

It has been the position of the Property Owners' Association of Deep Creek Lake for many years that zoning should be extended throughout the county, and the recent debate over wind turbines makes that need more readily apparent. After the State, at the behest of wind turbine developers, abandoned any effective regulation of the siting of wind turbines in 2007, the only meaningful regulation of these devices has been through local land use regulation. Of all of Maryland's 23 counties, Garrett County, and only Garrett County, has no county wide zoning. Zoning ordinances are not all the same. What they regulate and how they regulate it is a matter for local decision-making. The county could adopt a fairly lenient zoning ordinance, yet accomplish much in the process.