

Calvert County  
FY 2016  
Program Open Space Annual Program

Approved by the Calvert County  
Board of County Commissioners  
June 2, 2015

## INTRODUCTION

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

## CALVERT COUNTY RECREATION ACTION PLAN

### OBJECTIVES

The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan, adopted 2004 and amended 2010, sets forth four broad objectives in the Recreation section:

- Develop a network of recreational sites and facilities, including hiker/biker and horseback riding trails, based on the unique natural, cultural and historical features of the County.
- Provide public access to the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay.
- Ensure that a wide selection of public recreational facilities and programs are provided to meet the interests and needs of all ages, incomes, and abilities.
- Provide safe access to parks and recreational facilities including, where feasible, pedestrian and bicycle access.

The Comprehensive Plan sets forth an Action Plan. A major objective of the Action Plan is to establish a series of recreation and open space sites, primarily along the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River, each designed to highlight a distinctive feature of Calvert County's history, culture and geography.

The Calvert County Recreation Action Plan is designed to establish a comprehensive, county-wide, recreation network that will:

- provide a wide range of recreational opportunities for County residents,
- promote a strong tourism economy,
- protect and preserve unique natural, cultural and historic resources, and
- help direct growth toward designated growth areas in accordance with the Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act.

Taken as a whole, these sites will provide County residents with a wide range of recreational opportunities while helping to forge a sense of identity with the County and its traditions. These sites will also provide the basis for a tourism industry that is targeted

toward tourists who respect and enjoy the same qualities that have been identified by County residents as being important – “a rural atmosphere,” “a clean environment” & “closeness to water.”

A tourism industry based on these factors will not only help support and maintain these recreational sites but will provide jobs and business opportunities in tourism-related fields.

These primary sites are to be linked to Town Centers and to each other by a series of greenways. Types of greenways will vary widely. Some will be designated scenic roadways, with or without adjacent bikeways. Others will be off-road trails for horseback riding, bicycling, hiking or a combination of two or more. Still others will be waterway corridors, providing opportunities for boating from one destination to another. Finally, there will be wildlife and scenic corridors.

The Town Centers are to serve as focal points for community-based recreation. Recreational sites and facilities will not only help shape and define the character of the Town Centers but they will also help attract new residents to towns instead of out into the countryside. They will also make recreation more accessible to more people, particularly young people and the elderly who may not have convenient access to cars. Because Town Centers are linked to County-wide parks by way of greenways, they will serve as “gateways” to County parks, providing a selection of supporting services.

This Action Plan is part of a broader set of visions for the County. It is designed to build on the unique features of this County, its characteristic landscape, and its history. Finally, it is designed to help strengthen and reinforce the recreational amenities that are already here.

## **ACTION PLAN**

### **CONTINUE THE ESTABLISHED STANDARD OF PROVIDING 30 ACRES OF RECREATIONAL OPEN SPACE PER 1000 POPULATION.**

- A. GIVE PRIORITY TO PRESERVING AND ACQUIRING KEY COUNTYWIDE NATURAL, CULTURAL, AND HISTORIC SITES WHILE THEY ARE STILL AVAILABLE. LAND BANKING IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED FOR THIS PURPOSE.
- B. DEVELOP A FULL RANGE OF RECREATIONAL SITES AND FACILITIES SERVING TOWN CENTERS (ESPECIALLY AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS). EMPHASIZE FAMILY-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES AND INCREASE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES.
- C. CONNECT COUNTY-WIDE PARKS TO EACH OTHER AND TO TOWN CENTERS BY WAY OF PUBLIC GREENWAYS. ENSURE THAT GREENWAYS DO NOT GO THROUGH PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PERMISSION OF THE PROPERTY OWNER.

## **ANNUAL PROGRAM PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS**

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

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

## FY 2016 Annual Program

### PROPOSED UNBUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR ACQUISITION

SPONSOR	PROJECT NAME PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE			SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY (\$)				
		EXISTING	ULTIMATE	PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	A-1 CANOE AND KAYAK LAUNCH SITES	6	8	2	150,000	75,000	75,000		
CALVERT	A-2 FLAG PONDS NATURE PARK	560	630	70	1,400,000	0	1,400,000		
CALVERT	A-3 PATUXENT WATERFRONT PARK	0	60	60	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-4 WAR OF 1812 STAR-SPANGLED TRAIL	0	32	32	400,000	100,000	100,000		200,000
CALVERT	A-5 PARKERS CREEK WATERSHED	3000	Not identified	Not identified					
CALVERT	A-6 HUNTINGTOWN TOWN CENTER PARK	0	6	6	250,000	125,000	125,000		
CALVERT	A-7 HALLOWING POINT PARK ADDITION	81	121	40	600,000	300,000	300,000		
CALVERT	A-8 HUNTINGTOWN DISTRICT PARK	0	100	100	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-9 NORTHEAST SECTOR PARK	0	100	100	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-10 ST. LEONARD DISTRICT PARK	0	100	100	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
CALVERT	A-11 DUNKIRK COMMUNITY CENTER	0	1	1	1,000,000	500,000	500,000		
CALVERT	A-16 CALVERT MARINE MUSEUM ADDITION	10	11.1	1.1	750,000	600,000	150,000		
CALVERT	A-17 BISCOE GRAY HERITAGE FARM	206	212	6.2	400,000	400,000			
CALVERT	A-18 BALTIMORE & DRUM POINT RAILROAD TRAIL	0.6	210	209±					
CALVERT	A-19 CHESAPEAKE BAY PARKS	2	Not identified	Not identified					
CALVERT	A-21 SHARED USED TRAILS	4	Not identified	Not identified					
CALVERT	A-22 NATURAL RESOURCES EXPANDED PROTECTION	1500+	Not identified	200+					

**Highlight** indicates new project for the FY 2016 Annual Program.

**PROJECTS REQUESTED BY MUNICIPALITIES FOR ACQUISITION**

SPONSOR	PROJECT NAME PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE			SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY (\$)				
		EXISTING	ULTIMATE	PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	A-12 CHESAPEAKE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY	.5 mile	7.7 miles	Not identified					
CALVERT	A-13 NORTH BEACH 2 <sup>ND</sup> & GREENWOOD POCKET PARK	0	0.125	0.125	120,000				
CALVERT	A-14 NORTH BEACH TOWN PARK	1.45	1.75+	.30	250,000		250,000		
CALVERT	A-15 NORTH BEACH NATURE TRAIL (A & B) SYSTEM	1.5	18.215	19.71	75,000	75,000			
CALVERT	A-20 NORTH BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN	0	1	1	50,000	25,000		25,000	
<b>CALVERT</b>	<b>A-23 OLD BAYSIDE ROAD TRAIL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Not identified</b>	<b>Not identified</b>					

**Highlight** indicates new project for the FY 2016 Annual Program.

**FY 2016 Annual Program  
APPROVED BUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

SPONSOR	NAME OF RECREATION AREA TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	ACREAGE	SOURCE OF FUNDS (FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY) \$				
		PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	D-2 HALLOWING POINT DISTRICT PARK (Acreage, County owns 82 & leases 20)	102 (82+20)	821,924	276,200	545,724		
CALVERT	D-3 DUNKIRK DISTRICT PARK	81	79,000	79,000			
CALVERT	D-4 COVE POINT DISTRICT PARK	88	202,325	202,325			
CALVERT	D-5 SOLOMONS TOWN CENTER PARK	20	241,000	60,250	180,750		
CALVERT	D-6 EQUESTRIAN TRAILS COUNTY-WIDE	0	438,000	438,000			
CALVERT	D-8 BISCOE GRAY HERITAGE FARM	206	280,000	108,750	56,250		115,000
CALVERT	D-11 CHESAPEAKE HILLS GOLF COURSE	149	220,000	220,000			
CALVERT	D-14 SOLOMONS BOAT RAMP	4.5	150,000				150,000*
CALVERT	D-15 KINGS LANDING PARK	260	30,000	15,000			15,000
CALVERT	D-16 BATTLE CREEK CYPRESS SWAMP ADDITION	100	20,000	20,000			

SPONSOR	NAME OF RECREATION AREA TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	ACREAGE	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS	OTHER GRANTS
CALVERT	D-17 BATTLE CREEK CYPRESS EXHIBITION RENOVATION	100	25,000	25,000			
CALVERT	D-18 WARD FARM RECREATION AND NATURE PARK	209	420,000	150,000			270,000

\* State funding from the Department of Natural Resources Waterway Improvement Fund.

PROPOSED UNBUDGETED COUNTY PROJECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT							
CALVERT	D-1 KING MEMORIAL PARK	7					
CALVERT	D-2 HALLOWING POINT DISTRICT PARK	81	2,126,100	1,836,800	289,300		
CALVERT	D-3 DUNKIRK DISTRICT PARK	81	1,383,500	1,383,500			
CALVERT	D-4 COVE POINT DISTRICT PARK	80	1,591,200	1,059,900	531,300		
CALVERT	D-5 SOLOMONS TOWN CENTER PARK	20	241,000	60,250	180,750		
CALVERT	D-7 PRINCE FREDERICK COMMUNITY CENTER	Not identified					
CALVERT	D-8 BISCOE GRAY HERITAGE FARM	206	550,000	425,000			125,000
CALVERT	D-9 BREEZY POINT BEACH PARK	13					
CALVERT	D-10 B CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY TRAIL	Not identified					
CALVERT	D-12 BALTIMORE & DRUM POINT RAILROAD TRAIL (PRINCE FREDERICK PORTION)	11					
CALVERT	D-13 NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER	3					
CALVERT	D-14 SOLOMONS BOAT RAMP	4.5	752,000				752,000
CALVERT	D-15 KINGS LANDING PARK	260	280,000	280,000			
CALVERT	D-16 BATTLE CREEK CYPRESS SWAMP ADDITION	100	200,000	200,000			
CALVERT	D-17 BATTLE CREEK CYPRESS SWAMP EXHIBIT RENOVATION	100	140,000	140,000			
CALVERT	D-22 SHARED USE, NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS COUNTY-WIDE	Not identified	45,000	45,000			
CALVERT	D-23 FLAG PONDS NATURE PARK EXHIBIT DEVELOPMENT	560	50,000	50,000			

**Highlight** indicates new project for the FY 2016 Annual Program.

PROJECTS REQUESTED BY MUNICIPALITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT						
SPONSOR	NAME OF RECREATION AREA TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	ACREAGE	SOURCE OF FUNDS (FOR ANNUAL PROGRAM ONLY) \$			
		PROJECT	TOTAL	LOCAL	LOCAL SHARE POS	STATE SHARE POS
CALVERT	D-10 A FISHING CREEK PARK AND CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY TRAIL	104	1,900,000	950,000*		950,000
CALVERT	D-19 WETLANDS WILDLIFE OVERLOOK PARK	18±				
CALVERT	D-20 NORTH BEACH 2 <sup>ND</sup> AND GREENWOOD POCKET PARK	0.125				
CALVERT	D-21 3 <sup>RD</sup> STREET PARK	0.70	875,000	540,500	84,500**	250,000
<b>CALVERT</b>	<b>D-24 OLD BAYSIDE ROAD TRAIL</b>	<b>Not identified</b>				

\* Funding: 75% cash and 25% in-kind (\$712,500 cash plus \$237,500 in-kind).

\*\*Local Share POS funding in Calvert County Government's proposed FY 2016 CIP Budget.

**Highlight** indicates new project for the FY 2016 Annual Program.

### FY 2016 ACQUISITION PROJECTS

#### **A-1 Canoe and Kayak Launch Sites**

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

#### **A-2 Flag Ponds Nature Park**

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

### **A-3 Patuxent Waterfront Park**

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

### **A-4 War of 1812 Star-Spangled Banner Trail**

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

### **A-5 Parkers Creek Watershed**

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

### **A-6 Huntingtown Town Center Park**

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

### **A-7 Hallowing Point Park Addition - Hall Property**

The purchase of this property will add 40 acres to an existing 81-acre district park and enable the County to meet a strong demand for additional athletic fields. The property is level and well-suited to active recreational use.

### **A-8 Huntingtown District Park**

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

### **A-9 Northeast Sector Park**

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

**A-10 St. Leonard District Park**

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

**A-11 Dunkirk Community Center**

A community center similar to the Dowell House in St. Leonard is needed for community meetings and activities in Dunkirk.

**A-12 Chesapeake Beach Railroad Right-of-Way**

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

**A-13 North Beach 2<sup>nd</sup> & Greenwood Pocket Park**

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

**A-14 North Beach Town Park**

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

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

Section A plan for the Trail is to extend the observation area of the overlook to the Burnt Oaks community by connecting the overlook and Frederick Avenue through a recently acquired parcel of land.

Section B plan is to have a Trail System from North Beach to Rose Haven in Anne Arundel County. The first part of Section B would be pedestrian biker pathway in North Beach beginning at 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Bay Avenue and extending northerly for 0.4 mile to the Anne Arundel

County line. This part would include a segment adjacent to the wetlands on the 15-acre Walton Parcel recently acquired by the Town. The continuation of the trail would be an extension of the in-town trail from the Town line to Rose Haven. This part beyond the North Beach line in Anne Arundel County is in the planning stages and will require extensive coordination with the Rose Haven, Holland Point Citizen Association, Anne Arundel County, and Maryland State Highway Administration representatives.

#### **A-16 Calvert Marine Museum Addition**

This project would add 1.10 acres of waterfront land and a pier to the museum campus. The additional land will allow museum to install a marine railway for use by the historic bugeye, *Wm. B. Tennison* and the skipjack, *Dee of St. Mary's*, extend the boardwalk along the waterfront, and increase water-based activities. Because the water is deeper in front of this property, the museum could invite larger vessels to the museum. The museum proposes using private funds to purchase the house for administrative space and restroom and showers for visiting boaters.

#### **A-17 Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm**

In order to provide 24 hour on-site presence on the Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm to ensure protection of livestock, a residence will be required. One option is to renovate the George Rice house. The other option, should it become available, would be to purchase the original Gray family residence. In addition to the residence, there is a barn and several outbuildings.

#### **A-18 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail**

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

#### **A-19 Chesapeake Bay Parks**

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

#### **A-20 North Beach Community Garden**

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

### **A-21 Shared Use Trails**

The County is actively looking for at least two public routes for shared use trails. These trails could be either natural surface or paved, and would be designed to accommodate a mix of hikers, bikers, and/or equestrians.

### **A-22 Natural Resources Expanded Protection**

Acquisition of undeveloped lands, for example, properties adjacent to Battle Creek Cypress Swamp, Kings Landing Park, and Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park, would support the conservation and stewardship of our natural heritage and offer compatible outdoor recreation opportunities.

### **A-23 Old Bayside Road Trail**

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

## **FY 2016 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

### **D-1 King Memorial Park**

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

### **D-2 Hallowing Point District Park**

Hallowing Point Park is one of three district parks in the County. The County is in the process of implementing the Hallowing Point Park Master Plan for the build-out of the park. In FY15 construction was completed on a new playground and associated parking, and new parking lots will be constructed to serve fields 3, 5 and 6.

### **D-3 Dunkirk District Park**

Dunkirk District Park is one of three district parks in the county. The County is in the process of implementing the Dunkirk District Park Master Plan for the build-out of the park. In FY 2014 field lighting was installed on Field 6. Future improvements include new tennis courts.

#### **D-4 Cove Point District Park**

Cove Point District Park is one of three district parks in the county. Funding will be needed to implement the master plan for the build-out of the park. Future facilities may include a skate park, roller hockey courts, picnic shelters, playgrounds and hiking trails. An outdoor swimming pool, restrooms, concession stands and parking were completed in 2006. An accessible playground was completed in fall 2007. In FY 2009 a new restroom was constructed. In FY 2013 the tennis courts were renovated. Future improvements include a skate park and picnic areas.

#### **D-5 Solomons Town Center Park**

Solomons Town Center Park was purchased from the Annmarie Garden Board of Trustees in FY 2004. This 20-acre parcel provides active recreation for residents in the southern end of the county. The park opened in spring 2012 and includes ballfields, a playground, two shelters, and a restroom facility. The playground and shelters were funded by a state Community Parks and Playgrounds grant. Field lighting was installed in FY 2014. Future improvements include installation of irrigation.

#### **D-6 Equestrian Trails County-wide**

There is a clear need for designated horseback riding trails in Calvert County. The County has ranked several potential sites on public property for the development of horse trails.

Potential Equestrian Trails include:

- Trails at Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm: County-owned property in close proximity to Battle Creek Cypress Swamp. A master plan was completed in 2010 for this property. A feasibility study has identified a trail location that would provide a 90-minute ride. In 2011, an entry drive, parking for horse trailers, and trails were constructed. Recent improvements include marking of the boundaries, installing interpretive panels, and way finding signs.
- Trails and Trailer Parking at Cammack Property: The County in cooperation with Maryland Department of Natural Resources expanded the parking area of the Cammack property adjacent to Kings Landing Park for horse trailers.
- Trails at Kings Landing Park: There is currently a limited area for horseback riding at Kings Landing. It may be possible to connect Kings Landing Park to the Cammack Property for trail riding.
- Trails at Flag Ponds Nature Park: The potential for horse trails at Flag Ponds is tied to acquisition of the remaining adjoining property and/or an easement agreement with Exelon Generation, Calvert Cliffs Power Station.

#### **D-7 Prince Frederick Community Center**

A recreation center similar to the Northeast Center in Chesapeake Beach and Southern Community Center in Lusby is needed to serve central Calvert County. A parcel has been identified adjacent to the Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center in the Prince Frederick Town Center.

### **D-8 Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm**

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

### **D-9 Breezy Point Beach Park**

Breezy Point Park is approximately 13 acres in size and includes 2,000 feet of Bayfront beach with access to Plum Point Creek. In addition to the wide beach area, the property includes a fishing pier, bathhouse, 100 trailer sites, playground, volleyball court(s), snack/concession stand, and large shaded picnic area. Most of the planned major improvement projects have been completed. However, additional funding may be required in future years. In FY 2010 a major renovation of campground's electrical and water was initiated. In FY 2014 improvements included replacement of swim area groins, extension of campground beach groins and replacement of northern boundary fence and groins. In FY15 a new playground was installed in the campground.

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

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

### **D-10 b Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail – Calvert County**

This County project would be a continuation of the railway trail developed by the Town of Chesapeake Beach. See details in D-11 a above and A-13 in the acquisition section.

### **D-11 Chesapeake Hills Golf Course**

The County took ownership of the 149-acre Chesapeake Hills Golf Course in Fall 2008 (\$3,019,356 County funds). Several improvements were undertaken in FY 2010 including rehabilitation of the clubhouse exterior, and improvements to the golf course. Construction of a new maintenance facility was completed in FY 2012. In FY 2014 the installation of a pump station and new golf

course irrigation project was completed. In FY 2015, the #2 green was renovated. The County is in the process of implementing the master plan for the golf course.

#### **D-12 Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad Trail**

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

#### **D-13 Northeast Community Center**

Northeast Community Center, located in the Town of Chesapeake Beach, is designed to serve the entire Northeast Sector of the county. Numerous recreational programs are conducted at the center and it is heavily used by the community for community events and private events and meetings. In FY 2012 the center's gymnasium floor was replaced.

#### **D-14 Solomons Boat Ramp**

The Solomons Boat Ramp is in need of renovation. Both the ramp and boat piers need extensive work. From a safety and public service standpoint, at least one of the boat piers should be floating so that easy boat access can be maintained regardless of tide, and provide an ADA-accessible facility. State Waterway Improvement Fund grants have been received to complete the engineering and design of the new ramp. Construction will be funded through State and Federal waterway funds.

#### **D-15 Kings Landing Park**

Kings Landing Park has a wide range of amenities that have a variety of needs to better serve the public. Tom Wisner Hall is used throughout the year for meetings, weddings receptions, etc. However, there is no defined parking to support these activities. This project will provide parking for approximately 100 vehicles. Some outdoor lighting is planned for safety during night-time activities. This parking must be compatible with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area and has to be made of pervious materials. Seven cabins remain from when the park was the summer camp site for the Baltimore YMCA. Grant funds were received in FY2014 to repair the cabin roofs. Additional funds will be required to rehabilitate the cabins for overnight camping cabins, classrooms for interpretive programs, and day-use shelters. In FY 2007, POS funding was used to construct a 150' by 300' ring for casual riding and equestrian shows. Associated with the ring was the construction of a 12' by 16' roofed judges' stand with electric service. A parking area was defined. Current usage of the ring is low, yet the surrounding area is very popular as a youth group camping area. Overall, a new management and/or strategic plan is needed; the current plan is from 1990 and has many actions that are not relevant to the current park.

### **D-16 Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Building Renovation and Addition**

The Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Nature Center serves as the headquarters for the Natural Resources Division, as well as a Visitor Center for the Sanctuary. It is in need of a renovation of the visitor reception area to better serve the public. Additional space is needed to create two office spaces for nature center staff and volunteers.

### **D-17 Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Exhibit Renovations**

The existing exhibits, over 10 years old, need to be replaced and/or renovated to maintain and further the mission of the Natural Resources Division. The construction of the new animal display exhibits will be on-going. Minor changes to the exhibit displays are ongoing. New exhibits will entice and educate visitors as well as serve the many school groups that come to the facility.

### **D-18 Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park**

In FY13 the County purchased 209 acres adjacent to the Dunkirk Town Center to build additional playing fields a shared use natural trail system and associated facilities, restrooms, concession facilities, maintenance facilities and other facilities as the property will allow. In FY2015 a master plan for the development of the property was developed. Upon its approval the County will begin implementing the master plan for the park. The purchase of the property was made possible through the Calvert County Youth Recreational Opportunities Fund. This special fund was created by the State Legislature in 2012 and is administered by the Secretary of Maryland Department of Natural Resources. A portion of the revenue received from gaming in Chesapeake Beach and North Beach is returned to Calvert County to the purpose of increasing recreational opportunities for youth in the county.

### **D-19 Wetlands Wildlife Overlook Park**

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

### **D-20 2<sup>nd</sup> & Greenwood Pocket Park**

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

### **D-21 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Park**

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

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

There is a need for shared use, natural surface trails to accommodate trail running, off-road bicycling, horseback riding, and/or hiking. Trail plans could be developed at existing facilities.

Potential shared use, natural surface trails include:

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

## **D-23 Flag Ponds Nature Park Exhibit Development**

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

## **A-24 Old Bayside Road Trail**

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