

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION

Community facilities and services in Shenandoah County are provided by the County, by other governmental agencies, and by private companies and organizations. County facilities and services include the County Government Center, the Court Houses and jail complex, including the Sheriff's Department, the school system, the County Recreation Park, Shenandoah County Library, solid waste management facilities, the animal shelter, the Department of Social Services, the Health Department, and the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service. Some of these services are provided in conjunction with the Commonwealth of Virginia, but housed in County offices.

The six incorporated towns provide general local government services and, in all but Toms Brook, their own police protection. In addition, they supply water and sewer facilities and services to most of the residents and businesses in the county that have public service. The Stoney Creek Sanitary District provides water and sewer service to the Basye/Bryce Resort area, and the Toms Brook-Maurertown Service Authority provides service covering an area from Toms Brook to just north of Woodstock.

These systems are described in detail as to their capacities, sources (for water), methods of treatment, and discharge points (for sewer) in the Shenandoah County Marketing Book, and are summarized in this section. The major effect of these facilities on the County's planning efforts lies in the location of the current and future service areas, and their ultimate capacities.

Private companies or organizations provide the other utilities (electricity, gas, telephone and cable), own and operate the Shenandoah Memorial Hospital in Woodstock, and provide volunteer fire and rescue services, a sheltered workshop for the handicapped, and several recreational facilities.

Dominion Virginia Power serves five of the six incorporated towns and almost half of the County. Allegheny Power serves the northern part of the County including the Town of Strasburg. The Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative--which receives power from Virginia Power's transmission system--serves the remaining portion of the County.

The Shenandoah Telecommunications Company (SHENTEL) provides the vast majority of the County with telephone and cable service. Through its subsidiary Sprint PCS, it provides cellular telephone service from a network of towers. Several other major cellular telephone providers also serve the County.

SHENTEL also has the technical capability to provide broadband data speeds in excess of one gigabit per second, which was a major factor in attracting the planned EchoStar facility to the Mt. Jackson Industrial Park in 2004. The company plans to have DSL service available to 100% of the residences and businesses in the county by the end of 2005. Current DSL service provides data speeds from 384 kilobits per second to 1.5 megabits per second, and has the capacity to provide up to 7 megabits per second. SHENTEL does not now offer a high speed fixed wireless product but is evaluating several wireless technologies to meet the future needs of its customers.

Natural gas, LP gas, fuel oil and coal are all available in Shenandoah County through a variety of distributors.

SCHOOLS

Since the fall of 1994, the Shenandoah County school system has been divided into three distinct campuses located on the north, center, and south of the County. Each campus is comprised of one elementary school, one middle school, and one high school. In September 2004 the combined enrollment of the school system was 5,869, with approximately 450 teachers.

Located in the Strasburg area, the Northern Campus consists of Sandy Hook Elementary, Signal Knob Middle, and Strasburg High School. The Central Campus contains W. W. Robinson Elementary, Peter Muhlenberg Middle and Central High School and is located in Woodstock. The Southern Campus lies halfway between Mt. Jackson and New Market, off the Shenandoah Caverns exit of I-81. It is the home of Ashby-Lee Elementary, North Fork Middle and Stonewall Jackson High School.

Triplett Business and Technical Institute in Mt. Jackson serves the vocational and technical education needs of the County's students. There are currently approximately 340 students who attend Triplett Tech for a portion of the school day, and there is capacity for about 440.

Table 7-A, page 7-3, shows the grade levels, capacity, and September 2004 enrollment at each school. Enrollment versus capacity is at its highest at the elementary schools, with the highest at Sandy Hook Elementary School which is located where the greatest growth in the County is occurring. In due course, an additional school will be needed. It should be noted, however, that there is substantial unused capacity at the middle schools and high schools at each of the campuses. As an interim measure, consideration needs to be given to reallocation of these resources.

Population projections for Shenandoah County prepared by the Planning Office estimate that there will be 43,700 citizens in the County by 2020. The State population projections prepared by the Virginia Employment Commission show that there will be a total of 43,000 citizens, which includes approximately 7,500 school-aged children (ages 5 to 18). Both of these projections are based on mathematical projections of past trends. Current development patterns suggest that these numbers may be low and will need to be adjusted upwards as the trend becomes more apparent.

Figure 7-A Community Facilities, on page 7-7, shows the location of the public schools in Shenandoah County.

TABLE 7-A
SHENANDOAH COUNTY SCHOOLS
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

<u>School</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Capacity*</u>
Northern Campus:			
Sandy Hook	K – 5	920	1,156
Signal Knob	6 – 8	455	866
Strasburg	9 – 12	<u>579</u>	<u>1,016</u>
Campus Total:		1,954	3,038
Central Campus:			
W. W. Robinson	K – 5	1,038	1,458
Muhlenberg	6 – 8	573	1,104
Central	9 – 12	<u>734</u>	<u>1,136</u>
Campus Total:		2,345	3,698
Southern Campus:			
Ashby – Lee	K – 5	671	1,041
North Fork	6 – 8	402	828
Stonewall	9 – 12	<u>497</u>	<u>939</u>
Campus Total:		1,570	2,808
TOTAL		5,869**	9,544

* Based on a class size of 23.

** Student enrollment growth has averaged 2.0% per year since the 2000 Census.

Source: Shenandoah County School Board, January 2005.

All of the public schools in the County are fully accredited by the State of Virginia, and the pass/fail rates on the Standards of Learning examinations are competitive with the state averages. As the County shifts toward new businesses which require a more highly educated workforce, more emphasis will be focused on the preparation of high school students to advance to four year college programs. In this regard, the academic competitiveness of the County's high schools needs to be evaluated. Table 7B compares the County's high schools with the state average for three relevant parameters: pupil/teaching position ratios, SAT scores, and advanced studies diplomas. In all cases, the County schools lag the state averages. In addition, the current annual per pupil expenditure (grades K-12) in Shenandoah County is over \$1,200 less than the state average (\$6,910 vs \$8,186), suggesting that there is a relationship among expenditures per child, pupil/teacher ratios, and student performance.

TABLE 7B
COMPARISON OF SHENANDOAH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STATE OF VIRGINIA AVERAGES

	<u>Shenandoah County</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
Pupil/Teaching Position Ratio (8-12)	14.4	11.3
SAT Scores (Class of 2004)	983	1024
Advanced Studies Diplomas (2004)	40%	46%

In addition to the public schools, there are four private schools in the County. In New Market, the Shenandoah Valley Christian Academy offers enrollment for kindergarten through grade 12. Valley Baptist School near Edinburg also offers kindergarten through grade 12 and Community Christian School, located north of Woodstock, has classes for pre-school through grade 4. Massanutten Military Academy in Woodstock offers grades 6 to 12. Together, these private schools served about 690 children as of May 2004, with 261 being from Shenandoah County.

Some families home-school their children. As of the 2003-2004 school year, there were 164 children being educated at home. There were also approximately 120 school aged children who had obtained a "Religious Exemption" from attending public schools.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

A college education is available at many locations close to Shenandoah County. A partial listing of nearby colleges and universities and others which serve the entire state follows:

Bridgewater College	Bridgewater, VA 22812
Christendom College	Front Royal, VA 22630
Eastern Mennonite College	Harrisonburg, VA 22801
George Mason University	Fairfax, VA 22030
James Madison University	Harrisonburg, VA 22807
Lord Fairfax Community College	Middletown, VA 22645
Mary Washington College	Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Shenandoah University	Winchester, VA 22601
University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA 22903
Virginia Military Institute	Lexington, VA 24450
Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, VA 24061

LIBRARIES

There are seven libraries serving Shenandoah County. The Shenandoah County Library System consists of the County Library in Edinburg, the Basye/Orkney Springs station, and community libraries in Strasburg, Fort Valley, Mount Jackson and New Market. The County Library's Shenandoah Room provides a local history and genealogy collection and archive. An independent library is located in Woodstock.

The County Library system has a collection of over 95,000 cataloged items, including videos, DVDs, audios and periodicals. The system has a fully integrated automation system and offers access to an array of electronic resources. Internet access is available at all locations in the system, with over 30 public access workstations.

The County Library has six full time and four part time employees. Volunteers staff the other libraries. The Shenandoah County Library Foundation supports the County Library system with a Book Endowment Fund, annual fund drives, and capital drives. In 2003-2004 the County Library received \$109,000 in State Aid for the system's materials budget.

The State Library Board recommends 2 to 4 books per capita for libraries. Shenandoah County had a population of 35,075 according to the 2000 Census, and the County Library contains over 57,000 volumes, or 1.6 items per capita. However, the County Library's collection at Edinburg only represents 61 percent of the volumes in the system's collection that currently has 2.7 items per capita. Patrons can place holds from home on books anywhere in the system and have them delivered to the location of their choice.

All of the libraries are shown on Figure 7-A Community Facilities on the next page.

INSERT COMMUNITY FACILITIES MAP HERE
FIGURE 7-A

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Shenandoah County has numerous parks and recreation facilities which offer a wide range of activities for people of all ages. These facilities are owned and operated by a range of agencies and organizations including Shenandoah County, several towns, recreational associations, and private companies. Figure 7-B on the next page shows parks and recreation facilities

The Shenandoah County Recreation Park is located between Toms Brook and Maurertown. It contains picnic shelters, ball fields (two softball and one baseball), a playground, volleyball court, tennis courts, basketball court, horse shoe area, and a concession stand with rest rooms.

Edinburg, Mt. Jackson, New Market, Strasburg, and Woodstock each have town parks. The old Madison District Park was deeded to the Town of Edinburg by the County in 2003. It has a pool, playground, two tennis courts with lights and three picnic shelters. The Town is planning to construct a walking trail and continue to improve the existing facilities.

Mt. Jackson's park contains a swimming pool, tennis courts, a baseball field, basketball courts, a playground, and a picnic shelter. The Town also has a fishing area along Mill Creek and is developing a downtown festival park in conjunction with its new Visitors Center/Town Hall project.

New Market's park has a swimming pool, a bath house with showers, a basketball court, five tennis courts, a softball field, a little league baseball field, playground equipment, a fitness/walking trail, a gazebo, six picnic shelters, a soccer field, one large barbeque pit, two horseshoe courts, a skate park, four parking lots and public restrooms.

Strasburg's town park includes a swimming pool, walking trail, playground, picnic shelters, basketball courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer fields, and a boat ramp access to the Shenandoah River. The Town's Riverfront Park Master Plan proposes to create a multi-purpose trail approximately 0.9 mile long that will link the town park with additional land recently purchased along the river and the Strasburg High School and the environmental center.

Woodstock's park has a pool, playground, volleyball courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, picnic shelters, a baseball diamond, and an all-purpose field.

A total of 220 acres of local public park land is located throughout County. In addition, the County has purchased the 151.375 acre Keister tract of land, east of Strasburg, to be developed as an additional park facility. Recreation areas are also located each of at the County's schools.

The North Fork of the Shenandoah River and the County's other waterways provide residents and tourists with many opportunities for boating, canoeing, swimming, and fishing. In addition to public recreational facilities, Shenandoah County has a number of privately owned and operated recreational activities that are open to the public. These include two golf courses, driving ranges, miniature golf, skiing and snow tubing, horseback riding, bowling alleys, swimming, lake sports, museums and caverns.

INSERT PARKS & RECREATION MAP HERE
FIGURE 7-B

The George Washington National Forest, contains 77,681 acres of forest in the County, offers hiking trails, ATV trails, campgrounds, and picnic areas, along with hunting and fishing, for both residents and tourists. There is also a newly-created Cedar Creek National Historical Park located at the northern edge of the County and extending into Warren and Frederick counties. There is a plan to develop a new State park east of Woodstock along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. Creation of a series of greenways and trails to link these facilities is a new plan objective.

The Virginia Department of Forestry is still in the process of receiving final land donations for the Devil's Backbone State Forest (DBSF). Located in the northwestern portion of the county in the Cedar Creek valley, it is presently 400 acres in size. The future estimated size of the DBSF will be approximately 900 acres. The main goals for this State Forest is conservation education, forest research--concentrating mainly on the reestablishment of the American Chestnut in Shenandoah County, and passive outdoor recreation such as hiking, birdwatching and nature study.

The Parks & Recreation Departments's Master Indoor/Outdoor Recreation Plan for the County was adopted in 2000. Its overall goal is to "Provide a range of high quality indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and activities that meet the expressed needs of all County citizens." Major recommendations include: working with the School Board to develop and manage joint-use facilities; rehabilitation and expansion of the County Park at Maurertown; addition of walking/biking trails to all parks; provision of additional boat access sites along the North Fork; acquisition and development of a new park with river access; meet the needs for indoor wellness and fitness activities and sports; and meet the needs for arts performance and instruction.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Whether as student, artist or member of an audience, Shenandoah County provides opportunity for community participation in the visual and performing arts. The Shenandoah County Department of Recreation and private art organizations such as VECCA and the Arts Group offer classes in the visual and performing arts. The Shenandoah Valley Music Festival, Masterworks Chorus and Shenandoah Theater offer performances throughout the year. Masterworks Chorus and Shenandoah Theater are composed of local musicians and actors while the Music Festival brings nationally known musicians to the county.

A facility to support the activities of these groups is needed. The Master Indoor/Outdoor Recreation Plan for the County, referenced above, specifically addresses the need for arts performance and instruction in the community. It calls for renovating the Edinburg School for "art exhibits and art/music/dance classes." Renovating "the existing gym into a multi-purpose small theater" is also recommended. Shenandoah County, at present, does not have an adequate performing arts space. A theater with raked seating for the audience and appropriate sound and lighting systems is needed. Practice spaces, classroom space and a gallery for the display of artwork are additional needs. A feasibility study outlining three options for renovating the Edinburg School to create a cultural arts center was prepared December 4, 2003, and has been presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Four categories of law enforcement agencies serve Shenandoah County citizens. The towns of Edinburg, Mt. Jackson, New Market, Strasburg, and Woodstock all have their own Police Departments. Central dispatch for the County is located in the County Government Center.

The Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department, headquartered in Woodstock, has jurisdiction in the Towns as well as the County, but concentrates on providing protection in the rural areas. It also provides court-related services at the Court House and staffs the jail.

The Virginia State Police has State-wide law enforcement powers. Shenandoah County is covered by troopers working out of the Page County office in Luray.

The Virginia Department of Forestry has two, full-time forest wardens living within the County. This State agency provides forest and open land fire protection on all private land holdings within Shenandoah County. The VDF also assists the U.S. Forest Service with fires occurring on national forest lands. The VDF responds to all forest and field fires and assists the county volunteer fire departments with the suppression of these fires. A dozer-fireplow unit and a Hummer fire engine are stationed at the VDF office in Woodstock. VDF forest wardens are responsible for the investigation of all forest and open land fires, and the pursuit of legal action towards the responsible parties as is warranted.

There is a serious overcrowding problem at the court house complex and the jail facility at the present time. A comprehensive study is now taking place concerning how to enhance the court facilities at this downtown complex, and also how best utilize other County-owned facilities to enhance law enforcement activities. A long-term solution is needed to create new space for the court and Sheriff's Office facilities.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Shenandoah County has ten volunteer fire departments with a total of about 300 volunteers. These companies cover most of Shenandoah County and a portion of Rockingham County. One company from Frederick County, (Company 17 in Star Tannery), covers the northwest portion of Shenandoah County.

The Shenandoah County Department of Fire and Rescue was formed in 1999. It now has a full-time staff of five, including the Fire & Rescue Coordinator, the Fire Prevention Officer, two Paramedics/Firefighters and the Department Secretary. In addition there are six part-time employees, consisting of five Paramedics/Firefighters and an Emergency Services Planner.

Currently, the Department's vehicles include: two ALS (Advanced Life Support) vehicles, a fire prevention vehicle, the Fire & Rescue Coordinator's vehicle, a Hazmat Trailer, an ATV and a "Serv" vehicle (a utility vehicle that can haul personnel or equipment).

The County's fire volunteer fire companies and their major equipment are listed below in Table 7-C.

TABLE 7-C
SHENANDOAH COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENTS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
Co. 9	Toms Brook Equipment: Attack, Engine, Serv, Wagon
Co. 12	Woodstock Equipment: Engine, Pumper, Truck, Wagon, Brush
Co. 13	Conicville Equipment: Attack, Brush, Mobile, Pumper, Serv, Tanker, Wagon
Co. 14	Fort Valley Equipment: Mobile, Mini, Pumper, Tanker, Wagon
Co. 15	Edinburg Equipment: Brush, Engine, Pumper
Co. 17	Star Tannery Equipment: Brush, Mobile, Serv, Tankers, Wagons
Co. 18	Orkney Springs Equipment: Brush, Mobile, 2 Tankers, 2 Wagons
Co. 20	Mt. Jackson Equipment: Attack, Engine, Mobile, Pumper, Squad, Tower, Tanker, Wagon
Co. 23	New Market Equipment: Brush, 3 Engines, Squad, Truck, Serv
Co. 51	Strasburg Equipment: Brush, Boat, Engine, Pumper, Squad, Serv, Truck, Wagon

Source: Shenandoah County Department of Fire & Rescue, 2004.

Six volunteer rescue squads are currently operating in Shenandoah County. One squad is located in the each of the towns of Mt. Jackson, New Market, Strasburg and Woodstock, one is at Orkney Springs and one is in Fort Valley. In addition, one Rescue squad from Rockingham County (Broadway Rescue Squad) provides emergency services to the Southwestern portion of the County.

The six Rescue Squads and their major equipment are listed below in Table 7-D.

TABLE 7-D
SHENANDOAH COUNTY RESCUE SQUADS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
Co. 5 Equipment:	Woodstock Rescue Squad 3 Ambulances, Mobile, Squad, Tac
Co. 5-FV Equipment:	Fort Valley - Substation Ambulance, Boat
Co. 19 Equipment:	New Market Rescue Squad 3 Ambulances, Serv, Utility
Co. 21 Equipment:	Mt. Jackson Rescue Squad 2 Ambulances, Utility Truck, Crash Truck & Boat
Co. 21 Equipment:	Orkney Springs 2 Ambulances, Utility Truck & Boat
Co. 25 Equipment:	Strasburg Rescue Squad 4 Ambulances, Crash Truck Mass Casualty Unit, 4-Wheel Drive Vehicle & Boat

Source: Shenandoah County Department of Fire & Rescue, 2004.

Figure 7-C on the following page shows the location and service areas covered by the Fire and Rescue Departments. While all of the County has fire and rescue service, it is apparent that the remote areas of the County are harder to serve. This factor should be considered for future residential development decisions.

INSERT MAP OF EMERGENCY FACILITIES
FIGURE 7-C

The County is served by an Enhanced 911 emergency service dispatching system that is funded by a small surcharge on phone lines. This system provides location information for the source of emergency calls, and additional capabilities for the dispatchers handling those calls. A computer-aided dispatch system is now being implemented to further enhance the system.

As a policy issue, the County must address the growing population and traffic on I-81 and local roads, and the attendant growth in need for emergency services. The ability of all-volunteer units to meet all of these needs has been called into question. The ultimate solution is probably a blend of paid staff and volunteers, the exact mix to be determined by the jurisdictions involved.

WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES

The Towns of Edinburg, Mt. Jackson, New Market, Strasburg, and Woodstock all have their own public systems; the Toms Brook-Maurertown area and the Basye/Bryce Mountain area are served by the Toms Brook-Maurertown Sanitary District and the Stoney Creek Sanitary District respectively. Each system is described below; gallons per day is expressed as "gpd."

Edinburg - The Town primarily serves the area within its corporate boundaries. Water is also provided to the Cave Springs Subdivision, located in the County off State Route 698, and water and sewer service is provided to the Edinburg Manor Subdivision off Route 675. Construction began in late 2003 to allow for sewer service to the Massanutten View Subdivision, located in the County of the west side of Interstate 81.

The Town also provides water and/or sewer to a number of homes and businesses adjacent to the Town limits. Water is provided by two wells with a Memcor Microfiltration Treatment Plant that was put on line in 1998. Plant capacity is 225,000 gpd, with average usage of 140,000 gpd. The Town has water storage capacity of 800,000 gallons. The Town's wastewater treatment plant was upgraded in 1988 and has a rated capacity of 175,000 gpd with average flows of 95,000 gpd. The Town has corrected a number of infiltration and inflow problems in recent years and continues to locate and correct these problems. There is very little undeveloped industrial zoned land within the Town. What there is belongs to ShenTel, who is not historically a large water user. The Town feels that future growth will be residential and light commercial within the Town's boundaries. All out of Town water and sewer hookups require the Town Council's approval and will be studied thoroughly as to their impact on the available capacities.

Mt. Jackson - The town completed an engineering study on the water system in 2000. As a result there have been nearly \$3 million in improvements made to the system. The town now has 5 wells, any one of which can carry the town's daily (2004) needs, and a total pumping capacity in excess of 900,000 gallons per day. There are more than 24 miles of pipes ranging in size from 2 inches to 12 inches. The larger pipes form an interconnection between the town's three 500,000 gallon water tanks (Caverns, Mountain near Fleming Park, and elevated on Dutch Lane). Pressures are now uniform at approximately 80 PSI, and fire flow in all areas is excellent. The system is also interconnected with the additional storage and high production wells at Bowman Apple Products to provide mutual back-up in the event of emergency.

As part of that study the engineers also determined the practical future service area for the system. From those determinations a map was drawn and an annexation agreement with the county was negotiated. The “study” area in that agreement is the area that can be served and which can be annexed by the town as necessary in the future by ordinances.

The town and county also have an agreement that will close the town’s old 200,000 gallons/day sewer plant that is currently operating at an average about 85 percent of capacity (170,000 gallons/day) and replace it with a new 650,000 gallons/day plant that will be capable of handling the sewage loads from both the town’s residential and business uses and the County industrial park.

New Market - New Market completed the construction of a 500,000 gpd secondary wastewater treatment plant and put it on line in 1990. The current average flow is approximately 528,000 gpd, some of which is due to infiltration and inflow (I & I) problems. A major sewer system upgrade to reduce those I & I problems is now in process, beginning in the spring of 2004. The Town's water treatment plant has a 850,000 gpd continuous capacity, and there is 500,000 gallon storage capacity. The 2002 average usage was 488,000 gpd.

The Town has had strict policies on new connections to its systems for years. All water or sewer hookups outside of the corporate limits must have Council's approval. In addition, the connection fees are double for out of town service. The town does not feel it is in a position to finance the extension of its lines; any businesses or persons wanting service would have to pay the cost of any necessary extensions.

Strasburg - Preliminary engineering plans have been submitted for the Town’s new water treatment plant that will increase capacity from 1,000,000 gpd to 4,000,000 gpd. The Town has also started an engineering study of its 975,000 gpd wastewater treatment plant for an upgrade to 3,500,000 gpd. Both additions to the Town’s utility department are anticipated to be completed by 2007. Current average flows at the plants are 715,000 gpd (water) and 890,000 gpd (sewer). Future service areas include the Shenandoah County Business/Industrial Park and areas identified as Annexation Area B in the Town's annexation study. There is a 40 percent premium on extensions of utilities outside of Town limits.

Woodstock - The town has defined a future service area for its water and sewer facilities which is defined as the town’s Urban Growth Area. Current policy is to extend utilities only to those property owners who are willing to become a part of the Town through a boundary adjustment agreement with the County. Permitted capacity is 1.8 million gpd for the water system with an average flow of 700,000 gpd, and 1 million gpd for the sewage system with an average daily flow of 500,000 gpd.

Toms Brook-Maurertown Sanitary District - This system provides water and sewer services to the Town of Toms Brook, the unincorporated community of Maurertown, and the surrounding area from the Toms Brook interchange at I-81 south to the Town of Woodstock. Total permitted capacity is 170,000 gpd for the water system which pumps an average of 95,000 gpd, and 189,000 gpd for the sewage system which has an average flow of 110,000 gpd. The District is governed by the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors.

Stony Creek Sanitary District - Water and sewer service is provided primarily to the Bryce Mountain resort area and a few additional properties which contract for service by this utility system. There are no plans to provide additional service outside of the designated service area. The District relies solely on ground water for its source. Currently, the permitted capacity of the water system is 368,000 gpd, and approximately 150,000 gpd are pumped. The sewer system's permitted capacity is 600,000 gpd (at secondary treatment), with an average flow of 350,000. The District is governed by the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors.

North Fork Wastewater Treatment Facility - The North Fork Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (NFRWWTP) is located at 850 Aileen Road, between Woodstock and Edinburg. The activated sludge treatment facility was acquired by the County in 1998. The current operating permit has treatment capacity of 100,000 gpd, and future potential capacity of up to 750,000 gpd. The plant currently provides treatment for leachate from the County landfill and biosolids from local municipal facilities. Biosolids are eventually dewatered by means of a filter press prior to disposal. It is further intended that County septage wastes may be treated at the NFRWWTP in the future, as well as sanitary sewer from surrounding areas in the vicinity of the plant as needed and as collection lines are installed.

Based on the above information, current and potential future public water and sewer service areas are illustrated in Figure 7-D, Public Service Areas on page 7-18. The service areas for the Town of Strasburg and for the Town of Mt. Jackson are covered by annexation agreements, and therefore accurately represents potential future growth areas for the towns. This is not the case with the other towns. Individual annexation agreements or Urban Area Plans should be developed between the County and the Towns of Edinburg, New Market and Woodstock to define specific future growth areas for each.

INSERT FIGURE 7-D HERE
PUBLIC SERVICE AREAS

SOLID WASTE FACILITIES

The six incorporated towns within Shenandoah County provide refuse collection services to their residents. Woodstock utilizes its own crews and equipment, while the other towns contract these for services with private firms via periodic bids.

The County provides fourteen convenience center drop-off sites for its residents to deposit their trash. The sites are located so as to provide minimal travel distances to all citizens. The County services these sites utilizing its own employees and equipment. These sites are open continuously, and County service to the sites is done on a seven-day per week basis. Several of the drop-off sites do not have compactor capability and need to be upgraded to this configuration. All fourteen sites also have specialized containers in place for the collection of recyclables. In addition, recycling-only containers are located in four of the towns, for a total of eighteen recycling locations.

The County operates a permitted, modern lined landfill on a 214 acre site off US 11 between Woodstock and Edinburg. Recently, the first portion of an expansion section was opened which, with growth allowances, is projected to provide thirty three years of capacity from its opening in mid-2003. This newest landfill section is the third portion of the property to be used for refuse burial; the initial section was opened in 1972, and a second section was started in 1988. These first two disposal areas are now closed. Environmental monitoring has been conducted on the property since 1994.

Recycling forms a substantial part in the County's solid waste program, which was begun in 1992 and received added focus in 1994 when a sizeable barn on the landfill property was converted by County employees into a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for sorting and packaging of recycled materials. The volume of items processed has grown from 2.5 million pounds in 1994 to 5.5 million pounds during 2003. Initially the program included plastics, glass, metals, wood wastes, and paper. Over time, scrap tires, computers and electronics, waste oils and antifreeze, household hazardous wastes (chemicals), and vehicle batteries have been included in the program.

Shenandoah County is also very active in regional solid waste cooperative programs, plus planning and reporting activities are done as a regional group. Cooperative efforts include the Regional Tire Operations Program (RTOP) which converts scrap tires into a useful shredded materials, and sharing our MRF with neighboring localities. Warren County, Front Royal, and Shenandoah National Park bring recyclables to us via cooperative agreements which provide mutual benefit. Most recently, money has been allocated via local contributions and grant funds for the purchase of a glass pulverizer which will be shared regionally.

The County's landfill and existing recycling centers are shown on the Community Facilities Map (Figure 7-A), page 7-7.

SUMMARY

Adequate public services and facilities are required to serve community needs. Public service areas have been delineated around the towns to serve the major development needs in an efficient manner.

Future facilities and services that are needed to support development will also require participation by the developer(s) in their financing.

It is a County objective to improve the County's school facilities and curriculum. Within the last several years major improvements and additions have been made to all elementary, middle and high schools. With the County's school-age population increasing at an accelerated rate, particularly in the northern portion of the County, new school construction may be required during the early years of this Plan.

The County also promotes adequate recreational facilities for citizens of all ages. The approved Master Indoor/Outdoor Recreation Plan needs to be fully implemented. Included in that plan is a provision for a county-wide wellness center.

The capability for fire and rescue service dispatching and response was met by the enhanced 911 emergency dispatch system that has been implemented, and also by the creation of the Department of Fire and Rescue, which has coordinates emergency response throughout the County.

The County complies with all state and federal requirements for the disposal of solid waste. It also actively promotes recycling and waste-minimization efforts, and has a county-wide recycling program in cooperation with the towns and some adjacent counties. It also promotes regional cooperation on solid waste disposal issues by participating in regional solid waste planning, waste tire recycling, and is investigating other cooperative measures to reduce the waste flow to landfills.

Capital projects are implemented through a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for expanded services and physical facilities that is reviewed and updated annually as part of the budget process. All other county service agencies and towns are also encouraged to have capital improvement programs

The provision of adequate public facilities requires foresight, planning, and coordination. It is essential that the several communities within Shenandoah County and all of the agencies, authorities, public service districts and other organizations providing services work with the County to provide facilities where needed, to guide development to desired locations, and to protect natural areas from encroachment.