



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OFFICE

Legislative and Fiscal Summary of Administration Legislation

To: Members, Anne Arundel County Council

From: Ethan Hunt, Director of Government Affairs /s/

Date: February 2, 2026

Subject: Bill No. 11 -26 – Recreation and Parks – Article 14

This summary was prepared by the Anne Arundel County Government Relations Office for use by members of the Anne Arundel County Council during consideration of Bill No. 11-26.

Summary

This legislation, introduced at the request of the Administration on behalf of the Department of Recreation & Parks amends Article 14, which governs Recreation and Parks, to update the article to modernize county regulations by broadening the scope of oversight to all "Recreation & Park Areas" and aligning definitions with current State laws, particularly regarding electric bikes, scooters, and drones. The legislation introduces stricter environmental protections—prohibiting the release of balloons and the use of confetti or glitter—while also refining public safety rules for swimming, golfing, and shoreline mooring. Operational efficiency is improved through digital public notice requirements and updated permitting processes that lower the threshold for organized gatherings to 20 individuals. Furthermore, the updates clarify the Director's authority to manage commercial activity, establish facility access fees, and enforce "pack out" trash policies, ensuring that staff can manage and protect public lands more consistently. Legislation is necessary to effectuate these changes, as Article 14 currently governs Recreation & Parks policies and procedures. This update will not create any new direct or indirect costs. For a full detailed explanation of all changes made in this legislation, please see the summary that the Department of Recreation & Parks prepared.

Purpose

The purpose of this Bill is to amend and update Article 14, which governs Recreation and Parks, to modernize county regulations by broadening the scope of oversight to all "Recreation & Park Areas," aligning definitions with current State laws, adding environmental protections and refining public safety provisions.

Note: This Legislative and Fiscal Summary provides a synopsis of the legislation as introduced. It does not address subsequent amendments to the legislation.

Fiscal Impact

Please see the Fiscal Note that the Budget Office has prepared for an explanation of the fiscal impact of this legislation.

Additional Information

The Government Relations Office is available to answer any additional questions regarding this Bill. Specific questions should be directed to Lori Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law, or Chris Carroll or Jessica Leys, Department of Recreation & Parks. Thank you.

cc: Honorable Steuart Pittman, County Executive
Christine Anderson, Chief Administrative Officer
Jenny Proebstle, Chief of Staff
Gregory Swain, County Attorney
Chris Trumbauer, Budget Officer
Jessica Leys, Director, Department of Recreation & Parks