



# Calvert County NEWS

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Calvert County Introduces New Online Business Start-up, Expansion and Relocation Guide** *Web Resource Offers Road Map for Navigating a Successful Business Launch*

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – August 17, 2010** – Running a fruitful business can be an exciting and challenging endeavor. A key to a successful business launch is knowledge about the process – knowledge that will help the savvy entrepreneur negotiate the various local and state requirements for operating a business. Those seeking to start, expand or relocate a business in Calvert County can now gain valuable insight through the Business Start-up, Expansion and Relocation Guide, a new online resource.

The guide provides step-by-step advice for negotiating the various stages of business development, from free resources to assist with business start-up to details on licensing, inspection and permits. Reviewing the guide can help potential business owners avoid costly and time-consuming roadblocks.

“For those new to the process, and even for those with some experience, the steps to developing or expanding a business can seem daunting,” said Calvert County Board of County Commissioners President Wilson Parran. “A keen businessperson needs to consider local and state regulations that govern zoning, customer health and safety, environmental regulations, various permits and licenses and more. The Business Start-up, Expansion and Relocation Guide is a valuable road map that offers guideposts along the way. It promises to be a helpful resource for maneuvering through county Department of Planning and Zoning processes and is a new tool that will be used among the services offered by the Department of Economic Development.”

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**Calvert County Introduces New Online Business Start-up, Expansion and Relocation Guide**  
**August 17, 2010**  
**Page 2**

The online guide walks business owners through the process involved in three business scenarios: creating a home-based business, locating a business in an existing building and constructing a new building. Each section includes a series of important questions to ask regarding location and zoning, infrastructure, health issues, inspections and permits and licenses. At each step, links lead to additional outside resources – to appropriate state agencies, for example – and to county government staff who can help further.

Additionally, the site includes information on the Small Business Development Center, which offers no-cost business counseling on a wide array of topics such as business plan development, marketing, financing and more.

To view the Start-up, Expansion and Relocation Guide, please visit [www.co.cal.md.us/business/starting](http://www.co.cal.md.us/business/starting). For more information about the Calvert County, Md., Department of Economic Development and the services available to assist businesses, call 410-535-4583, 800-331-9771 or 301-855-1880; send an e-mail to [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com), or visit online at [www.ecalvert.com](http://www.ecalvert.com).

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*Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to approximately 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. There are more than 5,000 businesses in the County and a labor force of at least 1.8 million resides within a one-hour drive. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, utilities, light manufacturing and administrative services.*