

MIDTERM PROGRESS REPORT

CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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"...our county responded with solidarity, strength and compassion."

Pictured above: Commissioners Steven R. Weems (Vice President), Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins (resigned as of June 28, 2021), Earl F. "Buddy" Hance (President), Mike Hart and Kelly D. McConkey

Calvert County Government is pleased to share this Midterm Progress Report to Calvert County citizens highlighting some of the top accomplishments made during the Board of County Commissioners' (BOCC) first two years. We hope this report serves as a guide to demonstrate how county government is working for you.

The board's first two years were met with many celebrations of success, but also came with many challenges. During our second year, like jurisdictions around the country, we were faced with a global pandemic. Our county responded with solidarity, strength and compassion. Calvert County is a strong community that shines brightly in times of adversity. We are incredibly proud of the hard work from every single county employee and will continue to deliver key services to go the extra mile for citizens.

The last two years has also demonstrated how well our community comes together. The Board of County Commissioners, and our employees, stand ready to create the best environment possible for thriving businesses, growing families and flourishing communities. We have much to be grateful for and remain optimistic for a promising future. It is an honor to serve you.

Calvert County Board of County Commissioners

Earl F. "Buddy" Hance, President
 Steve R. Weems, Vice President
 Mike Hart

Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins
 Kelly D. McConkey

** Many of the photos depicted in this annual report were taken before the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, you will not see social distancing and other protocols in place.*

MISSION STATEMENT

CALVERT COUNTY GOVERNMENT WILL:

- Be responsible and accountable to all citizens of Calvert County
- Provide high quality, effective and efficient services
- Preserve Calvert County's environment, heritage and rural character
- Foster opportunities for responsible and sustainable residential and commercial growth
- Support Calvert County's essential institutions and keep them strong



The 2018-2022 Calvert County Board of County Commissioners were sworn in at an official ceremony Dec. 18, 2018 at the College of Southern Maryland, Prince Frederick campus.

GET INVOLVED

The Board of County Commissioners has established many boards and commissions that offer Calvert County citizens an avenue to actively participate in local government. Visit our website and learn how you can get involved.

[Explore Our Volunteer Opportunities](#) 

CALVERT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of County Commissioners is a five-member group of elected officials tasked with administration and governance of Calvert County Government. During their four-year term, the commissioners formulate policy, which provides the direction the county administrator gives to staff. The board's goal is to provide effective government, while keeping the cost of government as low as possible, and to stimulate economic growth within the county. The president and vice president of the board are elected each December by a majority vote of the board members.

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of County Commissioners' meetings are normally held Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The meetings are aired live on the Calvert County Government website, local cable broadcast on Comcast channel 6 and 1070 high-definition. An agenda for the weekly meeting is published the Thursday prior to the Tuesday meeting www.CalvertCountyMD.gov.

BOCC GUIDANCE

In early 2021, the BOCC established 10 areas of guidance to provide direction and to ensure the effective and efficient use of county resources. The 10 guidance areas are:

1. Improve transparency.
2. Identify access equity for citizens.
3. Improve the business climate.
4. Establish efficient and secure county networks.
5. Ensure public recreation services.
6. Ensure public safety services.
7. Establish efficient financial funding for the Calvert County Board of Education.
8. Establish county-based opportunities for veterans.
9. Identify opportunities to foster new waste management concepts.
10. Continue to improve public roadways and public infrastructure.



[Watch the Board Meetings on Demand](#)

"We will take **every precaution** to protect the health of our residents as we continue toward recovery."

- Commissioner Kelly D. McConkey



Our Community **Collaborates**

COVID-19 CALVERT RESPONSE



When COVID-19 struck our nation in early 2020, Calvert County Government answered the call.

The Board of County Commissioners activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to an enhanced level on March 17, 2020 in order to coordinate a comprehensive countywide response to COVID-19. As the virus began to spread, Calvert County Government immediately began working with local,

state and federal partners to respond to the emergency. Part of the county's coordination included applying for, and receiving, more than \$8 million from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES). In 2020, Calvert County Government applied the following support through CARES funding to:

- 1 **More than \$2 million in related emergency payroll expenses.** 
- 2 **More than \$1.8 million in grants to county businesses and non-profit enterprises that demonstrated increased expenses or loss in revenues.** 
- 3 **More than \$2.7 million for teleworking equipment, cybersecurity enhancements and personal protective equipment.** 
- 4 **More than \$1.1 million in temporary employment of paramedics and emergency medical technicians.** 
- 5 **Over \$64,000 in assistance to the Town of Chesapeake Beach and the Town of North Beach.** 

Our Community Responds

COUNTY RESPONSE EFFORTS

Soon after the pandemic struck the Board of County Commissioners initiated policies for building access, face coverings, social distancing and enhanced teleworking. While Calvert County Government office buildings remain closed to the public, the important work of county government has not stopped. Since the beginning of the pandemic, each county agency continued to operate either on-site or remotely with no impact to services.

- ◆ The Department of Public Safety continues to lead the county's COVID-19 response on behalf of the board and coordinates the county's efforts with local, state and federal resource partners. Some of the excellent work done by departments includes:

- ◆ The Department of Community Resources developed a plan for sheltering and quarantining homeless adults, first responders and vulnerable populations with COVID-19. Using CARES funding, portable decontamination equipment was purchased for each fire department and rescue squad to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- ◆ The Department of Technology Services fully deployed telework equipment to all eligible county employees and strengthened the cybersecurity profile across the county's networks.

- ◆ The Department of Planning & Zoning continued to provide important services such as maintaining inspections, permitting, zoning and code enforcement. Development review of commercial site plans and subdivisions also continued with all necessary public meetings held virtually.

- ◆ The Department of Public Works ensured that buildings were safe for employees and the public through



enhanced cleaning and decontamination. The department also maintained public services such as inspections, commercial development plan review, operation of the county's water and sewerage operations and landfills and convenience centers with no impact to public services.

- ◆ The Departments of Economic Development and Community Resources quickly pivoted operations to provide direct assistance to the local businesses and nonprofits and created a portal for qualified individuals to apply for and receive CARES funding. To date, more than \$1.8 million has been distributed in direct support.

- ◆ The Department of Human Resources immediately shifted to remote operations while providing support to employees who need personal assistance. The recruitment process was streamlined to ensure the immediate hire of temporary paramedics and emergency technicians.

- ◆ The Department of Parks & Recreation and Community Resources' Office on Aging Division both launched virtual activity centers to provide citizens with a variety of recreation opportunities and information easily accessed from the comfort of home. The activity centers continue to feature sports and fitness tips, craft and activity tutorials, virtual field trips, local park information and special events.



FINANCIAL STABILITY

Despite the pandemic, Calvert County's fiscal health remains strong and we continue to protect and bolster our strong financial position. The foundation of the county's health lies in a conservative and properly executed budgeting approach, and a strong local economy. Education and public safety remain top priorities.

Our sound fiscal approach earned the county its fifth consecutive year of AAA credit ratings from three independent credit rating agencies: Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service and S&P Global Ratings. The AAA rating demonstrates an exceptional degree of credit worthiness when selling bonds for important capital projects, acknowledging the county's strong financial performance. This helps the county to leverage the best interest rates, saving county taxpayers millions of dollars in interest payments.

The current Board of County Commissioners adopted their first budget in fiscal year 2020; the budget was balanced in the amount of \$312 million, with \$130.6 million provided to Calvert County Public Schools, approximately 47% of the budget, reflecting a \$4.2 million dollar increase. The budget provided \$3 million for the new Career Emergency Medical Services Division to supplement Calvert County's volunteer fire/rescue/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel.

The fiscal year 2021 budget was also balanced and totaled \$318.4 million, with a \$642,755 surplus. The current fiscal year budget invests in our future by providing nearly \$145 million or 45% of the total county budget to Calvert County Public Schools and more than \$43 million for public safety, which includes the Calvert County Sheriff's Office. The budget also included much-needed taxpayer relief and lowered the real property tax rate from \$0.937 to \$0.932. We desire to do the same in fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

The county is authorized by the General Assembly a debt policy which specifies a not to exceed principal amount of bonds that can be issued pursuant to that authorization. Calvert County's current debt policy is set at a not to exceed debt limit of 9.5%. Calvert County uses debt to spread the costs of public facility amenities (Capital Projects) over a longer period of time. Capital assets usually have a long useful life and are typically issued bonds for a period of 15 years.

 [Watch: What Citizens Get for Their Tax Dollars](#)

Calvert County prioritizes education and safety for the wellbeing of its citizens.



Board of Education
\$144,977,320



Other Departments
\$72,102,968



Public Safety
\$43,402,712

EXERCISING RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCES



\$145 million

Amount from the FY 2021 annual budget allocated to Calvert County Public Schools



AAA rating

Calvert County earned its fifth consecutive AAA credit rating

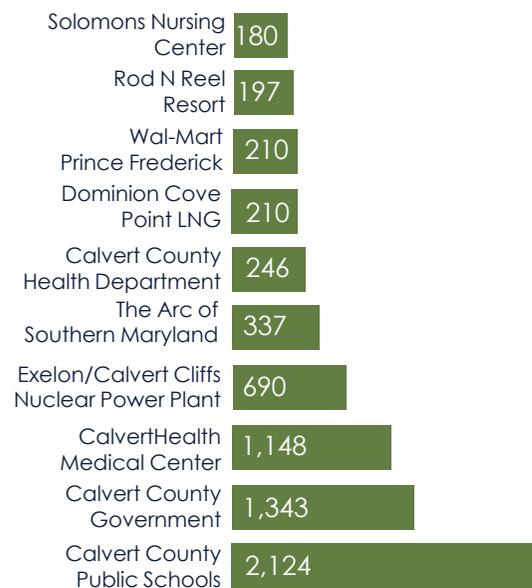


\$43 million

Amount in the FY 2021 allocated to Public Safety in Calvert County

Our Community **Thrives**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

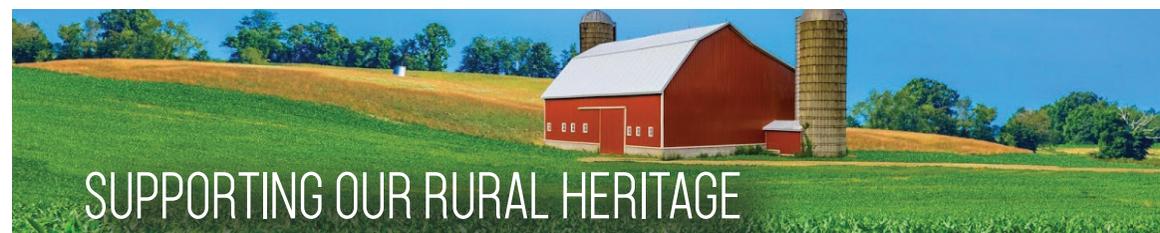


TOP 10 COUNTY EMPLOYERS

newly adopted Comprehensive Plan as a guide, county staff are leading the drive to direct commercial and residential development to the county's Town Centers, encouraging a mix of land uses and housing types, while maintaining Calvert County's overall rural character.

We continue to market our county to a wide range of industries and business markets to include government contracting, health care, engineering, agri-tech, professional services, tourism and heritage.

 [Watch: State of the County Video](#)



SUPPORTING OUR RURAL HERITAGE

The Department of Economic Development continues to coordinate with various agencies including Maryland Department of Agriculture, Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission and Grow & Fortify. They strive to inform, educate and promote the importance of agriculture within our community and provide farmers and producers with updated guidelines and regulations to successfully operate and grow their businesses. The department also facilitated the opening of two successful farmers markets and continued promotion of SNAP and WIC programs, identifying roadside stand and farmers market opportunities for underserved and senior communities.



WEATHERING THE STORM TOGETHER



In August 2020, Tropical Storm Isaias moved through Calvert County leaving significant damage in its wake. Severe tidal surges, major flooding, two EF-1 tornadoes and power outages led to damaged roads, bridges and culverts. The Department of Public Safety led the response effort during the weather event, providing a coordinated emergency response while the Department of Public Works carefully examined county infrastructure to repair damage. The bridge located on Stinnett Road in the area between Freeland Lane and Richfield Road was severely damaged, making it unsafe for passage. After months of collaboration and extensive repair work, the bridge reopened in December 2020. Another private bridge was also damaged in Huntingtown, leaving citizens stranded with no access to emergency services. The Department of Public Safety worked with impacted citizens to arrange for emergency medical services, provide necessary transportation and identify solutions to ensure immediate resolution for those impacted. Within weeks, the Department of Public Works worked to install a new bridge.



Celebrating ADOPTION

The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is a 12,910 square foot building that can house over 200 animals. All healthy and treatable animals are saved, even when the shelter is full, through partnerships with rescue and foster groups.

As of Dec. 31, 2020, a total of 1,044 animals have been adopted. Another 832 were placed with rescue groups, and 437 animals were reclaimed by their owners. In December 2020, the shelter celebrated its 1,000th adoption!



[Visit the shelter to see the available animals](#)



15.39"

Amount of rain in August 2020, making Calvert the wettest county in the contiguous U.S. that month.



442

The number of service requests called in by county residents as a result of the storm.



\$6 million

The cost to repair and stabilize damage to make the county safe for residents.

LIFE SAVING MEASURES

TEXT-TO-911

In August 2020, the Board of County Commissioners announced that the Calvert County 911 call center began accepting text messages through text-to-911 service. Customers that are enrolled in a text messaging plan with T-Mobile, Sprint, Verizon or AT&T can send text messages to 911 in an emergency when they are unable to place a call. Residents are still encouraged to call to provide critical emergency information, but the ability to send a text message provides better access to emergency services, particularly for those who may have difficulty placing a voice call.



CALVERT PREPARE

The free Calvert Prepare app allows residents to better prepare for emergency situations, including floods, hurricanes, severe thunderstorms and extreme weather events. Visit the Apple Store or Google Play Store to download the Calvert Prepare app today.

Community Resources Assists Citizens Displaced by Multi-Family Housing Fire

On April 3, 2019 a fire at the Courtyards at Fishing Creek, an affordable housing community in Chesapeake Beach, displaced nine families. The Department of Community Resources coordinated with the United Way of Calvert County and Department of Social Services to address their immediate needs and streamline fundraising efforts, resulting in collecting \$105,000 in cash and gift cards given to the families.

"We have been working...to provide necessary local resources and to safeguard the health and safety of Calvert County citizens."

- Commissioner Earl F. "Buddy" Hance

Our Community Protects

APPLICATIONS



5,514

Job applications received by the Department of Human Resources

INTERVIEWS



767

Interviews conducted for Calvert County positions

NEW EMPLOYEES



354

New employees welcomed to Calvert County in 2020

In 2020, the Department of Human Resources handled thousands of applications and welcomed hundreds of new employees - all while working in a virtual environment.



IMPROVEMENTS TO HIRING STRATEGIES

The BOCC adopted policy changes to the county's hiring practices. They continued the current best practices that support diverse hiring, but adopted new techniques, including the addition of blind hiring (removing all personal identifiers from the online job application).



The BOCC also adopted the implementation of a voluntary, self-identification of disability process, and began partnering with veteran support organizations to recruit transitioning service members.

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

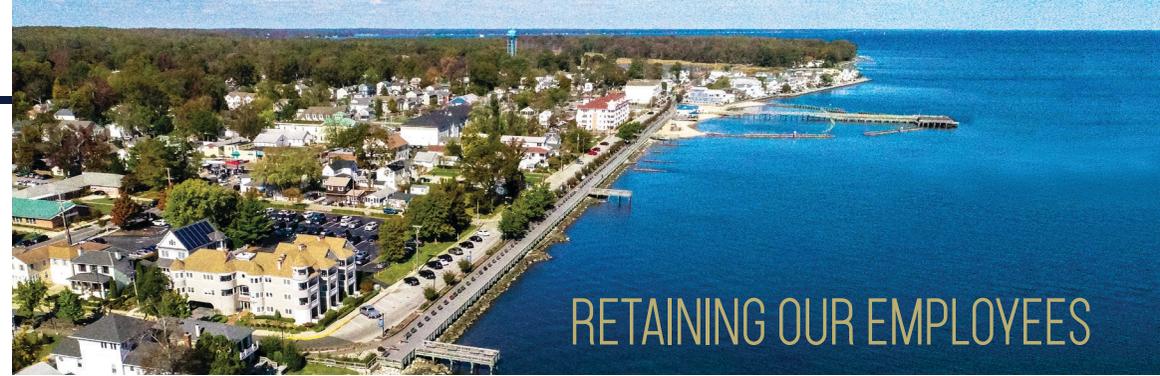
JAMIE ANGUS 2019 RECIPIENT

Jamie is a Human Resources Aide for the Calvert County Department of Human Resources.



STANLEY HARRIS 2020 RECIPIENT

Stanley manages the Calvert County Government, Emergency Communications Department.



RETAINING OUR EMPLOYEES

The Calvert County Government employees that serve our citizens are our biggest asset and we work diligently to make Calvert County Government a desired place of employment. Below are some recent improvements made to retain and recruit the best talent to serve you. Through the Department of Human Resources, the Board of County Commissioners successfully:

- **Bid the county's health insurance plan**, and, as a result, Calvert County Government employees and retirees did not see an increase to fiscal year 2021 health insurance costs.
- **Improved employee recruitment** by opening up all job announcements to the public, versus advertising in-house first, resulting in increased workforce diversity and stronger recruitment.
- **Established a wellness committee** to promote a culture of physical, psychological and emotional well-being by providing a wealth of tools and resources tailored to help employees live their healthiest lives.

 [View current job openings](#)



A recent study brought to light that Calvert County was one of the only counties in the state that did not provide a health insurance subsidy to spouses or dependents for qualified retired county employees, creating an employee recruitment and retention issue. The BOCC adopted policy changes to provide improved health benefits to qualified, retired county employees and adopted structural changes to help mitigate the cost.

MINOR ORGANIZATION RESTRUCTURE

With no staff reductions, a minor reorganization to improve the efficiency of overall government operations and services to the public took effect July 1, 2020. All county departments now report to the Calvert County administrator, and the Department of General Services merged into the Department of Public Works. This action resulted in \$180,000 in savings.

"We are proud of [staff's] commitment during this unprecedented challenge."

~Commissioner Kelly D. McConkey

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ZONING

Planning for the Future

The Department of Planning & Zoning held more than 100 meetings, workshops, open houses and public hearings to receive feedback from residents before the BOCC adopted the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The plan is a policy document that sets forth a vision of the county's future. State agencies use the plan to determine whether to provide state funding for a local project (e.g. Rural Legacy, Community Legacy, public infrastructure, community development projects, etc.). The plan serves as a guide for future planning to be implemented through local laws and public investments over the next 20 to 25 years.

Since adoption, the Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning and Calvert County Planning Commission began work to update master plans for Calvert County's seven town centers. Master plans set goals and objectives that guide the physical development within the town centers, which will be reflected in the regulations during the Town Center Zoning Ordinance update process. The town center master plans also encourage smart growth within town centers and direct commercial, industrial and residential development to appropriate locations, preserving the county's rural areas. The

[Learn more about the Master Plan](#)



The town center master plans encourage smart growth and help preserve the county's rural areas.

purpose of updating the master plans is to ensure the visions for the town centers are consistent with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Beginning in January 2020, Planning & Zoning staff held public meetings, workshops and open houses to seek citizen input to update the Prince Frederick Town Center Master Plan and Zoning Regulations; the first of the master plans to be updated. Updates to the Prince Frederick Town Center Master Plan, originally adopted in 1989, are underway. Public outreach for the Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan updates began in winter 2021, with Huntingtown, Lusby, Owings, Solomons and St. Leonard to follow.

[Learn more about the Comprehensive Plan](#)



Our Community Plans

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

The Board of County Commissioners managed the fiscal year 2020 Purchase and Retirement (PAR) program that will successfully retire and preserve 4,999 Transferable Development Rights.

The BOCC directed the P&Z Staff to reconvene the Transferrable Development Rights (TDR) Committee to develop recommendations to reinvigorate the use of TDRs. The Commissioners supported the Committee's recommendations to begin a pilot program to purchase TDRs from existing APDs which will be reserved for purchase for development in the transfer zones. The Commissioners also directed staff to formalize directing \$1.70 of every \$500 collected in recordation taxes to fund land preservation since the increase in the recordation tax in 1999 was done with this intent. The Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board is working on updating their Rules & Regulations to place additional restrictions on the creation of new APDs. This will support the TDRs Committee's recommendation for the BOCC to lift the current moratorium on creating new APDs.

TRANSPORTATION

[Visit the Transportation Plan](#)



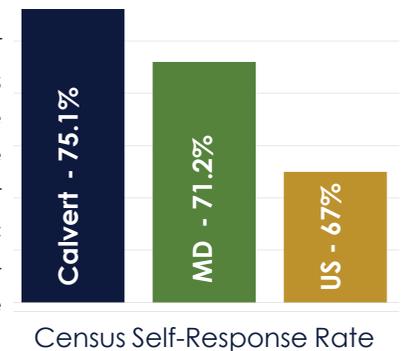
Residents are encouraged to view the 2040 Calvert County Transportation Plan online to learn how transportation has evolved in the county over the last 20 years and what proactive measures county government is taking to maintain and improve existing infrastructure, while planning for future transportation advancements. The plan replaces the 1997 "A Transportation Plan for Calvert County." The transportation plan will set a vision to integrate multi-modal transportation planning with land use, historic preservation, open space and community facilities. It also serves as a functional guide for future planning to be implemented through local laws and public investments over the next 20 years.

2020 MARYLAND CENSUS



The U.S. Census Bureau adjusted its 2020 Census operations in response to COVID-19, including temporary suspensions of certain activities and the extension of operational deadlines. The self-response and non-response follow-up field operations concluded on Oct. 16, 2020. Calvert County's self-response rate was 75.1%, exceeding the national and state rate, 67% and 71.2% respectively. Due to the positive response by Calvert County households, the county exceeded its own 2010 self-response rate of 68.8%, increasing the rate by 6.3 percentage points.

Calvert County's success in achieving a higher response rate can be attributed to the Census Complete Count Committee, composed of diverse members of the community as directed by the Board of County Commissioners. Local government agencies, business groups, citizen associations, civic associations, clergy, educators, municipalities, non-profit organizations and the U.S. Census Bureau were represented.



INVESTING IN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE



PUBLIC WORKS

Progress continues on the design for the new Calvert County Government Office Building in the Old Town District of Prince Frederick.

The new office building will reduce financial burden on the general fund as a result of leased county office space. The single-phase construction approved by the Board of County Commissioners will deliver the building earlier than planned and is expected to reduce the cost by nearly \$2 million.



The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners held a groundbreaking ceremony in August 2019 to celebrate construction of the new Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department Company 2 building.

The \$9.5 million, 29,929 square-foot facility replaces the original building built in 1960. The state-of-the-art facility opened June 2021 and boasts several new features to enhance firefighter health and safety.



Calvert County Water and Sewer Billing Services Transferred to Public Works Department.

The Calvert County Department of Public Works, Water & Sewerage Division, took over the water and sewer billing services from the Department of Finance & Budget in January 2019. The integration of billing into the Water & Sewerage Division allows the division to identify service issues quicker, decrease response time for meter and service problems, and provide greater segregation of duties between billing, adjustments, receipting and preparation of financial statements.



"Calvert County has a long record of capable, conservative financial management."

~ Commissioner Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS

Between 2018 and 2020, Calvert County made numerous capital improvements throughout the county. Below is a partial list of enhancements:

- Completed the Calvert County Detention Center perimeter fence, stairs and access road improvements
- Completed Ward Farm Road improvements
- Completed Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park Phase 1
- Completed Twin Beach Library design
- Began the paving program and overlaid several miles on county roadways
- Opened Prince Frederick Boulevard to traffic after a section was closed for the installation of a new roundabout near the Calvert Hills subdivision, between Allnut Court and West Dares Beach Road
- Drum Point Lighthouse roof refurbishment
- Boyd's Turn Road improvements
- Repairs to Lake Ridge Dam
- Overlay project for Broomes Island Road to reduce flooding during high tides

Fairground Road Improvements

The Calvert County Department of Public Works completed a six-month road widening and infrastructure improvement project on Fairground Road. Work included extending existing sewer lines, installing new electric lines, widening roads and adding sidewalks.



housing by engaging diverse stakeholders for input. Draft recommendations included a market trend analysis, educating the community and designing developer incentives.

The Housing for All Task Force initiative is working to meet one of the comprehensive plan goals of providing housing for multigenerational communities, with a focus on workforce housing for millennials and affordable housing for seniors, in close proximity to valuable health services.

At the request of the Board of County Commissioners, the Department of Community Resources convened a Calvert County Housing for All Task Force to develop a strategic plan to address affordable

TOURISM: ALWAYS IN SEASON

The 2021 Visitor Guide is a comprehensive publication that invites locals and visitors to explore Calvert County's diverse attractions, accommodations, restaurants, shops, water-focused activities, breweries, wineries, parks and events.

The theme for the 2021 Visitor Guide is "Always in Season." Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many Calvert County residents took the opportunity to enjoy staycations, visit local attractions, search for shark teeth, sail the scenic Chesapeake Bay and explore the unspoiled beauty of Calvert County. Many Marylanders visited our county to enjoy our beautiful outdoor sites and local restaurants.



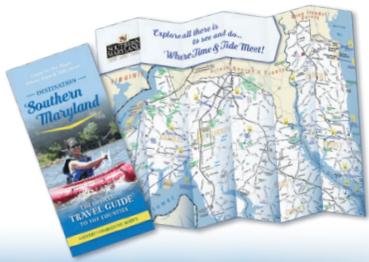
[Read: 2021 Visitors Guide](#)

Making Calvert County a Tourist Destination

Staff collaborated with the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium to populate and launch a new website featuring heritage sites in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties.



[Visit Destination Southern Maryland](#)



AMENITY UPDATES

Hallowing Point Park Gains Second Entrance

The Board of County Commissioners approved funding for a new road that provides a secondary access point for those entering and exiting Hallowing Point Park, significantly improving the safety for citizens accessing the park.

Dominion Energy Regional Park and Cove Point Park Master Plan Created

In September 2020, the master plans for both the Dominion Energy Regional Park and Cove Point Park received final approval. The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation will move forward with the design and the first phase of development for the new park and will work towards future planning of improvements to Cove Point Park.



Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park - Dunkirk

Construction is underway for the new Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park located in Dunkirk. The site is quickly shaping up to be one of the Calvert County's finest parks.



[View the Parks & Recreation Video](#)

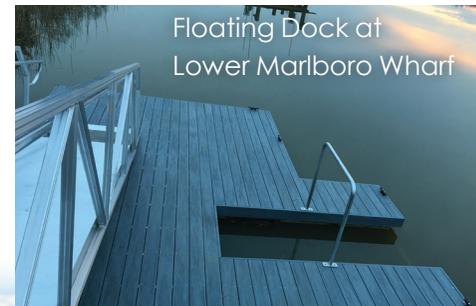
PARKS & RECREATION

The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation launched a virtual activity center for citizens to easily access a variety of recreation opportunities and information from the comfort of home. The activity center features sports and fitness tips, craft and activity tutorials, virtual field trips, local park and animal information, special events and more.



[Visit the Virtual Activity Center](#)

Parks & Recreation provides **high quality** sports, recreation, and nature-based activities for citizens of all ages, including aquatics, community centers, beaches, campgrounds, a golf course and summer camp programs.



Floating Dock at Lower Marlboro Wharf

January 2019: A new floating dock at Lower Marlboro Wharf

The installation of the dock is part of a multi-year effort to increase water access for residents in Calvert County. The floating dock offers safe access to the Patuxent River and allows kayak and canoe paddlers to explore the river and its wetlands.

April 2019: The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the reopening of the Solomons Boat Ramp. The new boat ramp includes floating docks for motorized boats, a floating kayak launch for canoes and other non-motorized boats and safe access to the Patuxent River.

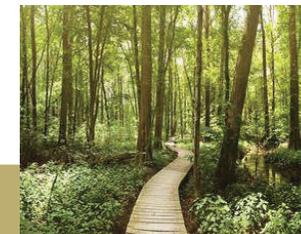


Solomons Boat Ramp

Cove Point Opens New Dog Park



August 2019: The two-acre Cove Point Dog Park opened providing dog lovers with a spacious place to play and stay active. The dog park includes separate areas for different types of dogs.



Our Community **Enjoys**

AWARDS & EFFORTS

Office on Aging Wins Awards

The Calvert County Office on Aging won three first place awards and an honorable mention at the Maryland Association of Senior Centers annual meeting on June 11, 2019. Office on Aging Program staff and Senior Council volunteers collaborate to ensure programs are tailored to meet the needs of seniors and funds are raised to ensure their success. As a result of their excellent work, Office on Aging received first place for programming in the following categories: Nutrition and Health Promotions - Grief and Loss Support (Southern Pines Senior Center); Fitness - Let's Move (North Beach Senior Center); and Fundraising - Change Challenge (North Beach Senior Center). Calvert Pines received an honorable mention for its Mother's Day Purse Sale.

Public Transportation Receives Outstanding Transit System Award

The Calvert County Department of Community Resources, Public Transportation Division was recognized by the Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) as the "Outstanding Transit System of the Year" at the virtual 2020 TAM Excellence Awards. Known as the gold standard in transportation, the Public Transportation Division was lauded for providing quality service, creating a welcoming atmosphere on their vehicles and in the transit office, increasing ridership, reducing accidents and enhancing the mobility of their community.

CONNECTING CALVERT COUNTY

The Technology Services Department continues to strengthen county government's cybersecurity profile across the county network. In addition, the department implemented new cloud-hosted infrastructure for Geographic Information System (GIS) data to expand staff and public access to GIS data and maps.

New and Improved Communications System

The BOCC activated the county's new public safety communications system in March 2021. The new 800-megahertz P25 digital communications system replaced the county's 25-year-old system to provide enhanced radio coverage and interoperability for the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, fire departments, rescue squads and county government agencies.

COMCAST Buildout "Serving the Unserved"

On Dec. 15, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved funding to complete the full buildout of Comcast cable infrastructure in Calvert County. This is a critical investment that will ensure every household has access to cable services available by early 2022.

Calvert County Calvert St@t Dashboard

Calvert County Government launched a new interactive dashboard to provide citizens with an in-depth look at data on services and operations. This tool makes local government data more readily accessible to the public. The data can be leveraged to help county government and our community make informed, data-driven decisions.

[Visit the Calvert St@t dashboard](#) 

RIBBON CUTTING

*Throughout Calvert County, businesses and organizations continue to open their doors and welcome the community. Congratulations to all who realized expansion in the past two years!**



Calvert Marine Museum added a new Education Center to accommodate the growing number of students who visit the museum each year. The Education Center includes two large classrooms, a dividing wall that can be opened to make one large teaching space, new office space for staff and additional space for storage.



Prince Frederick American Job Center consultants help people explore careers, receive referrals, prepare résumés and provide workshops to enhance job-seeking skills. The center is operated in partnership with the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland and the Calvert County Department of Social Services.



Dunkin' Donuts opened a location in Prince Frederick. The Board of County Commissioners recognized franchise owner Maria Icaza and thanked her for providing 30 new jobs for local citizens. The new 2,300-square-foot location offers a convenient drive-thru for customers and efficient, friendly service.



Capps Mechanical opened their new 3,850-square-foot facility in Huntingtown. Capps specializes in commercial and residential energy-efficient heating and cooling solutions. They provide customers with a full array of services including HVAC installations, furnace and air conditioner repairs and preventative maintenance.

* Many of the photos depicted in this annual report were taken before the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, you will not see social distancing and other protocols in place.

UNEARTHING CALVERT COUNTY'S HERITAGE

Honoring its commitment to the stewardship of Calvert County's rich cultural heritage, the Board of County Commissioners continue to excavate the historic site of Calverton. Work resumed in August 2020, continuing the excavation that began in 2017. Laid out on the shore of Battle Creek in the 17th century and built on the site of an earlier Native American settlement, Calverton was the first county seat and the second town in the Maryland colony. The features and artifacts discovered offer a connection to the stories of Native Americans, European settlers, and enslaved African people during this period. Calverton is one of the most significant sites in Calvert County and this project enhances our understanding of Maryland history. The project is funded in part by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant.



[Learn more about the excavation](#) 

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MARINE EXHIBITS



The Calvert Marine Museum turned 50 in October 2020 and celebrated with a 50 miles for 50 years challenge. This event encouraged community residents to run, walk, bike and swim during the month of October. At the Calvert Marine Museum, pre-history, natural history and maritime heritage come together to tell a unique story of the Chesapeake Bay. This family-friendly museum offers live animals, fossils, interactive exhibits, daily activities and a furnished cottage-style lighthouse. Home to everyone's favorite North American river otters, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy.

[Visit the Museum online](#) 

STAY UP TO DATE WITH BOARD NEWS

CALVERT CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

The Calvert Currents newsletter is delivered weekly to hundreds of inboxes around Calvert County, bringing citizens the most up-to-date news and events. Visit the county's website to subscribe and stay informed with local government news and information.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT PODCAST

"Commissioners' Reports" is a headline news podcast produced by the Department of Communications & Media Relations. The podcast will feature highlights from the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners weekly meetings, as well as up-to-date information from all departments of Calvert County Government. Tune in by visiting the county's [YouTube](#) channel.



CALVERT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Jullian "Mark" Willis

DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Linda S. Vassallo

COUNTY ATTORNEY

John B. Norris, III

PARKS & RECREATION

Shannon Nazzal

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Jennifer Moreland

PLANNING & ZONING

Mary Beth Cook

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kelly Robertson-Slagle

PUBLIC SAFETY

Jacqueline Vaughan

FINANCE AND BUDGET

Sharon Strand (Acting)

PUBLIC WORKS

Kerry Dull

HUMAN RESOURCES

Melanie Woodson

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Amy Lawson



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