



What is the Critical Area?

All land within 1,000 feet of the mean high tide line of tidal water or tidal wetland.

Do You Live In the Critical Area? You Need to Know!

Find your property on the zoning map—it's available online! www.co.cal.md.us—Go to Planning & Zoning & then click on Zoning Maps. The red line marks the boundary of the Critical Area. Close to the line? Check with Planning & Zoning for the final word.



CRITICAL AREA

Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning
150 Main Street, Prince Frederick, MD 20678 • (410) 535-2348

The purpose of the program is to mitigate the damaging impact of water pollution and loss of natural habitat while also accommodating the County's future growth.

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?

If it is about vegetation or tree removal—Ask for **Robin**.

If it is about your construction project or shoreline erosion project—Ask for **John**!

If it is about an enforcement issue or a violation—Ask for **Libby**!

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Rev 3-09

What Activities are Regulated?

- A permit is needed for construction projects.
- A permit is needed to grade, to add fill material and to control shore erosion.
- A permit is needed to cut or clear vegetation.
- A permit is needed to remove dead trees.
- Trees posing an immediate threat may be removed without a permit but still need prior Planning & Zoning approval.
- Branches on the lower one-third of the height of mature trees may be pruned without a permit.
- Invasive vines may be removed but need prior Planning & Zoning approval.
- Stiff penalties are imposed for unauthorized clearing in the buffer.
- Maintenance of existing lawns is allowed.