FINAL

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2025, Legislative Day No. 15

Bill No. 75-25

Introduced by Ms. Leadbetter and Ms. Rodvien

By the County Council, July 21, 2025

Introduced and first read on July 21, 2025
Public Hearing set for and held on September 15, 2025
Bill Expires October 24, 2025

By Order: Kaley Schultze, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Youth Nature Immersion Program

FOR the purpose of defining "Youth Nature Immersion Program"; adding youth nature immersion programs as a conditional use and providing for the conditions in certain districts; and generally relating to zoning.

BY renumbering: § 18-1-101(175) to be § 18-1-101(176), respectively
Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) (as amended by Bill Nos. 72-24, 13-25, and 29-25)

BY adding: §§ 18-1-101(175) and 18-10-177
Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) (as amended by Bill Nos. 72-24, 2-25, 13-25, and 29-25)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments: §§ 18-4-106 and 18-9-202
Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) (as amended by Bill Nos. 72-24, 13-25, and 29-25)

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,* That § 18-1-101(175) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) (as amended by Bill Nos. 72-24, 13-25, and 29-25), is hereby renumbered to be § 18-1-101(176), respectively.

SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted*, That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) that read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.
[[Brackets**]]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Captions and taglines in **bold** in this bill are catchwords and are not law.
Asterisks *** indicate existing Code provisions in a list or chart that remain unchanged.

ARTICLE 18. ZONING

TITLE 1. DEFINITIONS

18-1-101. Definitions.

Unless defined in this article, the Natural Resources Article of the State Code, or COMAR, words defined elsewhere in this Code apply in this article. The following words have the meanings indicated:

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(175) "YOUTH NATURE IMMERSION PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM FOR YOUTH WHO ARE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER THAT FOCUSES ON OUTDOOR EXPLORATION AND NATURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND MAY INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT, OCCUPATIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL THERAPIES, AND DAY CAMP PROGRAMS.

TITLE 4. RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

18-4-106. Permitted, conditional, and special exception uses.

The permitted, conditional, and special exception uses allowed in each of the residential districts are listed in the chart in this section using the following key: P = permitted use; C = conditional use; SE = special exception use. A blank means that the use is not allowed in the district. Except as provided otherwise in this article, uses and structures customarily accessory to the listed uses also are allowed, except that guest houses as accessory structures are prohibited and outside storage as an accessory use is limited to the lesser of 10% of the allowed lot coverage or 500 square feet.

Permitted, Conditional, and Special Exception Uses	**RA**	**RLD**	**R1**	**R2**	**R5**	**R10**	**R15**	**R22**
***								
Workforce housing					C	C	C	
YOUTH NATURE IMMERSION PROGRAM	C	C	C					

TITLE 9. OTHER ZONING DISTRICTS

18-9-202. Permitted, conditional, and special exception uses.

The permitted, conditional, and special exception uses allowed in Open Space Districts (OS) and in the Open Space Conservation Overlay (OS-C) are listed in the chart in this section using the following key: P = permitted use; C = conditional use; SE = special exception use. Except as provided otherwise in this article, uses and structures customarily accessory to the listed uses also are allowed.

Permitted, Conditional, and Special Exception Uses	OS	OS-C
***		
Volunteer fire stations	P	
YOUTH NATURE IMMERSION PROGRAM	C	

TITLE 10. REQUIREMENTS FOR CONDITIONAL USES

18-10-177. Youth Nature Immersion Program.

A YOUTH NATURE IMMERSION PROGRAM SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS.

(1) THE USE SHALL BE LOCATED ON A LOT OF AT LEAST FIVE ACRES.

(2) THE USE SHALL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 60 YOUTH ON-SITE AT ONE TIME.

(3) ADEQUATE AND CLEAN SANITARY FACILITIES SHALL BE PROVIDED.

(4) PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF AREAS SHALL BE ADEQUATE TO PROVIDE CONVENIENT ACCESS TO THE SITE WITHOUT OFF-SITE QUEUING OF VEHICLES AND TO PROVIDE SAFE INTERIOR CIRCULATION OF VEHICLES AND VISITORS.

(5) THE ACTIVITIES ON THE SITE SHALL BE LOCATED IN A MANNER TO SHIELD SURROUNDING RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY FROM THE EFFECTS OF NOISE, HAZARDS, OR OTHER OFFENSIVE CONDITIONS.

SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days from the date it becomes law.

READ AND PASSED this 15th day of September, 2025

By Order:

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer

PRESENTED to the County Executive for his approval this 16th day of September, 2025

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer

APPROVED AND ENACTED this ____18th__ day of September, 2025

Steuart Pittman
County Executive

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 2, 2025

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF BILL NO. 75-25 THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH IS RETAINED IN THE FILES OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer