

Frederick County, MD Rural Roads Tour #2

Emmitsburg Area

Tour mileage: approximately 93 miles

Drive time: about 3 ½ hours (not including stops)

There are 5 separate tours of Frederick County's Rural Roads. The selection of roads for these tours is being compiled to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the enacting of the county's Rural Roads Program. Each Rural Road has some gravel section. They contribute to the county's rural character both as glimpses into what life used to be like, and as champions of natural beauty. All 5 tours start and end at the Frederick County Visitors Center, 151 S. East Street in Frederick. Hopefully, taking one tour will motivate you to see them all and become a supporter of these beautiful roads.



All of the County's Rural Roads contain sections that are one lane, narrow, curvy and hilly. They are all beautiful gems. The roads in the Rural Roads Program that you will be driving on in this tour are capitalized and underlined. Some roads have been excluded for safety and brevity. Do not attempt this tour during inclement weather, at night, or in a low-hung vehicle. Please drive slowly and cautiously. Enjoy!

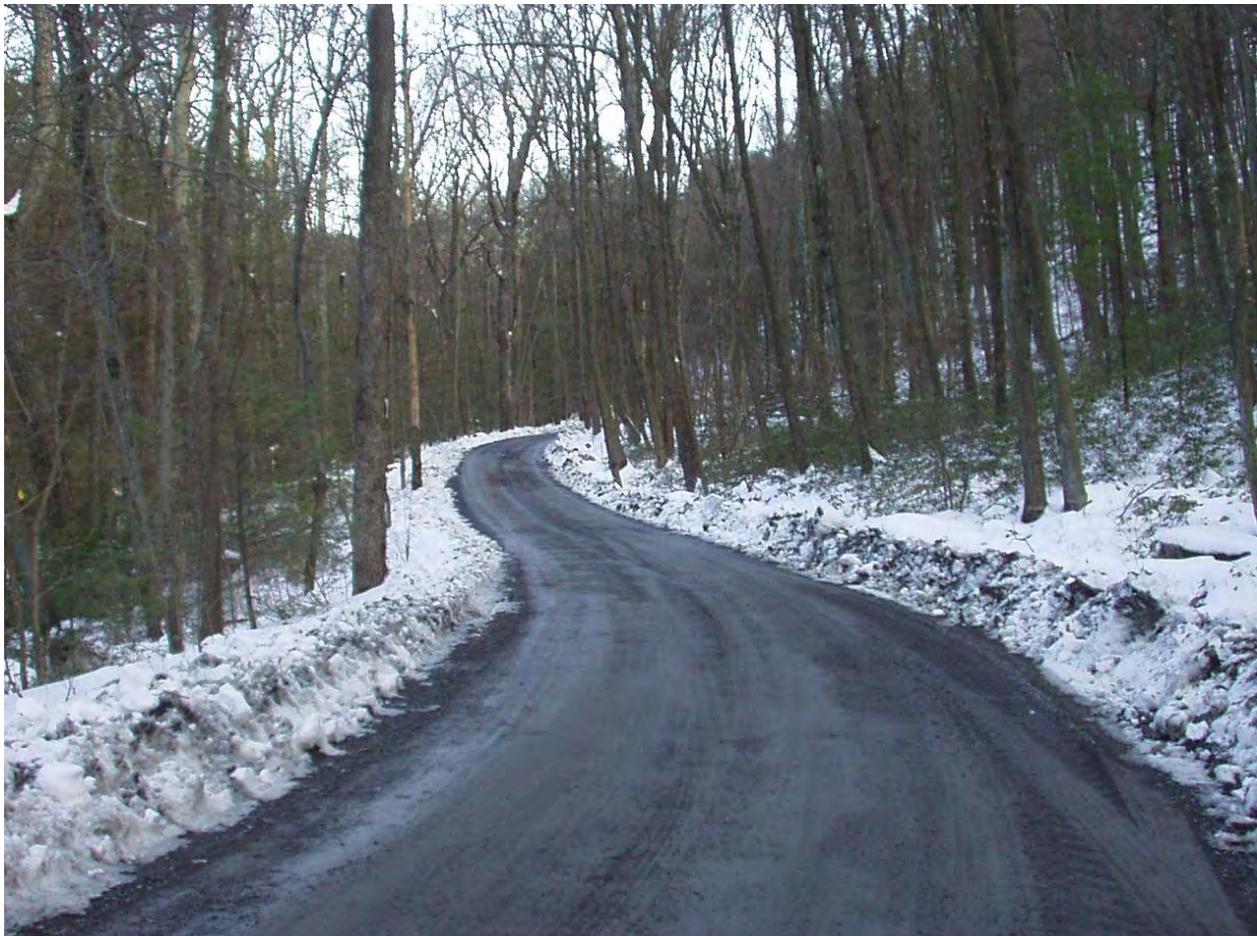
Tour #2, Emmitsburg Area, includes the Rural Roads above Thurmont. The drive begins by heading North

and East from US 15. These roads move through the rolling hills of Maryland's well-established agricultural areas contrasted with newer suburban homes. Shoemaker Road goes through the bottomlands of the Monocacy River, past a 1762 homestead and a community built around a dam. Proceeding West, this tour includes the historic Catholic town of Emmitsburg, with its 1890 architecture, food and drink. Driving further West brings the forest of Catoctin Mountains, many trout streams and the picturesque Elyers Valley Chapel. Buck Lantz Road, takes you above the Catoctins through a valley of old homes and modern farming practices. Enjoy!

1. From the Frederick Visitors Center turn Right (South) on East Street for .8 miles to I-70 W.
2. Turn Right on I-70 West for .7 miles and stay in the right lane.
3. Bear right on US 15 (North) for 24.1 miles to Motters Station Rd.

4. Turn Right on SR 76 Motters Station Rd for 1.8 miles to Four Points Rd.
5. Turn Left on Four Points Rd for 1.8 miles to Keysville Rd. *(at .9 miles, turn Left to stay on Four Points Rd.)*
6. Turn Right on Keysville Rd for 2.0 miles to GREGG RD. *(The bridge is an historic double truss bridge. These late 1800's bridges were sold as kits to be assembled on site).*
7. Turn Left on GREGG RD for .9 mile to Bridgeport Rd. *(GREGG RD becomes gravel and passes through a farmstead with a lovely historic brown stone structure and barns with fancy ventilation designs.)*
8. Turn Left on Bridgeport Rd for .1 mile to Simmons Rd.
9. Turn Right on Simmons Rd for 1.3 miles to Taneytown Pike (SR 140).
10. Turn Left on Taneytown Pike (SR 140) for .9 miles to Bollinger School Rd.
11. Turn Right on Bollinger School Rd for 2.2 miles to SHOEMAKER RD. *(Continue straight on Bollinger School Rd at intersection with Bullfrog Rd.)*
12. Bear Right onto SHOEMAKER RD for 1.9 miles to the Monocacy River and Starners Dam. *(SHOEMAKER RD becomes gravel for 1.5 miles. The Shoemaker Homestead, at mile 1.6, is a brownstone dwelling dating from 1762. Note the list of people who have owned the house over the past 250 years. Starners Dam, on the left as you cross the bridge, is a private recreation spot. The town is across the bridge in Carroll County, a charming river community.)*
13. Turn Around and return 1.9 miles to Bollinger School Rd.
14. Turn Left on Bollinger School Rd for 2.2 miles to Taneytown Pike (SR 140).
15. Turn Right for 3.3 miles on Taneytown Pike (SR 140) to Fraley Rd. *(At 2.2 miles, cross US 15 and enter Emmitsburg. There could be a whole tour of this historic town. Please come back and learn more about it. In the center of this turn of the century town square is the Holy Ground Coffee Shop and other places to eat. Emmitsburg is the home of the National Fire Academy and Mt. Saint Mary's University. Mother Seton, the first native-born Catholic Saint, started a school for girls and performed three miracles here. Continue through town, bearing left at the "Y" in front of the Emmitt House.*
16. Bear Left on Fraley Rd for .1 mile to Annandale Rd.
17. Turn Left on Annandale Rd for .9 miles to Hampton Rd.
18. Turn Right on Hampton Valley Rd. for 100' to RIFFLE RD.

19. Turn Right on RIFFLE RD for .5 mile (paved section) to the intersection with Hornets Nest Rd.
20. Bear Right to continue on RIFFLE RD for .5 mile of gravel road to the dead end. (*Easy Turn-around despite what the sign says.*)
21. Turn Around and return .5 miles to intersection with Hornets Nest Road. (*The road has views of old farming life and country roads.*)
22. Turn Right for 2.7 miles on Hornets Nest Rd to Friends Creek Rd. (*This is a wooded mountainous road. At 2.1 miles the road follows along Friends Creek, a beautiful trout stream.*)



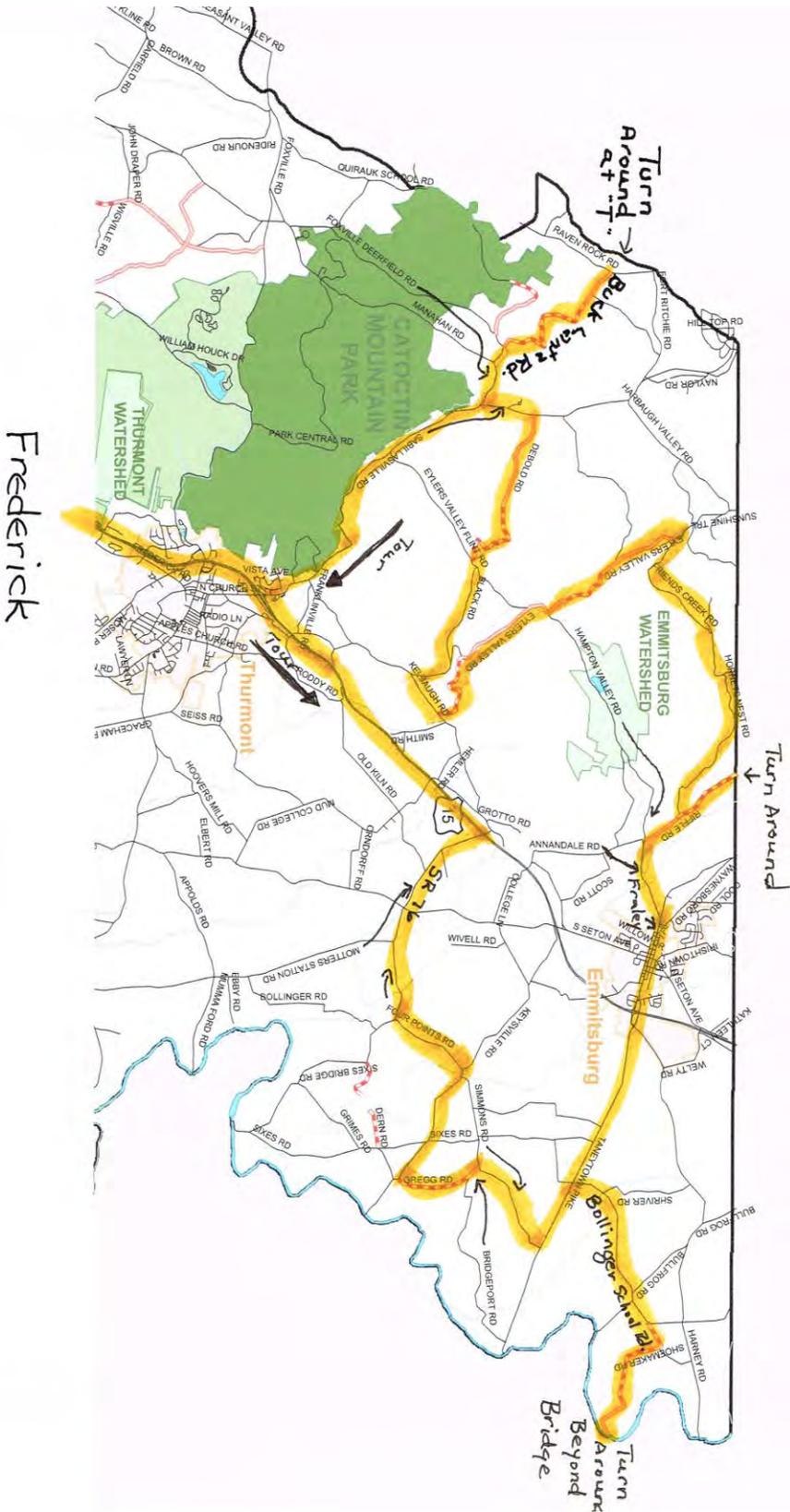
23. Turn Left on Friends Creek Rd for 1.7 miles to EYLERS VALLEY RD. (*Turn left over the historic pony truss bridge to stay on Friends Creek Rd.*)
24. Turn Left on EYLERS VALLEY RD for 4.4 miles to Kelbaugh Rd. (*At 1.9 miles, where Hampton Valley Rd “T”s to the left, is the restored Eylers Valley Chapel, which is open to the public for religious and cultural events. Eylers Valley Rd continues to the Right. At 2.3 miles, bear left where Eylers Valley Flint Rd comes*)

in. Eylers Valley Rd follows Little Owens Creek on the left through deep hemlock woods. Go through the intersection with Three Springs Rd by turning left on Eylers Valley Rd. Just before Three Springs Rd on the uphill side are some wonderful stone walls. Continue through the woods with the creek on the left. The Hemlocks are dying from the wooley adelgid infestation. Many small fishing cabins have been built in this beautiful natural area, and many locals have attended fishing camp here.

25. Turn Right on Kelbaugh Rd for .6 miles to Black Rd.
26. Turn Right on Black Rd for 1.9 miles to Eylers Valley Flint Rd.
27. Turn Left on Eylers Valley Flint Rd for .1 mile to DEBOLD RD.
28. Turn Right on DEBOLD RD for 2.4 miles to Sabillasville Rd (SR 550). *(At 1.8 the area opens up with many wonderful views of the hills.)*
29. Turn Left (South) for on Sabillasville Rd for .7 miles to Foxville Deerfield Rd. *(Scenic View Farms, a local produce stand, is on the left. The next road junction crosses railroad tracks on the right.)*
30. Turn Right on Foxville Deerfield Road for .8 mile to BUCK LANTZ RD.
31. Turn Right on BUCK LANTZ RD for 2.2 miles to Raven Rock Rd. *(This is an old mountain gravel road that winds up the hill with an excellent view of a working farm.)*
32. Turn Around and return 2.2 miles to Foxville Deerfield Rd.
33. Turn Left on Foxville Deerfield Rd for .8 miles to Sabillasville Rd (SR 550). *(Road crosses railroad tracks and at .1 mile is a stone mill on the left.)*
34. Turn Right on Sabillasville Rd (SR 550) for 4.1 miles to US 15 South to Frederick.
35. Turn Right (South) on US 15 for 18.2 miles to I-70 East (to Baltimore)
36. Follow I-70 East for 1.2 miles. Move to right lane, after merge, for East Street exit.
37. Turn Left on East Street for .7 miles to the Visitors Center.

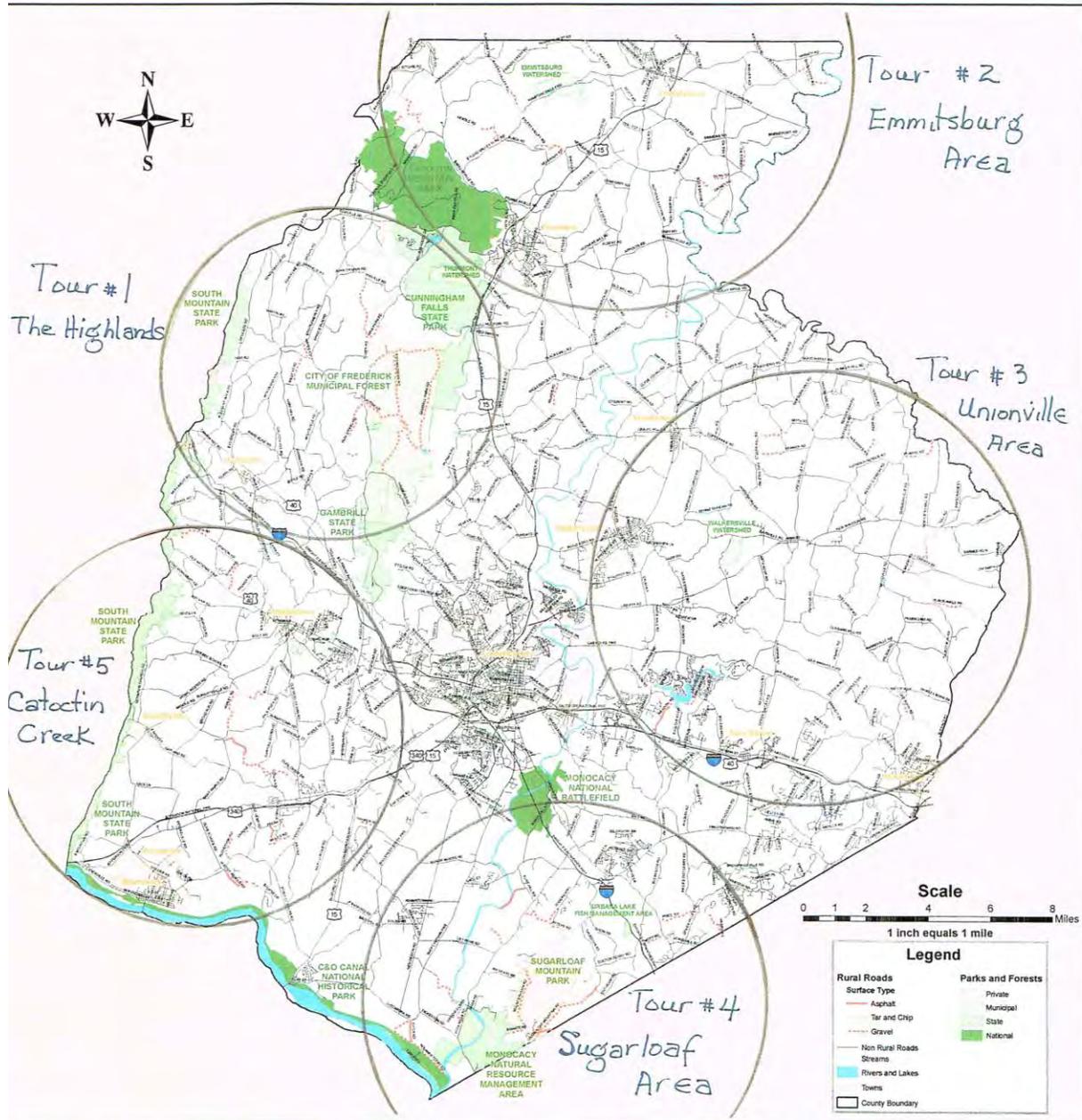
END OF TOUR

Rural Roads Tour #2, Frederick County, MD
Emmitsburg Area



Frederick

Rural Roads Tours



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FREDERICK COUNTY RURAL ROADS



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The County is currently developing its road centerline data. Road centerlines may contain inaccuracies and both features and attribute information may be missing.