

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

GOAL: Provide a network of local and countywide parks that offer recreational activities, support an interconnected trail system, protect important natural features and create attractive settings for cultural and historical resources. Provide sufficient public facilities to support the neighborhoods of Damascus, and linkages to access local facilities and institutions safely and efficiently.

INTRODUCTION

Community facilities meet the physical, recreational, social, cultural, and security needs of the community. They help determine the desirability of a community as a place to live and work, and create and reinforce a sense of community.

PARKLAND

The Damascus area currently includes only one developed local park and two neighborhood parks to provide for community recreation needs. The Damascus Recreational Park at the southwestern boundary of the plan area provides athletic facilities that serve both Damascus residents and the entire northern portion of the County.

The Damascus Master Plan area includes over 1,100 acres of parkland including local and neighborhood parks, the four-mile long hiker-biker path in the Magruder Branch Stream Valley Park, and the Damascus Recreational Park. The Little Bennett Regional Park, containing over 3,700 acres, is located immediately west of the Master Plan area. It will be connected to Damascus via the County's trail system. Little Bennett has a golf course with a driving range, trails, and a campground. Additionally, the Master Plan area has many acres of linear parkland along stream valleys, and over 900 acres in the Patuxent River State Park. This Plan identifies:

- Potential future local park sites and additional recreation opportunities at existing parks.
- A potential east-west trail connection to provide access to the Seneca Greenway Trail to the east and the Little Bennett Regional Park trail systems to the west.
- Important natural resource areas that should be included in the park system or the Legacy Open Space Program.

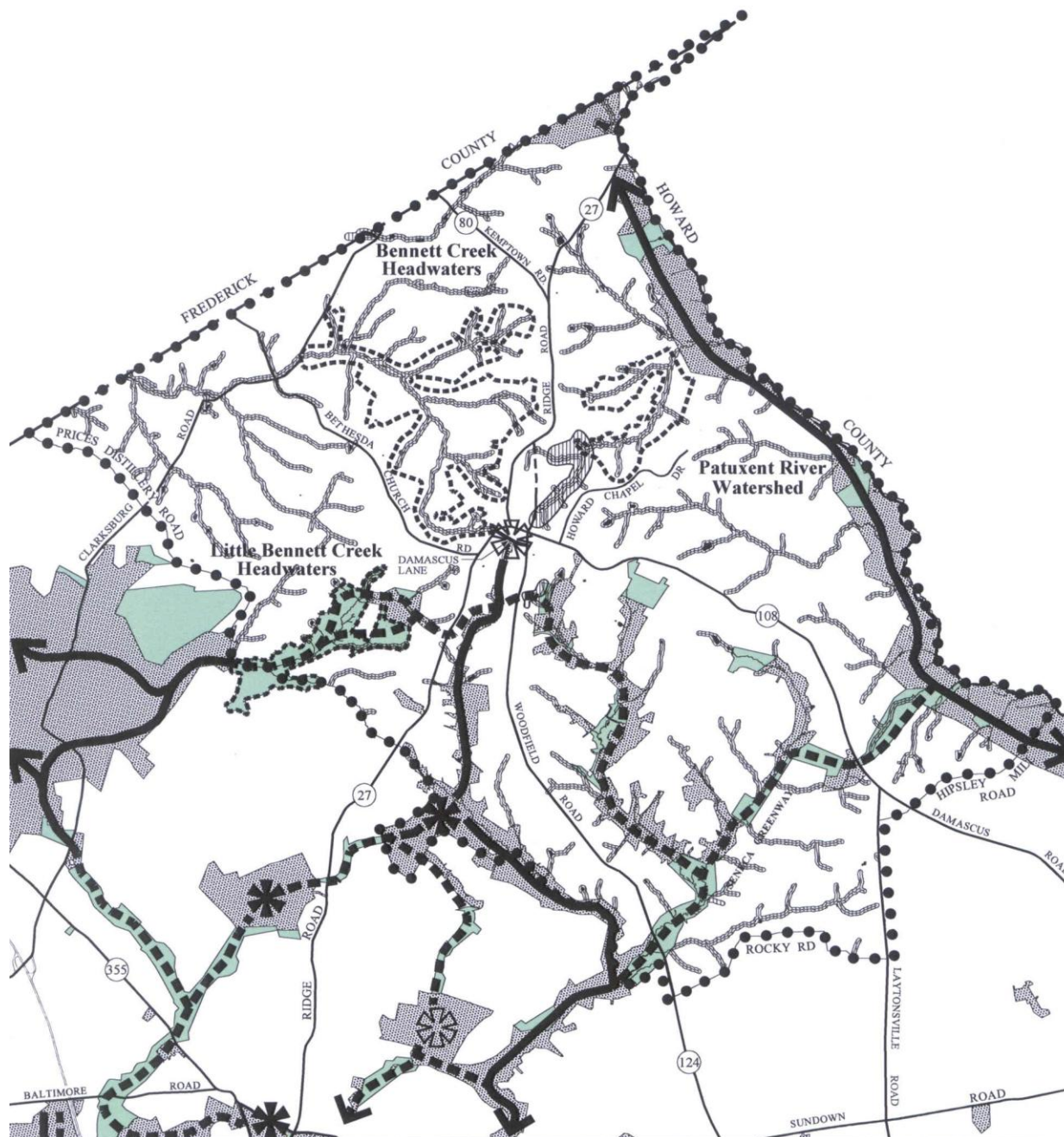
Future Parkland Needs - Recreation and Conservation

The 1998 Park Recreation and Open Space Master Plan estimated that by 2010, the Damascus area would need an additional three ballfields, two tennis courts, and six playgrounds; with more facilities needed after that date. The Montgomery County Recreation Department has identified a future need for an indoor and an outdoor swimming pool in this area of the County.

A future recreation needs survey completed by 50 Damascus residents in 2003, indicated that by far the most popular recreation activities are trail related; second was swimming; and when added together field related activities (such as soccer, softball and baseball) were third. Picnicking and playground use were also noted as frequent activities. These residents felt the greatest additional needs were for undeveloped natural parkland for conservation and nature enjoyment, trails (hard and natural surface) and trail connectivity, a swimming pool, athletic fields, nature center, playgrounds, and skateboard park. Future active recreation needs can be met on parkland, the recreation center, and school properties as recommended below:

- Augment planned recreation opportunities at the new Damascus Community Recreation Center. These should include additional fields, a skateboard park and a roller hockey court.
- Develop existing undeveloped local parks:
 - Seneca Springs Local Park (located south of MD 108 east of the Town Center) is proposed to be developed with recreation facilities such a soccer field, playfield, playground, and trails.
 - Woodfield Local Park (located southeast of the Town Center on Woodfield School Road) should be developed with recreation facilities such as athletic fields, a large playground, and multiuse court.
- Increase ballfield capacity at Damascus Recreational Park through lighting and reconfiguration.
- Acquire additional conservation or recreation parkland in designated locations through dedication from properties in cluster zones. Full analysis of these proposed properties will occur at time of subdivision, but future parks are contemplated on properties near the Oak Ridge Conservation Park, along the headwaters of Little Bennett Creek, and adjoining Patuxent River and Great Seneca Creek tributaries.
- Large, new subdivisions must provide either private or public neighborhood parks to serve their residents and the surrounding community.
- Small urban parks, whether publicly or privately owned, can enhance the Damascus Town Center area. Public parks and privately maintained open space in or near the Town Center include the existing Damascus Neighborhood Park on Locust Drive, which could be enhanced and enlarged to provide a pleasant oasis in proximity to the Town Center, and the planned Magruder Branch Trailhead Park. When the Trailhead for the Magruder Branch Stream Valley Park is planned, the planning team should include a representative from the Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission (WSSC). Coordination with WSSC is important as trail and trailhead alternatives may require use of part of the adjoining WSSC property. If WSSC decides to surplus any portion of the site, the property should be added to the park system.
- Three undeveloped school sites exist in or near the Damascus Master Plan area. As schools provide significant recreation facilities, if the sites are ever declared surplus, they should be retained in public ownership as parkland to provide the anticipated recreation and open space opportunities they would have provided as schools. They are:
 - Elementary School Site across from Baker Middle School
 - Elementary School Site on Hawkins Creamery Road
 - Middle School Site next to Damascus Recreational Park (immediately adjacent to the Master Plan area)

Existing and Proposed Parkland, Trails, and Open Space



- | | |
|--|---|
| ••••• Master Plan Area | ○ Areas Proposed for Legacy Open Space Protection |
| Existing Parkland
(Includes M-NCPPC, State and W.S.S.C.) | Private Conservation Area |
| Proposed for
Parkland Acquisition
(Includes M-NCPPC, State and W.S.S.C.) | Existing |
| Regional / Recreational
Destinations | Proposed |
| Existing Proposed | Trail Corridors and
Community Connections |

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Existing Parks in Damascus

				Existing Facilities						
Plan Area	Park Status	Park Name	Acreage	Play Ground	Multi Use	Tennis Cts.	F_S_Fields	Picnic Area	Softball Field	Baseball Field
Local Parks										
11	D	Moyer Road Local Park	25.9	1	1	2	1	1		
11	U	Seneca Springs Local Park	57.4							
11	U	Woodfield Local Park	33.3							
		Subtotal	116.6	1	1	2	1	1	0	0
Neighborhood Parks										
11	D	Damascus Neighborhood Park	2.0	1	1			1		
11	D	John Haines Neighborhood Park	13.6	1	1					
		Subtotal	15.6	2	2	0	0	1	0	0
Neighborhood Conservation Park Area										
11	U	North Point	8.9							
		Subtotal	8.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conservation Parks										
11	U	Oak Ridge Conservation Park	64							
		Subtotal	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream Valley Parks										
11	U	Great Seneca Stream Valley Unit #6	147.3							
11	U	Great Seneca Stream Valley Unit #7	144.7							
11	U	Great Seneca Stream Valley Unit #8	88.2							
11	U	Great Seneca Stream Valley Unit #9	46.6							
11	U	Little Bennett Creek Stream Valley Park	14.0							
11	U	Magruder Branch Stream Valley Unit #1	173.2							
11	U	Wildcat Branch Stream Valley Park	44.4							
		Subtotal	658.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recreational Parks										
14	D	Damascus Recreational Park	283.9	2	2	2	4	1	3	1
		Subtotal	283.9	2	2	2	4	1	3	1
M-NCPPC Damascus Area Total			1,147.4	5	5	4	5	3	3	1
State Park										
11	U	Patuxent River	968.9							
		Subtotal	968.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
U=Undeveloped D=Developed *Fields at Damascus Recreational Park include 4 Football/Soccer, 3 Softball, and 1 Baseball										

Natural Resource Conservation and Protection

Resource protection within existing and new parkland is a critical issue for the preservation of the important natural resources within the Damascus planning area. This Plan recommends the following guidelines for resource protection in parkland:

- Balance recreation needs with the stewardship of sensitive areas. Important sensitive areas include streams and their buffers; steep slopes; 100-year floodplains; highly erodible soils; wetlands and wetland buffers; habitats of rare, threatened, endangered or watch-list species of plants and animals; archaeological sites; and historic sites.
- Facilitate enjoyment and appreciation of nature in all parks through naturalized landscapes and sound stewardship of environmentally sensitive areas.
- When planning and locating park facilities, avoid sensitive areas whenever possible, minimize the impact when it cannot be avoided, and mitigate any impacts that occur.

Since it contains the headwaters for several major streams and the Patuxent River, a major concern in the Damascus area is the continued protection of the drinking water supply of the County. While these concerns are usually addressed without adding these areas to the public ownership, in some instances, the environmental concern is so significant that key resource areas are proposed to be included in the park network. The Existing and Proposed Parkland, Trails and Open Space map identifies areas with environmental features proposed for protection. The Environmental Resources Plan provides further detail regarding resource protection strategies outside of the park system. This Plan recommends the following resource areas to be included in the recommended park network for Damascus:

- **Little Bennett Creek Watershed Headwaters** - Adding the designated portion of the Little Bennett Creek Headwaters Area to the park system will provide critical additional protection for a sensitive watershed with very high water quality. Large sections of the lower part of the watershed area already in park ownership as Little Bennett Regional Park and the proposed acquisition area will provide environmental protection to and connectivity with the existing parkland. This area is being recommended for park acquisition within the Legacy Open Space program because it is an area of high quality forest and contributes to protection of water quality of Little Bennett Creek (see Legacy Open Space discussion below).
- **Western Tributary of Seneca Creek Stream Valley** - Adding this area to the park system will expand the existing stream valley park to include sensitive features that have been identified.

Parkland Historic and Cultural Settings

This Plan does not propose adding properties to the park system to protect historic structures, but there are three potential historic resources (also discussed in the Historic Resources Chapter) that are immediately adjacent to parkland or potential parkland. Strategies will be needed to protect their historic settings which may include incorporating part of the setting into the park system. These resources include:

- The **Elisha Warfield** house (25723 Woodfield Road), near Seneca Springs Local Park, dates from 1900 to 1902. The bank barn was built about the same time, c1901-1903. The farm remains in the Warfield family. The farmstead, now 78 acres, includes a corn crib and possibly a smokehouse.

- The **Kingstead Farm** (11415 Kingstead Road), near Little Bennett Stream Valley Park, was the early 19th century homestead of John Duckett King. The farmstead includes the house (early 1800s), a bank barn (1898), a gambrel roof dairy barn (1932), a domestic outbuilding (c1930s), a gable roof dairy barn (1952), cow barn, and hog houses (mid 20th century).
- The **Ira Jones Farm** (15601 Kings Valley Road) barn, near Little Bennett Stream Valley Park was built around 1921. This barn is known as the first wood truss gambrel roof barn in the area. This type of self-supporting truss roof did not become common in the County until about 1930. The stabling area of stone and concrete is typical of c1910s bank barns. The house is a frame, center cross-gable structure with a front porch that faces Kings Valley Road.

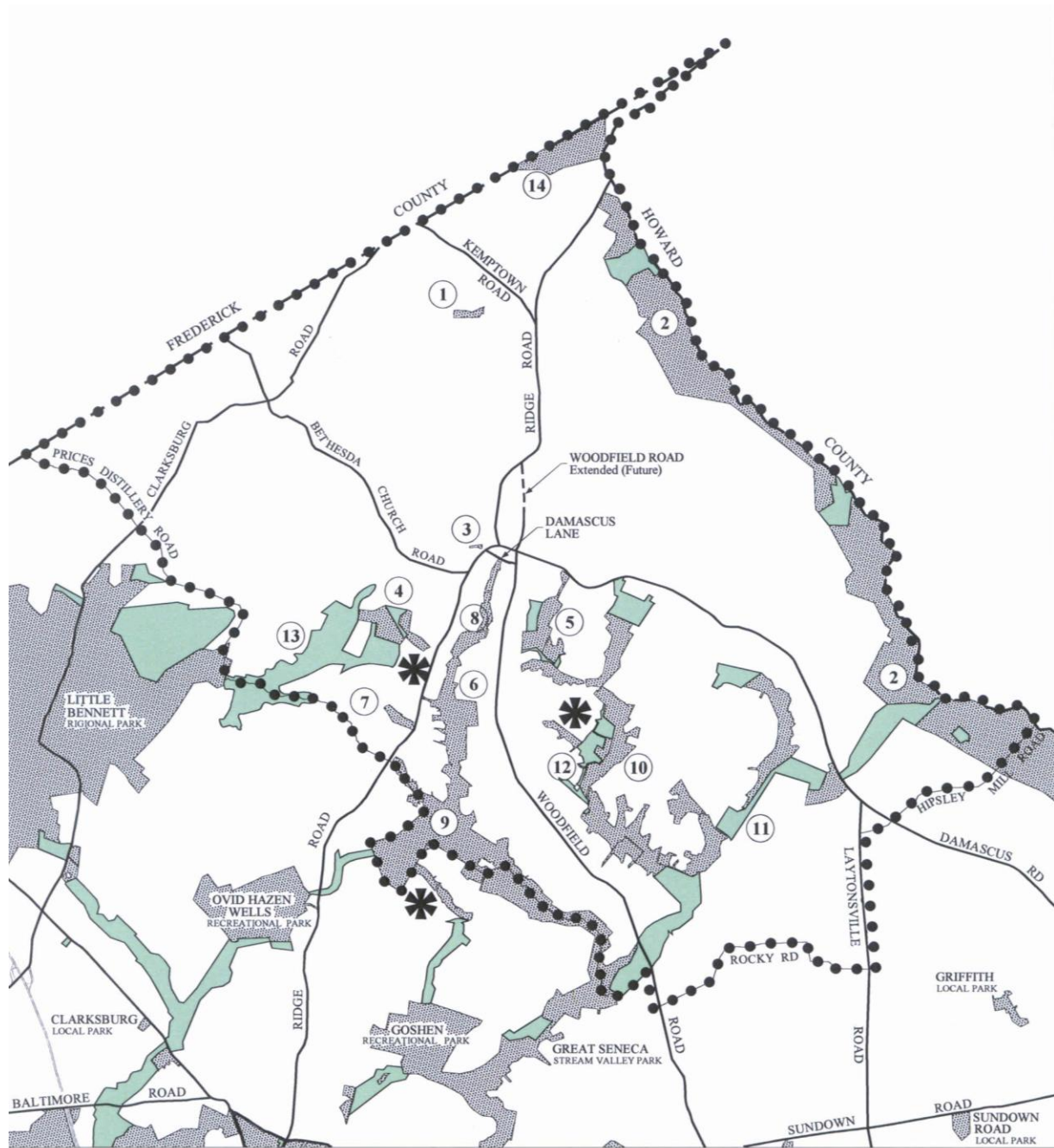
Summary of Parkland Recommendations

Map #	Name	Plan Recommendation
1	North Point NCA	Retain as neighborhood conservation park
2	Patuxent River SP	Affirm Countywide Park Trails Plan recommendation for a continuous natural surface trail along the Patuxent River
3	Damascus NP	Acquisition of adjacent property would enhance park
4	Oak Ridge CP	Explore opportunities to expand park when neighboring properties develop. Provide natural surface trails and the connecting sidewalk from Baker Middle School to the Damascus Community Recreation Center
5	Seneca Springs LP	Develop active recreational facilities such as ballfields, playfields, playground and trails. As subdivision occurs on adjoining properties, explore opportunities to provide an east-west trail connection and to include sensitive features in the park
6	Moyer Road LP	Support current activities
7	John Haines NP	Support current activities
8	Magruder Branch SVP	Extend hard surface trail north of Valley Park Drive to Damascus Town Center. Provide an attractive, urban park as trailhead for the trail in Damascus Town Center
9	Damascus RP	Consider increasing ballfield capacities through lighting and/or reconfiguration of ballfields. Acquisition of adjacent property would enhance park
10	Woodfield LP	Provide large local park with several athletic fields, a large playground and multi-use court
11	Great Seneca SVP	Continue acquisition of properties to allow completion of the Seneca Greenway Trail
12	Great Seneca Tributary SVP	As subdivision occurs, explore opportunities to provide an east-west trail connection and to include sensitive features in the park system
13	Little Bennett Creek SVP	Acquire as parkland in dedication to serve conservation and recreation purposes
*	Potential park sites	Sites owned by School Board. Add to park system for recreation if not needed as school sites

Map numbers refer to Existing and Proposed Parkland Map

NP – Neighborhood Park
 CP – Conservation Park
 NCA – Neighborhood Conservation Area
 SP – State Park
 RP – Recreational Park
 LP – Local Park
 SVP – Stream Valley Park

Existing and Proposed Parkland



PARK OWNERSHIP

- | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| ●●●● Master Plan Area | ① North Point Neighborhood Conservation Area | ⑤ Seneca Springs Local Park To be Developed | ⑩ Woodfield Local Park To be Developed | ⑭ Rattlewood Golf Course Montgomery County Revenue Authority |
| Existing Parkland | ② Patuxent River State Park | ⑥ Moyer Road Local Park | ⑪ Great Seneca Stream Valley Park | |
| Proposed Parkland | ③ Damascus Recreational Park | ⑦ John Haines Neighborhood Park | ⑫ Great Seneca Tributary Stream Valley Park | |
| ✱ Potential Park Sites (If not Required by School Board) | ④ Oak Ridge Conservation Park | ⑧ Magruder Branch Stream Valley Park | ⑬ Little Bennett Creek Stream Valley Park | |
| | ⑨ Damascus Recreational Park | | | |

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TRAILS PLAN

The 1998 Countywide Park Trails Plan guides trail planning in Montgomery County. Damascus is included in the Upcounty Trail Corridor where the Plan objective is to “provide a hard surface recreational trail to serve the existing and future residents of Germantown, Clarksburg, and Damascus.” The Countywide Park Trails Plan distinguishes between hard surface trails (such as the Magruder Branch asphalt and boardwalk trail) and natural surface trails (typically narrow tread and dirt surfaces). The Damascus area provides both types of trail experiences.

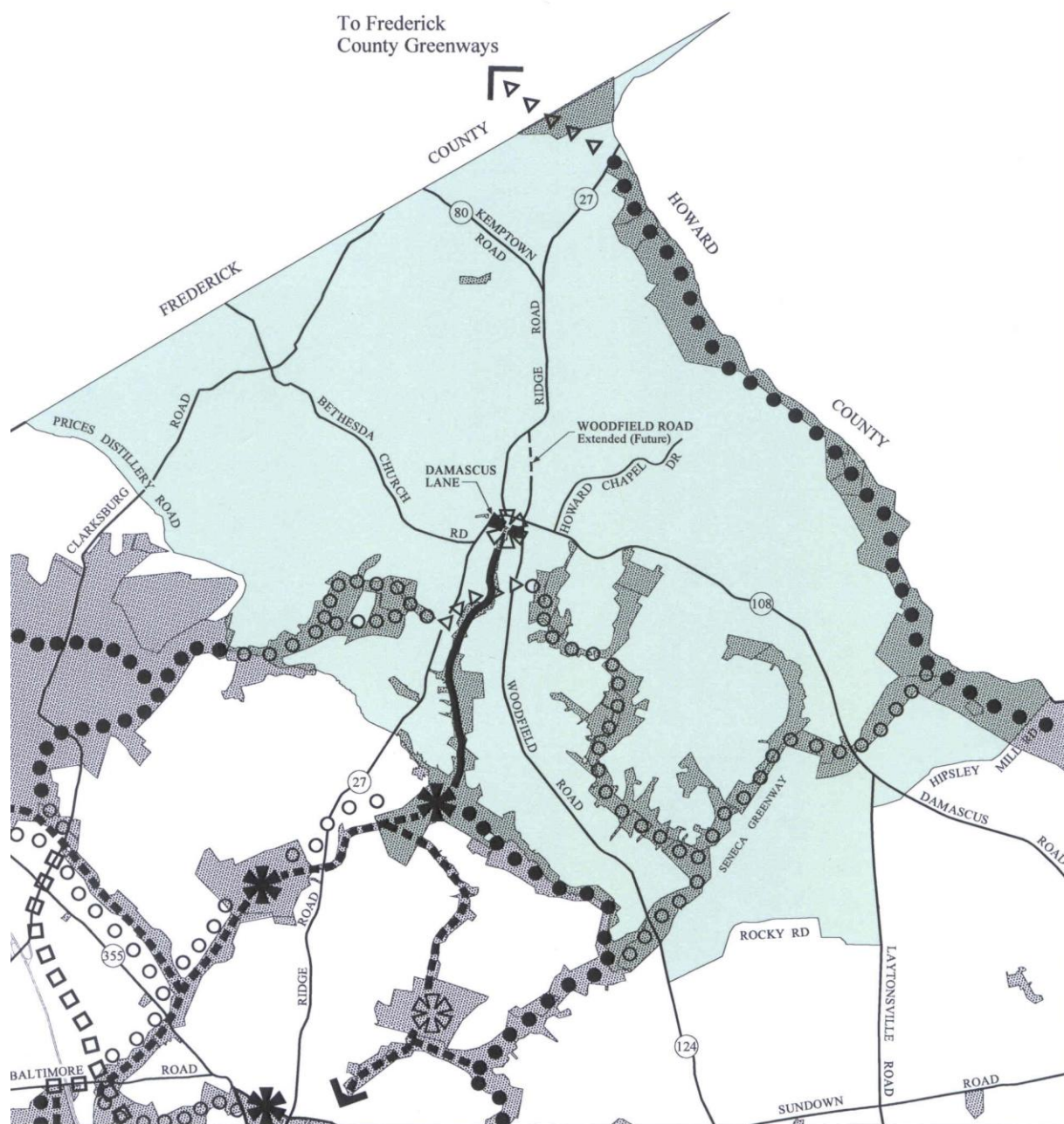
The Magruder Branch Hiker-Biker Trail is located in the Magruder Branch Stream Valley Park. This critical element is the only paved trail in the Damascus plan area. This Plan strongly supports the continuation of the trail northward to a northern terminus in the Town Center. Attention must continue to be given to providing safe road crossings for those using the trail at all crossing locations. This Plan particularly notes the need for providing a safer trail crossing at Sweepstakes Road, and ensuring a safe crossing of Bethesda Church Road and Damascus Lane when that segment is developed.

Potential solutions for the very busy Bethesda Church Road crossing could include consideration of improvements including median refuges, pedestrian activated signal control, or grade separated crossings, in addition to more conventional operation approaches involving signing and marking.

In terms of the natural surface trail pattern in Damascus, this Plan recommends that the *Countywide Park Trail Plan* be amended to reflect a new concept for east-west connectivity and other modifications as noted below:

- Reflects the east-west natural surface trail corridor being added to link the Seneca Greenway Trail to the east to the Little Bennett Trail system to the west.
- Identifies the importance of a sidewalk or bike path along Valley Park Drive to access this trail connection, and including special treatment for the Ridge Road crossing to ensure safety for those using the connection.
- Supports providing indicated trail connections in the Countywide Park Trail Plan and this Master Plan during the subdivision review process at time of development.

Damascus Area Proposed Amendments to the Countywide Park and Trails Plan



Park Trails

	Master Plan Area		Existing		Proposed		Natural Surface		Hard Surface
	Existing and Proposed Parkland								

	Existing		Proposed
	Regional / Recreational Destinations		

Non-Park Connector Between Park Trails

		Bikeway
		Other



OPEN SPACE

Legacy Open Space Program

Montgomery County's Legacy Open Space Program is a key component to achieving the environmental and open space conservation goals expressed in the Damascus Master Plan including preservation of open space for agriculture and natural resources protection, protection of drinking water quality in the Patuxent reservoirs, and protection of rural vistas. The Legacy Open Space Program is charged with identifying the "best of the best" natural and cultural resources within the County for protection.

The Legacy Open Space Program is designed to protect a broad range of valuable open space resources with a variety of tools ranging from easements to parkland acquisition and/or dedication. These tools include purchase of conservation easements by the County, either through the M-NCPPC or the County's Agricultural Services Division, by the State of Maryland, or through federal programs; as well as the acquisition of conservation parkland by the M-NCPPC. Conservation through privately held easements such as private national or local land trusts is also encouraged. Forest conservation easements required for all subdivisions through the development review process and forest banking programs can play important roles in conserving identified Legacy Open Space resources as well.

Two Legacy Open Space sites evaluated in the Damascus Master Plan process were originally listed in the Legacy Open Space Master Plan as Class III (Technical Appendix D) sites. These Appendix sites were nominated for inclusion in the Legacy Master Plan as important natural resource areas and were judged to have met the criteria for full inclusion in the Legacy Open Space Program (Class I or II sites). Further study was needed to determine specific sites to protect. During the Master Plan process the two sites were studied in depth. Those sites are now recommended for protection. A third site already within both the Water Supply and Farmland Protection categories of the Legacy Open Space Master Plan was further evaluated and found to include enough significant forest that it should be added to the Natural Resources category of the Legacy Plan.

Of the three sites evaluated only the Little Bennett Creek watershed headwaters is recommended for addition to the park system. The Bennett Creek and the Upper Patuxent River Watershed Area are not proposed to be part of the park system.

Recommendations

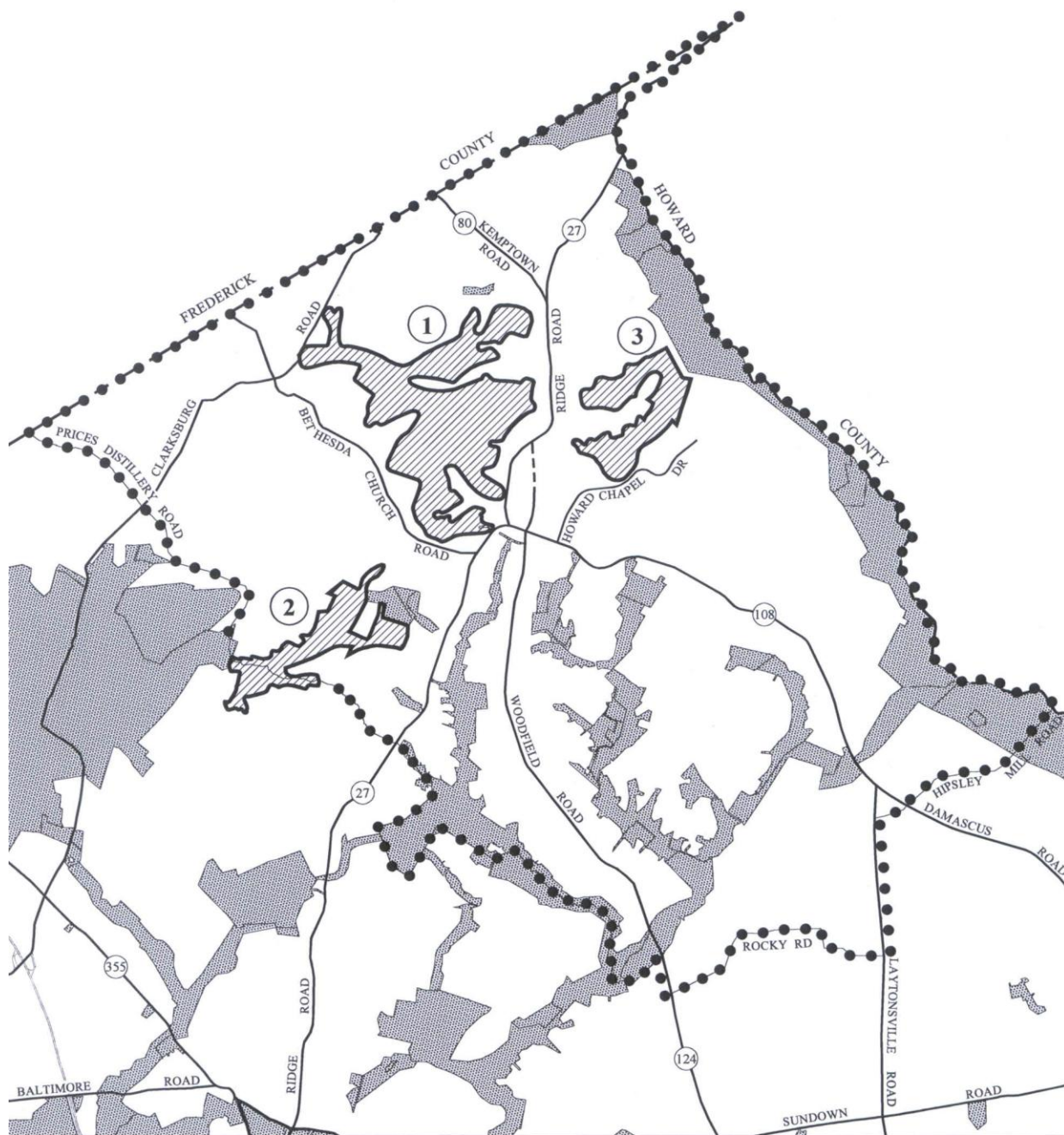
The following areas are recommended to be included as Natural Resource sites within the Legacy Open Space program.

- The Little Bennett Creek Headwaters Area is recommended for protection - primarily through parkland dedication and acquisition.
- The Bennett Creek Headwaters Area and the Upper Patuxent River Watershed Area are recommended for protection - primarily through easements.

Legacy Open Space Recommendations

Site Name and Description	Comments	Legacy Category Recommendation	Primary Protection Techniques
Class III (Appendix D) Sites Recommendations			
Little Bennett Creek Headwaters Area Forested sites located adjacent to Oak Ridge Conservation Park. Includes additional areas of forest along main stem of Little Bennett Creek not previously proposed for parkland acquisition.	Areas of high quality upland and riparian forest. Contributes to protection of water quality of Little Bennett Creek, which supports a population of naturally reproducing brown trout.	Add to Natural Resources Category (Class I).	Protect through acquisition of conservation parkland.
Bennett Creek Headwaters Area Site consists of multiple parcels located roughly between Moxley Road to the north, Ridge Road to the east, Bethesda Church Road to the south, and Clarksburg Road to the west.	Large area of contiguous forest with several mature stands of high quality upland and riparian forest. Principal headwaters tributaries of Bennett Creek with numerous wetlands and springs. Contributes to protection of water quality of Bennett Creek.	Add to Natural Resources Category (Class I).	Protect through development review process or conservation easement.
Other Sites – not Class III			
Upper Patuxent River Watershed Area Site consists of multiple parcels north and south of Gue Road adjacent to Patuxent River State Park. Already protected in Water Supply and Rural Open Space Protection categories.	Large area of contiguous forest with high quality upland and riparian forest stands that buffer tributaries of Patuxent River. Many stream valley wetlands. Contributes to protecting water quality of Patuxent River.	Add to Natural Resources Category (Class I). Retain within Water Supply and Rural Open Space Protection categories.	Protect through development review process and conservation easements as appropriate.

Legacy Open Space Recommendations



●●●● Master Plan Area Boundary

Existing / Proposed Parkland

Potential Legacy Open Space Sites

① Bennett Creek Headwaters Area
(Natural Resource Site)

② Little Bennett Creek Headwaters Area
(Natural Resource Site, Proposed Parkland Acquisition)

③ Upper Patuxent River Watershed Area
(Natural Resource Site,
Water Supply Target Area)



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COMMUNITY RECREATION FACILITIES

Damascus Community Recreation Center

The Department of Recreation opened the Damascus Community Recreation Center at 25520 Oak Drive in 2004. The facility serves the Upcounty region, which includes Damascus and Clarksburg. This area is geographically isolated with a rapidly expanding population, expected to reach more than 47,000 people by 2010.

The Recreation Center provides a range of activities. Indoor facilities include a gymnasium, exercise room, social hall, kitchen, senior community lounge, music/classroom, hobby craft and kiln room, game room, vending space, conference room, offices, lobby, rest rooms, and storage space. The outdoor activity elements include an athletic field, a multipurpose court for volleyball and basketball, and a playground. Because there are limited recreational opportunities within the Damascus Master Plan area, the County plans to add an outdoor amphitheatre, skateboard park and in-line skate rink at the Center in the future. Other facilities that should be provided include additional athletic fields and a roller hockey court. The skateboard park should be a priority in future programming on this 40-acre site. The Department of Recreation is also seeking a location to meet the aquatic recreational needs of this area.

Recommendations for this facility include:

- Locate aquatic recreational opportunities in the Upcounty region.
- Provide additional athletic fields, a roller hockey court, and a skateboard park.

Damascus Senior Center

The Department of Recreation also operates a senior center located at 9701 Main Street, which is attached to the Damascus Library. The center is approximately 10,000 gross square feet and has a mission to provide seniors with meaningful social and educational activities in the areas of health, nutrition, arts and entertainment.

SCHOOLS

The Damascus Master Plan area contains eight school sites that total approximately 120 acres (see Community Facilities map). The Damascus Cluster includes the high school, a middle school, four elementary schools and two future elementary school sites within the plan area. There are no private schools in the Master Plan area. Based on the land use recommendations of this Plan no additional school sites are warranted.

There are two vacant school sites in the plan area – an elementary school site on Oak Drive across from the Baker Middle School, and an elementary school site along Hawkins Creamery Road. There is also one vacant property in the cluster area that is just outside the Master Plan area, for a future Kingsbridge Middle School, located on Founders Way. The Board of Education plans to retain these vacant sites. They will be developed when a need for additional schools is determined based on their ongoing evaluations of the capacity of existing schools and the projected increase in student enrollment from new development.

This Plan supports the retention of these school sites and the modernization and utilization of the existing schools as needed. If, in the future, MCPS decides to surplus any vacant school sites, the sites should be considered for additional parkland that will provide the anticipated recreation and open space opportunities they would have provided as schools. As discussed in the Housing Chapter, due to their size and location, they would not be appropriate for consideration for housing.

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Library

The Damascus Library is located at 9701 Main Street. The building is approximately 16,400 square feet and is categorized as a community Library. It serves the northwestern tip of Montgomery County and also serves customers from nearby communities in Frederick, Carroll and Howard Counties.

Post Office

A new main post office was opened in 2003 on Woodfield Road Extended, replacing an older facility located on Main Street, which did not provide sufficient and secure parking or storage space for mail trucks to handle the increased population of this postal service area. The new site allows the postal system to improve customer service.

Upcounty Regional Services Center

The Damascus Master Plan area is presently part of the Upcounty Regional Services Center service area, located at 12900 Middlebrook Road in Germantown, approximately eight miles from central Damascus. The governmental centers provide a decentralized location for area residents to receive government services, information and assistance. Staff of the Upcounty Regional Services Center (regional services representative) come to the lobby of the combined Library/Senior Center once a week to provide assistance to Damascus residents.

PUBLIC SAFETY

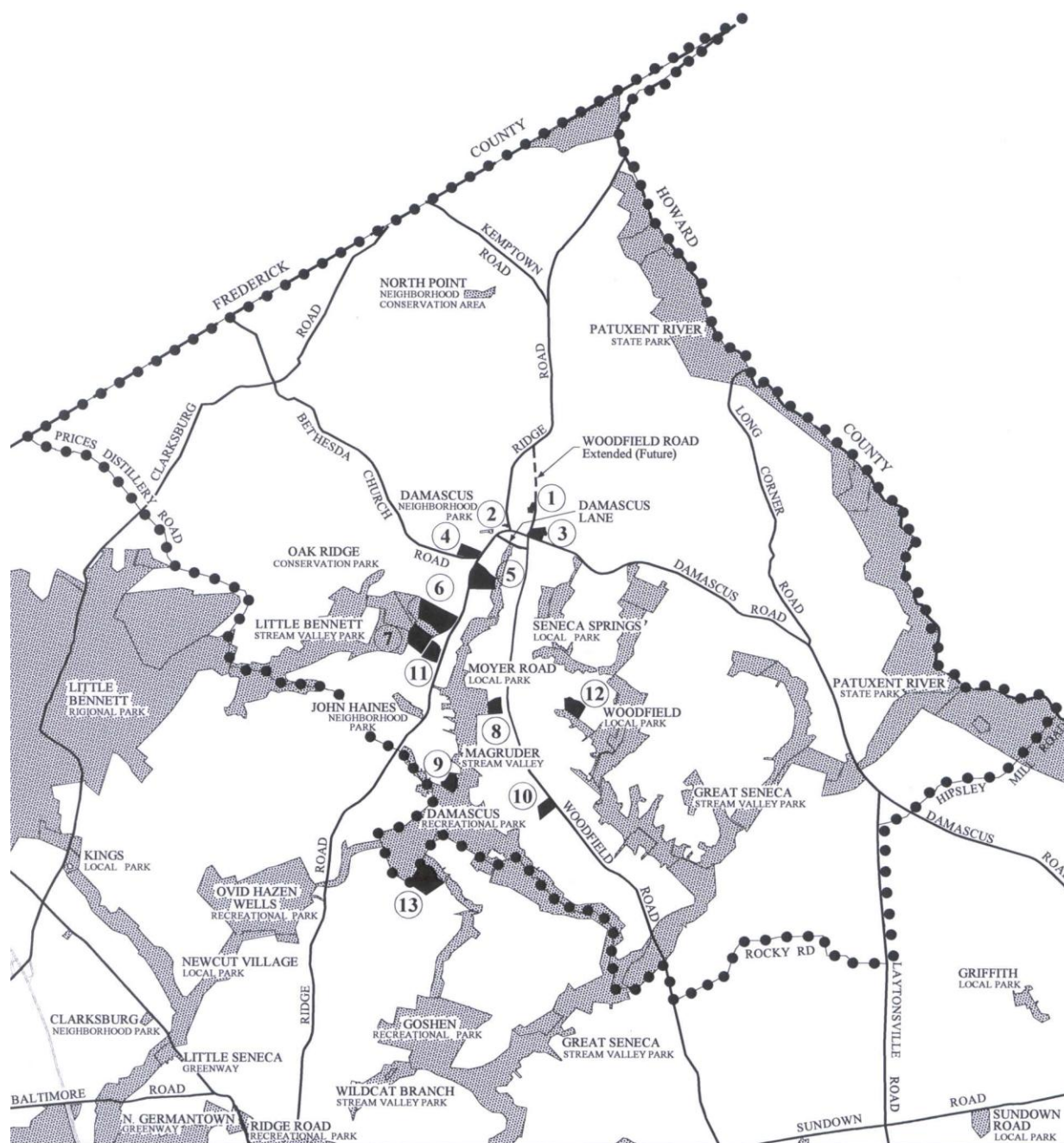
Fire and Rescue

Within the Damascus Master Plan area, fire, rescue and emergency medical services are provided by career and volunteer fire fighter-rescuers assigned to five fire stations: Station 13 located at 26334 Ridge Road in Damascus, Station 9 on Frederick Road in Hyattstown, Interim Station 35 in Clarksburg on Gateway Center Drive, Station 17 on Route 108 in Laytonsville, and Station 29 on Crystal Rock Drive in Germantown. Fire and rescue units from other nearby stations, including those in Frederick, Carroll and Howard Counties, also respond into this area when needed. The Damascus area will also be served in the future by units from new stations to be built in nearby Clarksburg and the east side of Germantown.

Damascus Station 13 received an extensive renovation in 1993-94, and no further major renovations are anticipated over the next 10-20 years. Due to its small size and condition, Laytonsville Station 17 may be renovated on its present site or relocated to a nearby site within the next 10 years. Hyattstown Station 9 and Germantown Station 29 are expected to remain at their present sites. Anticipated dates for the opening of the new Germantown-East and permanent Clarksburg fire-rescue stations are 2008 and 2010, respectively.

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services (MCFRS) recognizes that a significant portion of the Damascus area lacks municipal water supply and fire hydrants. To enhance the fire suppression capabilities within areas lacking fire hydrants, the MCFRS urges builders and property owners to voluntarily install underground water tanks directly on their property, or at the entrance to housing developments, for use by the MCFRS. These underground water tanks should hold 20,000 gallons or more based upon fire fighting water flow requirements of the property to be protected. Tanks should meet the requirements of National Fire Protection Association Standard 1142 ("Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting"), including appropriate connections for hook-up to pumpers and a roadside sign and/or pavement marker identifying the tank's location to fire fighters. The property owner would be responsible for maintenance of the tank and fire department connections.

Community Facilities



Community Facilities

- Master Plan Area Boundary
 - Existing / Proposed Parkland (M-NCPPC, State and WSSC)
 - Community Facilities
 - * Future school sites to be converted to park if not needed for school purposes
- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Damascus U.S. Post Office | 8 Clearspring Elementary School |
| 2 Fire Station - Damascus Co.13 | 9 Rockwell Elementary School |
| 3 Damascus Library / Senior Center | 10 Woodfield Elementary School |
| 4 Damascus Elementary School | 11 Future Oak Drive Elementary School* |
| 5 Damascus High School | 12 Future Hawkins Creamery Road* |
| 6 Damascus Community Recreation Center | Elementary School |
| 7 Baker Middle School | 13 Future Kingsbridge Middle School* |



Persons having ponds on their property are encouraged to make water readily accessible to fire fighters by installing “dry hydrants” and providing improved access to them (e.g., paved or gravel roadway and turnaround area) for fire suppression vehicles. A dry hydrant consists of a pipe extending into a body of water or waterway, and an above ground connection that allows fire fighters to quickly hook-up pumpers to the water source. The property owner would be responsible for maintenance of the dry hydrant.

This Plan and MCFRS recommend support for the January 1, 2004 County law requiring fire sprinkler systems in single-family homes as the front line measure in fire protection. Sprinkler systems within structures located in areas lacking municipal water require a dedicated indoor tank, supplied by an on-site well, to store water to directly supply the sprinkler system. Underground tanks, and ponds with dry hydrants, are supplemental to fire sprinklers and may be used by fire fighters to suppress fires in buildings without sprinklers, vehicles (e.g., trucks, farm machinery), and outdoor areas (e.g., woods, brush, cropland).

Police

Police service in the Damascus Master Plan area is provided by the 5th District Police Station, located at 20000 Aircraft Drive in Germantown. The Police Department does not have any plans to establish a station in this area, although they may decide to establish a satellite station within the area to provide decentralized service in the future.