

Education and Community Facilities

Recreation and Parks

The BWI/Linthicum area is served by several local parks owned and maintained by the County’s Department of Recreation and Parks. These community parks are shown on Map 16 and are listed below along with their approximate size and the types of facilities found in each.

Table 16. County Park Facilities Serving the BWI/Linthicum Small Area

Park	Location	Acreage	Facilities and Services
Arundel Hills Park	Furnace Branch Road	12	basketball court, tennis courts, play area
Andover Park and Equestrian Center	Andover Road	41	baseball fields, multipurpose fields, concessions, equestrian center
Cabin Branch Park	Along Cabin Branch Creek	34	no recreational facilities
Harmans Park*	Ridge Chapel Road	22	baseball fields, tennis courts, basketball court, play area, picnic area, pavilion
Linthicum Park	Benton Avenue	10	baseball fields, multipurpose field, tennis courts, play area, picnic area, amphitheater
Overlook Park	Colonial Drive & Linda Avenue	19	baseball fields, multipurpose field, tennis courts, basketball court, play area
Sawmill Creek Park*	Dorsey Road	37	baseball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, exercise course, picnic area, play area, skateboard park, bocce court, concessions

* located just outside the Small Planning Area border

In addition to these facilities, the Department of Recreation and Parks has an agreement with the Board of Education allowing use of all school ballfields by the general public during after-school hours. Scheduling is maintained by the Recreation and Parks staff.

Two State-owned parks are also located in the planning area. Friendship Park is owned by the Maryland Aviation Administration and is a popular spot for watching aircraft takeoffs and landings. The Patapsco Valley State Park follows the Patapsco River along the County border. It is managed primarily as a natural area and has only limited access and no active use facilities.

Map 16

The area is also served by an excellent hiker-biker network. The BWI Trail encompasses the airport property and extends up to Andover Park and the Linthicum Light Rail Station. The trail also connects with the B&A Trail which extends approximately 13 miles to Jonas Green State Park on the Severn River. Local and State planners are looking at alternatives to connect these trails to Baltimore City. Two alignments currently being studied run along Belle Grove Road through Brooklyn Park and along the MTA rail line.

Recent capital projects in the local parks include the renovation of facilities at Andover Park, the addition of a new skateboard park in Sawmill Creek Park, and completion of the Bachman Sports Complex in nearby Glen Burnie which is dedicated for use by adult leagues. The County has also purchased land for future construction of an aquatic facility in Glen Burnie to serve North County residents.

Public Education

The BWI/Linthicum Planning Area is located primarily within the North County school feeder system, although small portions of the planning area fall within the Glen Burnie, Meade, and Old Mill feeder systems. The boundaries of the school feeder systems are shown on Maps 17 to 19. The senior high schools serve grades 9 through 12, the middle schools serve grades 6 through 8, and most of the elementary schools serve grades K through 5. Jessup, Ferndale, and Hilltop elementary schools also have pre-kindergarten programs. The Board of Education is currently working on a plan to provide full day kindergarten in all County elementary schools by 2007.

The State of Maryland assigns rated capacities to each school based on the number and type of classrooms in elementary schools and the number of teaching stations in middle and senior high schools. Projections of expected capacities are done over a ten year period. Rated capacities, projected 2003 and 2012 enrollments, and utilization percentages at each school are shown in Table 17. The majority of the schools are currently and projected to be below capacity. Both Glen Burnie and North County Senior High Schools are currently operating nearly at capacity, although enrollment at these two schools is projected to decline slowly over the next ten years. In the Old Mill feeder system, Old Mill High School is operating slightly over capacity, and Severn Elementary is projected to be over capacity by 2008. This information is based on the July 2003 *Educational Facilities Master Plan*.

Redistricting adopted by the Board of Education in April 2003 closed Ferndale Elementary as a K-5 school and redistricted the Ferndale students to George Cromwell Elementary. The same redistricting then opened the Ferndale facility as an Early Childhood Center that is to open in the Fall of 2003 with kindergarten and eligible pre-K students from the George Cromwell Elementary attendance area. Future construction of a wing on the Early Childhood Center will eventually allow for kindergarten and eligible pre-K students from Hilltop Elementary to be placed there in 2006.

Map 17

Map 18

Map 19

Table 17. School Enrollment and Capacities

School	State Rated Capacity (2003)	2003 Estimated Enrollment	2003 % Utilization	2012 Projected Enrollment	2012 % Utilization
<i>Glen Burnie Feeder System</i>					
Glen Burnie High	2171	2125	98%	1975	91%
Corkran Middle	1155	795	69%	747	65%
Richard Henry Lee Elementary	524	426	81%	492	94%
<i>Meade Feeder System</i>					
Meade High	2208	1872	85%	1723	78%
Meade Middle	1144	907	79%	899	77%
Jessup Elementary	649	562	87%	552	85%
<i>North County Feeder System</i>					
North County High ¹	2110	2075	98%	1879	89%
Lindale Middle	1483	1091	74%	1023	69%
Ferndale Elementary ²	176	58	33%	213	121%
George Cromwell Elementary ²	424	303	72%	280	66%
Hilltop Elementary ²	639	525	82%	413	65%
Linthicum Elementary	614	399	65%	466	76%
Overlook Elementary ³	369	243	66%	279	76%
<i>Old Mill Feeder System</i>					
Old Mill High	2363	2411	102%	2355	100%
Old Mill Middle North	1071	1010	94%	951	89%
Severn Elementary	429	396	92%	466	109%

1. PE facility planning is scheduled for FY04.

2. Reflects approved redistricting, April 2, 2003.

3. Feasibility study scheduled for FY06, with possible planning and construction in FY07-09.

The current capital project to expand North County Senior High includes additional classroom space, modernization of science facilities, an expanded cafeteria, and other internal renovations. Other programmed capital projects include planning and engineering to replace the existing physical education facility at North County High. A feasibility study for renovations to Overlook Elementary School, which was constructed in 1955, has been programmed for 2006.

The Center for Applied Technology North is located just outside of the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area in Severn and serves all of northern Anne Arundel County. This County vocational school offers high school students from Arundel, Chesapeake, Glen Burnie, Meade, North County, and Old Mill High Schools specialized training in fields such as construction, automotive technology, and computer technology.

Also located just outside of the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area, the Anne Arundel Community College offers a wide variety of courses and services in the Glen Burnie Town Center. In addition to both academic credit classes and continuing education classes in many subjects, other services offered by the College in Glen Burnie include adult basic education (GED) testing, computer technology training, telecommunications, Cybercrime classes, English as a Second Language classes, and a computer lab for use by registered students. The College's new Hospitality, Culinary Arts, and Tourism (HCAT) Institute opened in the Town Center in 2000. The newest addition to the College is a satellite campus at the Arundel Mills Mall complex which will open in the fall of 2003.

Police Service

The majority of the BWI/Linthicum area falls within the County's Northern Police District. The Northern District police station is located on Hammonds Lane at MD 648. The Northern District currently staffs 10 beats and five overlap beats. A beat is a particular area covered by an officer and usually has 24-hour coverage. Four officers are assigned to beats in the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area. The Northern District Station is in good condition and is suitably sized to handle current and proposed future staffing. A small portion of the Planning Area lies within the Western Police District. That station is located on Telegraph Road in Odenton. The Western District Station is in good condition but its current size is not suitable to handle future demands, according to a background study conducted for the FY2002 Capital Budget and Program.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) provides money to Anne Arundel County to staff three Light Rail beats encompassing five of the Light Rail stations (Nursery Road, North Linthicum, Linthicum, Ferndale, and Cromwell) during Light Rail hours of operation. The BWI Light Rail stations are not included. The BWI Airport is under the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority Police. An MOU between the Anne Arundel County Police Department and the Maryland Transportation Authority establishes jurisdictional responsibilities.

The Anne Arundel County Police Department has been evaluating the need for adding a

fifth police patrol district in the county. Due to current fiscal budgetary constraints, it is unlikely that the Police Department will be able to implement a fifth police patrol district before the year 2010. However, an interim realignment of the four existing police districts will be considered for FY2005.

Fire/EMS/Rescue Services

The Anne Arundel County Fire Department is a combination career and volunteer department providing emergency medical, fire and rescue services to County citizens. The members of the Department are highly trained individuals. Every member of the Department holds State certification, showing they meet or exceed the requirements for the position they hold. Many members also hold national certification. In addition to the traditional services provided by the fire service, the County Fire Department has personnel trained in Hazardous Materials incident mitigation, dive/water rescue, high-angle rescue, confined space rescue, collapse rescue and a variety of other technical rescue situations. The Department recently became the first fire department in the state to receive accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

The BWI/Linthicum area is served by four fire stations: Harmans/Dorsey Station 21; Linthicum Station 32; Ferndale Station 34; and Glen Burnie Station 33 located just outside the Planning Area in Glen Burnie. The Baltimore Washington International Airport Fire Station 43 also serves this area. First due service is provided by the company closest to a given area. However, depending on the type of call received, units from more than one station may respond. All response certified members of the Fire Department are trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). In addition, every station has at least one Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) to provide life saving treatment to victims of heart attacks. The Planning Area is well served by existing Fire Department resources, and there are no current plans for additional stations or services in this area.

Libraries

The Linthicum Branch Library at 400 Shipley Road serves the BWI/Linthicum Small Area. Opened in 1967, this branch has 11,083 square feet and a materials collection of 58,409 items. Monthly circulation averages 14,700 plus, which is 3.4% of the entire system circulation. This branch is open Monday through Saturday with a weekly total of 44 hours. Other nearby libraries outside of the Planning Area include the North County Area Library on MD 2 in Harundale and the Brooklyn Park Branch Library.

The County Library System is a quasi-independent agency governed by a 24-member Board of Trustees who serve on a volunteer basis. The Board's current Facilities Master Plan outlined repair and renovation projects for all 15 library branches. Projects are prioritized by need and requested through the budget process each year. Several current or recently completed projects for the Linthicum Branch include interior painting, re-carpeting, and renovation of the public and staff restrooms. Planned capital projects include a 25,000 square-foot replacement

library for the Crofton Library and a 40,000 square-foot West County Regional Library that will replace the Odenton Library. There are no plans to enlarge the Linthicum Library or to increase the operating hours at this time.

Assets and Issues

Community members have generally expressed satisfaction with most of the community services and facilities in the area, with the exception of the overcrowded conditions at North County High School. However, there are some additional areas of concern. A frequently heard area of concern has been related to a shortage of active recreational facilities in the area, particularly ball fields and public swimming pools.

Shortage of active recreational facilities: The County has constructed several new facilities in recent years for youth sports and recreation, such as Crofton Park in Crofton, General's Highway Corridor Park in Crownsville, Kinder Park in Millersville, and Lake Shore Athletic Complex in Pasadena. These parks all feature fields (baseball, softball, football, soccer) dedicated to single uses. On the other hand, two of the larger youth recreation organizations in the County may be found in the northernmost part of the County in Linthicum and Ferndale (LFYAA) and Brooklyn Park (BPYAA). Both organizations support hundreds of children in older parks, Andover Park and Brooklyn Park. There are numerous smaller organizations in the area as well.

In this Planning Area, these organizations must use fields that serve double duty. In the spring they are used for baseball, softball and lacrosse; in the fall those same fields are used for soccer and football. In addition, some of these fields are also used by adult sports leagues. The result of the constant use of these fields without any "off-season rest" are very old, tired, worn-out playing surfaces. At the start of the soccer season, half of the fields are dirt because they include baseball and softball infields. By the end of the season, many of these fields have nearly no grass at all from overuse.

The County must make an extra effort to build and maintain additional youth recreation fields in this area. Citizens applaud the County for building the nearby Bachman Sports Complex, but the fields there are dedicated to adult uses. The County must recognize that adults can and ought to pay for their recreation. Youth recreation and sports must take priority and be supported better in this area.

Lack of access to Patapsco Valley State Park: Community members see the proximity of the PVSP as a real asset to the area; however, they feel the park is not very accessible to area residents. Within the park, trail systems are limited and are not easily accessible.

Need for more accessible senior services: With the aging population in the County and the Planning Area, citizens perceive a need for a senior center that is easily accessible to area residents.

Goals and Recommendations

Goal 1: Expand the number of recreational facilities, including ball fields, parks and hiker/biker trails, and enhance recreational opportunities in the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area.

The County's commitment to the Andover Equestrian Center and the nearby sports fields are positive signs for North County. The area, however, still lacks any public swimming pools or golf courses. The few existing public ball fields are heavily used and demonstrate that the demand exceeds the supply.

As stated before, the opening up of Patapsco Valley State Park will add opportunities for some forms of recreation. The BWI Trail can be improved by linking it to access points in the Patapsco Valley State Park and by connecting it to other new and existing trails in the area.

Recommendations:

1. Construct additional single-use ball fields and active recreation areas to allow for added participation in team sports, in particular youth sports and recreation, and other uses.
2. Construct or encourage the construction of a golf course and a community swimming pool within the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area.
3. Establish greenways connecting parks and recreational areas.
4. Establish an interconnected trail system between the existing BWI Trail and the Patapsco Valley State Park.
5. Work with the State to provide better access to Patapsco Valley State Park.
6. Encourage the State and County to establish a more coherent policy regarding the maintenance and police protection for the hiker/biker trail system in the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area (i.e., map out the specific responsibilities of each).

Goal 2: Strive for equity for schools in the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area in alignment with the other 15 small areas to provide the best educational opportunities for all students.

In an effort to provide a "community-based" education to all students in the Planning Area, the public school feeder system should be maintained in the current configuration. Additions, renovations and new school construction should occur in a timely manner in order to maintain enrollment levels within capacity levels. Priority should be given to maintenance of existing facilities.

Recommendations:

1. Provide funding for completion of the needed renovations at North County High School as well as for construction of a new gymnasium.
2. Require regular maintenance of existing school facilities.
 1. Give priority to maintenance in the County's annual budget.
 2. Improve coordination between the Board of Education and the general County budget process.

Goal 3: Provide a high level of public safety services for all residents and businesses in the Planning Area, and encourage and support the County's volunteer police officers.

Recommendations:

1. When or if new public safety district boundaries are established, reevaluate coverage (number of police officers, emergency response times) in the Planning Area to determine whether additional coverage is necessary and/or to ensure that equivalent coverage is maintained.
2. Increase funding for the County Police Reserve Officer program to train and retain this volunteer force.
3. Provide fire/EMS/rescue services teams in the area with the ability to directly notify MTA and Light Rail operators during emergencies so that, if necessary, trains can be safely halted to facilitate more expedient emergency travel.

Goal 4: Provide high quality library services for all residents and businesses in the Planning Area.

Recommendations:

1. Continue to plan and budget for future upgrades to public computers in the Linthicum Library. Continue to assess needs for additional public computers and request funding to meet those needs.

Goal 5: Provide high quality community service to the area's senior citizens.

Recommendation:

1. Establish a satellite senior center in Linthicum.

Public Utilities

Water and Sewer Service

The County's *Master Plan for Water Supply and Sewerage Systems* is the policy document for the provision and timing of public water and sewer service. This policy is based largely on the *General Development Plan* and Small Area Plans. Maps 20 and 21 show public sewer and water service areas in the BWI/Linthicum Planning Area in accordance with the County's Water and Sewer Master Plan adopted in 1999. The master plan is updated approximately every three years, and a new master plan will be adopted in 2003.

The areas served by both public water and sewer include Ferndale, Linthicum and portions of Hanover and Harmans. The majority of the area not served by existing water and sewer is in the Planned Service Category. Planned Service Areas are programmed for growth in accordance with the County's *General Development Plan*. Water and sewer facilities are provided by both the private sector and the County in these areas designated for service. In most cases, private developers or property owners are required to cover the cost of extending water and sewer facilities to their property.

BWI Airport is served by a wastewater collection system owned and operated by the Federal Aviation Administration. The collected wastewater is conveyed to Baltimore County for treatment. Neither the conveyance piping to Baltimore County nor the treatment of the collected wastewater are the responsibility of Anne Arundel County.

Sewer Service

The BWI/Linthicum Planning Area is located within the Baltimore City and Cox Creek Sewer Service Areas (SSA). Limits of the Baltimore City SSA are generally established by the drainage area of the Patapsco River. The boundaries on the western and northern sides are the County line at Howard County and Baltimore City. The eastern and southern limits generally follow the watershed boundary of Deep Run and Patapsco River west of Wagner's Point, including Jessup north of MD 175 and the area north of I-695 near Cabin Branch Creek. The Patapsco Wastewater Treatment Plant, located on Wagner's Point in Baltimore City, provides treatment for the majority of sewage in the service area. The plant is owned and operated by Baltimore City. Anne Arundel County purchases an allocated amount of operating capacity at the treatment plant from Baltimore City. The County does not anticipate that any pump stations in the Baltimore City SSA will require capacity upgrades before 2020.

The Cox Creek SSA is located in the northern portion of the County. It is generally bounded by Baltimore City to the North, Patapsco River to the East, Elvaton Road and Magothy River to the South and the BWI Airport to the West. The Cox Creek Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) is located off Wagner Road. The treated effluent is discharged to the Patapsco River. Upgrades to the biological nutrient reduction facilities were recently completed under Capital

Map 20

Map 21

Project S-7649. Four of the 62 pump stations (Marley, Marley Neck, Silver Sands and Stonehaven) have been identified as requiring upgrades necessary to meet sub-drainage flow requirements in the future. In addition, there are new pump station facilities designed and constructed as either development projects or through the County's *Capital Improvement Program*.

More detail regarding strategic planning efforts that identify future system capacity needs can be found in the 1999 *Master Plan for Water Supply and Sewerage Systems*. As described in the Plan, to alleviate capacity concerns at the Cox Creek WRF, the County is evaluating options to transfer up to 3 mgd flow from the Cox Creek SSA to the Broadneck SSA. In addition to flow transfers these options include the design and construction of a potential new water reclamation facility within the Baltimore City SSA or the Cox Creek SSA to provide capacity for future anticipated flows within the Cox Creek SSA.

Water Service

The BWI/Linthicum Planning Area is located within portions of the Airport Square 350 and the Glen Burnie High 295 water pressure zones (WPZ). The Airport Square 350 WPZ is generally bounded by Aviation Boulevard to the east, Howard and Baltimore Counties to the west, Baltimore County to the north and Arundel Mills Boulevard and Reece Road to the south. The Airport Square WPZ was recently expanded south of MD 100 to Reece Road incorporating the Arundel Mills Mall and Meade Village areas in order to more adequately serve areas with high elevations that were formerly in the Glen Burnie High WPZ. Water servicing this zone is received from Baltimore City via a connection at Nursery Road and from the 295 WPZ via the Dorsey Water Treatment Plant via the Harmans Water Booster Pumping Station. The source within Baltimore City is the Ashburton Water Treatment Plant (WTP). According to the County's design criteria, the highest ground elevation that can be served from the 350 zone is 230 without providing supplemental means of pressure.

The Glen Burnie 295 WPZ is partitioned into three distinct areas centered around the Dorsey WTP. The northeast partition is generally bounded by Baltimore City to the east, the 350 zone to the west, Baltimore County to the north and the Broadneck/Glen Burnie Low 220 zone to the south. The southwest partition is generally bounded by MD 3 and the 220 zone to the east, Howard County to the west, Dorsey Road, Arundel Mills and the 350 zone to the north and the Severn Run Environmental Area to the south. The southeast partition is generally bounded by Chalet Drive and Foxwell Road to the east, MD 3 to the west, Old Mill Road to the north and Benfield Boulevard to the south. According to the County's design criteria, the highest ground elevation that can be served from the 295 zone is 175 without providing supplemental means of pressure. There are areas with elevations exceeding 175 generally bounded by Dorsey Road to the north, Meade Village to the south, Telegraph Road to the east and MD 295 to the west. Much of this area is now served by the Airport Square 350 WPZ after the recent 350/295 boundary shift. In the near future, the 350/295 WPZ boundary will again be shifted from Reece Road to Telegraph Road after a 16-inch main is constructed at Donaldson Avenue (Capital

Project W7775). At that time, a new booster station at the Telegraph Road SCW facility will be brought on-line, which will allow water to be conveyed from the Odenton 330 WPZ to the Airport Square 350 WPZ. Currently, the Dorsey Road WTP provides water to the 295 pressure zone and is located along Dorsey Road adjacent to I-97. The plant also receives water from the Glen Burnie Low Zone for redistribution to the 295 Zone. There are two self-contained wells (SCW) that serve the 295 zone that provide chemical addition, disinfection and fluoridation. A third SCW is currently out of service due to the detection of radium. There is a Capital Project to remove the excessive levels of radium.

More detail regarding strategic planning efforts that identify future system capacity needs can be found in the *Master Plan for Water Supply and Sewerage Systems*. Other projects include continuation of the 36-inch transmission main along Waugh Chapel Road north from Piney Orchard to Road and MD 175 (CIP project W7784). The 36-inch main will allow the County to transmit water from the 330 zone to the 295 zone taking advantage of the increased production capability at the Crofton Meadows II WTP.

Goals and Recommendations

The BWI/Linthicum Small Area will develop according to the Smart Growth initiative of the State of Maryland and direct growth to those areas with the infrastructure to support growth, namely those areas with existing or planned water and sewer service. This Plan recommends no change to the current extent of the existing and planned sewer and water service, except as necessary to support the changes to the Land Use Plan and associated zoning.