

# Frederick County Rustic Roads Program

*Preserving the Scenic Beauty and Heritage of Our Rural Roads*

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## What Is the Rustic Roads Program?

The **Frederick County Rustic Roads Program** is a community-driven initiative designed to recognize, preserve, and protect the scenic, historic, and cultural value of certain rural roadways across the county. These roads often represent a unique part of our heritage: narrow, lightly traveled roads surrounded by farmland, forests, and historic landscapes. (This program is a continuation of the former *Rural Roads Program*.)

The **Rustic Road Commission** was established in November 2023 by the Frederick County Council to administer the Rustic Roads Program. The commission oversees the designation and protection of the County's most historic, scenic, and unaltered rural roads.

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## Why It Matters:

- **Protects Scenic Landscape:** Rustic roads highlight the natural beauty of Frederick County's countryside.
- **Preserves Character:** Helps retain the traditional look and feel of local, rural communities.
- **Encourages Heritage Exploration:** Enhances appreciation for our rural legacy, attracting both residents & visitors to our county businesses and landmarks.
- **Supports Land Conservation:** Complements farmland and open space preservation efforts.
- **Fosters Local Pride:** Celebrates our unique rural history and community identity.

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## What Makes a Road “Rustic”?

Rustic roads are typically:

- **Narrow and lightly traveled**
- Featured **historic or scenic landscapes**
- **Tar & chip, gravel, or asphalt** surfaces
- Reflections of **traditional rural character**

*Note: Designation does NOT impact private property rights or land use.*

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## How Can a Road Be Nominated?

Anyone can suggest a road for Rustic Road designation. Here's how:

### 1. Submit a Nomination

- Fill out the **Rustic Road Nomination Form** available on the Frederick County website.
- Provide a short description, photos (if available), and reasons for the nomination.

### 2. Review Process

- Nominations are evaluated by the **Rustic Roads Commission** and reviewed for historical, cultural, and scenic significance.
- Public input is encouraged during the review process.

### 3. County Council Approval

- If approved, the road is officially designated and added to the program.

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## Learn More or Nominate a Road

Visit: [VisitFrederick.org/rustic-roads](http://VisitFrederick.org/rustic-roads)  
Contact: [RusticRoads@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:RusticRoads@frederickcountymd.gov)  
Phone: 301-600-1138

**QR CODE HERE**

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***Help Us Preserve the Character of Frederick County—One Road at a Time.***

## Rustic Roads Program FAQs

### 1. How will this designation affect my road going forward?

- The level of maintenance on a designated road by DPW will not be reduced by this designation. Major projects, such as widening, surface changes, and bridge replacements will be reviewed by the Commission at their monthly public meeting.

### 2. How do I report issues to the County about a road?

- FCG FixIt is where Frederick County residents can now report concerns. This new mobile app and web tool allows you to easily request help from various County divisions like Public Works, Planning, and Parks and Rec, right from your mobile phone (<https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/8235/FCG-FixIT>)

### 3. How can I get more information and/or get involved?

- Visit the RRP website, attend one of the Rustic Roads Commission meetings, or contact the Commission.