

Acknowledgements:

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission would like to express its deep appreciation to all of the residents, workers, businesspersons, and community officials of the Town of Edinburg and Shenandoah County who contributed their time and knowledge to the development of the Town of Edinburg Comprehensive Plan.

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General Thanks: NSVRC and the Town of Edinburg would like to publicly thank the Virginia Employment Commission, The Weldon Cooper Center at UVA and all of those who were not mentioned but played a key role in this joint effort to finish this Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Edinburg.

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INTRODUCTION

The Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Edinburg is part of a continuing planning program for the Town. The purpose of this Town Plan is to serve as a guiding vision for the future development of Edinburg and the immediate surrounding area and to outline a concise statement of the policies and actions for implementing the Town's vision and goals.

The Town sought out the resources of the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, formerly the Lord Fairfax Planning District Commission, to implement planning strategies for this Comprehensive Plan. Through the process of meetings with officials at the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, we have achieved the goal of completing this Comprehensive Plan.

The Plan examines past growth and development, and presents current data on transportation, population, housing, land use, and community facilities. Data is presented for both the Town and surrounding annexation areas, where applicable. General goals and objectives were developed and are presented in a separate chapter as well as at the beginning of each goal area. Specific implementation measures for the first five-year period are included throughout the chapters as well as planned long-term goals.

The Town Plan was developed in accordance with Chapter 15.1 of the Code of Virginia, which requires the following:

“The local commission shall prepare and recommend a comprehensive plan for the physical development of territory within its jurisdiction.”

“Every governing body in this Commonwealth shall adopt a comprehensive plan for the territory under its jurisdiction...”, and

“At least once every five years the comprehensive plan shall be reviewed by the local commission to determine whether it is advisable to amend the plan.”

To assist in the implementation of the five-year review, the Town Plan has been formatted with each chapter numbered in sequence that will allow individual updates without requiring changes throughout the plan.

The implementation sections of the plan should be reviewed as part of the annual budgeting process of the Town.

After the Planning Commission meetings and public hearings held by the Planning Commission and Town Council, this plan was adopted by the Town Council on:

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

The Importance of a Comprehensive Plan

Planning is a process of formulating goals, objectives and the strategies necessary to achieve them. Planning is a major component of corporate management and no less important for local government. The Comprehensive Plan is valuable to the government as an organization, to its citizens and to the private sector. It is an official statement of the Town Council that describes a vision of Edinburg's future and allows the Council and Planning Commission to coordinate their policies and actions to guide town development.



Major Purposes of the Plan

- Provide a guide for many public and private decisions that create the future of Edinburg;
- Promote the interests of citizens at-large rather than those of individuals or special groups;
- Identify Edinburg's goals, especially those that relate to physical development and to economic development;
- Enhance the town's physical environment;
- Identify decisions concerning Edinburg's future development that have been made by local residents, state, and county agencies, or by the Town Council;
- Develop a coordinated, well-planned system of public services and utilities;
- Assist in the evaluation of short-term actions against long-term goals; and
- Fulfill the legal requirements of Chapter 15.2-2223 of the Code of Virginia, which requires the following:

“The local commission shall prepare and recommend a comprehensive plan for the physical development of territory within its jurisdiction”

“Every governing body in this Commonwealth shall adopt a comprehensive plan for the territory under its jurisdiction...” and

“At least once every five years the comprehensive plan shall be reviewed by the local commission to determine whether it is advisable to amend the plan.”

Planning is a difficult process that balances the public interest with private property rights; however, the plan must be more than a listing of each property owner's wishes. A good plan identifies problems and conflicts and is almost always controversial. The plan considers all actions affecting development,

including utilities, transportation, public facilities, economic development, appearance, public finance and the environment.

Vision of Edinburg's Future

The Town Plan is guided by a vision of a future Edinburg that includes:

- A Historic District that is protected from adverse changes and with new and rehabilitative construction throughout the town that is compatible and sensitive to Edinburg's historic character and that contributes to the aesthetic quality of the community.
- A high quality of life which includes healthy residential neighborhoods, adequate open space and recreational facilities, access to strong schools, and a well-designed transportation system.
- A strong and lively downtown area that serves as a focal point for community activities.

General Goals and Policies

The Edinburg Comprehensive Plan is also based on the following general goals and policies:

Goal: To retain the present general form and character of Edinburg, which can be described as "a compact small town in a rural setting, with a historic main street, small businesses, and attractive residential areas."

Policy: Edinburg will use this Comprehensive Plan to guide Town development and redevelopment toward the attainment of this and other goals in the plan.

Edinburg will use this Comprehensive Plan to guide economic development through the methods presented in the Economic Development element to better enhance employment opportunities for Edinburg residents.

Edinburg will use this Comprehensive Plan to guide housing development through the methods presented in the Housing element to better guide the various types of housing structures permitted within the town.

Goal: To continue to develop and retain a strong, positive "sense of community" among Edinburg residents.

Policy: Edinburg will develop programs and activities to foster broad community awareness of its historical and contemporary character.

Goal: To foster greater cooperation with neighboring governmental jurisdictions non-profit organizations and civic organizations for the mutual benefit of all.

Policies: Edinburg will continue to enhance its communications with local and state agencies and with elected county, state, and federal officials.

(This policy applies especially to nearby towns, to Frederick, Shenandoah, Page, and Rockingham Counties, the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, and to state agencies.)

Goal: To retain Edinburg’s Comprehensive Plan as an up-to-date, relevant and useable living document.

Policy: Whenever a major change occurs, relevant pages in the master copy of the Comprehensive Plan will be changed and a procedure will be instituted to keep all copies up-to-date. The document will undergo a thorough review every five years with a general review of goals and policies on an annual basis upon the initiative of the Town of Edinburg in order to keep a clear and driven focus of what the future of Edinburg will be.

Legal Basis of the Plan

Every local government is required by state law to adopt a comprehensive plan. In addition, the Planning Commission is required to review the plan at least once every five years to determine whether or not the plan should be amended. The purpose of the comprehensive plan, according to the state code, is to “accomplish a coordinated, adjusted and harmonious development ... which will, in accordance with present and probable future needs and resources, best promote the health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity and general welfare of the inhabitants.” The legislative goal of Chapter 11 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, is to facilitate the creation of a convenient, attractive and harmonious community. The achievement of this goal has been found by the Virginia courts to be a permissible state objective.

Intended Uses of the Plan

The plan is not an implementing document, but rather a guide to the preparation or revision of implementing regulations such as the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations. The plan does not necessarily lead to rezonings initiated by the Council, but should be used by the Commission and Council in considering rezoning and development proposals, road and public facilities, locations, a capital improvement program and budget recommendations.

The plan is flexible enough to allow response to changing conditions and unexpected events, but contains standards and policies that provide sufficient guidance to elected and administrative officials in making land development decisions. The comprehensive plan is becoming increasingly important as a legal basis for making land use decisions. A well-developed plan, with specific standards and policies, encourages consistency in Town land use decisions.

Plan Organization

The plan is organized into ten chapters:

1. Introduction
2. A History of Edinburg and an Inventory of Historic Resources
3. Natural Environment
4. Land Use
5. Economic Development
6. Population

7. Housing
8. Transportation
9. Community Services
10. Implementation/ Action Plan
11. Appendices

Where possible, each chapter is organized in a similar fashion to facilitate use of the plan. Sub-categories within the chapters include:

- * **Background:** a brief historical overview and evaluation of existing conditions.
- * **Goals and Policies:** overall guidelines for each element;
 - Goals – describe a desired end state;
 - Policies – recommend courses of action to help the town evaluate planning and land development choices.

A General Description of Edinburg

Edinburg is an attractive small town in the Shenandoah Valley in the middle section of Shenandoah County. It is about 5 miles south of Woodstock (the County Seat), and approximately 35 miles between the City of Harrisonburg and the City of Winchester (major employment, education, and shopping areas).

Edinburg is primarily a residential community. While some residents are employed locally, a greater share of them works outside the Town.

The architectural character of Edinburg is generally very attractive. The Main Street is lined with historic wooden homes, and anchored at the southerly entrance to the town by the Historic Edinburg Mill. The Interstate 81 exit is located outside of the Town’s boundary and has not been developed like many of the other area exits. The visual character of the area is not as visually pleasing though as the other routes leading into Town. Edinburg has taken steps to create an attractive gateway once you enter the town limits. Historic style streetlights and tree planting, along with attractive welcome signs, greet visitors as they drive into Town from the Interstate.



Employment in Edinburg includes occupations that provide services to residents and tourists (e.g., restaurants, craft, antique, and specialty shops), and provide business and professional services to local residents (e.g., merchants, insurance etc.). A number of Edinburg residents are employed by the Shenandoah Telephone Company.

Interstate 81 passes directly west of Edinburg, in a north-south direction, serving regional traffic. U.S. Route 11 passes through the town parallel to I-81, serving local communities in the Shenandoah Valley. These highways provide visitors with convenient access to Edinburg, give local businesses good access to suppliers and markets, and give local residents access to a substantial number of employment opportunities.

REGIONAL SETTING AND HISTORY

Introduction

The regional setting and history of Edinburg should be studied to better understand present conditions and to better estimate future trends. This chapter briefly traces the early physical growth of the Town and discusses important periods in its history. Factors relating to local growth are presented. Many historical sites in the area are listed and mapped.

Regional Setting

Edinburg is located within the Shenandoah Valley of northwestern Virginia in central Shenandoah County (Figure 2-1).

Four factors in the Town's regional setting have greatly influenced its existence and growth. The first factor was the Town's location along the Great Wagon Road. This early route, with a major branch known as the Wilderness Road, was the most important frontier highway in colonial America. The road opened western Virginia to settlement and provided a way to market produce and products from the area.

A second major factor in the settlement and growth of Edinburg was the presence of Stony Creek. The stream offered many good sites for industry, which was then operated by water-power.

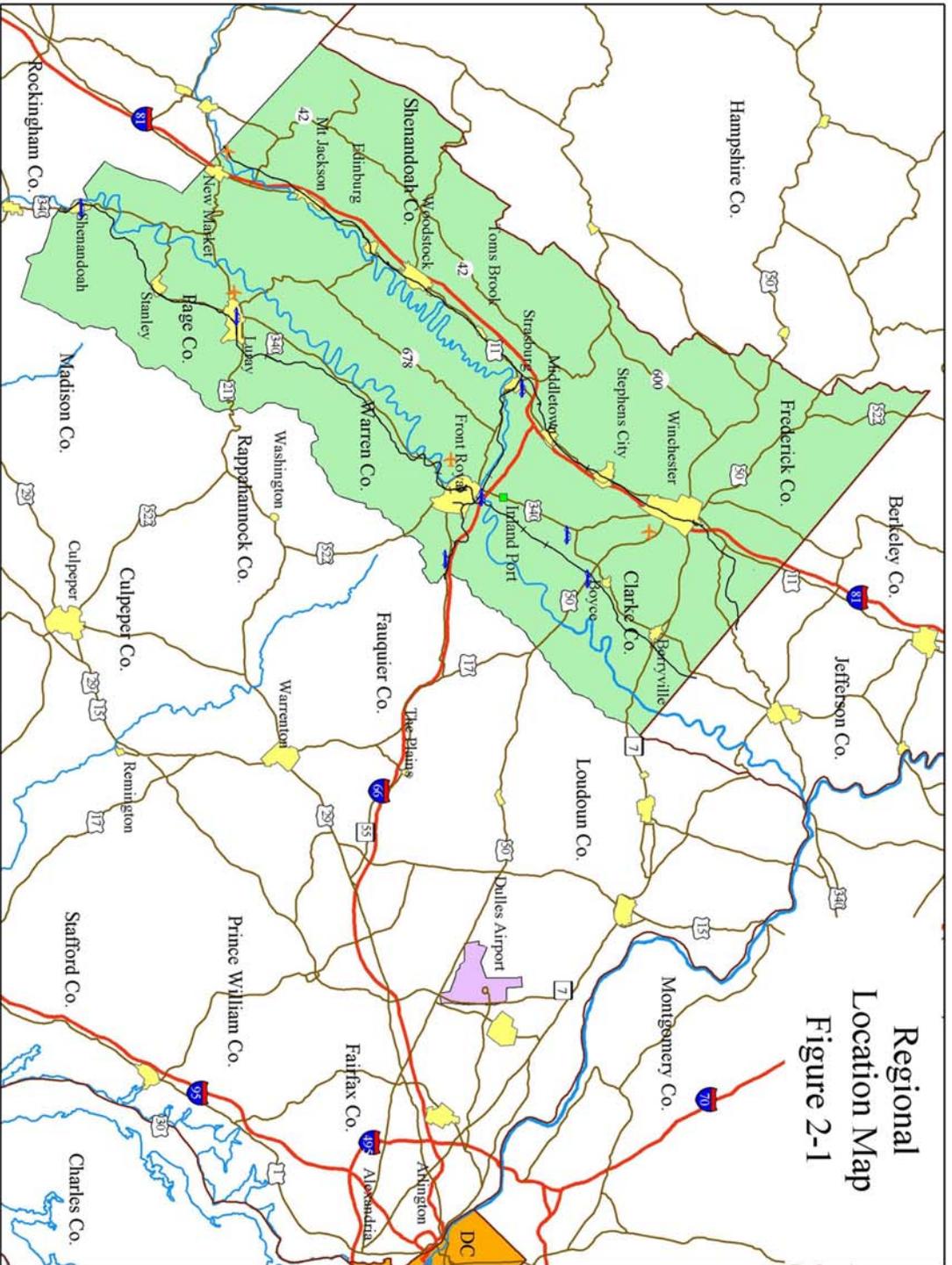
A third factor was the presence of iron-bearing ore in areas west of the Town. Two iron furnaces and a forge were located along Stony Creek or its tributaries. A road (today known as Virginia Route 717 and Route 675 in the County and Picadilly Street in Town), and later a railroad, brought the iron through Edinburg to distant markets.

The fourth factor affecting Edinburg has been its location near major urban areas and regional employment centers. The nearness of the Town to these areas and centers make it possible for local industry to easily get their products to major markets, such as Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Maryland, and Richmond, Virginia, among others.

History

The earliest recorded residents of the Edinburg area were the Senedo Indians, who lived here until 1650 to 1700. Around that time the Senedos (for which the County, River and Valley were later named) were annihilated by a group of warring Southern Indians, probably the Catawba and Delaware.

In 1706 the Swiss explorer Louis Franz Michel traveled as far south in the Shenandoah Valley as present-day Edinburg and made a map of the area. The fertile river bottom along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River attracted European settlers as early as 1734. These first pioneers, many of German origin, came from Pennsylvania, following an old Indian trail south into the valley. This trail, first called the Warrior's Path, would become the most important frontier transportation route in Colonial America. Later called the Great Wagon Road and the Valley Pike, it is now known as Route 11 and serves as Edinburg's Main Street.



Regional
Location Map
Figure 2-1

The area around Edinburg suffered heavily during the French and Indian War. Beginning in 1757 near New Market, Indian raids were frequent in all Shenandoah County. The last recorded Indian attack took place in 1766 just north of Edinburg around Narrow Passage. There is no indication that there was ever a fort in the Town itself. Settlers took refuge in either Wolf's Fort on Stony Creek or at Sheetz Mill at Narrow Passage Creek.

Lands west of the Blue Ridge were very important to the governing body of the Colony. By 1705, the governor and his council were offering enticements to those who would settle in the area, especially the hard working Germans and Scotch-Irish. A monopoly on trade was offered to any man or company who would "make discovery of any town or nation of Indians, situating or inhabiting to westward of, or between, the Appalachian Mountains."

Isaac Weed, in 1796, gave the following description of the people beyond the Blue Ridge. "The inhabitants consist primarily of Germans... a similar race of men all along the Blue Ridge... robust and tall... with a high opinion of their own bodily strength."

These Germans began arriving in large numbers in the middle of the 18th century. They generally produced grain crops on their ten to twelve acre farms with small orchards on the hillsides. Women and children worked alongside the men; the more children, the more hands to help out. Their cabins were built of crude logs, generally with bare earthen or puncheon floors.

In the 18th century the Edinburg area was part of this frontier. Those passing through the valley wrote accounts of their journeys. One famous and often quoted document is the journal of the Duke of Saxe Weimar, who passed through Edinburg in 1825. He tells of a most uncomfortable ride on rocky terrain that should have broken their stage to pieces. He wrote of the beauty of the mountains and countryside. From all he saw, he felt "the inhabitants enjoyed plenty" and that "this country is pretty well cultivated." He noted that people mostly traveled by horseback, even the ladies! His party passed through Strasburg, Woodstock, Shyrock, New Market and Big Springs and he noted most of the houses they saw were wooden.

The earliest settlers in and around the Town were industrious. As early as 1805, Philip Grandstaff built a dam on Stony Creek to the west of Edinburg. The dam provided power to a boring mill for a rifle factory, a sawmill and a carding mill. Joseph Whissen built a gristmill on Stony Creek in 1817 below what is now Water Street and in 1848 George Grandstaff built his gristmill on the "Great Road" to the south end of town. A bridge had been built across Stony Creek at this site in 1818 or 1819, eliminating the fording of the creek. Phillip and George also made guns for the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

The earliest recorded reference to a settlement at Edinburg was made in a diary in 1825. Situated where Stony Creek enters the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, the village was first called "Stony Creek". This was changed to "Shryock" in respect for the owner of much of the land on which the Town now stands. Jacob Shryock was granted a license to operate an ordinary in 1795. By 1835, according to a gazetteer, the village contained 17 dwellings, 2 merchant stores, a house of public entertainment, a rifle factory, a blacksmith shop, and a population of 130, including a doctor. These names, along with the name Edinburg, have been documented in old newspapers, books, receipts, postcards and old advertisements, but when the town was incorporated, May 24th 1852, the name Edinburg was used.

The Town contained an area of 7.1 acres when it was incorporated by an Act of the Assembly in 1852. It was $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long and $\frac{3}{8}$ mile wide on both sides of the Valley Pike (the Great Wagon Road). The Town has a living legacy from this earliest area of settlement. As late as 1941, Edinburg was described as "...between a graveyard and a gully, is a line of frame houses flush with the street."

Edinburg is located in an elbow of Stony Creek, the main tributary of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, about a mile from their confluence, at the end of what is now Water Street.

The mountains around Edinburg are generally capped with sandstone, which is hard and resists erosion. The Rose Hill and Ridgley Sandstone formations found on Three Mile Mountain produced a substantial amount of iron ore that was used at Liberty and Columbia Furnaces. Local limestone was used in the smelting process, and the furnaces were fired with hardwood charcoal made from the local forests.

A fault lies under Edinburg. It was first named and described in 1974. The Edinburg Fault runs in a fairly straight line in a northwest-southwest direction diagonally across the town from the corner of Printz and Center Streets to the Methodist Church and down across Route 11 to the area directly across from the Edinburg Mill.

Three roads developed going west out Edinburg, and one going east at the north end of Town. These were wagon routes for transporting iron from Liberty and Columbia Furnaces through Edinburg and one to Luray, Richmond and other points. Main Street originally followed the old Indian trail that is now called Route 11 or the Valley Pike.

By the mid 1800's, Edinburg was a thriving little community with at least six different type mills, the Edinburg Manufacturing Company, the Edinburg Woolen Manufacturing Company and the Carver-Wightman Pottery Works, Abraham Saum had established a hardware store, which also included kitchenware, stoves and many incidentals. There were also numerous merchants and vendors throughout the Town.

The Town continued to grow, benefiting greatly when a railroad line was built through the Town and train service began in 1859.

Edinburg was in a strategic position during the Civil War. In addition to being located along the Valley Turnpike and the railroad, it was Stony Creek, down which came iron so needed in the Southern war effort. From the beginning of operations at Liberty Furnance (1804) and Columbia Furnace (1822) west of Town, pig iron was hauled to Edinburg by water and wagon. After the War, in 1891, the "Dinky" railroad took over these duties. Built by the Liberty Iron Company, this narrow gauge railroad ran twelve to fifteen miles between the Furnace and Edinburg. Local farmers were given the job of preparing the rail bed and laying the track. In addition to iron ore, the Dinky carried the mail, produce and passengers for many years. On weekends, it was used for social excursions and all day picnics. People even used small pump carts to go for joy rides on the Dinky tracks. Most of the track was dug up and used as scrap metal during World War II.

Armies from both sides advanced and retreated up and down the Valley during the Civil War, passing through Edinburg many times. In March and April of 1862, Confederate General Turner Ashby and his men camped outside of Town for 30 days. During that time, Confederate and Union forces were engaged in battle 28 times. Ashby was positioned in the southeast of Town on Cemetery Hill and the Federal troops were located to the northwest on Huffman's Hill.

Before the “Burning” of the Shenandoah Valley began, the Edinburg area was the scene of prosperous tranquility. The letters of John Worsham, a twenty year old soldier in Company F of the 21st Virginia Cavalry, describe the Valley in December 1861 as “a feast all the way”. In every direction he saw a “land of milk and honey”. Cattle grazed in the fields, barns were filled to overflowing and, while houses were not grand plantation manors, they were comfortable dwellings.

The Federal “scorched earth” policy for the Valley resulted in the loss of most of the barns, fields of grain, mills, furnaces and forges around Edinburg. Sheridan’s methodical drive to destroy the Valley appeared to be merciless. George Grandstaff’s mill along Stony Creek was set afire. The story is handed down that the mill was saved when Grandstaff’s granddaughters begged General Sheridan to spare the building. Grandstaff had served as a General with Sheridan during the Mexican Wars. Sheridan is said to have remembered Grandstaff’s capable ability in maneuvers during that war and out of respect for him, allowed the girls to call for help. The townspeople rallied to form a bucket brigade and they, along with soldiers, put out the fire. Charred timbers are still visible today. The mill continued to operate until 1979. At that time it closed and was converted to a restaurant that operated until 1998. The Town purchased the mill, now known as Edinburg Mill, in February 2000. The Town is partnering with the Edinburg Heritage Foundation to create a visitor center, museum and commercial space in the building.

When the War ended the “Long Grey Line” came home, rag-tag and war weary. The scene they faced of total destruction was unlike the Valley they had left years earlier. The Valley men rolled up the sleeves of their worn uniforms and exchanged their swords for plowshares.

The year 1868 began a decade of growth for Edinburg. The Shenandoah Herald wrote the following in December 2, 1869:

Edinburg is putting on airs, is progressive... has new building, both in town and in the immediate vicinity, which for style are in advance of this section. Mr. Richards, architect and builder, at the place, has acquired a reputation in his branch of business. The styles he has introduced reflect great credit. Mr. B.F. Murray is still keeping Murray house and has made very considerable improvement... Henry Alexander has opened his new store... and seems to be flourishing... The Saum brothers are also brushing up in the stove trade and appear to be doing a thriving business. Edinburg is a beautiful little village... with the water facilities for machinery... trade at this place is considerable. The principal iron works of the County ship their iron from this point.

By 1885, according to the Edinburg Sentinel, Edinburg had a population of 478 spread over 41 acres. The Town had four churches, one school, two mills, a railroad depot, two hotels, three mercantile establishments, a hardware store, a number of blacksmiths, a dentist, a lawyer, a tanner, a distillery and some fifty dwelling houses. The services available to residents were also improving. The Town had streetlights prior to the arrival of electricity via a gasoline-powered generator installed in the Whissen Mill. At that time, the last lamplighter, George Marston lost his job.

Water for all use came from Town Wells, cisterns and the creek. Five Town Pumps provided water for all the residents. Two were located on High Street, two on Main Street and one on Water Street. They were removed as the water system was improved. One of the Town Pumps and some of the old wooden water pipe will be on display at the Town Museum in the Mill. The decision was made in 1906 to build a reservoir to collect the water from the mountain springs and pipe it into Town. This water source was used for many years, and Edinburg was known for its wonderfully crystal clear water. The

springs and reservoir are currently off line. But there has been discussion recently about installing filtration and begin using the springs again. This would be an additional, and alternative, source to the Town Wells now in use. A micro-filtration treatment plant located in the center of Town filters the wells. One of the Towns water tanks has been used to attract tourists and comments to the Town. It is an elevated tank painted to look like a hot air balloon rising from the trees to the west of Town.

The old “Ice House” located on Water Street was abandoned years ago with the advent of modern refrigeration.

Postal Service to Edinburg began July 1868. In 1902 the Rural Free Delivery was established. For many years until 1941, trains brought the mail to the Southern Railway Station. When this was discontinued, a mail bus delivered up and down the Valley. Today trucks deliver the mail to the Post Office on North Main Street.

Edinburg was hit with very destructive fire on December 22, 1895. The Shenandoah Herald described the “Great Fire” in its December 27th edition as follows. The destructive fire started in E.M. Clem’s store at two in the morning. On Main Street, Mr. Charles Ruby’s dwelling, E.M. Clem’s store (under which the Edinburg Sentinel newspaper office that is owned by E. H. Hisey), residences of R. W. Burke, J.J. Stoneburner, G.T. Zimmerman, Mrs. Julia Wightman (widow of W.A. Wightman) and Hotel Murray were destroyed. On Piccadilly Street, Painter and Reeser’s Livery Stable, Murray’s Livery Stable and the shoemaker shop of F.H.R. Stoneburner burned. 22 outbuildings were also destroyed. The loss totaled \$35,000. By cutting down the barbershop of C.W. Jennings, the lower end of the town was saved.

The Town has had an organized fire department since 1869. It has been housed in a number of locations over the years. At one time it shared space with the Town Hall on Center Street. This building also had an “Opera House” on the second floor. Minstrel shows were held here in the early 1900’s to raise money in support of the fire department. The Town still owns this building and has recently rented it to a theater group who plans to restore the building for their use.

The fire department moved from the Town Hall into a larger facility on Main Street in the center of Town. They remained there until 1977. At that time they moved into their new modern facility on Stony Creek Blvd. C.E. Thompson and Sons built the building on land that was donated by the Shenandoah Telephone Company.

The Edinburg Volunteer Fire Company has been a strong organization through the years, constantly updating their equipment and training their members. The Ladies Auxiliary has helped them raise money by holding dinners, lawn parties and helping at their carnivals.

The railroad was, for many years, the link to prosperity and wealth in the Valley. Track that was damaged during the Civil War was rebuilt and extended as far as Harrisonburg. The railroads carried products to and from the area, brought the mail and carried passengers in both style and relative comfort. Four trains ran through Edinburg, two from the north and two from the south. Drummers, or traveling salesman, also used the trains to make their connections with Edinburg businesses and those in the surrounding area. They would come by train, hire rigs at the local livery stable and be on their way to peddle merchandise in Edinburg and the surrounding communities.

In 1915 the Edinburg railroad bridge burned, stopping all traffic for sometime. When it was rebuilt, it was constructed of metal, with no roof. Trains have not run through Edinburg since the early 1990s due to an administrative break in service.

While sports and politics provided special interests for many people in the community, the church was the focal point for families. Here they not only worshipped together; they ate, played and socialized together.

The 19th century saw the evolution of churches in Edinburg. Four emerged from earlier beginnings. These were The United Brethren, Reformed, Methodist, and Christian (Disciples of Christ) Churches.

The first church building in Edinburg was a free or union church used by all denominations for religious services. It was made of brick that had been fired nearby and was built on land donated by the Downey family. It was located on top of the hill between South Grove Avenue and Main Street. The church was known as, "the old brick church on the hill" and the Union Church. Damaged by cannonading during the Civil War, it was abandoned and avoided by most people because it was considered to be haunted. Eventually it was sold and torn down.

A small cemetery adjoined the church at one time, in which only a few people of various races, including American Indians, were supposedly buried. By 1849, a new cemetery on top of the hill opposite the Edinburg Mill was used, and people were no longer buried in the little Union Cemetery. In 1870 gravestones began to appear in a third cemetery, Cedarwood, which is located on Main Street at the South end of Town. It was finally dedicated July 4, 1896 and Cedarwood continues to be used to this day.

The first United Brethren Church, called the Jerusalem Chapel, was built on Center Street on land given by Frederick Hisey who later became an ordained minister of the Church. The building stood facing Main Street and its side on Center Street. After the Civil War, it was turned so that it fronted on Center Street. In 1967 when the United Brethren Church merged with the Methodist church, the building was sold and made into a home. It still stands, minus its steeple.

In 1855, Women of the German Reformed faith, led by Mrs. G.I. Zimmerman, Mrs. J. Lantz, Mrs. S. Rinker and Mrs. D.W. Prescott, proposed a church be built which was formally organized as St. Paul's Evangelical German Reformed Church in 1858. The land on South High Street was purchased from Jacob Lantz. The Rev. George W. Aughinbaugh became the first pastor. He was also the principal of the school, the Edinburg Academy that met in the basement of the Church. The academy was under the direction of the classis. In 1912 a new church was built and in 1939, a kitchen and social hall were added above the basement. Basement classrooms were added in 1854 and dedicated to Mary Summey and J. Monroe Hottle. Professor Hottle had conducted classes in the building for many years. In 1989, the Lantz sisters willed their estate to the Church and major renovations took place.

The Methodists held their first services in 1856-57. The congregation met in the little brick Union Church on the hill and later in the old pottery shop on Center Street. It was, in part due to the generosity of the John J. Stoneburner family that St. John's Methodist Church South was built at High and Piccadilly streets in 1869. It had ten charter members, all of them were women. In 1926 the building was replaced by the present day brick Church, and in 1960 an addition was made to the west side of the building to house classrooms, offices, kitchen and meeting area.

The Disciples of Christ, also known as the Campbellites and later the Christian Church, began meeting together around 1835-36. Ellen Saum was the first to be baptized in this congregation in the year 1836. They held their own services in the Hopewell house on Piccadilly Street and in the potter's shop on Center Street until 1856 when their church was built on Center Street. The original ceiling, floor, and center chandelier are still intact today. The ceiling is pressed and at one time boasted gold cherubim and purple grapes. A steeple was added in 1898, and further additions were made in 1952.

There were only private "blab" schools in the Valley until the 3rd quarter of the 1800's. At that time Edinburg had a lottery to establish its "school on the hill". Tickets were sold at \$1 each or eleven for \$10. There was a question of legality of doing this, so Edinburg had to get permission from the State Legislature to proceed. Permission was granted, and the money raised was used to construct a new school on top of the hill at the north end of town. The stairs from Main Street are still in place today, but the building itself was demolished in 1936. The Edinburg Graded School served the community for 57 years from 1876 until 1933. The following appeared in a school catalog that was published at the time it opened. "There are in the village four churches, representing a population of about 40 inhabitants... the school building consists of a two story building, 45 by 60 feet long, with two rooms on the lower floor, with doors entering each vestibule and double stairway to the second floor in the vestibule, ceiling 12 feet high. The rooms are well ventilated. The upper room is furnished with a stage and all necessary appliances for exhibitions, blackboards in all the rooms and other suitable furniture. The school rooms are located in the suburbs of the village and are surrounded by a natural grove, with ample playground".

A new combination elementary and high school was opened on Piccadilly Street in 1933. It housed grades one through twelve. In 1959, with the building of new High Schools, it became an elementary school and it changed again in 1977 to a middle school. Consolidation throughout the County was completed in 1991 and the school was closed. It now houses the County's Parks and Recreation Department and the area's Senior Center. Plans are currently underway to create a countywide cultural arts center using this building.

A source of much of Edinburg history comes from local newspapers. The "Edinburg and Valley Advisor" was established in 1895 by E.L. Hisey and L.T. Stoneburner. It later became the "Edinburg Sentinel and Valley Advisor". A subscription cost \$1.00 a year. Periodically a notice would be run in the paper that the office needed a load of wood, which would be accepted as payment for a subscription to the paper. Originally the Sentinel was published on monthly basis, but on October 18, 1895, it became a weekly publication.

In 1918 the Sentinel was bought by E.E. Keister and in 1920 merged with the Woodstock "Times" to form the Woodstock Times and Edinburg Sentinel". The Edinburg Madison District Museum has acquired the old Sentinel printing press and it will be on display at the Edinburg Mill when the museum opens. The Edinburg Heritage Foundation has also copied a complete set of the Sentinel onto microfilm for the County Library. Copies owned by the Stoneburner and Hisey Families were also placed in the Shenandoah County Archives.

Two other local publications were "The Shenandoah Democrat" (1870-1872) and the "Tenth Legion Banner" (1870s)

The Town continued to prosper and grow as it entered the 20th century. A silk mill and furniture factory opened in Town. Farmers Bank opened its doors in 1905 and Hugh Saum's Hardware continued to prosper. The local iron industry had stopped all operations by 1907. The telephone came

to Town in 1902 with the establishment of the Farmers Mutual Telephone System. This eventually became the Shenandoah Telephone Company and Shentel. They have always been a very progressive company, constantly improving the services offered to the area. Shentel also provides cable television to most of the County. Their corporate headquarters is still located in Town and they are one of the larger employers in the County. A second bank opened in Town in February 1974.

Many businesses and industries, such as the Edinburg Silk Mill and Wisman's Furniture Factory, permanently closed their doors during the Depression of the 1930's, putting many people out of work. But by the mid 1900's Edinburg businesses offered everything its residents needed. There was a theater, a bowling alley, a pool hall, service stations, a general store, appliance store, grocery stores, a drug store, a car dealer, restaurants, a building supply and Hugh Saum's hardware was still going strong. Friday night found Main Street packed with Edinburg and area residents.

But like so many small Valley Pike towns, the popularity of the automobile soon effected Edinburg. Larger stores to the north and south took their toll on many of the small local businesses. They just could not compete with the variety, and in many cases the prices, that could be had a short drive down the road. This drive became even more convenient with the construction of Interstate 81 and later Interstate 66.

The Town still has two banks, although the names have changed numerous times. Hugh Saum hardware is gone; C.E. Thompson & Sons building supply continues to help fill the void. The theatre, bowling alley and pool hall all closed years ago. Likewise for the general store and the many grocery stores that once dotted the Town. There is still a car dealer, but service stations have been reduced to convenience store with gas pumps.

Two large Windsor Knit factories built in the 60's now house the Folder Factory and Coleman Microwave. Smaller specialty shops have begun to locate in downtown, and the Town has a very good restaurant that is drawing people to the area.

The Edinburg Mill project will also become a draw for visitors once complete. The U.S. Forest Service is also working on a new office in Edinburg that will house a museum dedicated to the Civilian Conservation Core (CCC). The County Library continues to bring people to Edinburg with its genealogy resources. The Cultural Arts Center planned for the old Edinburg School and Theater Shenandoah's reuse of the old opera house will both be attractive additions to the Town. While the Town is not attracting large retail development, it has continued to build on its heritage tourism in recent years.

Preservation efforts of the Town Government and Edinburg Heritage Foundation over the past twelve years have had a positive impact on the Town. Properties are better maintained and selling for prices competitive to the surrounding area. There is a new interest in living in Town.

The Town has not undergone a major annexation since 1966. At that time it expanded its boundaries to include 467 acres of land. Smaller boundary line adjustments in recent years have increased the area to 481 acres (.75 sq. mile)

A number of fairly large residential developments have been proposed for Edinburg recently. A 117 Townhouse/ Condominium Project was approved in August 2004 and another 150 homes have been discussed.

Edinburg has a rich history and will continue to grow and prosper based on its history, the attractions and quaintness that make Edinburg the town it is.

Sites of general historic importance have been identified in Figure 2-2 from the information provided by the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission:

1. **Edinburg Mill**

- S. Main Street next to Stony Creek

Built in 1848 by Major George Grandstaff and operated as a mill and feed store until 1978 when it was converted into a restaurant. The mill was partially burned by Union General Sheridan's troops in 1864 but town's people persuaded the soldiers to extinguish the fire. Charmed timbers are still visible. The Town of Edinburg and the Edinburg Heritage Foundation Inc. have joined in a partnership to save the mill for future generations.



2. **The Mill House**

- 218 S. Main Street



Built in 1850 by George Grandstaff and was the home of millers who operated the mill. The School House was added c. 1920 where Prof. Hottle home schooled some of the Ring children. It has been a bed & breakfast since 1983.

3. **Snapp-Bauserman House**

- 206 S. Main Street

The original log and stone section was constructed c. 1834 for Rebecca and Jacob Snapp. This house is an excellent example of a Virginia brick house with intact period detailing.



4. **Dr. Ralph Stoneburner House**

- 202 S. Main Street



The plans and materials for this house came from the Gordon-Van Tine Company in Davenport, Iowa. 'The House Beautiful' plan appeared on the cover of its 1923 catalog. The building is in remarkable unaltered condition since its construction in 1928-29.

5. Civil War Monument

Is dedicated to General Turner Ashby and Company C, 7th Virginia Cavalry and Erected by citizens of Edinburg in 1985. Company C was made up of men from Edinburg and surrounding areas. Many descendants of these men still live in the area.



6. Hopewell House

- 119 Piccadilly Street



Once housed a jeweler, Professor Hottle's private school and the original sessions of the Christian Church. The house faces the old location of High Street when it connected with Creek Road.

7. St. John's United Methodist Church

- Corner of High and Piccadilly Streets

The original church was built in 1869. Tiffany-like stained glass windows are an outstanding architectural feature on the church.



8. Miller-McDonald House

- 112 S. High Street



John R. Miller built this house in 1848. The house has thick brick walls and the well on the right side of the house was the source of water for one of the town's public pumps.

9. Joseph Hutcheson House

- 201 Piccadilly Street

Built in 1885 by Robert Stoneburner, this house was bought by Mr. Hutcheson in 1895. The porch was added in 1911. The house is adorned by very decorative gingerbread which was very popular on houses of this era.



10. Holtzman House

- 203 Piccadilly Street



Built in 1891 by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Holtzman, the house has unusual and elaborate woodwork and probably the largest round porch in town.

11. **Eureka Hotel**

- 206 Railroad Avenue

c. 1900 Located across from the railroad track this was a popular retreat for the city dwellers. Dances were held in the hotel. Since 1947 the VFW Post 2447 has maintained it as their headquarters.



12. **Grandstaff House**

- 108 Creekside Lane



This log dwelling was constructed c. 1787 and is the oldest known building in the Town. The Grandstoffs were original settlers in the area and millers by trade. The current owners are restoring the house to its original state.

13. **Ken's**

- Next to High School

A small building set on the west edge of the school grounds, it was operated by Ken Stoneburner and his sister Mable Zirkle, who sold soft drinks, candy, ice cream and hot dogs to the students and faculty.



14. **Edinburg High School**

- 508 Piccadilly Street



Built in 1933, the school housed grades 1 through 11. In 1959, when high schools were consolidated, it became an elementary school. In 1977 it became the Edinburg Middle School, housed 5th and 6th graders. Shenandoah County's Department of Parks and Recreation, Historical Society, and Senior Citizen Center now occupy space in the old school along with the Boy Scouts and Valley Educational Center for the Creative Arts.

15. **Old Community Library-Museum**

- 214 Piccadilly Street

c. 1900 The building was used in several different ways through the years. It was a warehouse, store (four different owners), movie theater, newspaper printing office, silk mill, Irvin Candy Company, library, and museum. Now the building is vacant, waiting for a new use.



16. Murdock-Grandstaff House

- 213 Center Street



Circa 1907, this is an excellent example of a well preserved early 20th Century Queen Anne Style house. It was the home of Mr. Wallace Murdock, a local builder, and was later purchased by the Grandstaff's.

17. Christian Church

- 210 Center Street

After meeting at many locations, the present building was erected in 1856. The sanctuary of the church is one of the oldest still in use by the Disciples of Christ in the Valley District. The original ceiling, floor and center chandelier are all intact today.



18. St. Paul's United Church of Christ

- 106 High Street



Cornerstone was laid May 2, 1856 and the bell was placed in the steeple in December, 1857. Professor Hottle had a private school here. The church has an array of art stained glass windows.

19. Hottle House

- 111 N. High Street

The house was built by Jim Sheetz for Professor Hottle. It is the most pristine example of high-style Queen Anne architecture in Edinburg. It has high integrity due to the retention of all character defining features.



20. Manassas Gap – Southern Railway Station

- 121 N. High Street



This building originally sat up along the railroad tracks approximately where the fire station now sits. It was cut in half and moved to current location where it is being used as a private residence. This is one of the few original railway stations that still exists in the County.

21. **Rest Haven Inn**

- 310 N. Main Street

This was originally built for Mrs. Daisy McGinnis as a private boarding school. Through the years the building has had many names including The Flats, The Beehive and Ritter House. Currently the building is being renovated by its present owner.



22. **Belew House**

- 404 N. Main Street



c. 1830. The builder of this house is unknown, but some gingerbread on the house is identical to that on the Bowman house on High Street. The house has interesting turreted bay windows and the oddly shaped roof. Dr. Arthur Belew and family lived here.

23. **Academy Hill**

- N. Main St.

This sight is named after the first public school (1876-1933) in Edinburg. Now only the steps remain. Union cannon located on Academy Hill fired over Edinburg at the Confederate cannon located on Cemetery Hill during one of the Civil War engagements that occurred in Edinburg.



24. **Rye House**

- 403 Water Street



The original log section of the Queen Anne style house is circa 1810 and is now the rear wing of the house. The dwelling was remodeled and the two front towers added about 1900. The ruins of the stone springhouse marks the site of the public pump used by the residents of the town and the school on Academy Hill.

25. **Dellinger House**

- 205 Water Street

This original log house had a secret passage leading to the creek which was used during the Civil War.



26. **Whissen House**
• 110 Palmyra Road



c. 1854 This house is one of the finest and largest examples of the vernacular Greek Revival form in the area that survives today. It was constructed by E. B. Whissen who owned the Whissen Mill which was located next to Stony Creek in front of the house. The mill, which survived the Civil War, burnt in the early 1900s.

27. **Hisey-Clinedinst House**
• 211 N. Main Street

The house was built in the mid-1800's by Rev. Frederick Hisey the first minister of the United Brethren Church. He also was a local blacksmith. The house, which once had its front facing Water Street has undergone many changes over the years. The original part of the house, which remains today, is built of logs. The house is currently being used as a bed and breakfast.



28. **Marston's Boarding House**
• 212 N. Main Street



The house was owned and operated by T. J. Marston as a boarding house in the late 1800's and early 1900's. In later years Dr. Charles Beasley operated an optometry office and photography business here. Mr. Raymond Miller, an ex-mayor of Edinburg, operated a printing shop next to Dr. Beasley's office starting c. 1930. He then purchased the building and operated the print shop until 1991. The building has undergone major renovation by the current owners who operate an interior decorator shop and reside on the upper floors.

29. **Hisey-Mitchell House**
• 104 N. Main Street

This building was constructed in two sections. The earlier section built in May of 1881 is to the right and was a two story drugstore with a residence above. The left section with its elaborate Victorian trim was added circa 1890 as a residence for the Hiseys. The house features the most elaborate exterior woodwork in Edinburg. It also has a well preserved 19th Century detached kitchen. The house has been made into apartments with an antique store on the first floor.



30. **Katie Mae Whissen House**
 • 113 N. Main Street



c. 1895. When Route 11 was widened in 1932, the front porch was moved to the side. The woodwork throughout the house was all handcrafted by local craftsmen giving each room a different motif. A photographer is located on the first floor of the house.

31. **Edinburg Town Hall**
 • 107 Center Street

c. 1900 When constructed it contained a fire hall and town office on the first floor and a large auditorium with a stage on the second floor. It was once known as the Opera House and was used as a Teen Center. It is now the new home of “Theater Shenandoah” who plans to reopen the Opera House for their presentations.



32. **Edith Miller’s Millinery Shop**
 • 127 S. Main Street



c. 1896 This building was built by Miss Miller who was a popular hat maker and one of the first single ladies to own her own business. The site is currently occupied by group of small shops selling many locally made treasures.

33. **Stoneburner House**
 • 203 S. Main Street

Rebuilt after the fire of 1895, this was the home of Elizabeth and John Stoneburner. John was the clerk at Union Forge Store.



34. **Edith Miller House**
 • 207 S. Main Street



c. 1835, this house was owned by the spinster hat maker. Miss Miller told the story that there was a secret cellar where valuables were kept during the Civil War.

35. **Pres Grandstaff House**

- 211 S. Main St. (*Picture Not Available*)

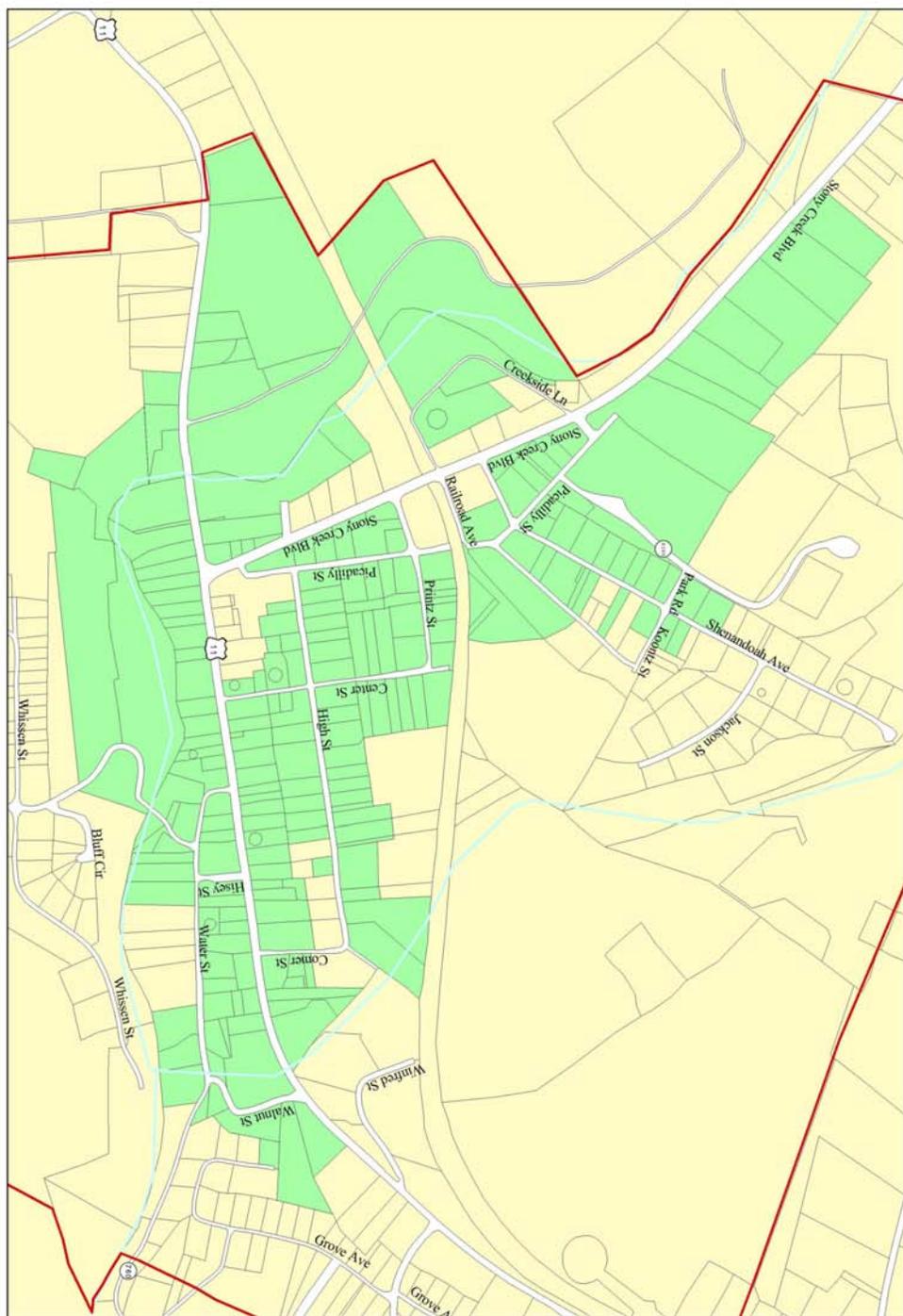
c. 1811 Thought to be the second oldest dwelling in Edinburg. Originally built to front the Old Wagon Road, it currently sits at a right angle to Main Street. Was the home of Mary & Pres Grandstaff, children of Philip Grandstaff.

36. **Cemetery Hill**

- Palmyra Church Road (*Picture Not Available*)

This is the site of Edinburg's first cemetery and was the family cemetery for the Grandstaff and Whissen families. Confederate General Turner Ashby frequently stationed his cannon on the hill in April 1862 to fire at the Union cannon located on Academy Hill.

Town of Edinburg
 Historic District
 Figure 2-2



THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Due to the size and feasibility of being able to create a Natural Environment study specifically for the Town of Edinburg for the purposes of this chapter; the vast majority of information found in this chapter comes from the Natural Environment Chapter in Shenandoah County's Comprehensive Plan.

Each locality has a unique natural environment in which to develop. Characteristics of Edinburg's natural environment have influenced the town's growth pattern. In order to seek harmony with the town's natural features, future growth must protect the area's sensitive environmental characteristics, which include:

- Steep slopes
- Climate
- Vegetation
- Water Sources
- Soils
- Floodplains and Watersheds



Slope and General Topography of the Land

There are only a few areas of steep slopes within the town. Steep slopes, including slopes of 15% or greater, are considered sensitive environmental features because development in these areas can cause the following problems:

- Loss of soil stability and increased erosion;
- Increased stormwater runoff and downstream flooding;
- Loss of aesthetic benefits of undeveloped hillsides as attractive backdrops for development

Over $\frac{3}{4}$ of Edinburg's area can be classified as "level to gently sloping" (i.e., with slopes from 0 to 5%). About $\frac{1}{10}$ of the area in Town can be classified as "moderately sloping" (i.e., with slopes between 5% and 15%). About $\frac{1}{10}$ of the area has "steeply sloping" terrain (i.e., with slopes between 15% and 30%).

A small amount of the area (specifically along the eastern banks of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River) has a "very steeply sloping" terrain (i.e., over 30%). A map analyzing the slope of terrain in Edinburg and its vicinity is on file at the Shenandoah County Government Offices. (The scale of the map is 1"=1,000'. It is based on the U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map, which has 20 foot contour intervals.)

Lands that have a slope of 5% or less are generally good for agricultural uses (if they have suitable soils), and are also well suited for urban development (if they are not in a flood plain).

Lands with a slope of between 5% and 15% can often be used for residential development, if reasonable care is taken in their design. These areas are not generally suitable for commercial or industrial development. Lands with a slope of 15% to 30% usually present development problems, and are more costly to build on than are more level land areas.

Lands with slope in excess of 30 % should be left in their natural state. Disturbing these areas could cause serious environmental damage. These areas are also very expensive to develop.

In summary, much of the land in or nearby Edinburg has terrain that poses few problems for urban development. A few areas, which have floodplains or steeply sloping terrain, are not suitable for development.

Climate

No data on climate is available for the Town of Edinburg at this time. Information is available for Shenandoah County, however. The data below summarizes the county's climate. The text was originally prepared in the Shenandoah County Profile by the Economic Development Department and published by Dominion Power in 2002.

Shenandoah County's climate is modified continental with moderately cold winters and relatively warm summers. The elevations of the mountains in the County are major factors in controlling the climate, in addition to the latitude and location on the North American continent. The mountains produce various steering, blocking, and modifying effects on storms and air masses.

Climate Summary:

Relatively moderate climate. Westerly winds prevail.

January Average Temperature:	32.0
July Average Temperature:	74.7
Annual Avg. Precipitation:	35.2
Annual Avg. Heating Degree Days:	47
Annual Avg. Cooling Degree Days:	50

Southerly winds predominate with secondary maximum frequency from the north, the air tending to flow parallel to the mountain ridges.

Mean annual temperatures average 54.6 degrees. Winter daytime temperatures are usually in the high 30's and nighttime lows in the 20s with extremes of 79 and -10 degrees. Daytime highs during the summer are usually in the mid-80s with nighttime temperatures dropping to the 60s with extremes of 105 and 40 degrees.

Relative humidity varies inversely with temperatures becoming high in the morning and low in the afternoon. During the summer, average humidity values are in the 80's early in the morning, dropping to the 50's in the afternoon. Cloudiness is least in the fall, averaging around 50 percent coverage, and greatest in the winter, with over 60 percent coverage. In the summer, partly cloudy days occur the most often (nearly 40 percent).

Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year. July is usually the wettest month with a monthly average of 3.81 inches. January is driest with an average of 2.08 inches. Monthly records vary during this period, with a maximum of 14.17" in August of 1955, and a minimum of .07" in February of 1968. Showers and thunderstorms occur about forty days a year, near the State average. In the winter, some of the precipitation occurs as snow. Average annual snowfall is around 27 inches.

The growing season, the period between the average dates of the freezing temperatures in the spring and fall, is 158 days. Freezing temperatures have occurred as late as May 25 in the spring and as early as September 19 in the fall. The growing season is one of the shorter ones in the State. Elevation, air drainage, soil characteristics, night radiation, and type of air mass are some of the factors controlling

the minimum temperatures, sometimes causing large differences in short distances so caution should be used in applying climate information to nearby areas when planning crops.

Annual average heating degree-days are shown in the Climate Summary on the previous page. When the average daily temperature is above 65, the degree-day value is zero. The usual practice is to accumulate daily totals July 1 through June 30. The accumulated days can be used as a measure of past temperature effect on power and fuel consumption.

Hurricanes and other tropical disturbances occasionally move far enough inland to affect Edinburg and the surrounding areas in the form of heavy winds and rains and rarely, a tornado. Thunderstorms with severe lightning, high winds and hail are much more frequent and produce the greatest amount of storm damage.

Vegetation

Trees, shrubs, and ground cover are considered significant environmental features because they protect the environment by:

- Retaining water
- Controlling erosion
- Cleansing the air of pollutants
- Tempering the local climate
- Providing visual relief in urban areas
- Providing a wildlife habitat

Vegetation on the built-up lands within Edinburg provides a fair habitat for wildlife, and the undeveloped lands outside of Town provide an excellent habitat.

Soils

A survey of the soils in Shenandoah County has been completed by the Agronomy Department of Virginia Tech, for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. The report was completed several years ago, but the findings in the report from the early 1990's are still relevant today.

The Shenandoah County office of the Soil Conservation Service (near Woodstock) has copies of the completed manuscript and of the maps, and its staff is willing to make photocopies of these materials to interested persons.

A brief review of the soils in the Edinburg area indicates that they are generally well suited for agricultural uses and for urban development. Some of the soils are not well suited for individual septic tank systems, however. And, of course, those soils that are in floodplains or are steeply sloping are not considered well suited for development.

Due to the town's terrain and the composition of the soil, the town is susceptible to problems of erosion, which causes a buildup of silt in the streams and stormwater runoff that can pollute the groundwater, sinkholes and streams.

Water Sources (from Shenandoah County's Comp. Plan)

On average, approximately 36 inches of precipitation per year fall onto Shenandoah County land. Approximately 26" of this water returns to the atmosphere through evapotranspiration, 6" enters the county's streams as surface runoff, and 4" infiltrates the soil and eventually recharges the groundwater supply.

Surface runoff (water which does not infiltrate the soil) becomes part of approximately 1150 miles of permanent and intermittent county streams. All of these streams or tributaries, whether or not they originate in Shenandoah County, eventually enter the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, which has averaged over the period of 1925-2000 some 375 million gallons per day as it passes the USGS gage at Strasburg. Approximately two miles further downstream the North Fork leaves the county, entering, in order, the Shenandoah River, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay. Shenandoah County land represents 49% of the total North Fork watershed, and 7% of the total Potomac River watershed.



Water that infiltrates and percolates into bedrock (the earth's crust below the soil) enters one of four hydrogeological regions (Figure 2-C, page 2-xx). Water may remain here, depending on local hydrogeologic conditions, for days, years, decades, or longer. At some point, however, much of this water returns to the surface by one of three routes: 1) through one of the numerous springs in the county; 2) through one of the thousands of wells, both private and public; or 3) through subsurface connections between groundwater and stream channels. During periods of base flow, when no surface runoff is occurring, all of a stream's flow comes from groundwater inputs.

Surface water may also enter the groundwater system. This may occur through subsurface connections, or by way of surface depressions or sinkholes which occur especially in areas underlain by carbonates (limestone and dolomite). Groundwater under the Influence of Surface Water (GWUISW) is the term applied to this phenomenon.

Approximately 30% of county land, concentrated in the central valley area, overlies carbonate rock, primarily limestone. This bedrock material is characterized by numerous caves and caverns, sinkholes, underground solution channels, and fractionated layers. When these conditions are present the term karst is applied. Groundwater in karst terrain is noted for its easy entry from surface water sources and quite rapid lateral movement, hence the susceptibility of contamination which can spread rapidly over large underground areas.

The very complex nature of the bedrock geology-underlying Shenandoah County makes it virtually impossible to know with any degree of certainty how much groundwater is stored beneath the county. Individual wells vary greatly as to depth and yield, suggesting that there are an infinite number of small aquifers of varying capacity but no main aquifer or underground river. During periods of drought such as the summer of 1999 there were reports of a number of springs and wells which ceased to function, indicating that the water table in those areas had receded significantly. It is clear that the county does not have an unlimited supply of groundwater. Over time the demand for groundwater has increased and will continue to do so as the population grows and as per capita consumption rates remain much higher than they were 50 or 100 years ago. Groundwater is also the main source of water for much of the county's livestock as well as for a number of industries located here. For example, the

poultry processing plant at Columbia Furnace consumes over one million gallons of water per day, of which 90% is drawn from company wells.

Groundwater Pollution and Protection

Groundwater located in karst terrain, which is the case for much of Shenandoah County, is particularly vulnerable to pollution from surface sources. Among the main threats are underground storage tanks, sinkholes, uncapped abandoned wells, improperly managed animal waste, excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides, and poorly maintained septic systems.

In 2000-2001 the county sponsored a Source Water Assessment and Protection Plan (SWAPP) study for the five major public water systems that obtain their drinking water from groundwater sources: Edinburg, Mt. Jackson, New Market, and the Creek and Toms Brook/Mauretown Sanitary Districts. Using the science of hydrogeology the recharge areas for all of the wells in these five systems were delineated for the first time, and potential sources of contamination within each recharge area were identified and characterized as to risk. It was discovered that the recharge areas are quite large (on the order of four square miles per well) and quite irregular in shape. It should be noted that each of these five systems treats the groundwater before it passes on to the consumer. This is also true of the approximately 60 smaller “public systems” in the county that are regulated by the health department.

Conservation

The situation with respect to groundwater is of particular interest because the quantity of groundwater available is essentially unknown and unknowable because the area’s population obtains its drinking water and household water from wells or springs. Both the agricultural and industrial sectors are similarly dependent on groundwater.

During the drought of the summer of 2002 the Governor issued a drought advisory with guidelines for mandatory water conservation. The guidelines included such measures as: discontinuing watering of lawns, washing cars only at commercial car washes, and a host of steps to reduce water consumption in individual households.



As population increases and periodic droughts occur, developing an ethic of water conservation as a permanent way of life in the Town may be a serious consideration. In the event of extreme drought conditions, some form of mandatory conservation measures may be necessary, although action by the Governor would be required to put such measures in effect.

Public education is the key to creating an ethic of water conservation. Citizens and businesses need to understand that water quantity is critical in the Valley and they need to learn what they can do to reduce their own water demands. Simple things like low volume flush toilets and shower heads can in the aggregate cut a household’s water demands by a substantial percentage.

Stormwater Management

Inadequate management of accelerated runoff of stormwater resulting from development throughout the North Fork watershed increases flood flows and velocities, contributes to erosion and sedimentation, overtaxes the carrying capacity of streams and storm sewers, infiltrates municipal sewer

systems, increases the cost of public facilities to carry and control stormwater, undermines flood plain management and flood control efforts in downstream communities, reduces groundwater recharge, and threatens public health by way of pollutants washed from the surface into drinking water supplies (automobile oil and grease, sediment from construction sites, bacteria from animal waste, excess lawn care and farm fertilizers and pesticides, as well as deposits of airborne pollutants).

Historically, managing storm flows focused on simple routing of stormwater through gutters and storm sewers with the objective of removing the stormwater as quickly as possible. A more effective approach to stormwater management is to maintain as closely as possible the natural runoff flow characteristics. This can be accomplished either by augmenting the infiltration process or by temporarily storing stormwater for release at controlled rates of discharge. Actual stormwater management techniques can be structural (detention ponds, pipes, etc.) or non-structural (land use planning to effectively preserve existing vegetation, drainage swales, perviousness, etc.). Both techniques should be used as complementary elements of a management plan. The effectiveness of a stormwater management program is a function of comprehensive planning and sound engineering design.

A comprehensive program of stormwater management, including reasonable regulation of development and activities causing accelerated runoff, is fundamental to the county's and the towns' health, safety, and welfare, their resources, and the environment. The Virginia Stormwater Management Program (1990) gives the counties and the towns the option of establishing local stormwater management programs to regulate activities on private property within their jurisdictions.

Floodplains and Watersheds

Floodplains are considered most appropriate for recreational and farms uses. Development should be strictly limited in such areas because of:

- The potential for property damage and loss of life through flooding
- The generally poor suitability of the floodplain soils for urban development

The National Flood Insurance Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, has published a map which identifies areas in the vicinity of Edinburg that are subject to occasional flooding. A copy of this map is available for inspection in the Town Hall that became effective on July 16, 2003.

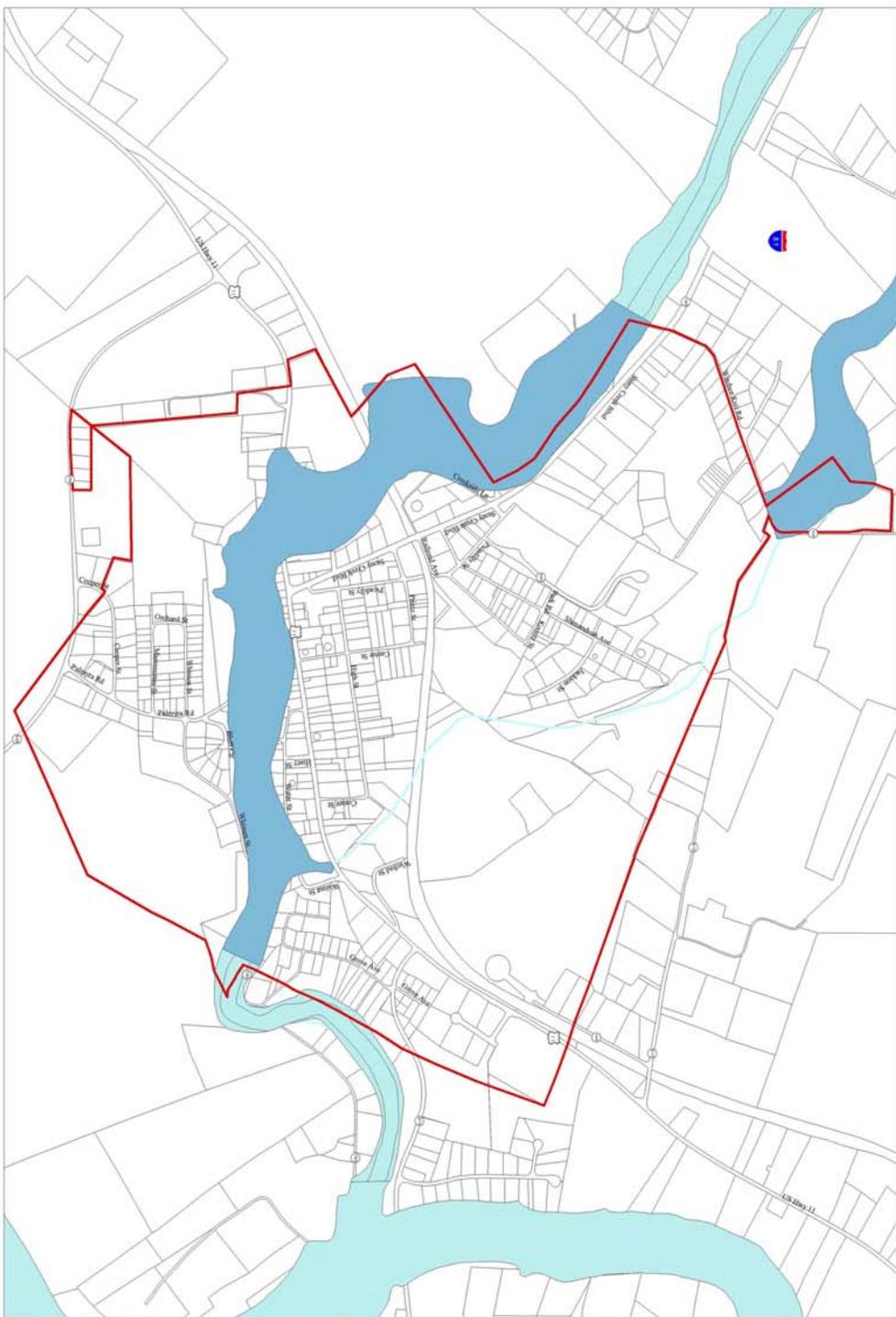
The term "subject to flooding" refers here to those areas that have been determined to have one chance in a hundred of being flooded in any year. This means that these areas are flooded on the average of once every hundred years; hence this possibility of inundation is generally know as a "hundred year flood". Hundred year floods cannot be relied to occur on a scheduled basis of once every hundred years. Some areas in the 100-year flood zone may experience flooding several years in a row; other areas may stay dry for several hundred years in a row.

Near the Town, however, both the North Fork of the Shenandoah River and Stony Creek are identified as having substantial areas near them within the hundred-year flood zone.

Watersheds are significant environmental features because:

- Watershed boundaries affect the location of sewer line, pumping stations and the cost of sewer service
- Natural storm drainage systems can be eroded and polluted by increased stormwater runoff associated with urban development.





Town of Edinburg
100 Year Flood Plain
Figure 3-1

Legend

- 100 Year Flood Plain
- Zone A- No BFE determined
- Zone AE- BFE determined
- Town Boundary



Environmental Goals & Policies

Goal: To preserve and protect the Shenandoah River by keeping it fishable and swimmable in accordance with the Federal Clean Water Act, keeping flow levels at reasonable heights, and protecting “scenic and recreational” values.

Policy: A formalized environmental impact statement will be required for all proposed sizable industries, commercial enterprises and subdivisions.

Goal: To protect Edinburg’s water resources.

Policies: Edinburg will continue to work through the erosion and sedimentation control ordinance with Shenandoah County and apply it to all development that occurs within the corporate limits.

Edinburg will help establish and participate in a countywide water resource steering committee to promote joint planning between the towns and the County in providing water more safely and efficiently through a regional effort.

The Town will promote the proper use and disposal of household chemicals and waste oil.

The Town will encourage riparian landowners to maintain stream bank vegetation and minimize disturbances to riparian areas, in order to protect stream habitat and water quality.

Edinburg will continue to promote and use the Wellhead Protection Plan completed in June of 2004.

Goal: Edinburg’s wastewater treatment facilities will discharge a final effluent that is safe for the environment and meets state regulations.

Policy: Edinburg will use the latest technology in its wastewater treatment facility and will take measures to maintain and repair existing sewer lines.

Goal: To preserve and enhance the beauty of the natural setting of Edinburg.

Policy: Edinburg will consider the beauty of its natural setting when reviewing proposals for land development and will develop a system to target and attract the types of growth that will preserve the special historic and environmental qualities of our picturesque community.

Goal: To protect the public health, safety, and welfare by reducing exposure to natural hazards (such as flooding), and by mitigating the impacts of natural hazards.

Policy: Edinburg will cooperate with state, regional, and county agencies to identify natural hazards, and to recommend appropriate measures to avoid or mitigate their impacts.

Chapter 4

LAND USE

Introduction

The Land Use Element is a major component of the Town Plan, providing a physical representation of town goals and objectives. It draws upon existing land use patterns, environmental features, and future population and employment forecasts to recommend a rational organization of land uses that will protect the town's existing character and allow the orderly, economic provision of public services.

Land Use is intended to treat lands which are similarly situated in like manner, with reasonable consideration for such factors as the existing land use, character and suitability of property for various uses; the trends of growth or change; the current and future land and water requirements of the community, transportation needs, and the demand for housing, employment, shopping, schools, parks, and other public services; the conservation of natural resources and preservation of floodplains; and the conservation of property values.

In designating the use of each land area, this element attempts to encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the Town by accomplishing the following purposes:

Purposes of Land Use Plan

1. To provide for adequate light, air, convenience of access and safety from fire, flood, and other dangers;
2. To reduce or prevent congestion in the public streets;
3. To facilitate the creation of a convenient, attractive and harmonious community;
4. To protect against destruction of or encroachment upon historic and environmentally sensitive areas;
5. To encourage economic development activities that provide desirable employment;
6. To encourage efficient use of land and eliminate potential land use conflicts;
7. To promote a variety of compatibly located shopping opportunities; and
8. To provide for housing of all types so that all people may have access to safe and economic housing.

The Land Use Element is also the foundation of the Town's land use regulations, including the zoning and subdivision ordinances. It indicates the types of zoning districts needed, the location and design guidelines for different land use types and specific problem areas requiring attention.

The Land Use Chapter is designed to serve as a guide for public and private development decisions during the 2005-2015 planning period. Although all development envisioned by the Plan may not occur during this period, development which does occur can be coordinated with the Town's goals and objectives for physical development.

Two areas in which decisions should be made include:

1. How can the Town of Edinburg continue to grow with enhanced land use decisions while at the same time retaining its small town character?
2. What steps should the Town, or private groups take to preserve the attractive architectural character of Edinburg, without infringing on the rights of the property owners?

Land Uses in Edinburg

In the fall of 2004 surveys were made of land uses found within the Town of Edinburg, and of land uses found in the general vicinity of Edinburg. The Town of Edinburg covers approximately 481 acres of land.

A summary of the land uses found within Edinburg is presented in Table 4-A and in a pie chart on the following page. The distribution of land uses is shown in Figure 4-1, in generalized format. A more detailed map of the land uses, prepared at a scale of 1"=600', is on file in the Town Hall.

The largest category of land use was "Residential" including Single-Family, Two-Family, and Multi-Family. Here 217 acres of land constituted 45% of the area of the Town. Of these 217 acres, about 198 acres were single-family homes, 10 acres were made up of two-family dwellings, and 9 acres were made up of multi-family dwellings.

"Open Space" made up the second largest land use category, with 183 acres, or 38% of the Town's area. "Open Space" could include cultivated crop lands, pasture lands, and vacant urban land that could be used for future development.

Within the boundaries of Edinburg, "Commercial/ Industrial" land was found to constitute the third largest category of land use. 34 acres of land were in this category, constituting 7.2% of the area of the Town.

Institutional Land uses make up 4.0% or 18 acres of the Town's total 481 acres. This use would include Forestry Lands, Churches, and other similar facilities and the land they built upon.

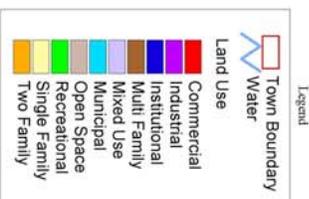
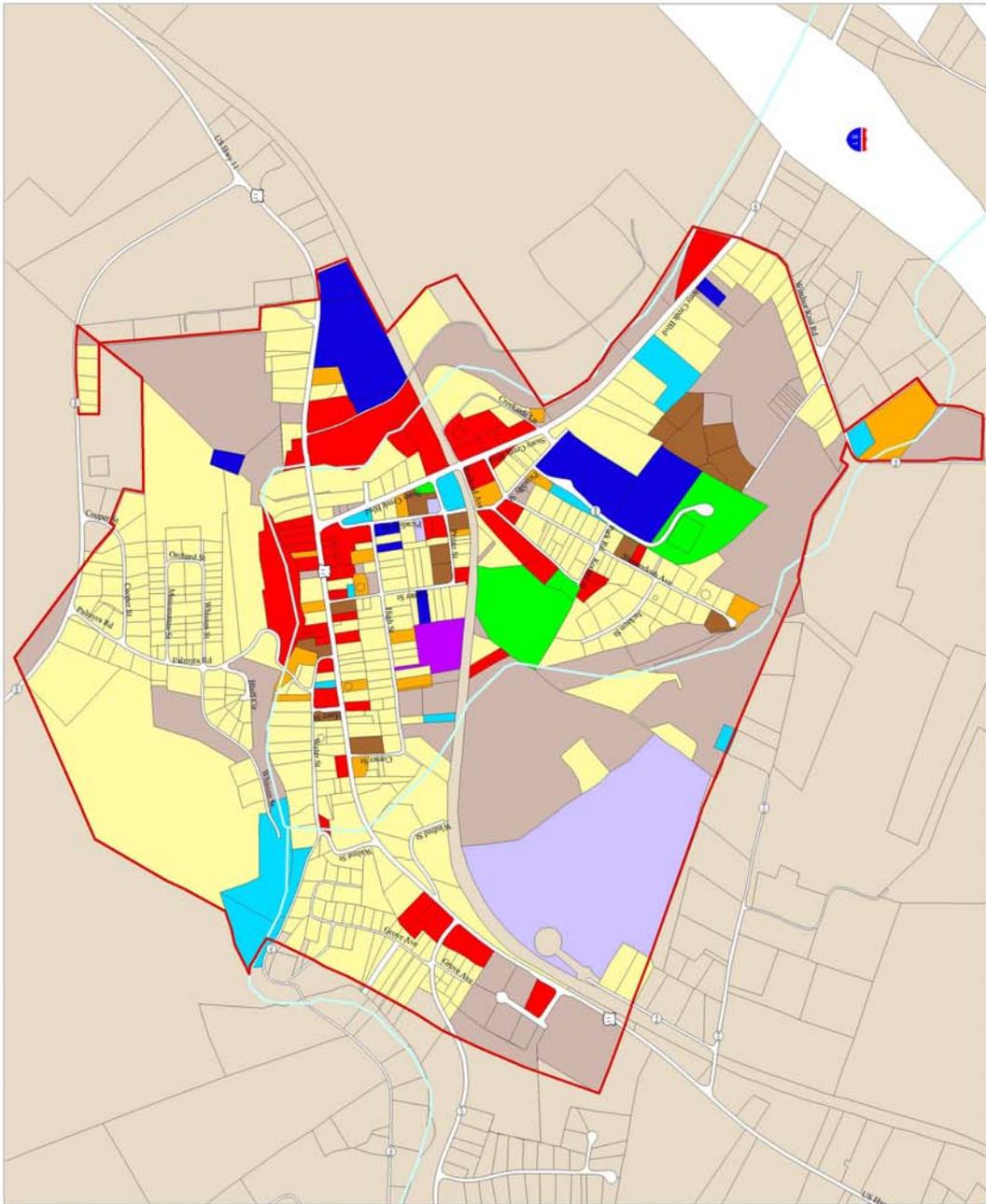
The remaining land uses of Municipal, Recreational, and Mixed Use make up the remaining 29 acres of 481 total acres of land for a percentage of 6.2%.

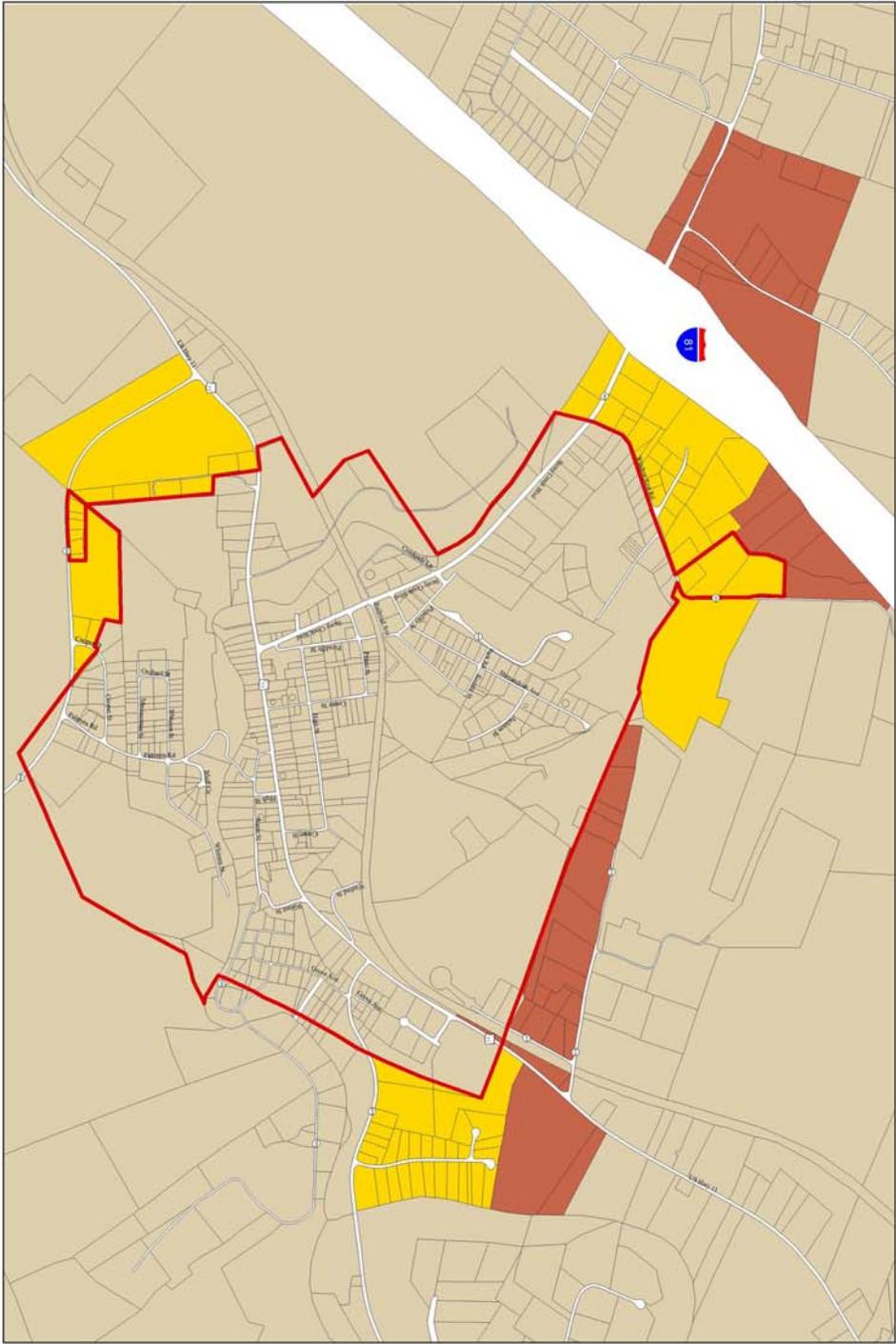
Land Uses in Edinburg and Vicinity

Figure 4-1 is a map showing the land use pattern in Edinburg and its surrounding area in Shenandoah County, in a generalized manner. A more detailed map, prepared at a scale of 1 inch =1,000 feet, is on file at the Town Hall. At this time, Edinburg is not planning to expand into Shenandoah County. Measures should be taken, however, to establish a dialogue with Shenandoah County concerning the feasibility and desirability of expanding into the county.

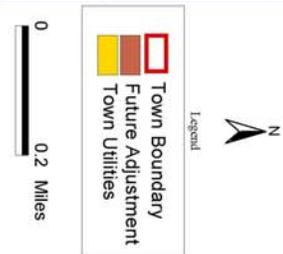
The Future Land Use map can be found on page

Town of Edinburg
Existing Land Use
Figure 4-1





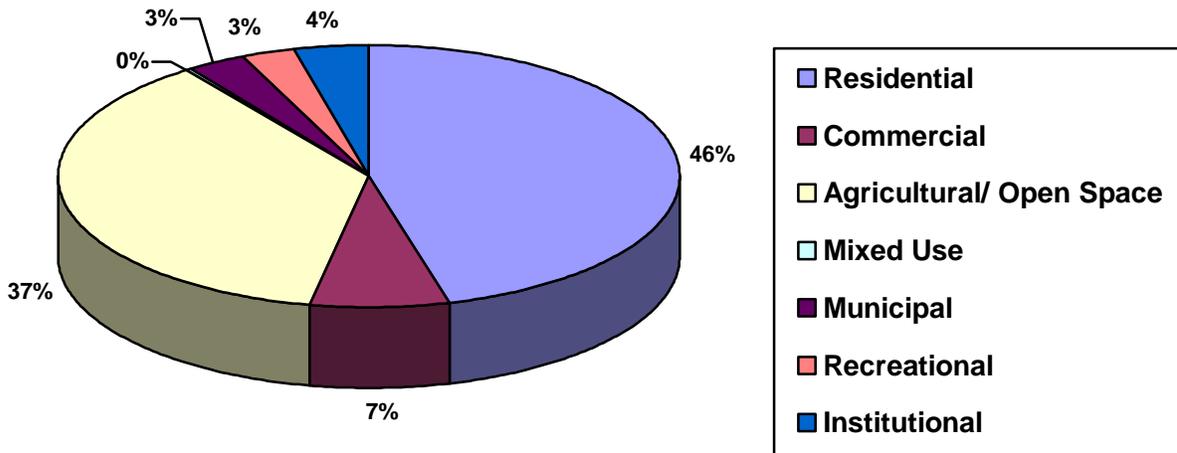
Town of Edinburg
 Future Land Use
 Figure 4-2



**Table 4-A
Existing Land Use – 2005**

Category	Acres:	Percent:
Residential	214	46.0%
Commercial/ Industrial	34	7.3%
Agricultural/ Open Space	172	37.0%
Mixed Use	1	0.2%
Municipal	15	3.1%
Recreational	13	2.8%
Institutional	18	3.9%
Total:	467	100%

**Figure 4-3
Existing Land Use**



Zoning in Edinburg

Edinburg adopted a zoning ordinance in 1987.

The Town’s zoning code was adopted for the following purposes:

- A. To provide for adequate light, air, convenience of access, and safety from fire, flood, and other dangers;
- B. To reduce or prevent congestion on public streets;
- C. To facilitate the creation of a convenient, attractive, and harmonious community;

- D. To facilitate the provision of adequate police and fire protection, disaster evacuation, civil defense, transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, forests, playgrounds, recreational facilities, airports, and other public facilities;
- E. To protect against destruction of or encroachment upon historic areas;
- F. To protect against one or more of the following: overcrowding of land, undue density of population in relation to the community facilities existing or available, obstruction of light and air, danger and congestion in travel and transportation or loss of life, health, or property from fire, flood, panic, or other dangers; and
- G. To encourage economic development activities that provides desirable employment.
- H. To implement the policies and recommendations set forth in the Edinburg Comprehensive Plan.

Edinburg’s zoning ordinance designates a specific zoning category to each property within the Town (other than public streets). The zoning districts used by Edinburg, and the intent of each, are:

R-1: Residential District

The R- 1 District is composed of quiet low-density residential areas, plus undeveloped areas where similar residential construction appears likely to occur. The standards set forth for this district are designed to stabilize and protect the essential character of the areas so delineated, to promote and encourage a suitable environment for family life where there are children and to prohibit all commercial activities. Development is therefore, limited to relatively low concentration and permitted uses are limited to single-family dwellings, plus selected additional uses, such as schools, parks and certain public facilities, that serve the residents of the district.

R-2: Residential District

The R-2 District is composed of medium-density residential uses and open areas where similar development appears to stabilize and protect the essential character of the area so designated and to promote and encourage, insofar as compatible with the intensity of land use, a suitable environment for family life. Development is, therefore, limited to low to medium density, and permitted uses are limited to single and two-family dwellings, plus selected additional uses, such as schools, parks, churches and certain public facilities, that serve the residents of the district.

R-3: Residential District

The R-3 District is composed of high-density residential uses and open areas where similar development appears likely to occur. The standards for this district are designated and create areas for apartment and townhouse construction along with an appropriate living environment. These areas are located close to employment, shopping, and other community facilities. Development is limited to high-density residential uses of various types, plus selected additional uses, such as schools, parks, churches and certain public facilities.

C: General Commercial District

The Commercial District covers that portion of the community intended for the conducting of general business to which the public requires direct and frequent access, but which is not normally characterized either by constant heavy trucking, other than stocking and delivery of retail goods, or by any nuisance factors other than occasioned by incidental light and noise of congregation of people and passenger vehicles. This includes such uses as retail store, banks, theaters, business offices, newspaper offices, printing presses, restaurants and taverns, garages and service stations.

I: Industrial

The primary purpose of the I-District is to permit the location of certain industries, which do not in any way detract from the residential desirability of nearby areas and to permit industries to locate near a labor supply. No junkyards or automobile wrecking yards shall be permitted.

A map showing where these zoning districts are located in Edinburg is provided in Figure 4-4. It should be noted that the Town Council, acting with advice from the Town Planning Commission, amends the zoning ordinance from time to time, so Figure 4-3 may become out-of-date at some time. For current information on zoning regulations, contact Town Hall.

Zoning in Shenandoah County Outside Edinburg

Shenandoah County also adopted zoning regulations some years ago. These regulations apply to the lands that lie within the County, but outside of the incorporated towns.

The zoning districts used by Shenandoah County in the vicinity of Edinburg are:

- A-1: Agriculture District
- R-1: Low Density Residential District
- R-2: Medium Density Residential District
- R-3: High Density Residential District
- B-2: General Business District

For up-to-date information on Shenandoah County's zoning regulations, contact the County Planning Commission offices in Woodstock.

Edinburg should cooperate with Shenandoah County to ensure that the County's zoning and subdivision regulations just outside of Edinburg's corporate limits are compatible with the town's plans. There may be places where the County allows higher density and requires fewer improvements to the road system than the Town that is immediately adjacent to a proposed subdivision.

Agricultural and Forestal Districts

The Commonwealth of Virginia permits towns and counties to establish "agricultural and forestal districts". Participation in these districts by property owners is voluntary.

Properties within the agricultural and forestal districts are taxed on the basis of their value as agricultural or forest lands, not on their speculative value as lands for subdivisions or for other urban development. In order to receive this property tax break, the landowners must enter into an agreement to retain their lands in agricultural or forest use for a specified period of time. After the agreed-to time has expired, the landowner may extend the contract, or may use the subject property without having the “agricultural and forestal district” limitations applying to it. This applies to some properties in the Edinburg area which are presently up for renewal.

Lands in the vicinity of Edinburg that were in Shenandoah County’s agricultural and forestal districts, one can assume, will not be subject to conversion to subdivisions, industrial development, or other urban uses in the near future.

Land Use Goals and Policies

Goal: To have residential areas in Edinburg that are well served by the community facilities (such as schools, churches, parks, etc.), and by roads, but are not disrupted by incompatible land uses (such as those uses which generate excessive traffic, are unsightly, or emit odors).

Policies: Edinburg will require residential developments that provide appropriate community facilities, public utilities, and streets.

Edinburg will develop and maintain a land use plan and implementing ordinances that keep incompatible uses separated.

Edinburg encourages the development of multi-modal bike and pedestrian ways with regard to new residential development or the improvement of current development in conjunction with road, stormwater drainage and sidewalk requirements presented in the Zoning Ordinances of the Town.

Goal: To have a variety of types of housing available to suit a wide variety of tastes and budgets.

Policy: Edinburg will give consideration to land development proposals that provide for different types of housing.

Goal: To have housing in Edinburg continue to be well maintained.

Policy: Edinburg will encourage homeowners to maintain their homes in a safe and attractive manner.

Commercial Land Uses and the Central Business District

Goal: To have shopping facilities available in Edinburg that will satisfy the major needs of the Town and of nearby areas.

Policy: The Town will share all available market data with potential developers of shopping areas. Edinburg will give consideration to requests for commercial zoning that are appropriately located.

Edinburg will partner with small business start-up programs such as the Winchester Incubation Regional Enterprise (WIRE) or work with the Small Business Development Center at Lord Fairfax Community College or James Madison University to stimulate new small businesses and enhance existing small businesses within the CBD of the Town.

Goal: To have stores that will attract patronage from tourists.

Policy: Edinburg will encourage tourist-oriented stores in clusters along the major tourist travel routes.

Goal: To retain and enhance the present character of the central business district, which can be described as having a mixture of retail stores, professional offices, churches, governmental services, and residential uses, most of which are housed in architecturally attractive structures.

Policy: Edinburg will promote the preservation, restoration, and beautification of the business district.

Goal: To enhance the I-81 interchange for the purpose of attracting suitable businesses to that location.

Policy: Edinburg will improve the aesthetic appearance and functional traffic patterns to facilitate economic development in this corridor.

The town will continue to work with VDOT on improving the entrance corridor off the I-81 exit through practical and well thought out land use decisions in regards to the I-81 corridor entrance.

Open Space

Goal: To identify and preserve the natural resources and scenic characteristics of the Town of Edinburg by providing for a preservation of open space for residents and visitors to enjoy while maintaining the beauty of the natural environment as well as the unique scenic views from within the Town.

Policies: Retain a minimum of 75% open space within the town. This would include any green space within the town including all recreational green space, open lots, and agriculturally used land.

Edinburg will continue to encourage mixed use commercial and residential within the Central Business District.

Edinburg will protect existing open space within the Town limits through the development of recreation/ conservation areas that will provide greenbelts and neighborhood recreation areas on land, which is unsuitable for other types of land use.

Edinburg will consider seeking funds that would allow for the purchase and creation of small recreation/ conservation areas throughout the town adjacent to or close to the commercial business district or within residential neighborhoods.

Relationship to Land Uses Outside Edinburg

Goal: To assure that the uses of land outside the Town is compatible with uses of land within Edinburg.

Policies: Edinburg will continue its working relationship with Shenandoah County concerning land use patterns and development policies.

The Town will continue to work with Shenandoah County on friendly boundary line adjustments.

Edinburg will comprehensively plan public utility services for defined local growth areas.

Commercial Development

Goal Edinburg should encourage a moderate growth of commercial activities to serve local needs of present and future residents of the Town and surrounding area without undermining the residential character of Main Street.

Policy Encourage the clustering of commercial activity either along Main Street or Stony Creek Boulevard.

Policy Provide adequate off-street parking in the business area of Edinburg where possible.

This will provide greater convenience for shoppers and make possible easier movement of traffic on streets.

Policy Provide appropriate areas for the expansion of existing and the addition of new commercial facilities which use more land per store than is likely available or affordable within the old business district.

Policy Discourage scattered growth of commercial activities in all parts of the Town.

This will reduce traffic hazards, congestion, and land locking of interior lands and encourage the preservation of undeveloped tracts.

Policy Discourage development along streets in areas which could create traffic and environmental problems such as improper storm water drainage.

Industrial Development

Goal Edinburg should encourage non-polluting light industries to locate in the area in order to increase employment opportunities and broaden the tax base.

Policy Located in Town’s designated industrial areas.

Policy: Encourage State and Federal regulatory agencies to enforce established performance standards for industry.

This will ensure the maintenance of the existing physical and environmental character of the area.

Chapter 5

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Labor Force Characteristics

Jobs are an important element of community vitality, providing income to citizens, tax revenue to government and a major stimulus for development. Edinburg’s economy centers on the tourist industry with a focus on the historic Edinburg Mill along with other historic sites of interest. The Town’s economy is also supplemented by The Shenandoah Telephone Company or commonly referred to as Shentel within the center of the downtown. Edinburg also features several well known gift and collectable shops within the downtown. However, as with many towns throughout the Shenandoah Valley, the Town is mainly a bedroom community for employment centers in nearby areas.



**Table 5-A
Labor Force Data- Shenandoah County**

Annual Averages	Civilian Labor Force	<u>Employment</u>	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate
2004 (Nov.)	17,663	17,188	475	2.7
2003	17,709	17,043	666	3.8
2002	18,490	18,097	393	2.1
2001	17,948	17,547	374	2.1
2000	17,567	17,333	234	1.3
1999	17,566	17,034	492	2.8
1998	17,302	16,835	467	2.7
1997	16,995	16,421	574	3.4
1996	17,182	16,328	854	5.0
1995	18,134	17,084	1,050	5.8
1994	17,654	17,018	636	3.6
1993	17,329	16,637	692	4.0
1992	17,759	16,609	1,150	6.5
1991	17,384	16,296	1,088	6.3
1990	16,555	15,782	773	4.7

**Table 5-B
Labor Force Data- Virginia**

Annual Averages	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate
2004 (Nov.)	3,837,099	3,716,857	120,242	3.1
2003	3,773,276	3,619,749	153,527	4.1
2002	3,720,611	3,557,150	163,461	4.4
2001	3,675,345	3,548,047	127,298	3.5
2000	3,609,703	3,529,902	79,801	2.2
1999	3,528,041	3,429,908	98,133	2.8
1998	3,487,418	3,385,677	101,741	2.9
1997	3,408,142	3,273,222	134,920	4.0
1996	3,390,838	3,241,326	149,512	4.4
1995	3,482,244	3,325,234	157,010	4.5
1994	3,416,661	3,250,202	166,459	4.9
1993	3,379,900	3,207,393	172,507	5.1
1992	3,399,929	3,180,803	219,126	6.4
1991	3,346,802	3,148,851	197,951	5.9
1990	3,238,831	3,098,145	140,686	4.3

Figure 5-1

**Civilian Labor Force
Edinburg 2000**

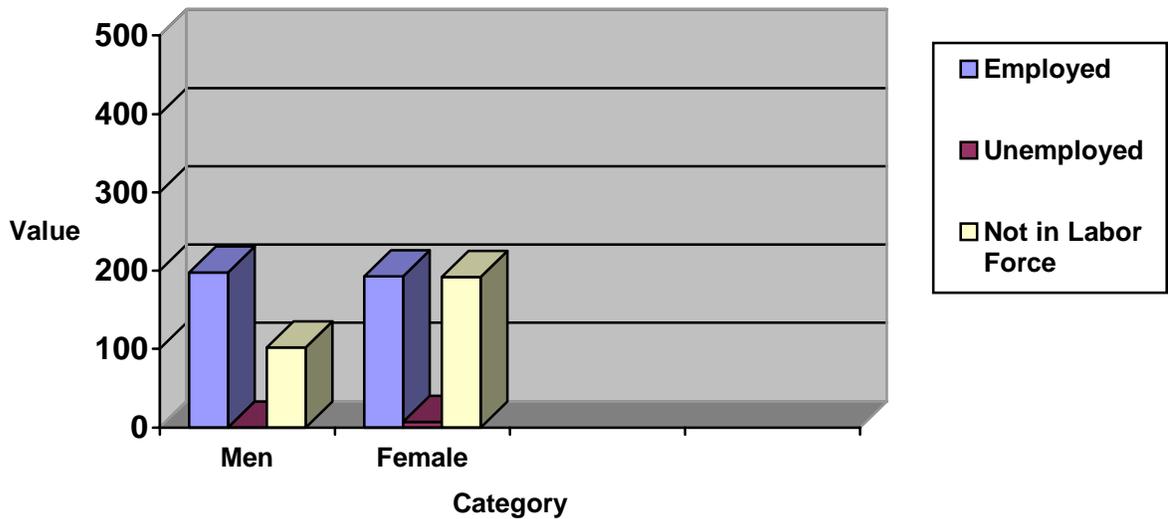
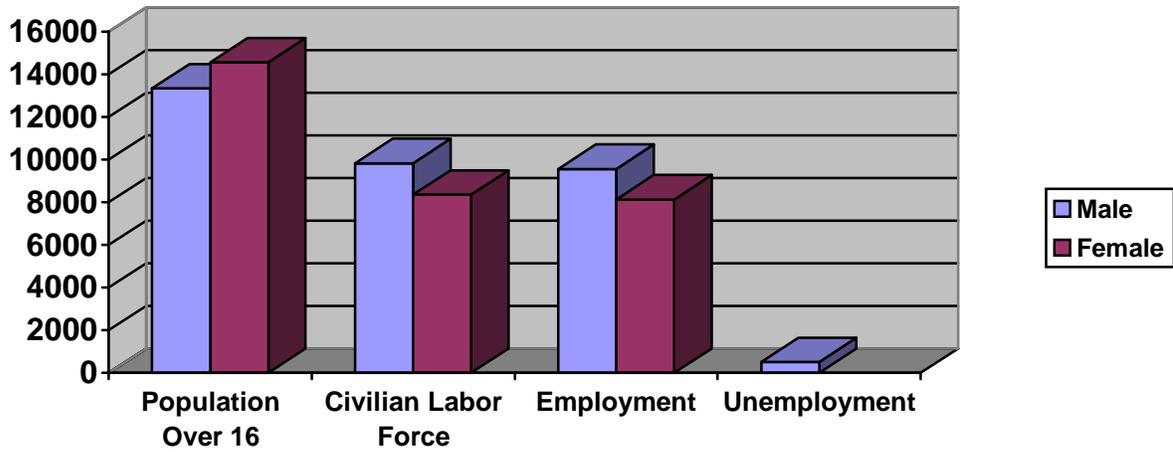


Figure 5-2
Labor Force by Sex for Shenandoah County (2000)



Shenandoah County Labor Force Characteristics

The following figures represent the percentages of Shenandoah County labor force participants involved in various sectors of the economy in 2000. See Figure 5-1.

22% of Shenandoah County working residents work in the manufacturing industry of the labor force. (Down 5% from 1990)

27% of Shenandoah County working residents work in the service industry.

16% of Shenandoah County working residents work in the wholesale or retail trade industry.

10% of Shenandoah County working residents work in the construction industry.



Table's 5-C and 5-D come from 2000 Census data on file at the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission.

**Table 5-C
Employed Persons 16 Years and Over by Occupation
Edinburg, 2000 Census**

Occupation:	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Management, professional, and related occupations	76	19.8%
Service occupations	46	12.0%
Sales and Office occupations	125	32.6%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	7	1.8%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	31	8.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	99	25.8%

Figure 5-3

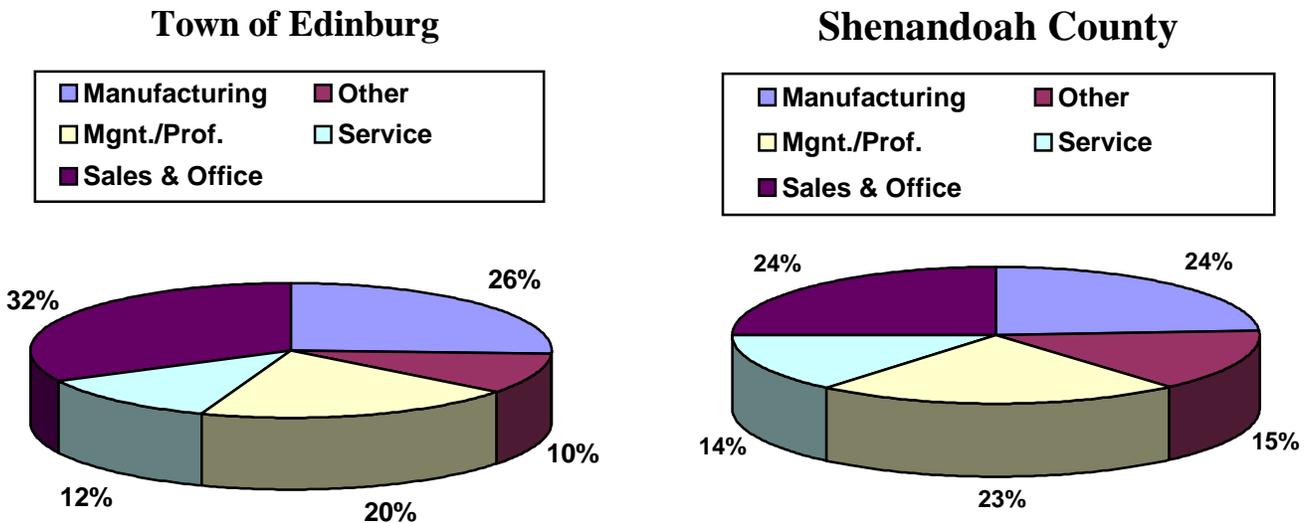


Table 5-D
Employed Persons 16 and Over by Industry
Edinburg, 2000 Census

<u>Industry</u>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining	7	1.8
Construction	25	6.5
Manufacturing	84	21.9
Wholesale trade	25	6.5
Retail trade	67	17.4
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	8	2.1
Information	20	5.2
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	22	5.7
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	14	3.6
Educational, health, and social services	53	13.8
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	20	5.2
Other services (except public administration)	22	5.7
Public administration	17	4.4

Commuting to Work:

• Workers 16 years and over:	380
• Car, truck, or van (drove alone)	314
• Car, truck, or van (carpooled)	38
• Public transportation (including taxicab)	N/A
• Walked	15
• Other Means	N/A
• Worked at home:	13
• Mean travel time to work (minutes)	19.9

Increase in Employment (1980-2000)

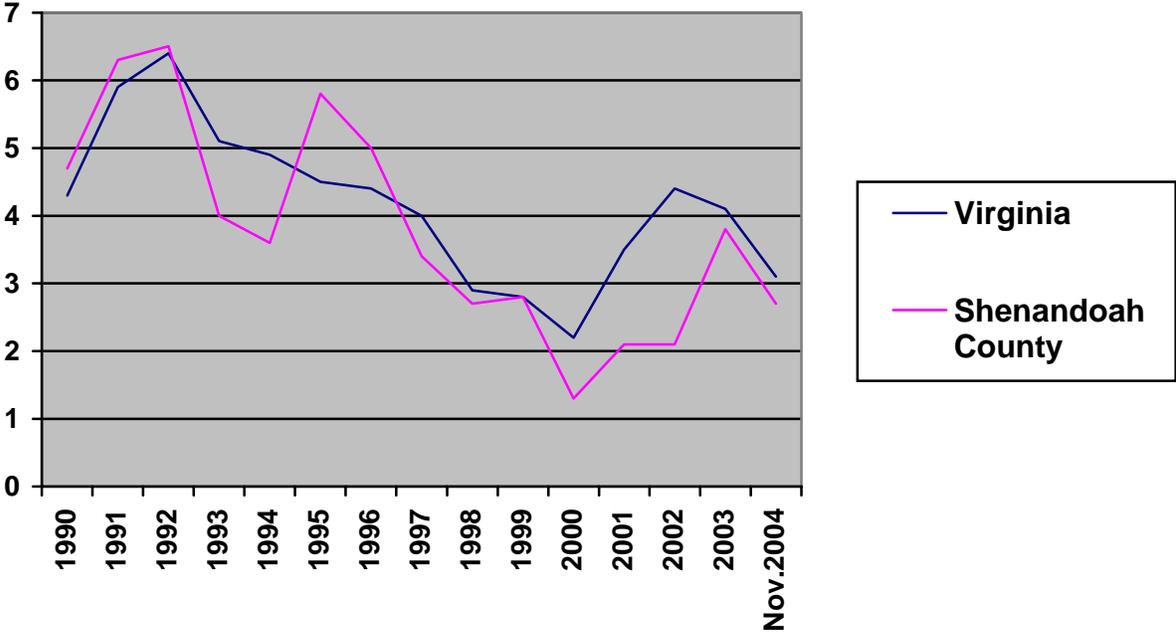
Between 1980 and 1990 total employment in Shenandoah County increased by 22.3 percent. Between 1990 and 2000 total employment in Shenandoah County increased by 12.2 percent. Between 1980 and 2000 total employment in Shenandoah County increased by 46.8 percent.

Summary

As of the 2000 Census, the Town of Edinburg's median household income was \$30,655 and the median family income was \$37,986. The Town is the lowest of the averages in regards to median household income and median family income compared to other localities within Shenandoah County.

As of November 2004, the unemployment rate in Shenandoah County was 2.7 %, and the average in the year 2003 was 4.1 %. This compares to 8 years earlier in 1996 when the unemployment rate was 5.0%. This improvement over the past eight years is due to many factors, including the U.S. economy as a whole, but reflects greatly upon the efforts made in the county to organize and to promote economic development and tourism. However, due to the United States going to war overseas in the beginning of the 2003, the most recent trend in the economy has seen the unemployment rate continue to rise each month across the county and the state. Fortunately, the Shenandoah Valley has not felt the affects of the United States economy as much as the rest of the state of Virginia or other parts of the United States. Edinburg will continue to support economic development possibilities in order to keep a vital economy within the Town and within the County.

Figure 5-4
Average Annual Unemployment Rate
Shenandoah County and Virginia



Below is a table detailing the major employers in and around the Town of Edinburg:

Table 5-E
Major Employers of the Town of Edinburg
 (As of the VEC 2nd Quarter 2003 Employer Accounts Report)

Name of Employer	Business or Product	Employment Range
Georges Chicken LLC	Animal Processing	200 & above
Shenandoah Telephone	Telecommunications	200 & above
John Manville International Inc.	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	50-100
Pattons Masonry Inc.	Specialty Trade Contractors	50-100
The Folder Factory	Printing & Related Support Activities	50-100
Coleman Microwave	Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	25-50
Shenandoah Publications Inc.	Publishing Industries	25-50
Wholesome Foods Inc.	Grocery and Related Product Wholesalers	25-50
C.E. Thompson & Sons Inc.	Building Material and Garden Supply Stores	25-50
Appalachian Freight Carriers Inc.	Truck Transportation	25-50
Shentel Service Co. Inc.	ISPs, Search Portals, & Data Processing	25-50
Automatic Service Company	Nonstore Retailers	25-50
Kennedy Construction Co. Inc.	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	25-50
One Stop Deli Inc.	Food Manufacturing	25-50
Mountain View Rendering	Animal Processing	10-25
Custom Labels	Printing & Related Support Activities	10-25
Edinburg Motors inc.	Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	10-25
Shenandoah Vineyards Inc.	Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing	10-25
Appalachian Truck Service Inc.	Repair & Maintenance	10-25
Town of Edinburg	Public Administration	10-25
Cecil W. Holler Poultry	Truck Transportation	10-25
Laughlin Auctions Inc.	Administrative & Waste Services	10-25
Sal's Italian Bistro	Full Service Restaurant	10-25
Larkin's Grocery	Gasoline Station & Convenience Store	10-25
Polk Brothers Construction Inc.	Commercial Building Construction	10-25
T&W Masonry Inc.	Residential Masonry Contractors	10-25
Ridge Valley Grocery	Gasoline Station & Convenience Store	10-25

Economic Development Goals and Policies

Goal: To have attractive employment opportunities available to Edinburg residents.

Policy: Edinburg will coordinate recruitment policies and programs with the Shenandoah County Economic Development & Tourism Department to create a variety of job opportunities in Edinburg and the surrounding area.

Edinburg will take a proactive and progressive approach to business attraction through marketing packages and marketing studies to better serve the citizens' needs and desires for specific types of businesses compatible to the Town.

Edinburg will partner with small business start-up programs such as WIRE (Winchester Incubation Regional Enterprise) or work with the Small Business Development Center at James Madison University to stimulate new small businesses and enhance existing small businesses within the commercial business district of the Town.

Goal: To attract and retain developments that will produce tax revenues to Edinburg which exceed the cost to the Town of providing services.

Policy: Edinburg will encourage new non-residential land development proposals that appear to have favorable ratio of tax returns to cost services and enhance the character of the Town.

Goal: To develop and retain an attractive "business climate" that demonstrates that local residents and government welcome investment by business, industry, and institutions.

Policy: Edinburg will cooperate with local civic groups to enhance the local business climate.

Edinburg will continue affiliate membership in the Virginia Main Street program.

Goal: To attract and retain business and professional services that fulfill many of the day-to-day needs of the Edinburg residents.

Policy: Edinburg will encourage commercial and professional services diversification to meet the needs of local residents that embrace the historic character of the Town.

Goal: To attract travelers off I-81, U.S. 11 and U.S. 211, and induce them to enjoy the historic features of Edinburg, and to patronize the services and facilities available in Town.

Policies: The Town will strive to preserve and enhance Edinburg's historical character to attract tourists and increase the length of their stay in Edinburg by continuing to enhance the appearance with historic lighting and a pedestrian friendly downtown.

Edinburg will endorse and encourage private and cooperative efforts to conduct campaigns that promote tourism-related activities.

The Town will explore alternate forms of revenue in regards to grant projects that have long term lasting effects that produce jobs or even additional revenue for the Town.

Goal: Support existing businesses and industries.

Policies: The Town will continue its focus to remain a growth center for Shenandoah County to provide employers a labor force and patrons for businesses.

The Town will explore creating additional educational opportunities for local business owners through partnerships with local colleges and technical schools.

Chapter 6

POPULATION

Introduction

The Comprehensive Plan is designed to be a guide for development and must measure community needs. Decisions concerning these needs are dependent on the number and characteristics of the people to be served. Therefore, a study of population is essential to the planning process.

This chapter will discuss the past trends and present characteristics of the Town of Edinburg's population. These trends will be related to the population trends and characteristics of Shenandoah County and the area surrounding Edinburg. The population of Edinburg will be projected to the year 2030 (as shown on Table 6-F). Because population projections are necessarily based on the assumptions about the factors affecting population, projections are subject to significant error. Even with significant error factored into the projections, they are developed as carefully as possible and serve as useful planning tools.

Historical Trends to Present Population

Table 6-A below shows the decennial populations of Edinburg and Shenandoah County from 1970 through the 2000 Census. The relatively wide fluctuations in the Town and County growth rates in the ten year periods since 1970 reflects the sensitivity that the region has had to fluctuations in the national economy, and the steadily declining household size that the nation has experienced this past century.

Table 6-A
Town of Edinburg and Shenandoah County

Year	Edinburg	% Change	Shenandoah County	% Change	Town's % of County's Population
1930	498	N/A	20,655	N/A	2.4%
1940	565	13.5%	20,898	1.2%	2.7%
1950	533	-5.7%	21,169	1.6%	2.5%
1960	517	-3.0%	21,825	3.1%	2.4%
1970	766	48.2%	22,852	4.7%	3.4%
1980	752	-1.8%	27,559	20.6%	2.7%
1990	860	14.4%	31,636	14.8%	2.7%
2000	813	-5.5%	35,075	10.9%	2.3%

Sources: Edinburg Comprehensive Plan, 1979
U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 population counts

Population Characteristics

Edinburg is relatively populated within the corporate limits. The 2000 population of 813 is distributed on 481 acres, resulting in a density of 1.7 persons per acre. The County of Shenandoah had a

population of 35,075 persons distributed on 324,480 acres resulting in a density .11 person per acre. In other words, Edinburg's population density is approximately 15.5 times that of the County as a whole.

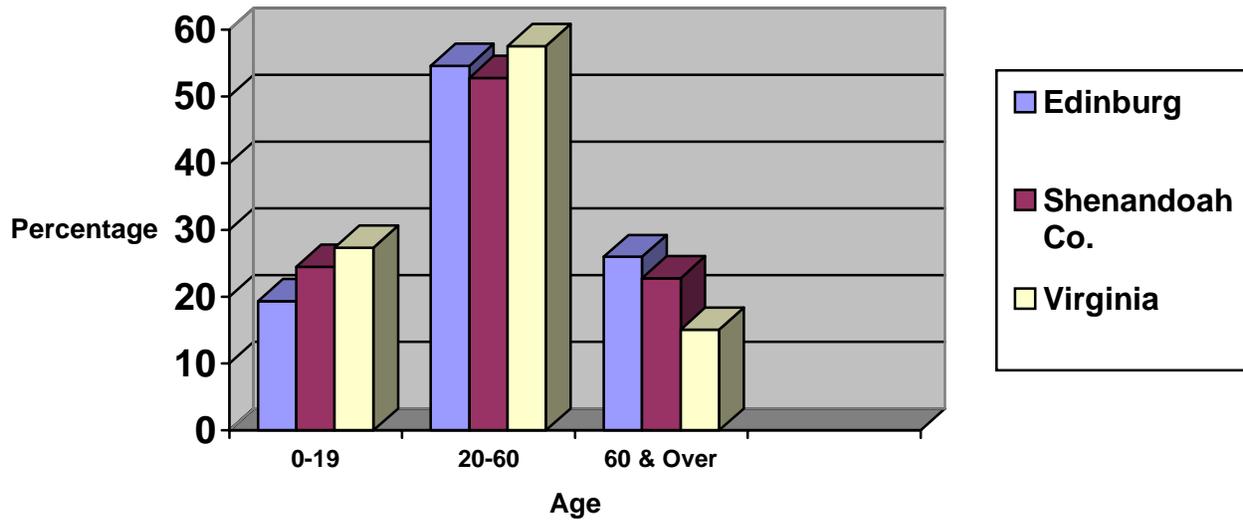
Table 6-B shows the distribution of the population by age group for 1990 and 2000. Edinburg's population is comparable to Shenandoah County's with regard to the median age; in that Edinburg's median age is 41.4 and Shenandoah County's median age is 40.9 in 2000. Both are still higher than the median age of the state of Virginia at 35.9 years of age. There are a greater percentage of persons in the group of 20-60 in Edinburg than there is in both the 0-19 age group and the 60 and older age group in the year 2000. Please refer to Table 6-B and Table 6-C.

Table 6-B
Edinburg's Age Distribution

Age Group	1990		2000	
	Number	% Of Total	Number	% Of Total
Under 5 years	36	4.3	40	4.9
5 -9 years	31	3.6	43	5.3
10-14 years	37	4.3	43	5.3
15-19 years	47	5.4	32	3.9
20-24 years	76	8.8	57	7.0
25-34 years	147	17.1	121	14.9
35-44 years	120	14.0	103	12.7
45-54 years	77	9.0	108	13.3
55-59 years	48	5.6	55	6.8
60-64 years	39	4.5	37	4.6
65-74 years	98	11.4	84	10.3
75-84 years	80	9.3	58	7.1
85 years and over	24	2.8	32	3.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population 1990 & 2000

**Figure 6-1
Comparative Age Categories**



**Table 6-C
Percentage of Age Distribution
Edinburg, Shenandoah County, & State of Virginia**

Age Group	Edinburg	Shenandoah Co.	Virginia
0-19	20.9%	24.5%	27.4%
20-60	51.5%	52.8%	57.6%
61 & Over	27.5%	22.8%	15.1%

**Table 6-D
Median Age 1990 and 2000
Edinburg, Shenandoah County, & State of Virginia**

Year	Edinburg	Shenandoah Co.	Virginia
1990	40.1	37.4	32.6
2000	41.4	40.9	35.7

Sex Distribution 1990 & 2000

	Edinburg		Shenandoah Co.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1990	389	471	15,280	16,356
2000	391	422	17,075	18,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population 1990 & 2000

Females comprised 51.9 percent and males 48.1 percent of Edinburg’s total population. This represents a higher percentage of females than either the County of Shenandoah (51.3%) or the State (51.0%). This ratio has remained constant during the ten-year span between the 1990 Census and the 2000 Census.

As mentioned in the section on historical trends, the average household size for the Town has followed the national and state trends of a slow and steady decline. This means that for any given increase in population, there will have to be an even greater increase in the number of dwelling units, since there will be individual households. Table 6-E compares Edinburg, the County of Shenandoah, and the State of Virginia for 1990 and 2000.

Table 6-E
Household Size, 1990 & 2000
Edinburg, Shenandoah Co. & State of Virginia

Year	Edinburg	Shenandoah Co.	Virginia
1990	2.14	2.50	2.61
2000	2.09	2.42	2.54

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1990 & 2000

Edinburg also follows the pattern of Shenandoah County with regard to the racial composition of its population. Compared to Virginia, there is a very small percentage of non-whites in the Town, and even more so in the County. This is a long-standing trend for most of the rural portions of the Shenandoah Valley.

Table 6-F
Racial Composition, 1990 and 2000
Edinburg, Shenandoah Co., & State of Virginia

Year	Race	Edinburg	Shenandoah Co.	Virginia
1990	% White	99.8%	98.2%	77.4%
	% Non- White	0.2%	2.8%	22.6%
2000	% White	94.0%	96.4%	72.3%
	% Non-White	6.0%	3.6%	27.7%

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1990 & 2000

Projections

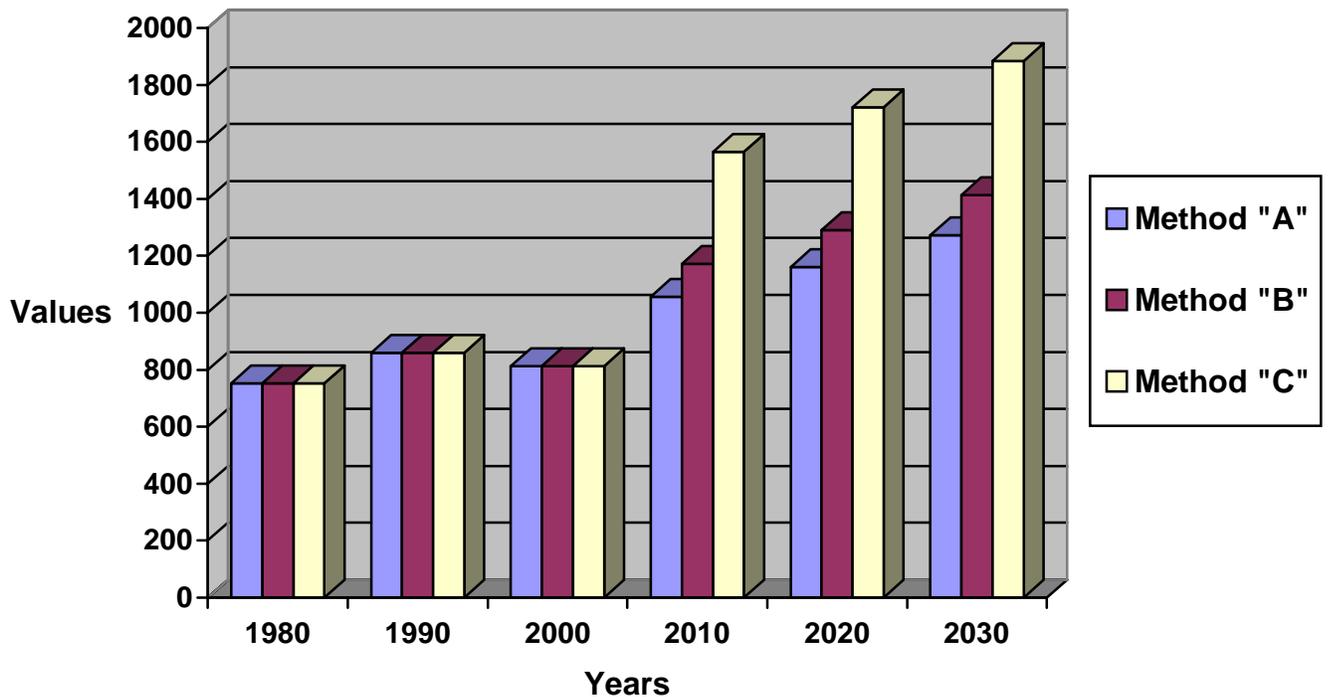
The future population projection is an indicator of the Town’s growth potential. The size, kind, and number of community facilities available, as well as the potential for industrial, commercial, and residential expansion, are related to future population estimates. Population projections are based on an analysis of past trends and present development. With a relatively small population base, unforeseeable events could greatly alter the projections. The establishment or closing down of a large industry in or near Edinburg is an example of such an unexpected event.

Population forecasts here are based on the assumption that stable economic and political conditions will exist, that no major natural or man-made disasters will occur, and that the present social structure will remain basically unchanged. The estimates are also based on the Town's most current corporate boundaries.

Lack of historical data makes an overall trend analysis difficult. Shenandoah County's Comprehensive Plan calls for growth in the county to occur at existing population centers, so Edinburg might well capture a higher percentage of the County's growth than it has in the past due to recent growth and development trends within the Northern Shenandoah Valley.

Figure 6-2 shows a range of population projections, which appear to be reasonable for Edinburg. These figures are also shown in tabular form in Table 6-G.

Figure 6-2
Population Projections



Notes

Method A: Assumes that Edinburg will maintain 2.7 % of Shenandoah County’s population. (2.7% is the average percentage of population captured over the last 8 decades)*

Method B: Assumes that Edinburg will maintain 3% of Shenandoah County’s population.*

Method C: Assumes that Edinburg will maintain 4% of Shenandoah County’s population.*

- County population projections are those provided by the Virginia Employment Commission.

Table 6-G

Population Projections

Method	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030
“A”	752	860	813	1,056	1,161	1,272
“B”	752	860	813	1,173	1,290	1,413
“C”	752	860	813	1,564	1,720	1,884
Average of Projections:				1,264	1,390	1,523

Chapter 7

HOUSING

Since the housing needs of the Town's residents can be expected to change and because the provision of housing is affected by the actions of the Town government, it is necessary for the Town to have a plan for meeting the expected housing needs of its citizens.

The objective of this housing section is to identify the housing needs of the current and prospective population and recommend strategies to meet those needs, ensuring a choice of housing types and locations.

The analysis begins with a look at the most recent census data on Edinburg's housing stock and its adequacy. It then moves to current estimates of the housing stock and then considers projections of households, housing stock losses, and the resulting dwelling needs. This analysis is followed by a discussion of strategies for meeting the needs identified.

Housing Stock



Edinburg had a total of 425 housing units as of Census 2000, with 385 occupied and 40 vacant units, for a vacancy rate of 6.9 percent for homeowners and 4.7 percent for rental property. The housing stock consists primarily of single-family, detached, owner occupied homes. There were 58 housing units built between 1990 and 2000, which is a 13.6 percent change within the ten-year span. Owner occupied housing units only decreased by 4.3 percent whereas renter occupied units

decreased 0.5 percent. This has been a growing trend within the Town of Edinburg in the past couple of decades.

Rising housing costs, decreasing household size, and expected population growth margins will require that the Town allow for affordable housing for all citizens. There is an increasing market for single-family housing for out of county commuters, retirees, and semi-retirees who are settling in the Town.

Edinburg's 2000 housing stock is profiled in Table 7-A on the following page.

Table 7-A
Housing Stock 2000 Census
Town of Edinburg

Total Housing Units:	425
Occupied:	385
Vacant:	40
For Seasonal, Recreational or Occasional Use:	4
Homeowner Vacancy Rate:	6.9%
Rental Vacancy Rate:	4.7%
Owner Occupied Housing Units:	201
Renter Occupied Housing Units:	184
Average household size of owner-occupied units:	2.08
Average household size of renter-occupied units:	2.10

Source: 2000 Census; Profile of General Demographic Characteristics

Adequacy of the housing stock is measured only indirectly in the 2000 Census. The two most common indicators of a substandard unit is overcrowding, defined as 1.01 or more persons per room; and the other indicator is the complete lack of plumbing facilities for exclusive use of the household. In the 2000 Census, only 1.3% of Edinburg’s occupied dwelling units were considered overcrowded. No houses in Edinburg are lacking complete plumbing facilities.

Another measure of adequacy had to do with the cost of a unit compared to household income. If the household is paying more than 25 to 30 percent of its gross income for housing, including utilities, then the unit (structurally standard or not) can be considered too costly relative to the household income. In some respects this is a measure of the adequacy of the income; however it indicates to what degree the market is providing adequate housing at certain price levels.

Table 7-B shows the 1990 and 2000 housing stock for the Town and for Shenandoah County. During the decade, Edinburg’s housing stock increased from 2.8% of the County’s total housing stock to 2.9%. Although this is not a substantial increase, it helps to accomplish a goal presented within the Shenandoah County Comprehensive Plan to guide and direct growth into the incorporated towns and other public service areas.

Table 7-B
1990 and 2000 Housing Stock
Edinburg and Shenandoah County

Year	Edinburg	Shenandoah County
1990	427 (2.8%)	15,160
2000	425 (2.5%)	16,709

Source: U.S. Census of Population and Housing 1990 and 2000

Projections

The housing market must supply enough units to meet the growth in households and provide enough surplus units to allow for adequate vacancy rate for replacement of substandard or destroyed dwellings.

As discussed earlier in this chapter, the average household size has been declining for many years, and this trend is projected to continue. Table 7-C below shows the projections of household size and the total number of households in Edinburg. Assuming Edinburg’s household size continues to decline at its current rate for 1980 through 2000, the average household size in the Town in 2030 will have 2.0 persons. With a projected 50% increase in population between 2000 and 2030 (according to a 3% capture of Shenandoah County’s projected population), combined with a decline in the average household size will mean a need for an 90% increase in the number of dwelling units, or an additional 384 units.



In the near future, a projected increase of 44% in population between 2000 and 2010 (according to a 3% capture of Shenandoah County’s projected population), along with the decline in the household size will mean a need for 53% increase in the number of dwelling units, or an additional 224 units.

Table 7-C
Projections of Households in Edinburg

	Actual 2000	2010	2020	2030
Population	813	1,173	1,290	1,413
Persons per Household	2.09	2.07	2.03	2.00
Number of Households	385	567	635	707
Number of Housing Units	425	649	727	809

- Population projections are based on Edinburg maintaining 3% of Shenandoah County’s Population.
- Number of Housing Units determined by assuming that Edinburg would maintain a vacancy rate of 6.9%.

Source: June 2001, Household Projections 2050, By Growth Center and Rural Locations for Transportation Planning and Land Use Analysis: Lord Fairfax Planning District Commission (Currently Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission)

These future projections suggest that it will be important for the Town to maintain a vacancy rate that parallels the national average in order to assure that there will be adequate housing for the growing population. It will also be important for the Town to assure that there is enough residentially zoned land that would allow and encourage residential growth in the areas that the Town deems growth centers.

Replacement of Dwellings:

All substandard units should either be brought up to standard by rehabilitation or removed from the housing stock. Due to the high costs of new construction, it is expected that most of these units would be rehabilitated. Many homeowners cannot afford to move and therefore choose to improve their current homes. Some families purchase older but larger and perhaps substandard structures and gradually improve them, which gives them more square footage of living space than they could purchase outright in perfect condition. Creation and use of apartments on the upper floors of buildings in the Central Business District needs to be encouraged and aided by appropriate ordinances.

In addition to planned replacement of substandard units, other losses can be expected to occur in the housing stock. Units are lost due to: deterioration to a point where they are unfit for habitation; natural disasters such as fire and flood; man-made changes such as conversion to non-residential uses, or to group quarters, or removal from site.

Summary:

Single-family residences should remain the primary objective for future planning of the Town. Between 1990 and 2000 there were 58 additional housing units created and this total is projected to increase 52.7% between 2000 and 2010 in order to meet the needs of an increasing population with smaller average household size, to enable the elimination of substandard units that can be economically rehabilitated from the housing stock, and to provide an adequate vacancy rate for the housing market. This translates into an annual average of 22 new units. The Town will seek to secure grants to revitalize substandard units.

As with all projections, these projections are based on assumptions about the continuation of recent growth trends, making periodic re-evaluation of the trends and projections necessary for proper planning.

Several strategies will have to be followed in order to promote an adequate housing supply without jeopardizing the charm and infrastructure in the Town of Edinburg. These include adequate acreage designation in the comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance for residential growth, and procedures to ensure those adequate utilities and other public facilities are provided for planned growth areas.

Housing Goals and Policies

Goal: Edinburg should ensure that housing in a suitable environment will be available according to the need and income of present and future area residents.

Policy: Encourage the appropriate growth and establishment of residential areas to provide for varying densities and different types of housing.

The use of various type housing units, such as townhouses and garden apartments in addition to single-family dwellings at different housing densities, will provide homes for Town residents of all ages, income groups and family sizes.

Policy: Ensure that residential growth will occur only when and where services and facilities, such as public water and sewer and transportation infrastructure, are made possible by good access management and are able to accommodate the development.

This will help to concentrate development and minimize the public cost of services. Concentration will protect open land in the Town.

This will encourage the preservation of the existing neighborhoods and the many historical homes in the Town, as well as continue to instill a sense of community pride.

Policies: Prohibit incompatible uses from locating in low and medium-density residential areas.

This will protect those areas from the potentially adverse effects of high-density residential land uses, and commercial and industrial activities.

Policy: Prohibit the construction of dwellings in those areas defined as a flood plain in order to minimize property loss.

Policy: Require new residential subdivisions to have streets which meet State road standards.

Goal: To preserve the quality of Edinburg's existing housing stock.

Policy: Edinburg should continue to identify and address community development problems, including substandard housing and public facility deficiencies.

TRANSPORTATION

The capacity of the town's transportation system affects not only the quality of life for residents, but also the ability of Edinburg to attract and retain business and industry and maintain its role as a regional tourist center. This element outlines the development opportunities and limitations presented by Edinburg's transportation resources.

The Road Network:

Edinburg is served by a road system with three major components:

1. Interstate 81 serves as "principal arterial"
2. U.S. Route 11 (Main Street) serves as a "major collector"
3. All other routes in the area serve as "minor collectors"

Definitions:

Principal arterials are high speed connecting links between major population centers within states and between larger cities and towns within a state.

Major collectors connect the locally important travel generators to nearby towns on higher-class roads.

Interstate 81 runs North/ South; the town lies east of the freeway.

Figure 8-1, on the following page, identifies the Edinburg road system.

Road Conditions:

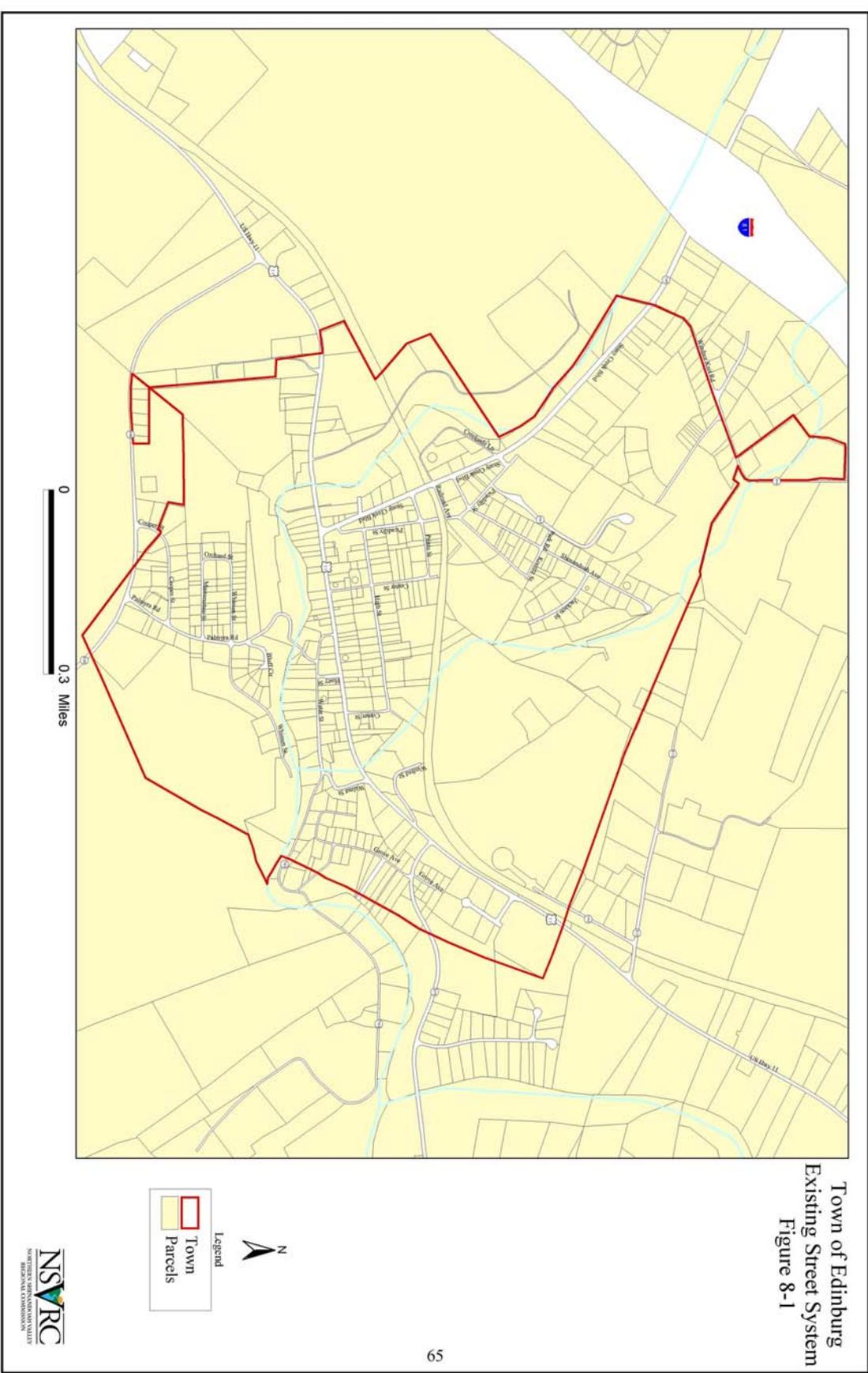
An inventory of the primary roads within the study area is presented in Table 8-A. An inventory of the secondary roads within the study area is presented in Table 8-B.



The major street system serving Edinburg appears to be built to generally accepted standards.

Minor collector routes vary in condition. Most of them are paved, although some are narrow and lack centerline marking, curbs, or gutters. A few of these routes are gravel surfaced.

Edinburg should work closely with the County government in planning for new and improved roads; coordination with VDOT is essential in forming the properties for roadway improvements;



Town of Edinburg
Existing Street System
Figure 8-1

Legend

- Town
- Parcels



TABLE 8-A
ROAD INVENTORY OF PRIMARY ROADS AND STREETS IN THE TOWN OF EDINBURG (2003)

Route	From	To	Length	Total Pavement Width	Right Shoulder	Left Shoulder	Surface Type	Base Type	Function Type
11	SCL Edinburg	Rt. 185 (Stoney Blvd.)	.28	36-39	6	6	6	7	4
11	Rt. 185 (Stoney Blvd.)	Center St.	.100	39	6	6	6	7	4
11	Center St.	Water St.	.07	39	6	6	6	7	4
11	Water St.	Hisey St.	.07	39	6	6	6	7	4
11	Hisey St.	Coner St.	.06	39	6	6	6	7	4
11	Coner St.	Walnut St.	.110	40	0	0	6	7	4
11	Walnut St.	Winifred St.	.100	28	6	6	6	7	4
11	Winifred St.	Gap Terminus	.40	28	6	6	6	7	4
11	Gap Terminus	NCL Edinburg	.240	28	6	6	6	7	4
185	WCL Edinburg	Creekside Lane	.36	40	0	0	6	1	4
185	Creekside Lane	Shenandoah Ave.	.07	40	0	0	6	1	4
185	Shenandoah Ave.	Creekside Lane	.03	44	0	0	6	1	4
185	Creekside Lane	Gap Terminus	.17	44	0	0	6	1	4
185	Gap Terminus	Route 11 (Main Street)	.03	44	0	0	6	1	4

Surface Type:
 4 = Light Bituminous Treatment-sand and gravel treatments
 6 = Plant Mix - Bituminous concrete, sand asphalt

Base Type:
 0 = Not Applicable unknown or stabilized
 1 = Bituminous Concrete (black base)
 2 = Stabilized w/ selected materials (soil, gravel, stone, etc.)

Functional Class:
 2 = Rural Other Principal Arterial
 3 = Rural Minor Arterial
 4 = Rural Major Collector
 6 = Rural Local

Shoulder:
 7 = Penetration Macadam and Water Bound Macadam

**TABLE 8-B
ROAD INVENTORY OF SECONDARY ROADS AND STREETS IN THE TOWN OF EDINBURG (2003)**

Route	From	To	Length	Total Pavement Width	Right Shoulder	Left Shoulder	Surface Type	Base Type	Function Type
675	St. Rt. 185 (Greenside Lane)	Shenandoah Ave.	.110	18	2	2	4	2	6
675	Shenandoah Ave.	Gap Terminus	.030	18	2	2	4	2	6
675	Gap Terminus	Prinz St.	.030	20	2	2	4	2	6
675	Prinz St.	Rt. 1402	.090	20	1	1	4	2	4
675	Rt. 1402	U.S. Route 11	.050	20	1	1	4	2	4
675	U.S. Route 11	Route 784	.070	20	1	1	4	2	4
675	Route 784	ECL Edinburg	.100	20	1	1	4	2	4
698	ECL Edinburg	WCL Edinburg	.16	20	6	6	5	6	4
760	Water St.	Rt. 1419	.050	14	2	2	4	2	4
760	Rt. 1419	Rt. 1407	.030	14	2	2	4	2	4
760	Rt. 1407	Walnut St.	.170	12	0	0	4	2	4
760	Walnut St.	ECL Edinburg	.140	12	0	0	4	2	4
784	Dead End	North Grove Ave.	.290	14	2	2	4	2	6
797	Rt. 675	Dead End	.100	16	2	2	4	2	6
1401	Rt. 675	Dead End	.27	17 to 14	4	4	4	2	6
1402	Rt. 675	Dead End	.32	16	4	4	4	2	6
1403	Water St.	U.S. Rt. 11	.08	18	4	4	4	2	6
1404	Dead End	U.S. Rt. 11	.150	16	2	2	4	6	6
1405	St. Rt. 185	Rt. 675	.120	20	0	0	6	6	6
1405	Rt. 675	Dead End	.09	14	2	2	4	2	6
1406	Orchard St.	Rt. 1419	.120	18	6	6	4	2	6
1406	Rt. 1419	Dead End	.210	18	2	2	4	2	6
1407	Rt. 760	Hesey St.	.04	18	3	3	4	2	6
1408	Orchard St.	Rt. 1419	.120	18	6	6	4	2	6
1410	St. Rt. 185	NCL Edinburg	.340	18	5	5	4	6	6
1413	Shenandoah Ave.	Dead End	.050	16	2	2	4	2	6
1414	Massanutten St.	South Wissen St.	.040	18	6	6	4	2	6
1415	Rt. 1419	Dead End	.060	16	4	4	3	6	6
1417	Rt. 698	SCL Edinburg	.040	20	0	0	4	6	6
1418	Dead End	NCL Edinburg	.08	22	4	4	6	6	6
1419	Cooper St.	Water St.	.30	16	2	2	4	2	4
1420	Shenandoah Ave.	Dead End	.130	18	4	4	4	6	6

Surface Type:
 4 = Light Bituminous Treatment - sand and gravel treatments
 6 = Plant Mix - bituminous concrete, sand asphalt

Base Type:
 0 = Not Applicable, unknown or stabilized
 1 = Bituminous Concrete (Black base)
 2 = Stabilized w/ selected materials (soil, gravel, stone, etc.)
 7 = Precast Concrete and Water Bound Macadam

Functional Class:
 2 = Rural Other Principal Arterial
 3 = Rural Minor Arterial
 4 = Rural Major Collector
 6 = Rural Local

TABLE 8-C
Virginia Department of Transportation
2003
Annual Average Daily Traffic Volume Estimates By Section of Route

Route	Name	From	To	ADT	AAWDT
11		SCL Edinburg	State Route 185	4,600	4,700
11		State Route 185	NCL Edinburg	7,300	7,400
185		WCL Edinburg	U.S. Route 11	4,400	4,400
675	Stony Creek Road	State Route 185	Dead End; Gap Terminus	150	N/A
675	Stony Creek Road	Dead End; Gap Terminus	Route 1402	340	N/A
675	Stony Creek Road	Route 1402	State Route 185 (Gap Terminus)	170	170
675	Stony Creek Road	U.S. Route 11	ECL Edinburg	1,800	1,900
698		ECL Edinburg	Route 1419	440	440
698		Route 1419	WCL Edinburg	420	N/A
760		U.S. Route 11	Route 1419	320	320
760		Route 1419	Hisey Street	660	N/A
760		Hisey Street	Walnut Street	170	N/A
760		Walnut Street	ECL Edinburg	100	N/A
784		Dead End	Route 675 & 797	150	N/A
797	North Grove Street	Route 675 & 784	Dead End	70	N/A
1401	Shenandoah Ave.	Stony Creek Road	Dead End	550	N/A
1402		Route 675	Stony Creek Road	150	N/A
1402		Stony Creek Road	Dead End	340	340
1403	Walnut Street	Water Street	U.S. Route 11	340	N/A
1404		Dead End	U.S. Route 11	60	N/A
1405	Pinitz Street	State Route 185	Stony Creek Road	810	N/A
1405	Pinitz Street	Stony Creek Road	Dead End	330	N/A
1406	South Wissem Street	Orchard Street	Route 1419	80	N/A
1406	South Wissem Street	Route 1419	Dead End	90	N/A
1407	Hisey Street	Water Street	U.S. Route 11	660	N/A
1408	Massanutten Street	Orchard Street	Route 1419	60	N/A

Annual Average Daily Traffic Volume Estimates By Section of Route (Page 2 of 2)

Route	Name	From	To	AADT	AAVDI
1410	Windsor Knit Road	State Route 185	NCL Edinburg	820	N/A
1413	Koontz Street	Sherandoah Ave.	Dead End	70	N/A
1414	Orchard Street	Massanutten Street	South Wissen Street	70	N/A
1415	Pahyira Road Ext.	Route 1419	Dead End	10	N/A
1417	Cooper Street	SCL Edinburg	SCL	70	N/A
1417	Cooper Street	SCL	Route 1419	70	N/A
1418	Mill Road	Dead End	NCL Edinburg	50	N/A
1419		Route 698	Cooper Street	270	280
1419		Cooper Street	Water Street	510	510
1420		Sherandoah Ave.	Dead End	110	N/A

development standards for all types of development need to be reviewed to ensure adequate provision of needed transportation facilities.

Parking in the Downtown:

The Town of Edinburg has adequate parking for the downtown. Most of the parking is on street parking, however Shentel Incorporated allows off street parking during after hours of their business. The Town is also creating a public parking lot at the Edinburg Mill Museum after the renovation is complete and will be a start for the current walking tour and eventually for the “river walk” project alongside Stony Creek.

Railroads:



Two major rail lines serve Shenandoah County. Both Norfolk Southern and CSX Corporation have lines passing through the county. However, the rail lines do not come into the town. The closest point is approximately three miles north of the Town and is within 10 miles of the Town’s southern corporate line. Both of these lines are primarily used for industrial purposes with passenger services available in the Washington D.C. area and Martinsburg, West Virginia area.

Airports:

The closest air taxi service is available at the Winchester Regional Airport, which is about a 35 minute drive north of Edinburg. Scheduled air carrier service is planned. The airport has a 5,500’ x 100’ asphalt runway, with pilot controlled high intensity runway lights. Limousines, taxis and rental cars are available. Approved instrument approaches are available.

Scheduled air carrier and air taxi service is also available at the Shenandoah Regional Airport, which is about an hour’s drive south from Edinburg. The airport has 6,002 feet x 150 feet grooved asphalt runway with high intensity runway lights, which are pilot controlled, and a beacon which is on from dusk to dawn. It is serviced by U.S. Air Express regional airlines. Limousine service, taxis and rental cars are available. A full instrument landing system and a non-directional beacon approach are both available.

Transportation Goals and Policies:

Goal: To have through-traffic pass through Town without disturbing or disrupting residents of Edinburg.

Policies: Edinburg will request VDOT to study the issues of disturbance from traffic, and to recommend one or more solutions to the Town for its consideration.

The Town will also begin to work along with Shenandoah County on implementing the findings in the Old Valley Pike Corridor Study.

Goal: To retain the flow of tourist traffic through the central business district, along Routes 11.

- Policies:** Edinburg will continue to work with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to ensure local road needs are met, including those needs related to capacity and circulation.
- Edinburg will continue to promote the “Main Street” ideas to filter traffic, be it of tourists or residents to the Central Business District.
- Goal:** To have all uses of land in Edinburg provided with an adequate amount of off-street parking, for use of residents, employees, and visitors.
- Policies:** Edinburg will continue to require, through its zoning ordinance, that all new residential and commercial developments provide adequate off street parking facilities for residents, employees, and customers.
- Edinburg will cooperate with groups of property owners that may wish to join together to develop and maintain parking areas.
- Goal:** To improve traffic and pedestrian safety in the Central Business District.
- Policy:** Edinburg will request VDOT to study the issue of traffic and pedestrian safety in the central business district and to recommend one or more solutions that will:
1. Enhance pedestrian safety
 2. Retain and enhance the attractive character of the central business district
- Goal:** To have all properties in Edinburg well-served by public streets which have adequate capacity, are well paved and drained, and which are designed to be safe and convenient.
- Policy:** Edinburg will continue to cooperate with VDOT in the design of new streets, and in scheduling the maintenance and improvement of existing streets.
- Goal:** To have alternatives to the private car available for local transportation of those Edinburg residents who do not own or cannot operate a private car.
- Policy:** While not subsidizing programs, Edinburg will nevertheless endorse and encourage the use of alternative forms of private transportation, such as walking, bicycling, ridesharing, van shuttle service, and taxis.
- Goal:** To ensure the safety of pedestrian traffic along Edinburg’s major streets.
- Policies:** The Town will develop a program to replace and upgrade the existing sidewalks and will develop a master plan or a Capital Improvements Plan for the installation of new sidewalks.
- Speed limits and traffic patterns will be kept at safe levels as determined by the community and the Virginia Department of Transportation.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Public services are essential to the community structure. They support existing and planned development and contribute to the health, safety, education and general welfare of Edinburg residents. Public services include:

- General government services
- Public utilities
- Public safety services
- Culture, recreation, and open space facilities
- Public schools

Responsibility for providing public services in Edinburg is divided between the Town and Shenandoah County. The Town currently provides public utility service, police protection and a limited amount of recreational facilities for Town residents. The County's responsibilities include the provision of public schools, a library, and recreation and open space facilities. Fire and rescue services, which are provided by volunteers, receive financial support from the Town and County.

The organization of this plan element reflects this division of responsibility, starting with services for which the Town has primary responsibility and concluding with those which the Town has limited responsibility. The purpose of this element is to discuss current and projected levels of public services and the degree to which the Town's existing involvement in, or responsibility for, such services should be maintained or expanded during the planning period.

Town Government:

The legislative body of Edinburg consists of the Mayor and the Town Council. A Planning Commission advises them on matters concerning Town development.

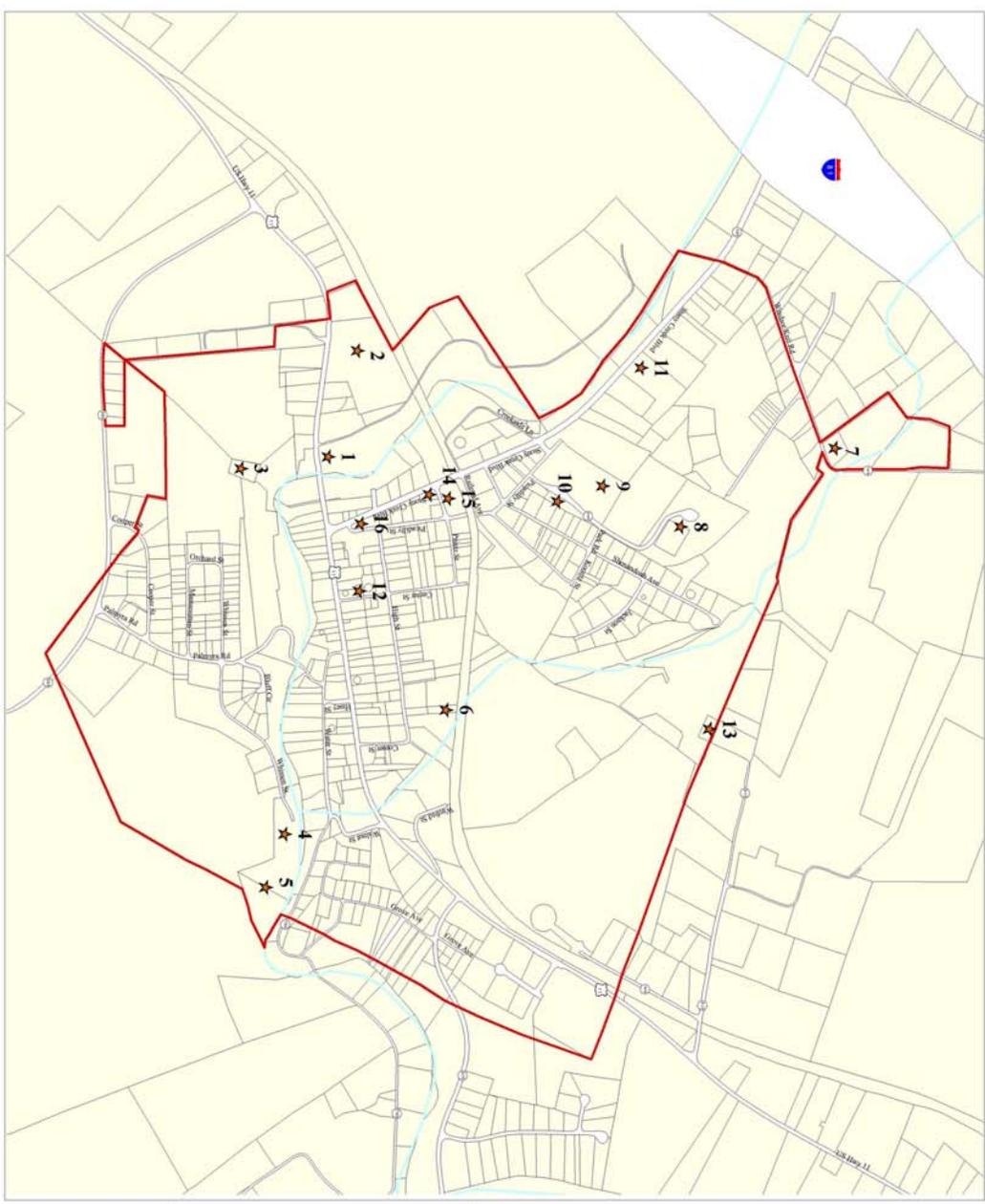
The following committees are established by ordinance:

- Administration
- Finance
- Water and Sewer
- Personnel
- Health and Safety
- Streets and Sidewalks
- Cemetery
- Ordinance
- Property
- Insurance
- Parks and Recreation



Edinburg employs a Town Manager, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Public Works Supervisor, a Chief of Police and a small staff. The Town Attorney is appointed by the Town Council and is utilized on an as-

Town of Edinburg
Community Facilities
Figure 9-1



- ★ Community Facility**
- 1 Edinburg Mill
 - 2 Community Center
 - 3 Old Town Cemetery
 - 4 West Water Treatment Plant
 - 5 Maintenance Department Shop
 - 6 Wd#1 and Water Treatment Plant
 - 7 Wd#2
 - 8 Town Park
 - 9 County Parks and Rec Dept and Senior Center
 - 10 Town Hall and Police Department
 - 11 County Library
 - 12 Old Town Hall and Opera House (Prince House of Theater (Shenandoah))
 - 13 Bernard Sotelo Galvan Water Tank and 200,000 Galvan Ground Storage Tank
 - 14 Town Garden and Christmas Tree
 - 15 Edinburg Volunteer Fire Department
 - 16 Confederate Monument and Town Flag Pole
- ▭ Town Boundary**
- ▭ Waverney**



Legend



needed basis. Engineering related services are contracted out on an as-needed basis. Operation of the water and wastewater treatment plants is contracted out to EEMA – O&M Services.

In 1998, Edinburg completed the remodeling of a 2,400 square foot municipal building, which houses the Police Department and General Governmental Operations. The building was formerly part of the school that the municipal office neighbors.

Public Utilities:

Public utilities include the Town's water supply and sewage treatment systems and solid waste service.

Water Supply and Distribution:

The Town of Edinburg owns and operates its own water treatment and distribution system. Extensive improvements to treatment, storage and distribution were completed in 1998 to meet requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.



Water is supplied by two wells located within the Town limits. Well number 1 is located off North High Street and has a safe yield of 260 gallons per minute (GPM). Well number 2 is located toward Interstate 81 off Windsor Knit Road and has a safe yield of 90 GPM. A Memcor micro-filtration plant located at the Well #1 site filters both wells. The water from both wells is blended at this site and treated by the 225,000 gallon per day plant. All water enters the Town's distribution system from this plant after treatment and chlorinating. Water is pumped to an elevated 500,000 gallon storage tank located on the north end of Town. An additional 200,000 gallon ground storage tank was also placed at this site in 2004. The elevated storage tank is at the same elevation as a 100,000 gallon tank located outside of Town at the old reservoir location. Once full, water is pushed from the elevated tank to the 100,000 gallon tank by gravity. The elevated tank located in Town pressurizes the distribution system. This provides adequate pressure to all parts of the Town. The 200,000 gallon ground tank located on the elevated tank site requires the pumping in and out of water to be utilized. This tank will be used on a regular basis and will pressurize system in the event that the elevated tank is taken off line.

Distribution system improvements are an ongoing project within the Town. Twelve inch water mains were installed with the construction of the elevated tank, connecting the tank to existing water mains on North Main Street, Shenandoah Avenue and Windsor Knit Road. Efforts over the past ten years have also been underway to eliminate dead-end lines and increase line sizes throughout the Town. All new construction is evaluated for future growth with lines sized to support the additional development. Where deemed necessary, the Town funds the difference in the cost for larger line sizes than might be required for development. No new water mains less than six inches are permitted.

In mid 2004, the Town of Edinburg had 496 customers in Town and 62 outside of Town. Water use averages 145,000 gallons per day. A number of additional subdivisions were approved the first half of 2004 that will impact the number of water customers within the Town. Two 5 lot subdivisions, 79 Townhouses, 36 condominiums and number of individual houses are approved for, or under construction. There is also additional undeveloped land within the Town that has the potential of being

developed in the near future. The Town will need to evaluate current capacity, and ways to increase it, if development continues.

Out of Town water customers are located just beyond the Town's limits for the most part. The Town does supply water to the Cave Spring subdivision across the Shenandoah River, on the way to the old Town reservoir. While a six inch main serves this area, the distribution system within the subdivision is not adequate. These lines are owned by the homeowners and are their responsibility. Pressure and volume problems occur frequently.

Pressure and volume are not a problem within the Town, or areas served adjoining the Town. The Town is in the process of evaluating fire flows from its existing hydrants. This has been greatly improved over the past ten years and the Town plans to identify the higher flowing hydrants.

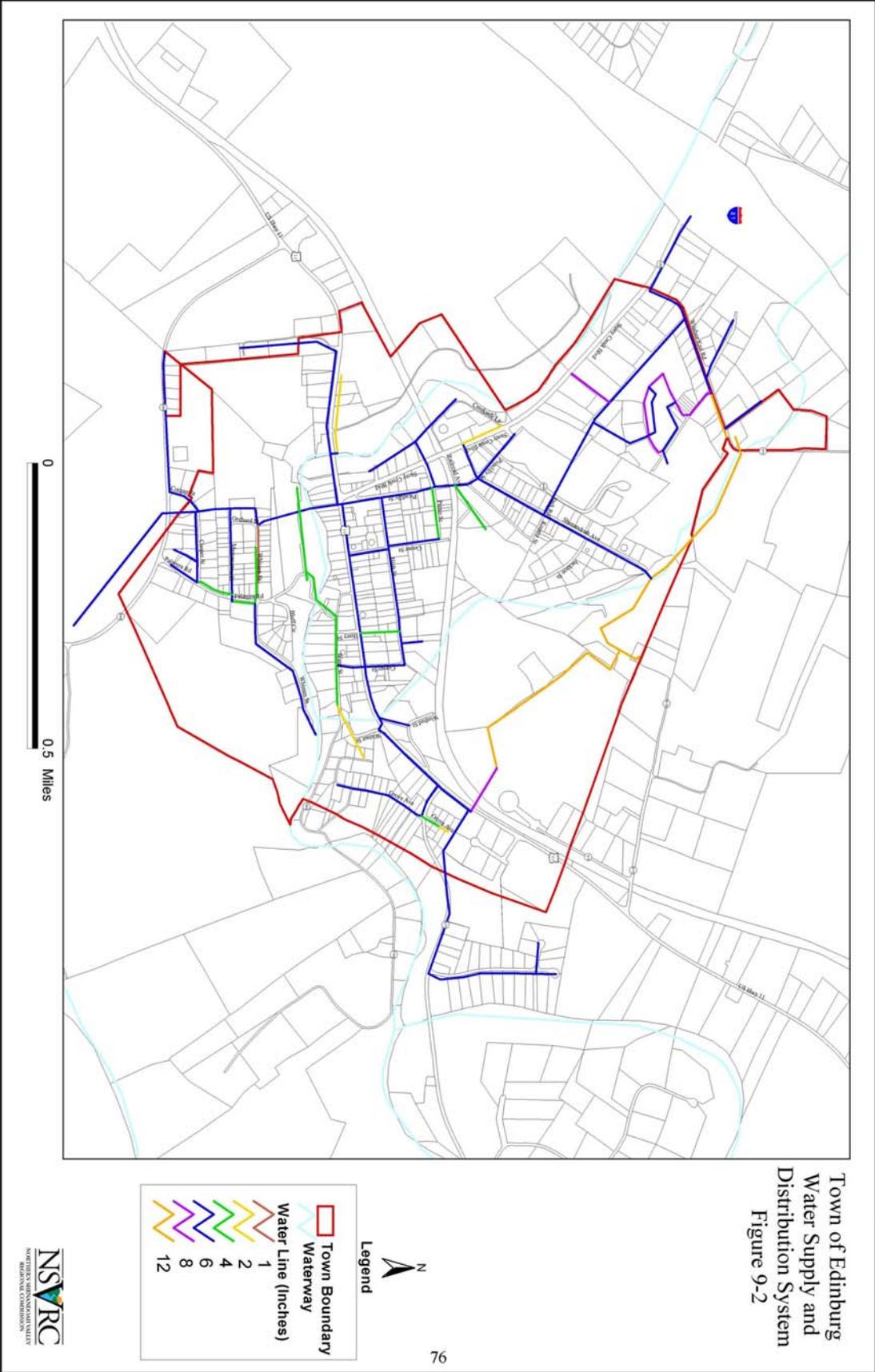
The Town adopted a Wellhead Protection Plan in early 2004. The plan identified the threat of contamination to the recharge areas of the Town wells. The proximity of the recharge areas to Interstate 81 is a cause for concern. One goal of the plan is to develop and incorporate mountain springs as a third source of water for the Town. These springs once served as the Town's main water source and were taken off line in the early 1990's because of the need for treatment. While not able to supply the total amount of water required, they are a source far removed from the impact of contamination from I-81. Plans are to investigate using the old 500,000 gallon reservoir as raw water storage and building a second treatment plant at the site. The existing 100,000 gallon tank would be used for finished water storage and coordinated with the Town's distribution systems. This would also serve to increase the daily production capacity of the Town system.

The Town of Edinburg is currently in a good position with its water system. There is some room for growth and recent upgrades have given the customers a quality product. Substantial growth or future annexation will require careful evaluation to assure that quality continues to be provided to residents. The Town signed a second five year contract for the operation of the Water Treatment Plant in 2003. Contract operation has allowed the Town to have the expertise to meet today's regulations and control operating expenses.

Sewage Disposal:

Sewage treatment is provided by a 175,000 gallon per day plant located on Stony Creek about 3,500 feet upstream from its junction with the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. This facility provides a secondary degree of treatment and serves 460 customers in Town and 34 out of Town. There are still a small number of septic systems within the Town. Many of these homes have taken advantage of a discounted tap fee and will be hooking to the sewer system in the near future. The Town does not permit the repair or replacement of a septic system within the Town. The average daily flow at the plant is 116,000 gallons.

While much of Edinburg's sewage collection dates back to the 1920's, a number of improvements have been completed since the late 1980's. In addition to an upgrade to the treatment plant, a new eight inch interceptor line was installed down Spring Hollow from Windsor Knit Road to the existing interceptor at Stony Creek. Additional eight inch lines were installed to serve Windsor Knit Road, Molineu Road, Shenandoah Avenue, Jackson Street, a section of North Main Street and East Hisey Street. The Town also replaced a section of line along Stony Creek and lined 1,500 feet of line on South Main Street. Additional repairs and improvements continue to curb excessive infiltration and inflow. The Town has improved the situation greatly over the past ten years.



Town of Edinburg
Water Supply and
Distribution System
Figure 9-2

Although the monthly average flows are only 66% of the treatment plant's design capacity, these will be impacted by the same development that will affect the Town's water system. In addition the Town has approved 60 out of Town sewer taps for the Massanutten View Subdivision on the other side of I-81. A pump-station has been designed and construction is well underway. Like the water system, there is room for growth within the sewer system. Likewise, substantial development will require additional capacity be added at the treatment plant.

The plant has the potential of a fairly easy upgrade for capacity. But at some point, the collection lines to the plant will limit additional flow. Additional lines or larger lines will be needed. The Town is just beginning to discuss some options available.

The Town contracts the operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant to EEMA – O&M Services. A second five year contract was signed in 2003. Contract operation has allowed the Town to control costs, while maintaining the quality of its system.

Solid Waste Management:

In Edinburg, a private sanitation company on a contract basis with the Town government removes trash. Service is provided to all homes and many small businesses once a week. All those using the service are billed a monthly charge with utility bills. Small businesses that do not exceed the quantity of trash designated by the Town Code are given the choice of participating if they desire to. Those with larger trash quantities are required to make other arrangements for disposal. Apartment dumpsters are dumped once a week along with the Town contract if the Town contractor supplies the dumpster. The solid waste collected is taken to the Shenandoah County landfill, which is located one-mile northeast of the Town.

Edinburg provides curbside recycling to residents on a biweekly schedule. Bins are provided to residents and picked up by Town forces. The Town sells the aluminum, paper and cardboard. Glass, plastic and tin cans are taken to the County landfill recycling area. The program has more than 50 % resident participation and helps reduce the amount of trash that goes to the landfill.

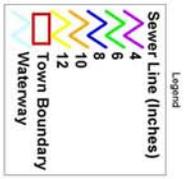
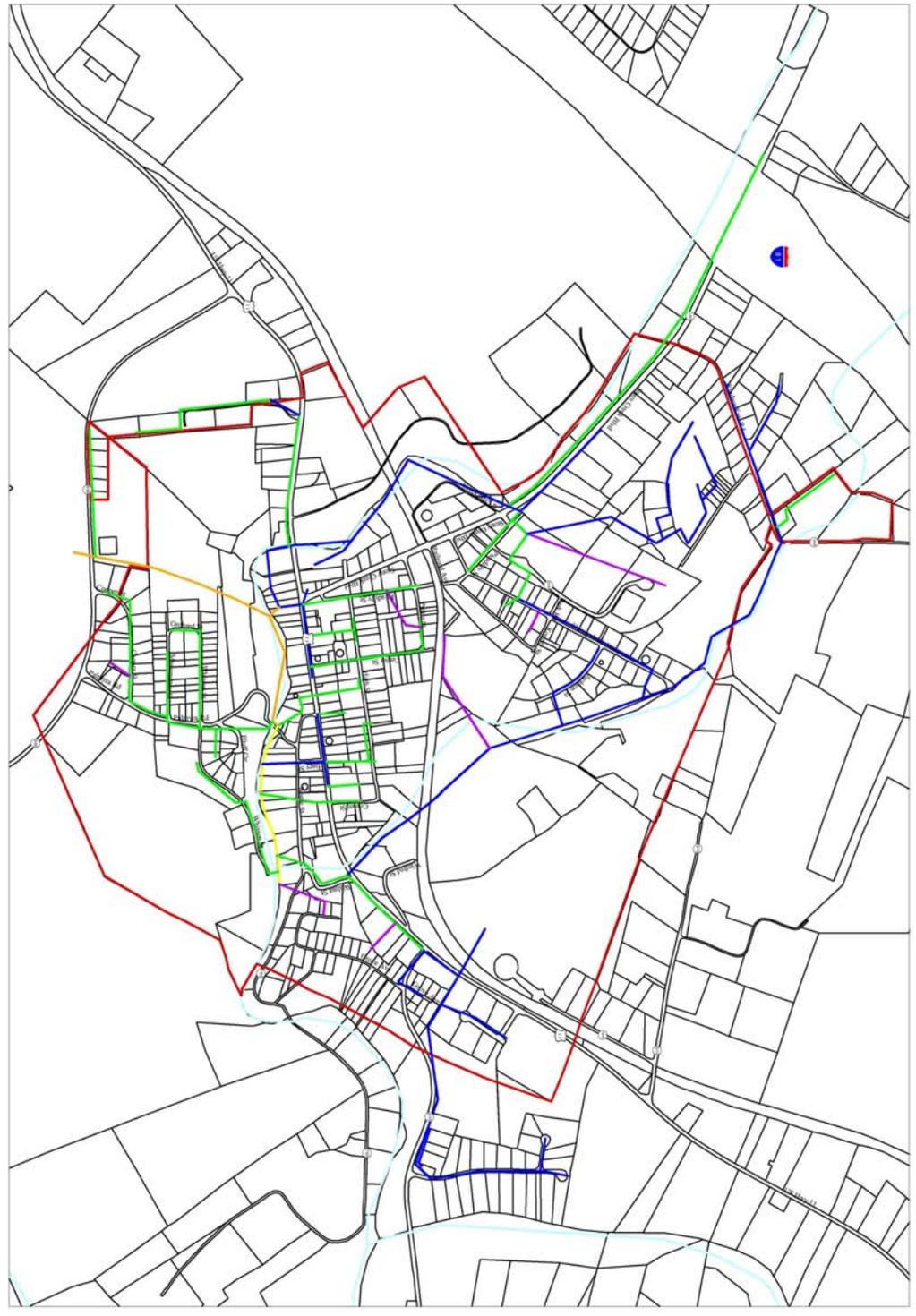
The Town purchased a large leaf vacuum unit a few years ago. This service is offered in the fall of the year to residents at no charge. The resulting leaf mulch is recycled to local property owners interested in the material. In recent years there has been a call for this material in the construction of "rain gardens" for storm water management, in addition to its cultivation uses. Residents are also able to take grass clippings and other yard waste to the County landfill all year for recycling.

Edinburg schedules heavy trash pickups throughout the year. Large limbs and yard waste are taken to the County and made into mulch. The Town also owns a chipper, and will reduce smaller trees and limbs to a usable product for the Town Park. Metal items are also recycled at the County landfill. At least one of these pick ups is scheduled to coordinate with tire amnesty day and hazardous waste disposal programs held by the County. By doing this, Edinburg is able to assure that its residents are disposing of these materials properly.

Town Policies Concerning the Provision of Utilities:

At this time, the Town of Edinburg has not adopted a specific policy concerning the extension of water and sewer services to areas beyond the Town boundaries. The current practice is that properties outside

Town of Edinburg
Sewer System
Figure 9-3



the municipal boundaries can be served with Council's approval. Edinburg has always worked very cordially with anyone outside the corporate limits who requests Town services.

Public Safety:



Public safety includes police protection, fire protection, and rescue service. Edinburg maintains a Town police department, while fire and rescue services are provided by the private sector, mostly by volunteers. The Town allows its maintenance employees to respond to fire calls during the day. This helps assure at least a minimum coverage during that time when many of the volunteers are out of the Town. But like the other Towns, there is a concern about the ever-decreasing number of volunteers. The Woodstock Rescue Squad provides rescue service to Edinburg. The Town provides financial support to the Edinburg Fire Department and makes an annual donation to the Woodstock Rescue Squad. These organizations also receive funding from the County. Public safety resources should be continually reviewed and evaluated to be sure they are adequate to meet the needs of both the growing resident population and the large transient tourist population of the Town.

Police Protection:

The Edinburg Police Department is essential to protect the property and rights of the Town's people. The Town employs three full-time officers and has two patrol cars, along with a four-wheel drive vehicle. The Department is located in the Edinburg Town Hall at 101 Town Hall Avenue. Seven day, 24-hour coverage is not possible with current staffing. Dispatching is through Shenandoah County and the 911 emergency system. Telephones are answered at Town Hall during normal business hours and at other times when an officer is there. The Town has an automatic phone transfer to the County Dispatcher for all unmanned hours. County dispatch answers as the Edinburg Police Department for any calls they receive during the time transfer is activated. An Edinburg officer will be dispatched if one is on duty at that time. Otherwise, a County deputy will respond. The Town has a very good working relationship with the County's Sheriff's Department, the State Police and other Town departments. Persons apprehended by the Town are detained in the Shenandoah County Jail in Woodstock. The Town has an arrangement with the Commonwealth Attorney's office for prosecution of any court cases.

As the Town continues to grow, additional officers will be needed to provide seven day, 24-hour coverage. The Town has recently instituted a Neighborhood Watch program to help with all day security throughout the Town.

Public Park and Recreation Facilities:

The Edinburg Madison District Town Park has three picnic shelters with tables, restroom facilities, two lighted tennis courts and a junior Olympic size swimming pool. Open space for other activities is available, and the Hamburg Ruritans recently completed the first leg of a hard surfaced walking trail in the Park. A playground area is equipped with swings, seesaw, slide and a large modular play unit. The

Pool was constructed in the 1960's. It was well built and is in good shape. The Town installed new tile and coping in 2004, and plans to continue upgrades as funds permit. Improvements have also been completed on the parking lot and historic style street lighting has been installed throughout the Park along with landscaping.

The various County swim teams use the Edinburg Pool in the summer and the Edinburg Ducks practice there daily during the season. The County Parks and Recreation Department utilize the Tennis Courts for an annual event. The fact that the courts are lit also draws a number of regular users from throughout the County.

The park adjoins the Edinburg-Woodstock Little League field. This field serves little league baseball and adult softball. The remaining land surrounding the Old Edinburg School has two large open areas that are used for various functions. There is also a basketball court and several pieces of playground equipment on the site.



The Town also owns a small lot at the intersection of Printz St. and Stony Creek Blvd., near the center of the Town. This is the location of the Town Christmas tree and an informational map of the Town. A gazebo and park benches have been placed on the site where a number of people visit during the warmer weather.

The Virginia Commission on Outdoor Recreation (COR) recommends that there be ten acres of local parkland for each 1,000 persons. As shown in Chapter 6, the 2000 population of Edinburg was 813. While the Town comes close to meeting this requirement, the remainder of the Madison Magisterial District is lacking in the park and recreation land use category. The Town and the County should cooperate in any acquisition of additional parkland to serve the present and future population of the area.

The Edinburg Mill project has the potential to meet some of these needs. A historical park area could be developed on the site along with the planned museum and business functions. A walking trail along Stony Creek has been discussed, with the Mill being the central starting point. The creation of an Edinburg Mill historical park area could combine the meeting of future park and recreation needs with the goal of historic preservation desired by the Town.

Cemetery:

The Town owns two cemeteries. The "Old Edinburg Cemetery" is no longer used for burials, the last one being done in 1968. It is located on the hill across from the Edinburg Mill. The Town maintains the property, and the Edinburg Heritage Foundation has paid to fence it and repair damaged stones in recent years.

Cedarwood Cemetery is located on the south end of Edinburg directly off Route 11. Funding for the perpetual care of the cemetery comes from the sale of lots. There is ample space to serve the Town residents for quite awhile. Almost 500 plots were added when a donation of adjoining property was made to the Town in the 1990's. Approximately 1200 plots were available for sale in 2004. There is additional property adjoining the south end of the cemetery that might be available if the decision is made that another increase in size is needed.

Post Office:



The Edinburg area is served by a United States Post Office located on North Main Street in the center of the Town. The facility is in a building that was constructed in the 1960's for that purpose. Many of the residents in the downtown area receive their mail by Post Offices Boxes. Mail delivery is not available in the older section of Edinburg.

The facility is rather small with no off street parking and limited truck access. A larger building would be desirable if a location in Town became available. Edinburg prefers that the Post Office remain in the downtown area rather than moving to the outskirts of the Town.

Library:

The citizens of Edinburg and the surrounding area have two primary sources of library services: the Shenandoah County Library and libraries at the three schools serving area children.

The Shenandoah County Library moved to its new facility located on Stony Creek Boulevard in 2000. This location is the main branch of the Shenandoah County Library System. Other branches are located in Bayse, Fort Valley, Mt. Jackson, New Market and Strasburg. In addition to traditional printing, books are available on cassette and compact disk. Music CDs, Videotapes and DVDs may be borrowed, along with over 100 magazines and other periodicals. The library offers many programs throughout the year for children of all ages, teens and adults. The Shenandoah Room contains a special collections of books, magazines and microfilm on the history of the area, neighboring areas, the Civil War and family history and genealogy. The library provides computers for public access to the Internet and Word Processing. Fax machines along with photocopying and color printing are also available for the public's use. Funding comes from the County Board of Supervisors and annual contributions.



Schools:

The citizens of Edinburg are served by the Shenandoah County Public School Division, with offices located in Woodstock. Town and study area school-age residents from kindergarten through the fifth grade attend W.W. Robinson Elementary School in Woodstock. Local students in grades six through eight are enrolled at Peter Muhlenberg Middle School, located in the Town of Woodstock. Students in grades nine through twelve primarily attend Central High School in Woodstock.

Triplett Business and Technical School currently provides vocational training to juniors and seniors from public schools throughout Shenandoah County and Page County. Triplett has programs in:

- Culinary Arts
- Hospitality/Tourism
- Cosmetology

- Criminal Justice
- Cisco Networking
- Electricity
- Carpentry
- E-Commerce
- Auto Body
- Auto Technology
- Masonry
- Alternative Ed
- G.E.D.

There are also private schools near Edinburg. The Valley Baptist Christian School is located just outside of Town.

Massanutten Military Academy in Woodstock, Virginia offers a college preparatory, coeducational program to 262 cadets (212 males and 50 females). The program is army affiliated to foster self-discipline, but prepares students for college rather than for a military career. The Academy teaches grades 6-12 and one year of post graduate study is also available. The Academy has been in operation since 1899 and has had a military program since 1917.

Higher education is offered nearby at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Eastern Mennonite College & Seminary in Harrisonburg, Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, and at Lord Fairfax Community College in Middletown.

Private Organizations:

The residents of Edinburg support many private organizations and social groups, such as: the Family, Community and Education Club, International Order of Odd Fellows, Lions Club, Hunter Masonic Lodge #135, the Volunteer Fire Company and Ladies Auxiliary, VFW Post 2447, VFW Ladies Auxiliary and Support Brigade, the Edinburg area Chamber of Commerce, the Shenandoah Historical Society, the Camp Roosevelt CCC Legacy Foundation and the Edinburg Heritage Foundation.

In addition to its own involvement with history and preservation, the Edinburg Heritage Foundation has partnered with the Town Government on a number of projects. When the Town needed someone to administer a matching preservation grant for residents, the EHF was called upon. They have also supplied funding for historic site plaques, Town flagpoles, benches, historic style mailbox posts and a gazebo.

Community Service Goals and Policies:

Governmental Services:

Goal: To provide the residents of Edinburg with effective, efficient, and responsive governmental services, at a reasonable and acceptable cost.

Policy: The Town Council will continue its efforts to provide good local government at a reasonable cost while at the same time explore additional sources of revenue.

Goal: To acquire and maintain municipal facilities and equipment that is functional, efficient, and economical.

Policy: The Town will review its municipal facility needs periodically, and will create a “Capital Improvements Plan” that will provide for the acquisition and maintenance of existing and needed facilities.

Parks and Recreation:

Goal: To have park and recreational facilities that are well used and well suited to the needs of Edinburg residents.

Policies: Edinburg will continue to improve the Edinburg Madison District Park and develop activity programs to offer a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities for residents of all ages.

Edinburg will work with neighboring resources to provide residents with options for recreation during all seasons of the year.

The Town will actively seek grants to improve the parks and recreation throughout the Town and where possible interconnect the areas with bike and pedestrian paths.

The Town will continue to participate in the Edinburg Mill preservation and possible creation of a historical park area on the site.

Edinburg will continue to support the efforts of Theater Shenandoah and the renovation of the Old Town Hall/ Opera House.

The Town will continue to endorse the efforts of the County and Shenel to create a Cultural Arts Center in the Edinburg School.

Emergency Services:

Goal: To have emergency services, such as fire protection and emergency health care, readily available to the residents of Edinburg.

Policies: Edinburg endorses the efforts of its Volunteer Fire Department and the Woodstock Rescue Squad, and will continue to provide them with available financial assistance.

The Town will continue to work with Shenandoah County to ensure adequate staffing for emergency services.

Library Services:

Goal: To have a good library available for the convenient use of Edinburg residents.

Policy: Edinburg endorses the efforts of the County Library System and its Edinburg Branch, and will continue to support its efforts and programs.

Education:

- Goal: To have good quality primary and secondary schools readily available to the children of Edinburg.
- Policy: Edinburg will continue to communicate with the Shenandoah County School Board, and will continue to express its support for good quality schools.

Water Supply:

- Goal: To provide Edinburg residents with good quality water in amounts adequate for local consumption and fire protection.
- Policy: Edinburg will continue to operate its water system efficiently, and will make improvements to it as needed.
- The Town will implement the recommendations of its Wellhead protection Plan, and develop and incorporate the “Mountain Spring” as a third source of water for Edinburg.
- Goal: To have a water supply system that provides water to areas outside of Edinburg, when found to be in the interests of the Town to do so.
- Policy: Edinburg will provide water service to areas outside of its boundaries when found to be technically feasible, economically self-supporting, and in keeping with the best interests of the Town.
- Goal: To improve efficiency and conservation of existing area water resources.
- Policies: Edinburg will participate in County and area-wide conservation plans.
- The Town will continue to take measures to account for all water produced by the Edinburg water system.

Sewer System:

- Goal: To have a sewage collection and treatment system serving Edinburg and nearby areas that has an adequate capacity, is environmentally safe, and is operated at a reasonable cost.
- Policies: Edinburg will continue to efficiently operate its sewage system, and will make improvements to it as needed.
- Edinburg will continue to identify and correct inflow and infiltration within its system.

IMPLEMENTATION/ ACTION PLAN

Once the Comprehensive Plan is adopted, this document will be used as a guide to update the zoning ordinance, subdivision ordinance, and the capital improvement program. To facilitate implementation, the Mayor will assign sections of the plan to the appropriate Council Committees for the purpose of developing an action plan.

Each committee will review the goals and determine how the policies will be implemented. This will involve prioritizing each goal, determining how much the implementation will cost, and the timetable for completing the project. Once a committee agrees on an action plan to reach a set of goals, it will forward a report to the Town Council for consideration.

Furthermore it is encouraged that the Town Planning Commission review the Comprehensive Plan every year in order to better evaluate where the Town is at with regards to achieving goals presented within the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission as presented in the Introduction should have thorough review of the Comprehensive Plan once every five years.

Implementation is a critical element of the planning process. Viewed in a cyclical sense, planning is dependent upon the identification of goals and objectives, the inventorying and analysis of current conditions, the identification and evaluation of alternatives, and the implementation of selected actions. The goals throughout the Town of Edinburg Comprehensive Plan are locality specific and are designed to allow the Town to continue to grow in a progressive, non aggressive manner. The implementation of this Comprehensive Plan is vitally important in order to protect the history and heritage of the Town, yet moving forward to a thoughtful, progressive, and vibrant future.

Amendments and Modifications:

The purpose of this section is to establish procedures for amendments to the existing Comprehensive Plan. Request for amendments or upgrades may be submitted in writing to the Planning Commission by the Town Council, Town Personnel, or citizens of the community. Any submitted request will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and advertised for public comment according to 15.1-431 of the Code of Virginia. In addition, the amendments will be published in the Town Newsletter with request for public comment.

* Updates of census material and factual data will not be subject to this process.