

Quiet Waters Retreat Stakeholder Meeting #3

Saturday, December 7, 2024, 9:00am-12:00pm

Quiet Waters Park - Visitor Center Cafe

600 Quiet Waters Park Road Annapolis, Maryland 21403



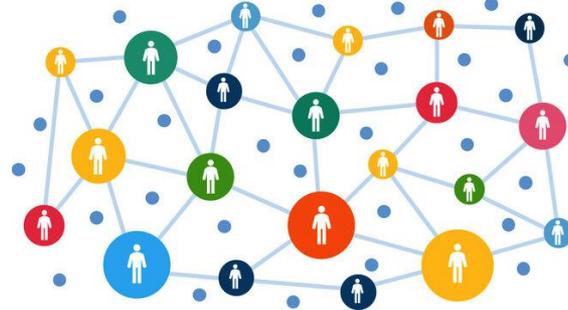
Meeting Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is:

- Discuss three (3) Concepts
- Provide stakeholder & community feedback
- Refine master plan

Role of a Stakeholder Advisory Group

- Provide input during the decision-making process
- Help Rec & Parks define how to achieve its vision
- Provide insight and knowledge
- Be a champion for the project
- Collaborate, seek solutions, and compromise
- Consider the greater good
- Compile feedback from the community and present it to the group for consideration
- Work toward a common goal
- Synergize – the parts as a whole should result in a greater outcome than the individual parts



County Vision for Quiet Waters Retreat

- Accessible
- Passive recreational use
- Natural

“...give the residents of Anne Arundel County a place to enjoy a range of passive activities within a beautiful setting”

cover letter, Annapolis Neck Park Master Plan, July 22, 1988



53 Sticky Notes

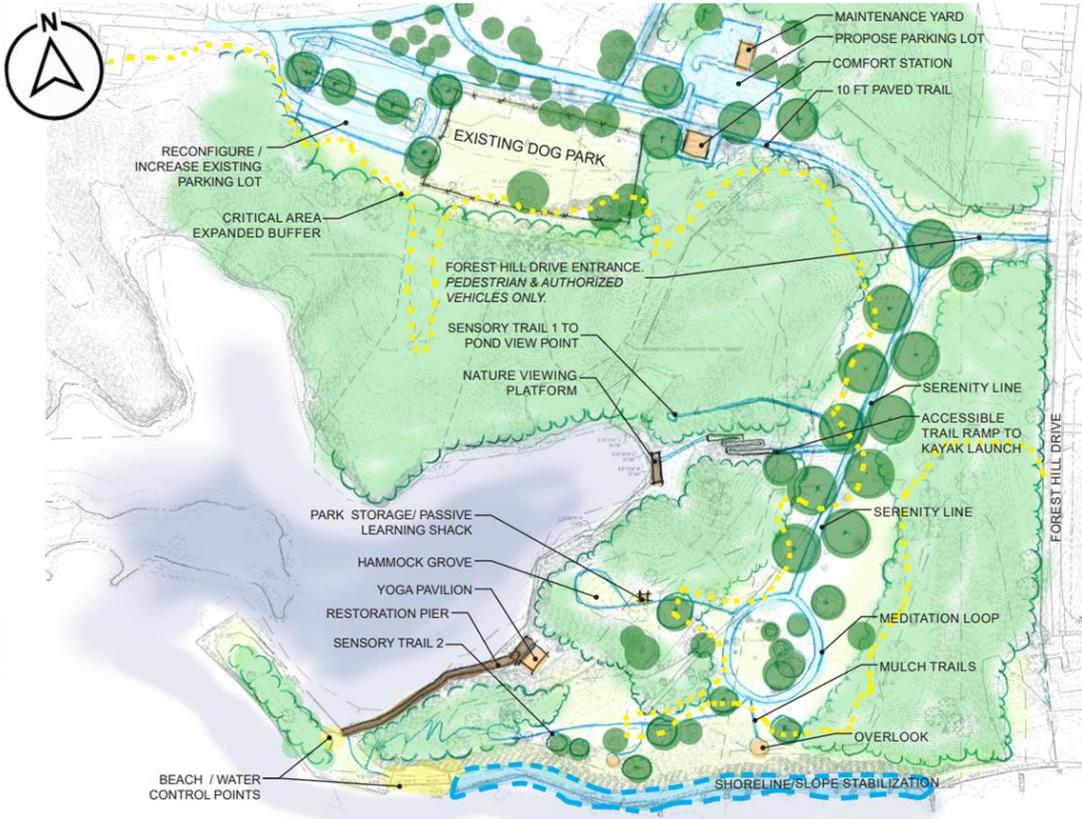


**Organized into 3 Conceptual
Ideas to Include 42 Amenities**



**Will Evolve into a
Unified Concept -
*1 Master Plan***

Concept 1

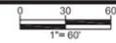


Objective: Establish Quiet Waters Park as a sanctuary for mental and physical well-being, with spaces designed for relaxation, reflection, and holistic health practices. This concept focuses on promoting wellness through passive, low-impact engagement with nature, ensuring minimal disruption to sensitive conservation areas like Loden Pond.

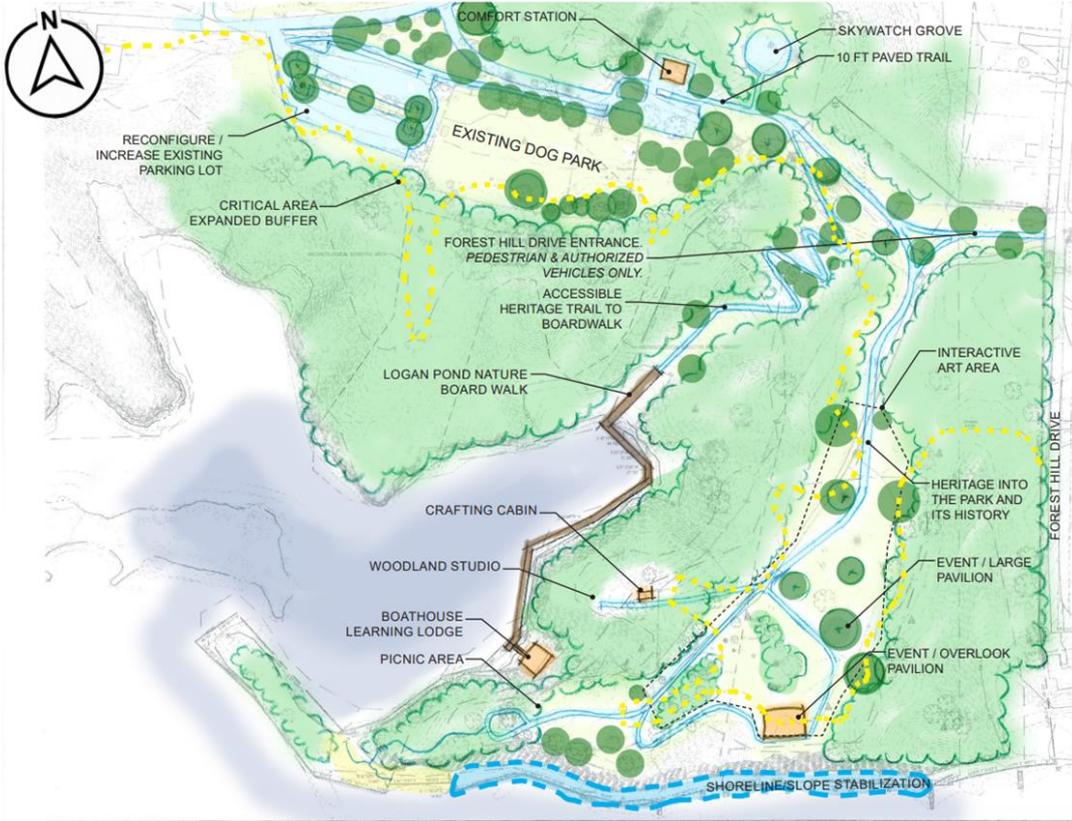
Key Features:

- **Hammock Grove:** A shaded, peaceful area with hammocks where visitors can relax and unwind, located atop a pine forested ridge off the Meditation Loop.
- **Meditation and Yoga Spaces:** Quiet spots for yoga and meditation, near the South River Overlook or in secluded gardens, equipped with platforms or soft ground coverings.
- **Nature Viewing Platform:** a serene Environmental Overlook dedicated for watching birds, wildlife, and natural processes along the water's edge, ideal for education and conservation-focused experiences.
- **Sensory Trail:** A trail designed to engage all five senses, featuring fragrant plants, textured surfaces, water features, and soothing sounds to promote relaxation.
- **Accessible Wellness Trails:** ADA-compliant trails designed for mindful walking, incorporating labyrinths, reflective pools, and sensory gardens.
- **Meditation Loop:** A tranquil walking loop with passive signs or phrases reinforcing the connection between nature and inner peace, enhancing mindfulness through subtle, reflective guidance.
- **Serenity Line** – A juxtaposition of the path's structured, linear design against the surrounding natural landscape, evoking a deep sense of calm and tranquility. The contrast between the straight, clear path and the organic elements of nature enhances the sense of serenity, guiding visitors toward stillness and reflection as they approach the bay.

Stakeholder Alignment: This concept aligns with stakeholder priorities by focusing on accessible, passive engagement with nature, promoting wellness and mindfulness through low-impact, contemplative spaces. By integrating features such as the Environmental Overlook, the design enhances the visitor experience while prioritizing the preservation of natural areas like Loden Pond. These thoughtful additions allow for peaceful observation and reflection, supporting the park's conservation goals and aligning with the broader vision of maintaining the park



Concept 2

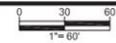


Objective: To celebrate the rich history and cultural heritage of Quiet Waters Park through art and historical interpretation, making it a hub for cultural engagement in a natural setting.

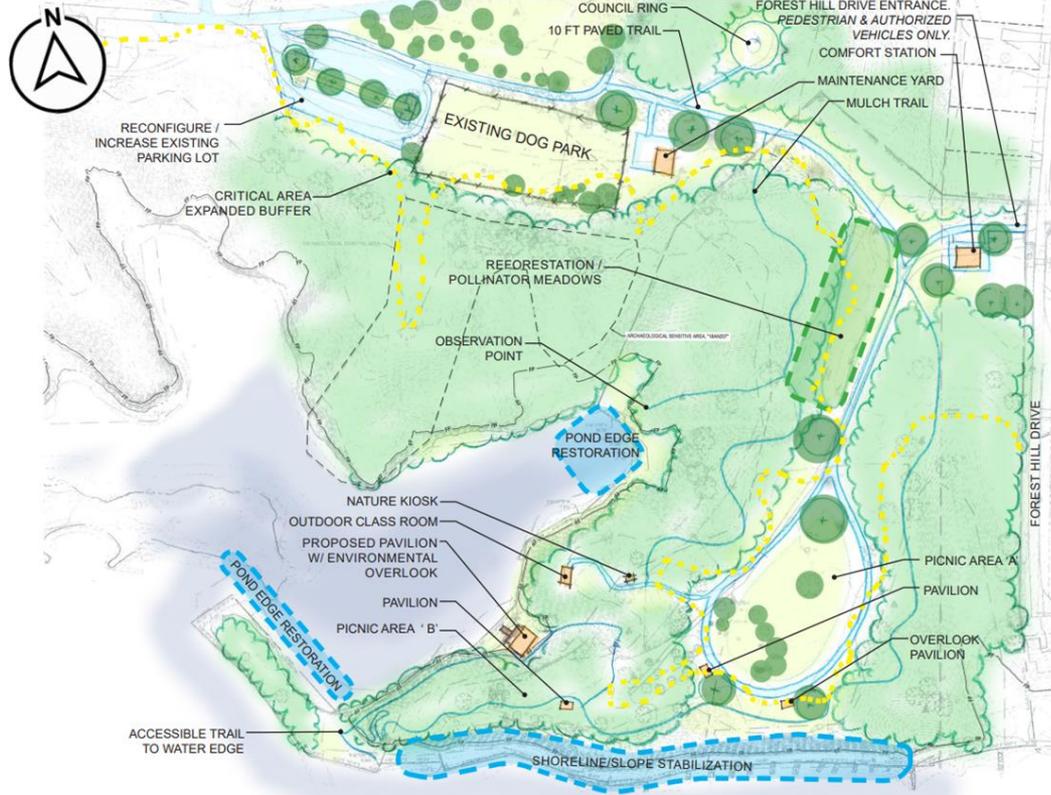
Key Features:

- Cultural Heritage Trails: trails that highlight the historical significance of the land, featuring plaques, art installations, and reconstructed historical sites that tell the story of the park's evolution from farmland to a public space.
- Sculpture Garden: Expanding the park's existing sculpture program by creating a dedicated sculpture garden that features works inspired by the park's history and natural environment.
- Art @ the Park: Proposed Large Pavilion to be include in the annual Art @ the Park event
- Boat House Learning Lodge: repurposed historical boat repair building, into an educational hub where visitors can explore the area's heritage and engage with interactive exhibits. It offers both hands-on learning opportunities and passive exhibits, connecting the history of Quiet Waters Park to its current environmental and conservation efforts.
- Skywatch Grove is an inviting, open clearing surrounded by trees that frame the sky above, offering visitors a chance to pause and observe the natural world.
- The Woodland Studio is an outdoor arts and crafts space nestled in a shaded part of the woods, offering tables where visitors can create art in a peaceful, natural setting. Nearby, the Crafting Cabin—a repurposed maintenance shack—provides storage for art supplies and serves as a hub for hands-on projects during workshops, as well as passive learning through small exhibits.

Stakeholder Alignment: This concept aligns with stakeholder priorities by focusing on education and conservation through the Cultural Heritage Trails and Boat House Learning Lodge, expanding cultural engagement via the Sculpture Garden and Art @ the Park Pavilion, and promoting low-impact, creative experiences with Skywatch Grove and the Woodland Studio, all while preserving the park's natural beauty.



Concept 3

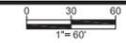


Objective: Create a sanctuary focused on wildlife protection and habitat restoration, with an emphasis on educational outreach to promote environmental stewardship. This concept prioritizes passive interaction with sensitive ecosystems like Loden Pond, preserving the area for conservation while providing educational opportunities for visitors.

Key Features:
 Protected Habitat Zones: Designated areas near Harness Creek and the South River where human activity is minimized, including observation platforms for birdwatching and wildlife viewing. These zones ensure passive, controlled access to sensitive ecosystems, promoting wildlife conservation.

- Native Plant Restoration: Large-scale removal of invasive species and the reintroduction of native plants, with interpretive signage and guided tours. These efforts educate visitors on the importance of biodiversity and habitat restoration while keeping human impact low.
- Wetland Restoration: Restored wetland areas with boardwalks and interactive exhibits that educate visitors on wetlands' roles in flood control and biodiversity. The boardwalks provide passive, low-impact access to these sensitive areas without disturbing the habitat.
- Sustainable Picnic Areas: Eco-friendly picnic spots integrated into the natural landscape, surrounded by native plants that support pollinators. These areas provide opportunities for visitors to enjoy the outdoors while maintaining a focus on sustainability and conservation.
- Reforestation and Pollinator Meadows: Opportunities for reforestation or the development of natural pollinator meadows along the main trails, enhancing biodiversity and offering visitors the chance to interact with nature in a passive, educational way.

Stakeholder Alignment: This concept meets stakeholders' priorities of sustainability, conservation, and education by focusing on habitat restoration, accessible educational opportunities, and low-impact visitor experiences.



Next Steps

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS

- Stakeholder Meeting #3: December 7, 2024
- Discussion/consensus on unified concept
- TranSystems to prepare conceptual Master Plan
- Stakeholder Meeting #4: TBD
 - ◆ notes, conceptual Master Plan, and answers to outstanding questions will be emailed in advance of the meeting. Please be prepared to discuss.
- Consensus on draft Master Plan

Next Steps

PUBLIC PROCESS

- • Publish draft Master Plan based on the results of Stakeholder process
- • Present draft Master Plan at in-person Public Meeting
 - Mailing to neighbors within 300 ft of the park's boundary (OPZ guidelines)
 - Post notice on DRP website, social media, and weekly newsletter
 - CE's office and County Council members post the notice in their newsletters
 - Ask Stakeholders to publicize the meeting in their newsletters and social media
- • Public comment period (min. 30 days)
- • DRP review of public comments and input
- • Final Master Plan

Questions

