Located northwest of Washington DC, this new park is ideally sited in the center of a largely residential area which is underserved by public recreation facilities. The Glenstone Museum of Art is located a short distance away to the southwest.
Park facilities were sensitively sited and designed to preserve over 16 acres of existing forest including an unnamed tributary to the Watts Branch which flows to the Potomac River. Re-created meadow surrounds an accessible half-mile looped trail, providing a natural transition from manmade land to undisturbed forest. An “Adventure Walk” playfully leads park users to the themed children’s play areas and stone picnic pavilion. Accessible trails and walks connect all areas.

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A low footbridge leads from the parking area through a rustic stone and wood pergola creating a strong sense of entry to the looped trail system and active recreation facilities, including a regulation soccer field with amended native soil as well as basketball and volleyball courts. Strategically placed stone boulder seats along the trail provide places to sit, rest and enjoy the views.

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A swale planted with a grove of water-loving Betula nigra 'Dura heat', Carex elata and Iris versicolor captures stormwater runoff from the parking lot and creates a strong entry to the park with areas for seating and waiting after soccer games.
(Upper Left to right) 1-A trail leads park users through the entry pergola. 2-Low footbridge utilizing incised (non-slip) Douglas Fir decking spans entry swale reinforcing strong sense of entry to park. 3-Beautiful stone masonry craftsmanship utilizing local, Montgomery County Carderock stone. Facilities were intentionally sited to capture and frame views.
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(Top Left to Bottom Right) 1&2- Natural grass regulation-size soccer field with specially designed amended native soil to promote deep rooting in area without access to public water. 3-View of trail with meadow, forest and stone boulder bench. 4-Park patrons enjoying new basketball court. 5-Grass volleyball court.
View along “Adventure Walk” to interpretive playground; exposed aggregate paving with round glass “rain drop” pavers, Shenandoah, Pennsylvania and Carderock mountain boulders, grass mound, and insets of bluestone paving. Interpretive signage and arches designed by Landscape Architect each announcing “From Streams”, “Into Rivers”, “To the Bay” reinforce the “Journey of a Raindrop”, allowing users to playfully discover movement of water through our watershed.
The 5-12 year-old play area represents the Piedmont plateau. A custom designed play structure “Piedmont Play Fort” is accessed from the Adventure Walk via a wooden bridge, providing full access. The specially fabricated bridge rail in bright green is an abstraction of grass blades. Patterns in the poured-in-place safety surfacing along with a play mound represent the geography of the Piedmont plateau.
The play fort provides children of all abilities a sensory and educational experience mixed with a lot of fun. The tower tree house challenges kids to climb to the highest point in the park to enjoy views to the Potomac River. Encircling concrete seat walls, boulders and native plantings create enclosure while providing maximum safety and visibility.
The 2-5 year-old play area represents the Chesapeake Bay. A custom designed “Chesapeake Crab Boat” provides a variety of engaging activities, including a solar-powered “Sounds of the Chesapeake” interactive panel. Safety surfacing playfully recalls a sandy beach, dunes, and ocean waves with a school of Rockfish spring riders. Logs on the beach, a terrapin turtle and crab crates add to the play experience.

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A rustic stone set of stairs provides a direct route from the play area to the beginning of the Adventure Walk. Masses of native ornamental grasses, sweet bay magnolias, red maples, red oaks and swamp white oaks create enclosure and habitat. All plant material was custom grown in the park agency’s nursery.
Envisioned by Landscape Architects in collaboration with architects, a rustic stone picnic pavilion is located between two play areas providing a central gathering spot. A bluestone terrace and overlook promotes views of preserved forest. Seating sized for both children and adults provides universal seating opportunities.
Designed by Landscape Architect, three interpretive signs at key locations along the Adventure Walk and each play area educate children about the geography, watershed and habitat of the region. A sound and graphic panel highlights wildlife of the Chesapeake Bay. Meadow restoration signage educates the public and maintenance staff about environmental management.

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Stormwater management areas planted with a mix of native grasses are sensitively located along the Adventure Walk and play area, providing both environmental and aesthetic value.
Designed and built with a sustainable mission while respecting the rustic character of the surrounding rural area, Greenbriar Park promotes a healthy lifestyle for people of all ages and abilities and provides a variety of opportunities for park patrons to learn about the importance of protecting our watershed and environment while having fun!