

Anne Arundel Water Access Commission

Recommendation #2

January 24, 2017

In accordance with Executive Order # 19 which calls on the Commission to recommend actions by the County to assist in achieving its public water access goals, the Commission makes the following recommendations:

The Commission notes that although public water access opportunities are gradually improving, there is a significant shortage of opportunities for public swimming in the local waters of the Bay and its tributaries in Anne Arundel County. Currently, Ft. Smallwood Park on the Mountain Rd peninsula is the only county park with regularly open public beach facilities. Additionally, Mayo Beach Park is open for brief periods on approximately 15 Sundays in the summer. Notably, the Health Department conducts water quality testing at some 80 private beaches in the County. Accordingly, the Commission recommends:

1. Mayo Beach Park be opened for public use daily except when such use would conflict with the Adaptive/Integrated Day Camp summer program at the park.
2. An evaluation of Jonas Green Park to determine its suitability as a public swimming site.
3. Continue to evaluate all county waterfront properties for use as public swimming sites.
4. Provide public facilities to minimize health risks associated with water contact.
5. Expand the Health Dept testing program to all public water access points.

Members of the Commission are eager to assist in the creation and implementation of this

ACTION:

Accept; _____ Reject; _____ Modify; _____

Direction from County Executive: