

Accommodation & Inclusion Services



Inclusion Guidelines

St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks is a strong advocate for people of all ability levels. The Department promotes and protects the rights and choices of individuals and believes that every individual, regardless of ability level, is deserving of satisfying recreational and leisure activities. The Department is pleased to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations and makes every effort to insure that facilities, programs and services are accessible for all.

How to request Accommodations

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to register for general recreation programs. With your registration, please include information regarding your disability and accommodation needed. A two-week notice is required in order for the Department to make reasonable accommodations based on individual needs for successful inclusion. All participants requesting accommodations will be asked to complete a [Participant Profile](#) to provide staff with critical information needed to be prepared for accommodation needs.

Inclusion Consultation Services

Are you or your loved one looking at registering for a program with Recreation and Parks and need accommodations to participate? If so, we encourage you to contact the Therapeutic Recreation Services section and schedule an appointment to discuss your desires and needs. Let our specialized staff help you choose the program most suited for you and your personal goals and needs.

Consultation services are available for any Recreation and Parks program; however, are highly encouraged for summer camp options. Each program and camp offer unique advantages and we can help you pick the program that would by its nature and structure accommodate the personal needs the best!

All individuals requesting inclusion services will be asked to complete a participant profile. The information gained from this form and your personal consultation will be used to provide the most successful inclusive experience possible.

To schedule a meeting contact:
Contact us at 301-475-4200 ext. 1806

Minimum Requirements for Successful Inclusion

The basic eligibility requirements for all programs, camps, classes and events are listed below. These basic requirements apply to all participants, regardless of ability level. There may be additional requirements for each program, camp or class.

- The capacity for each program is based on ratio and logistics. If the maximum enrollment for a program has been met, a participant may be unable to enroll or placed on a wait list.
- Payment is due upon registration. Payments must be received before admission into any program.
- All participants are required to follow the rules of conduct in the parent handbook. An individual with a disability may be removed from a program if after interventions and accommodations their behavior is a direct threat to others.
- Must be able to maintain personal care without support of R&P staff or volunteers.

- Participants should meet the prerequisite age/ skills for the class or program (if required for participation)
- Participant should be willing to participate and actively participate in the program the majority of the time.
- Ability to function with or without assistance as a member of a larger group (10 or more people)

ADA Complaints

Any citizen with an accessibility or discrimination concern in one of St. Mary's County programs or services are encouraged to contact Crystal Haislip, Therapeutic Recreation Coordinator for resolution: crystal.haislip@stmaryscountymd.gov or by calling 301-475-4200 ext. 1806.

Any citizen with an accessibility or discrimination concern in one of St. Mary's County parks or facilities are encouraged to contact Christina Bishop, Project Manager for resolution: christina.bishop@stmaryscountymd.gov or by calling 301-475-4200 ext. 1811.

Those that wish to file a formal complaint can do so through St. Mary's County Governments ADA Grievance Procedure. Please submit complaints regarding access or discrimination in writing, using the County Grievance Form to the ADA Coordinator no later than 60 days after the alleged violation. The ADA Coordinator will keep a record of all complaints and action taken. www.stmaryscountymd.gov/AmericanDisabilities/adacoordinator

St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks ADA Transition & Site Analysis Plan

www.stmaryscountymd.gov/docs/adatransitionplan.pdf