



December 27, 2023

ST. MARY'S COUNTY RECREATION AND PARKS CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The Recreation and Parks (R&P) Board was established to provide advice and assistance concerning a comprehensive program of public recreation, including establishment, operation, and maintenance system of public parks and facilities throughout St. Mary's County.

The membership of the Citizens advisory board consisted of nine (9) members for 2023:

Chanda Norton - Chairperson
Greg Weaver - Vice-Chairperson (Wicomico Shores Golf Club Board member)
Mike Watson - SMCPS Representative
Donald De Graves
Glenn Larned, Jr.
Veronica Johnson
John Lydon III
David McDonough

The Department is comprised of five divisions: Administration; Recreation; Parks; Museums; and Golf Course. The Director of Recreation and Parks provides supervision and management for these divisions, in addition managing capital planning for new parks and facility expansion and enhancements. The Museum Board of Trustees and Wicomico Golf Course Advisory boards respectively.

FY2023 Budget Highlights include:

Total Department - General Fund: \$5,220,471
Recreation Activity - Enterprise Fund: \$5,185,790
Wicomico Shores Golf - Enterprise Fund: \$1,616,733

Major CIP Project highlights by the Department include:

Myrtle Point Park Design and Engineering (RP2005)

Prior Approval = \$275,000

FY24 Request = \$125,000

- Services awarded to Maginnis Del Ninno Architects

Shannon Farm Park (RP1905)

Prior Approval = \$4,610,966

FY24 Requests = \$2,314,554

- Master Plan adoption Jan. 2023
- Minor site plan approved by Department

Three Notch Trail Phase VII (RP1501)

Prior Approval = \$6,113,496

Total Grant funding awarded = \$1,200,000

- HVRS property purchased
- NEPA recertification received

Snow Hill (RP1901)

Prior approval: \$5,075,000

FY24 Request: \$286,405

Grant funding awarded = \$500,000

- Boat ramp, kayak launch site plans approved
- New entrance design for boat/kayak launches proposed

Elms Beach Park (RP1601)

Prior Approval = \$2,318,986

FY24 Request = \$435,000

- Services for parking lot expansion proposals
- Restroom / Comfort station proposals

Division completed highlights include:

- SMECO - EmPOWER Maryland participation
- John Baggett Park Playground replacement
- ADA Upgrades- John Baggett Park, Lancaster Park Run; Ballfields & Chaptico Park
- Baseball field renovations (16)
- Lights at Cecil Park & Dorsey Park
- Bathroom remodel- Margaret Brent and Leonard Hall
- Windscreens at 7th, CRRP and Baggett Parks
- Asphalt overlay: Three Notch Trail, 5th District Park & Chaptico Park
- Leonard Hall Recreation Center Renovation
- Court Improvements Cardinal Gibbons, 7th District & Hollywood Recreation Center
- 5th District Parking Lot lights LED lighting retrofit
- Bushwood Wharf pier improvement
- Dorsey Park field upgrades
- Department Field Maintenance Plan revision

Future Items for Citizens Board action:

- Execution of RP1904 Sports Complex to include indoor facilities for court sports
- Execution of RP2204 Central County Park - open space for Middle and North St. Mary's County
- Creation of Memorandum of Understanding with YMCA of the Chesapeake
- Accelerate testing of delay devices for athletic lights at county parks for Business Impact Analysis
- Pilot a 3rd/4th grade Girls only basketball division
- Provide Department assistance for St. Mary's Co. independent track and field athletes

All CIP updates and Monthly reports can be found at
<https://www.stmaryscountymd.gov/Recreate/RPCIP/>.