



South River Greenway

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the South River Greenway (SRG)?

- The South River Greenway is a public/private partnership in the headwaters of the South River to permanently protect and restore natural areas, and to provide public recreation opportunities. Work is accomplished through citizen outreach, establishing conservation agreements on private land, facilitating public land acquisition, and working with partners. The Greenway is roughly bounded by General's Highway on the east, Rt. 3 on the north, Davidsonville Rd. on the west, and Rt. 50 on the south. The heart of the Greenway is a wooded 630-acre parcel in the process of being acquired by Anne Arundel County for use as a public park with hiking trails.
- The South River Greenway includes two of the largest forested tracts remaining in Anne Arundel County. One hundred miles of streams in four distinct watersheds flow through the Greenway into the South River. Land use includes farms, subdivisions, extensive wetlands, and several thousand acres of undisturbed forests which provide vital habitat and protection to the South River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

What is Anne Arundel County's role in the South River Greenway?

- County Executive John R. Leopold's goal is to preserve over 1,000 Acres in the South River Watershed:
 - The original 84-acre Bacon Ridge Natural Area and 54 acres of floodplain
 - 30 acres of forest adjacent to the Crownsville forest, purchased in 2009
 - 547-acre forest of the former Crownsville Hospital Center and 12-acre Crownsville Cemetery, pending transfer from State of Maryland
 - 218 acres pending settlement
 - 189 acres in discussion with land owners for purchase

What will the Bacon Ridge Natural Area Park be used for?

- The central 630-acre parcel will become a passive recreation park for hiking, nature study, and possibly mountain biking. There will be no active recreation, high-impact use, athletic fields or golf courses in the park, per the conservation agreement with the County.

- Off-road vehicles and motorbikes will not be allowed in the park in order to preserve the integrity of the forest and soil/water quality.

Where will there be trails? Where will people park?

- The Crownsville Hospital property has system of trails which can be accessed by special permission. Those trails are in poor condition, however, and whether the trails should be repaired, rerouted or temporarily closed will be determined.
- There is a proposal for a trail from Hawkins Rd. There will also likely be a parking lot off of Hawkins Rd.
- Future property acquisitions may offer other parking and trail-head options.

What is the status of the transfer of the Crownsville property?

- Anne Arundel County, Maryland Environmental Trust and SRLT are finalizing the Conservation Easement required for the transfer of the Crownsville Hospital Center property from the State of Maryland to Anne Arundel County.
- An advisory committee of County staff, environmental organizations, and local citizens will develop recommendations for developing appropriate public access and recreational opportunities for the park.

Who is working with Scenic Rivers Land Trust (SRLT) to make the South River Greenway happen?

- Our partners include Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation & Parks, Audubon MD-DC, Baltimore Gas & Electric, Biophilia Foundation, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Environmental Finance Center, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Environmental Trust, Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, South River Federation, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

How can I help support the South River Greenway Project?

- You can contact SRLT regarding putting your land under a conservation easement, become an SRLT volunteer at one of our events, and you can make a donation to SRLT. To help support the SRG project in any of the ways listed above please contact Scenic Rivers Land Trust on 410.424.4000 or visit our website on www.SRLT.org.