

Support for Protective Zoning from the Baltimore County Master Plan

- There are locations where growth and development should not occur...such as agricultural properties, places near drinking water supply reservoirs, and other parcels with environmental resources. (p.4)
- Baltimore County's environmental mission is to protect and perpetuate the natural resources of the County and to protect environmental health. The pollution from sprawl development...as well as the continued loss of forests requires significant changes to land use practices.... (p.200)
- Assure protection of Tier II waters and those with known trout resources. Continue to protect water quality, streams, wetlands, floodplains, and forests from impacts of new development.... (p.211)
- Preserve valuable cultural, historic, recreational, and environmental resources by limiting development.... (p.122)
- Comply with the County's commitments in the regional Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement and Action Strategy to not increase development densities in the reservoir watersheds. (p.122)
- Preserve scenic corridors and views through proper zoning and coordination with federal and state governments. (p.135)
- Forest is the most protective land cover for water quality. (p. 221)
- Manage growth within designated Rural Legacy Areas.... Work to integrate comprehensive resource protection elements in Rural Legacy areas, including forest buffers...forest habitat, endangered species and planning measures that reduce sprawl. (p.230)
- Implement biological diversity protection measures for the County's diverse habitats and their dependent wildlife and the ecological processes that ensure healthy, productive, and sustainable ecosystems. Restore lost or degraded ecosystem functions, and foster environmental stewardship. (p.241)
- Evaluate the vulnerability of high-value resource lands to conversion [for development] and recommend additional protection where appropriate. (p.241)
- RC 5 development comes at a tremendous cost in terms of traffic, increased infrastructure demands, disruption of the rural character, and adverse impacts on functional values of rural land and water resources. (pp. 124-25)