

# Chapter I - Introduction to the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

## ***Purposes of the Plan***

The overall purpose and specific objectives of the 2005-2006 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) are to:

- Review goals and objectives of state and local programs for three principal elements: parks and recreation, agriculture, and natural resources;
- Identify where these goals and objectives are essentially the same, where they are complementary or mutually supportive, and where they are simply different;
- Evaluate the ability of implementation programs and funding strategies for each element to achieve related goals and objectives;
- Identify desirable improvements to policies, plans, and funding strategies, to better achieve goals and improve return on public investment;
- Recommend to state and local legislatures, governing bodies and agencies changes needed to overcome shortcomings, achieve goals, and ultimately ensure good return on public investment;
- Identify the needs and priorities of the current and future state and local population for outdoor recreation;
- Achieve legislative goals of state and local land preservation programs; and
- Ensure that public investment in land preservation and recreation supports and is supported by local comprehensive plans, associated implementation programs, State Planning Policy, and state and local programs that influence land use and development.

## ***Local Agency Preparation of the Plan***

This plan was prepared by the Carroll County Department of Planning's Bureau of Comprehensive Planning. Input on the appropriate sections of the plan was received from staff of the Department's Agricultural Land Preservation Program and its Bureau of Resource Management, as well as from the Carroll County Department of Recreation. Daphne Daly with the Bureau of Comprehensive Planning served as the local plan coordinator.

## ***The Plan's Relationship to the Comprehensive Planning Process***

The 2005-2006 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan is based upon the goals and priorities established in the most recent county master plan, *Carroll County: Challenges and Choices – A Master Plan for the Future*, which was adopted on December 20, 2000.

Additionally, it incorporates goals and actions recommended in the comprehensive plans for the county's nine Community Planning Areas and eight municipalities. These include:

- *Finksburg Corridor Comprehensive Plan* (currently being updated)
- *Freedom Community Comprehensive Plan* (adopted August 2001)
  - *Town of Sykesville Master Plan* (adopted February 2003)
- *Hampstead Community Comprehensive Plan* (adopted by Town January 2003; adopted by County February 2005)
- *Manchester & Environs Community Comprehensive Plan* (adopted February 1998)
- *Mount Airy Environs Community Comprehensive Plan* (scheduled to be adopted summer 2005)
  - *Town of Mount Airy Master Plan* (adopted April 2004)
- *New Windsor Community Planning Area Comprehensive Plan* (adopted June 1997)
- *Taneytown & Environs Community Comprehensive Plan* (adopted September 1997)
- *Union Bridge & Environs Comprehensive Plan* (adopted November 1990)
  - *Town of Union Bridge Master Plan* (adopted September 2001)
- *Westminster Environs Community Comprehensive Plan* (currently being updated)
  - *City of Westminster Comprehensive Plan* (adopted June 2004)

The 2005-2006 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan draws from the county plans that already have been adopted or are in the process of being updated. Future plan updates will include reviews of the LPPRP, and will include recommendations for incorporating the appropriate components.

## ***Definitions Used in this Plan***

Terms of local significance include the following:

Community Planning Area – an area on the countywide Master Plan for which a more detailed comprehensive plan has been prepared. Most of the CPAs have a municipality at their center. These are the areas in the county where the majority of residential, commercial, and industrial development is concentrated, as they are generally also the areas where public and private services are available.