



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jan H. Gardner
County Executive

News Release

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Frederick County Purchases Land from Mount St. Mary's University for Regional Park

FREDERICK, Md. –Frederick County Government will develop a new north county regional park located between Emmitsburg and Thurmont on land purchased from Mount St. Mary's University, County Executive Jan Gardner and Mount St. Mary's President Dr. Timothy Trainor announced Thursday. The 152-acre property adjoins the campus, on the east side of U.S. 15, straddling Motters Station Road.

"We are excited to be moving forward with a regional park in the northern part of Frederick County," Executive Gardner said. "County parks attracted over 3 million visitors last year, a 44% increase over the year before. The purchase of this land will help us to meet a growing demand for space to recreate and provide much need park amenities in northern Frederick County."

"We are pleased to have offered the 152.7 acres for this regional park adjacent to the Mount St. Mary's sports complex and are deeply appreciative of the county's partnership in our shared commitment to expanding access to sports and recreational opportunities and fostering the growth of youth sports in Northern Frederick County," Dr. Trainor said.

The parcel is currently zoned agricultural and features both forest and open land. A concept plan funded by the university shows the potential for multiple sports fields, walking trails, a dog park, and other features for active and passive recreation. There will be many opportunities for public input into the park's design. The Frederick County Division of Parks & Recreation will form a Master Plan Advisory Committee to develop plans for the future park. Members will include representatives from local recreation councils and sports leagues, civic associations, neighboring property owners and others. The total purchase price for the land is \$857,000, of which Program Open Space is providing \$807,000. \$50,000 will come from County recordation funding.

County Executive Gardner thanked Park and Recreation Division Director Jeremy Kortright and Deputy Director Bob Hicks for their hard work to make this acquisition a reality. Find a visual simulation of the park site here: [North County Park Zooms and Orbits for PIB - Feb 24th, 2021 \(granicus.com\)](#)

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