

# ANNUAL REPORT

## FISCAL YEAR 2023



Recreation  
**R&P** Parks  
Carroll County, MD

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Connecting people, parks and programs in support of a strong, healthy community and natural environment.*

## VISION

*We are committed to enhancing the quality of life, promoting a sense of community, facilitating lifelong learning for all ages and abilities and encouraging an appreciation of the natural environment and local history.*

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

*Department goals are general statements of initiatives for achieving desired outcomes. Department objectives are measurable and attainable milestones to be achieved in accomplishing the goal.*

## CORE VALUES

### **Excellence**

We are responsive to our community's needs and expectations and continually strive to exceed them.

### **Creativity**

We develop innovative, dynamic solutions, programs and projects.

### **Equity**

We design policies and provide services in locations and through methods to be fair and accessible to all.

### **Integrity**

We earn the community's trust through uncompromising ethics and honest communication.

### **Stewardship**

We serve as responsible stewards of the community's resources, creating a legacy for this and future generations.

### **Innovation**

We promote a culture that fosters creative thinking and strives for continuous improvement.

### **Community Involvement**

We promote, develop and support volunteer participation.



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# DEPARTMENT REPORT



Jeff Degitz,

Director January  
2006 to June 2023

June 2023 marked an end of a legacy as Director Jeff R. Degitz retired from County service after 32 years, having served as Director since January 2006. Jeff was the fourth director since the department was founded in 1971, and his leadership is evident in many areas including: opening over half of the County's 30 parks, opening two community centers, establishing the Park Legacy Fund, adding 225 acres of park land, overseeing the development of Recreation Councils, and growing the department from 17 to over 500 programs offered to our community.

To highlight fiscal year 2023, The Charles Carroll Community Center was completed, with the opening in July 2023, and houses a middle school sized gym, two activities rooms, and a tech room where citizens can bring their own device. The center is open for permit and program use only and is home to the Charles Carroll Recreation Council. Additionally, Deer Park Main Field LED lights were added, Landon C. Burns Parks concession building was reroofed, Cape Horn had a new playground and pavilion installed, restoration of the Bear Branch playground occurred, improvements to Hashawha Environmental Center's pedestrian walkways were improved, and the South Carroll Dog Park got an agility course and shade structures. Revenue at Hashawha and Bear Branch increased by 46%, and Outdoor School returned to full overnights. Revenue at Piney Run Park increased by 75%, and Sasquatch Saturday was a new program added, selling 468 tickets.

We are excited to welcome our new Director, Bob Hicks, to the helm, as we embark on a journey towards the future. With his leadership and vision, we are confident that our agency will continue to thrive and enhance the quality of life in our community. Together, we look forward to creating new opportunities for recreation, fostering community engagement, and preserving the natural beauty of our parks. The future is promising, and we are eager to work collaboratively with our new director to continue to make Carroll County a great place to live, work, and play.

Lisa R. H. Carroll

Bureau Chief, Recreation

Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks



## CARROLL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Ed Rothstein,  
*President*



Kenneth Kiler,  
*Vice President*



Joseph Vigliotti



Tom Gordon



Michael Guerin

## CARROLL COUNTY RECREATION & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

*Ms. Kristen E. Darby*

*Mr. Gary Davis*

*Mr. David Ferguson, Chair*

*Mr. Austin Johnstone*

*Mr. Donald V. Gerkin, Jr*

*Mr. Donald Bradley Rockwood*

*Mr. Anthony E. Rosas*

*Ms. Nadine Rosendale*

*Ms. Anita Taylor*

*Ms. Megan Vaughn, Vice-Chair*

## RECREATION & PARKS STAFF

### Administration

Bob Hicks, CPRP, *Director*

Brad Rogers, *Bureau Chief of Parks*

Lisa Carroll, CRPE, *Bureau Chief of Recreation*

Will Brozy, *Park Development Manager*

Ashley Caltrider, *Administrative Assistant*

Seth Carlson, *Marketing Specialist*

### Recreation

Jamie Noel, *Recreation Coordinator*

Vacant, *Program Coordinator*

Rebecca Eckard, *Program Associate*

Holly Zimmerman, *Office Associate*

Ann Marie Foster, *Adaptive Recreation Specialist*

### Sports Complex

Rebecca Kishter, CPRP, *Sports Complex Manager*

Doug Gregory, *Maintenance Specialist*

### Hap Baker Firearms Facility

Chuck Hamlet, *Chief Range Officer*

### Piney Run Park & Nature Center

Gianina Porter, *Park Superintendent*

Dylan Collins, *Park Technician*

Wayde Blank, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Brian Dayhoff, *Maintenance Specialist*

Vacant, *Maintenance Specialist*

Vacant, *Park Naturalist*

### Hashawha & Bear Branch Nature Center

Dawn Harry, *Park Operation Coordinator*

Jay Weller, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Steve Aberts, *Maintenance Specialist*

W. George Stolkovich, *Maintenance Specialist*

Nikki Wolf, *Kitchen Manager*

Michelle Duvall, *Cook*

Mora Bates, *Cook*

Jenna Mele, *Park Naturalist*

# YEAR AT A GLANCE

## JULY 2022



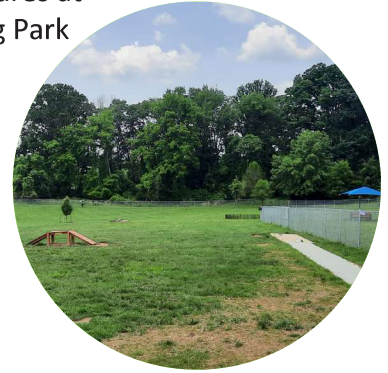
**July**  
Reroofed the Concession Building at Landon C. Burns Park

**July**  
Deer Park Lighting of Main Field



## AUGUST 2022

**August**  
Installed dog agility course and shade structures at South Carroll Dog Park



## SEPTEMBER 2022

**September**  
Monarch Madness Festival



**September**  
Fall Hiking at Piney Run Park



**September**  
Recreation Self-Help request presented to Advisory Board. 7 projects awarded totaling \$73,879



## OCTOBER 2022

**October**  
Halloween Kids Bash at Deer Park



**October**  
Piney Run Walk/Run Scarecrow Classic 5K



# NOVEMBER 2022

**November**  
Volunteer of the Year/Hall of Fame



**November**  
Restoration of the Bear Branch Playground



# DECEMBER 2022



**December**  
Santa Calling

**December**  
Santa wagon rides



**December**  
Jingle Bell Hop

**December**  
New Playground structure installed at Cape Horn Park



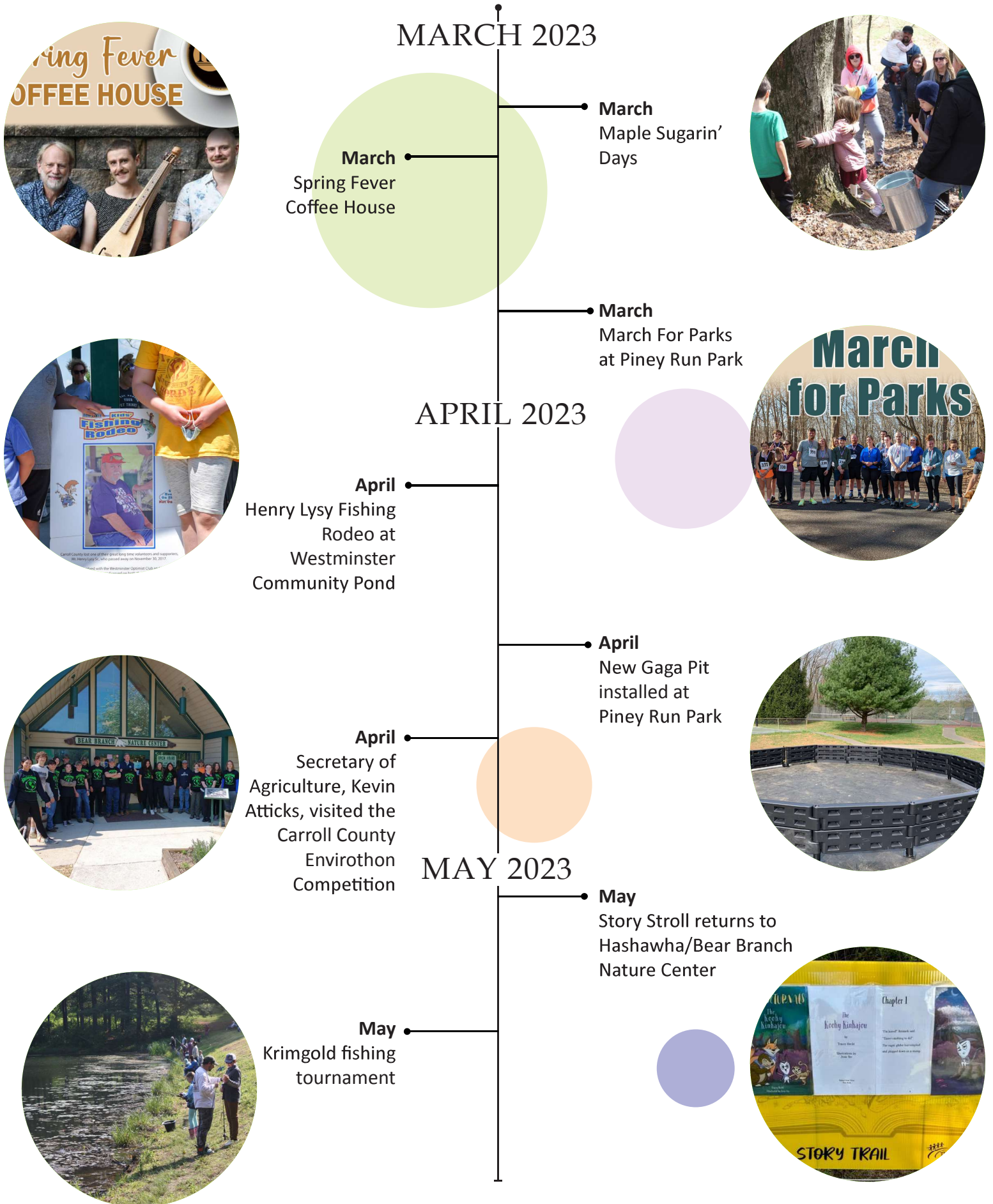
# JANUARY 2023

**January**  
100-Mile Challenge & First Day Hike

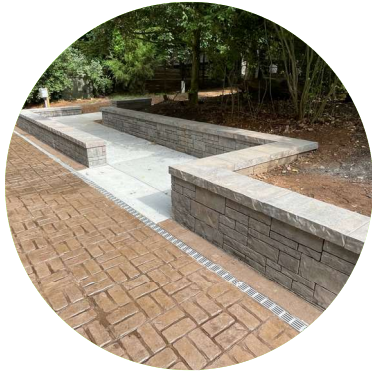
# MARCH 2023

**March**  
Release of Sponsorship Booklet









**April/May**  
Hashawha  
Environmental  
Center,  
Pedestrian  
Improvements  
Completed

## MAY 2023

**May**  
Summer Movie  
Nights  
The Bad Guys  
at Sandymount  
Park



**June**  
Board of County  
Commissioners  
proclaimed  
June 3rd as  
National Trails  
Day in  
Carroll County

## JUNE 2023

**June**  
TR Day  
at Farm Museum



**June**  
Sasquatch Saturday at  
Piney Run Park



**June**  
Piney Run youth  
fishing  
tournament



**June**  
Board of County  
Commissioners  
proclaimed June  
3rd as National  
Trails Day in  
Carroll County, MD

**June**  
NEW Story Trail at  
Sandymount Park,  
Oh, No! by Can-  
dace Fleming &  
Eric Rohmann.



# COMPLETED PROJECTS

## Completed Projects

- Deer Park Field Lighting of Mail Field
- Reroofed the Concession Building at Landon C. Burns Park
- Installed dog agility course and shade structures at the South Carroll Dog Park
- Cape Horn Park, new Pavilion and Playground
- Restoration of the Bear Branch Playground
- Hashawha Environmental Center, Pedestrian Improvements completed
- Charles Carroll Community Center
- Communication boards at Mayeski, Krimgold, and Freedom Parks



# COMING SOON

## Coming Soon

- Piney Run Park Road resurfacing and ADA upgrade
- Piney Run Park new bulkhead
- Cape Horn Multi-purpose Filed Lights
- Westminster Veterans Memorial Park Memorial Garden
- Disc Golf Course at Krimgold Park
- Freedom Park Pavilion replacement
- Piney Run Park Pavilion replacement
- Piney Run Park pickleball courts



# HELPING HANDS KEEP PARKS GREEN

## HELPING HANDS KEEP OUR PARKS GREEN



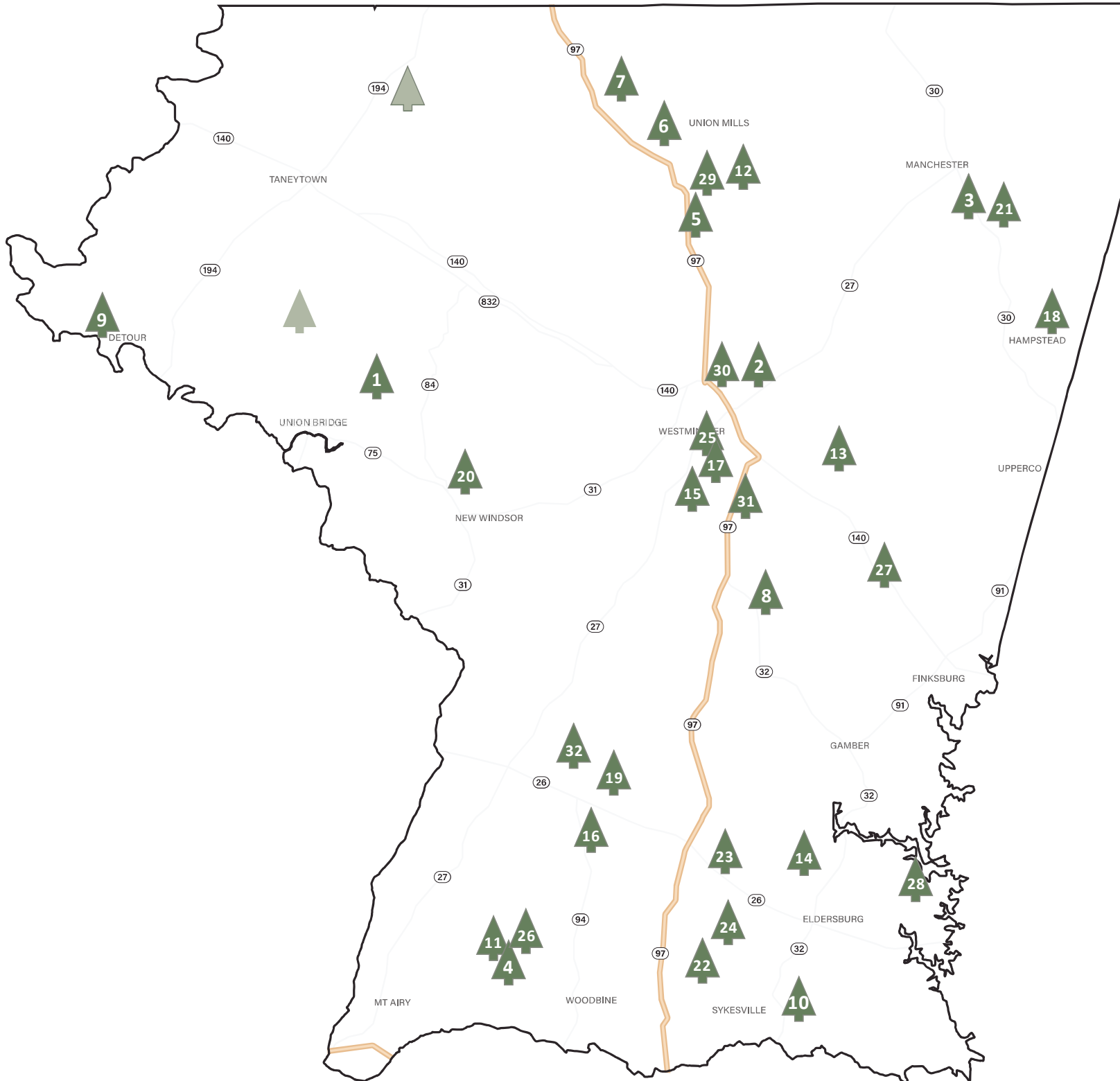
The Helping Hands campaign is an excellent opportunity for local groups and organizations to help keep their local parks beautiful with organized clean-ups, trash pickups, and trail maintenance. To learn more about Helping Hands, visit [ccrecrepark.org](http://ccrecrepark.org).



Story Strolls are free family-friendly activities that the whole family can enjoy together and bond through literacy while spending time outdoors exploring our community parks. Featured books along the trails will be rotated and each park has additional partners unique to the stroll. Story Strolls are currently located at Deer Park and Leister Park with one coming to Sandymount Park.



# PARKS & FACILITIES



- 1** Bark Hill Park  
Peace N Plenty Drive (off Bark Hill Road), Union Bridge 21797
  - 2** Bennett Cerf Park & Dog Park  
544 Manchester Road, Westminster 21157
  - 3** Cape Horn Park  
2500 Cape Horn Road, Hampstead 21074
  - 4** Carroll County Equestrian Center  
2512 Grimville Road, Mount Airy 21771
  - 5** Carroll County Sports Complex  
2225 Littlestown Pike, Westminster 21158
  - 6** Charles Carroll Park & Community Center  
3719 Littlestown Pike, Westminster 21158
  - 7** Cherrytown Road Park  
Cherrytown Road, Westminster 21157
  - 8** Deer Park  
637 Deer Park Road, Westminster 21157
  - 9** Double Pipe Creek Park  
7577 Middleburg Road, Detour 21757
  - 10** Freedom Park  
1111 Raincliffe Road, Sykesville 21784
  - 11** Gillis Falls Recreation Area  
Woodbine 21797
  - 12** Hashawha & Bear Branch Nature Center  
300 John Owings Road, Westminster 21158
  - 13** Hap Baker Firearms Facility  
1400 Baltimore Boulevard, Westminster 21157
  - 14** Hodges Park  
5630 Hodges Road, Sykesville 21784
  - 15** Kate Wagner Fields  
1100 Gist Road, Westminster 21157
  - 16** Krimgold Park  
5355 Woodbine Road, Woodbine 21797
  - 17** Landon C. Burns Park  
700 Gist Road, Westminster 21157
  - 18** Leister Park  
4134 Black Rock Road, Hampstead 21074
  - 19** Mayeski Park  
1300 W. Old Liberty Road, Sykesville 21784
  - 20** New Windsor Community Room  
1100 Green Valley Road, New Windsor 21776
  - 21** North Carroll Community Pond  
Basler Road & Route 30, Hampstead 21074
  - 22** Obrecht Road Park  
100 E. Obrecht Road, Sykesville 21784
  - 23** Old Liberty Road  
100 W. Old Liberty Road, Sykesville 21784
  - 24** Piney Run Park & Nature Center  
30 Martz Road, Sykesville 21784
  - 25** Robert Moton Center  
300 S. Center Street, Westminster 21157
  - 26** Salt Box Park  
Gillis Falls Road, Woodbine 21797
  - 27** Sandymount Park  
2250 Old Westminster Pike, Westminster 21157
  - 28** South Carroll Dog Park/South Carroll Senior & Community Center  
5928 Mineral Hill Road, Eldersburg, 21784
  - 29** Union Mills Recreation Area  
220 John Owings Road, Westminster 21158
  - 30** Westminster Community Pond  
30 College View Boulevard, Westminster 21157
  - 31** Westminster Veterans Memorial Park  
Crest Lane, Westminster 21157
  - 32** Winfield Park  
Salem Bottom Road (opposite Winfield Elementary), Westminster 21157
-  Future Recreation Facility (undevelopment)

WE ARE...

30

County Parks

12

Fishing Locations

29

Number of Pavilions

57

Athletic Fields

51

Miles of Trails

22

Playgrounds

40

Public Schools Used By  
Recreation & Parks

2 Nature Centers • 2 Dog Parks • 1 Aero Modelers Park • 1 Planetarium • 1 Observatory • 7 Basketball Courts • 14 Tennis Courts • 2 Community Centers

## CARROLL COUNTY DOG PARKS



### Bennett Cerf Dog Park

This 1-acre off leash area is located within Bennett Cerf Park in Westminster.

**147**

Members

**\$4115**

Total Revenue



### South Carroll Dog Park

This 2-acre off leash area is located behind the South Carroll Senior and Community Center in Eldersburg.

**305**

Members

**\$9488**

Total Revenue



### WHY ARE FEES CHARGED AT SOME PARKS BUT NOT OTHERS?

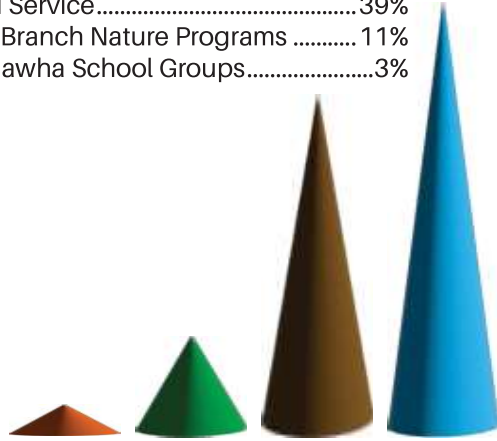
Several of our large park facilities provide a higher service level that results in additional operating expenses. Other areas such as our dog parks and community recreation programs were created with the understanding that revenues would largely support their operation. These fees generated revenue in the amount of \$869,410 recovering most of the approved operating budgets for these areas.

## HASHAWHA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER & BEAR BRANCH NATURE CENTER

Approved 2023FY Operating Budget: \$1,052,600

**\$391,037**  
TOTAL REVENUE

Rentals .....	47%
Food Service .....	39%
Bear Branch Nature Programs .....	11%
Hashawha School Groups.....	3%



### Who We Reached

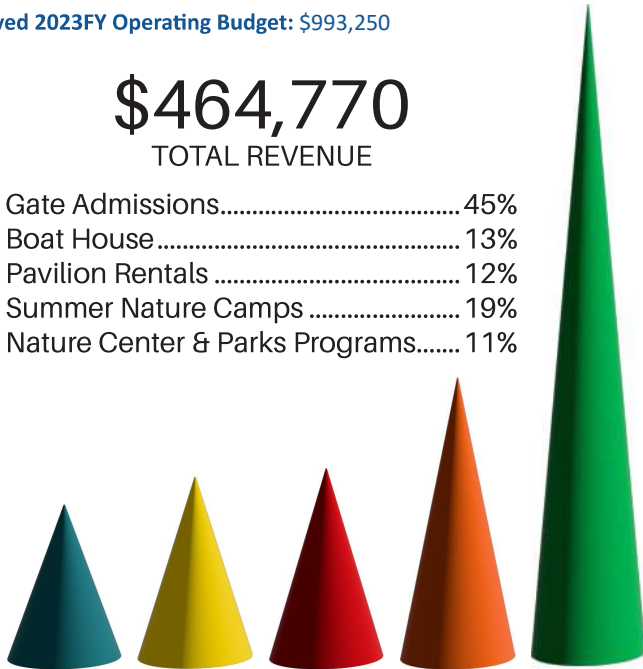
Outdoor School • Private Rental Groups • Nature Center Visitors • Programs & Camp Attendees • Trail Users

## PINEY RUN PARK & NATURE CENTER

Approved 2023FY Operating Budget: \$993,250

**\$464,770**  
TOTAL REVENUE

Gate Admissions.....	45%
Boat House .....	13%
Pavilion Rentals .....	12%
Summer Nature Camps .....	19%
Nature Center & Parks Programs.....	11%



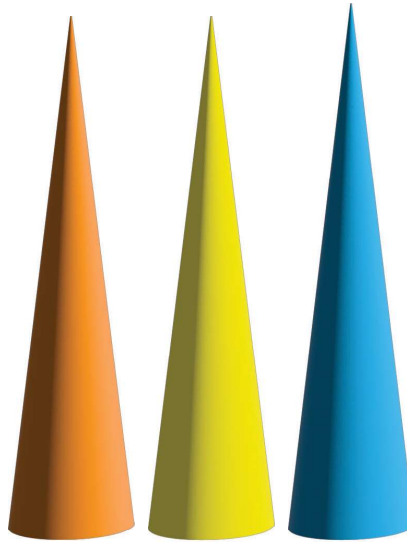
### Who We Reached

Pavilion Rental Groups • Nature Center Visitors • Programs & Camp Attendees • Trail Users • Boat Rentals Users



## CARROLL COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEX

Approved 2022FY Operating Budget: \$255,190



**\$207,216**  
TOTAL REVENUE

Field Rentals ..... 34%  
Cell Tower Revenue..... 33%  
Recreation Council..... 33%

(Includes fees charged but not collected from Charles Carroll Rec. Council & Senior Softball)

### Who We Reached

NFL Flag Youth Football • Adult Softball Leagues • Youth Sport Leagues • Local & Regional Tournaments Senior Softball

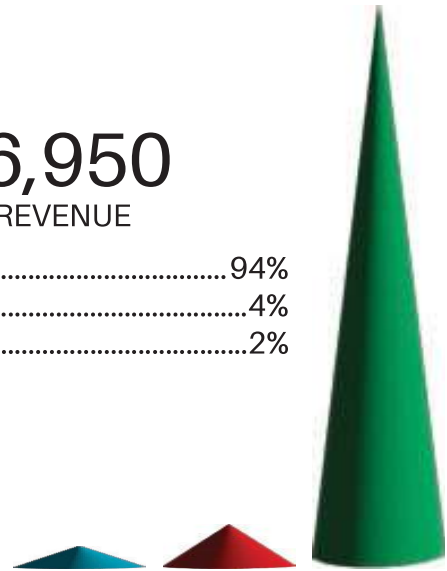


## HAP BAKER FIREARMS FACILITY

Approved 2022FY Operating Budget: \$240,210

**\$216,950**  
TOTAL REVENUE

Daily Visits.....94%  
Recycling .....4%  
Concessions .....2%



### Who We Reached

572 Season Pass Members • 23 Lifetime Members Added • 6,708 Visitors (Includes In County & Out-of-County)



# COMMUNITY RECREATION PROGRAMS

As a means to fulfill our vision of promoting life long learning opportunities. Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks offers a wide variety of activities through its Community Recreation Programs. These activities are designed to supplement the many programs that are available through the recreation councils and include a wide variety of activities designed to stimulate both the mind and body. Program guides are published four times per year with activities available for adults, youth, families and therapeutic recreation at sites throughout the County. Over 4,100 registrants participated in these programs in FY2022.

## \$267,987

Total Expenses

## \$312,914

Total Revenue

Includes Recreation Programs and Adaptive Recreation Programs.



# RECREATION COUNCILS

Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks supports the operation of ten (10) volunteer recreation councils throughout the county that provide services to their respective geographic community or county-wide interest groups. The Department provides staff support, administers facility usage, and assists with program publicity and liability insurance issues. Councils hold regular meetings that are open to the public and have executive boards that are elected by the community.



**Central Carroll Recreation Council**  
Robert Freter, *Council President*  
Steve Krouse, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 717-465-8083 Website: not available



**Charles Carroll Recreation Council**  
Kathy Lowe, *Council President*  
Becky Kishter, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 410-386-2103 Website: not available



**Freedom Area Recreation Council**  
Ken Whalen, *Council President*  
Natalie Janoski, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 410-386-2103 Website: freedomarearec.org



**North Carroll Recreation Council**  
Andy Kiler, *Council President*  
Maria Artista, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 443-632-6045 Website: northcarrollrec.org



**West Carroll Recreation Council**  
Stephanie Clavell, *Council President*  
Penny Rockwood, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 410-775-1506 Website: gowcrc.com



**Westminster Area Recreation Council**  
John Neubert, *Council President*  
Laine Janoski, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 443-398-5321 Website: westminsterarearec.com



**Winfield Recreation Council**  
Buddy Brown, *Council President*  
Sue Podobnik, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 410-795-7098 Website: winfieldrec.org



**Woodbine Recreation Council**  
Ken Stockdale, *Council President*  
Lisa Carroll, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 410-386-2103 Website: woodbinerec.org



**Carroll County Equestrian Council**  
Darlene Welsh, *Council President*  
Jamie Noel, *Community Coordinator*  
Phone: 410-386-2103 Website: carrollcountyequestriancouncil.org



**Carroll County Arts Council**  
Lynn Wheeler, *Council President*  
Lynne Griffith, *Executive Director*  
Phone: 410-848-7272 Website: carrollcountyartscouncil.org



**\$4,771,201**

Total Expenses

**\$3,375,166**

Total Revenue

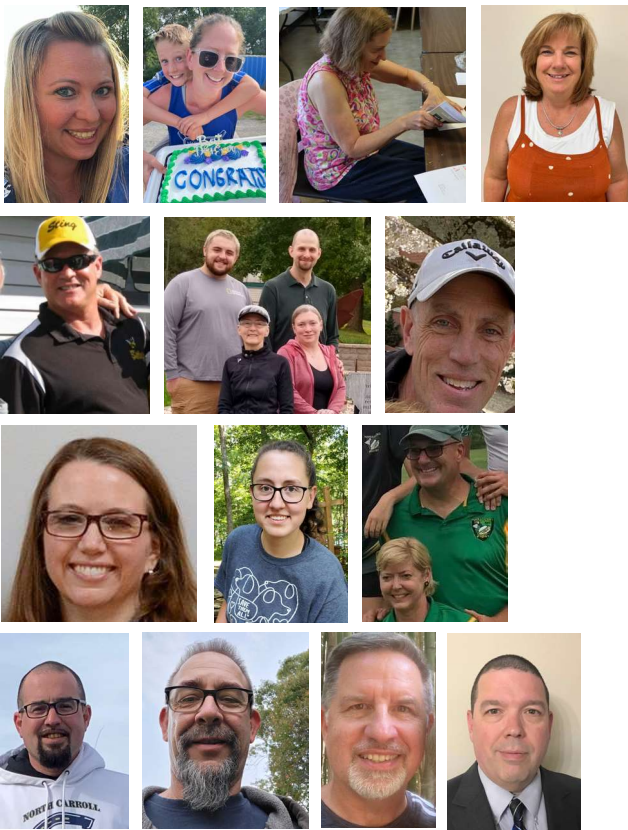
Council	Registrants	Attendance	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours
Central Carroll Rec Council	3041	117544	662	43321
Charles Carroll Rec Council	344	6444	74	2575
Equestrian Rec Council	160	525	30	1960
Freedom Area Rec Council	9887	294977	1949	105730
North Carroll Rec Council	2463	82504	562	209628
West Carroll Rec Council	1614	79682	343	99592
Westminster Area Rec Council	2650	190580	618	38947
Winfield Rec Council	1375	52710	598	18385
Woodbine Rec Council	3264	75917	819	31559
<b>Total</b>	<b>24798</b>	<b>901883</b>	<b>5625</b>	<b>551697</b>

# VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Each of our volunteer recreation councils has nominated a "Volunteer of the Year" for 2022. Below, click on each volunteer to learn about each Volunteer of the Year and read about their many contributions. We, along with their recreation councils, thank them for their many contributions and accomplishments. To the award winners: what you have done is truly special and made an impact on your community. While you are one from your council, we know you are among many and we recognize and honor your accomplishments and by association, those who serve alongside you.

In addition, 2022 marks the fifth year of inductees in the Carroll County Recreation and Parks Volunteer Hall of Fame. To be considered for this honor, volunteers must have served at least twenty (21) years and made significant contributions resulting in a lasting impact over time.

## VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR 2022



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Fran Nickolas  | Carroll County Arts Council                 |
| Joe Hild   | Carroll County Equestrian Council           |
| Brooke Speulstra   | Central Carroll Recreation Council          |
| Katie Coil   | Charles Carroll Recreation Council          |
| Wayne Straitz  | Freedom Area Recreation Council             |
| Kyle Smith   | North Carroll Recreation Council            |
| Noreen Brown   | Friends of South Carroll Dog Park           |
| Eric & Tally Myers   | West Carroll Recreation Council             |
| David Downs  | Westminster Area Recreation Council         |
| Larry Holston  | Winfield Recreation Council                 |
| Tracey Schaub  | Woodbine Recreation Council                 |
| Tim Beavers  | Department of Recreation and Parks          |
| Kayla Musselman  | Piney Run Recreation & Conservation Council |
| Alison Malachowski, Rachel Hall,<br>Chris Markle and Adam Nickey | Hashawha/Bear Branch Advisory Council       |

## 2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



- Peggy and Bob Miller
- James and Betty Huber

# PARK LEGACY FUND

The Park Legacy Fund was established to accept contributions to improve and enhance county parks for future generations. Contributions to the fund can be earmarked for specific sites or purposes and are tax deductible.

## BENEFACTOR (\$5,000+)

Anonymous  
The Nathan Chris Baker Foundation

## SPONSOR (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Benjamin M Holdridge  
Coffman  
George & Mary Kay Maurer  
Harold Jackson  
Heather Thomas  
James & Deborah Basford  
The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll

## PATRON (\$500-\$999)

Lynn & Steven Kratz  
Patricia Dahlberg  
Phyllis Zumbrun  
Ron Cox  
Wantz Distributors  
Whispering Springs Farm

## PARTNER (\$250-\$499)

Ernest & Marie Wilson  
Girl Scouts of Central MD, Inc.  
Mike and Beth Whiteford  
Raymond & Pamela Levesque  
Ruth Gnagey  
Stuart & Patrice Bressman  
Tito's

## FRIEND (\$100-\$249)

Jean Isham

## SUPPORTER (UP TO \$100)

Harry & Deann Johnson  
John & Betty Feeser  
Joseph & Lauren Stevens  
Kris Phillips  
Max Bukowitz  
John Hubbs  
Wendy Stolkovich

For more information regarding the Carroll County Park Legacy Fund.



# SUMMARY



## APPROVED OPERATING BUDGETS

	Operating Budget
Administration	\$575,020
Bureau of Recreation	\$486,804
Hap Baker Firearms Facility	\$240,210
Hashawha Environmental & Bear Branch Nature Center	\$1,052,600
Piney Run Park & Nature Center	\$993,250
Carroll County Sports Complex	\$255,190
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,603,074</b>

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



# Recreation R&P Parks

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Carroll County, MD

*Connecting people, parks and programs in support of a strong, healthy community and natural environment.*