



Recreation and Parks Board - May 07 2026 Minutes

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Chesapeake Building, 41770 Baldrige St., Leonardtown, MD

	Page
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. ROLL CALL	
3. MINUTES	3
Mar 05 2026 - Minutes - Public.pdf	
A. A motion to approve the March 5th, 2026, minutes was made by Nat Scroggins and seconded by Sean Ritchie. All in favor, minutes pass.	
4. NEW BUSINESS	
A. R&P Volunteer Recognition	
Karen Stone, Museum Manager recognized a long-term volunteer for the Museums Division.	
Cheri Nelson, Recreation Division Manager recognized volunteers for the Summerstock production, Sports division and the annual Easter Festival.	
B. YMCA and Great Mills Pool Update	5
An overview of the new YMCA and Great Mills Pool transition was given to the board. ST. MARY'S COUNTY YMCA (4).pptx Great Mills Outdoor Pool Flyer (2).pdf	
C. Recreation and Parks Indoor Sports Update Rec Division Sports Overview.pdf	15
Name of Individuals/Groups (Identify main presenter & list all who will be attending w/titles):	
Cheri Nelson, Recreation Division Manager	

Supporting County Staff to be in Attendance:

Zach Zalovick, Sports Coordinator


D. Chancellors Run Concessions

Person presenting: Sara Urtz

Discussion was held regarding the current RFP, if a vendor was chosen and address any questions/concerns the board has in response

5. DIRECTORS UPDATE

29

Raymond Bivens, Director gave an update to the board on current, projects, events and Department happenings. [5 7 2026 Director updates.pptx](#) 

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. ADJOURN



Recreation and Parks Board - Mar 05 2026 Minutes

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Page

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Ryan Hanley, David McDonough, John Lydon, Sean Ritchie, Lawrence Ludwig, Sara Urtz

3. MINUTES

I move to approve the 2/26/26meeting minutes as presented. [2.5.26 minutes.pdf](#)

Moved by: Lawrence Ludwig; seconded by: Ryan Hanley

Motion Carries

Name of Individuals/Groups (Identify main presenter & list all who will be attending w/titles):

Sean Ritchie, Vice Chair

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Capital Projects Update- USTA Assessment

Name of Individuals/Groups (Identify main presenter & list all who will be attending w/titles):

Christina Bishop, Project Manager

Shell Wood- virtual- United States Tennis Association

[St. Mary s County Park Assessment 3.5.pdf](#)

Specific Purpose of Request for Appointment:

Ms. Wood gave a summary of the assessment findings and take questions from the board.

B. Museum Updates

Name of Individuals/Groups (Identify main presenter & list all who will be attending w/titles):

Karen Stone, Museum Manager


[R&P Board Presentation for 3.5.2026.pdf](#) 

Specific Purpose of Request for Appointment:

Mrs. Stone gave updates on: St. Clements Island Museum, the new Water Taxi and Maryland Day.

5. DIRECTORS UPDATE

#

Raymond Bivens presented recent events, accomplishments and other Departmental updates. [3 5 2026 director updates.pptx](#) 

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Deputy Director Updates

#

Jessica Hale gave updates on the Civic Plus and GolfNow registration platforms.

[CivicPlus Update Post Launch to RP Board 3.05.26.pdf](#) 

7. ADJOURN



ST. MARY'S COUNTY YMCA
A Branch of the YMCA of Chesapeake



Our Roots, Our Mission

A Brief History of the YMCA



YMCA FOUNDED

1844 – YMCA founded in London, England by George Williams to support young men during the Industrial Revolution.

YMCA EXPANDS

1850s–1870s – YMCA spreads rapidly across Europe and North America, offering education, housing, and spiritual support.

A PLACE FOR ALL

Mid-1900s – YMCA broadens services to women, families, and youth, emphasizing inclusion and community development.

YMCA TODAY

Today – YMCA serves millions worldwide, focusing on youth development, healthy living, and social impact.



Who are the YMCA of the Chesapeake?

With Christian principles as our foundation, our mission is to foster opportunities for individuals, families and community that strengthen healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

The YMCA of the Chesapeake runs 11 soon to be 12 full-service branches across the Eastern Shore of Maryland and on Chincoteague Island, Virginia.

- **Caroline County Family YMCA – Denton, MD**
- **Cecil County Family YMCA – Elkton, MD**
- **David Landsberger Family YMCA – Chincoteague, VA**
- **Easton Family YMCA (Peachblossom & Washington) – Easton, MD**
- **Kent County Family YMCA – Chestertown, MD**
- **Lower Shore Family YMCA – Pocomoke City, MD**
- **Pauline F. & W. David Robbins Family YMCA – Cambridge, MD**
- **Perkins Family YMCA and Bay Hundred Senior Center – St. Michaels, MD**
- **Queen Anne’s County Family YMCA – Centreville, MD**
- **Richard A. Henson Family YMCA – Salisbury, MD**
- **St. Mary’s County Family YMCA – Lexington Park, MD**

It focuses on:

- **Youth development (childcare, camps, after-school programs)**
- **Healthy living (fitness, wellness, swimming, sports)**
- **Social responsibility (community support, outreach, financial assistance)**

As part of the global YMCA movement, the YMCA of the Chesapeake works to strengthen communities by supporting people of all ages, backgrounds, and income levels, guided by the YMCA’s core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

Why the YMCA?

Today, we impact the lives of over 50,000 people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

- **As a not – for – profit community organization, no one is turned away due to the inability to pay.**
- **Expanded base of financial support granting \$2,000,000 in financial assistance while maintaining a balanced budget.**





WHERE COMMUNITY THRIVES

St. Mary's County YMCA

It is no overstatement to say that the opportunities are limitless when the community comes together for the common good. The YMCA in partnership with St. Mary's County will not only strengthen our ability to serve more people and deepen our impact; but allow us to strengthen the work of other area nonprofits through partnership and collaboration. We are so incredibly excited to embark on this next chapter and expand our programs and services in St. Mary's County.





THE NEW 64,500 SQ FT YMCA FACILITY WILL INCLUDE:

- **State of the art wellness center**
- **Six lane pool with easy entry and space for swim lesson and young swimmers**
- **Double gymnasium including two full size basketball courts, 4 basketball halfcourts, six pickleball courts, 2 volleyball courts**
Elevated Indoor walking track
- **5 indoor multiple purpose spaces**
- **Stay and play area for our youngest participants**
- **Community meeting spaces**
- **Teaching kitchen**
- **Social spaces**
- **A place to connect to other seniors, preventing isolationism among seniors who have lost a spouse**



St. Mary's Family YMCA



Conceptual Rendering – Exterior



Conceptual Rendering – Aerial View



Conceptual Rendering – Bird's Eye View



St. Mary's County Family YMCA



Main Level



Welcome Center



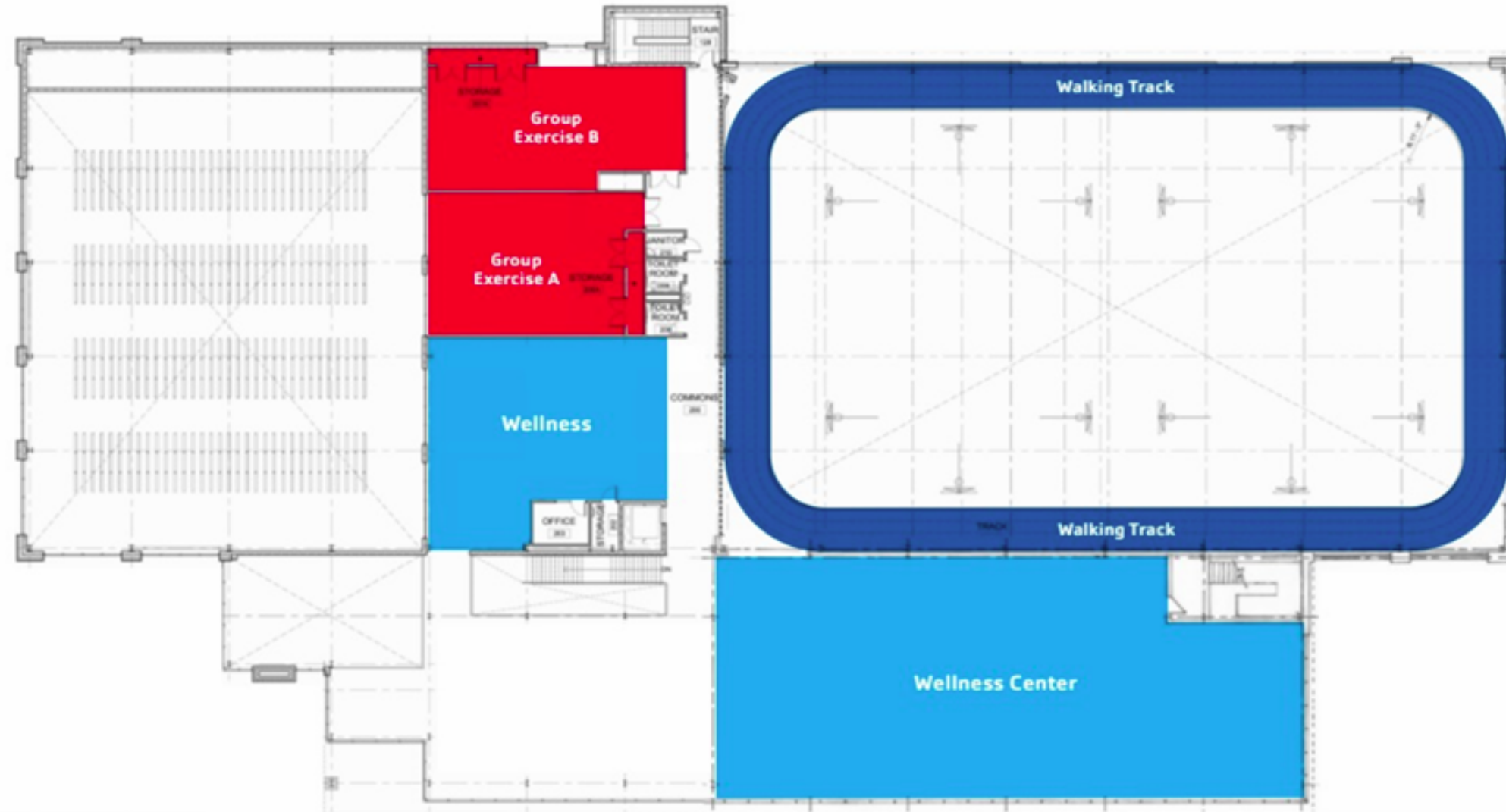
Aquatics Center



Gymnasium



St. Mary's County Family YMCA



Upper Level



Running Track



Wellness Center



Group Exercise Rooms



GREAT MILLS POOL SUMMER SEASON REOPENING!

*Opening Saturday,
Memorial Day Weekend!*



THE GREAT MILLS POOL IS READY FOR SUMMER!

As you may know, with the YMCA developing a new facility in St. Mary's County, the Y is partnering with the St. Mary's County Commissioners and the Department of Recreation & Parks to operate the Great Mills Pool.

Historically, the Great Mills Pool has operated year-round under an air-supported structure ("bubble"). With the opening of the new YMCA facility—which will include a year-round aquatics center—the Great Mills Pool will transition to a seasonal summer outdoor pool.

The County will remove the air-supported structure **the first of May**. Following that, there will be a transition period during which the YMCA will conduct a full assessment of the facility, while also finalizing staffing, training, and summer programming plans.

The goal is to reopen the Great Mills Pool for the summer season on **Saturday of Memorial Day weekend**, providing a refreshed and well-prepared outdoor aquatics experience for the community.



POOL HOURS OF OPERATION

During the summer season, the Great Mills Pool will operate on the following schedule:



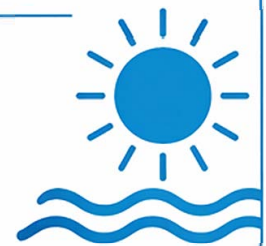
MONDAY – SATURDAY

8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.









SUNDAY

12:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.



MEMBERSHIP RATES (APPROXIMATE)

 Adult (18–61).....	\$64/month
 Senior (62+).....	\$56/month
 Teen (12–17).....	\$39/month
 Additional Adult (same household).....	\$25/month
 Additional Senior (same household).....	\$17/month
 Children.....	\$7/month



Being a YMCA member gives you full access to the outdoor pool, the new St. Mary's County Family YMCA, and YMCAs across the country!



ALL GROUP EXERCISE, WATER AND LAND BASED ARE FREE FOR YMCA MEMBERS!

Enjoy a variety of classes for all ages and fitness levels at no additional cost.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the YMCA turns no one away due to the inability to pay and provides financial assistance for YMCA membership and programs to those who substantiate a need.



BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

Be on the lookout for swim lesson information and other summer-based aquatics programs.

More details coming soon!



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

For more information, visit
www.ymcachesapeake.org
or stop by your local YMCA branch!



St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks
Recreation Division

Sports Overview



Youth Basketball Enrollment by Gender

	2023-24			2024-25			2024-25	
	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
1st/2nd	139	41		140	35		136	34
3rd/4th	177	63		190	47		179	56
5th/8th	311	35		275	55		295	54
Select	49	44		50	47		47	47
	676	183		655	184		657	191



St. Mary's Gymnastics Academy



Gymnastics

	2023-24			2024-25			2025-26	
	Enrolled	Waitlist		Enrolled	Waitlist		Enrolled	Waitlist
Rec Classes Session 1 (Aug - Oct)	365	12		443	73		453	89
Rec Classes Session 2 (Oct - Dec)	385	36		442	73		469	80
Rec Classes Session 3 (Jan - Mar)	425	64		477	102		445	112
Rec Classes Session 4 (Mar - May)	461	73		479	88		465	408
Rec Classes Session 5 (May - July)	432	34		460	31		418	98
Totals:	2068	219		2301	367		2250	787
Team	42			33			46	

Notes:

Prior to Session 4 (Mar - May 2026) waitlists were limited to 5 per class

Session 5 May - July 2026 is still open

Head coach vacancy during most of 2024-25 USAG Competitive Meet season

Wellness & Aquatics Center

Swim Lessons



Swim Lessons

	2023-24			2024-25			2025-26	
	Enrolled	Waitlist		Enrolled	Waitlist		Enrolled	Waitlist
Session 1 (Sep- Nov)	333	39		366	26		3521	57
Session 2 (Nov - Feb)	300	40		358	19		337	40
Session 3 (Feb - Apr)	377	68		441	68		388	174
Session 4 (May - July)	398	57		396	68		436	
Session 5 (July - Sept)	344	14		326	46			
Totals:	1752	218		1887	227		4682	271

Notes:

Prior to Session 4 (May - July 2026) waitlists were limited to 5 per class

Session 4 May - July 2026 is still open

Indoor Soccer



Youth Indoor Soccer

	2024			2025			2026	
	Enrolled	Waitlist		Enrolled	Waitlist		Enrolled	Waitlist
Individual Players	279	38		283	32		278	45
Team Registrations	31	8		32	7		31	10
Totals:	589	118		603	102		588	145



Adult Indoor Soccer

	2024		2025		2026
	Enrolled		Enrolled		Enrolled
Team Registrations - Fall	24		20		
Team Registrations - Spring	27		34		34
Team Registrations - Summer	20		16		
Team Registrations - Winter	23		22		
	94		92		



Adult Volleyball

	2024		2025	
	Enrolled		Enrolled	
Team Registrations	8		6	



Men's Roller Hockey

	2024		2025	
	Enrolled		Enrolled	
Individual Registrations - Spring	67		81	
Individual Registrations - Winter	71		70	
Totals:	138		151	

Adult Kickball

2024

2025

	Enrolled		Enrolled	
Team Registrations	8		8	



QUESTIONS??



Contact

Main Office

301-475-4200 ext. 1800

Zachary Zalovick
Sports Coordinator
zachary.zalovick@stmaryscountymd.gov

Cherie Nelson
Recreation Division Manager
cherie.nelson@stmaryscountymd.gov



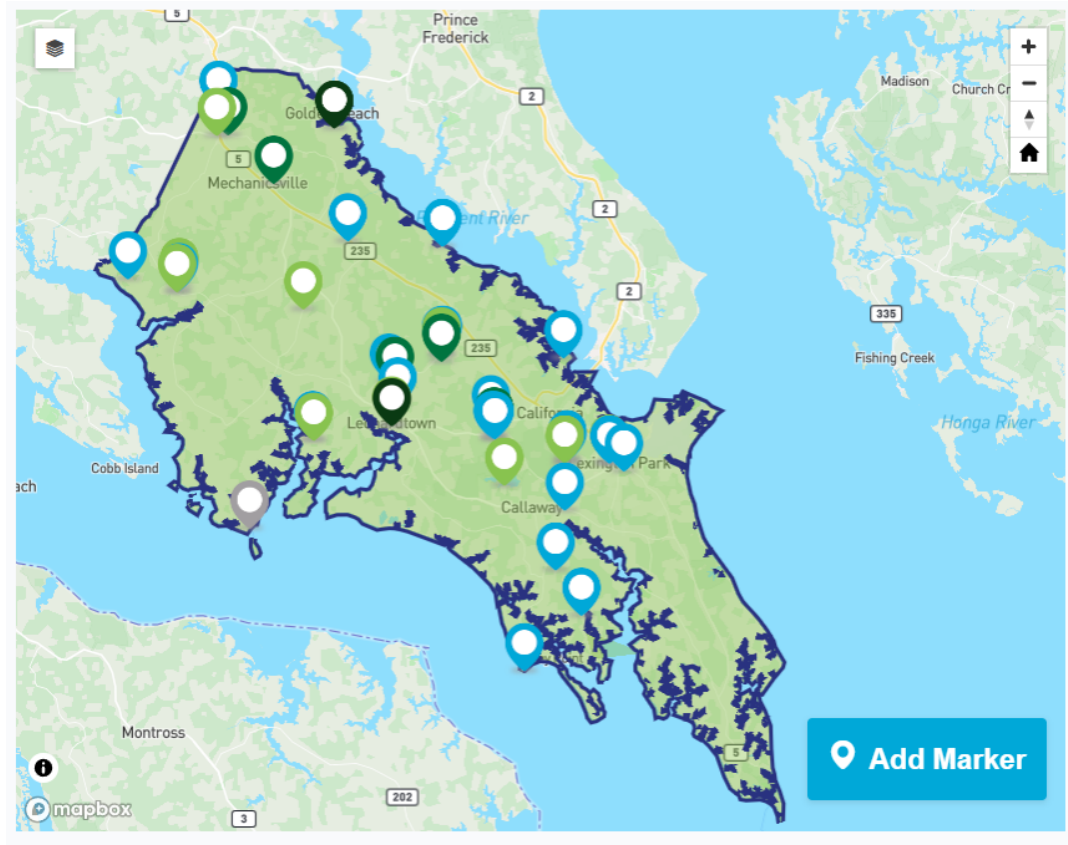
St. Mary's County

Land Preservation, Parks,
and Recreation Plan



2022





Project Timeline

- Phase 1: Discovery (March–April 2026)**
 Project kickoff, data collection, and initial system review to understand existing conditions.
- Phase 2: Engagement (April–August 2026)**
 Community outreach, survey, and public input to identify priorities and gather feedback.
- Phase 3: Analysis (May–September 2026)**
 Assessment of parks, facilities, programs, and access to identify gaps and opportunities.
- Phase 4: Visioning (September–December 2026)**
 Development of key findings, community vision, and draft recommendations.
- Phase 5: Finalization (December 2026–July 2027)**
 Draft plan review, community feedback, and final plan development and adoption.

Concessions

Posted by Anonymous | 3 days ago

Chancellor's has a concession stand that is never utilized. It was open on SMLL opening day but since then, not at all. It's a missed opportunity since CRRP is ALWAYS occupied with soccer, baseball, basketball, pickleball, etc. There's nowhere to stop and grab a bottle of water if you forget one or grab a quick snack if you're at the field for hours at a time.

RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

♥ 0 Likes

Sports/activities for adults

Posted by Anonymous | 5 days ago

Activities and sports designed for older adults would be a great addition to your offerings. Something to help people stay active and involved with less risk of injury. The population is aging we need to focus on providing services and opportunities for older adults.

PROGRAMMING & EVENTS

♥ 3 Likes

Horseback Riding Trails

Posted by Anonymous | 3 days ago

It would be wonderful if St. Mary's County could provide more horseback riding trails. I recently rode the trails at Chaptico Park. Very nice, but could use additional trails there. At least six to ten miles of trails to include fields makes for great horseback riding. Please allow more parks and fields to allow for horseback riding. Thanks for your consideration. Happy Trails, Sherry :)

PARKS, FIELDS & TRAILS

♥ 3 Likes

Pickleball Programing

Posted by Anonymous | 4 days ago

Pickleball continues to grow in the county and R&P continues to invest in improving facilities across the county (Thanks!). The local pickleball community could benefit from more structured pickleball programming (leagues, tournaments, ladders, team matches, etc) run through R&P to provide more competitive options for players of varying skill levels.

PROGRAMMING & EVENTS

♥ 1 Likes

How would you invest \$100 in parks and recreation?


Use the tool below to show what matters most to you. You have been given a hypothetical \$100 to allocate across different investment priorities. Adjust the sliders to assign dollar amounts based on your priorities. You do not need to spend the full \$100 or use every category. When finished, select Submit to share your choices. Your input will help guide future planning and investment decisions. Thank you for participating.

Your remaining budget:


\$ 1 0 0

MINIMUM SPEND \$1

Sort by ▾



Enhance programs and special events



Add additional bikeways, pedestrian and natural pathways

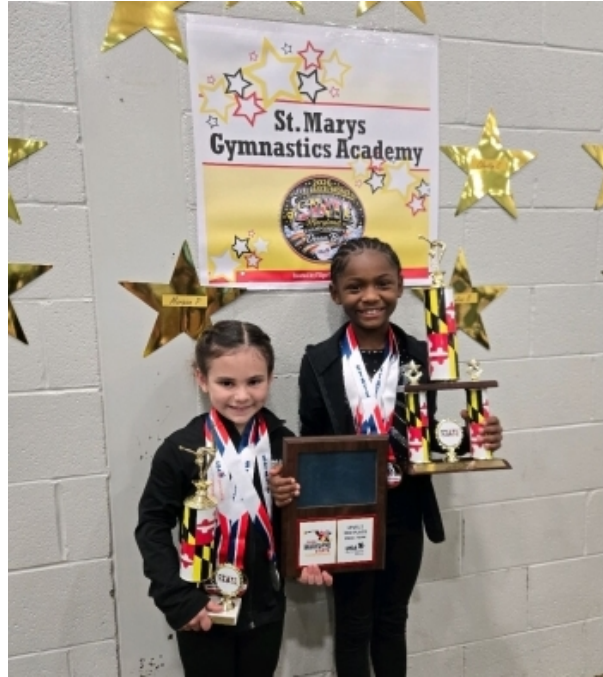
St. Mary's County Parks and Recreation Survey

This survey will help St. Mary's County better understand how residents use parks, programs, facilities, museums, golf course, and natural areas, and where improvements may be needed. Your feedback will help guide future planning and investment decisions.

The survey takes approximately 5–7 minutes to complete. Thank you for sharing your input.

Please rate on a scale from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree, your experience with Recreation & Parks facilities, spaces and programs

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Accessibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cleanliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Well-Maintained	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proximity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Affordability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sense of Belonging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety & Security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Several Gymnasts Headed to Region 7 Championship in Edison,
NJ
May 14-17th 2026



Wicomico Shores Golf Course

Description	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Period	<i>Jul–Mar</i>	<i>Jul–Mar</i>	<i>Jul–Mar</i>	<i>Jul–Mar</i>
Rounds of Golf	18,888	19,062	19,858	23,022
#18-Hole Equiv.	14,880	17,059	17,936	20,335

ST CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM

NEW BUILDING



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (hereinafter referred to as "Landlord"), and the COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY (hereinafter referred to as "Tenant").

WHEREAS, Landlord and Tenant entered into a lease agreement ("Original Lease") approved by the Maryland Board of Public Works on August 31, 2005, as Item 20-L for a term of twenty-five (25) years without renewal terms; and

WHEREAS, the Original Lease expires on May 31, 2030, and Landlord and Tenant desire to enter this new Lease to expand the size of the Premises and ensure continued use by Tenant; and

WHEREAS, Landlord is the owner of all that land situate and lying in St. Mary's County, Maryland, a portion of which is more fully described in a deed dated November 17, 1966, from the United States of America to Landlord and recorded in the Land Records of St. Mary's County, Maryland in Liber 130, Folio 134, and deed dated June 28, 2001, from the Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County to Landlord recorded in said land records at Liber EWA 1696, Folio 287, as shown on Tax Map 53, Parcel 25; and

WHEREAS, the Landlord has acquired adjacent property described by deed dated June 15, 2021, from Mildred and Michael Huseman to Landlord and recorded in said land records at Liber 5828, Folio 368, having a property address of 38358 Point Breeze Road, Coltons Point, Maryland, 20626, and shown on Tax Map 53A, Parcel 31, which the parties agree to include in this Lease, and both Parcel 25 and Parcel 31 are collectively referred to herein as the "Land".

WHEREAS, the Land is part of the property known and operated by the Landlord as St. Clements Island State Park (the "Land Unit").

NOW THEREFORE, THIS LEASE AGREEMENT WITNESSETH, THAT FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual entry into this Lease by the parties hereto, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged by each party hereto, the above recitals being made a substantive part of this Lease, Landlord hereby leases to Tenant and Tenant hereby leases from Landlord, in its "AS IS" condition, all of that real property, situate and lying in St. Mary's County, Maryland, which consists of approximately 2.80 +/- total acres of land being a portion of the land described in a deed dated November 17, 1966, from the United States of America to Landlord and recorded in the Land Records of St. Mary's County, Maryland at Liber 130, Folio 134, and Liber EWA 1696, Folio 287, as shown on Tax Map 53, Parcel 25, and Parcel 31, which the parties agree to include in this Lease, and both Parcel 25 and Parcel 31 are collectively referred to herein as the "Land".

New 30-year Lease Approved with DNR for St. Clements Museum Site



St. Inigoes Landing Improvements

School Ball Field Maintenance

Fields had humps cut off and were re-graded for proper drainage



Schools being addressed:

Dynard Elementary

Mechanicsville
Elementary

Lettie Dent Elementary
(2 fields)

Hollywood Elementary

Oakville Elementary

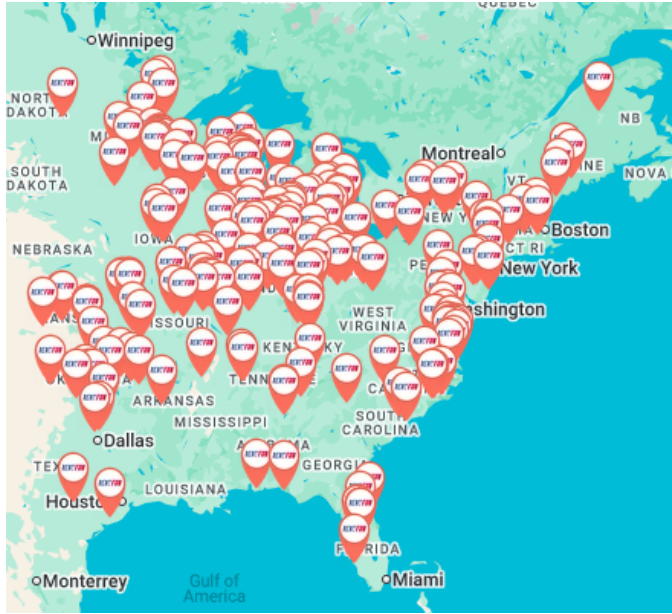
SMCYO received approval from our department to add infield mix to the field at Banneker Elementary

Grading Improvements

Before

After

Paddle Sport and Games Kiosks Coming Soon



Let Self-Service Technology do the work while you're not there.



1.

Download the App

Create an account in 30 seconds.



2.

Unlock your equipment

Scan the QR code at the station to unlock your kayak or SUP. Paddles and lifejackets are included.



3.

Enjoy your paddle!

Wear your lifejacket at all times while on the water.



4.

Return your equipment

Bring your equipment back to the station. Select "Unlock" in the App to return the equipment.

