



CRITICAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

We are approaching data center development the Frederick County way - with strong regulations to limit growth and prevent the sprawl that happened in Northern Virginia.



Frederick County is a leader in regulating the data center industry.

2022: We passed a law to establish guardrails for the industry and limit development to land zoned for industrial use – before work began at Quantum Loophole.

2025: We updated that law to increase protections for our residents.

Our regulations:

- Require developers to demonstrate that new data centers will have minimal impacts on their surrounding communities.
- Set livability and performance standards for lighting, screening, landscaping, sound, vibration, and backup generation.
- Include penalties for data center operators who violate the law.

Data centers must follow our law and all applicable federal and state laws.

Frederick County is fighting data center sprawl by:

Cutting in half the number of acres currently available for data center development.

Limiting data center development to less than 1% of the County's total landmass.

Concentrating data center development to the area in and around the Eastalco site north of Adamstown where infrastructure exists and development is already occurring.

Preserving five acres of farmland for every new acre turned over to data center development.

These actions will protect our quality of life and provide a clear roadmap for responsible development – and generate new investments, economic development, and good-paying jobs for our residents.

www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DataCenters