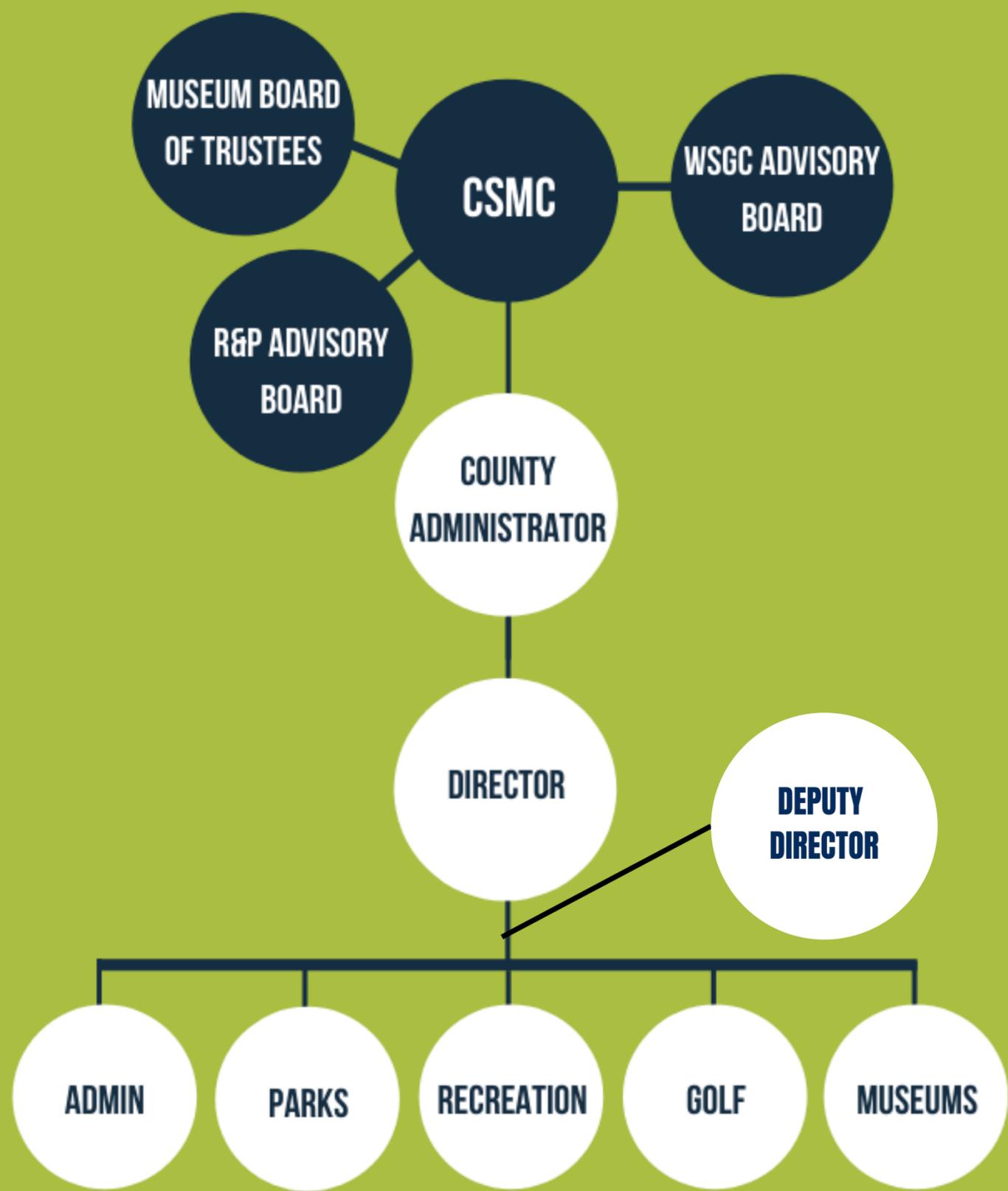




# Department Overview

Raymond E. Bivens, Director

# Our Organization





# Our History

- 1946 - developer donated land for what would become the county's first park - Nicolet Park. The park's development began in early 1950s.
- 1965 - First Recreation and Parks Board established under direction of MD General Assembly
- 
- 1966 - Mr. Albert L. Barthelme, Sr. was named supervisor of the St. Mary's County Youth Commission. Commission consisted of four area recreation councils.
  - Bay District Recreation Council
  - Central District Recreation Council
  - Leonardtown Recreation Council
  - Western Area Recreation Council
- The Department of Recreation and Parks was created in the late 1960s and on November 17, 1969 Mr. John Baggett was named Director and served for 20 years. John V. Baggett Park at Laurel Grove is named in his honor.
- Mr. Barthelme was named the Department's first Recreation Supervisor and developed the county's first sport and summer camp programs. He served until 1985.
- In 1972, Ed Atkins hired as the second Recreation Supervisor.
- And in 1994, the Recreation and Parks Board re-established by Resolution No. 94-11 under the direction of the Commissioners for St. Mary's County.



ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
RECREATION & PARKS



NATIONALLY  
ACCREDITED

In 2022 St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks joined the ranks of elite park and recreation agencies across the country by earning accreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). This mark of distinction indicates that an agency has met rigorous standards related to the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, safety and services.

2024 Annual Report submitted April 2024

# FY2025 Budget Highlights

Total Operating Budget - \$14,427,486

## **General Fund**      **\$6,494,103\***

- Admin                    \$ 1,698,719
- Parks                    \$3,437,257
- Museums                \$1,080,658
- Grants                    \$    25,000
- Non-Profits             \$   138,830
- CRRP                    \$   113,639

## **Enterprise Funds**    **\$7,933,383**

- Golf                      \$1,993,882
- Recreation             \$5,939,501



Approximately 45% of operating budget from tax support; 55% from fees and charges

Approximately 2% of overall County Government FY25 General Fund budget is allocated to Recreation & Parks



# Parks

The ***Parks Division*** is responsible for:

- Twenty-two county parks
- Fifteen public landings
- Nineteen playgrounds
- 4 Dog Parks
- 1,400+ acres of parkland
- 2,700+ acres of county property
- Three Notch Trail - 11+ miles
- Skate parks & Sprayground
- Facility maintenance
- Equipment maintenance

# Recreation

A large group of children and adults are posing on a modern playground structure. Many of the children are wearing orange t-shirts with "SUMMER CAMP" and "RFP" printed on them. Some adults are wearing blue t-shirts. They are sitting on various levels of the structure, including a platform and a slide. The background shows a clear blue sky and some greenery.

The **Recreation Division** is responsible for:

- **Facilities:** Gymnastics Academy; Great Mills Pool; Hollywood, Margaret Brent, Leonard Hall, Carver Recreation Centers & the Wellness and Aquatics Center
- **Youth Programs:** School Age Centers; Summer Camps; Tiny Tots; Parent's Night Out
- **Sports:** Youth instructional & league play; Adult leagues; Sports camps; Affiliated & sponsored leagues
- **Wellness & Leisure Programs:** Classes, Self-defense, education
- **Therapeutic:** Classes; Summer camps; Inclusion services
- **Special Events:** Family themed



# Dedicated Staff

*"We work so others can play"*

- Summerstock Theater
- Family Events & Festivals
- Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament
- Leisure & Wellness Programs
- School Age Care & Camps
- Historical Education
- Parks & Open Spaces
- Public Landings & Beaches
- Recreation & Fun!

ST CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM  
NEW BUILDING



# Museums

PERSPECTIVE RENDERING - CONCEPT 2

The *Museums Division* is responsible for:

- St. Clement's Island Museum
- Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum & Historic Park
- Drayden African American Schoolhouse
- Charlotte Hall Schoolhouse
- Old Jail Museum
- U-1105 Black Panther Historic Shipwreck Preserve
- Water Taxi to SCl, tours, special events, tours & exhibits

The Museums Division has been awarded the highest honor a museum can receive - Accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums



# Wicomico Shores Golf Course



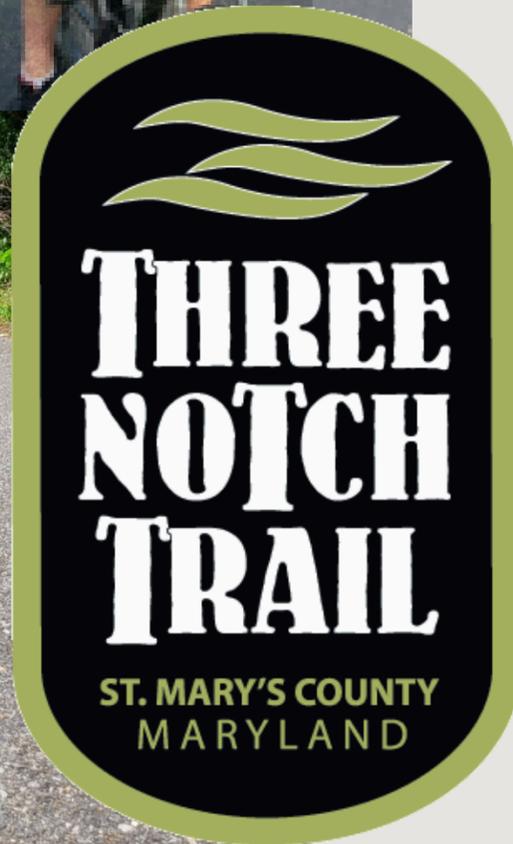
## Challenging Affordable Fun

- 18-Hole Public Golf Course
- Riverview Restaurant
- Open 7-days a week
- Tournaments, weddings, events
- Bunker renovations, equipment, cart paths completed. Upcoming CIP will address irrigation system upgrades.

## Capital Budget: FY25 funding

- Recreation Facility & Park Improvements \$2,650,000
- Elms Beach Park Improvements \$ 1,078,541
- Snow Hill Park \$ 300,000
- Solar Panels at Dorsey Park \$50,000
- St. Clement's Island Museum \$4,435,872





# Three Notch Trail

- Complete - Phases I, II, III, IV, V, VI
- Phase VII under design
- Eleven+ miles open
- Over 20 miles when complete
- 10 feet wide asphalt trail
- Heavily used multi-use facility

*Some sections in Phases III, IV still need to be completed*

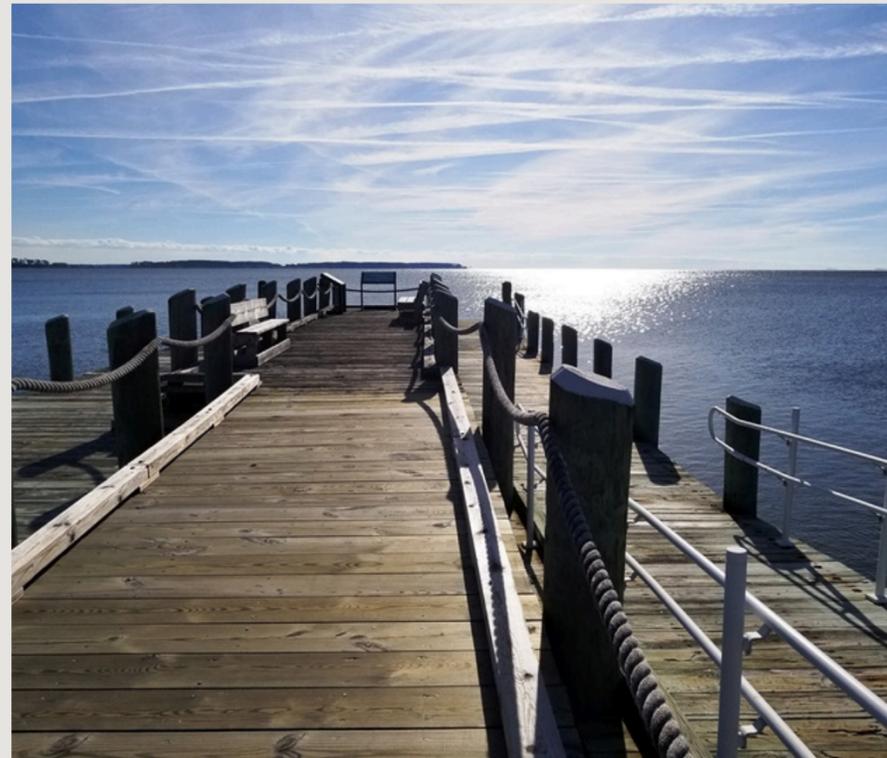
# Snow Hill Park

Planning and design underway for:

- Boat Launch and trailer parking on Patuxent River
- Kayak Launch and Parking on Roslin Creek
- New playground and waterfront pavilion opened August 2024
- Improved entrance and roadways
- Restroom facilities



# Recreation & Parks Strategic Planning



**1**

Department Strategic Plan  
5-year goals & objectives  
renewed in April 2024

**2**

Land Preservation, Parks and  
Recreation Plan (LPPRP)  
approved in 2022

**3**

St. Mary's County  
Comprehensive Master Plan  
renewal for 2025



- Provide a variety of quality recreation, leisure and educational experiences.
- Demonstrate fiscal stewardship by enhancing programs, services and facilities.
- Promote agency, stakeholder and community engagement through innovative means while fostering preservation.
- Create a sustainable leader organization supporting an innovative workforce.



# Questions?

[raymond.bivens@stmaryscountymd.gov](mailto:raymond.bivens@stmaryscountymd.gov)  
(301) 475-4200 ext. 1800  
23150 Leonard Hall Drive  
Leonardtwn, MD 20650