Pearson Road Denton, Maryland



Client Pearson Road Development, LLC

Dates July 2006-2009

Program

30 Acres One village 119 Units Community Center

Relevance

Sustainable Development Transect-based Design New Urbanism Town Growth

Services

Urban Design Town Planning Project Team Sourcing Project Graphics

Team

MASTER PLANNER John Moynahan UDP ENGINEER RETTEW Associates, Inc.

Project Challenge

Small towns and villages on the mostly agricultural Eastern Shore of Maryland have developed traditionally over time. Development in the past fifty years however has changed much of this built landscape near these towns into generic and homogenous 'noplaces' devoid of character, place, and dignity that also add substantial pollutants to increasing quantities of runoff. Thirty acres in the Town of Denton will be developed using principles of sustainable design, Smart Growth and traditional neighborhood design, as well as best management practices in stormwater and low impact design.

Project Description

The Master Plan for Pearson Road initially recognizes the site's environmental constraints, namely wetland and a small pond, large trees, and three hydrologic sub-areas. Site stormwater storage, pedestrain and vehicular circulation and off-site connections were determined based on the constraints mentioned above. A mostly residential development program consisting of detached single family homes, duplexes and town homes were located in varying transect zones across the site. This ensured the Town, builder, and client of a predictable outcome. The developer was interested in a form of development that would possitively impact the Chesapeake Bay watershed, serves as a model for future growth and in fact, was surprised to learn the costs for this infrastructure is cheaper than if built conventionally with drains, pipe and ponds.

Value Added

The team's ability to identify and incorporate existing site assets such as wetland and major trees into a workable and realistic plan allowed Pearson Road Develpment to avoid costly stormwater and forestation costs, and provide to the Town a place that is consistent with Denton's character and history. Finally, the Chesapeake Bay benefits from a nearby village able to minimize its stormwater runoff.

Pearson Road Denton, Maryland



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Site topography and three hydrologic areas (above) determine the neighborhood layout (below).



Typical Street Scene shows major trees retained as assets in the neighborhood.



Aerial of town homes fronting onto green, which serves as a storm water facility.

