



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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Mike Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

No. 2026 – 054
March 9, 2026, 11 a.m.

**Community Invited to Submit Land Use Designation Requests as Part of the
St. Mary's 2050 Planning Process**

LEONARDTOWN, MD – St. Mary's County residents who wish to **request a change to their property's proposed land use designation** as part of the St. Mary's 2050 Comprehensive Plan update may now submit a formal request through St. Mary's County Government's Department of Land Use & Growth Management (LUGM).

The St. Mary's 2050 Comprehensive Plan will serve as the County's long-range planning document, guiding land use decisions through 2050 and helping ensure our community grows responsibly while preserving our rural character, natural resources, and quality of life. Over the past year, the community has been invited to share their thoughts and ideas about the future of St. Mary's County as part of this planning process. In February 2026, the County [released the draft St. Mary's 2050 Plan](#), which is now available for public review and comment.

A key component of the plan is the Land Use Map, which identifies where growth, redevelopment, and preservation are anticipated throughout the County. The draft St. Mary's 2050 Plan proposes simplifying land use classifications from 23 categories to nine.

Community members can **review the proposed land use designation for their property** on the County website at: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/GIS:

1. Click **Interactive County Map**, to open the [GIS Map](#)
2. Locate your property (*enter the address in the search bar*)
3. In the **Map Layers** box, scroll down to find the *Zoning and Other Regulatory* section
4. Click the arrow next to **Zoning and Other Regulatory** to expand this section
5. Scroll down and select **Land Use (Proposed 2050)**
6. Click the **Legend** (*list icon on the right*) to view each of the land use categories and associated color codes

If a property owner believes a different designation is more appropriate, they may submit a request for consideration, using the form available at: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/LUDrequest. In general, a property's Land Use designation could be changed if the requested designation is consistent with the Land Use designation of surrounding properties.

Requests must be submitted by 5 p.m. on March 31, 2026. Residents may submit requests in person, by mail, or via email.

– **MORE** –



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Please note that a land use designation guides long-term planning but does not change a property's zoning. **Any requests for future zoning changes will be considered through a separate process, at a later time.**

Additionally, properties within the Lexington Park Development District are **not currently eligible** for land use designation change requests.

For more information or assistance, please contact the Department of Land Use & Growth Management at (301) 475-4200, ext. 1500 or via email to St.Marys2050@stmaryscountymd.gov. Community members are also welcome to stop by LUGM to speak with a member of our team! Hours and location information is available at: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/LUGM.

About St. Mary's 2050

St. Mary's 2050: Charting Our Tomorrow is an update to the County's Comprehensive Plan and will guide future land use and development decisions while supporting economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and quality of life. Continued engagement is a key component of creating a plan that reflects a shared vision for St. Mary's County's future.

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