SMB		ROSEMARY HILLS-LYTTONSVIL	17.1082	2	0		2										MCRD Rec. Center
31 E54	SWH		SADDLEBROOK IP	14.9700	2	0												Park Police
35 098	SCJ		SANGAMORE IP	6.8882		2												
35 099	NLB		SENECA CROSSING IP	27.8433		0												
32 E01	SCJ		SEVEN LOCKS IP	11.5897		0												
19 E02	SMB		SLIGO-DENNIS AVENUE IP	5.3000	2													
23 E03	NBH		SOUTH GUNNERS BRANCH IP	14.9927	3	0												
28 E04	NOM		SOUTHEAST OLNEY IP	8.8900	3	0												
28 E04	NOM		SPENCERVILLE IP	18.4123	2	0		1										1 Community Center

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Updated: 07114198 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=Not A Park School, 1=Park School, 2=Closed School
Recreation Areas 1=west 2=East 3=North

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	REG./AREA	NAME AND TYPE	PARK TYPE	PARK ACREAGE	REC'N AREA	PARK SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	FOD	FLD	MUCTS	BB CTS.	TENNIS CTS.	LIGHTED TEN.CT\$.	OVERLAY	F/S	FIELD	GAZES	AREA	voe" SHELTER	BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES & COMMENTS
20	E05	NSG	STEWARTOWN LP	1	12.2454	3	0	1	1		1		2						1	2		
28	E06	NDM	STONEGATE LP	1	10.9999	2	0	1				1	2			1	1					
			STONEHEDGE LP		2.2568																	
31	E07	SWH	STONEBROOK LP	1	11.0770	2	0	1	2			1	2	2		1				1	1	Exercise Course, Hike/Bike/
27	E08	SWH	STRATHMORE LP	1	13.0047	2	1	1	1				2			1				1	1	
30	E09	SCJ	STRATTON LP	1	11.0896	1	0	1	1		1		2			1	1			1	1	
20	E10	NSG	STRAWBERRY KNOLL LP	1	10.6217	3	0	1	2		OS		2			1				1	1	
23	F07	NRC	SUNDOWN ROAD LP	1	20.4718	3	0	2	2	1		1	2	2		1				1	1	
37	E11	SMB	TAKOMA- PINEY BRANCH LP	1	17.3521	2	1	1	1		1		2			1				1	1	
30	E12	SCJ	TILDEN WOODS LP	1	7.0000	1	0	1	1				2			1				1	1	Hiker-Biker
30	E52	SCJ	TIMBERLAWN LP	1	13.6655	1	0	1			OS					2				1	1	
31	E13	SMB	VEIRS MILL LP	1	18.0000	2	0	1	1	1		1				1				1	1	Exercise Course, Indoor Pool, 2 Lighted Handball Courts
30	E14	SCJ	WALL LP	1	11.6951	1	0	1			OS											
HI	D73	NBH	WARING STATION LP	1	16.4570	3	0	1			OS						1				1	On sne parking
19	E61	NBH	WATERS LANDING	1	11.6874	3	0	1	1			1	2			1	1				1	
34	E15	NBH	WEST FAIRLAND LP	1	19.0691	2	0	1	2		1			2						1	1	Rec. Bldg. Closed + Leased
35	E16	SCJ	WESTMORELAND HILLS LP	1	10.1350	1	0	1	1		1		2			1				1	1	
31	M15	SWH	WHEATON COMMUNITY BLOG	1	2.3012	2	0	1					2			1					1	
31	E H	SMB	WHEATON FOREST LP	1	9.3000	2	0	1	2		1		2			1				1	1	
27	E18	TM	WHEATON WOODS LP	1	11.4586	2	0	1	2				2			1				1	1	
31	E19	SWH	WHEATON-CLARIDGE LP	1	21.1248	2	1	1	2		OS									1	1	
35	E20	SCJ	WHITTIER WOODS LP	1	6.3800	1	1	1	1				2			1						
31	E21	SMB	WINCING CREEK LP	1	12.5000	2	0	1			1					2	2					Undeveloped
22	E55	NRC	WINTER'S RUN LP	1	9.8462	3	1	1														
27	F12	TM	WOOD LP	1	17.7871	2	1	1	2	1			2			3				1		
35	E22	SCJ	WOODACRES LP	1	10.3700	1	1	1	1	1	1S		2			1				1	1	Undeveloped
11	E63	NCB	WOODFIELD LP	1	11.0356	1	0	1													1	
SUBTOTAL					1979.3847								122	59				1		1	32	

INVENTORY OF ALL FACILITIES & PARKLAND OWNED, LEASED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY MNCPPC

THIS INVENTORY IS BY TYPE BEGINNING WITH LOCAL PARKS AND ENDING WITH A GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PARKS
PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS INVENTORY DATA DOES NOT MATCH PROS INVENTORY DATA.

LEGEND
1=Local Parks
2=Urban Parks
3=Neighborhood Parks
4=Neighborhood Conservation Areas

II=Regional Parks
S=Recreational Park
7, 10=Special, Miscellaneous
B=Conservation Parks
9=Stream Valley Parks

Updated: 07/11/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park School 0=Not Park School, 1=Park School 2=Closed School
Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=North

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	AREA	NAME AND TYPE	ACREAGE	ARSA	PARK SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	00 FLD	BB FLD	BBALL MUCTS	LIGHTED BB CTS.	OTHER CTS.	LIGHTED TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	F. FLD	FIELD	GAZEB	Ca, C AREA	VCOA SHELTER	NOC BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES COMMENTS
29	D06	SCJ	BEDFORDSHIRE NP	7.8047	1	0	1			1											
27	601	SCJ	BELPRE NP	8.3059	2	1	1						2								
32	602	SMB	BREEWOODNP	4.9492	2	0	0														Undeveloped Exercise Course
35	865	SCJ	BROOKDALE NP	3.0700	1	0	1			0.											
35	803	SCJ	BROOKMONT NP	2.0000	1	0	1	1		1			1					1		1	
29	B04	SCJ	BUCK BRANCH NP	7.0900	1	0	2					1		2							On Site Parking Undeveloped
23	022	NOM	CASHELL NP	21.2043	3	0	0														
29	683	SCJ	CINDY LANE NP	3.0000			1														
38	806	SML	COLESVILLE MANOR NP	2.3800	2	0	1														
31	607	SMB	COLLEGE VIEW NP	0.4668	2	0	1			0								1			Hiker-biker
31	875	SAH	COLT TERRACE NP	5.0000	2	0	1														
31	672	SMB	CONNECTICUT AVENUE NP	1.4369	2	0	0														
34	B08	NOM	COUNTRYSIDE NP	21.2731	2	0	1			1										4	Park-School
36	B09	SMB	DALE DRIVE NP	2.3000	2	0	1														1
11	B10	NLB	DAMASCUS NP	1.6517	3	0	1			1											
30	611	SMB	DRUID CRME NP	0.4105	2	0	1														
34	B69	NOM	EDGEWOOD NP	9.6486	2	0	1														
31	676	SMB	EDITH THROCKMORTON NP	0.1949	2	0	0														
31	B12	SMB	EVANS PARKWAY NP	5.1336	2	0	1			1									1		
27	813	NFC	FLOWER VALLEY NP	16.8412	3	0	1			1											
31	B14	SMB	FOREST GLEN NP	3.6366	2	0	1			1											
32	B15	SMB	FOREST GLEN-DALLAS AVE NP	3.6000	2	0	1														
31	B16	SMB	FOREST GROVE NP	7.0000	2	0	1	1		0.5											
19	B17	NLB	FOX CHAPEL NP	15.6960	3	1	1	1													
29	816	SCJ	FOX HILLS WEST NP	2.1103	1	0	1			1				2					1		
30	819	SMB	GARRETT PARK-WAVERLY NP	1.2210	2	0	1			0.											
31	B20	SMB	GENERAL GETTY NP	3.6773	2	0	0														
35	B21	SCJ	GLEN ECHO HEIGHTS NP	1.7580	1	0	1			0.											
31	B22	SMB	GLEN HAVEN NP	..0000	2	0	0														
35	623	SCJ	GLEN MAR NP	0.9375	1	0	1			1											
35	B24	SCJ	GREENWICH NP	3.7657	1	0	1			1								1		1	
29	B70	SCJ	GREGGSCROFT NP	1.0000	1	0	1														
27	035	SAH	HARMONY HILLS NP	3.2900	2	1	1														Undeveloped
29	B54	SCJ	HERITAGE FARM NP	30.1523	1	0	1	1		1					1						
29	026	SCJ	HIGHLAND STONE NP	2.6611	1	0	1														
35	027	SCJ	HILLMEADNP	4.2939	1	0	1			1								1			
28	B84	NOM	HOPEFIELD NP	5.6474	2	0	1														
11	B29	NLB	JOHN HAINES NP	13.6000	3	0	1			1											
35	B30	SMB	JONES MILL ROAD NP	2.2000	2	0	1														
31	B31	SMB	KENSINGTON HEIGHTS NP	4.1075	2	0	1			0.											Exercise Course
31	B32	SMB	KENSINGTON-FRED. AVE NP	4.5450	2	0	1														
35	074	SMB	LELAND NP	3.7141	1	0	1			0.											MCRD Res. Cen + Town Offi
35	B33	SMB	LOCUST HILL NP	5.0000	1	0	1														
32	081	SMB	LONG BRANCH-ARLISS NP	6.2310	2	0	1			1											Tennis Practice Wall
37	877	SMS	LONG BRANCH-GARLAND NP	3.8000	2	0	1			0.											
35	835	SCJ	MERRIMAC NP	9.8190	1	0	1			0.											Tennis Practice Wall
31	D74	SAH	MIDOLEVALE NP	15.6340	2	0	0														Undeveloped
35	036	SMB	MONTGOMERY HILLS NP	2.1520	2	0	1			0.											
32	873	SML	MONTGOMERY KNOLLS NP	0.6000	2	1	1														
31	834	SMB	MCKENNEY HILLS NP	12.5200	2	1	1			1											Volleyball
37	837	SML	NEW HAMPSHIRE ESTATES NP	4.9170	2	0	1														
23	638	NFC	NORBECK MEADOWS NP	18.7584	3	0	1														
23	B39	NOM	NORBECK-MUNCASTER MILL N	5.3528	3	0	1														
23	B40	NOM	OLNEY ACRES NP	2.3371	3	0	1			1										1	
23	B54	NOM	OLNEY FAMILY NP	27.3000	3	0	3			1						1					
23	841	NOM	OLNEY MILL NP	8.8209	3	0	1														
23	642	NOM	OLNEY SQUARE NP	22.6510	3	0	2														1
37	B67	SMB	OPALA DANIELS NP	2.2697	2	0	1			0											Horaeahoe Pls
20	D85	NSG	ORCHARD NP	10.2168	3	0	0														U, devel > plid

INVENTORY OF ALL FACILITIES & PARKLAND OWNED, LEASED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY MNCPPC

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LEGEND

1=Local Parks
2=Urban Parks
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4=Neigh. Conservation Area

6=Regional Parks
8=Recreational Paths
7,10=Special, Miscellaneous
9=Conservation Parks
9=Stream Valley Parks

Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools O=Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School
Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=North, ...

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	AREA	NAME AND TYPE	ACREAGE	RECREATION AREA	PARK SCHL	PLAY GRNOS	SB FLO	BB	BBALL MUCTS	LIGHTED BBCTS.	TENNIS CTS.	TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	FLO	FIELD	GAZEB	AREA	SHELTER	BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES & COMMENTS	
	B43	SML	PAINT BRANCH NP	3	5.0000	2	0															
28	844	NOM	PEACHWOOD NP	3	16.3415	2	0					1									1	Exercise Course
37	845	SML	QUEBEC TERRACE NP	3	3.4299	2	0					1										
20	846	NSG	QUINCE ORCHARD VALLEY NP	3	75.9169	3	0							2							1	
29	B47	SCJ	SCOTLAND NP	3	3.7551		0			1												
37	B48	SMB	SEEK LANE NP	3	1.7502	2	0															
32	B49	SMB	SEVEN OAKS NP	3	0.6000	2	0				1											
33	871	SWH	SHERWOOD FOREST MANOR	3	4.8702		0															Undeveloped
37	850	..	SILVER SPRING INTERM. NP	3	4.0000		0						2									
36	851	MB	SLIGO AVENUE NP	3	4.2576		0						1									
36	B82	SMB	SLIGO CABIN NP	3	1.3000	2	0															Bldg Closed By Fire
36	853	SMB	SLIGO-BENNINGTON NP	3	6.3000		0															
33	B55	SML	TAMARACK NP	3	10.0000	2	0				2										1	Undeveloped
34	E51	SMC	TANGLEWOOD NP	3	18.7142	2	0															
25	856	NSG	TOBYTOWN NP	3	3.0000		0						1									
23	857	NRC	UNITY NP	3	1.4900	3	0															
32	868	SMB	UPPER LONG BRANCH NP	3	1.7000		0							0.5								
31	B58	SWH	VALLEYWOOD NP	3	0.4891	2	0															
20	B59	NSG	WASHINGTON SQUARE NP	3	5.0133	3	0					1										
30	F70	SMB	WAVERLY-SCHUYLKILL NP	3	3.3876		0															
30	B60	SMB	WELLS NP	3	1.0000		0															
28	861	NOM	WEMBROUGH NP	3	9.3000	2	0							0.5								
30	862	SMB	WHITE FLINT NP	3	8.7194		0															
35	863	SCJ	WILLARD AVENUE NP	3	5.1158		0							0.5								
35	"	SCJ	WYNGATE WOOD NP	3	3.5104	1	0															Exercise Course, Hiker-Biker
SUBTOTAL					5937		76	0	1				7			0		3	29		4	

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7,10=Special, Miscellaneous

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8=Stream Valley Parks

Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division

For Park Schools Q,N,G A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School

Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=North

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	ASEA	NAME AND TYPE	TYP	ACREAGE	AREA	PARK SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	BBALL MUCTS	LIGHTED BBCTS.	TENNIS CTS.	LIGHTED TEN.CTS.	F/S OVERLAY	F/S	PL FIELD	GAZSS	AREA	SHELTER	BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES COMMENTS
27	C01	SAH	ARCTIC NCA	4	2.3738	2	0													Undeveloped
27	C02	SAH	BERET NCA	4	3.5739	2	0													Undeveloped
36	C03	SAH	BIRCH DRIVE NGA	4	0.1928	2	0													Undeveloped
28	C26	NOM	BONIFANT NGA (NW BRCH #5)	4	15.2350	2	0													Undeveloped
35	C38	SCJ	BOUNDARY PARK NGA	4	1.2976	1	0													Undeveloped
35	C04	SCJ	BRADLEY HILLS NGA	4	5.6000	1	0													Undeveloped
34	805	SML	CALVERTON NCA	4	1.2778	2	0													Undeveloped
29	C03	SCJ	CARDEROCK SPRINGS NGA	4	7.2195	1	0													Undeveloped
29	C07	SCJ	CHARRED OAK NGA	4	0.9160	1	0													Undeveloped
36	A06	SCJ	DARTMOUTH NGA	4	0.6000	2	0													Undeveloped
27	cos	SAH	DRAKE DRIVE NGA	4	16.2713	2	0													Undeveloped
35	C30	SAH	EAST-NEST HIGHWAY NGA	4	1.7569	1	0													Undeveloped
35	C10	SAH	ELM HIRST PARKWAY NGA	4	7.6185	1	0													Undeveloped
20	C37	NSG	EMORY GROVE HILLS NGA	4	12.3063	3	0													Undeveloped
35	C11	SCJ	ENGLISH COURT NCA	4	0.0272	1	0													Undeveloped
19	C33	NSH	GUNNERS VILLAGE NCA	4	46.8461	3	0													Undeveloped
32	C13	NSH	HASTINGS NGA	4	0.4200	2	0													Undeveloped
20	C35	NSG	HUNTERS WOODS NGA	4	28.5553	3	0													Undeveloped
29		SCJ	INVERNESS FOREST NGA	4	6.4790															
36	C31	SMS	LELAND-BEACH TRI CONS. A	4	DO	1	0													Undeveloped
27	C36	NOM	MANOR PARK NGA	4	1.7900	2	0													Undeveloped
19	C15	NLS	MIDDLEBROOK HILL NGA	4	11.5435	3	0													Undeveloped
20	C16	NSG	MINERAL SPRINGS NCA	4	0.7499	3	0													Undeveloped
10	C18	NLS	NORTH POINT NCA	4	8.9330	3	0													Undeveloped
27	C19	NOM	NORWOOD VILLAGE NGA	4	14.2215	2	0													Undeveloped
30	C20	SCJ	OLD FARM NGA	4	0.7756	1	0													Undeveloped
28	C21	SML	PEACH ORCHARD NCA	4	9.2321	2	0													Undeveloped
25	K06	NSG	PENNYFIELD LOCK	4	1.6858	1														
31	C23	NSH	SAINT PAUL NCA	4	1.1280	2	0													
33	C24	SAH	SHERWOOD FOREST NGA	4	5.3417	2	0													Undeveloped
34	C25	SML	STONECREST NGA	4	19.7669	2	0													Undeveloped
29	C27	SCJ	TUCKERMAN NGA	4		1	2													Undeveloped
28	C28	NOM	TWINPONDS NGA	4	5.5212	2	0													Undeveloped
29	C29	SCJ	WINOSORNCA	4	5.0083	1	0													Undeveloped
SUB TOTAL					1448															

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- 9,.stream Valley Parks

Updated: 07/14/88 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School
Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=North

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	REG. AREA	PARK NAME AND TYPE	TYP	ACREAGE	REC'D AREA	PARK SCHL	GRNDS	FLO	FLO	MUCTS	LIGHTED BBCTS.	TENNIS CTS.	LIGHTED TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	FLO	FIELD	GAZES	AREA	SHELTER	BLOG	OTHER FACILITIES & COMMENTS						
13	G07		BLACK HILL REGIONAL PARK	5	1338.2550		0	2											5	0		Boat Ramp, Lake						
29	GO1	SCJ	CABIN JOHN REG. PARK	5	521.5053	1	0	1		1					1				1	10		2 Lighted Handball Cts.						
29	Mos	SCJ	CABIN JOHN INDOOR TENNIS C	5	CJRP	1	0																					
29	M06	SCJ	CABIN JOHN REG.P ICE RINK	5	CJRP	1	0																					
29	M25	SCJ	LOCUST GROVE NATURE CTR	5	CJRP	1	0																					
10	G06	NLB	LITTLE BENNETT REG. PARK	5	3647.6466	3	0												1			Camping						
10	M52	NLB	LITTLE BENNETT GOLF COURSE			3	0															18 Holes, Clubhouse						
22	G10	NRC	ROCK CREEK REGIONAL PARK	5	1778.7441	3	0	2											3			Boat Rental, Includes Lake						
22	M10	NSC	MEADOWSIDE NATURE CENTE			3	0																					
22	N06	NRC	NEEDWOOD MANSION	5		3	0																					
22	M11	NRC	NEEDWOOD PUB GOLF COURSE	5		3	0															Club House						
31	G12	SWH	WHEATON REGIONAL PARK	5	534.6224	2	0	1	4	2		2		12					1	6		2 Lighted Handball Cts.						
31	M17	SWH	WHEATON REG HORSE STABL			2	0																					
31	M31	SWH	WHEATON REG INDOOR TENNI	5		2	0																					
31	M27	SWH	WHEATON REG MAINT FACILT	5		2	0																					
31	M03	SWH	BROOKSJOE GARDENS	5		2	0																					
31	M04	SWH	BROOKSIDE NATURE CENTER	5		2	0																					
31	M16	SWH	WHEATON RP tee RINK	5		2	0																					
SUBTOTAL																						1	0	0				0

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LEGEND

1=Local Putts
 2=Urban Parks
 3=Neighborhood Parks
 4=Natural Conservation Areas

S=Regional Parks
 & Recreation Parks
 7,10=Special, Miscellaneous
 B=Conservation Parks
 911=Stream Valley Putts

Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School
 Recreation Area: 1=West 2=East 3=Nonhem

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	REG/ AREA	PARK NAME AND TYPE	PARK TYPE	ACREAGE	REC/ AREA	PARK/ SCHL	PLAY- GRNOS	FLO	'LO	MUCTS	LIGHTED BB CTS.	TENNIS cTs.	LIGHTED TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	FLO	PLAY FIELD	CAZEB	PICNIC AREA	OPEN SHELTER	REC BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES/ COMMENTS	
14	G02	NLB	DAMASCUS REC. PARK	↓	283.904	3	0		2							2							
34	G04	NOM	FAIRLAND REC. PARK	↓	319.2789		0																
14	G05	NLB	GOSHEN REC. PARK	↓	253.4046	3	0																Undeveloped
33	H0	SML	MARTIN LUTHER KING REC. PA	↓	94.6490	↓	0						3										MCRD Indoor Pool
22	H03	NRC	MUNCASTER REC. PARK	↓	104.4535	↓	0																
27	G03	NOM	NORTHWEST BRANCH REC. PA	↓	675.0828	↓	0																
27	M13	NOM	NW BRANCH PUBLIC GOLF CO	6	NMBRP		0																Clubhouse, Heated and Covered Driving Range Racquetball
23	H05	NOM	OLNEY MANOR REC. PARK	↓	81.0208	3	0		3														
13	L07	NLB	OLM HAZEN WELLS SPEC. PAF	↓	294.6201	3	0																
19	H07		RIDGE ROAD REC. PARK	↓	71.4481		0																Undeveloped
19	G11	NSH	SOUTH GERMANTOWN REC. P	↓	559.3718	3	0																ArcheN Range
SUBTOTAL								4	8		4	5	5			6	0						

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Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2, CkiHd School
Recreation Areas, 1=West 2=East 3, Northern

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	REG	PARK NAME AND TYPE	PARK ACREAGE	REC'N AREA	PARK/ SCHL.	GRNDS	SLD	FLD	MUCTS	LIGHTED BBCTS.	TENNIS CTS.	LIGHTED TEN. CTS.	OVERIAY	SLD	FIELD	GAZEB	PICNIC AREA	SHELTER	BLDG	OTHER FACILITIES & COMMENTS	
22	KOI	NFC	APRICULU PALHISVRYFP	437.7541																		Office Building, Farm
35	HCS	SCJ	CAPITAL CRESECENT TRAIL SP	24.0000																		Outdoor Pool, Conf. Bldg
18	L02	NBH	CAMP SENECA SP																			
22	M07	NFC	CARSON FARM	52.4709																		
25	L05	NSG	MARYLAND HORSE CENTERS P	41.7089		1																
35	L01	SCJ	McCRILUS GARDENS	3.3807		1											1					
30	M45	SWH	PARKLAWN GROUP CAMP ARE			2												1		1		
30	M44	SWH	PARKLAWN GROUP PIC. AREA			2			1	1								1				
32	N ♦	SMB	PARKSIDE HEADQUARTERS	10 LEASED		2			1	1												Office Building
18			RICKMAN FARM	100.3708																		
29	L08	SCJ	ROCKWOOD SPECIAL PARK	44.5713		1																Conference Building
17	K02	NBH	SENECA LANDING	32.2655		1																Boat Ramp
33	L05	SML	VALLEY MILL SP	15.0000				1	1										1			Outdoor Pool
19	N30	NLB	WATERS HOUSE SPECIAL PAR																			Historic House
28	K8	NOM	WOODLAWN CULTURAL PARK	82.3390																		
SUBTOTAL							3		0		1	0		0		0	0		4		1	

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1=Local Parks
 2=Urban Parks
 3=Neighborhood Parks
 4=Neighborhood Conservation Area

6=Regional Parks
 7=Regional Conservation Area
 8=Conservation Parks
 9=Stream Valley Parks

Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0=Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School
 Recreation Areas 1=West 2=East 3=Northern

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	REG. AREA	PARK NAME AND TYPE	TYPE	ACREAGE	AREA	♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦	Ds	flo	UCTs	lecrs.	TENNIS LIGHTED	CTS.	ITEN. CTS.	o♦♦♦♦v	t	GA?	AR?	SHELTER	e♦Q	FACILITIES	COMMENTS
25	S01		ADVENTURE CONS. PARK		14.0819																	
24	S02	NSG	BLOCKHOUSE POINT CP	8	628.8910	1																Nature Center
12	G03		DICKERSON CONS. PARK	8	304.7089																	Parking. Undeveloped,
20	S03	NSG	GREEN FARM CONS. P	8	204.3131																	Fishing
28	S04	NOM	MAYDALE CONS. PARK		24.453																	
11	HD4	NLB	OAK RIDGE CONS. PARK	8	64.4907																	
15	S07	NOM	PATUXETT RIV WATERSHED C	8	272.4167																	
35	C39	SCJ	POTOMAC PALISADES CP	8	3.0541																	
23	GOB	NBC	RACHEL CROFTSON CONS. PARK	8	648.9707																	Undeveloped
SUBTOTAL					2165.3601																	

THIS INVENTORY IS BY TYPE BEGINNING WITH LOCAL PARKS AND ENDING WITH A GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PARKS
PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS INVENTORY DATA DOES NOT MATCH PROS INVENTORY DATA.

INVENTORY OF ALL FACILITIES & PARKLAND OWNED, LEASED AND/OR MAINTAINED BY MNCPPC

LEGEND
 1=Local Park
 2=Urban Park
 3=Neighborhood Park
 4=Neigh. Conservation Areas

8=Regional Park
 B=Recreation
 7,10,Sp,Scal, M1cell1n1ou1
 811ConstivaUn Park
 t=Stream Valley Park

Updated: 07/14/98 Source: Park Planning & Development Division For Park Schools 0:Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	AREA	NAME AND TYPE	TYPE	ACREAGE	RECREATION AREA	SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	SF FLO	BB FLO	BBALD MUCTS	LIGHTED BB CTS.	TENNIS CTS.	LIP TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	FLO	FIELD	GAZEBO	C-O-V AREA	VOCO SHELTER	CCV BLOG	OTHER FACILITIES & COMMENTS
30	P40	SMB	ROCK CREEK SVU #5	9	30.5611		0															Hiker-Biker
30	P50	SMH	ROCK CREEK SVU #6	9	215.9256		0															Hiker-Biker
27	F51	SMH	ROCK CREEK SVU #7	9	215.0465		0															Hiker-Siker
22	F52	NRC	ROCK CREEK SVU #11	9	136.4121		0															Undeveloped
22	F53	NRC	ROCK CREEK SVU #12	9	88.2042	3	0															Undeveloped
22	F54	NRC	ROCK CREEK SVU #14	9	74.4862	3	0															Undeveloped
22	N11	NRC	POPE FARM NURSERY	9	96.2588	3	0															
22	F55	NRC	ROCK CREEK SVU #15	9	177.1*14	3	0															Undeveloped
22	F56	NRC	ROCK CREEK SVU #16	9	137.6430	3	0															Undeveloped
29	F58	SC	ROCK RUN SV	9	145.8515		0															
31	F57	SMB	SLIGO CREEK SVU #1	9	36.7708		0															
32	F58	SMB	SLIGO CREEK SVU #2	9	39.4110		0															
32	F59	SMB	SLIGO CREEK SVU #3	9	73.5263		0		1								1					
32	I04	SMB	SLIGO CREEK CLUB GOLF CASE	9	71.9270		0															Clubhouse
31	F60	SMB	SLIGO CREEK SVU #4	9	107.6807		0															
31	F61	SMH	SLIGO CREEK SVU #5	9	90.6482		0															
30	F63	SCJ	TILDEN WOODS SV	9	65.4978		0															
25	F64	SCJ	WATTS BRANCH SVU #1	9	140.3231	1	0															
25	F65	SCJ	WATTS BRANCH SVU #2	9	125.5039	1	0															
25	F66	SCJ	WATTS BRANCH SVU #3	9	111.3766	1	0															
25	F67	SCJ	WATTS BRANCH SVU #4	9	60.5425	1	0															
11		NLB	WILCOT BRANCH SVU	9	30.6781	1	0															
					12163.952				1		1				2		0	2	0			0

For Park Schools 0:Not A Park School, 1=Park/School, 2=Closed School

PLAN AREA	PARK CODE	AREA	NAME AND TYPE	TYPE	ACREAGE	RECREATION AREA	SCHL	PLAY GRNDS	SF FLO	BB FLO	BBALD MUCTS	LIGHTED BB CTS.	TENNIS COURT	LIP TEN. CTS.	OVERLAY	FLO	FIELD	GAZEBO	PICNIC AREA	OPF SHELTER	CCV BLOG	OTHER FACILITIES & COMMENTS	
07			MEADOWBROOK MAINT.																				
37	N05	SMB	MONTGOMERY REG OFFICE-M	10	1.4570		0																Office Building
20	N12	NSG	SHADY GROVE MAINTENANCE	10	LEASED		0																
												0		0		0			0			0	

GAAN67b1AL 201161.088 221 115 4 / ff1 999 1 E1

Recreation Facility Inventory By Planning Area*

Planning Area	Ballfields			Total	Tennis Courts			Total	Basketball Courts			Total	Playgrounds			Total
	Parks	Closed Schools	Open Schools		Parks	Closed Schools	Open Schools		Parks	Closed Schools	Open Schools		Parks	Closed Schools	Open Schools	
Damascus FA (10, 11, 14,15)	2	.	112.6	146	2	.	49	8.9	4	.	15	19	4	.	1	5
Poolesville FA(12, 16, 17, 18)	2	.	2	4	3	.	0	3	2	.	2	4	2	.	.	2
PA 13 Clarksburg	2	.	38	5.8	2	.	37	5.7	1	.	5	●	2	.	.	2
PA 19 Germantown	97	.	22	31.7	6	.	133	193	55	.	22	27.5	8	.	4	12
PA 20 Gaithersburg	11.7	-	22.8	34.5	14	.	122	26.2	to	.	24	34	\\	.	5	16
PA 22 Rock Creek	2	.	73	9.3		.	49	4.9	1	.	5	6	.	.	2	2
PA 23 Olney	10.6	.	11.1	21.7	15	.	61	21.1	to	.	12.5	22.5	13.5	.	3	16.5
PA 24 Darnslow	4	.	33	7.3	6	.	49	10.9	3	.	5	8	3	.	1	4
PA 25 Travilah	5	.	33	●	8	.	.	8	2	.	4	6	5	.	.	5
PA 27 Aspen Hill	20.3	32	12.3	35.8	13	2	61	21.1	4	45	20	28.5	75	1	7	15.5
PA 28 Cleverly	9	.	82	172	12	.	61	18.1	55	.	8	135	65	.	2	8.5
PA 29 Potomac	10.5	3	183	31.8	\\	-	73	1a3	7	2	21.5	305	10.5	.	6	16.5
PA 30 North Bethesda	12.9	51	6.7	24.7	12	24	74	21.8	75	4	\\	22.5	13	.	1	14
PA 31 Kensington/Wheaton	23.6	56	12.2	41.4	28	24	98	40.2	19.5	7	22	48.5	25.5	.	6	31.5
PA32 Kemp Mill	74	43	91	20.8	16	24	49	23.3	\\	3	to	24	15	.	2	17
PA 33 White Oak	6	.	95	15.5	to	.	73	17.7	55	.	14.5	20	8	.	5	13
PA 34 Fairland	\\	.	93	20.3	13	.	49	17.9	5	-	8	13	8	.	2	10
PA 35 Bethesda	27.6	25	14.7	44.8	43	24	92	54.6	19.5	35	21	44	29	.	4	33
PA 36 Silver Spring	13.1	08	31	17	21	24	43	27.7	75	.	45	12	15	.	1	16
PA 37 Takoma Park	6	-	35	9.5	6	.	24	8.4	3	.	55	8.5	13	.	1	14
TOTALS	195.4	24.5	195.1	416	211	14	119.7	374.7	133.5	24	240.5	398	199.5	1	53	253.5

NOTES: * as of June 1, 1998

1. Fractional amount for ballfields accounts for non-regulation sized field's).
2. Fractional amount for school tennis courts accounts for the fact that during the school year the courts are not available until after school hours.
3. Fractional amounts for basketball courts indicate half courts (50x80') instead of full sized courts.
4. Fractional amounts for playgrounds account for the fact that a specific playground is not comparable to a standard park playground.

BALLFIELD DEMAND METHODOLOGY FLOW CHART

Year 2010 Ballfield Needs for Local Parks

PA 19 Germantown Planning Area

Number of Teams By Age Group (Northern Recreation Area Only)						
	10-14	15-19	20-34	45-64	65+	Total
Baseball	70.3	135.5	11	7	1	225
Lacrosse	77	77	111	11	11	387
Soccer	112.7	197.9	18.4	77	11	419.1
Softball	U.7	162	1831	79.8	14	2167.5
T-Ball	77	11	11	11	11	111
Football	77	11	11	11	11	111
Touch other	11	11	11	11	11	111

Average # Players/Team	
Baseball	11
Lacrosse	11
Soccer	11
Softball	11
T-Ball	11
Football	11
Touch other	11

Total Number of Players/Sport in Each Age Group (Northern Recreation Area Only)						
	10-14	15-19	20-34	45-64	65+	Total
Baseball	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	5625
Lacrosse	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	5625
Softball	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	5625
T-Ball	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	5625
Touch football	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	5625
Other	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	5625

1995 Northern Area Population						
	10-14	15-19	20-34	45-64	65+	Total
	34,20	15,844	12,400	13,127	38,275	39,105
				40,847		11,346

Northern Recreation Area Participation Rate						
	10-14	15-19	20-34	45-64	65+	Total
Baseball	0.03277	0.13858	0.01443	0.00302	0.00018	0.00004
Lacrosse	0.00294	0.00628	0.00000			
Soccer	0.04926	0.18975	0.02262	0.00589	0.00291	
Softball	0.02085	0.07258	0.01912	0.05343	0.03061	0.01996
T-Ball	0.01139	0.00058				
Touch Football	0.00874	0.02557				

2010 PA 19 Germantown Planning Area Population						
	10-14	15-19	20-34	45-64	65+	Total
	12,421	5,969	5,199	5,966	15,599	13,969
				18,254		5,351

2010 Estimated # of Players/Team for PA 19 Germantown						
	10-14	15-19	20-34	45-64	65+	Total
Baseball	11	11	11	11	11	1377
Lacrosse	111	111	111	111	111	2031
Soccer	111	111	111	111	111	2741
Softball	111	111	111	111	111	111
T-Ball	111	111	111	111	111	111
Touch Football	111	111	111	111	111	111

Field Capacity Standards	
(Weekly) Baseball	11
Lacrosse	11
Soccer	11
Softball	11
T-Ball	11
Touch Football	11
Other	11

PA 19 Germantown 2000 Gross Ballfield Needs	
Baseball	12.5
Lacrosse	11
Soccer	11
Softball	21.8
T-Ball	11
Touch Football	11
Other	11
Total	51.1

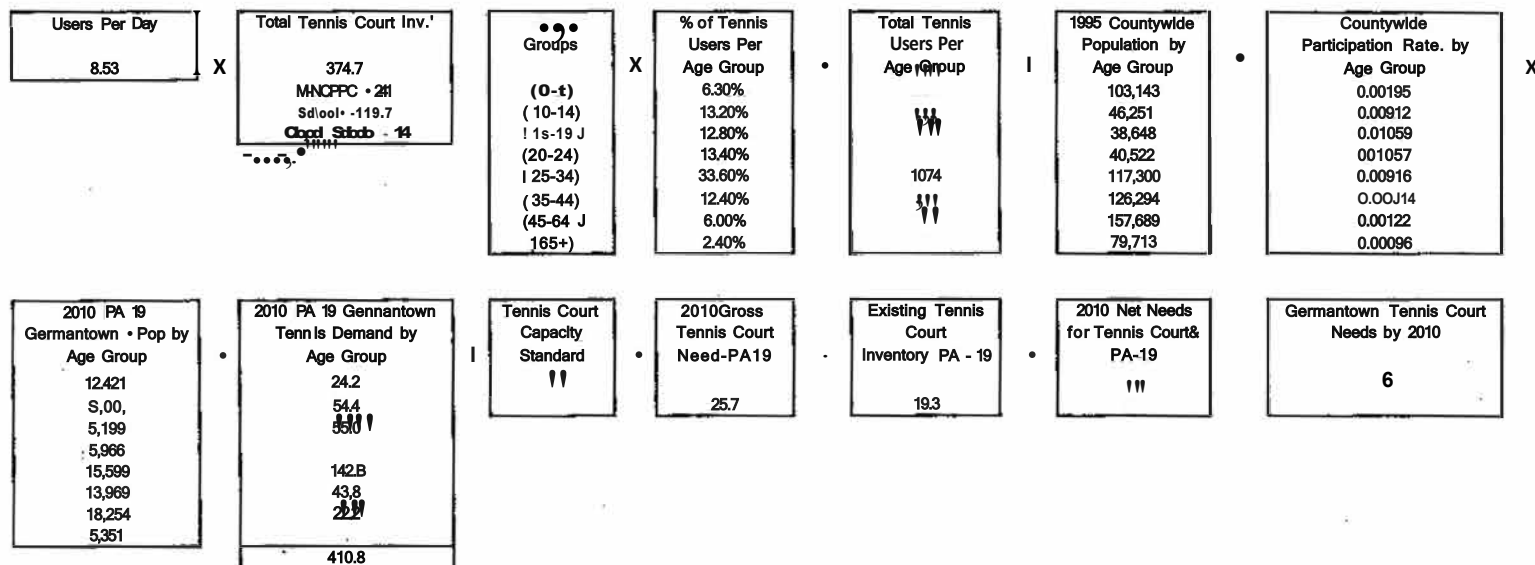
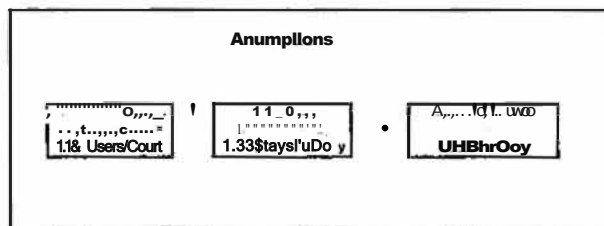
PA 19 Germantown Existing Ballfield Inventory	
	31.7

PA 19 Germantown %10 Local Ballfield Needs	
	20

TENNIS COURT DEMAND METHODOLOGY FLOWCHART

YEAR 2010 TENNIS COURT NEEDS FOR LOCAL PARKS

PA 19 GERMANTOWN PLANNING AREA



Future County-wide Park Facility Needs Methodology

Large County-wide parks contain a variety of recreation facilities. The 1998 PROS Plan has calculated future projections to estimate needs for those facilities most frequently found in County-wide parks. These needs include: tennis courts, ballfields, picnic tables, playgrounds, and basketball courts.

Montgomery County park user surveys indicate that the age of the population is a major determinant of recreation facility need and use. The PROS methodology converts the age profile of the general population into user participation rates for each facility and thus provides the basis for estimating facility needs. Although age is not the single determinate of recreation participation, it is the most reliable variable in determining facility estimates. The number and age of recreation facilities and park users was derived from the *1995 Park User Survey*.

The methodology used to determine County-wide facility needs is described below:

1. Existing **facility** use:

Existing use of recreational facilities was surveyed in 1995. Data was collected and analyzed to determine the number and ages of people using each facility. The survey administration also provided the opportunity to observe which facilities appeared over crowded and which were underutilized.

2. Turnover rate and daily use:

An estimate of the turnover rate was then made which is based on the length of time people generally participate in a single recreation activity. The rate was determined by both observation and interviews of park users. By dividing the turnover rate into the available participation hours and then multiplying by the average number of persons using a facility at one time, an estimate was made of the average number of people that could be expected to use a facility in a day.

3. Total daily use:

The total number of people in the County participating in a specified recreation facility on the average day was derived by multiplying the total number of facilities (i.e. the total number of County-wide tennis courts) times the average number of people using a single facility per day.

4. Participation rates and total number of users:

County-wide age based participation rates for each facility were then derived by multiplying the total daily use by the percent of users in each age group. When divided by the projected 2000, 2005, and 2010 population for each age group, the estimated total number of users was determined.

5. Total 2000, 2005, and 2010 facility needs:

Total 2000, 2005, and 2010 facility needs were determined by dividing the estimated total number of users by the average daily capacity of existing facilities.

6. Unmet needs:

Unmet facility needs (or the additional number of facilities needed) was computed by subtracting the existing number of facilities from the total 2000, 2005, and 2010 needs.

PROJECTED POPULATION CHANGES

Grouped by Planning Area

pa	na#	year	0-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-&r	65+	Total
amascus	1	1995	4,110	2,246	1,747	5,245	4,940	6,227	2,120	26,635
		2010	4,198	2,108	1,883	6,298	4,944	7,576	3,338	30,345
		%Change	2.14%	-6.14%	7.78%	20.08%	0.08%	21.66%	57.45%	13.93%
colesville	2	1995	997	574	458	1,581	1,200	1,784	626	7,297
		2010	1,035	480	408	1,697	1,325	1,880	892	7,717
		%Change	3.81%	-16.38%	-10.92%	7.34%	3.76%	5.38%	42.49%	5.76%
clarksburg	13	1995	237	109	82	365	255	413	153	1,614
		2010	3,601	1,305	970	6,245	3,557	2,402	731	18,811
		%Change	1419.41%	1097.25%	1082.93%	1610.96%	1294.90%	481.60%	377.78%	1065.49%
fermantown	19	1995	10,713	4,113	2,836	17,557	11,285	7,954	1,789	56,247
		2010	12,421	5,969	5,199	21,565	13,969	18,254	5,351	82,728
		%Change	15.94%	45.13%	83.32%	22.83%	23.78%	129.49%	199.11%	47.08%
faithersburg	20	1995	19,384	8,314	6,630	32,518	21,795	21,686	6,640	116,967
		2010	19,045	9,114	8,136	34,069	21,166	30,909	12,121	134,560
		%Change	-1.75%	9.62%	22.71%	4.77%	-2.89%	42.53%	82.55%	15.04%
lock Creek	22	1995	1,493	847	713	1,802	1,898	2,733	636	10,122
		2010	1,679	831	757	2,116	2,005	3,112	1,386	11,886
		%Change	12.46%	-1.89%	6.17%	17.43%	5.64%	13.87%	117.92%	17.43%
lney	23	1995	4,951	2,549	2,158	5,868	6,120	7,682	1,976	31,304
		2010	5,136	2,665	2,444	6,526	6,232	9,997	4,137	37,137
		%Change	3.74%	4.55%	13.25%	11.21%	1.83%	30.14%	109.36%	18.63%
amestown	24	1995	1,864	1,043	933	1,618	2,168	3,184	590	11,400
		2010	1,719	958	902	1,829	1,767	3,850	1,499	12,524
		%Change	-7.78%	-8.15%	-3.32%	13.04%	-18.50%	20.92%	154.07%	9.86%
Travilah	25	1995	2,876	1,630	1,413	2,535	3,458	5,002	1,112	18,026
		2010	3,905	2,137	1,905	3,808	4,062	7,659	2,642	26,118
		%Change	35.78%	31.10%	34.82%	50.22%	17.47%	53.12%	137.59%	44.89%
Rockville	26	1995	6,335	2,969	2,586	8,851	8,267	10,803	5,248	45,059
		2010	5,940	3,113	2,911	8,573	7,557	13,329	7,253	48,676
		%Change	-6.24%	4.85%	12.57%	-3.14%	-8.59%	23.38%	38.21%	8.03%
Aspen Hill	27	1995	7,754	3,284	2,866	13,069	9,248	12,319	8,966	57,506
		2010	8,175	4,172	3,827	13,602	10,185	15,251	8,900	64,112
		%Change	5.43%	27.04%	33.53%	4.08%	10.13%	23.80%	-0.74%	11.49%
Cleverly	28	1995	2,505	1,368	1,181	2,426	2,914	4,445	1,284	16,123
		2010	2,532	1,457	1,337	2,660	2,667	5,548	2,362	18,563
		%Change	1.08%	6.51%	13.21%	9.65%	-8.48%	24.81%	83.96%	15.13%
Potomac	29	1995	5,167	2,971	3,045	6,255	5,804	14,338	4,990	42,570
		2010	6,331	3,550	3,204	6,596	6,727	13,136	7,904	47,448
		%Change	22.53%	19.49%	5.22%	5.45%	15.90%	-8.38%	58.40%	11.46%
N Beth	30	1995	4,791	1,916	1,624	8,562	6,236	8,587	5,773	37,489
		2010	5,850	2,905	2,681	10,269	7,335	10,816	6,454	46,310
		%Change	22.10%	51.62%	65.09%	19.94%	17.62%	25.96%	11.80%	23.53%
Ken/Wheaton	31	1995	9,880	4,432	3,556	16,693	13,019	15,897	10,941	74,418
		2010	10,121	4,708	4,189	17,890	13,622	18,992	10,615	80,137
		%Change	2.44%	6.23%	17.80%	7.17%	4.63%	19.47%	-2.98%	7.68%

Source: Round 5.3 Planning Area Population Projections of the
M-NCPPC Research and Technology Center

PROJECTED POPULATION CHANGES

Grouped by Planning Area (continued)

Kemp Mill	32	1995	4,393	1,984	1,608	7,167	5,973	7,132	5,666	33,923
		2010	4,161	1,963	1,766	7,466	5,688	8,404	4,811	34,259
		%Chance	-5.28%	-1.06%	9.83%	4.17%	-4.77%	17.64%	-15.09%	0.99%
White oak	33	1995	4,115	1,927	1,714	6,031	5,257	7,744	4,764	31,552
		2010	3,880	1,999	1,870	5,530	4,893	8,474	5,228	31,874
		%Chance	-5.71%	3.74%	9.10%	-8.31%	-6.92%	9.43%	9.74%	1.02%
Fairland	34	1995	6,250	2,328	1,705	10,204	7,092	6,046	1,907	35,532
		2010	5,149	2,544	2,369	9,201	5,761	9,156	3,373	37,555
		%Chance	-17.62%	9.28%	38.94%	-9.83%	-18.77%	51.47%	76.87%	5.69%
Bethesda	35	1995	11,146	4,820	4,182	15,604	14,388	21,924	15,182	87,246
		2010	11,722	6,087	5,643	16,462	14,932	25,092	15,266	95,204
		%Chance	5.17%	26.29%	34.94%	5.50%	3.78%	14.45%	0.55%	9.12%
Silver Spr	36	1995	4,630	1,666	1,447	9,408	6,721	6,832	4,680	35,384
		2010	4,850	2,256	2,211	10,387	7,331	10,219	5,745	42,999
		%Chance	4.75%	35.41%	52.80%	10.41%	9.08%	49.58%	22.76%	21.52%
Takoma Park	37	1995	3,756	1,521	1,414	6,398	5,110	4,499	2,389	25,087
		2010	2,901	1,391	1,389	5,327	4,217	6,116	2,701	24,042
		%Chance	-22.76%	-8.55%	-1.77%	-16.74%	-17.48%	35.94%	13.06%	-4.17%
County		1995	117,347	52,611	43,898	179,757	143,225	177,231	87,432	801,501
		2010	124,351	61,712	56,001	198,116	149,942	230,174	112,709	933,005
		%Chance	5.97%	17.30%	27.57%	10.21%	4.69%	29.87%	28.91%	16.41%

1. Note: Round 5.3 Planning Area projections for Takoma Park (PA37) do not include the recently annexed area from Prince George's County. The insert below includes 1101 population projections used in the PROS Plan facility need projections.

TAKOMA PARK POPULATION PROJECTIONS INCLUDED IN PROS PLAN

Annex	09	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total	
	1995	754	307	285	325	1056	1031	908	403	5149					
	2000	660	344	206	301	826	900	1087	514	4996					
	2005	610	300	309	299	706	910	1203	531	4956					
	2010	506	261	260	300	767	851	1233	546	4652					New all 1101, c population
Mont	1995	3756	1521	1414	1613	4785	5110	4499	2309	25087					
	2000	3271	1703	1419	1491	4098	4857	53136	2544	21700					
	2005	3024	1525	1533	1483	3895	4510	5961	2632	24563					
	2010	2901	1391	1389	1525	3802	4217	6116	2701	24042					
Total	1995	4510	1828	1699	1938	5841	6141	5407	2872	30236					PHOS Mcthu population
	2000	3931	2047	1705	1792	4924	5837	6473	3058	29767					
	2005	3634	1833	1842	1782	4601	5420	7164	3163	29519					
	2010	3487	1672	1669	1833	4569	5068	7349	3247	28894					

Montgomery County

1994 Census Update Survey

Est. Land Area in Sq.Mi. = 491.9		SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED	TOWN-HOUSE	GARDEN APT.	HIGH-RISE	ALL TYPES
P D P U L A T I O N	Household Population	469,700	147,050	132,500	46,350	795,600
	% Female	51.0%	53.3%	55.7%	59.9%	52.8%
	Age Distribution:					
	% 0 - 4 Years Old	7.0%	10.2%	7.8%	3.6%	7.5%
	% 5 - 17 Years Old	19.5%	19.4%	14.7%	6.9%	17.9%
	% 18-29 Years Old	10.0%	13.5%	24.6%	16.8%	13.5%
	% 30-44 Years Old	24.9%	33.6%	30.7%	22.6%	27.4%
	% 45-64 Years Old	26.0%	17.7%	14.5%	18.8%	22.1%
	% 65-74 Years Old	8.5%	3.7%	4.2%	14.1%	7.2%
	% Over 74 Years Old	4.0%	1.9%	3.6%	17.2%	4.3%
	Average Age	36.8	31.2	32.2	47.1	35.6
	Race:					
	% White	81.9%	68.8%	55.6%	63.7%	74.1%
	% Black	6.8%	15.6%	29.7%	27.8%	13.4%
	% Asian or Pacific Islander	9.6%	10.7%	9.6%	6.3%	9.6%
	% Other	1.7%	4.9%	5.1%	2.2%	2.9%
	% Hispanic Origin ¹	5.2%	9.9%	14.3%	6.3%	7.6%
	Educational Attainment:					
	Persons 25 Years and Older	315,640	95,680	89,040	38,100	538,660
	% Less than High School Diploma	6.9%	7.2%	12.0%	9.9%	8.0%
% High School Graduate	33.0%	40.7%	44.5%	38.8%	36.5%	
% Bachelor's Degree	28.7%	31.1%	25.4%	25.7%	28.4%	
% Grad. Professional or Doctoral	31.4%	20.9%	18.1%	25.7%	27.1%	
L A B O R F O R C E	Number of Employed Residents ²	248,780	85,545	81,015	23,485	438,825
	% Females Who Are Employed ²	62.7%	74.3%	72.6%	50.9%	65.6%
	Women with Children Under Age 6	34,540	15,900	10,850	1,630	62,920
	% Employed ²	65.6%	65.6%	67.6%	54.5%	65.7%
	Employer:					
	% Private for Profit	47.6%	54.1%	55.9%	49.5%	50.4%
	% Private not for Profit	11.7%	11.6%	13.7%	13.7%	12.1%
	% Self-Employed	13.7%	8.6%	6.2%	8.5%	11.2%
	% Government	27.0%	25.7%	24.2%	28.3%	26.4%
	Work Location:					
	% In the County	57.6%	62.9%	60.0%	44.5%	58.5%
	% Inside the Beltway	18.3%	16.6%	21.6%	26.4%	18.9%
	% Outside the Beltway	39.3%	46.3%	39.5%	18.1%	39.6%
	% Elsewhere in Maryland	9.3%	9.4%	8.4%	8.1%	9.1%
	% to Washington, D.C.	24.0%	18.6%	24.2%	39.0%	23.8%
	% to Virginia	8.1%	7.9%	5.4%	7.3%	7.6%
	Work Trip:					
	% Driving	83.2%	85.3%	74.5%	60.5%	81.0%
	% Alone	73.6%	74.6%	62.6%	54.0%	71.0%
	% Carpool	9.4%	10.7%	11.9%	6.5%	10.0%
% Public Transit or Rail	10.5%	10.6%	20.6%	31.0%	13.3%	
% Walk/Bicycle/Other	1.6%	1.2%	3.7%	6.8%	2.2%	
Access to Metrorail:						
% Car	58.0%	60.5%	37.3%	9.3%	48.7%	
% Ride-On/Metrobus	18.2%	26.1%	34.7%	13.8%	22.5%	
% Walk/Bicycle	22.4%	13.3%	27.1%	74.8%	28.0%	

¹Insufficient data for table estimates.

²Those of Hispanic Origin may be of any race.

³Ages 16 and older and employed full- or part-time.



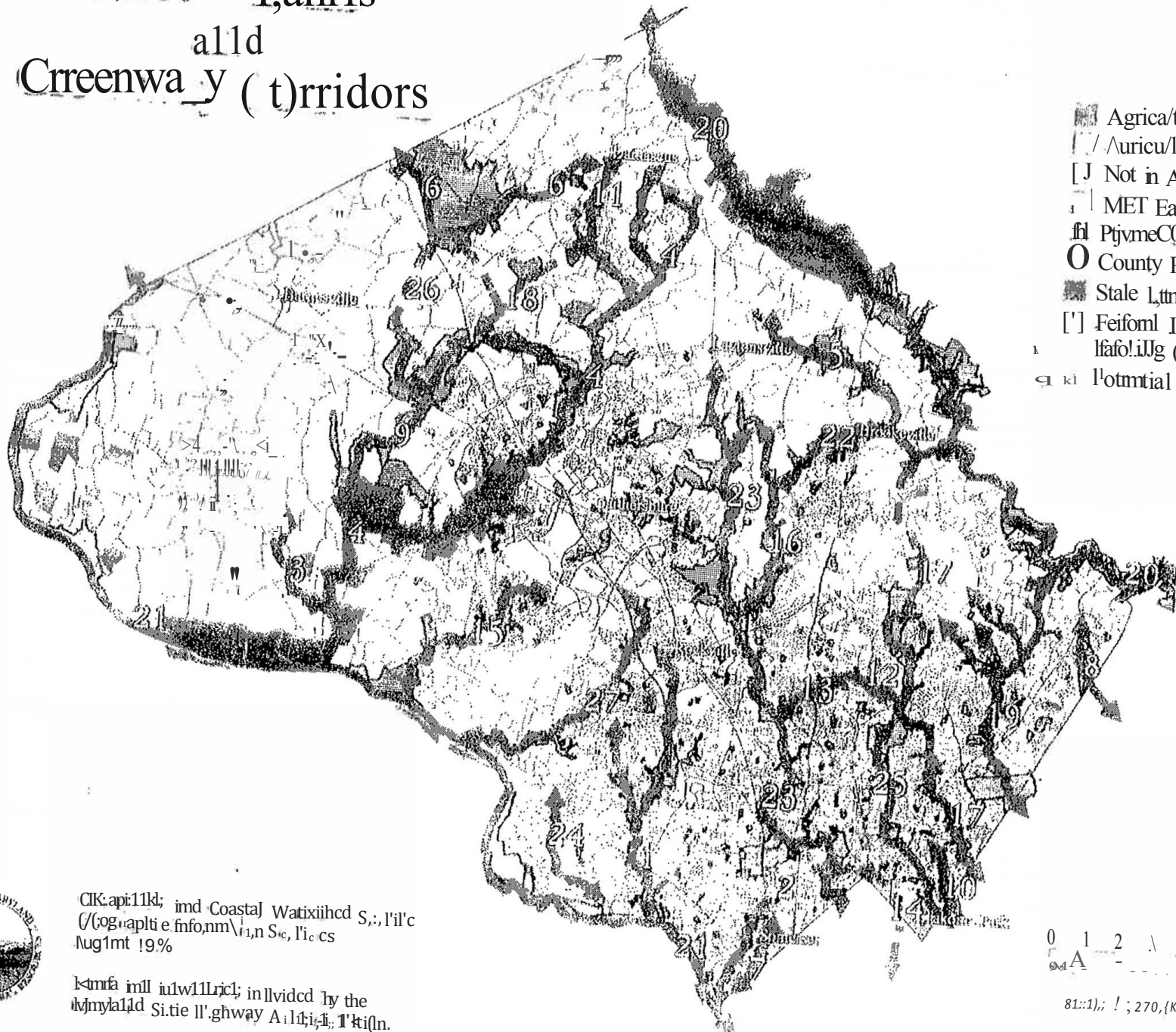
Montgomery County (cont.)

		SINGLE- FAMILY DETACHED	TOWN- HOUSE	GARDEN APT.	HIGH- RISE	AU. TYPES
H O U S I N G	Households by Structure Type	157,000	53,200	60,900	26,200	299,300
	% Total Households by Structure Type	52.5%	17.8%	20.3%	9.4%	100.0%
	Average Household Size	2.99	2.76	2.17	1.64	2.65
	Tenure:					
	% Rental	6.2%	14.1%	76.3%	72.6%	27.9%
	Average Monthly Housing Costs:					
	Homeowners	\$1,285	\$955	\$686	\$721	\$1,150
	Renters	\$1,071	\$828	\$687	\$828	\$783
	% in Same Home 5 Years Ago	70.9%	47.9%	27.4%	40.3%	55.7%
	Median Years in Same Home	10	5	3	4	7
	Average Age of Household Head	51.8	43.4	42.2	54.6	48.6
	% Households with Foreign Born Head or Spouse	21.5%	25.4%	26.9%	25.7%	23.6%
	Households by Type:					
	% Family Households	86.7%	76.0%	56.2%	39.2%	74.5%
	% Married-Couple	78.6%	63.2%	42.2%	32.0%	64.1%
	% Single-Parent	6.7%	11.2%	13.0%	4.9%	8.6%
	% Nonfamily Households	13.3%	23.9%	41.7%	60.9%	25.5%
	% Householder Living Alone	11.4%	20.4%	36.3%	57.4%	22.4%
	Persons in Households:					
	% 1 Person	11.4%	20.3%	36.4%	57.3%	22.4%
% 2 Persons	33.6%	30.5%	33.0%	29.3%	32.6%	
% 3 Persons	20.8%	19.6%	15.9%	8.3%	18.4%	
% 4 Persons	20.4%	17.7%	9.0%	3.2%	16.0%	
% 5+ Persons	13.6%	11.6%	5.8%	2.0%	10.6%	
Average Number of Bedrooms	3.8	3.0	1.9	1.6	3.1	
% of Households with Computers	56.4%	50.5%	29.8%	25.0%	47.0%	
I N C O M E	1993 Household Income Distribution:					
	% Under \$15,000	2.6%	2.6%	11.1%	14.5%	5.4%
	% \$15,000 to \$29,999	7.3%	8.8%	26.5%	23.4%	12.7%
	% \$30,000 to \$49,999	14.5%	25.9%	35.9%	28.4%	21.9%
	% \$50,000 to \$69,999	16.3%	30.3%	16.0%	16.0%	19.6%
	% \$70,000 to \$99,999	23.8%	20.7%	6.1%	10.1%	19.0%
	% \$100,000+	33.5%	11.5%	2.3%	7.6%	21.2%
	1993 Median Household Income	\$31,375	\$57,350	\$35,590	\$37,685	\$59,065
	% of Households Spending More Than 25% of Income on Housing Costs:					
	% Homeowners	21.3%	24.9%	23.7%	19.0%	22.2%
% Renters	34.9%	39.0%	46.5%	56.7%	47.0%	

• Insufficient data for reliable estimates.

end.

Montgomery County Protected Lands and Greenway Corridors



- [Hatched] Agricultural Lands
- [Dotted] Agricultural Districts
- [Jagged] Not in Agricultural District
- [Stippled] MET Easement
- [Diagonal Lines] Private Conservation Lands
- [Circle] County Parks
- [Dark Stippled] State Lands
- [Light Stippled] Feudal Lands
- [Dashed] Major Roadway
- [Thin Line] Potential Greenway



Climate Change and Coastal Watershed Services
 (Log on to the website for more information)
 August 1998

Map prepared and provided by the
 Montgomery State Highway Administration



81:1; 1:270,000

Montgomery County Greenways

Montgomery County's park acquisition program, which has been active since the creation of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) by the General Assembly in the 1920's, forms the basis of an extensive stream valley greenway system. Land use regulations and the subdivision review process are also utilized to protect riparian areas and establish stream corridor greenways.

The Montgomery County park system has over 11,000 acres of stream valley parks forming interconnected greenways throughout the county. An expanded planning effort is underway to determine additional public and private land that should be preserved for greenways. The county plans to develop a greenways component as part of Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (known locally as the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan).

1) Cabin John Creek

Cabin John Creek is an existing stream valley greenway which runs from just south of the City of Rockville to connect with the Potomac River. The corridor is owned by M-NCPPC. An unpaved trail is adjacent to the stream. At the northern end of this greenway is Cabin John Regional Park with many recreational facilities and paved trails.

2) Capital Crescent Trail

This is a partially completed rail trail along the 12-mile long, former Georgetown Branch railroad right-of-way from Georgetown in Washington, D.C. to Silver Spring. The completed portion extends 3.3 miles within Montgomery County from downtown Bethesda south to the D.C. line, then an additional 3.7 miles within D.C. The Montgomery County portion is managed by M-NCPPC and consists of a paved walking and bicycling trail with a gravel jogging shoulder along most of its length.

The remainder of the Georgetown Branch right-of-way, approximately 3.3 miles between Bethesda and Silver Spring, is managed by the Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation. This section, in conjunction with a 1.1-mile section of the CSX Metropolitan Branch main line to the Silver Spring Metro Station, is being considered for a combination busway with paved trail, or light rail transit with trail. In the interim, Montgomery County is constructing a gravel walking and biking trail through this remaining portion of the Georgetown Branch right-of-way. Completion of the interim trail construction is anticipated in late 1996 or early 1997.

3) Dry Seneca Creek

Dry Seneca Creek is a potential stream valley greenway which has its origins just south of Route 107 near Poolesville and connects with Great Seneca Creek to the southeast. M-NCPPC owns a section of the Dry

Seneca Creek stream valley. The remaining portion of the corridor is within the acquisition boundary for the county's Dry Seneca Creek Park.

4) Great Seneca Creek

Great Seneca Creek is an existing stream valley greenway which begins in Damascus and connects with the Potomac River. Additional linkages occur with Dry Seneca and Little Seneca Creeks. Seneca Creek State Park and M-NCPPC's Great Seneca Creek Park combine to place most of the corridor in public ownership. The greenway provides water quality, resource protection and recreational benefits. A 25 c, unpaved hiking-questrian trail has been proposed for the Great Seneca Greenway. Construction of the first segment began in May 1996. Ten miles of multi-use, loop trails have been constructed in the section of Seneca Creek State Park adjacent to Schaffer Road.

5) Hawkins River

Hawkins River is a stream valley greenway that begins at the Patuxent River east of Sandy Spring/Ashton. The greenway has a link to Rocky Branch and includes the Raebel Carson Conservation Park. M-NCPPC owns the stream valley corridor. An unpaved trail has been proposed within this corridor.

6) Little Bennett Creek

This is a stream valley greenway connecting the Monocacy River watershed in Frederick County through Little Bennett Regional Park to near Damascus Regional Park and the Magruder Branch Greenway. Linkages are planned to connect Little Bennett Regional Park to other greenways in Clarksburg.

7) Little Falls Creek

Little Falls Creek is a stream valley greenway stretching from just southwest of Bethesda to the Potomac River. M-NCPPC owns the land within the Little Falls Creek stream corridor. Little Falls Creek Park contains a paved trail and other trails. The Capital Crescent trail connects to the Little Falls Creek Greenway in Bethesda.

8) Little Paint Branch

This is a stream valley greenway connecting McKnew Local Park and Fairland Recreational Park, which extends into Prince George's County. A paved trail is proposed for a portion of this greenway.

10 Little Seneca Creek

This is a stream valley greenway connecting to Kings Pond Local Park and Commander Wells Recreational Park on the north, and through Black Hills Regional Park to Great Seneca Greenway on the south at both South Germantown Recreational Park and North Germantown Special Park. Bikeways are planned to traverse portions of this greenway.

11 Long Branch

Long Branch is an existing greenway that begins south of Franklin Street in Silver Spring and travels south into Takoma Park. M-NCPPC owns the greenway corridor. Paved trails are adjacent to the stream in some locations.

12 Magruder Branch

Magruder Branch is an existing stream valley greenway originating south of Damascus and connecting to Great Seneca Creek. The corridor is owned by M-NCPPC and contains a paved trail. Equestrian trails and other pathways are future considerations. The Magruder Branch Greenway currently provides water quality and resource protection benefits.

13 Matthew Henson Greenway

The Matthew Henson Greenway is three miles long, linking Matthew Henson State Park to Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park in the Layhill area just north of Bethesda on a branch of Georgia Avenue. The majority of the greenway is owned by M-NCPPC. A few parcels east of Georgia Avenue are owned by the state of Maryland and are part of the Matthew Henson State Park. A recreational trail is currently proposed to connect Rock Creek to Northwest Branch through the Silver Spring park and greenway.

14 Matthew Henson State Park

The Matthew Henson State Park is an existing, two-mile long, stream valley greenway along the Tutkey Branch of Rock Creek in the Aspen Hill area, from Veirs Mill Road to Georgia Avenue. Management has been transferred to Montgomery County under an agreement with DNR. The park connects Rock Creek Stream Valley Park Greenway with the Matthew Henson Greenway. The state park is part of the former Rockville Facility Right-of-Way. A recreational trail is currently proposed.

15 Metropolitan Branch Trail

The Metropolitan Branch Trail is a potential seven-mile bikeway and pedestrian path that would run from Silver Spring to Takoma Park.

15) Muddy Branch

Muddy Branch is an existing stream valley greenway beginning south of Gaithersburg and connecting to the Potomac River. The corridor is owned by M-NCPPC. Currently, the greenway is undeveloped. An equestrian-walking trail linking to Blockhouse Point Park and the C&O Canal National Historical Park has been proposed.

16) North Branch

The North Branch is an existing stream valley greenway starting south of Route 108 near Mt. Zion and connecting to Rock Creek. The corridor is owned by M-NCPPC. North Branch Park is largely undeveloped. A trail system is located adjacent to Lake Fort Detrick near the southern portion of the streamway. Extension of this trail has been proposed. Properties linking the North Branch Greenway with Reddy Branch Park are within the park acquisition boundaries.

17) Northwest Branch

Northwest Branch is an existing greenway that originates near Route 108 in the Olney/Sandy Spring area, and extends south to connect with the Anacostia River mainstem in Prince George's County. The vast majority of the Northwest Branch corridor is owned by M-NCPPC.

A paved walking and bicycling trail exists south of the Interstate 495 Beltway and extends into Prince George's County. Unpaved equestrian and biking trails exist in the center section from Kemp Mill Road to just south of the Beltway. Paved and unpaved trails are being considered for the northern section, north of Kemp Mill Road.

18) Ovid Hazen Wells

This is a proposed greenway connecting Little Seneca Greenway through Ovid Hazen Wells Park to the Magruder Branch Greenway. A bikeway is planned to be provided when this area is developed.

19) Paint Branch

Paint Branch is a stream valley stretching through Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The Montgomery County portion of the corridor is in public ownership. Paint Branch originates south of Route 108 near Burtonsville and flows toward the southeast through the U.S. Naval Surface Weapons Center.

Paint Branch Park contains about five miles of paved trails in Montgomery County including trails in the adjacent Martin Luther King Memorial Park. An equestrian-walking trail has been proposed for the northern part of the Paint Branch Greenway.

1) Patuxent Regional Greenway

The Patuxent Regional Greenway is a partially established regional greenway that includes seven jurisdictions extending from central Maryland through southern Maryland. The Patuxent River serves as the spine for the greenway which runs through Howard, Montgomery, Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties. DNR currently owns about 15,000 acres along the Patuxent River and is working with local officials to extend portions along the mainstem.

The Patuxent River forms the northeast boundary of Montgomery County. A significant portion of the Patuxent Regional Greenway corridor in Montgomery County is owned by Dr-ill (Patuxent River State Park) and WSSC (Triadelphia and T. Howard Duckett Reservoirs). The Patuxent Regional Greenway links with Hawlings River in Montgomery County.

The primary purpose of the upper Patuxent Regional Greenway is water quality protection. Trails for public use do, however, run through sections of the corridor. Fishing, canoeing and rowing are also available at both reservoirs.

2) Potomac River Greenway

The Potomac River Greenway is an existing greenway along the Potomac River. Public properties in Montgomery County make a significant contribution to the multi-state Potomac River Greenway. Cabin John Branch, Little Falls Crock, Muddy Branch, Great Seneca Creek, Rock Run and Watts Branch = direct tributary stream valley greenway, owned by M-NCPPC or DNR. The C&O Canal National Historical Park, which extends along the Potomac from Georgetown to Cumberland, places the river corridor in Montgomery County under the ownership and management of the National Park Service.

Trails for walking, bicycling and equestrian use exist or have been proposed for some of the stream valley greenways that link to the Potomac. The C&O Canal towpath, which parallels the river, is heavily used by both bicyclists and walkers. Access to the Potomac River is also available from the National Park for canoeists, fishermen and whitewater kayakers.

2) Reddy Branch

Reddy Branch is a partially established greenway that begins in the Raebel Carson Conservation Park and connects to the North Branch/Rock Creek Greenway. A portion of the corridor is owned by M-NCPPC. The property, which completes a link to North Branch, is within the county's acquisition boundaries. Reddy Branch connects to the Hawlings River Greenway. An equestrian-walking trail system has been proposed jointly for both greenways.

1) Rock Creek

Rock Creek is a stream valley greenway that originates south of Route 108, passes through Rockville, and enters the District of Columbia below Chery Chase. The Rock Creek 0 - ..r.,vf< ū, 2, 2) W.. ●-●● ●●

D.C. to the Lincoln Memorial. M-NCPPC owns the corridor in Montgomery County. Rock Creek Provides links to the North Branch and Cabin John Greenways.

A 14-mile paved trail runs from the Needwood, north of Rockville, to Chevy Chase. A planned one-mile extension will provide a connection to the District of Columbia line in FY97. Rock Creek Park is one of the most popular bicycling locations in the Washington metropolitan area.

24) Rock Run

This greenway traverses the Rock Run stream valley from north of Brickyard Road to MacArthur Boulevard. Trails on adjacent private property cross or extend into the greenway at some points.

25) Sligo Creek

Sligo Creek is a stream valley greenway which originates in Wheaton and connects with Northwest Branch in Prince George's County and the Anacostia Trails network. A paved walking and bicycling trail runs adjacent to Sligo Creek along its entire length in Montgomery County. Construction is underway to mend the trail into Prince George's County. This feature makes the Sligo Creek Greenway extremely popular in the Washington metropolitan area.

An eight-foot-wide paved trail is being constructed by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) in conjunction with a sewer line replacement and stream-bank stabilization. The trail is being constructed in three phases. Phase I (Pico Branch Road to Geneva Avenue) and roughly half of Phase II (Geneva Avenue to Flower Avenue) are located in Montgomery County with the remainder in Prince George's County. Parking along the trail is available at several locations in Montgomery County. A detailed map is available from WSSC.

26) Ten Mile Creek

This is a stream valley greenway connecting the Little Bainton Greenway and the Little Seneca Greenway via Black Hill Regional Park. Currently providing habitat and water quality benefits, the greenway is planned to become part of the park system and contain an unpaved trail.

27) Watts Branch

This is a stream valley greenway which originates in the southwest section of Rockville and connects with the Potomac River. The corridor is owned and managed by M-NCPPC. Watts Branch Greenway currently provides water quality and resource protection benefits. An equestrian-walking trail has been proposed.

Park Accessibility for Disabled Individuals

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990, there has been a higher degree of visibility for all accessibility-related issues. The Department of Parks has attempted to respond with new and innovative designs for playgrounds and renovations of existing structures.

In response to this issue the Department of Parks in Montgomery County has developed the following policy statement:

In the planning, construction, and renovation of buildings and facilities, as well as the provision of programs and services to the public, it is the policy of the Montgomery County Department of Parks to provide accessibility for all park visitors, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the quality of the park experience for everyone.

Recognizing the diversity of disabling conditions and that citizens with disabilities desire opportunities for recreational and leisure activities, the Department of Parks has developed a park accessibility program. This program is designed to **assist in:**

- o obtaining input on recreational needs from people with disabilities,
- o ensuring that all future park development will be designed with the needs of people with disabilities in mind,
- o analyzing existing barriers within the parks,
- o funding of future accessibility projects, and
- o dissemination of this information to the public.

To assist efforts to increase accessibility in Montgomery County Parks, an advisory committee has been in existence since 1987. This group comprises individuals who represent a range of disabilities. The Park Accessibility Advisory Committee (PAAC) provides valuable input on many of our designs

and performs site visits to park facilities to provide recommendations on changes that need to be made to allow better access.

Goals

A. Future Accessibility

Park accessibility goals which have been endorsed by PAAC and by the Montgomery County Park Commission are as follows:

1. To comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. To increase utilization of Montgomery County Parks by persons with disabilities.
3. To ensure that all employees are adequately trained with substantive content to be more aware and sensitive to the variety of disabilities and the differing needs, abilities and limitations of these conditions.
4. To ensure that the Department of Parks utilizes Accessibility Standards and Guidelines which comply with federal standards and obtain technical assistance from county, state and federal offices.
5. To ensure the review of appropriate site plans for existing parks proposed for modification and proposed new park development to determine if goals are met.
6. To assist the Community Relations office to outreach to people with disabilities through an effective publicity campaign.

B. Implementation of Accessibility Goals

To implement the park accessibility goals it is recommended that:

1. All park facilities are surveyed in order to comply with the requirements of the ADA. The focus should be on parking, sitting areas, level access paths, signage and restrooms.
2. Accessible facilities are provided in each region of the county to ensure

convenient access to persons with disabilities.

3. New playgrounds are sited and designed for accessibility, distributed throughout the county and located in parks where they are likely to **receive the most use.**
4. All Department of Parks programs are modified to provide programmatic **access.**
5. Information is made available to the public on the location of accessible park facilities and programs.
6. Park publications are reviewed to assure the inclusion of appropriate material on accessibility, and that press releases and public announcements include pertinent accessibility information.