

AVOIDING PROBLEMS

If you are developing property adjacent to Fairfax County Park Authority land, there are steps that you can take to avoid unexpected project delays. Contact our Planning and Development Division in the early planning phases of your project to discuss options with us. We are always happy to provide guidance sooner to avoid problems later.

We can provide information in the following areas to assist in expediting the process:

- Application forms
- A narrative description of the review process.
- Site plan inclusion requirements to help us review and process your request.
- Restoration requirements
- Fee schedules
- Deed and plat requirements



HOW TO CONTACT US

The Planning and Development Division may be contacted Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We welcome your questions and look forward to assisting you through the easement application and review process.

Phone: 703-324-8741

Easements on Parkland



**Fairfax County Park Authority
Planning and Development Division
12055 Government Center Parkway
Suite 406
Fairfax, Virginia 22035**



To request this information in an alternate format, call Planning and Development Division, 703-324-8741, TTY: 703-803-3354



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ADDRESSING ISSUES

Fairfax County Park Authority is guided by policy to protect the natural and cultural resources found on county parkland by ensuring that all possible steps are taken to prevent any unnecessary, adverse impact to our land, streams, and historic resources. To this end, all applications for easements go through a thorough review process.

Developers are often surprised to learn that, after their plans have met all minimum PFM requirements and have been approved by various county review authorities, that they must still go through a separate and often more stringent review process to obtain easements on Fairfax County Park Authority land.

As a separate agency within Fairfax County, with land holdings of over 23,500 acres, the Park Authority has the same rights regarding the granting of easements as any other landholder in the county. To meet the requirements set forth in our policy, we often require more than the minimum PFM standards for storm water management, restoration of disturbed areas and other practices that may affect our land.

Applications for easements are reviewed on a case by case basis and are subject to various fees, acquisition charges and monetary assurances to ensure that all work performed in the easement is completed to the satisfaction of the agency. Acceptance of an application for review does not guarantee approval.

OUR AUTHORITY

The granting of easements in the Park Authority has been guided by board policy for many years. The most recent revision was adopted by the Park Authority Board in 1998 as Policy 302 - Easements, which reinforces the establishment of review procedures, fee schedules, construction inspection procedures and restoration standards.



TYPES OF EASEMENTS

As a major landholder in Fairfax County, the Park Authority is approached for and may grant sanitary sewer, storm drainage, general utility and various other easements related to the development of adjacent properties.

We also actively seek out and work with private citizens and organizations to obtain conservation easements on private property as

a means to preserve open space and to protect various natural, cultural and historic sites within Fairfax County.

PARKLAND ACCESS

It is often necessary for survey crews to enter upon parkland in the course of preliminary surveys or studies related to off site development. While our parks are open to the general public for recreation purposes, entering parkland for survey



work or other non-recreational activities may require specific permission from the agency. Our mechanism for granting permission for this purpose is the Right of Entry License. This instrument serves to protect the agency against liability, provides a method for notification when someone intends to access our property, and provides a means to establish restoration responsibilities in the event that disturbance to the land occurs. It also establishes an expiration date so that open ended access is avoided.

A Right of Entry License may be obtained by contacting the Easement Coordinator at 703-324-8511.