



## Sustainable Maryland Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Maryland Certification Report of Poolesville, a Sustainable Maryland bronze certified applicant.

Poolesville was certified on November 08, 2024 with 335 points. Listed below is information regarding Poolesville's Sustainable Maryland efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

### Contact Information

The designated Sustainable Maryland contact for Poolesville is:

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<b>Title/Position:</b>	Town Manager / Town Hall
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# Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Poolesville was approved for in 2024 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

## Community Action

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### Innovative Demonstration Projects - Community Action

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Since 2015, the Town of Poolesville has provided community shredding and electronics recycling at its annual Big Flea event. The Big Flea is a large-scale community yard sale located on Whalen Commons. The Town provides advertising and spaces to allow the community to sell their goods. Advertising is accomplished through the Town's web site, Community Facebook page and on an annual mailer advertising all Town events. The September 30, 2023 event featured 25 vendors offering a variety of goods and services. At the 2022 event, 5,660 lbs of used electronics and 314 gallons of used paint were collected as well as 7,000 lbs of paper was shredded. For the 2023 event, 3,880 lbs of used electronics and 338 gallons of paint were collected, and 7,500 pounds of paper were shredded.

**IMAGE:** [POOLESVILLE BIG FLEA 2022](#)

**IMAGE:** [BIG FLEA 2024 \(TOWN WEBSITE\)](#)

**IMAGE:** [POOLESVILLE BIG FLEA 2023](#)

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### MD Green Schools

15 Points

**Program Summary:** Green Schools Certification to support of the Town of Poolesville's Sustainable Maryland Certification Poolesville schools continue to advance with green certification. Poolesville High School was certified as a Green School in 2008, Re-certified in 2012 and 2016. John Poole Middle School was certified as a Green School in 2003, Re-certified in 2008, 2012 and 2016 and awarded the Green Ribbon Award by U.S. Dept. of Education in 2017. Poolesville Elementary was certified As a Green School in 2015.

**WORD:** [POOLESVILLE GREEN SCHOOLS](#)

**IMAGE:** [SCREENSHOT POOLESVILLE HS](#)

**IMAGE:** [SCREENSHOT POOLESVILLE ELEM.](#)

**IMAGE:** [SCREENSHOT JOHN POOLE MIDDLE SCHOOL](#)

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## Participate in SM Green Team Training

5 Points

**Program Summary:** Team members attended SMC Green Team training led by Mike Huninghake on February 28, 2024. The training session provided both existing and new members important information on expectations for completing our recertification efforts. From this training, the members were able to further develop future actions as part of the action plan.

PDF: [GREEN TRAINING 2024 \(1\)](#)

PDF: [TRAINING 2024-1](#)

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## Green Team Action Plan

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Since the 2021 recertification, the Sustainable Poolesville Committee has continued to work on action plan items from the initial certification period that were still in progress and completed a number of the new Sustainable Maryland initiatives, including Pesticide-free Zones, Backyard Chicken Ordinance, and new pollinator meadows. Looking towards our next recertification in 2027, the Sustainable Poolesville Committee will continue to pursue programs and projects that lead to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable community. Community input is an important source of ideas and initiatives that the Committee has pursued since Poolesville's initial certification in 2015. We conduct various surveys via Survey Monkey to better understand residents' opinions on our work and to seek new ideas for further research leading to implementation by the Town. Additionally, we have received suggestions for several projects from residents' in-person presentations at Committee meetings which are open to the public. The Committee participates in numerous public events throughout the year, including the annual Poolesville Day celebration, where we educate residents and visitors about our efforts. Our presence at these events helps facilitate input from the community regarding their concerns about sustainability issues.

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE POOLESVILLE COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN](#)

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## Sustainability Resource Center

5 Points

**Program Summary:** The Town created a sustainable resource center in 2015 as part of its initial certification application, and continues to actively provide sustainable resource material to residents in two ways. In the main lobby of the Town Hall, three large display boards focus on the importance of energy conservation, water conservation and recycling. Also included in the main foyer is a informational pamphlet display center, for the distribution of water quality reports, business directories and much more. New displays include information about Sustainable MD and a Community Wildlife Habitat display. On the Town's website,(<http://www.poolesvillemd.gov/454/Reference-Center>), a specific page is dedicated to providing information on water conservation, drought resistant plants, recycling, lead information and energy information. The Town Manager's office manages the site, updates it regularly, and it is funded through Poolesville General Revenues. Poolesville strives to communicate the importance and methods of sustainable living.

IMAGE: [RESOURCE CENTER 1](#)

IMAGE: [RESOURCE CENTER 2](#)

IMAGE: [RESOURCE CENTER 3](#)

IMAGE: [SCREENSHOT SUSTAINABILITY REFERENCE CENTER](#)

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## Green Team

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Sustainable Poolesville Committee (previously known as the Poolesville Green Team), was established by the Commissioners of Poolesville on March 16, 2015. The eight-member team is comprised of elected officials, residents, and the president of Poolesville Green. Since being established, Poolesville has gained certification as a sustainable community, and has continued its sustainable efforts in many areas. Poolesville was recertified in 2018. New members were appointed to the team in 2022 and 2023 and have played a pivotal role in the Committee's efforts. Each member has identified tasks intrinsic to their individual skill set and interest. From this task list, team members coordinate and develop projects and initiatives in accordance with the goals of the team and Sustainable Maryland. The Town Manager acts as liaison to the elected officials and the team meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

PDF: [2022 MEETING AGENDAS](#)

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE POOLESVILLE COMMITTEE MEMBERS](#)

PDF: [2023 MEETING AGENDAS](#)

PDF: [2024 MEETING MINUTES](#)

PDF: [2024 MEETING AGENDAS](#)

PDF: [2023 MEETING MINUTES](#)

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## Community Based Food System

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## Backyard Chicken Ordinance

5 Points

**Program Summary:** In December 2022, a group of Poolesville residents presented a proposal to the Town Commissioners allowing backyard chickens within the town limits. See detailed narrative attached below.

PDF: [BACKYARD CHICKEN APPLICATION FORM](#)

PDF: [BACKYARD CHICKEN ORDINANCE](#)

PDF: [MONOCACY MONOCLE](#)

PDF: [BACKYARD CHICKENS](#)

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## Community Garden

15 Points

**Program Summary:** The Poolesville Community Garden continues to be a community-wide collaborative effort hosted by Poolesville Presbyterian Church (PPC) and facilitated by the local nonprofit Poolesville Green. The garden is managed by a community committee comprised of town citizens interested in the project and current gardeners. Two local Master Gardeners advise and participate in the committee. The garden committee is co-managed by residents Pam Mattes and Alicia Thomas. The Town of Poolesville municipal government supports the project through both in-kind contributions such as providing access to water, mulch, soil for raised beds and advertising. The garden is in the fifth successful year and continues to grow as community involvement and teen service learning contributions increase. The Garden holds an annual Garden Fest in the Spring which includes plant sales, garden tours, and a swap-meet style table for trading gardening equipment. They have also established a "Little Free Plant Stand" where residents can drop off or pick up seedlings for free, as well as a "Seed Library" box where residents can leave extra seeds. The garden serves the entire community by:

- Building community among residents
- Providing opportunity for learning & teaching
- Increasing knowledge of gardening
- Promoting environmental & food sustainability
- Providing an alternative source of food
- Providing cheaper & fresher produce
- Promoting physical health
- Beautifying the area

The garden presently has 24 raised beds, all of which are leased to individuals for 1 growing season at a time. In addition to the Town contributions, they assist in advertising and have a link to the garden's facebook page on the Town's web page.

<https://www.facebook.com/PoolesvilleCommunityGarden>

IMAGE: [GARDEN FEST 2022](#)

IMAGE: [GARDEN FEST 2023](#)

IMAGE: [SEED SWAP 2023](#)

IMAGE: [SEED SWAP 2024](#)

IMAGE: [SEED LIBRARY BOX](#)

IMAGE: [GARDEN BEDS](#)

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## Energy

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### Renewable Energy

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Poolesville solar array was developed in 2013 through a 20-year public-private partnership between the Town of Poolesville, Standard Solar, Inc., and energy provider, UGI Corp. This energy source is comprised of 4,480 solar panels, and utilizing Maryland's virtual metering law, the Town purchases power from the solar array for its wastewater treatment plant, five pump/well stations, and Town Hall. Approximately 75% of the power for these facilities comes from the solar array. According to a recent Municipal Greenhouse Gas Inventory report by Sustainable Maryland, approximately 33% of the solar generation offsets usage at well houses, about 2% offsets usage by the town hall, and the remaining 65% offsets usage at the wastewater treatment plant. Production rates for the solar array are displayed via a link on the Town's website, <https://hmi.alsoenergy.com/powerhmi/publicdisplay/87555334-fa62-4731-8114-c24c4477e0e3/main?arg=NDMxNjc%3d&lang=en-US>. The Town does not receive any Renewable Energy Credits because it does not own the array outright, however, the possibility of negotiating with the owner for the RECs is being studied. Approximately 75% of the municipal energy consumption is provided by the solar array.

PDF: [PRESS RELEASE](#)

PDF: [SOLAR ARRAY](#)

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### Maryland Smart Energy Community Program

15 Points

**Program Summary:** Poolesville is a Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC) FY 21 Program Awardee, and will utilize MSEC funding to complete an energy baseline; continue the retrofitting of streetlights with LEDs; assess the efficacy of solar technologies for powering streetlights and/or parking canopies; and to determine options for battery storage at its Public Works facility. The Town has participated in this program in FY2022, FY2023, and FY2024. The Town Commissioners adopted resolution 001-23 establishing a One Hundred Percent (100%) renewable energy goal for municipal electricity use by 2030 including at least 80% renewable energy by 2027.

PDF: [SMART ENERGY COMMUNITY AWARD](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION 001-23](#)

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## Residential Electric Vehicles and Public Charging Stations

15 Points

**Program Summary:** In July of 2016 the Commissioners of Poolesville initiated efforts to promote electrical vehicle use by entering into a grant agreement with the Electrical Vehicle Institute for the installation of a level 2 electrical vehicle charging station on Town owned property. The units, which are open for public use, were installed and solely funded by EVI and the Town of Poolesville. The power supply is funded by the Town of Poolesville and through a unique sponsorship program. The Town offered an annual advertising space to up to 4 local businesses for \$250.00 each. Usage averages about 1,000 kWh per month. In August 2020, an additional two EV charging stations were installed at the opposite end of the Whalens Common parking lot area from the previous two. Access to these chargers is free to the public to promote EV adoption. Additionally, although not sponsored by the Town, two EV charging stations were also installed at local business Total Automotive and Diesel Service as part of a private initiative by the owners and are available to the public during business hours. These two stations are DC Fast Chargers and are rated at 50 kilowatts. EV charging stations have also been installed at the Poolesville Golf Course/Crossvines restaurant parking lot.

**PDF:** [EVC GRANT](#)

**IMAGE:** [EVC SIGN](#)

**IMAGE:** [SCREENSHOT TOWN WEBSITE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES](#)

**IMAGE:** [SCREENSHOT DEPT OF ENERGY EVC LOCATIONS 20837](#)

**IMAGE:** [EVC SIGNAGE](#)

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## Innovative Demonstration Projects - Energy

10 Points

**Program Summary:** LED Streetlights In 2018 the Town embarked on a project to replace existing street lights with more efficient LED lights. The first phase of replacements was in the Wesmond Subdivision, with a total of 28 mercury vapor and sodium lights were replaced with LEDs. Town Public Works staff preformed the installation along with a licensed electrician. The overall cost for this project was \$52,000, non-inclusive of staff time, and an additional \$200,000 was budgeted for completion of the project through 2022. Although the replacement/upgrade project experienced some slow down in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project was completed in 2023, with 703 lights replaced. The Town now has 100% LED street lights. Additionally, all new residential developments will be installing LED streetlights in accordance with the Town's Public Improvement Agreement (section F).

**PDF:** [STREET LIGHT REPORT](#)

**IMAGE:** [LED STREET LIGHTS](#)

**WORD:** [PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT](#)

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## Greenhouse Gas

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### Innovative Demonstration Projects - Greenhouse Gas

5 Points

**Program Summary:** As part of its commitment to sustainability, the Town of Poolesville passed a resolution in April 2023 establishing a 100% renewable energy goal for municipal energy usage by the year 2030, including a goal of at least 80% renewable energy by 2027. This aligns with with Montgomery County's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2027 and zero emissions by 2030, and with the State's requirement of 50% of Maryland's energy to come from renewable sources by 2030.

**PDF:** [RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOLUTION](#)

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### Municipal Carbon Footprint

15 Points

**Program Summary:** The 2024 Municipal Greenhouse Gas Inventory report for Poolesville prepared by Sustainable Maryland is attached below. This report will provide meaningful guidance for the Town government following its Comprehensive Plan review which was completed in May 2024 and included specific sustainability goals for the next 10 years.

**PDF:** [POOLESVILLE 2024 MUNICIPAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY](#)

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## Health & Wellness

## Create Pesticide-Free Zones

15 Points

**Program Summary:** At the initiative of private citizens, who inquired why Poolesville did not adhere to the Montgomery County pesticide-free regulation for lawns in the residential area, the Town Commissioners addressed this issue and decided to opt-in to the county regulation in January 2024. Details and history are contained in the attached documents. All public, private, and commercial properties within the Town limits are subject to the new ordinance, including all Town parks, Whalen Commons, water pumping stations, athletic fields, the Public Works facility, and Town Hall (see Commissioners Meeting Minutes attached below). Details of the ordinance are published on the Town's website (see attached) as well as infographic flyers which were sent to all residential and commercial addresses within the Town limits. Additionally, the flyers are available in the resource center located in the Town Hall lobby. (<https://www.poolesvillemd.gov/537/Montgomery-County-Pesticide-Law>)

**PDF:** [MONTGOMERY COUNTY PESTICIDE ORDINANCE](#)

**IMAGE:** [PESTICIDE ORDINANCE \(WEBSITE ITEM\)](#)

**IMAGE:** [PESTICIDE ORDINANCE INFOGRAPHIC](#)

**IMAGE:** [PESTICIDE ORDINANCE PUBLIC INFO MEETING 2024](#)

**PDF:** [PESTICIDE FREE ZONE \(HISTORY\)](#)

**PDF:** [TOWN COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES](#)

## Innovative Demonstration Projects - Health & Wellness

35 Points

**Program Summary:** 1. Community Exercise Program The Town continuously encourages residents to participate in many of the Health & Wellness related activities. These activities are offered throughout the year, including two annual events, the Chamber run and the WUMCO Walk, in which the Town is a co-sponsor for both. 2. Exercise Trails. A map showing walking and running asphalt/concrete trails that can be utilized for exercise was developed in 2018 by former Sustainable Poolesville Committee members Valaree Dickerson and Tom Kettler, and further updated in 2019. With the availability of numerous parks and sidewalks in Poolesville, the trail map highlights some of the best areas for residents to exercise. Most of the Town-owned and maintained trails originate at the Whalen Commons park next to Town Hall to allow for a common starting point. The map also includes an official 5k distance loop used for racing events. This map is made available to everyone through the Town's website and there is the potential for future trail maps to be placed on signs in the Town parks and on Whalen Commons.

([https://www.poolesvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1125/Poolesville\\_Trails\\_3-1](https://www.poolesvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1125/Poolesville_Trails_3-1)). The trails are maintained by Town Parks Department personnel. 3. Exercise Stations in Perkins Park The exercise stations along the community trail in the Stoney Springs community were part of the subdivision's plan approved by the Town Parks and Streets Board and the Town Planning Commission. They were included in the plan in order to make good use of a small portion of the trail by imitating similar outdoor physical fitness equipment found at several other parks in Montgomery County. The stations were installed by Eagle Play Structures in 2014 ([www.eagleplaystructures.com](http://www.eagleplaystructures.com)), and are maintained by Town Parks Department personnel. 4. Health Fair During the 2022 Poolesville Day event, a community health fair was held in Town Hall which included health screenings and education as well as blood pressure checks and flu vaccinations. Staffing was provided by the County Health Department. Due to inclement weather conditions for the 2023 Poolesville Day, the health fair did not operate, however, it is anticipated that it will be offered again at the 2024 event in September.

5. Playground surfaces Following a devastating fire at a playground in one of the Town's public parks in 2023, several residents successfully lobbied town government to remove the shredded rubber surface material from all park playgrounds. Research shows that use of so-called "crumb rubber" results in hazardous chemicals leaching into the surrounding soil and potentially exposing children and adults to toxic materials. The Town Commissioners allocated \$90,000 for removal of the "crumb rubber" material and replacement with engineered wood fiber (EWF) material.

**PDF:** [POOLESVILLE EXERCISE TRAILS](#)

**IMAGE:** [HEALTH FAIR 2022](#)

**PDF:** [FITNESS 2024](#)

**IMAGE:** [PERKINS PARK EXERCISE STATIONS](#)

**PDF:** [SHREDDED RUBBER PRESENTATION](#)

## Local Economies

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## Green Purchasing Policy

15 Points

**Program Summary:** In order to minimize the negative impacts on human health and the environment, while supporting a diverse, equitable, and vibrant community and economy, the Commissioners of Poolesville adopted the Town of Poolesville Sustainable Procurement Policy during their May 18, 2015 meeting. While the town has used similar language in its some of its bidding documents, this formalized policy ensures that all purchasing will follow this format. The Green Purchasing Policy is available on the Town's website at <https://www.poolesvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/677/Poolesville-Green-Purchasing-Policy>.

**PDF:** [GREEN PURCHASING POLICY DOCUMENTATION](#)

**WORD:** [GREEN PURCHASING MEMO](#)

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## Join Maryland Green Registry

5 Points

**Program Summary:** The Town of Poolesville has been an active member of the Maryland Green Registry since 2018.

**PDF:** [GREEN REGISTRY PROFILE](#)

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## Establish Local Business Directory

10 Points

**Program Summary:** Establish Local Business Directory The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce maintains a local business directory. The 72 page document is published bi-annually and includes contact information for all Chamber members and residents of the community. Over 5,000 copies of the Annual Business & Community Directory are distributed to businesses and homes in the Poolesville area, and strategically placed at local public facilities (including the Town Hall) and business establishments for the general public. The cover features a local photography chosen from entries of talented professional and amateur area photographers. The Guide is produced by the Poolesville Area Chamber. The Town's website lists restaurants, schools, houses of worship, and public places with wi-fi and more within the town limits and provides a link to the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce website listing Chamber business members online. In addition, a brochure ("Wide Open For Business!") promoting Poolesville as a good location for businesses is available in the Town Hall resource center. [https://poolesvillechamber.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/POOLESVILLE\\_BOOK\\_2022\\_websiteversionFinal-1.pdf](https://poolesvillechamber.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/POOLESVILLE_BOOK_2022_websiteversionFinal-1.pdf)

**PDF:** [BUSINESS & COMMUNITY DIRECTORY](#)

**IMAGE:** [BUSINESS DIRECTORY \(TOWN WEBSITE\)](#)

**IMAGE:** [POOLESVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE \(WEBSITE\)](#)

**PDF:** [WIDE OPEN FOR BUSINESS](#)

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## Buy Local Campaign

15 Points

**Program Summary:** Since 2016, the Town of Poolesville has actively promoted buying local by creating a bridge between residents and participating businesses. We continue to do so by providing spaces at our Friday on the Commons events for vendors such as Anytime Fitness, local artisans, and caterers to showcase their goods and services. We also continue to promote "Shop Local" brochures by strategically locating them in and around the community, including at Town Hall. A map and listing of local business is also displayed in the Town Hall, and the Town continues to partner with the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) to provide "Shop Local" signs. The Town also provides meeting space at Town Hall for PACC business network meetings, and promotes the program through its webpage, Facebook, banners, and local newspapers. To further promote local businesses, the Town provides welcome bags to every new resident containing free samples, promotions, and business cards from Poolesville businesses. The welcome bag also includes a copy of the Poolesville Business Directory and Historic Poolesville and Surrounding Area map/brochure, both provided by the PACC.

**PDF:** [KIOSK BUSINESS MAP](#)

**IMAGE:** [WHALENS COMMONS INFORMATION SIGN](#)

**IMAGE:** [SHOP LOCAL \(TOWN WEBSITE\)](#)

**PDF:** [SHOP LOCAL SIGN](#)

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## Natural Resources

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### Innovative Demonstration Projects - Natural Resources

25 Points

**Program Summary:** Pervious Pavement The Poolesville Town Hall parking lot surface is pervious concrete and the Town's maintenance staff monitor the parking lot throughout the year during rain events to ensure that proper and adequate drainage is taking place and that it does not become silted with leaves or debris. If drainage is poor, the staff use a 12" wide commercial truck mounted vacuum to clean until proper drainage is realized. In addition to Town Hall, a development in Poolesville, Westerly Grove, with Town approval, added pervious sidewalk sections installed a pervious parking lot at what is now a new Town park. Chestnut Grove The Town of Poolesville in cooperation with The American Chestnut Foundation, Kettler Forlines Homes, and the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School developed an educational chestnut grove in 2015. The Town provides ongoing maintenance including trimming and watering when needed, and recently replaced information/educational signage that was installed when the trees were first planted. To date all trees are doing reasonably well with the hope they will someday provide large shaded areas in Elgin Park. Pollinator Meadow In March 2023, local Boy Scout Jason Woodman presented a proposal to the Town Commissioners for a new pollinator meadow to be located at the entrance to Stevens Park. This would be part of his Eagle Scout final project, and the Commissioners wholeheartedly approved it. Preliminary ground preparation was done by Town Public Works employees and planting of a large variety of native plants was completed on March 25, 2023, with a large contingent of fellow Boy Scouts and local residents participating in the event. Public Works will be responsible for the area, however, it is anticipated that this will not require a great deal of regular maintenance.

PDF: [PERVIOUS PAVEMENT](#)

PDF: [CHESTNUT GROVE 2021](#)

PDF: [POLLINATOR MEADOW - STEVENS PARK](#)

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### NWF Community Wildlife Habitat Certification

10 Points

**Program Summary:** The Poolesville Community Wildlife Habitat Project is part of the Sustainable Poolesville Committee's continuing sustainability efforts in town. The project began in June 2016 through the National Wildlife Federations' Garden for Wildlife™ program, and Poolesville became a Certified Community Wildlife Habitat in April 2019, and recertified in 2021 and 2023. The Town is the 120th certified community wildlife habitat nationwide, and only the 8th in the State of Maryland. The project is an on-going effort to encourage residents, places of worship, businesses, and farms in the 20837 zip code area to help conserve wildlife and their habitats by becoming individual NWF-certified habitats.

IMAGE: [CWH CERTIFICATE 2023](#)

IMAGE: [MONOCACY MONOCLE 2019](#)

IMAGE: [POOLESVILLE TOWN HALL](#)

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## Develop a Pet Waste Program

5 Points

**Program Summary:** Proper disposal of pet waste is an important aspect of protecting health and preventing pollution in local watersheds. The Town has eleven pet waste stations located in town parks, and were installed and are maintained by Poolesville Public Works. Three of the pet waste stations are Girl Scout projects funded by the Town. Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection provides outreach materials including "Are you in the Poop Loop?" brochures, pet waste leash attachments, and "There is no such thing as the poop fairy." posters. On-going outreach measures include: Brochures displayed at Town Hall lobby. Brochures and pet waste leash attachments are included in the Town new resident bags Poop fairy poster at two park message boards and on the Town's website.

**PDF:** [PET WASTE PROGRAM 1](#)

**IMAGE:** [PET WASTE \(WEBSITE\)](#)

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## Implement a Pet Waste Education Program

5 Points

**Program Summary:** Pet Waste Education Program The Town of Poolesville's pet waste education program emphasizes the importance of proper disposal of pet waste. Key problems such as water pollution and health risks to both dogs and humans are detailed in literature that is widely distributed in the community. Local veterinarians make copies of the "Are You In The Poop Loop" brochure available at their offices. They are also prominently displayed at Town Hall and the Montgomery County public library, and are included in the welcome bag for new residents. Pet waste education information has been added to the Town web site, (<http://www.poolesvillemd.gov/455/Pet-Waste>), along with a map showing the locations of the 11 pet waste stations in Poolesville. The Town website also provides a link to the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection Pet Waste information page (<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/education/pet-waste.html>).

**PDF:** [PET WASTE BROCHURE](#)

**IMAGE:** [TOWN WEBSITE SECTION](#)

**IMAGE:** [PET WASTE STATIONS MAP \(TOWN WEBSITE\)](#)

## Develop a Water Conservation Plan

15 Points

**Program Summary:** Poolesville's Water Conservation Plan describes the Town's past and on-going efforts to ensure the long-term viability of Poolesville's water supply through: · Well Management · Demand, Forecast, and Planned Improvements · Water accounting · Loss Prevention · Consumer Education using residents' water bills and the Town's website to provide information on residential and business water conservation measures, home water audits, and trees/shrubs/plants sustainable in our climate. · Public Alert System and the steps to be taken in the event of a drought or some other form of water emergency. The plan is reviewed and updated as required every five years, with the most recent review being completed in March 2024. The Town continues to work on replacement of water lines in two of our oldest neighborhoods, and through our ongoing quarterly leak detection program, we have identified these areas to be the largest contributors to lost water. The 2024 Plan was incorporated into the Town's Comprehensive Plan review which was completed and approved by the Town Commissioners in May 2024. The Town also continues to support the County requirements for high efficiency fixtures and encourages residents in older homes to do the same. In addition, the Sustainable Poolesville Committee has promoted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Water Sense Program (<https://www.epa.gov/watersense>) through meetings with local developers in an effort to ensure their new-home customers are provided options regarding water-conserving toilets and faucets. The EPA's Water Sense brochure is available to residents in the Town Hall resource center.

**PDF:** [WATER CONSERVATION PLAN 2024](#)

**PDF:** [EPA BROCHURE](#)

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## Septics System Assessment and Inventory

15 Points

**Program Summary:** The Town of Poolesville contracted with Nobis Engineering to develop an inventory of septic systems within the Town Limits. Through historic data, Montgomery County records and field visits, the attached information was created. The septic systems currently in use are conventional septic systems and in proper working order. The Town has actively been connecting users and decreasing the number of septic systems within Town and currently only have eleven active. The Town does this in two ways; when a septic does fail, the Town will assist owners through a 0% loan to abandon the current septic and connect to the Town's sewer lines, in areas where the infrastructure is not available yet and as development occurs, developers are required to provide offsite installation of sewer infrastructure to accommodate future connections. A GIS file was also created and the site would not allow this to be uploaded. The County manages the maintenance of the septic systems within Poolesville and the Town Clerk's office maintains the inventory of the septic systems in conjunction with the water and Sewer billing. While the Town Code requires all new construction to tie into the existing infrastructure, no new systems will be added. The few systems that do exist are not near sewer conveyance systems and until the infrastructure is extended, no changes will occur. There is currently no timeframe for extending infrastructure to these residences.

**PDF:** [SEPTICS SYSTEM ASSESSMENT AND INVENTORY](#)

**PDF:** [OVERALL SEPTICS SYSTEM LOCATIONS](#)

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## Planning & Land Use

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## Innovative Demonstration Projects - Planning & Land Use

10 Points

**Program Summary:** In August 2022, the Town of Pooleville Planning Board invited the Sustainable Pooleville Committee and other shareholders to submit recommendations regarding the Town's review of its Comprehensive Plan. The successful inclusion of a Sustainability chapter in our Comprehensive Plan was a multi-year endeavor, aided by the additional time afforded due to the pandemic. This allowed us to solidify the integration of sustainability into our community's ongoing development. The idea originated during a monthly Committee meeting, where the possibility of incorporating overarching sustainability language across all plan chapters was discussed. This initial concept was well-received when presented to the Planning Commission, but we recognized its insufficiency in truly honoring our sustainable certification. This plan update, the first since achieving this prestigious recognition, was seen as our grand entrance, thus sparking the idea of a dedicated Sustainability chapter. Draft recommendations authored by the Town Manager with input from our Committee were presented to the Planning Board in July 2022 and October 2023. The recommendations were modeled after those contained in the Town of Middletown's Comprehensive Plan. The final public draft of the Comprehensive Plan was published by the Pooleville Planning Board in January 2024, and adopted by the Town Commissioners on May 20, 2024. Since the Sustainable Pooleville Committee did not exist when the last Comprehensive Review was conducted, the current review afforded us a unique opportunity to include sustainability in the new plan.

**WORD:** [SUSTAINABILITY RECOMMENDATIONS \(1\)](#)

**PDF:** [COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW INVITATION](#)

**PDF:** [DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN \(SUSTAINABILITY\)](#)

**PDF:** [COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTION \(COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES\)](#)

**PDF:** [COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTION RESOLUTION \(5-20-2024\)](#)

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## Historic Preservation

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### Establish National Register Historic District

10 Points

**Program Summary:** In March 1975, the Historic Preservation Committee of the then-Poolesville Citizens Association, began work on an application to the National Park Services's National Registry of Historic Places. The required nomination and associated inventory with photographs was received on March 10, 1975, and verified and entered into the National Registry on May 22, 1975 (see page 8, Inventory Part 1 attached). New signage was installed by the Town in 2023 at points along the major roads leading in the community, Maryland Routes 107 (Fisher Avenue) and 109 (Elgin Avenue), West Willard Road, and Hughes Road. [https://apps.mht.maryland.gov/medusa/PDF/NR\\_PDFs/NR-300.pdf](https://apps.mht.maryland.gov/medusa/PDF/NR_PDFs/NR-300.pdf)

PDF: [NATIONAL REGISTRY HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY PART 1](#)

PDF: [NATIONAL REGISTRY HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY PART 2](#)

PDF: [NATIONAL REGISTRY HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY PART 3](#)

PDF: [NATIONAL REGISTRY HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY PART 4](#)

PDF: [HISTORIC DISTRICT MAP](#)

IMAGE: [NATIONAL REGISTRY HISTORIC DISTRICT LISTING](#)